

# SPORTS

## Teike/Bernabi Tournament displays local wrestling talent

**Taylor, Conte and Uyar win titles**

by Tim Irving

Spencerport's newly re-named Teike/Bernabi Wrestling Tournament has been the area's biggest regular-season tournament for years and this season's was no different.

Eighteen teams from New York and Pennsylvania participated in an event that was strongly influenced by the Rochester contingent.

Brockport's Steve Taylor went into the season as the state's top-ranked 145lb. wrestler. This tournament would put the senior to the test as that weight class featured some of the state's top wrestlers.

Taylor earned a bye in the first-round as the top seed. Many felt the final would come down to Taylor and Spencerport's Tom Foes. But this weight class also featured Whitehall (Section II) wrestler Chris Terry, also one of the top wrestlers in the state. The weight class also included Spencerport's Eric Vasquez wrestling for Ogden-Parma, Hilton's Craig Wescott and Royalton-Hartland's Willie Cunningham who had given Foes a tough match earlier in the season.

Taylor showed his prowess though. He pinned Heath MacWhinnie of Athens (Pa.) in 3:12 to move to the semifinals against Vasquez.

The Spencerport senior put up the best struggle of the meet against Taylor and held him to a 7-1 decision. Meanwhile, in the other semifinal, Terry had pulled what appeared to the untrained viewer to be an upset over Foes with a 6-3 decision.

Terry would put up a fight against Taylor, but the Whitehall senior, who had wrestled six times in this tournament without a title, was pinned with 44 seconds left in the match and Taylor was named the meet's outstanding wrestler.

The Blue Devils would have two champions. Anthony Conte worked his way through the 132lb. class with a first-round bye, a 7-2 decision over Pat Sommer of Lancaster and a 4-1 decision over Doug Titus of Lockport to put him in the finals against the top-seed, Gates-Chili's Jim Barbato.

The match meant more than just an individual title. If the Brockport junior could pull off the victory, Gates would be shut out of winning the team title as Barbato was the last finalist for the Spartans.

Conte never trailed, getting an escape and a takedown in a 3-1 win which had the crowd jumping. At one point in the match, Barbato had Conte set up for a takedown, but Conte held on and fought it off to preserve the victory.

The win meant that the Gates team, having 157.5 team points at that juncture, could not catch Spencerport who had 160 team points.

Spencerport had two wrestlers in the finals and ended with one champion. Hasan Uyar started the 250lb. weight class with a pin of Mike Sanscrainte of Cheektowaga in 1:17.

In the quarterfinals, the Rangers' senior pinned Don Thomas of Bethlehem (Pa.) in 3:35.

The biggest of his matches came in the semifinals where he met Gates-Chili's Kevin Dallimore. The Spartan-Ranger match-ups became critical and Spencerport's wrestler literally left Dallimore writhing in pain. Just as the first period whistle blew, Uyar was countering a head-slap by Dallimore and caught the junior with a head to the chin.

Dallimore was never the same and Uyar rolled to the finals with an 11-3 decision.

The finals were fairly anti-climatic as Lockport's Tony Bogar was lethargic and Uyar had to do very little to win the match. Uyar scored an escape before Bogar was penalized two points for stalling. Uyar added a takedown and won the match 5-0, giving Spencerport a final team score of 164 points.

The Rangers' other finalist was Dave Rotoli at 91lbs. Like Uyar, Rotoli was the top seed. He earned a first-round bye, then pinned Chad Mallow of Bethlehem at 3:42 of the match to get to the semifinals.

Rotoli gave the Rangers a big lift with a pin at 1:20 of his semifinal match against Dan Clor of LeRoy.

The finals were as uplifting. The first final match of the night ended in 1:44 with Elmira-Southside's Jeff Reese on top.

The Rangers won the tournament by scoring five third-place winners.

Scott Ingham had a fine tournament, pinning Jason Matteson of Whitehall in 1:35 and scoring a technical fall over Jeff Leonardi of Lancaster at 5:11 to get to the semifinals of the 98lb. bracket. He would take on John Morello of Lockport, the second seed. After a long battle, Morello had a 6-4 lead and Ingham moved to the consolation bracket where he scored a 6-0 decision over Ian Wolfe of Elmira-Southside before winning the third place match 12-6 in OT over Jason Collins of Roy-Hart.

