

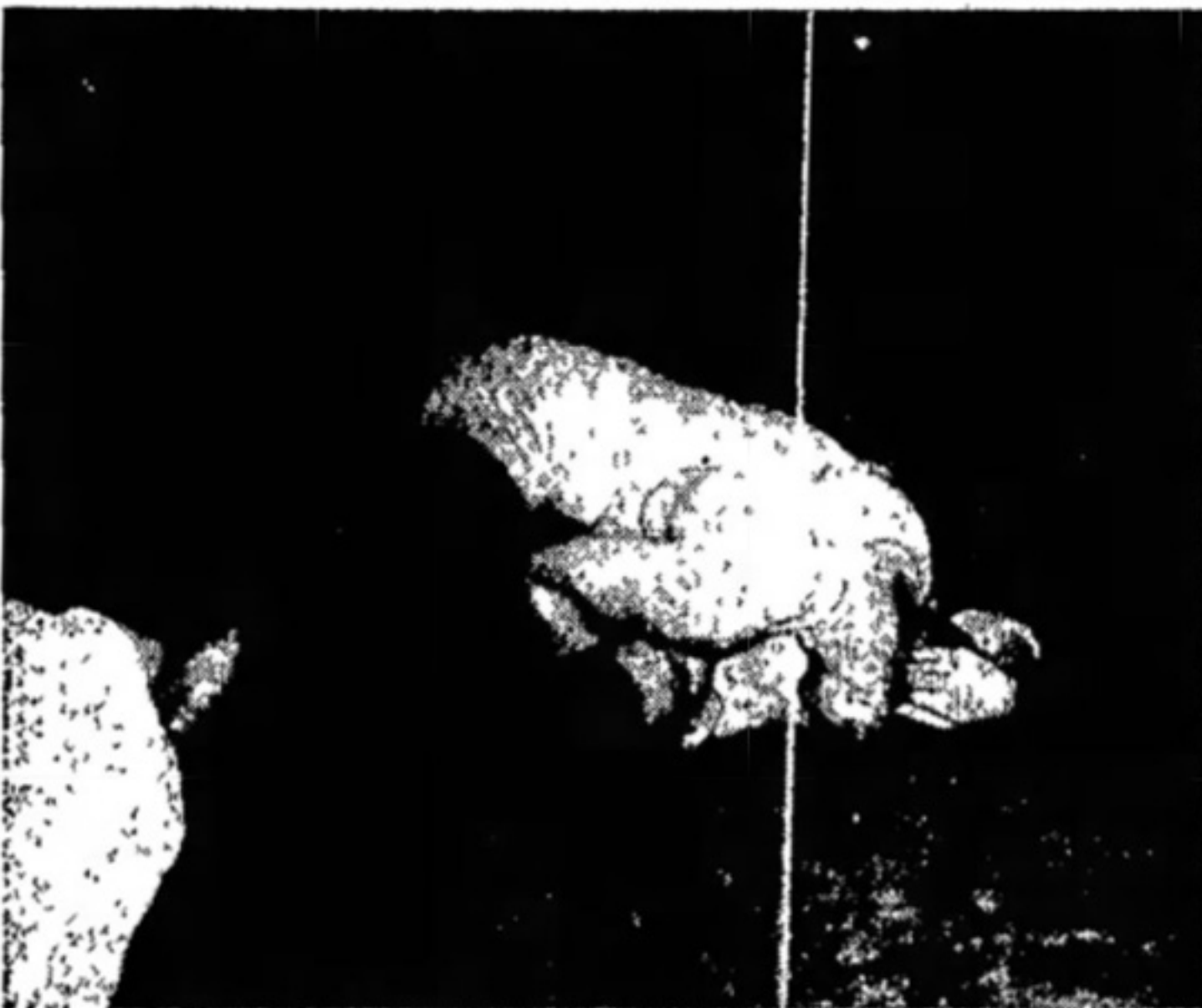


NATIONAL JUNIOR A. A. U. wrestling champions line up after winning their titles at the Clearfield Armory Saturday night. Left to right are: Richard Payne, Cleveland Central Y, 115 pounds; Jack Kreiner, Michigan State, 121 pounds; Walter Romanowski, Cornell College of Iowa, 128 pounds; John Patrick, U. S. Navy, 135 pounds; Rodger Snook, Cornell College of Iowa, 145 pounds; Francis Forcey, Clearfield Kiwanis Club, 155 pounds; Wilford La Rock, Ithaca, N. Y., Y, 165 pounds; Gilbert Dubray Cleveland Central Y, 175 pounds; Harry Lanzi, Bowling Green, 191 pounds, and Carl Abell, Cleveland Central Y, unlimited. Snook is holding the trophy presented him as the outstanding wrestler of the tournament.

Scenes As Kiwanis Matmen Retain Their NJAAU Title At Armory Here Saturday



CLEARFIELD'S MUTT FORCEY was well in control of the situation when this picture was taken during his semi-final bout with Bob Bassett of the Cleveland Central Y Saturday afternoon. (Progress staff photo by Jack Zipf.)



