

# Crystal City Mat(hematics)

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## 28-6-2 Combined Wrestling Log for 3 Schools

By JOE BOGARDUS

**CORNING** — With three crack wrestling teams and a combined won-lost-tied record of 28-6-2, this Crystal City has to be the Southern Tier's hot-



MIKE LESE



TED EGGER



DAVE ENGLISH

bed of wrestling.

Take Corning Community College. Gene Palmer's Barons have dropped just one match in three seasons, that in the opener this year at Morrisville. Since then the Barons have gone 8-0-1.

On the scholastic level, Corning - Painted Post East compiled a 12-1-1 record, with a final season upset loss offsetting the Trojans' thrilling, one-point upset of mighty Southside a week earlier.

George Scala's Corning-Painted Post West grapplers salvaged a so-so, 8-4 season by winning the West-Central Conference Tournament — which included East.

The collegiate Barons dropped their first match in the history of the school last Dec. 4 against Morrisville Tech, but since then have reeled off eight wins and a tie for a three year victory total of 18-1-3.

Don Levantovich can be thanked in part for this gaudy showing. The 177-pounder has put together a win skein of 16 regular season matches in his two - year college career. The Corning co-captain is the reigning Region 3 champion at his weight level and is expected to make a strong bid to repeat this year.

Ithaca's Sanford (Butch) Miller also owns an impressive 9-0-1 record in two years of college competition. The 167 pound Baron co-captain is another possible regional king.

Pat O'Brien, who wrestles heavyweight or 191 when the occasion calls for it, completed the year with a 5-0 slate. The Letchport native has picked up the slack since Keith Clark was put on academic probation.

Corning - bred Mike Watson is basically a 115 pounder, but has wrestled twice in the 122-pound weight class and was defeated both times. If Watson had not suffered these two setbacks he would have finished the schedule 7-0.

CCC coach Gene Palmer is understandably proud of his grapplers. Surprisingly he selects his team's 15-15 tie with Auburn Community College as his most gratifying triumph of the year. In that match Corning was down 15-0 with three weights to go and the Barons needed three pins Leventovich, Miller, and Clark came through and gave Corning the draw with Auburn, which had beaten Morrisville.



Coach Gene Palmer (left) checks fact sheet with Corning CC's unbeaten 177-pounder Don Levantovich.



JIM MC CARTNEY



MIKE HANLEY

East ran up a 12-1-1 mark thanks to the combined efforts of Scott Stever, Mike Hanley, Jim Priscella, and Jim McCartney.

The 133-pound Stever had a fine 13-1 campaign, marred only by a loss to Gary Krielly of Dansville in the Section 5, quarter - final at Hornell last Saturday.

Hanley, who was knocked out of Section 5 action at the 183-pound level last Saturday by Dick Gogo of Dansville, scored 50 team points for the wound up 12-1 on the regular season.

Little Jim McCartney chalked up 52 points for Charles Adams' team. The 95-strongman was 12-2 and has earned a spot in the sectional semi-finals.

Heavyweight Jim Priscella was eliminated in the second round last Saturday, but this did not mar his glittering 11-2 season tab.

Adams labels his 115-pounder, Steve Schrieber, as his most improved wrestler. The wirey red-head proved worthy of this praise as he advanced into the section semis along with McCartney and 148-pounder Sam Jack.

"Our win over Southside was most satisfying," said Adams. "It was the first time I beat Tom Hurley." When East and the Hornets met both were undefeated and the Trojans squeaked past SHS, 20-19.

Across town, the Vikings of West had a fruitful 8-4 season.

George Scala's charges downed East in the West Central Conference meet to avenge an early - season loss. Scala commented: "It was a wonderful team effort. All the boys gave a 100 per cent the entire day."

Rugged-looking Mike Lese regular season stretched his two year win total to 33-0-1. The Viking captain romped through the Section 5 quarter - final matches last Saturday and is a good bet to retain his sectional crown.

Ted Egger was unbeaten (18-0) at 183 pounds and also survived the quarter final round of the sectionals.

Southsider Denny Middaugh come 167 pound Dave English. The handsome English has a two-year total of 33-1. English is also in the semis.

Chuck Felker with a 14-2-1 record at 120 pounds and heavyweight Chuck Reynolds with a 15-2-1 mark are West's other representatives in the sectionals.

THE ELMIRA TELEGRAM  
Sunday, Feb. 27, 1966

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