At 126lbs., Justin Raines pinned Jeff Berner of Roy-Hart in 1:25 to open the tourney. He then gained the semifinals with a 15-2 decision over Scott Krulisky of Lockport.

In the semifinals, Raines was upset by Athens' Dave Alexander who scored a reversal at the buzzer to win 2-0. In the consolations, Raines defeated Brockport's Chris Fiorito 6-1 before winning the third place match 5-3.

Bill Smith wrestled beautifully for the Rangers, scoring a technical fall at 5:24 of his opening match at 138lbs. against Tim Klotz of Elmira-Notre Dame.

He then defeated Chris Johnson of Lockport 6-4 to get to the semifinals where he was pinned by Dan Powell of Lancaster in 4:30.

In the consolations, Smith scored a 6-0 decision over Ryan Benjamin of Elmira-Southside before defeating Jim Cunningham of Roy-Hart 3-2.

Foes was expected to be the one guy to give Taylor a run, but when he lost to Terry, he realized the tournament wasn't over and wrestled well in his rematch with Cunningham of Roy-Hart. He defeated the Section VI wrestler 5-2 before pinning his teammate Vasquez for third place in 2:00.

Mike Licata was the top seed at 177lbs. He was supposed to get a bye but due to an excess of wrestlers at that weight, the spot in the bracket was filled after a preliminary match called a pigtail. Kevin Sommers of Gates would win the match, as he was a late entry to the weight class after failing to make weight for another class.

Sommers got behind early, but Licata didn't seem to be on top of things. Suddenly, Sommers had Licata on his back, and scored the pin at 4:45.

The two were destined to meet again. In the next round, Sommers was defeated by the eventual champion, Kevin Elston of Elmira-Southside 5-0, sending him to the opposite side of the consolation bracket from Licata.

Licata won his first wrestleback on a forfeit, then pinned Aaron Knowles of Athens. In the quarterfinals, he defeated Ben Mead of Whitehall with a 12-7 decision before scoring a technical fall over Stan Madden of Lockport, setting up a meeting with Sommers for third place.

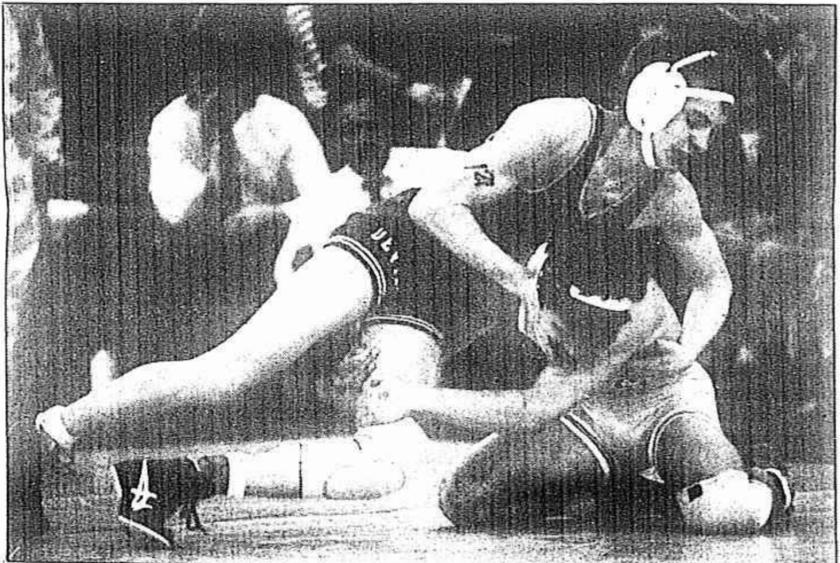
As in the first match, Licata scored early points and built an 8-2 lead in the third period before Sommers scored a reversal and a takedown. Licata held on and defeated Sommers 8-6 to gain the revenge.

Brockport also had a finalist in the 177lb. class. Bill D'Ambra pinned Hilton's Mike Mitchell in 4:05, then whipped Knowles, pinning him in :11. He gained the finals by defeating Tony Hernandez of Lancaster 7-2. Elston would defeat D'Ambra in the finals 10-5 as a late rush



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Spencerport's Hasan Uyar has Gates-Chili's Kevin Dallimore grimacing with pain during their semifinal match at 250lbs. Uyar was the champion of that weight class and defeated Dallimore 11-3.



