

Westside wrestling wrap-up

by Tim Irving ★

They won four tournaments this season, but none would be as important as the one at Rush-Henrietta on February 16-17. The Spencerport Wrestling team had been working towards a Section V title all year and now it was time to get it.

The westside as a whole did very well. At 91 lbs., #1 seed Don Spaulding won his only match of the first day, pinning Matt Fisher of Fairport to qualify for the semifinals. Spencerport's Scott Ingham battled Gates' Joe Smallidge before dropping a 5-3 overtime decision. In the consolation quarterfinals Ingham would defeat Fisher 5-0.

At 98 lbs., Justin Raines pinned his only opponent of the day in Tom Baird of Mooney at 4:33 of the match. Dave Cottom of Brockport would also qualify for the semifinals with an 8-0 decision.

At 105 lbs., Jon Raines made short work of Dan Goodison, pinning the Athenian in 1:05 to gain a semifinal match.

The #2 seed at 112 lbs., Todd Bumbarger of Churchville, defeated Joe Camillaci of Hilton 10-4 for a semifinal berth. Meanwhile, Joel Raines, who had lost his first match to Pat O'Keefe of Brighton, won his first wrestleback against Aaron Gifford of Athena and his second round match against Camillaci 3-0.

At 119 lbs., Andy Antonucci also wasted little time with his opponents, scoring a technical fall against Grady Slack of Webster in his first round match then pinning Sean Delaney of Fairport at 1:05. His semifinal opponent would be Dave Miller of Brockport who decisioned Cory Sinton of Canandaigua 9-1. Chris Bannister also made the semifinals, pinning Brian Jeary of Olympia and beating Yancee Fritz 12-4.

The top seed at 126 lbs. was Spencerport's Joe LoPresti. He scored a technical fall against Lamar Floyd of Franklin and a 4-0 decision over Brian Knauss of McQuaid. The second seed, Scott Daly of Brockport defeated Marc Johnson of Fairport 4-2 to qualify.

At 132 lbs., Tom Foos was the first seed. He easily handled Bob Porto of McQuaid

12-1 to reach the semifinals against Steve LaFountain of Hilton, who pinned Brian Bellaire of Athena in the first round, then defeated Anthony Conte of Brockport 7-3.

The favorite at 138 lbs. was Pat White of Hilton. He scored a 5-0 decision over Chad Sinton of Canandaigua. Vince Anderson of Churchville scored a pin in overtime against Mike Matteson of Gates before being sent to the consolations by Kevin Smith of Webster. Eric Vasquez of Spencerport lost to Nedim Aksoy of Athena before defeating Lou Stinebisor of Brockport in the first wrestlebacks.

At 145, #3 Steve Taylor of Brockport scored a technical fall against Pete Kalish of Spencerport, then decisioned Jeff Frisk

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of Mooney 8-4. Craig Reynolds of Hilton pinned Brad Shepard of Pittsford before running into top seed Scott Reddick of R-H.

At 155 lbs., Pat Kalish pinned Mark Mattia of Hilton before losing to Dan Goldstein of Brighton. Bill Dambra of Brockport also lost in the quarterfinals, 2-1 to Jason Bovenzi of Athena.

#4 Jason Vinci had Craig Abbey of Penfield in trouble at 167 lbs., before Abbey broke his collarbone, sending Vinci against Paul Manning of Athena, who defeated the Ranger senior 7-2. Vinci won his first wrestleback against Clayton Harley of Marshall 8-0.

At 177 lbs., Mike Licata of Spencerport, the #3 seed, pinned Steve Cronmiller of Edison at 5:23 to qualify for semifinals.

At 215 lbs., Curt Snyder defeated Andy Butz of Olympia before dropping a 9-0 decision to Otha Davidson of Brighton. He would then defeat Brian Legler of Mooney to get to the consolation quarterfinals.

At 250 lbs., Hasan Uyar would score a quick technical fall against Dave Woodard of Churchville to make semifinals.

Quarterfinal action

On Saturday, consolation quarterfinals were held in the morning. Joel Raines advanced to the semifinals by pinning Tyler Beach of McQuaid. At 145 lbs., Anderson defeated Vasquez 6-2 to advance. Pat Kalish pinned Scott Ovens of R-H. Dambra then defeated Kalish in the quarterfinals. Vinci would win a 3-0 decision over

Mike Heindel of Webster to advance and Snyder would beat Kevin Johnson of R-H to advance.

In the Championship semifinals, Spaulding pummeled Smallidge 8-1 to meet Alex Croog of Brighton in the finals at 91 lbs.

Justin Raines defeated Sean Greiner of Athena by default as Greiner was hurt during the match. He would meet Rob Giannavola of Gates in the finals.

