

Andy Antonucci, Hilton, lifts his opponent, Josh Smith, Webster, to take him down for 2 points in his semi-final round of the county tournament Jan. 28. Andy won this match 11-4 and went on to take 1st.

County wrestling tourney has winners from area schools

by Tim Irving

It's been that kind of year in Section V wrestling. Teams that nobody thought would be that good climbed the polls. The one team that everybody thought would be good has stayed on the top rung of the ladder, waiting for the upstarts to knock them down.

The Monroe County Wrestling Tournament at Webster Junior High, January 27-28, became a war. The new powerhouses like Gates-Chili and Webster took on the old standbys, Spencerport and East Rochester.

The very lightweight classes and the very heavyweight classes were thin with competitors. Here started a two-team battle between the 'Spartans' and the top-ranked Rangers. At 91 lbs., Gates' Joe Smallidge won a preliminary match with a technical fall and got into the semifinals with a decision over Chris McClinic of Batavia. Meanwhile, Spencerport's Scott Ingham had earned a forfeit to get to the quarterfinals before pinning Pittsford's Jake Anderson in just 1:15.

At 98 lbs., a new name to the varsity

Rangers, Jeff Quamo lost to eventual finalist Sean Greiner of Greece Athena 12-2. Quamo would then win his first wrestleback in the consolation rounds. Meanwhile, Gates' Rob Giannavola was ripping through the competition on his way to the semifinals.

In the 105 lb. class, Justin Raines scored a 7-0 victory and then pinned Jim Hines of Pittsford setting up a semifinal match with Jim Barbato of Gates.

The eldest Raines, Jon, would be next at 112 lbs., scoring a total of 31 points en route to the semis, while Shawn Bauer of Gates pinned his quarterfinal opponent to gain the semifinals.

Chris Bannister defeated East Rochester's Mike O'Leary and Joe Giglio, defeated Yancee Fritz of Brighton to set up another head-to-head semifinal match-up. Hilton's Andy Antonucci, a two-time champion in this meet, would get Josh Smith of Webster in the semi's.

In a quarterfinal match at 126 lbs., Gates met Spencerport as Steve Smallidge duelled John Collili. The Ranger emerged

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County wrestling tourney

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with a 6-3 decision and now each school had five semifinalists.

The 132 lb. class featured the Rangers' Joe LoPresti who convincingly won an 8-0 decision over Chris Jamieson of East Rochester to get to the semifinals. Meanwhile, Tom Foss was earning an 11-3 decision over Vince Anderson of Churchville at 138, giving Spencerport seven semifinalists through eight weight classes.

At 145 lbs., Eric Vasquez faced Hilton's Pat White, one of the weight classes' top seeds. White won a six-point decision sending Vasquez to the consolation bracket.

Pat Kalish would join Vasquez as he dropped his preliminary match to Kyle Keogh of Pittsford; meanwhile Gates had been shut out of four straight semifinals.

At 167 lbs., Jason Vinci was pinned by another eventual finalist in Ron Fenner of Olympia. Vinci went on to a 4-0 decision in his first wrestleback.

Mike Licata gained easy passage to the semifinals with a 16-7 win over Kevin Pollack of Brighton, matching him with Brian Marcineck of Webster.

At 215 lbs., Curt Snyder won a 3-0 decision over Kevin Moore of Brockport in the opening round; then won on default over Scott Hall of Churchville. He, too, would face a Webster opponent in Rob Kessler.

Finally at 250 lbs., Hasan Uyar almost pinned Buddy Cabrera of Batavia, but won an 8-0 decision giving the Rangers ten semifinalists. Gates placed seven while both Webster and East Rochester had six. The team score going into the second day had Spencerport with 100 points, Webster with 84.5, Gates with 81 and East Rochester with 74.

The semifinal round started slow for the Rangers. Ingham was beaten 7-4 by E.R.'s Pietro Furiuele. Gates caught fire. Smallidge won 6-3. At 98 lbs., Greiner and Giannavola would earn the finals meeting while Quamo lost in the quarterfinals of the consolation round.

Barbato of Gates and Raines of Spencerport battled for a shot at the finals and it was the Spartan wrestler controlling much of the match, gaining a 6-4 decision, sending the Ranger to the consolation round.

At 112 lbs, Raines and Bauer would make the finals, forming the only head-to-head battle between the top two teams.

Bannister and Giglio wrestled with a chance to face Antonucci. Bannister has notched the only scratch on Antonucci's record with a tie during a dual meet. But it would be Giglio pulling a stunning upset over Spencerport's newest entry into the Century Club. The 5-3 defeat must have had Coach Bill Jacutout wondering what would happen to his Rangers next.

Collili was beaten by Chuck Leone of Brighton sending the surprise Collili to the consolation.