John Clifford/Westside News Inc.

Brockport's Mike McAllister and Spencerport's Joe Rothenberger jockey for position in a first round match of the 119lb. class at the Teike/Bernabi Tournament. Rothenberger defeated McAllister 11-0.

couldn't amass enough points.

Bob Izzo scored a third place finish for the Blue Devils at 167lbs. He was defeated in the opening round by Mike Campbell of Elmira-Southside 4-2. He then pinned Bill Bliss of Lockport in 2:10, before scoring respective 13-3 and 9-0 decisions over George Chamoun of Cicero-No. Syracuse and Craig Harkness of Athens.

He qualified for the third place match with a 6-4 win in his rematch with Campbell and soundly defeated Pittsford's Kyle Keogh 11-0 for third place.

Hilton's top finisher was Craig Reynolds at 155lbs. He defeated Chris Muhitch of Lancaster in the first round before scoring a 10-2 decision over Dave Keysaw of Athens to get to the semis.

He was defeated there by eventual champion Todd Englerth of LeRoy 14-5.

In the consolation bracket, he scored four late points to defeat Sirrell Gissendanner of Spencerport 8-4. In the third place match, he defeated Nate Grace of North Rose-Wolcott 10-2.

**Other local finishers** in their respective weight classes:

At 98lbs., Hilton's Scott Yockel was defeated by Collins to open the tournament, then proceeded to pin Matt Corrigan of Gates in 52 seconds and defeat Leonardi 12-2 before being pinned by Eric Ed-

wards of Cicero in 3:45

At 105lbs., Dave Cottom of Brockport defeated Jason Matteson of Whitehall 13-3 before losing 12-6 to eventual champion Pat Borja of Elmira-Notre Dame. In the consolations, he pinned Mark Guarino of Lancaster in 2:21 and decided Tom Baird of Hilton 5-2 before losing on a referee's criteria to Joe Smallidge of Gates. Baird was defeated by Steve Wachsmann of Guelderland 9-4. In the consolations, he pinned Brian McCartney in 5:45 then decided Don Hart of Cicero 6-3 before losing to Cottom. Spencerport's Joe Billone was defeated on a technical fall by Borja, then defeated Matteson 2-0 before pinning Chris Sorenson at 3:52. He then defeated Wachsmann 9-5 before being pinned by Brad Seymour of Elmira-Southside.

At 112lbs., Ben Stinebisor of Brockport was pinned by Andy Baker of Cicero before being pinned by Eric Newdom of Bethlehem. Bill Wood of Spencerport was pinned by eventual champion Rob Giannavola of Gates in 5:30 and then was pinned by Dave Dormstauf of Elmira-Notre Dame.

At 119lbs., Spencerport's Joe Rothenberger defeated Brockport's Mike McAllister 11-0, then defeated Lancaster's Grant Gunsher 13-5 before losing in the

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semifinals to Dan Shirley of LeRoy 11-3. He was then defeated on a technical fall by Aaron Williams of Whitehall.

McAllister was decisioned 9-0 by Eric Kuhns of Lockport.

Jason Tebo of Hilton was pinned by eventual champion Jeff Mohr of Gates in 3:58 before losing to Bill Vandewark of Elmira-Southside 9-7.

At 126lbs., Fiorito was pinned by Krulisky in 3:04 before pinning Gary Naronha of Pittsford in 2:05, decisioning Nick Morrison of Bethlehem 7-1 and winning by forfeit over Matt Rohrer of Elmira-Notre Dame. He was then defeated by Raines of Spencerport. Joe Camillaci won on referee's criteria over Steve Balsamo of LeRoy before defaulting with an injury to Dan Sommer of Lancaster and Rohrer.

At 132lbs., Spencerport's Eric Killenbeck pinned Randy VanHorn of Elmira-Notre Dame in 1:17 before defaulting to Chris Seymour of Elmira-Southside. He then dropped a 12-4 decision to Chris Manning of Athens. Hilton's Jason LaFountain was defeated 12-2 by Pete Klochaney of Cicero, then was pinned in 4:25 by Sommer.

At 138lbs., Steve Gurslin pinned Dave Rubenstein in 4:35 before losing to Cunningham 17-10. He was then beaten in the consolations by Dan Brefka of Cicero