

# TONAWANDA NEWS

Established 1880  
North Tonawanda, N.Y.

25 Cents  
Wednesday, Feb 1

## Tonawanda

### 4 percent water hike wins okay

A four percent hike in water rates was approved informally Tuesday by the Tonawanda Common Council.

The new rate would go into effect March 1 and be reflected in August billing, according to William Ball, superintendent of the Water Department.

Mr. Ball recommended an 8 percent hike, but the council rejected the proposal in favor of the smaller increase.

Mr. Ball said the increase would mean a hike of about \$1.20 a year to the average water-user.

The increase, the first in two years, would not affect sewer rates.

Alderman Gayle Syross, chairman of the council's Water Committee, said the increase was needed to offset one-time retirement and capital improvement costs.

Council President Timothy Murray said he would prefer no rate increase, but said there is no alternative.

Alderman Bruno Bieniek noted a



**SMILE:** Tonawanda's Rob Fire (top) is getting ready to pin Niagara-Wheatfield's Fabian Rosati during their 105-pound match Tuesday. Fire's fall was recorded in 1:59 and helped Tonawanda High

successfully defend its Niagara Fro wrestling title with a 24-21 win over N photos and story, see Page 7. (P Schwartz)

Tonawanda High School successfully defended its Niagara Frontier League high school wrestling title Tuesday with a thrilling 24-21 victory over visiting Niagara-Wheatfield at the George Miller Gymnasium.

A packed house saw the Red Warriors win their 10th league match of the season against no defeats. Niagara-Wheatfield, which lost earlier this season to Kenmore East, finishes at 8-2.

THS Coach Glenn Bateman, who in 10 years at the Warrior helm has won the NFL title five times and finished second behind N-W the five other seasons, said this was a team championship.

"It's been the same thing all year," Bateman said. "We don't have a star wrestler, but different guys carrying the load at different times. It is a team championship...that's for sure."

Tonawanda opened the match with gusto. Highly-regarded Rick Postula pinned Jody Johnson in just 50 seconds of the 177-pound match and the Red Warriors had a 6-0 lead.

Jim Hosie (215) and Jason Caprio (98) posted decisions for N-W and the Falcons deadlocked the score at six.

Rob Fire responded for THS as he pinned Fabian Rosati in just 1:59 in the 105-pound match to put the Red Warriors back in front by six.

Kevin Roe, Tonawanda's eighth-grader, picked up a key two points when he escaped with about a minute to go and deadlocked Steve Wolanyk 6-6 at 112. Roe also had a takedown as time was winding down, but the referee said no much to the dismay of the crowd.

Tonawanda's Brad Salmon (119) and N-W's Wayne Schiffert (126) traded decisions before Warrior



**IN LOSING CAUSE:** At left, Niagara-Wheatfield's Jason Caprio works from his base against Tonawanda's Dean Chatten (top). Caprio posted a 2-0 win in the 98-pound match. At right, Tonawanda's Rick Roe (top) rides Jim Hosie out. However, Hosie won by a 6-3



score in the 215-pound encounter. Tonawanda clinched the Niagara F wrestling title with a 24-21 victory. (Photos by Don Schwartz)

Todd Munschauer and Falcon Gary Buck battled to a 1-1 tie at 132.

Mark Cianchetti won for the Falcons at 138 and Tonawanda's Kyle Mikos added a decision at 145.

With two matches left, the outcome was still very much in doubt as THS had a slim 22-16 lead.

The 155-pound bout turned out to be a key match as Tonawanda's Tom Penvose and unbeaten Doug Pike fought to a 3-3 tie.

Penvose scored two back points on a controversial cradle in the second period, giving him a 3-1 lead. Pike escaped and was later awarded a point as Penvose was called for stalling in the third, deadlocking the score.

N-W's Bill Kopera closed out the night as he tripped Mike Boggess 11-4 at 167.

"This was a typical Tonawanda - Niagara-Wheatfield dual,"

Bateman said. "The fans get their money's worth and the wrestlers gave 100 percent."

"We won the battles, but lost the war," N-W Coach Armand Cacciatore said. "You can't give up two pins in a championship match and expect to win."

In the other match reported Tuesday, Grand Island beat Niagara Falls 36-26.

**Vikings rally to win**

Kent Miller (155) and Tim Miller (167) had falls as Grand Island slipped past Niagara Falls.

Mike Guagliano (177) and Rob Gawel (112) had the other pins in the win while Fred Gabrielle (215) and John Newton (126) had falls in the loss.

**TONAWANDA 24 NIAGARA-WHEATFIELD 21**  
177: Rick Postula (T) pinned Jody Johnson 50 215: Jim Hosie (N-W) d. Rick Roe 6-3 98: Jason Caprio (N-W) d. Dean Chatten 2-0 105: Rob Fire (T) pinned Fabian Rosati 1:59 112: Steve Wolanyk (N-W) and Kevin Roe drew 6-6 119: Brad Salmon (T) d. Scott Thomas 11-6 126: Wayne Schiffert (N-W) d. Henry Harder 6-0 132: Gary Buck

(N-W) and Todd Munschauer d. Chris Wilkenson 13-8 155: Doug Penvose drew 3-3 167: Bill Kopera 11-4

Jayvee: Tonawanda 33 Niagara Falls 30  
177: Mike Guagliano (GI) pinned Fred Gabrielle (NF) 11-4 215: Fred Gabrielle (NF) pinned Carl Deane (NF) won by fall (NF) d. Kevin Maras 8-2 112: William Agee 37 119: John Hei 126: John Newton (NF) pinned Jamie Bessel (GI) d. Darryl Burt (NF) d. Cal Jenkins 16-4 145: P. Hunt 8-4 155: Kent Martin (GI) 167: Tim Miller (GI) pinned Alfor Jayvee: Niagara Falls