

# Broome Catches Up With Ithaca

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Ithaca — Sectional wrestling fans will remember March 3, 1962, as the day that Broome lowered the boom.

Not only did Chenango Forks carry through on its preliminary promise to take away the 14-year Ithaca High grip on the team title, but Broome County wrestlers captured 11 of 12 individual championships.

Since the lone outsider was little Dave Bush of Homer, by a narrow 5-3 margin over Windsor 107 pounder Roger Nabinger, the cupboard was left bare for Ithaca.

Blanked in the gold medal department, the Ithacans slipped all the way to fifth in the team standings behind the Forks, Windsor, Vestal and even U-E, which two years ago did not have a wrestling team. A year ago when Ithaca had clinched the championship by the time the semifinal rounds had ended (this year the opposite was true: the semis saw Ithaca counted out), U-E had finished 12th with only 18 points to Ithaca's 101.

**LAST NIGHT** it was U-E with 45 to Ithaca's 44. The Forks had 68, Windsor 54, and Vestal 47.

Although all three members of Chenango Forks' publicized "Murderers Row" won in forecast fashion, the hero of the entire day's action had to be their unsung 116 teammate, senior Dave Clements.

Clements showed the way the tide would flow by leading all the way in a 5-2 afternoon upset of Ithaca's Mike Turco, a former sectional winner who earlier this year beat Clements, 7-3. Then to top even this effort, in the finals he decisively snapped a 45-match winning streak of Horseheads' Phil Rundell by a 7-1 count.

Rundell, top-seeded of course, had a year ago won the 107-pound crown by an 8-4 margin over the same Clements.

The 11-man Broome steamroller looked like this:

**CLEMENTS** three-time champion Jeff Stephens, Al Packer, and game Fran Ferraro of the Forks; Ed Nabinger, Bob Thomson and Tom Gustainis of Windsor; Dale Wilcox and unbeaten Bob Walker of Vestal; and capping the giant strides by U-E, tiny Ray Hardy and 148-pounder Mike Agone.

Three wrestlers besides Walker had entered the day with perfect 1961-62 records, but Roger Felske of Bainbridge was beaten in his semi and on top of Rundell's shocker by Clements, the larger of Windsor's Nabingers cut down Owego's Fred Murray.

Two more of the champs, however, finished the year unbeaten, though with one draw on their cards. Vestalite Wilcox was held to a 2-2 standoff in a dual meet by Dennis Connors of North, and the Forks 170-pound Ferraro came out 1-1 in his dual against 240-pounder Mike Saroka of Dryden. Last night Ferraro got his revenge, giving up 2 escapes to his huge opponent but reversing Saroka immediately to open the third period and then pulled it out on a point for riding time advantage.

There were no pins in the final round although Stephens had pinned his way through four preliminaries, and there was only one match beside the heavyweight decided by but one point.

**THAT CAME** at 157, last hope for the Ithacans as their top-seeded Peter Brann took on Gustainis of Windsor. The first two periods were scoreless, the taller Gustainis riding out the second atop the 1961 149-pound champ. Thrice in the last period Gustainis narrowly avoided slipping into predicaments before swinging a reverse for a 2-0 lead.

Brann then escaped and picked up a tying point when Gustainis was penalized for stalling, leaving it up to the timers. Referee Joe Gasques at first indicated an overtime was necessary, but Windsor coach Jim Howard came running over in protest and the recheck found Gustainis ahead in time, 2:15 to :59.

**GOING INTO** the sectional of two years ago Ithaca had had 71 champions, all of Broome County 21, and Chenango Forks none. Very fittingly it was Stephens, then a sophomore, who knocked off a top-seeded Ithaca can, Fuzzy Iacovelli, for the first blue ribbon for any of coach Ker Spenard's boys. (Packer took fourth that year and Spike Haskell a third as well as a win for the now-graduated Jerry Everling.)

Last night Spenard got so excited in one early match that he ripped a 6-inch hole under the armpit of his suitcoat. Ithaca, on the other hand, was so completely out of it, that symbolically, or otherwise, the electric scoreboard refused to function for the rest of the night after Brann's defeat.

**MAT CHIT-CHAT:** Honors-student Stephens is the 10th in Section 4 history to win a third championship. Windsor's Chuck Bush was the only four-time titleholder, while the other three-time champs have been Ithacans Dick Nicholas, Paul Stiegel, Dave Auble, Orlando Iacovelli and Bob Franciamone, George Gabriel of Vestal, Carlton Orr of Greene and Bill Sywetz of Van Hornesville, first of the hat-trickers. . . .

Until last night, Vestalite Chuck Briggs was the only Triple C title wrestler to break into the lineup of champions since George Gabriel's 1931-33 triple. Briggs won a title in 1956 and came back in '58.

Stephens is the third successive Chenango Forker to take the 169-pound crown, won last year by Al Packer and in '60 by Gerry Everling. The list of past 169s who've won is perhaps most impressive of any weight class, Everling preceded by the great ill-fated Orr and earlier the likes of NCAA standout Frank Bettucci, AAU champ Dick Dean, Big 10 winner Tim Woodin, Syracuseans Bob Smith and John Nichols, as well as the IHS triumvirate of Al Marion, John Farrell and Pete Cummings.

