

# Spencerport wrestlers roll to County title

★ BY STAFF WRITER

JAMES JOHNSON

Not every area wrestling fan cheers for the Spencerport Rangers.

The boos that greet them at tournaments are a strong clue to that. Whether you love them or dislike them, however, you won't find many people in the local wrestling community who don't respect the results the Rangers get on mats.

"There are some people who don't think so but they have made all of us better," Hilton coach Chuck Partridge said.

Crowning the Rangers as the Monroe County League team champions last night was a formality.

The No. 1 ranked large-school

team in the state rolled to its 13th team championship in 14 seasons (22nd overall) at Webster Schroeder High. Spencerport's wrestlers, including five weight division champions, scored 271 points. Runner-up Rush-Henrietta finished 91 points behind.

The Rangers have dominated at the dual meets and nearly every tournament they have been invited to this season. This despite a lineup that has been shuffled because of illnesses.

"We're psyched as a team," Mike Brongo said. "We're all pushing hard in practice and coach (Bill) Jacoutot is on us."

"We're ready to win."

Spencerport hosts fifth-ranked Canandaigua in a monster dual meet on Saturday. The

match, which will receive attention around the state, is sold out.

They shared the No. 1 state ranking at the end of last season.

Stulpin was one of four wrestlers who matched the league titles they won in 2001.

"It's hard because everyone is out to get you," Stulpin said after his 3-1 overtime victory over Greece Athena's Nick Pagano in the 152 final.

Webster's junior Andrew Krieger, a 2-1 winner over Brighton's Gene Kobilansky at 119, was named the meet's Most Outstanding Wrestler.

Gregor Gillespie, Krieger's 112-pound teammate, was fast on his feet and dominated his final. Gillespie was the league's 96-pound champion last season.

"There's a lot of guys who

could take 112 this year, tons of guys," Gillespie said about the SuperSectionals. "It's going to be whoever is on that day."

There are two undefeated wrestlers left in Monroe County.

East Rochester 171-pounder Pat VanThof had to hold off Fairport's Ian Ammons to win 12-7.

VanThof is 25-0 after hitting a five-point move by rolling Ammons onto his back from the standing position.

"I think it's called the cement job roll through," VanThof said. "He surprised me with a double leg takedown (in the first period)."

"After I took him down in the second, I started to feel better and just went from there."

Fairport 189-pounder Joe

Fingler, who won the Webster Tournament at Schroeder earlier this winter, is 26-0 after beating Hilton's John Hennekey for the second time in two weeks.

Rush-Henrietta 125-pounder Jason Chase earned his second league title in three years after he edged Gates Chili's J.P. Zengerle 1-0.

"I'm happy to win but I have to get better," Chase said. "I really didn't feel good this whole tournament."

The 160-pound final had to be halted when Spencerport's Don Zimmerman injured his left shoulder and was unable to continue. Rush-Henrietta's Matt Champion was ahead 5-4 in the third when Zimmerman retired after the third stoppage of the bout. □

## MONROE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Webster Schroeder

**Team scores:** Spencerport 271 points, Brockport 180, Rush-Henrietta 173.5, Fairport 138.5, Gates Chili 134.5, Hilton 117.5, Irondequoit 111.5, Webster 109, East Rochester 94.5, Greece Olympia 93, Eastridge 76, Greece Athena 70.5, Brighton 59.5, Batavia 56, Pittsford 54.5, Penfield 53, Churchville-Chili 25, Greece Arcadia 18.

### Individual finals

**96 pounds:** Josh Fuller (Spencerport) decisioned Joe Ranzanbach (Hilton) 8-1; **103:** Brett Woodward (Spencerport) dec. Jasen Borshoff (Pittsford) 3-1; **112:** Gregor Gillespie (Webster) major dec. Greg Morsch (Gates Chili) 12-0.

**119:** Andrew Krieger (Webster) dec. Gene Kobilansky (Rush-Henrietta) 2-1; **125:** Jason Chase (Rush-Henrietta) dec. J.P. Zengerle (Gates Chili) 1-0; **130:** Henry Rubright (Irondequoit) dec. Adam Palmermo (Hilton) 17-14.

**135:** Mike Brongo (Spencerport) dec. Joe Desanto (Olympia) 9-4 overtime; **140:** Mario Schiano (Gates Chili) dec. Andy Swain (Rush-Henrietta) 11-8; **145:** Dan Safranec (Fairport) major dec. Anthony Miller (Eastridge) 10-2; **152:** Steve Stulpin (Spencerport) dec. Nick Pagano (Athena) 3-1 overtime.

**160:** Matt Champion (Rush-Henrietta) won via injury default over Don Zimmerman (Spencerport); **171:** Pat VanThof (East Rochester) dec. Ian Ammons (Fairport) 12-7; **189:** Joe Fingler (Fairport) dec. John Hennekey (Hilton) 9-2.

