

# Tiger Grapplers Have A Busy New Year

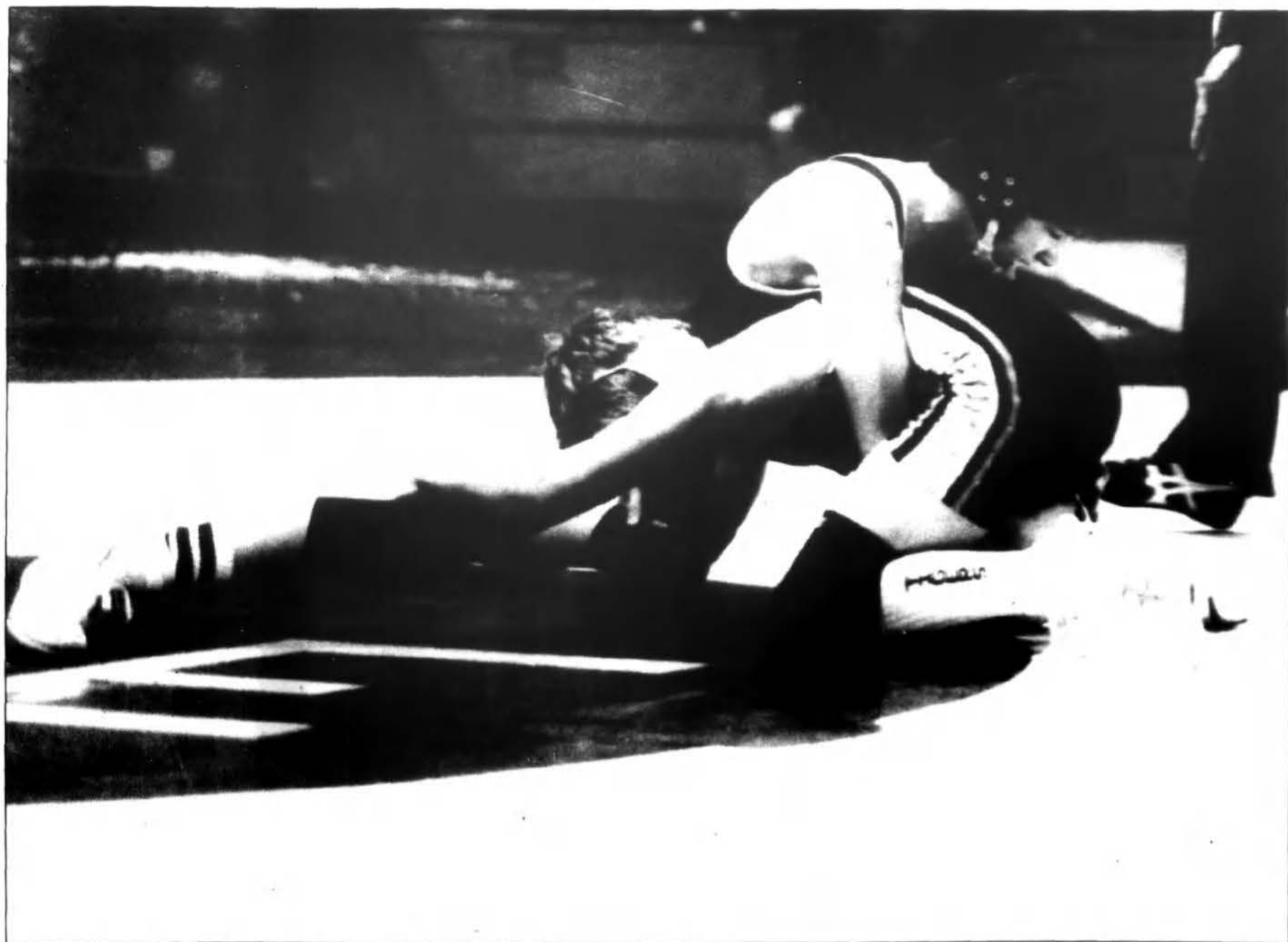
by Dick Testa

If the first week is any indication, 1986 will be a long year for the Union-Endicott wrestling team. On New Year's Eve day U-E swept a double dual in Elmira, pinning first EFA 39-26 and then ESS 45-21. Then on January 2nd, Maine-Endwell posted a 36-20 triumph over the Tigers. Finally on Saturday, U-E hosted a power packed dual meet tournament won by Fulton.

"You couldn't ask for a better field than we had on Saturday," offered Tiger coach Frank Sorochinsky. Fulton, Waverly, and Williamsville North are three of the best teams in the state as are local squads Vestal and M-E.

