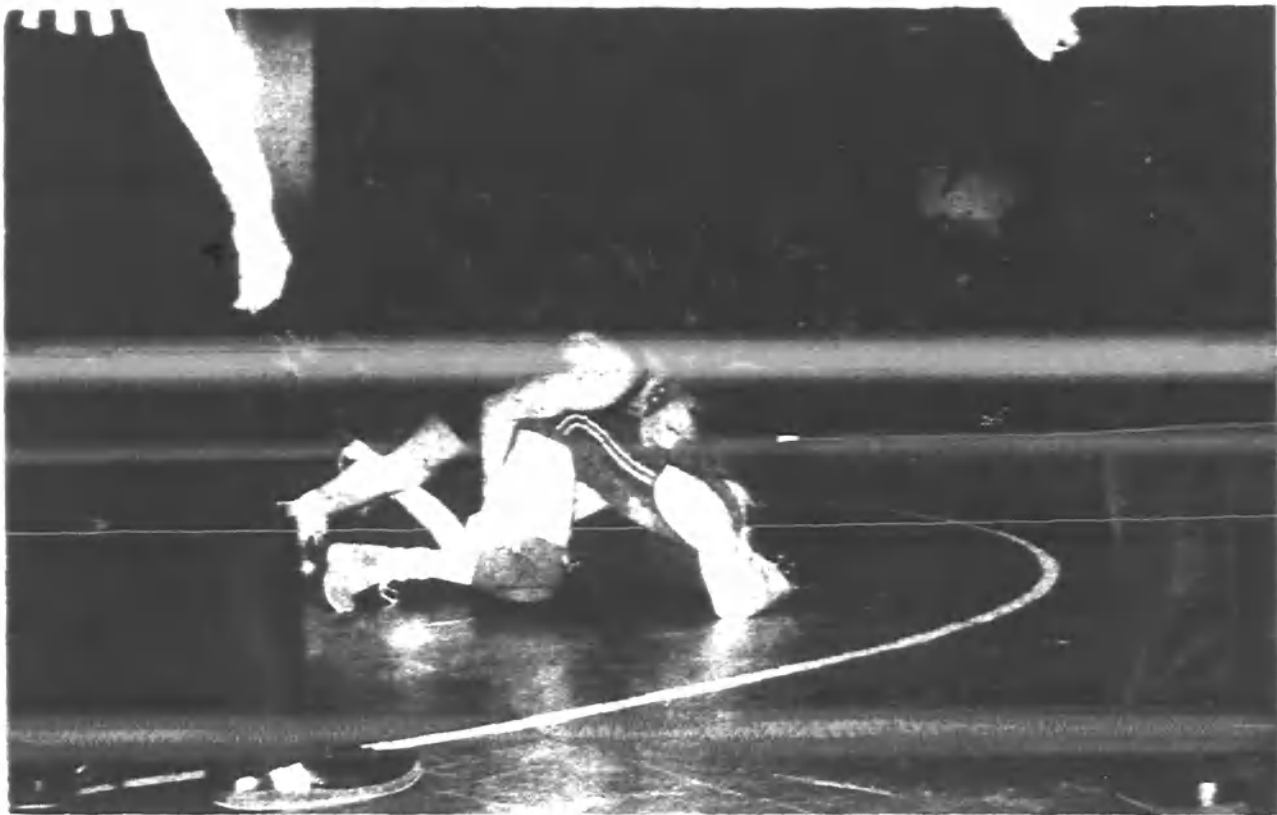


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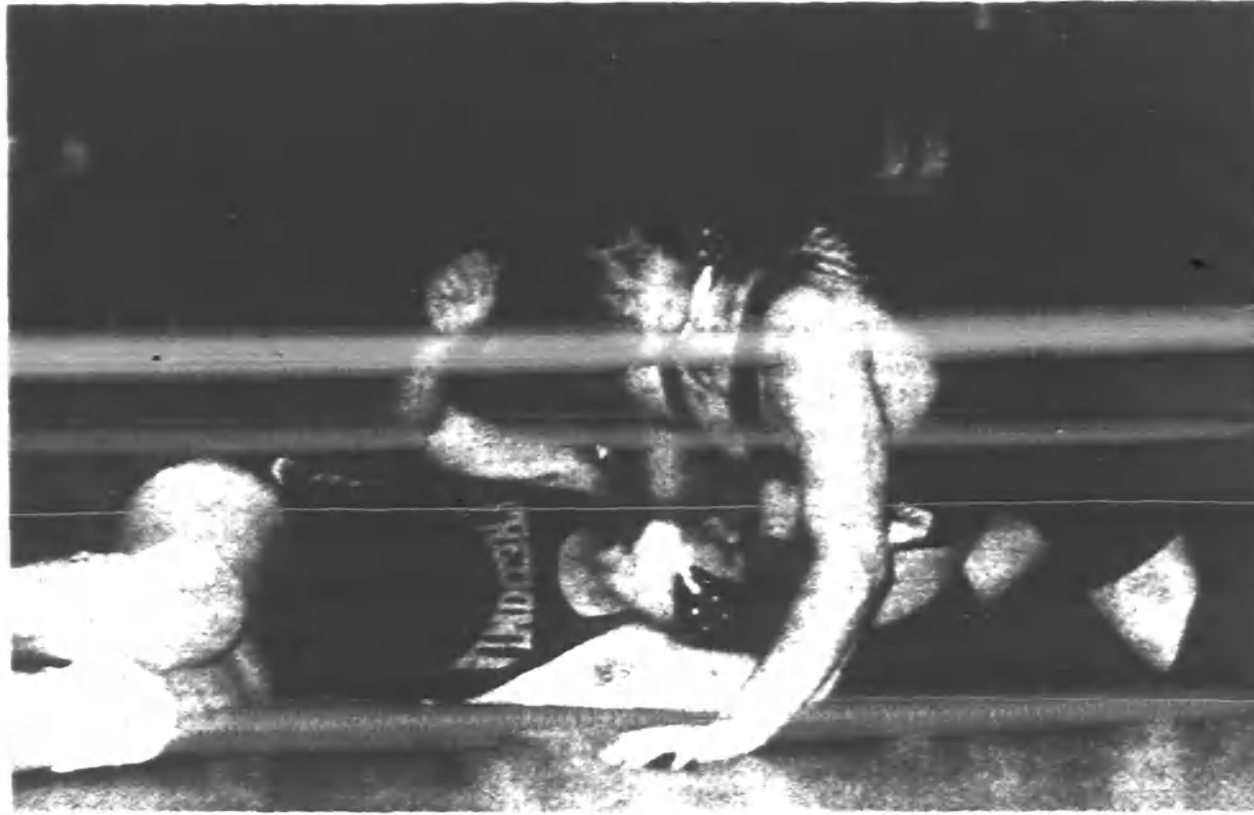
Warrior matmen continue victory siege



Steve Felt, one of 12 Salamanca wrestlers to come home with a trophy, took fourth place in place finishes at the Niagara Community College

tournament Saturday. Felt wrestles in the 105 lb. weight class for the Warrior grapplers.

(Photo provided by Rich Morton)



Jess Wilson received an award at the N.C.C. tourney for the most pins in the least amount of time. It took Wilson less than five minutes to pin four wrestlers, for a good tourney finish. Wilson,

shown in this photo, taken at an earlier match this season, has yet to let an opponent into the second period this season.

(Press file photo)

LOCKPORT — BIGGER doesn't always mean BETTER! Especially if you're talking about the Salamanca High School or the Warrior Wrestling team.

"We had a great effort from our kids", said Coach Rich Morton, following the Niagara Community College Wrestling Tournament, which was held Friday and Saturday.

Salamanca beat 26 other teams to take it all in a tournament that featured schools which are bigger (in student population) than Salamanca, but obviously not better (in wrestling).

A total of 12 Warriors made it to the semi-finals with four of those young men going on to the finals. Each grappler added to Salamanca's scoring, to finish with 221 points, 59 points ahead of the second place finisher, Sweethome. Third place Southwestern managed to get 151 points in the weekend tourney.

A previous meeting between these three teams at the Southern Tier Wrestling Tournament in Jamestown last December ended with Southwestern bowing to Salamanca, who placed slightly behind Sweethome.

"This was a super tournament for Salamanca, said Morton.

"All of our kids worked very hard and put a lot of effort into the two days of the tournament. It was a helluva tournament for us.

"We met some very tough competition, but our guys wrestled exceptionally well." Morton added.

Each wrestler that made it to the semis or the finals contributed to the total points scored at the Niagara Tournament.

Morton, full of pride, as usual for his team, talked about his wrestlers after their latest victory.

"Steve Felt is coming on real well. He gets better and better with every match. Last year he won a total of four matches, and he's already won 12 already this year...and we're

only halfway through the season.

"Also doing a nice job for us this year, is Eric Sweich. He wrestled well and moved into the finals. He beat the kid that beat the top-seeded wrestler and decisioned him 14-7. That's doing a good job.

"Travis Boardman won five matches at the tourney and only lost one. He only lost the match by two points. He did a super job and moved really well.

"Chris Printup came through the wrestlebacks and lost by one point. His weight class (138 lb.) was a loaded class. I'm very pleased with the way he wrestled. He lost in the semis on criteria, so I feel he did a good job.