**215:** Jake Taylor (Rush-Henrietta) pinned Ryan Good (Fairport) 1:56; **275:** Brandon Clayton (Spencerport) dec. Kublai Duhart (Rush-Henrietta) 3-2.



# Spencerport a winner before semifinals

BY STAFF WRITER

JAMES JOHNSON

Crowning the Spencerport Rangers as the Monroe County team wrestling champions last night was a formality.

## Wrestling

The No. 1 ranked large-school team in the state has dominated at its dual meets and nearly every tournament it has been invited to this season.

The Monroe County League meet was no exception. Spencerport had a firm grasp of its 13th team championship in 14 seasons (22 overall) before the semifinal round.

"The team gets pumped up coming here," 152-pound finalist Steve Stulpin said. "We try to

beat what last year's team did."

How sharp have the Rangers looked? There is talk that this Spencerport team could be the school's best-ever.

This despite a lineup that has been shuffled because of illnesses.

"My father thinks so," Stulpin said. "He was on the 1975 team and that was a state championship team."

"We could be, but it's not the end of the year."

A monster dual meet is still on the things to do list.

Spencerport hosts fifth-ranked Canandaigua on Saturday. The match, which will receive attention around the state, is sold-out.

The teams shared the final No. 1 state ranking at the end of last

season.

Spencerport shocked the Braves by winning their dual meet in Canandaigua last season. But it was Canandaigua a month later, that ended Spencerport's string of Section V Class A titles.

Six Rangers reached the Monroe County finals yesterday: Josh Fuller (96 pounds), Brett Woodward (103), Mike Brongo (135), Don Zimmerman (160), Brandon Clayton (275) and Stulpin (152).

Zimmerman had the rematch he wanted in his weight division.

Rush-Henrietta's Matt Champion, a 2001 champion, was slightly puzzled by Zimmerman just over a week ago. He still beat Zimmerman in the Clayton Barnard

Tournament final in Hilton on overtime criteria.

"I have to solve the mystery," Champion said.

Five of the six 2001 Monroe County champions alive through the semifinals advanced.

Eastridge 119-pounder Mike Wood, last season's winner at 103, lost a technical fall in 5 minutes, 30 seconds to Webster's Andrew Krieger.

Krieger's 112-pound teammate Gregor Gillespie, Irondequoit's Henry Rubright (130), Gates Chili's J.P. Zengerle (125), Champion and Stulpin all still had chances at back-to-back titles.

Zengerle had to get by Rush-Henrietta's Jason Chase. Stulpin faced Greece Athena's Nick Pagano, a runner-up at 140

pounds last season.

Two wrestlers made it to the finals still without a loss.

East Rochester 171-pounder Pat VanThof, who recently earned his 100th career win, wrestled Fairport's Ian Ammons with a 24-0 record.

Fairport 189-pounder Joe Fingler, who won the Webster Tournament at Schroeder earlier this winter, was 25-0 going into his final against Hilton's John Hennekey.

Fingler finished 35-6 in 2000-01. He is Section V's top-ranked wrestler at 189.

"You're told to shrug it off but that's a lot easier said than done," Fingler said. "So far, this year has been working out like the (Section V) rankings."

"But Hennekey and I will have

## Results

MONROE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

After semifinals

**Team scores:** Spencerport 240.5 points, Brockport 158, Rush-Henrietta 155.5, Fairport 128, Gates Chili 126.5, Hilton 111.5, Irondequoit 101.5, Webster 98, Greece Olympia 91, East Rochester 82.5, Eastridge 76, Greece Athena 70.5, Batavia 56, Brighton 55.5, Pittsford 50.5, Penfield 47, Churchville-Chili 25, Greece Arcadia 18.

Individual finals at presstime

**96 pounds:** Josh Fuller (Spencerport) decisioned Joe Ranzenbach (Hilton) 8-1; **103:** Brett Woodward (Spencerport) dec. Jasen Borshoff (Pittsford) 3-1; **112:** Gregor Gillespie (Webster) dec. Greg Morsch (Gates Chili) 12-0. **119:** Andrew Krieger (Webster) dec. Gene Kobilansky (Rush-Henrietta) 2-1; **125:** Jason Chase (Rush-Henrietta) dec. J.P. Zengerle (Gates Chili) 1-0; **130:** Henry Rubright (Irondequoit) dec. Adam Palmermo (Hilton) 15-13.