Next was possibly the most controversial match of the semis. LoPresti was down 8-7 with less than a minute left in his match against Brian LaPrade of Pittsford. LoPresti couldn't get the needed points, but, with time running out, the referee called a stalling penalty on LaPrade to tie the match, much to the dismay of a big percentage of on-lookers. Moments later, LoPresti scored a takedown and won the match most unceremoniously, 10-8.

Foss wasn't faring much better. He looked to be headed for the consolations until, late in the third period of his match with Kevin Smith of Webster, he rolled his opponent on his back and got three near-fall points, winning the bout 6-3.

In one of the best matches of the day, Licata and Marcineck locked horns. The two went to overtime, looking as though they had both just run marathons. Neither could get enough of an advantage to stay ahead and the match had to be decided by a referee's criteria. Licata lost the decision sending him to consolations.

Snyder gave Kessler all he could handle. Neither could score the near fall points and finally, Snyder ran out of time, losing

3-1.

Uyar capped off a tough afternoon for the Rangers by defeating Sherman Turner of Olympia. Spencerport had four finalists and six wrestlers who still were alive in the consolation rounds. Going into the finals, Spencerport had a slim 171½ to 169 lead over Gates.

The way the point system worked from here on was as follows. In the match for fifth place, the winner scored two points. In the match for third place, again the winner scored two points. In the championship round, the winner scored four points.

The 91 lb. match set the tone for the rest of the night. Furgieuele and Smallidge went to overtime tied at 4-4. Each scored the first takedown, the third referee criterion, and the Bomber wrestler was named champion. In the fifth place match, Ingham scored a 9-0 decision, meaning he scored an extra ½ point for a major decision. The Rangers were up by five. At 98 lbs., Giannavola easily handled Greiner, scoring a 6-2 win, and four points for the Spartans, the score was now 174-173 Spencerport.

The Rangers knew they would need help to pull out the title, and help they got. In the title match at 105 lbs., Barbato had a come back from a 3-0 deficit against Rick O'Lena of E.R. to take a 5-4 lead. With one second left in the match, the referee gave O'Lena credit for a takedown and again the Bombers had stolen a title from the Gates wrestling team. Meanwhile, Raines had Chris Terrigino of Irondequoit on his back much of the match for third place, and won an 8-2 decision. The Rangers now held a three-point lead.

The match that both teams needed to win was next. Jacutout would say later, "that was the pivotal match because it was the head-to-head battle." Raines, a senior who has been relatively overshadowed by the likes of LoPresti and Foss, knew this was the big one. He scored an escape early and never looked back. A takedown and reversal later, Raines was embracing Jacutout in celebration of his 5-1 win. Spencerport now had a seven point lead.

That win put the meet in Spencerport's hands. They would have to lose all of their remaining bouts, and Gates would have to score all wins, and get some big points on top of that from pins or defaults to win.

In the 119 lb. final, Giglio had to face Antonucci. The Hilton star won his third straight County title in convincing fashion, a 10-3 romp. In the third place match, Bannister almost scored a pin on Smith of Webster and came away with a 7-1 win. Gates had five finalists in the first five weight classes and came away with just one title.

At 126 lbs., Scott Daly of Brockport did everything but pin Leone of Brighton. The Blue Devil wrestler won 11-2.

Next was LoPresti vs. Hill. Both wrestlers managed four points through the regulation time. In the overtime, LoPresti scored a takedown to take the lead. But, Hill was awarded two penalty points as LoPresti was warned. Each boy scored an escape and another tie had to be resolved by referee's criteria. LoPresti scored two takedowns to Hill's one, LoPresti was the winner.

An exhausted Foss scored a takedown early and managed an escape late to lead 3-2, before he was penalized for stalling; again to overtime. This time nobody scored, Foss was too tired and the undefeated Pat Quinn of East Rochester just couldn't move the lanky junior. The takedown scored by Foss provided the criteria for victory again.

The Rangers had things well in hand by this point. At 167 lbs., Churchville's Matt DePoint went to war with Fenner and despite three back points scored by Fenner, DePoint emerged victorious, an 8-7 win under his belt. Vinci downed John Marcineck 6-4 in overtime to claim third place. The score was 192-177.

