

# ★ A Most Successful Wrestling Tournament

The Olean Jaycees would like to thank the following people for running a most successful wrestling tournament: George Whitcher, Tournament Director; Edward Forest and the Olean Wrestling Booster Club; Matt Conte and the Olean School District; all wrestlers and coaches from their respective schools; Olean Times Herald for their coverage of the tournament and the many other people who helped make this years tournament a success.

At this time we would like to answer some questions published in Readers Views by Herman Guenther, Portville.

First: we had 25 teams entered in the tournament. One month in advance we drew team names for each weight class. This was done so that no school would wrestle the whole tournament against one team. We also used standard procedures for setting up matches and also the use of byes.

Second: we admit the programs were of poor quality. Next year we plan on requesting team pictures and information on all wrestlers. We will ask for the information early enough so we can have a quality program. With drawing of schools ahead of time, we will not be able to give you each weight class and the wrestlers names, but will give weight class brackets so you may fill them in yourself.

Third: this past year we invited 50 teams to the tournament, with 25 teams accepting. The teams were invited from the Big

30, Southwestern New York, North Western Pennsylvania, Buffalo, Rochester, Athens and the top 20 ranked teams from New York and Pennsylvania. Also invitation for next years tournament have already gone out, compared to last year when we sent them out in May. Hopefully, we will get more of the top wrestling powers to our tournament next year by starting early.

Fourth: there was a mistake in scheduling of the matches which made us go until 12:30 Friday night. Also, each wrestler must have one hour between all matches. Next year we are hoping to start earlier so we can be done by 11 p.m. so this problem will be resolved.

Fifth: there was a problem with cheerleaders wanting to cheer as close as possible to their wrestlers in the red seats. Next year all wrestlers, cheerleaders and coaches will have one side of Reilly Center and the other side will be for spectators. This solution will enable all people to have a more enjoyable tournament.

Sixth: the two schools that respectively won their divisions were Sweet Home in the large school division and Salamanca in the small school division.

We again thank all persons who made this years tournament a success, and hope next years tournament will be bigger and better with your help.

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President  
Olean Area Jaycees