

Piatrowski, Gustannis, Locascio Victorious; Team Finishes Second

By Barry Murphy

Oswego State, acting as host at the annual New York State Wrestling Tournament, the Cortland Red Dragons, won the championship title for the first time in 10 years.

The tournament was held in the gymnasium on Saturday, February 10, and drew an approximate crowd of 1,000 people. The second day of the tournament, who placed third in the 137 lb. class by fifteen points in a much closer margin than last year's tournament. The 10 teams entered, Albany and Oneonta, finished in that order and 26 points apiece, respectively.

Albany's Clem Crowe, 4-1 champion last year at 130 lbs., was picked by the four coaches and the two referees as the tournament's outstanding wrestler. He defeated Cortland's Neal Aubel 10-2, tying him up with well executed leg maneuvers.

Cortland had victories in four of the ten weight divisions; Oswego had three; Albany, two; and Oneonta, one.

In what was probably the most outstanding match of the tournament, Albany's Ray Bouchard defeated Cortland's Frank Millard in the 115 lb. class 2-0 in overtime. At 123 lbs., Oneonta's Frank Barbuto defeated the Lakers' Jerry LaMonica 2-1 in another overtime match. It marks the fourth time this year that the two hometown buddies have wrestled to a tie in regulation time.

In the 130 lb. division, as mentioned above, Crowe neatly tied up his opponent, Neal Aubel, and beat him 10-2.

In the 137 lb. weight class, Cortland's Chuck Wilkinson defeated Gary Williamson of Oswego 6-0 to give the Red Dragons the first of her four victories. At 147 lbs., in a match sparked by successive reversals, Cortland's Duane Whittaker, defending champ of last year, pinned the Lakers' Joe Shepard in 20 seconds of the third period. Whittaker was winning by only a one point advantage, 8-7, when the fall was registered. Gary Dillingham gave Cortland her third victory by outpointing Albany's John Woytovich 4-0. Then the Green and Gold matmen came to life, winning the next three matches in succession.

The European-born Harry Piotrowski, who came to this country in 1953, handed Cortland's Russ Destito his second defeat of the season, 3-1, to share the 167 lb. championship.

The Laker standout grappler, David Locascio, who has a 6-1 record this season and was defending 177 lb. champ, retained his title by downing Cortland's Shan Hyman, 5-1.

The third Oswego victory went to John Gustannis, a transfer student from Broome Tech., who has been out for team three weeks and has not wrestled since high school. He met Oneonta's Wayne Cornell in the 191 lb. class and beat him 4-3 while suffering a weight disadvantage of 20 lbs. In the final tourney match, Oswego heavyweight, Chester "Chet" Conner, suffered a loss to Cortland's John Urquhart, who pinned him in 1:28 of the first period, the fastest pin of the day.

The semi-finals were held at 2:20 Saturday afternoon and the finals began at 7:30 in the evening. The evening matches lasted

a good deal longer than the day matches due to two overtime periods in many of the bouts. The tournament closed at 9 minutes.

There were 100 matches scheduled, of which three were overtime. At 123 lbs., Cortland's bombard pinned Albany in 2:30 of the second period. Albany bested Cortland's 147 lb. d. Young of Oneonta 8-6 to cap the 147 lb. division. Albany's John Young's Paul Vignola, 157 lbs., on a tie with Bruce Clark, won an earlier match.

Prior to the matches, two of the wrestlers, Brian Jones and Harry Jones, demonstrated wrestling holds to the audience.

The tournament was held under the auspices of the Oswego State University and directed by wrestling coach David Block, who with the president, Art Block "O" men, will keep the program running smoothly.

Baseball, Track, Tennis, Golf aspirants make Spring is just around the corner.

NOW SHOWING

Phone 3-7350

OSWEGO
OSWEGO, NEW YORK

ROCK HUDSON
DORIS DAY
TONY RANDALL

A UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

"LOVER COME BACK"

in EASTMAN COLOR

EDIE ADAMS JACK PALANCE JACK KRASNER

— Plus Added "DOWN JAW" and New Cartoons

Starts FRIDAY!

FRANK SINATRA
SAMMY DAVIS, JR.
JOEY BISHOP

JEAN MARTIN
WFOOD
JOP