

Ripley Wins Mat Tourney

Bentley, Rowe Lead Way

By KEITH COURSON

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Two Eagles claimed championships, two finished as runners-up and seven others grabbed either third- or fourth-place finishes.

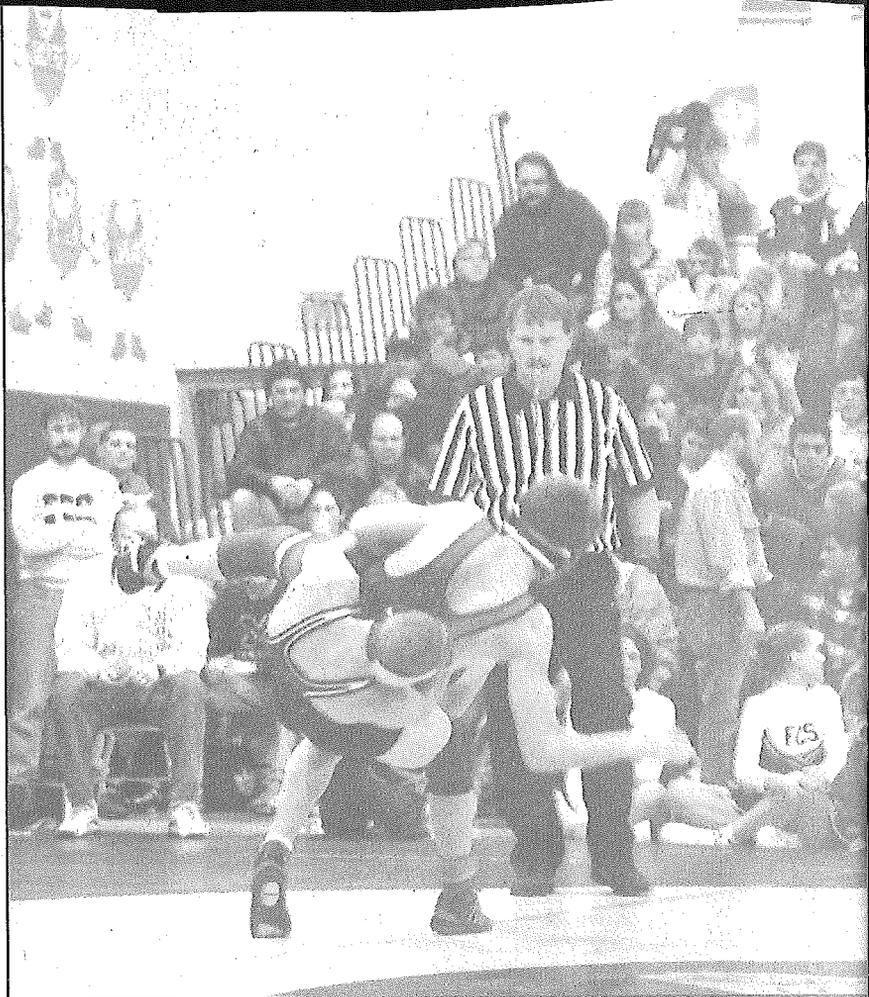
Ripley finished with 200.5 points and outdistanced host Falconer, which totaled 190. Eisenhower was third with 186 while Southwestern claimed fourth with 152.5 and Maple Grove rounded out the top five with 133.5 points.

Ripley coach John Carleton was pleased with the effort he received from his squad, which is ranked third among small schools in Western New York.

“This tournament is a good way for us to judge ourselves against the local talent,” said Carleton, whose team’s previous best finish in the Falconer tournament was second. “We had a lot of head-to-head matches with Falconer and Eisenhower and our kids were winning them. We lost a few along the way, but we picked up two winners in the finals and five consolation wins. ... Tournaments are won and lost in the consolations.”

Ryan Bentley and Brad Rowe, a tandem that has performed as steady as a rock for the Eagles this season, captured titles in the 130- and 135-pound weight classes, respectively.

See RIPLEY on Page B-3



Mike Foster of Falconer, left, attempts to drag Nolan Rheinisch of Southwestern to the mat in their bout at 125 pounds Saturday.