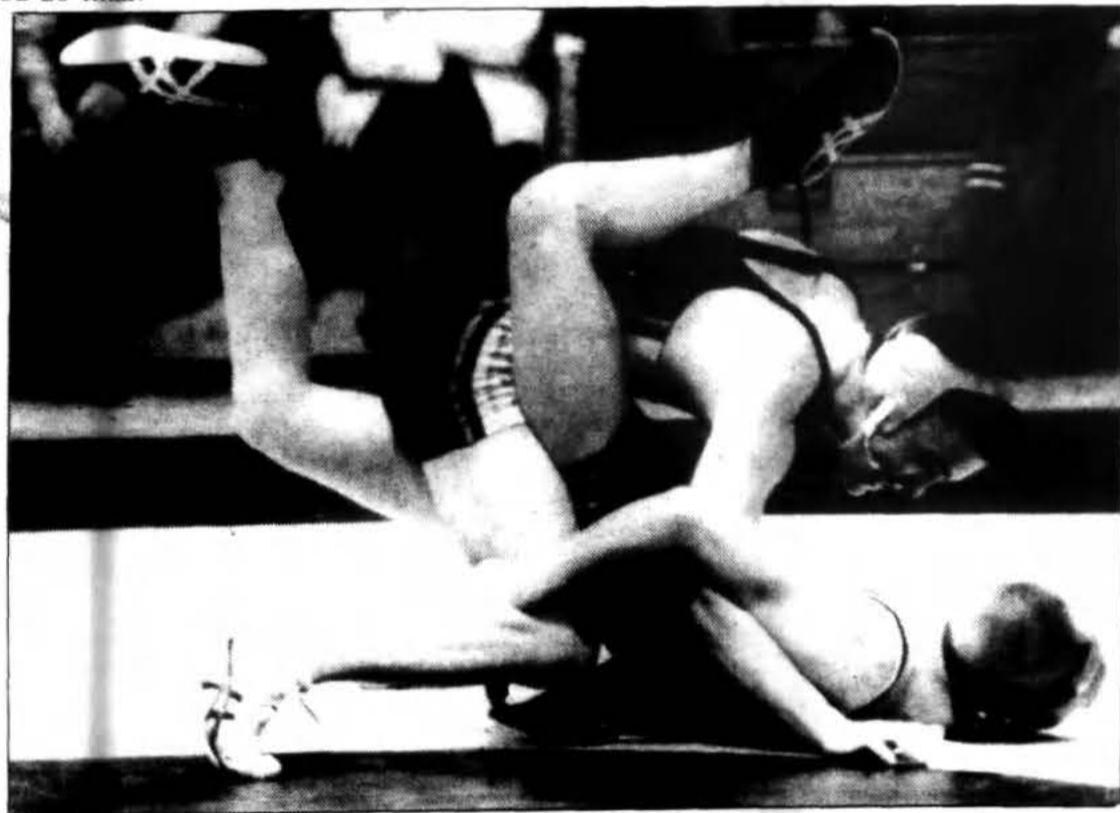
Fulton simply flattened the field, caging the Vestal Bears 36-14 in the finals. However Vestal, which downed U-E 38-21 in the quarterfinals, ambushed Waverly 25-24 in the semis. Williamsville nipped M-E 31-30 in the quarterfinals.

With Tom King (145) and Chris Bucinell (155) no longer on the team, U-E is very vulnerable in the upper middle weights. In the opening tournament match, U-E won the first six weight classes to build a 23-0 lead over Half Hollow Hills. The Long Island team then cut that to 23-20 before a 14-8 win by Ron Romanoski (177) and a pin by Rob Cole (215) accounted for the 32-20 final.



In the 98 lb. class, M-E Scott Paglia (on top) decisioned U-E Eric Roscoe in a 4-0 victory.

Photos by Mike Murray



In the 112 lb. class, M-E George Hastings (on bottom) won a 9-0 victory over U-E Mike Merrill (on top).



In the 132 lb. class, U-E Mike Conti (on top) took a 3-0 victory over M-E Mike Canestaro (on bottom).

U-E also led Vestal 15-8 after wins by Eric Roscoe (10-6 at 98), Bob Post (pin at 119), Carl Wildrick (6-2 at 126), and Mike Conti (6-4 at 132). However, five successive six point Bear victories settled the issue before another pin by U-E heavyweight Rob Cole.

U-E did defeat Truman of New York City 45-27 in a consolation match as Bob Post (119), Carl Wildrick (126), Mike Conti (132), Mike Carmody (155), Ron Romanoski (177), Rob Cole (215), and Mike Crouse (250) all notched pins. John Burns (105) took a 7-1 decision. The win was quite costly as 98 pounder Eric Roscoe suffered a dislocation in his arm.

U-E led M-E 14-3 after Carl Wildrick's 4-3 triumph over John Palmeri at 126, but M-E won the next six

matches, five straight by pins as once again Rob Cole's pin was too late. U-E freshmen Eric Roscoe (4-0), John Burns (11-0), and Mike Merrell (9-0) all recorded shutouts.

M-E's pin parade came from Dave Toton (138), Joe Cantales (145), Mike Ruffo (155), Vinnie Seese (167), and Chris Rice (177).

In Elmira, Mike Merrell, Carl Wildrick, Mike Conti, Ron Seccia (138), and Rob Cole were double winners. U-E also took both 98 lb. matches with Vince Maione pinning his EFA man and Eric Roscoe prevailing by a technical fall against Southside.

U-E is idle this week until a Saturday night visit by Baldwinsville, another of New York State's top flight teams.



In the 105 lb. class, M-E Chris Canestaro (on bottom) took a victory over U-E John Burns (on top) 11-0.