

Paternoster Wins Wrestling Crown

Mike Paternoster scored a 12-2 decision to win first at 167 in the Section 5 AA wrestling tournament at Monroe Community College, Saturday.

The second seeded Athena junior got a little help from Olympia's Don Faller, who upset Churchville-Chili's Curtis DeLaughter, the number one seed, in the first round. This eliminated him from the tournament.

In AAA, three Hilton and five Spencerport wrestlers advanced to the state qualifier by placing in the top three of their weight class.

Paternoster and Faller, who finished third in AA, will advance to the qualifier at Fairport Saturday. The top three sectional finishers in each class (AAA or AA, etc.) will wrestle off to determine the representative to the state meet.

Faller's win over DeLaughter was a replay of an earlier bout which DeLaughter won, 10-9. This time, Faller got the upper hand, and the junior rode home on early points. After a loss, he won in the consolations to place third, but his big win set the stage for Paternoster.

"When Faller won, we kind of thought that Mike had a good chance," said Athena coach Mike Lopa. "He walked right through into the finals."

Paternoster scored a pin and three decisions to lead Athena to a tie for fourth in team points with 69. Olympia finished 12th in a field of 19 with 38.

Athena sophomore John McCart beat the third and fourth seeds at 132 en route to a third place finish. The unseeded former JVer scored a 1-0 win over the Newark wrestler (fourth seed), and later pinned him in the consolation finals.

In AAA, Spencerport took second in team totals with 138½, and Hilton was third with 130½. The Cadets had the lead with 30 points after the first round, but eventual

winner Fairport came on in the second day to edge the field of 15. Arcadia placed 12th with 14 points, and scoreless Mooney placed 15th.

Scoring firsts for Spencerport were Trevor Graham at 91 in a 6-5 decision, Rory Legacy at 98 with a 9-2 decision, and Ron Winnie at 126 with a 4-1 win. Ray Vincelli was upset in the finals at 132, and Carl Tandoi at 105 and John SanFilipo at 112 took thirds to advance to the state qualifier.

Hilton's Chris Kellman upset Chuck Tortorello of Fairport at 112, 13-7 after grabbing a 9-1 lead, George Eblacker won 10-2 at 145, and Ken Juergens at 155 and Steve Burton at 98 took third places.

Arcadia had bad luck all around. Senior captain Grant LeSchander, the second seed at 167, missed the sectionals due to a bruised knee. At 20-2, he has the best record in the class, and may be allowed to wrestle in the qualifier in an at-large berth if he recovers.

No other Titan will make the trip to Fairport, but three others distinguished themselves. Vic Passucci at 91 placed fifth with a pair of wins before losing in the consolations.

John Miller at 132 beat a seeded wrestler from Iron-dequoit, 11-10, in overtime, lost to finalist Vincelli, then scored a pin in the consolations before losing to the eventual third placer from Corning West.

Jeff Smith at 147 scored a pair of wins before falling in the consolations. Other Titans didn't fare so well. Rex Wray and Ray Scipioni drew top seeds in their first rounds, and third seeded Jim Passucci at 119 missed due to a knee injury.

Olympia co-captains Jim Watt and John Fess scored victories before falling in the consolations. Watt won two at 126, and Fess won one at 155.

Spartan 217 pounder, Scott Koch, lost two narrow matches with Brockport's man
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Mooney's Custy Panetta has a controlling grip on his man in the 132 weight class. Wrestlers from all over Section 5 competed in the weekend's tournament. Panetta was one of Mooney's top wrestlers this season.

Wrestling Sectionals

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which gave him fourth place. He had beaten Mendon and Madison wrestlers. Rich Orzyck and Jim Lynch won in the preliminaries, but lost in the quarterfinals.

Early pin points helped Athena to their fourth place spot in AA. Paternoster, Joe Prestigiaco, Dan Penczak, Brad Bishop, and Joe Zorsch were the pinners.

Penczak won three matches to take fourth place at 105, while Tony Fedele at 112, Kevin Brantley at 91, and Zorsch at 217 won two matches. Bishop and Prestigiaco won one apiece.

The Trojans showed very well, considering 177 pounder Jerry Shea was the only senior on the team. Paternoster is expected to be a

team leader, even more so if he advances to the state meet. He'll have tough competition at 167.

"Bob Kyff will be there, (Joe) Zito from East Rochester will be there, so Mike will have it tough in the qualifier," said Lopa. "He was ready Saturday, no doubt about it. You know how wrestling is, it is all between the ears."