Licata won the third place match at 177

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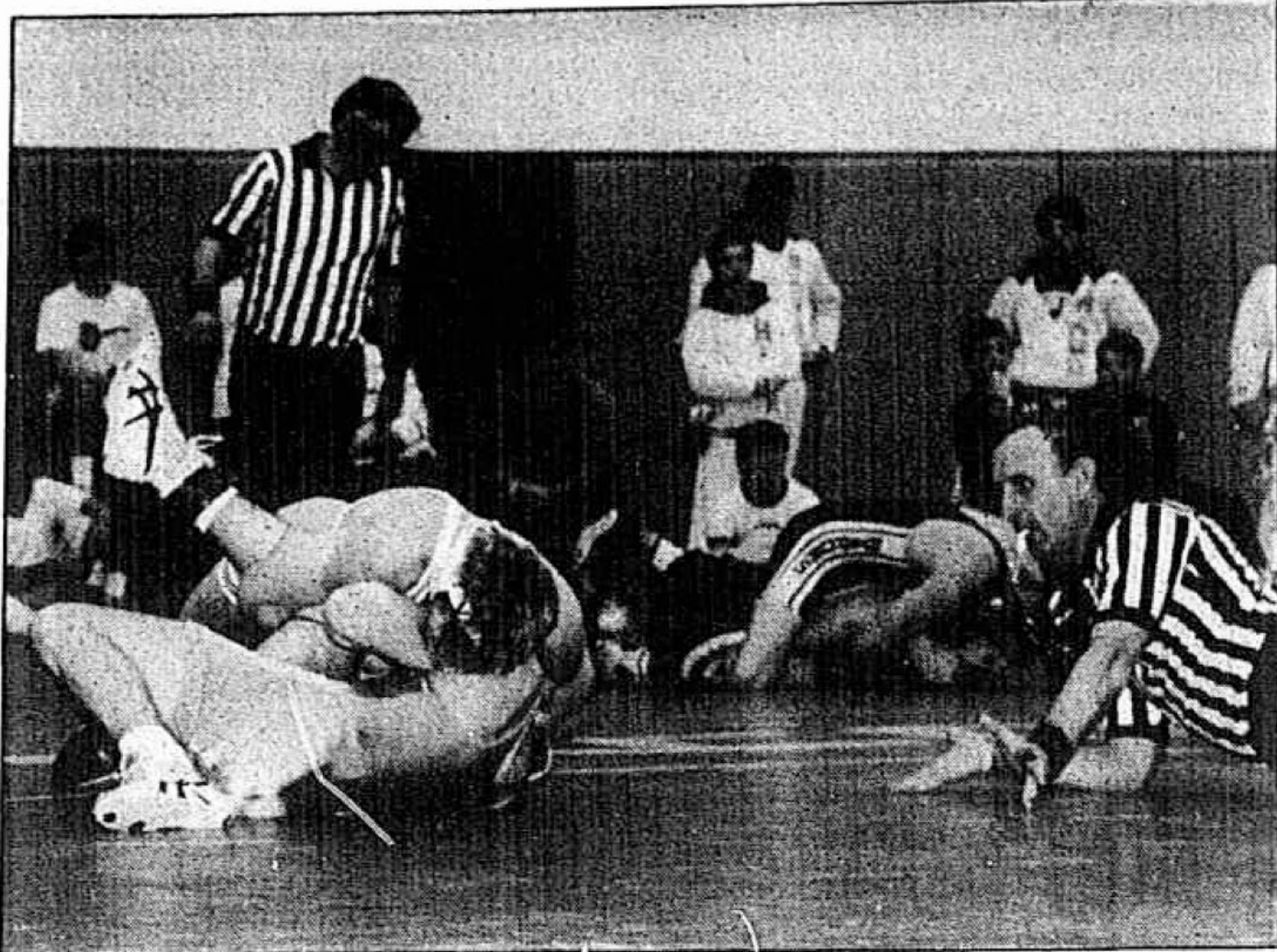
with a 12-3 romp while Jeff Whittman claimed the championship for Gates.

At 250 lbs., Uyar and Derek O'Connor of Pittsford would end the night as it began. The only points scored by either wrestler was by stalling penalty. The last penalty was awarded to Uyar, giving him a 3-2 win.

Spencerport scored 198½ points for the County title. Gates had 183½, while Webster scored 170 for third.

Here is an accounting of the rest of the westside wrestlers performances.

- 98 - Dave Cottom (Brock.) dec. Don Spaulding (Hilton) 12-11 for fifth;
- 112 - Todd Bumbarger finished fourth;
- 126 - Jim Accardi (C-C) finished fourth, Collili was sixth;
- 132 - Anthony Conte (Brock.) dec. Brent Dioguardi (Bat.) for fifth;
- 138 - Steve LaFountain (Hilton) dec. Kevin Smith (Web.) 3-2 for third;
- 145 - Pat White (Hilton) dec. Steve Taylor (Brock.) 6-0 for third;
- 155 - Bill Dambra (Brock.) finished fourth;
- 215 - Snyder (Spenc.) was sixth.



Tom Foes of Spencerport scores backpoints during his semi-final match against a Webster opponent. Tom went on to take 1st in the 138 lb. weight class.