HOMER BARR presses the shouldres of Hart Hurst, Bowling Green heavyweight, to the mat in their National Junior A. A. U. semi-final Saturday afternoon to score one of the quickest falls of the tournament in one minute and 42 seconds.



WHILE HIS YOUNG SON JAY LOOKS ON, Coach Art Weiss of Clearfield accepts the National Junior A. A. U. team championship trophy, given by the Clearfield Diner, from Misses Ann Laing and Helen Bamat at the conclusion of the two-day tournament here Saturday night.



THE PROGRESS trophy for the outstanding wrestler of the National Junior A. A. U tournament is presented by Hugo Otopalik, national A. A. U. wrestling chairman, to Rodger Snook, 145 pound title-winner from Cornell College of Iowa.

Kiwanis Matmen Win NJAAU Title; Forcey Lone Individual Champ

By **BUD MATHER**
Progress Sports Editor

Clearfield's wrestlers did it again!

Although Francis "Mutt" Forcey was the lone Clearfielder to annex an individual championship, the local Kiwanis team, under the guidance of Art Weiss, won the National Junior Amateur Athletic Union team title for the third consecutive year.

Forcey, always a great crowd pleaser, was at his best for an estimated crowd of 2000 at the Armory Saturday night as he measured Ithaca, N. Y., YMCA's red-hot James LaRock by a 6-2 margin to nab the 155 pound laurels.

Mutt's spectacular victory over the favored New Yorker was the turning point in a photo-finish fight for the team championship. His win enabled the Clearfielders to shade the Ithacans for the team trophy by a scant one point.

The host Kiwanis team finished with 25 points while Ithaca ended with 24. Michigan State's Spartans and Cornell College of Iowa tied for third with 16 each followed by Navy with 14 and Bowling Green with 12. The Baltimore YMCA was fifth in team scoring with five. Cleveland Central YMCA, announced as third place winner Saturday night, later was ruled out of the team competition because its wrestlers entered as individuals rather than members of the Cleveland team.

Clearfield second place win-

ners were Dick Beers at 135 pounds, Mac Hummel at 165 and Homer Barr at unlimited, while Ben Hummel at 135 and Tom Norris at 165 landed fourth place berths.

Rodger Snook, slick Cornell College of Iowa grappler and winner at 145 pounds, was voted the outstanding wrestler award for the tourney. Snook, a native of Newton, N. J., placed fourth in the Olympic trials last year, second in the National Senior AAU and NCAA tournaments in 1947 and was fourth at 155 pounds in the NCAA tourney this year. He defeated Ithaca's Frank Bet-

(Please Turn to Page 6)

Clearfield Noses Out Ithaca Y For NJAAU Wrestling Team Title

(FROM PAGE 1)

tucci, 5-3, in the finals.

Top individual point makers during the two-day eliminations were a pair of champions, each tied with nine points. Dick Payne, winner at 115 pounds and wrestling unattached had three falls and a first place as did Navy's John Patrick at 136 pounds. Deadlocked for second were Forcey, Ithaca's Wilford LaRock, 165 pound champ, Toledo's Harry Lanzi, 191 pound champ and Snook, all with a first place and two falls.

Jim LaRock, smooth leg wrestler, drew first blood in the 155 pound final with a takedown only to have Forcey reverse shortly before the opening period ended. Winning the flip of the coin, Forcey chose the top to start the second period. Forcey held his own until midway in the frame when LaRock reversed and forged a 2-1 advantage. Late in the period, however, Mutt reversed and clamped a half nelson and crotch pin combination on the Ithacan.

Forcey held LaRock in a precarious position for more than a minute before he bridged free. While in the pin position, the second period ended, but the bout continued as the NAAU rule says until the defensive man either gets free or gets pinned.

The Clearfielder substantiated his lead with a reverse in the third stanza to make the final count stand at 6-2.

Forcey's title marked the sixth Clearfield grappler to top an individual crown in the last three years. The three Maurey brothers, Jerry, Don and Jim, gained crowns in 1947, while Jim Beers and Sam Barry won titles in last year's tournament.

In the 165 pound finale, LaRock's brother Wilford, who went into the finals via a decision over Bill Taussig in the quarter-finals and a fall victory over Clearfield's Tom Norris in his semi-final match, gained a fall over Mac Hummel to notch Ithaca's only individual crown.

Finals

115 Pounds—Richard Payne, unattached Cleveland, pinned Jerry Shervanik, Millersville State Teachers College with a half nelson and crotch. Time—7:14.

121 Pounds—Jack Kreiner, Michigan State won by a referee's decision over Paul Steiger, Ithaca, N. Y. YMCA. (Score at end of regulation bout was 0-0).