"Mike Strauss, again in a strong weight class, did a nice job. He had a nice match, moved well and just did an all-around good job for us.

"This is the reason we were able to score so many points. Everybody wrestled well. These guys were ready to win and they went out there and did it!

"Tom Mohr, who weighs only 143, wrestles in the 155 lb. weight class and he's winning against the big guys who are at the 155 limit." said Morton.

Mohr wrestles that class, rather than cut his weight, because Strauss is wrestling in that class.

"Cary Hanson, our guy in the unlimited is a light wrestler. He has to drink water just to make the weight limit in the class.

"Joe Bierfeldt looked good all the way through the tournament, got a little sluggish in the finals, but he wrestled well and came through his points, beating Feltz, who he had wrestled before, 5-3.

"Myron Wilson came through a great match. He lost 2-1, but he's waiting for Grabenstetter. They'll meet again. It hurts right now to lose, but Myron's just waiting for him in the finals, commented Morton.

"Grabenstetter just keeps the match close. He won't really do anything, but one of these times, Myron will take it to him."

And then there is Jess Wilson, who has yet to lose a match, much less give the other guy a chance to score. Wilson has the idea that if you pin the guy right away and get the match over with, you can grab a shower, get dressed and go home.

Well, he must be right, because not once this year has an opponent of Wilson's made it out of the first period.

"Jess had four pins in the tourney and none of them took over two minutes." said a very pleased Morton.

Wilson's pins in the Niagara tourney hardly totalled five minutes. His first pin was one minute, 12 sec., second, one minute, 16 sec., third pin in 55 sec., and fourth in one minute, 44 sec.

So all in all, despite being very tired from a tough two days, the Salamanca Warriors can be very proud of their accomplishments, thus far. Rich Morton is. With only half the season down, there are bound to be more thrills.

Salamanca hosts Olean Wednesday, with junior varsity matches set to begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the varsity matches.

TEAM SCORES

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Salamanca | 221 |
| Sweethome | 162 |
| Southwestern | 151 |
| Royalton-Heartland | 138½ |
| McQuaid (Rochester) | 138 |
| Kenmore East | 133 |
| Niagara-Wheatfield | 131½ |
| Pioneer | 118 |
| Niagara Falls | 107½ |
| St. Francis | 105½ |
| Starpoint | 100½ |
| Maryville | 98 |

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Hannibal | 96 |
| Kenmore West | 79 |
| Akron | 71½ |
| Medina | 62½ |
| Grand Island | 61 |
| Alden | 54½ |
| Newfane | 54½ |
| Lewiston-Porter | 53 |
| Amherst | 44 |
| Cardinal O'Hara | 37 |
| Hamburg | 35½ |
| Canisius | 20 |
| St. Joe's | 20 |

INDIVIDUAL SCORING CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND OF FINALS

| |
|---|
| 91—Mark Kessler (Kenmore East) dec. Bob Jaquin (Royhart), 12-10 |
| 96—Nick Cristelli (Grand Island) dec. Kevin Zack (Maryville), 12-8 |
| 105—Kevin Regan (Akron) dec. Bill Sarver (Maryville), 9-3 |
| 112—Lou Roselli (Royhart) pin Phil Tripi (Maryville), Time: 5 min., 3 sec. |
| 119—Eric Sweich (Salamanca) dec. Anthony Pail (Niagara Falls), 14-7 |
| 126—Chuck Wall (St. Francis) dec. Rob Petruzella (Kenmore East), 8-6 |
| 132—Kevin McGinnis (Sweethome) dec. Mark Baer (Royhart), 5-3 |
| 138—Steve Wolznyk (Niagara-Wheatfield) dec. Mike Baron (Sweethome), 7-0 |
| 145—Shawn Costello (McQuaid) dec. Kevin Groefer (Starpoint), 8-1 |
| 155—Shane Carder (Pioneer) TF (technical fall) Andy Dunsmore (Hamburg), 18-3 |
| 167—Joe Bierfeldt (Salamanca) dec. John Feltz (St. Francis), 5-3 |
| 177—Dave Grabenstetter (Amherst) dec. Myron Wilson, 2-1 |
| HWT—Jess Wilson (Salamanca) pin Frank Silvernail, 1:44 |
| Unlimited—Joe Muscarella (Sweethome) dec. Bill Frentz (Cardinal O'Hara), 10-2 |

PLACE FINISHES

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| 105 — Steve Felt — 4th place |
| 123 — Travis Boardman — 3rd place |
| 138 — Chris Printup — 5th place |
| 146 — Mike Strauss — 3rd place |
| 155 — Tom Mohr — 4th place |
| Unlimited — Cary Hanson — 5th place |