



# The Crier

Volume X—No. 16

CORNING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

February 26, 1971

## REGION III WRESTLING

by TOM MARTIN

Today and tomorrow the Region III Wrestling Tournament will be held here at Corning Community College. A culmination of months of practice and work, the tournament will measure the success of 18 top-flight junior colleges in the eastern United States. The balance of a team's merit will be weighed on the scale of pressure tournament competition. The wins and losses of an entire wrestling campaign may be forgotten in these two important days. A successful tournament showing is in reality a successful season. The unbeaten may fall and the proverbial doormats may emerge victorious. It's going to be that kind of tournament.

Whether or not our local boys will fare well remains to be seen. John Polo, Baron wrestling

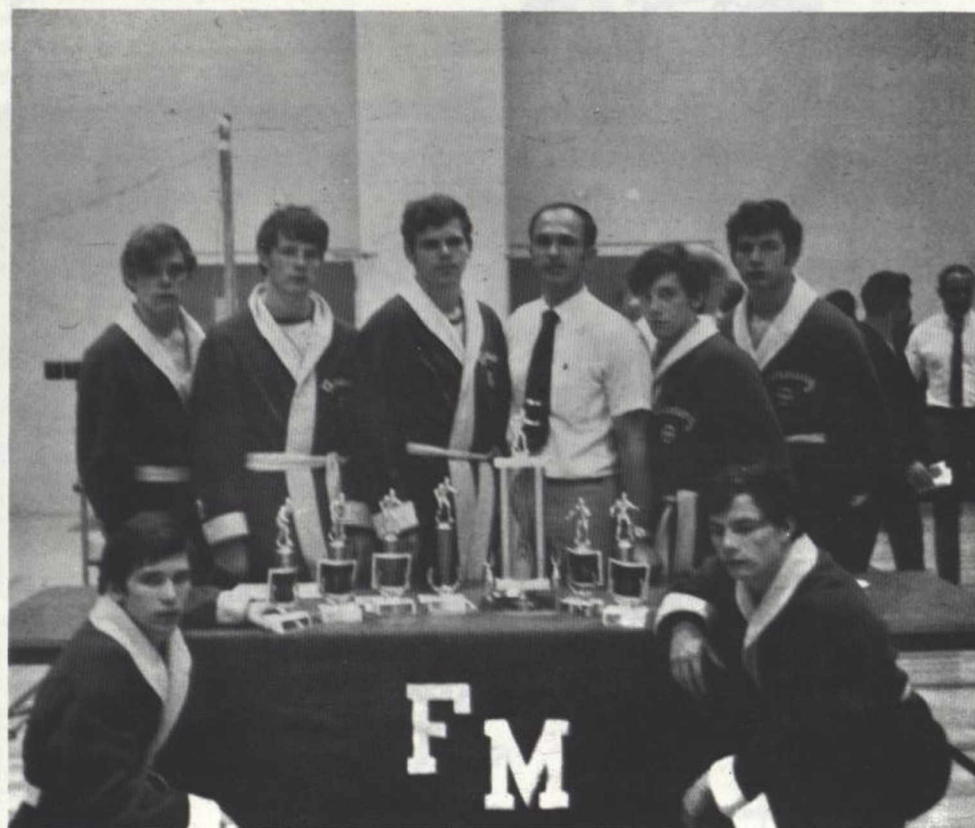
coach, has said "We are not a dual meet team as much as we are a tournament team. No other team we've faced this year has as much strength in as many weight classes as we do." Polo, a man of immense depth, shows a gleam in his eye when speaking of his team. His manner radiates his pride. And his words echo confidence.

The next two days may be long ones indeed for many colleges who have journeyed to Corning to face the music. For others the trek will be gratifying and worthwhile. But for one team, Spencer Hill is their own backyard. No long and tiring bus trip will have sapped their strength, as it has in the past. For the Corning wrestling team, the Baron Field House is home. Mom and apple pie. Kool-aid. Nestle's Quick and Superman.

The Polo-coached squad has ability and

strength. They have confidence and an impressive record. But they have something else that may be more important than all their other indisputable qualities. They want to win. Winning is a burning desire in the pit of their stomachs. It wakes them up each morning with a blood and guts taste in their mouths. Most people will not deny that winning is something that everyone wants. For Bunner, Rutter, Barnes, Guarino, Manchester, Schweiger, Knuutila, Franzese, Carver and Fanning, winning is not only a will, but a way of LIFE.

The Region III Tournament will bring disappointment and melancholy for 17 teams and 170 wrestlers. For one team and ten wrestlers February 26 and 27 will be days to remember for a long, long time. A long, long time and then some.