Thomson is the third straight Windsor man to hold sway at 142, succeeding Bob Williams and, before him Norm Kohlbach.



JEFF STEPHENS

... Champ — for the third time.



WILCOX



AGONE



WALKER



HARDY

## RASSLE WRAPUP

Team scores: Chenango Forks 68, Windsor 54, Vestal 47, U-E 45, Ithaca 44, Homer 42, Horseheads 37, Chenango Valley 30, Sidney 29, Southside 28, Dryden 24, Owego 24, Bainbridge 24, Cortland 19, Greene 19, Elmira Free Academy 16, Elmira Heights 14, Newark Valley 12, Groton 11, Waverly 11, Binghamton North 9, Deposit 9, Walton 7, Harpursville 3.

### CHAMPIONSHIPS

99—Ray Hardy (U-E) dec. Dan Thomson (Hds), 5-0.  
107—Dave Bush (Hom) dec. Rog Nabinger (W), 5-3.  
116—Dave Clements (CF) dec. Phil Rundell (Hds) 7-1.  
124—Bob Walker (V) dec. Gary Hall (CV), 12-5.  
131—Ed Nabinger (W) dec. Fred Murray (O) 3-1.  
137—Dale Wilcox (V) dec. Richie Leonardo (I) 3-0.  
142—Bob Thomson (W) dec. Dale Smith (Hds) 3-1.  
149—Mike Agone (U-E) dec. Chuck Masterpaul (Hom.) 3-1.  
158—Tom Gustainis (W) dec. Pete Brann (I) 3-2.  
169—Jeff Stephens (CF) dec. Ron Hadsell (V) 4-0.  
184—Al Packer (CF) dec. Rudy Veruto (ESS) 6-3.  
Unlimited—Fran Ferraro (CF) dec. Mike Saroka (D) 3-2.

### SEMIFINALS

99—Hardy (U-E) won by forfeit from Bishko (EFA); Thomson (Hds) dec. Warner (S), 8-0.  
107—R. Nabinger (W) dec. Mullen (D), 5-2; Bush (Hom.) dec. Sherwood (G), 7-2.  
116—Rundell (Hds) dec. Dake (S), 9-3; Clements (CF) dec. Turco (I), 5-2.  
124—Walker (V) dec. Haskell (CF), 5-7; Hall (CV) dec. Baumgartner (EH), 8-2.  
131—E. Nabinger (W) dec. George (S), 8-2; Murray (O) dec. Golway 4-0.  
137—Wilcox (V) dec. Sutter (NV) 2-0; Leonardo (I) pinned Houper (ESS), 3:15.  
142—Thomson (W) dec. Stone (S), referee's decision after 4-4 regulation and 1-1 overtime ties; Smith (Hds.) dec. Huson (Hom.), 6-2.  
149—Masterpaul (Hom.) dec. Felske (B), 4-2; Agone (U-E) dec. Cummings (I), 10-2.  
158—Brann (I) pinned Freeland (C), 5:40; Gustainis (W) pinned Schanbacher (ESS) 3:50.  
169—Stephens (CF) pinned Hartford (C), 3:55; Hadsell (V) dec. Stewart (ESS), 4-0.  
184—Packer (CF) dec. Curtis (B) 3-1; Veruto (ESS) dec. Konrad (U-E), 8-5.  
Unlimited—Ferraro (CF) dec. Warner (CV), 3-0; Saroka (D) pinned Julian (U-E), 2:45.

### CONSOLATIONS

98—Loonie Warner (U-E) won by forfeit from Dan Thomson (Hds.); '07—Phil Sherwood (G) pinned Gary Mullins (D), 3:06; 116—Mike Turco (I) dec. Larry Dake (S), 9-3; 124—Rich Haskell (CF) dec. Jack Baumgartner (EH), 5-4; 131—Vince George (S) dec. Gary Golway (I), 5-4; 137—Barry Sutter (NV) dec. Rick Houper (ESS), 6-4; 142—George Huson (Hom.) dec. Gerrie Stone (S) 10-8; 149—Rog Felske (B) dec. Bucky Cummings (I), 5-4; 158—Chuck Freeland (C) dec. Dennis Schanbacher (ESS), 3-2; 169—Dick Hartford (C) dec. Tom Stewart (ESS), 1-0; 184—Joe Konrad (U-E) won by forfeit from Don Curtis (B).

Seven top-seeded men came through as supposed to (Hardy, Walker, Wilcox, Thomson, Stephens, Packer and Ferraro). Gustainis was the second-seeded, Bush, Clements and Agone each third, and Nabinger fourth. . . . The one top-seed besides Rundell and Brann to bite the dust in the finals was Homer's Chuck Masterpaul, whose every move was foiled by Endicott junior Agone, who breezed through the tournament with a pin and 5-0, 6-0 and 3-1 victories. . . . Teammate Hardy didn't have to face his lone conqueror of the season, EPA's Steve Bishko, when the one-point victor in their December bout was not allowed by his doctor to compete here because of a severe case of impetigo. . . . Ithaca, whose previous all-time low had been two championships in 1947 (though the three in 1960 proved to be handwriting on the wall) wound up with two seconds, a third and two fourths compared to last year's five firsts. . . . Ferraro was the first "heavyweight" in 10 years to break into Ithaca-Cortland domination of the top weight class.