P-J photo by Mark L. Anderson

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From Page B-1

Bentley, a co-most valuable wrestler of the tournament, posted seven takedowns on his way to a 19-4 technical fall over Mark Sirianni of Eisenhower. Bentley now has a 21-0 record this season.

Rowe, a defending New York state champion at 119 pounds, then bottled up Chris Fiasco of Falconer 7-0 to earn his 20th victory of the season against no defeats.

"Our kids really have stepped up," Carleton continued. "We like this tournament. It's always a tough tournament with good competition. We juggled up our lineup a lot today. ... A lot of the kids wrestled up above a weight class (they are normally in). They did it without complaining and they all placed."

Three wrestlers captured championships for the Golden Falcons: Mike Howard (119 pounds), Mike Foster (125) and Tim Davis (189).

Howard earned an impressive 4-2 decision over Jeff Fors of Eisenhower. Howard, who had lost to the Ike standout on two previous occasions, exchanged takedowns with Fors early on. Howard got the other two points from escapes where Fors decided to let him go. The strategy backfired for Fors, who wasn't able to get the necessary takedown in the late going to tie the bout.

"It was a big win for him," Falconer coach Steve Penhollow said. "He finally put everything together. He has had some ups and downs. We just kept telling him to keep pushing and it paid off for him.

I'm pleased."

Foster decisioned Nolan Rheinisch of Southwestern 4-0 and Davis beat Hamburg's Scott Clayton 11-5.

Chris Fairbank of Southwestern was named the other co-outstanding wrestler. He decisioned fellow state qualifier Ryan Fralick of Falconer at 112 pounds, 5-0, with an escape, a takedown and a set of near-fall points all in the third period. Fairbank was also given the Gregg Munksgard Memorial Award following the tournament.

Other tourney champions included: Pat Dove of Frewsburg at 96 pounds, Seth Lind of Maple Grove at 103, John Vogan of Maple Grove 140, Ed Pawlak of Southwestern at 145, Travis Hummel of Eisenhower at 152, Nick Sisley of Jamestown at 160, Andy Gourley of Eisenhower at 171, Chris Gray of Frewsburg at 220 and Brad Verbosky of Maple Grove at 275.

The tournament was put together in just one day after wintry weather postponed Friday's planned action.

"Our kids did a great job as far as setting up and cleaning up. Our parents are outstanding as far as help and support," Penhollow said.

TEAM STANDINGS

Ripley 200.5, Falconer 190, Eisenhower 186, Southwestern 152.5, Maple Grove 133.5, Jamestown 106.5, Frewsburg 76.5, Panama 50, Hamburg 49.5, Cassadaga Valley 27, Fredonia 25.

CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

96: Pat Dove (Frew-unattached) d. Dave Walker (Frew), 4-1.

103: Seth Lind (MG) p. Aaron Rowe (Rip), T—4:43.

112: Chris Fairbank (SW) d. Ryan Fralick (Fal), 5-0.

119: Mike Howard (Fal) d. Jeff Fors (Eis), 4-2.

125: Mike Foster (Fal) d. Nolan Rheinisch (SW), 4-0.

130: Ryan Bentley (Rip) tf. Mark Sirianni (Eis), 19-4.

135: Brad Rowe (Rip) d. Chris Fiasco (Fal), 7-0.

140: John Vogan (MG) d. Eric Morton (Eis), 8-3.

145: Ed Pawlak (SW) d. Bill Prince (Frew), 7-1.

152: Travis Hummel (Eis) p. Matt Dove (Frew), T—3:55.

160: Nick Sisley (Jam) d. Brian Keefer (MG), 5-1.

171: Andy Gourley (Eis) d. Tom Langworthy (SW), 9-3.

189: Tim Davis (Fal) d. Scott Clayton (Ham), 11-5.

220: Chris Gray (Frew) p. Steve Duncan (Rip), T—2:33.

275: Brad Verbosky (MG) p. Eric Potter (Jam), T—1:19.

THIRD-PLACE CONSOLATIONS

96: Marc Babcock (Rip) d. Noah Soto (Jam), 7-5 OT.

103: Michael Thompson (Fal) d. Andy Johnson (SW), 8-7.

112: Mike Senske (Eis) md. Brian Whitmore (Jam), 20-9.

119: Jayme Noonan (SW) d. Chad Gullotti (Jam), 8-3.