We placed 8 out of 10 at Fulton-Montgomery to WIN!



First place at Fulton.  
First place at Corning.

## Today & Tomorrow Here at Corning





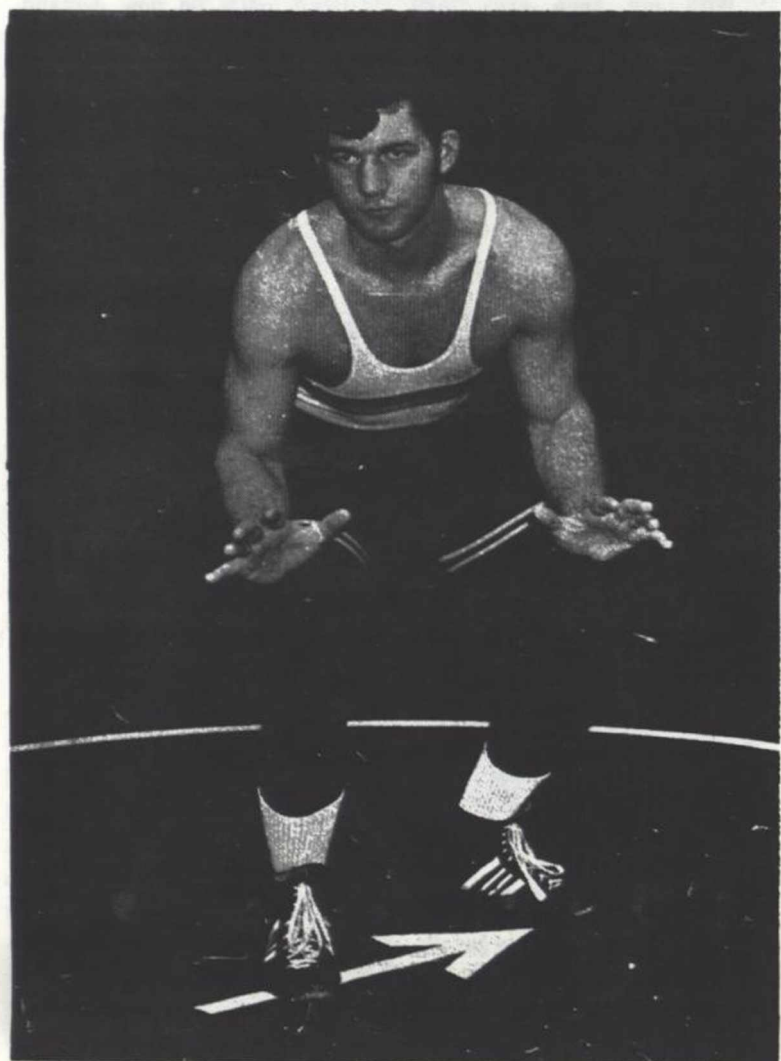
# The Erier Sports

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## Athlete of the Week



### Region III Wrestling (18 Teams)

Adirondack  
Alfred Ag.  
Auburn CC  
Broome Tech.  
Canton  
Cobleskill  
Corning CC  
Delhi Ag. Tech.  
Erie CC  
Fulton-Mont.  
Genesee CC  
Hudson Valley  
Mohawk Valley  
Monroe CC  
Morrisville  
North Country  
Paul Smith  
Tompkins-Cort.