Jon Raines made easy work of Chris Terrigino of Irondequoit with a technical fall at 2:42. His finals opponent would be Jim Barbato of Gates.

Bannister was once again defeated by Joe Giglio in the semis, this time 5-3. Giglio would meet Antonucci in the finals who was having an excellent match against Miller. The two were even before Antonucci pulled an incredible roll move to pin Miller.

For the first time all season, LoPresti had avoided boos through the semifinal rounds, defeating Chuck Leone 5-3 in a good match. He would meet Daly in the finals.

At 132 lbs., Foos and LaFountain did battle. LaFountain had a 5-3 lead late when Foos slapped on a pinning combination. Before he could get any back points, though, time ran out and the Hilton wrestler advanced to the finals.

White advanced to the finals against Smith by defeating Chris Lozipone of Fairport. Taylor also advanced past Neil Cook of Brighton, setting up a match against Reddick.

At 167 lbs., Matt DePoint of Churchville defeated Ron Fenner of Olympia in a rematch of their County final meeting. DePoint won by an identical 3-2 score to meet Jon Welch of Canandaigua.

At 177 lbs., Licata scored two late points and beat John Marcinek of Webster to set up a meeting with undefeated Jeff Wittman of Gates.

At 250 lbs., Uyar pinned Tom Rice of

Webster to set up another match against Derek O'Connor of Pittsford.

At this point, Spencerport's team score had ballooned to 180 points to 140½ for second place Gates.

In the consolation semifinals, Ingham defeated Dan Neir of Athena 6-0 to set up another match against Smallidge for third place. All of the top four finishers would advance to last weekend's State qualifying meet.

Joel Raines would lose a close match against Mark Burstein of Fairport at 122 lbs., Bannister defeated Sinton to advance against Miller of Brockport. Foos also defeated a Canandaigua opponent, Ted Cornish 6-1. He would meet John Hill of Brighton.

Anderson would advance to meet the other Sinton at 138 lbs., Vinci was pinned by Fenner to eliminate him. Troy Stark of Canandaigua defeated Snyder 2-0 at 215 lbs.

In the finals, Spaulding claimed the 91 lb. title, scoring back points late against Croog, and coming out with a 8-5 decision. Ingham reversed Smallidge late in the third place match and claimed third place with a 3-2 decision.

At 98 lbs., Raines led 4-3 until late in the third when Giannavola was awarded a stalling point, then just barely escaped with :01 left to win the match 5-4.

The elder Rainer claimed Spencerport's first title. He scored two first period reversals then took Barbato down with :01 left in the second to gain a 7-5 decision.

At 122 lbs., Bumbarger was outmatched by the first seed, Kerry Foster of Canandaigua. He dropped a 14-2 decision.

At 119 lbs., Antonucci showed why it will be tough for him to be beat in the near future. He took Giglio down three times enroute to a 9-2 win. Bannister won the third place match against Miller with an escape in the second period giving him a 2-1 decision.

At 126 lbs., you knew it couldn't last.

LoPresti was pelted with boos after eeking out a 4-3 win over Daly. He scored a takedown with :42 left. Daly almost pinned LoPresti, but time ran out and the chorus of boos shamelessly pelted the latest LoPresti.

LaFountain pulled another upset, winning the 132 lb. class with a third period takedown, a 6-4 over Brian LaPrade of Pittsford. In the third place match, Foos lost to Hill on a stalling penalty to finish fourth.

White claimed Hilton's fourth title of the night with a 6-3 win. Anderson finished fourth after a 12-7 loss to Sinton.

Taylor made a real nice effort against one of the toughest wrestlers in the area. He was edged by Reddick 9-6.

At 155 lbs., one of only two classes that will not include a wrestler from the westside, Andy Berg defeated Goldstein 3-1.

Possibly THE toughest wrestler in the tournament, Welch and DePoint did battle. DePoint managed more points off Welch than anyone, losing 13-7.

177 lbs. saw a real battle as Licata tried to put the first blemish on Wittman's record. With :57 left in the match, Licata scored a takedown. That tied the match. With :30 left, Licata had Wittman's leg, with one more step, would have had the takedown. Wittman managed to slither out of bounds and get a takedown with :06 left to win 5-3.

At 215 lbs., the other weight class sans westsiders, Rob Kessler defeated Jerry Pelusio 9-2.

In the final weight class of the day, Uyar had been taken down, not good for him as he wrestles best locking horns with opponents on his feet. O'Connor went on to pin the Ranger at 3:40.

The Section V title returned to Spencerport as the Rangers held off Brighton, scoring 206 points to the Barons' 160. Hilton was sixth with 123 points, Brockport was seventh with 92½ and Churchville was eleventh with 75 points.