

Wrestlers capture first State title

After three years of playing second fiddle, St. Lawrence University's wrestling team finally got its turn to move to the front row and stand all alone in the spotlight.

The Saints, who had been runner-up in the New York State Intercollegiate Wrestling Championships for the past three years, won the event for the first time ever, and couldn't have picked a better time to do it.

"The rest of the teams knew they were going to have to get up now, because with a freshman and sophomore dominated team, we are going to be real tough...barring foreseen factors...in the next few years," said SLU coach John Clark.

Not only didn't the rest of the teams get the Saints...the Saints had them.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP was clinched before the finals ever started, giving Clark a chance to sit back and enjoy the championship bouts knowing the hardware was already packed and ready to go to Canton.

SLU totalled 107 points, with host Colgate finishing second with 97, followed by Brockport, 81.5; Buffalo, 73.5; Potsdam, 61.25; Oswego, 61; and Binghamton, 54 in the 18 team field.

And, while the Saints had only one individual champion, they had eight placewinners, including several revenge wins over wrestlers who had beaten them earlier in the year.

Barry Barone, a sophomore, won the lone individual title for St. Lawrence, capturing the 134 pound crown, beating Ed Tyrell of Buffalo, 5-2. Barone, who lost to the same wrestler a year ago, is one of the Saints top wrestlers

with an 18-2 season's record which includes 16 pins in 20 matches.

Other SLU finalists included John McHugh, a freshman who beat out All America Jim Pecori in wrestle-off for the right to participate in both the ICAC and New York State championships and who took a surprise second at 118 in the state's and sophomore heavyweight Wess Audsley, who also finished second in a real tight match with Paul Curla of Buffalo.

McHugh lost to Tom Jacoutot of Buffalo, 9-2, in the finals, but got there with a revenge win over Jim Abbott of Colgate and another key early round win over Dave Parisi of Brockport, both wrestlers who had beat McHugh earlier in the year.

Audsley also had his measure of revenge, beating George Swan of Colgate 7-4 en route to the finals after losing a tight match to Swan in a dual meet in Canton earlier in the year.

Freshman Chuck Tortorello finished fourth at 126 pounds, losing the consolation (third-fourth place) finals to Tim Oliveiri of Buffalo, 7-5 after picking up a pair of key wins to assure himself of a place; freshman Mike St. Amour was third at 142 after beating Steve Darling, an All America from Binghamton in the consolation finals, 8-4.

KEITH BRUNO, a sophomore 150-pounder, got into scoring position with a 8-3 upset of Mike Morone of Binghamton, and went on to finish fourth in a tight match with Tony Petway of Oneonta.

Sophomore Rick Roberts was third at 167, losing to Colgate's

Lloyd Woodruff, 8-7, in an early round, but beating the same wrestler, 10-6, in the consolation finals after working his way up the loser's bracket.

Freshman Rick Cruikshank

finished sixth at 177, beating Ralph Salem of Ithaca, the wrestler who beat him out for the national qualifying spot at that weight.

And, junior Dave Hudson

finished third at 190 pounds, losing to Bill Franke of Binghamton, 8-3, but battling back to beat Mike Morell of Colgate, Ron VanAntwerp of Albany and Fred O'Meally of Brockport to finish as the consolation winner.

"We knew we were a strong dual meet team," said Clark, "Because we didn't have any holes and all of our wrestlers could score points. It was a real team effort throughout the year, with the wrestlers who were having an off match being picked up by the guys who had had the off performances the match before. Saturday, everybody was on."

THE SAINTS will send eight wrestlers to the NCAA Division III Championships in Humbolt, Calif., with all eight being paid for by the NCAA after qualifying in the ICAC championships.

McHugh at 118, Tortorello at 126 and St. Amour at 142 will wrestle in the nationals as freshmen, while sophomores Barone, Bruno, Roberts and Audsley will join junior 190 pounder Hudson as the Saints try for yet another top five finish in the NCAA's.



Barry Barone

Yatsko sets Stillman record

The Stillman Foote Running Club's third Frozen Foote race, held Saturday at St. Lawrence University, lived up to its name as 34 runners braved sub-zero

temperatures. However, the bitter cold did not present St. Lawrence Senior Chick Yatsko from setting a new course record for the four mile race. Yatsko,

one of the area's best marathoners, clocked 22:43 on the Woodmere Road course to obliterate the old mark of 23:55.