

# Pioneer lands four top seeds for Salamanca Invitational

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Press Sports Editor

Dominating the seeding meeting much like they did last year's tournament, the Pioneer Panthers took four top seeded berths and three other seeds among the top four positions for the fifth annual Salamanca Invitational Tournament.

The tournament, which gets underway tonight at 5 p.m., is the premier high school tournament in Western New York. Over 250 wrestlers will be competing in the tourney this year.

Top seeds for Pioneer included berths to all three returning tourney champions for the Panthers. Dale Rogers, 15-0, was ranked first at 128 pounds, Gary Devin, 12-2, at 147 pounds, and Keith Stearns, 16-0, at 157 pounds. Rogers was the champion at 128 last year, Devin at 157 and Stearns at 147. Also claiming a top seed was 13-3 Doug Tingué at 134 pounds.

Other seeded wrestlers from Pioneer included Doug Keenen, third seed at 100 pounds with a 13-2 record, Kyle Grunwald, second seed at 121 with a 14-1 record, and Dan Hackett, third seed at 169 with a 14-2 record.

Salamanca managed to get only one seed in the tournament and that a low one as John Callen was ranked seventh at 114 pounds. The Warriors received a big jolt Thursday, however, when it was learned that two regulars would be sidelined with

injuries and unable to wrestle.

Charlie Cappellino, Salamanca's 107 pounder, and Tom Ciolek, 140 pound starter, will both be missing the tournament. Cappellino was knocked out when a shoulder injury he received in the Smethport match was aggravated and forced him to the sidelines after the Portville match last Tuesday. Ciolek suffered a sprained ankle in practice Thursday night and will be on crutches for the next several days.

Both juniors, the two wrestled in last season's tourney where both scored advancement points. Ciolek, whose 12-2 record is the best on the team, was expected to have earned a seeding at 140 pounds.

Three Warrior wrestlers will be meeting seeded wrestlers in the first round of the tournament. Doug Zolner, Cappellino's replacement at 107, will face Greg White, the number three seed from Southwestern with a 15-2 record. Jay Weitzel will meet Joe Swanson at 128 pounds. Swanson, 11-1 on the season, is also a third seed. At unlimited, Dona Nolet will wrestle second seeded Ron Taylor, Medina. Taylor is 4-0.

Other Warrior match-ups will find Joe Conlan meeting Merwyn Brown, Iroquois, at 100 pounds; Ward Wheeler meeting Bill Gostomski, Lake Shore, at 134; Jud Hager, Ciolek's replacement, meeting Dan Kaufman, Alden, at 140; Bill Painter

meeting Rich Amberger, Warsaw, at 147; Todd Flinchbaugh meeting Wayne Price, Warsaw at 157; and Chuck Meissner meeting John Trybuskiewicz, at heavyweight.

The remainder of the Warriors wrestlers will have byes in the initial round, with Callen getting a bye at 114, Ricky Ray at 121, Jim O'Rourke at 169, and Joe Roosa at 179.

The tournament's opening rounds will run through approximately 11 p.m. tonight, then resume Saturday at 11 a.m. Consolation and final rounds will begin at 6:30 Saturday evening.

The top four seeds in this year's tourney:

90 — Bari Hallberg, Maple Grove, 14-0; Tim Feltz, Medina, 6-0; Joe Birmingham, Eden, 8-3; Len Woods, Lake Shore, 8-3.

100 — Jim Diehl, Olean, 11-1-1; Clete Caske, Maple Grove, 11-4; Doug Keenen, Pioneer, 13-2; Jim Bender, Williamsville North, 13-2.

107 — Jim Payne, Portville, 14-1; Seth Becker, Maple Grove, 14-3; Greg White, Southwestern, 15-2; Bill Gallagher, Sweet Home, 11-2-1.

114 — Mike Fuller, Warsaw, 15-0; Dave Crean, Olean, 13-1; Dave Tundo, Frontier, 15-2; Vince Stirling, Williamsville North, 16-2.

121 — John Caulfield, Williamsville North, 18-0; Kyle Grunwald, Pioneer, 14-1; Jon Swan, Southwestern, 12-2; Rick Rothfuss, Iroquois, 15-2.

128 — Dale Rogers, Pioneer, 15-0; Dave Butler, Maple Grove, 13-2; Joe Swanson, Portville, 11-1; Larry Slater, Williamsville North, 13-3.

134 — Doug Tingué, Pioneer, 13-2; Chris Leichtweis, Olean, 10-3; Bruce Johnson, Iroquois, 7-2-1; Jeff Winter, Eden, 9-5.

140 — Gene Tundo, Frontier, 13-0; Terry Miller, Portville, 15-1; Warren Bush, Warsaw, 14-1; Greg Wefing, Maple Grove, 8-2.

147 — Gary Devin, Pioneer, 12-2; Dave Izard, Sweet Home, 16-2; Dave Prince, Maple Grove, 8-1; Joe Cardone, Medina, 12-1-1.

157 — Keith Stearns, Pioneer, 16-0; Dan Golando, Southwestern, 14-1; Jeff Cotter, Medina, 10-1; Pete Caldwell, Lake Shore, 14-2.

169 — Pat Johnson, Falconer, 14-2-1; Joe Bujalski, Medina, 12-2; Dan Hackett, Pioneer, 14-2; Vernon Price, Warsaw, 14-1.

179 — Bill Nice, Medina, 10-1; Shahean Simon, Olean, 12-2; Dave Golando, Southwestern, 9-4; Ron Schoonover, Allegany, 14-3-1.

HWT — Paul Stebbins, Lake Shore, 16-0; Bob Darling, Jamestown, 13-1; Don Schoonover, Allegany, 16-0-1; Dave Nease, Portville, 13-2.

Unl. — John Patt, Warsaw, 8-1; Ron Taylor, Medina, 4-0; Bryan Smith, Iroquois, 13-3; Ed McCormick, Alden, 9-2.



**PART OF THE CROWD** — One small section of the crowd at last season's Salamanca Invitational Wrestling Tournament finals indicates just how packed things become, with spectator overflow down on the floor crowding the mat on all four sides. The tournament crowd is expected to be as

big, if not bigger, this season, with a total of 21 teams representing some of the most outstanding wrestling in Western New York in this year's field. Pre-tourney favorite is defending champion Pioneer.

(Press Staff Photo)

## J&V Motors climbs into first place

**JIMERTONTOWN** — J&V Motors moved into first place in the East Division of the Salamanca Seneca men's basketball league Thursday night as they picked up a

46-32 score at the half.

Third quarter action saw J&V continue in the same vein, and although Ho-Nace began to find the range once more, J&V

league lead throughout most of the second, jumped off to a big first period lead with a 28-14 scoring advantage, then picked up 34 points in the second frame while Andy's