



Photo by Al Pan

"Thanks, I needed that....!"

★ **Wrestlers Secure State Title**

by Howie Maffucci

"I feel just as proud of what our wrestling team accomplished last Saturday as I am of the research that some of our faculty have published," said Tom McIntyre, chairman of Sports Science.

McIntyre was at Geneseo when the Golden Eagles stole the show at the SUNY conference wrestling meet. The Eagles, who were expected to win two or three first places, took six firsts, a second, and two thirds for 99 team points.

"I'm just basking in the glory," said McIntyre. "I expected maybe three firsts, but six..." McIntyre has special reason to be proud and excited over the impressive display of wrestling skill the Eagles put on. Just nine years ago, McIntyre coached the first Golden Eagle wrestling team. Since then Eagle wrestling teams have won 80, lost 34 and tied 6.

Taking first places for the Eagles were Bruce Biondi (118), Pete Schmidt (126), Jeff Cohen (134), Terry Phelan (150), Dan Buckheit (167) and Mike Parent (190). The most first places, the Eagles have ever taken before Saturday's tournament was three.

Biondi pinned Ron Lewis of Potsdam at 1:45 to win the 118 pound crown. Schmidt, a senior won by decision. Last year Schmidt finished as runnerup in the 126 class.

Jeff Cohen, a freshman, pinned two time SUNY conference champion, Jim Tortorici. Tortorici was also undefeated in three years of varsity wrestling. He defeated Schmidt last year to win the 126 pound class.

Terry Phelan, like Biondi, a Farmingdale A & T transfer, won his first SUNY conference title by decision.

Dan Buckheit successfully defended his 167 pound SUNY conference title by coming from behind in the third period of his finals match to win, 14-11.

Mike Parente, a junior, also took his first SUNY title by winning the 190 pound class. Parente, a pleasant surprise, won by a pin.

McIntyre believes that Murray's coaching and his stress on conditioning were the reasons for Brockport's fine performance.

"Our wrestlers were in better shape than anyone else," said McIntyre. "Take Buckheit's match for instance, he won his match in the last half minute because he was in better condition."

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Murray feels good conditioning is an important part of wrestling. He doesn't plan on taking any wrestler to the nationals if he's not in shape. And that means running three miles of wind sprints every morning. "Any wrestler not in shape will not make the trip to the nationals at Oswego."

Dave Cook placed second in the 177 pound class with Jerry Winterton and Jerry Quist taking thirds in the 142 and heavyweight classes, respectively.

It's taken Murray just two years to build Brockport into a SUNY conference champion. Two years ago, the Eagles placed just one wrestler, Regan Beers, in the finals. Last year the Eagles finished third in the conference behind Oswego and Cortland.

Potsdam finished runnerup to the championship Eagles in this year's tournament with 65 team points.