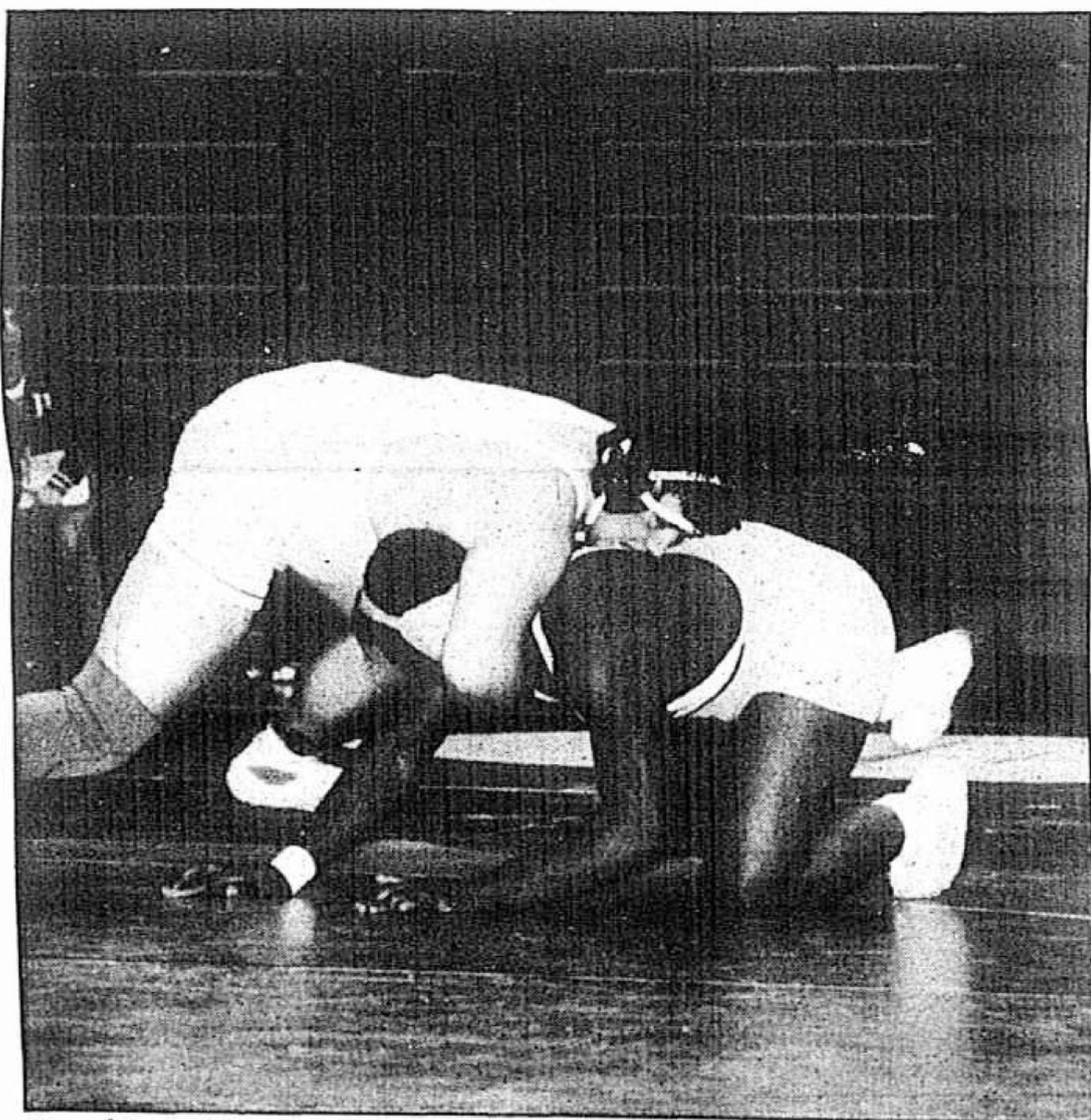
RIT's women's basketball team making progress

In only their second year of competition, the Rochester Institute of Technology women's basketball team is making impressive strides. After a 2-13 record in last year's inaugural season, the Tigers are currently 5-10 with nine regular season games remaining.

"It takes time to build a program," comments Coach Mark Storm. "But we had a great recruiting year and we're becoming closer and closer as a team." This year the Tigers have had a nice blend of the old and the new. Veterans Cheryl Quinn, Kris Coon, Wendy Clontz, Lyndalou Church and Therese Hannigan have been helped along by newcomers Christa Edlind, Amy Kennerson, Ellen Monile, Audrey Smith and Terry Seiler. And since Clontz (a Spencerport graduate) is the team's only senior, the future looks bright.

"Our overall intensity needs to be improved for the full 40 minutes," Storm continues. "But we have hustled well all year and have never quit."

The Tigers are vastly improved from last year. They have bettered their scoring average by 7.6, while giving up 3.1 points less than a year ago. And these figures have added up to more numbers in the win column.



Hasan Vyar of Spencerport works hard during his semi-final round of the counties. Hasan went on to win the finals and help Spencerport to another tournament victory.