

★ Dave Kleinfelder (top) helped Ithaca College win its first ICAC wrestling championship Saturday with a key decision over Jon Tulga of RIT in the 126 match. Kleinfelder scored a takedown in the closing seconds to earn a 3-1 victory. Last year, Kleinfelder was an ICAC champion at 118. Journal photo by Roger Archibald.

4th for Iacovelli

Five I.C. Matmen Tourney Champions

By JIM ERICKSON

Ithaca College, with five individual champions, won its first Independent College Athletic Conference wrestling championship on Saturday at Light Gym.

The Bombers, coached by Mike Greene, scored 125 points to edge runner up Rochester Tech with 118½. St. Lawrence finished third with 96 points. Hobart, RPI, Clarkson and Alfred trailed.

Ithaca placed five men into the championship round and needed a strong finish to overcome RIT with four men in the finals. Rochester Tech held a 105½-105 lead at the start of the championship matches.

Co-capt. Paul Iacovelli of I.C. became the first wrestler in ICAC wrestling history to win four conference championships. He successfully defended his 190 title with a 10-7 decision over Mike Bongiovanni of St. Lawrence. Iacovelli was the conference 177 champ in 1971 and 1972.

Dave Kleinfelder won his second title for the Bombers with a 3-1 decision over Jon Tulga of RIT at 126 on Saturday.

Last year Kleinfelder won the 118 class crown.

Three I.C. wrestlers won their first ICAC title. Jim Along is the new 134 champion. Undefeated Ron King won at 167. Dave Remick captured the 177 title for I.C.

Kleinfelder's win at 126 was an extremely important decision as he faced RIT's Tulga after the Tigers already had won their first individual championship. Tony Van Ditto won the 118 title for RIT with a 4-3 decision over Hobart's Clark Hine with a riding time advantage.

Tulga and Kleinfelder were tied 1-1 late in the match as both wrestlers had one escape. Kleinfelder earned the championship with a takedown in the closing seconds.

Along had little trouble in winning the 134 crown for I.C. as he rolled to a 7-1 decision over Jim Biggar of St. Lawrence. King earned a superior decision and an important extra point for the Bombers with a 14-4 decision over defending champion Dick Giromini of Clarkson, at 167.

Remick followed with an important win over RPI's Tim True 5-3 at 177. True won the 158

title last year and the 150 crown in 1972. An early takedown and an escape helped Remick off to a good start. He also held a riding time advantage.

Iacovelli's match was one of the most action packed contests of the night. He traded points with Bongiovanni during the first two periods. Iacovelli took a 2-0 advantage with a first period takedown but Bongiovanni responded with a reversal. Both wrestler posted a second period reversal.

Bongiovanni took a 6-4 lead in the third period with a reversal, but Iacovelli responded as the greatest champion in conference history with a quick reversal followed by three near fall points to wrap up his fourth title as a spirited crowd roared its approval.

Ithaca entered the tournament without the services of Co-Capt. Tom Blank who was injured earlier in the week.

Blank, a strong contender for a championship in the lower weights, was on hand to join Iacovelli and coach Greene to accept the team championship trophy from Ithaca College.

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Team champion Ithaca College had five individual champions at the ICAC wrestling championships at Light Gym on Saturday. Second place Rochester Tech had three individual winners. Tournament champions from left, row one: Tony Van Ditto (RIT-118), Dave Kleinfelder (IC-126), Jim Along (IC-134), Bill Ewing (RPI-142); Jeff Briggs (SLU-150), Row two: Dave Gibson (RIT-Hwt.), Paul Iacovelli (IC-190), Dave Remick (IC-177), Ron King (IC-167) and Jim Hill (RIT-158). (Bob Bonnell photo)



Ithaca College won its first ICAC wrestling championship at Light Gym on Saturday. Proudly displaying the first place team trophy are (from left) Ithaca College co-captains Paul Iacovelli and Tom Blank, athletic director Chuck Kerr and coach Mike Greene. Iacovelli won the 190 championship. Blank was injured last week and was unable to wrestle in the tournament. (Bob Bonnell photo)

I.C. Takes Mat Crown

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athletic director Chuck Kerr following the completion of the tournament.

The Bombers had entered the tournament with a 6-6-1 dual meet record including a 4-1 mark against ICAC opponents. Only St. Lawrence had defeated I.C. in dual meet competition 20-17 at Canton last weekend.

Ithaca had two wrestlers earn third place points. Jeff Capogrossi pinned RPI's Bob Wechsler to place third at 118. Rich Cleaves was third at heavyweight with a 3-2 decision over Hobart's George Pratt.

Bob Zifchock and Jay Plaisted both earned fourth place points for the Bombers at 142 and 150.

Jim Hill at 158 and Dave Gibson at heavyweight joined Van Ditto in the winners circle for RIT. Bill Ewing won the 142 crown for RPI and St. Lawrence's Jeff Briggs was the 150 winner.

Ewing was voted the tournament outstanding wrestler. He defeated RIT's Ray Ruliffson 2-0, a three time conference champion in the semi-finals and Ralph Indorc the defending champion from Clarkson in the finals. Ewing's first win in the tournament was a 4-3 decision over I.C.'s Zifchock. A trophy was presented to Ewing donated by Freeman's Ski and Sports Center.


Iacovelli received a trophy donated by Robert Cullen and Associated, Inc. for the quickest pin. Iacovelli stopped RPI's Rob Fuller in a mere 20 seconds.

Clarkson entered only four men in the tournament but all four reached the finals and finished second. St. Lawrence, the defending champion, had four wrestlers in the finals but only one champion. The Larries lost two top wrestlers with injuries last week including Bill Genthert the defending 150 champ and heavyweight Ron Pelligra a pre-tournament favorite.

Championship Round
118 — Van Ditto (RIT) dec Hine (H) 4-3
126 — Kleinfelder (I) dec Tulga (RIT) 3-1
134 — Along (I) dec Biggar (S) 7-1
142 — Ewing (RPI) dec Indorf (C) 11-7
150 — Briggs (S) dec Eddy (C) 5-0 (ot)
158 — Hill (RIT) dec Hanlon (C) 3-0 (ot)
167 — King (I) dec Giromini (C) 14-4
177 — Remick (I) dec True (RPI) 5-3
190 — Iacovelli (I) dec Bongiovanni (S) 10-7
HWT — Gibson (RIT) dec Wood (S) 10-0

Team Standings
1. Ithaca 125
2. RIT 118½
3. St. Lawrence 96
4. Hobart 72½
5. RPI 60½
6. Clarkson 56½
7. Alfred 14

Consolations
118 — Capogrossi (I) pinned Wechsler (RPI) 2:25
126 — Hickey (S) pinned Frutkoff (H) 1:54
134 — Olmstead (H) won by default vs. Landis (A)
142 — Ruliffson (RIT) dec Zifchock (I) 9-5
150 — Kendzia (RPI) dec Plaisted (I) 5-3
158 — Hopkins (S) dec Morsbach (H) 4-3
167 — Auringer (S) dec Anspach (RIT) 15-4
177 — Aviza (RIT) pinned Schmidt (H) 4:22
190 — Noviello (RIT) pinned Fuller (RPI) 3:40
HWT — Cleaves (I) dec Pratt (H) 3-2



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