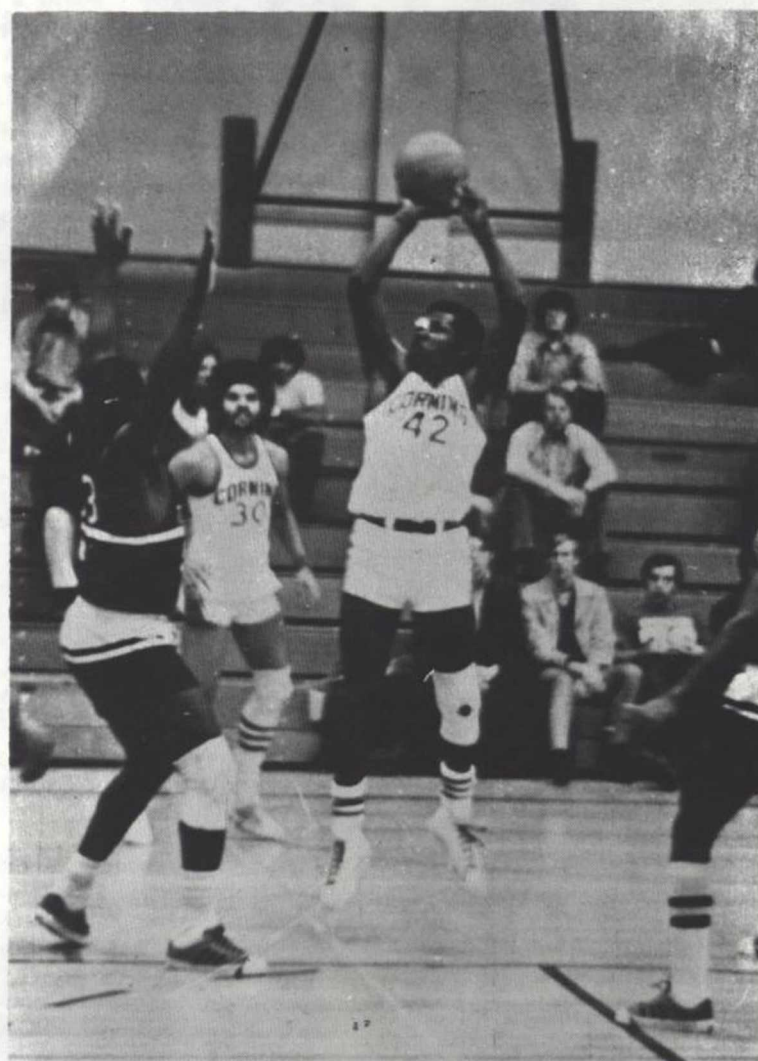
The Athlete of the Week for this week's wrestling team is Steve Franzese. Steve is a 19-year-old Sophomore here at Corning where he is doing a fine job for the Red Baron Wrestling Team. Before Corning Steve graduated from Watkins Glen High School where he lettered all four years on the wrestling team and he was co-captain of the wrestling team in both his junior and senior years. While at Watkins Glen, Steve was a first place champion in the Finger Lakes Region League.

Here at Corning Steve is a Health/Phy. Ed. major. He made the Dean's List last semester with a 3.25 and is striving to do the same this semester. He would like to transfer to Cortland State.

Sorry girls he is spoken for, for he will be getting married this April if he can survive the Bachelor Party the Wrestling team is setting up for him after the season is over.

Good luck to you Steve in the upcoming Regionals and your upcoming wedding.

## Athlete of the Week



One of the Athletes of the Week for this week is Rufus Curtis. Rufus is a co-captain of our Red Baron basketball team.

Rufus attended Alfred E. Smith high school in Bronx, New York, where he was captain of his football team. On the football team he made the All-City team upon his graduation in 1965.

After high school Rufus entered the U. S. Air Force, where he played basketball in his spare time. In the Air Force he received two trophies for outstanding performance in two Air Force tournaments.

Rufus entered Corning in the fall of 1969, and in his first semester here he received a first place trophy in the Fall weekend talent show. Rufus is very active in school and community affairs, he is president of the Afro-American Society, Co-chairman of Black-White weekend and he helped to start a class in Swahili in the black community in Corning.

Rufus was also nominated for "Outstanding College Athlete of America." His plans at this time are to continue his education at a four year school and to sing professionally.

Good luck to you Rufus in what ever you choose.

## Corning Nips Erie

by TOODIE WILLIAMS

On February 19th the last home game was played at C.C.C. The sophomores were presented first to honor them as to their last home game. From the first jump-ball one could tell that this was going to be an exciting game. Corning looked shaky in the beginning; some missing of passes and general confusion. Ten minutes into the game Corning was leading 30-28. Then after twelve minutes of the first quarter the score was Corning 32- Erie 38. The score was constantly moving back and forth. Two highlights of the game were Ben Willis and Herman Connor. Ben Willis, somehow would set up in such a manner that offensive charging would be called against Erie. Many times this offensive charging would help Corning. Herman Connor made some beautiful moves during the game. Sometimes it would be hard to believe that a person could move that

fast and still have control of the ball.

Rufus Curtis helped get things rolling in the beginning of the game. Rufus set the ball rolling and Steve Nash kept it rolling. The rest of the game was a battle between Steve Nash and Calvin Murphy. Both players played excellent. Again the rebounding of Jim Dennard and Rufus Curtis had a hand in winning the game also. At the half-time the score was tied Corning 43- Erie 43. From the half-time on, everything was sporadic. Turnovers here and there, fast plays, fast breaks, and foul shots. Eventually with only one minute left in the game Corning was down by nine points, but miraculously Corning had all of her really important breaks within those last seconds of the game. Corning won the game 85-81. A game that will not be forgotten soon. Steve Nash ended up with 32 points total for the game.



Dave Hepburn in action for CCC.