125: David Rammelt (Rip) d. Ed Dallas (Pan), 11-5.

130: Jeremy Green (SW) md. Phil Archibald, 10-0.

135: Tony Diorio (Ham) d. Jeremy Beichner (CV), 6-1.

140: Chuck Baum (Rip) p. Ryan Chapman (Fal), T—:59.

145: Brian Rowe (Rip) d. Greg Powell (MG), 6-4.

152: Jason Stevens (Fal) d. Matt Belson (Rip), 5-3.

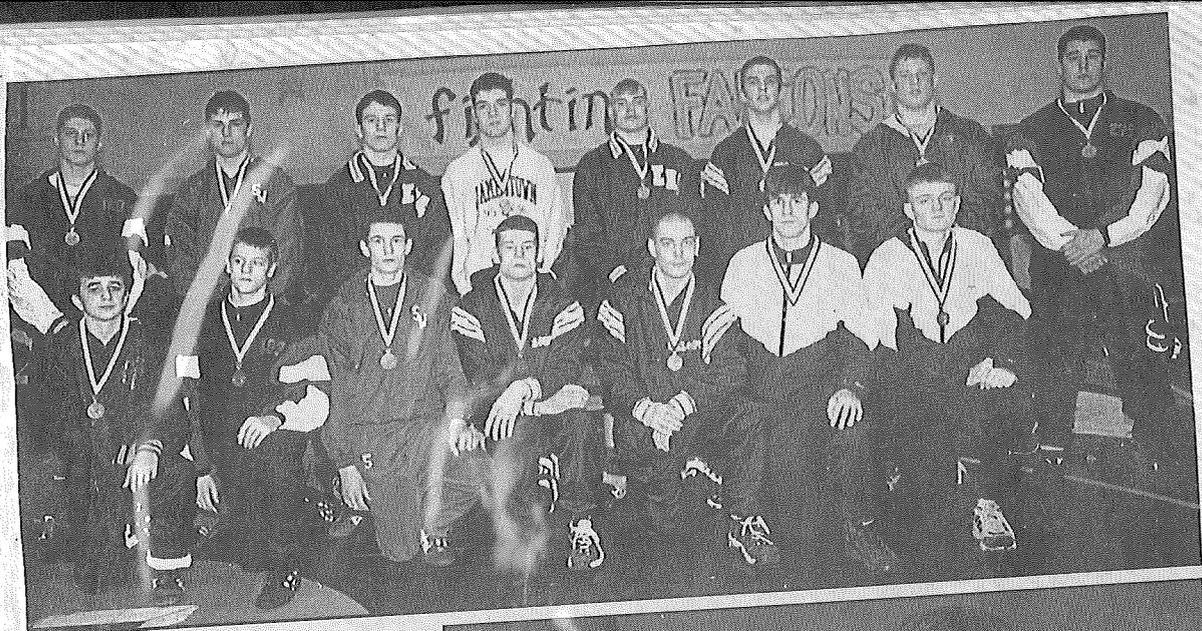
160: Josh Miller (Rip) d. Russ Conti (Fal), 11-7.

171: Erik Kraft (MG) d. Scott Thrasher (Fred), 6-4 OT.

189: Bryon Bauer (Pan) p. Adam Rowe (Rip), T—3:31.

220: Edison Ruland (Eis) md. Greg Tompsett (Fal), 11-3.

275: Mike Hatchett (Jam-unattached) by default.



Wrestling Champions

Above are the champions from the Falconer Invitational Wrestling Tournament. In front from left are Pat Dove, Frewsburg, 96 pounds; Seth Lind, Maple Grove, 103; Chris Fairbank, Southwestern, 112; Mike Howard, Falconer, 119; Mike Foster, Falconer, 125; Ryan Bentley, Ripley, 130; and Brad Rowe, Ripley, 135. In back are John Vogan, Maple Grove, 140; Ed Pawlak, Southwestern, 145; Travis Hummel, Eisenhower, 152; Nick Sisley, Jamestown, 160; Andy Gourley, Eisenhower, 171; Tim Davis, Falconer, 189; Cris Gray, Frewsburg, 220; Brad Verbosky, 275. At the left are the tournament's Co-Most Valuable Wrestlers, Fairbank and Bentley.
P-J photo by Mark L. Anderson