**135:** Mike Brongo (Spencerport) dec. Joe Desanto (Olympia) 9-4 overtime; **140:** Mario Schiano (Gates Chili) dec. Andy Swain (Rush-Henrietta) 11-8; **145:** Dan Safranec (Fairport) vs. Anthony Miller (Eastridge); **152:** Steve Stulpin (Spencerport) vs. Nick Pagano (Athena). **160:** Matt Champion (Rush-Henrietta) vs. Don Zimmerman (Spencerport); **171:** Pat VanThof (East Rochester) vs. Ian Ammons (Fairport); **189:** Joe Fingler (Fairport) vs. John Hennekey (Hilton).

**215:** Ryan Good (Fairport) vs. Jake Taylor (Rush-Henrietta); **250:** Brandon Clayton (Spencerport) vs. Kublai Duhart (Rush-Henrietta).



# Six wrestlers set to defend titles

STAFF REPORTS

Six wrestlers have a chance to win Monroe County wrestling titles in back-to-back years after the first day of the league championships at Webster Schroeder on Friday.

## High School Roundup

Schroeder on Friday.

Webster's Gregor Gillespie, Gates Chili's J. P. Zengerle, Rush-Henrietta's Matt Champion, Irondequoit's Henry Rubright, Spencerport's Steve Stulpin and Eastridge's Mike Wood (Eastridge) are in today's noon semifinals.

Wood, a No. 6 seed in the 119-pound division, pinned Spencerport's Jeff Teike in 3 minutes, 44 seconds in the quarterfinals to advance to the division's final four.

East Rochester 130-pounder Steve Laughlin edged Spencerport's Dan France 2-1 in overtime in the same round.

Spencerport, aiming for its 11th consecutive team title, has 119.5 points. Rush-Henrietta is next, 42.5 points behind with 77.

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LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Former Section V champion wrestlers Isaac Read Jr. (York), Marcus Phillips (Avon) and Van Schirmer (York) were inducted into the Livingston Conference Athletic Association Wrestling Hall of Fame.

## High Schools

### WRESTLING

#### MONROE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Webster Schroeder

Through quarterfinals

**Team scores:** Spencerport 119.5 points, Rush-Henrietta 77, Brockport 73, Fairport 73, Gates Chili 64.5, Irondequoit 59, Hilton 57, Greece Olympia 51, Eastridge 49, Webster 44.5, East Rochester 42.5, Brighton 40.5, Greece Athena 39, Penfield 38, Pittsford 29, Bataiva 26, Churchville-Chili 17, Greece Arcadia 14.

#### Semifinals matchups at noon

**96 pounds:** Josh Fuller (Spencerport) vs. Kyle Borshoff (Pittsford); Dereck Gray (Eastridge) vs. Joe Ranzenbach (Hilton); **103:** Brett Woodward (Spencerport) vs. John Bonaldi (Olympia); Nick DellaRocco (Brockport) vs. Jasen Borshoff (Pittsford).

**112:** Gregor Gillespie (Webster) vs. Blake Woodward (Spencerport); Greg Morsch (Gates Chili) vs. Will Negron (Irondequoit); **119:** Gene Kobilansky (Brighton) vs. Colby Fisher (Brockport); Mike Wood (Eastridge) vs. Andrew Krieger (Webster).

**125:** Jason Chase (R-H) vs. Chris Forte (Pittsford); Albert Gianforti (Irondequoit) vs. J.P. Zengerle (Gates Chili); **130:** Henry Rubright (Irondequoit) vs. Chris Fronczak (Batavia); Adam Palermo (Hilton) vs. Steve Loughlin (East Rochester).

**135:** Joe Desanto (Olympia) vs. Larry LaRusa (R-H); Mike Brongo (Spencerport) vs. Sean Riley (Brockport); **140:** Andy Swain (R-H) vs. Chuck Nix (Olympia); Mario Schiano (Gates Chili) vs. Brian Bowen (Fairport).

**145:** Dan Safranse (Fairport) vs. Scott LaDue (Brockport); Anthony Miller (Eastridge) vs. Joe Morabito (Spencerport); **152:** Steve Stulpin (Spencerport) vs. Andrew Thomas (Brighton); Stephen Cragg (East Rochester) vs. Nick Pagano (Athena).

**160:** Matt Champion (R-H) vs. Kevin Bush (Brockport); Ryan Sharp (Eastridge) vs. Don Zimmerman (Spencerport); **171:** Pat Van Thof (East Rochester) vs. Rich Schempf (Penfield); Mike Vitale (Churchville-Chili) vs. Ian Ammons (Fairport).

**189:** Joe Fingler (Fairport) vs. Alex Baxter (Spencerport); Josh Stewart (Penfield) vs. John Hennekey (Hilton); **215:** Ryan Good (Fairport) vs. Ben Plucknette (Spencerport); Ray Finnochio (Gates Chili) vs. Jake Taylor (R-H); **275:** Brandon Clayton (Spencerport) vs. Chris Goulet (Brockport); Adam Kennel (Irondequoit) vs. Kublai Duhart (Rush-Henrietta).