128 Pounds—Walter Romanowski, Cornell College of Iowa, decisioned Francis Fusco, Hofstra College, 2-1.

135 Pounds—John Patrick, U. S. Navy, pinned Dick Beers with a reverse nelson. Time—2:35.

145 Pounds—Rodger Snook, Cornell College of Iowa, decisioned Frank Bettucci, Ithaca, N. Y. YMCA. 5-3.

155 Pounds—Francis Forcey, Clearfield Kiwanis, decisioned James LaRock, Ithaca, N. Y. YMCA, 6-2.

165 Pounds—Wilford LaRock, Ithaca, N. Y. YMCA, pinned Mac Hummel, Clearfield Kiwanis with a guillotine. Time—4:25.

175 Pounds—Gilbert DuBray, unattached Cleveland, decisioned Ray Carlson, DuBois, 3-1.

191 Pounds—Harry Lanzi, Toledo, pinned John Gibson, U. S. Navy with a half nelson and body press. Time—4:46.

Unlimited—Carl Abell, unattached Cleveland, decisioned Homer Barr, Clearfield Kiwanis, 4-1.

The first period of the match ended with neither grappler holding an advantage. Hummel chose the bottom position for the start of the second period and it wasn't long before LaRock had used his expert knowledge of leg wrestling to stretch Hummel out with a guillotine. The time of the fall was four minutes and 25 seconds.

The second place spot was the second time that Hummel earned runner-up honors in the tourney. In 1947, he copped second laurels, also at 165 pounds.

At 128 pounds, Dick Beers, after gaining the finals by virtue of a referee's decision in the semi-finals, lost to John Patrick of the U. S. Navy team in the title round.

The Navy entrant, a native of Blackwell, Okla., tallied a takedown and near fall before he spread Beers with a reverse nelson in two minutes and 25 seconds of the first period.

Homer Barr, Clearfield's heavyweight hopeful, had an easy time in the semi-finals when he flipped Hart Hursh of Bowling Green University with a double arm press in one minute and 42 seconds.

However, in the unlimited championship bout, Barr met an old nemesis in Carl Abell, a native of Medina, Ohio, who won by a referee's decision over Barr in last year's junior tourney.

The 6'-7" Clevelander took a 4-1 decision over this year's Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association champion. Barr drew first blood in the match when he took Abell to the canvas in the first period.

At the beginning of the second stanza, Abell chose the bottom position and reversed Barr midway through the stanza. In the third period, Abell rode Barr and gained a near fall to wrap up the first place medal.

In both the 136 and 165 pound brackets, Clearfield also took the fourth place spots. Ben Hummel at 136 lost to the eventual champ, Patrick, in the semi-finals and then was decisioned by Spencer Smith of Michigan State in the consolation round.

Patrick had little trouble with Hummel. In the first period, he took a 3-2 lead by virtue of three takedowns, while Hummel tallied on two breakaways. Later, Patrick tallied another TD and a near fall while Hummel gained an escape to bring the count to 7-3, when Hummel was pinned with a half nelson and crotch in eight minutes and 42 seconds.

Hummel then was decisioned,

3-1, by Smith in the consolation round. Smith added up a takedown, an escape and a reversal, while Hummel had a reverse.

Norris was the victim of a fall in both his semi-final match and his consolation bout. Wilford LaRock wrapped Norris up in a guillotine in 25 seconds of the second stanza.

Neither grappler gained any points in the first period and Norris chose the bottom position to start the second, but LaRock reversed and flipped Norris.

All other Clearfield wrestlers were eliminated in the preliminaries or quarter-final matches.

DuBois' Ray Carlson copped the runner-up spot at 175 pounds. The "Blonde Tiger" went through into the finals by virtue of a first round decision and a pin win in the semi-finals.

The 1949 District 6-9 185 pound titlist threw Baltimore's Pete Georgialis with a stretcher in eight minutes and 22 seconds. At the time of the fall, the match was tied, 4-4.

In the final match, Carlson put up a good battle against Gil DuBray of Cleveland, but lost by a 3-1 count. DuBray tallied a takedown and two reverses against Carlson's lone reversal.

Other champions crowned at the tourney included 115 pound Richard Payne of Cleveland, 121 pound Jack Kreiner of Michigan State, 128 pound Walter Romanowski of Cornell College of Iowa, and 191 pound Harry Lanzi of Toledo.

The members of the now-famous "mystery team" climaxed the very successful tournament when they made the presentations of the individual medals for the respective winners following completion of the final matches.

The "mystery team" includes Jean Hoyt, Beverly Aveni, Ann Shaffer, Gay Rowles, Mary Jane Shope, Theresa Marano, Mary McHenry, and Romaine Straesley.

Hugo Otopalik, national AAU wrestling chairman, presented the Progress trophy for the outstanding wrestler to Rodger Snook, 145 pound champion from Cornell College of Iowa.

The Clearfield Diner trophy for the team championship was presented to Coach Weiss by Helen Bamat and Anna Laing.