

AHS hosting mat tourney Wednesday

Indian River and Sandy Creek are names which do not ring a bell in athletic circles unless you follow a certain sport and that sport is high school wrestling.

Both schools are Section III small school powers and come into Auburn for the first time ever next Wednesday to participate in the Auburn Invitational Holiday Tournament at Auburn High School.

They will share the favorite role with perennial Section V power Rush-Henrietta

in the tournament which promises to produce some of the finest wrestling in this area in many years.

For Indian River it will be a homecoming for Coach Jack Williams who was born and raised in Auburn but has not been back in many years. He is bringing with him a 1970-'71 champion in Stuart Gillette who will be competing at the 145 pound level.

Indian River is 5-0 on the campaign and

included in its skein is a 28-27 victory over always tough Lowville.

Sandy Creek includes several champions in its lineup, including Rick Miller who was third in the Section III Class D tourney two years ago then last year was the 177 pound champ in the Class D event, being named the outstanding wrestler. He worked all summer and was champion in the Cicero Summer Tournament. He will participate at either 167 or 177 Wednesday.

Also in the tournament are Corning East, East Syracuse-Minoa, Mynderse Academy and Auburn. Henninger was entered but dropped out last week and the present time tournament director Hank Vetter is searching for a substitute. Nottingham is a strong possibility.

No information on Rush-Henrietta has been received as yet but they have a strong wrestling program from the ground up and always produce many contenders for Section V titles.

For Coach Abe Meyers it will be another return trip to the Auburn tourney for his Mynderse Blue Devils. Noted as a great coach, Meyers has a real strong grappler this year in Rick Hanna at 177 pounds. He was runnerup in the local tournament last year and won the Caledonia Christmas

Tournament both last year and this year. He was the Wayne-Finger Lakes League champion and voted the outstanding wrestler in the league. He is a potential Section V champion this season after finishing fourth last year.

East Syracuse-Minoa is in a rebuilding year with the best of the bunch obviously Keith Austin at either 114 or 121. He was 10-6 last year and 2-1 so far this campaign. A surprise could be heavyweight Ed Whalen who is undefeated this year as is Doug Goodfellow at 114 pounds.

At the same 114 class, Corning East has an undefeated grappler in Harold Saxbury while teammate Steve Warner is also all winning at 134 pounds. The best of the lot for CE will be Dennis Yeager, a potential sectional champion at 105. He has lost one match this year but could win it all next week.

Auburn High Coach Dan Halstead may do some juggling for the tournament with his proteges getting in certain weight classes.

When it comes to Sandy Creek and Indian River, there are loads of potential champions.

The SC matmen are led by 98 pounder Tim Nellis who won the Mexico Tour-

namment and was second last year in the Class D wrestle-offs. During the summer he was 105 pound champ in the Town of Clay Tournament.

At 112 the SC group will have Dale Fiegl who was runnerup in the Mexico tournament last year and then went on to win the Frontier League title at 105 and the same weight class in the Section III Class D Tournament.

Also included are three Varsity B champs from the Frontier League last year in Stan Peterson at 107, Jim Blodgett at 121 or 128 and Randy Day at 167 or 177.

Indian River has a contender at each weight class it seems. Abel Lynch is 4-1 this year at 105 while his brother Charles is at 132 and has lost but once also. At 138 the IR men will present Bruce Jackson who

lost only to last year's sectional champ by one point. Then comes Stu Gillette at 145 and if he isn't enough his twin brother Steve is at 155. He missed last year but is another potential state champ.

At 167 there is Steve Slate who has had five pins already this year and lost but once last year and that was in a scrimmage. The 177 pound rep is Jim Laisdell who was a heavyweight last year and was also undefeated in dual meets.

Bruce Rosbrook is the heavyweight this year and is 4-1, the one loss when he got pinned after being ahead 5-0.

Action will begin at noon Wednesday with first round matches, to be followed by consolation bouts then semifinals. The finals will be in the evening.



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Indian River's Stu and Steve Gillette

C-M hosting event

Four county teams in hoop tournaments

Christmas time is hoop time for many basketball teams and for four in the Cayuga County Central School League it will mean activity next week on various fronts.

Cato-Meridian is hosting its 13th annual

Holiday Tournament Monday and Tuesday on its high school hardwood with strong Waterloo and pre-tournament favorite. Also entered are North Rose-Wolcott and Vernon-Verona-Sherill, in addition to the host school which won the event last year.

HEADING
OUTDOORS
BY TOM KLINK



The Adirondack deer herd is at its lowest point since the turn of the century, according to C. W. Severinghaus, supervising wildlife biologist for the Environmental Conservation Department. For a change, most of the Adirondack deer



10 points; rabbit, Mike Usowski, 3 lb. 8 oz.; coon, Rick Brooks, 19 lb. 12 oz.; partridge, Stan Sofinski, 1 lb. 8 oz.

The Falcons plan to raise their own pheasants next year and are in need of a brooder. If you have one or two of one

Union Springs has entered the South Seneca Christmas Tournament and takes on the tough task of facing the host school the first night. The Wolves were slated to play home-and-home games against the Falcons but agreed to enter the tournament when the host school lost a team. Also in the tourney, to be played Monday and Wednesday, are Mynderse Academy of Seneca Falls and Arkport, a pair of strong Section V schools.

Southern Cayuga Central joins host Trumansburg in hosting a pair of Pennsylvania schools in the T'burg Invitational which is also Monday and Wednesday. The Chiefs will face Williamson in the opener while Trumansburg will oppose SRU in the nightcap on the first night.

It is not known who is in the Mexico tournament besides Port Byron and the host school but they will play Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Gone from the scene is the Auburn High Christmas Tournament after a one year existence. Scheduling problems prohibited rescheduling of the event.

C-M copped its own tournament last year by defeating South Seneca in a big upset and handing the Falcons their lone setback of the campaign. In hosting Waterloo in this year's tournament it brings in the reigning Section V Class A champion. The Indians were handed their first defeat of the season last week by Geneva but are big and strong and must be the odds on favorite.

Coach Jim Donahoe's Blue Devils have been coming on strong but must go up against big VVS in the opener. The red and white are an unknown quantity but are big each and every year and are a solid opponent for the Blue Devils.

South Seneca has already defeated Southern Cayuga twice and US dropped its lone contest to SCC. The lone South Seneca loss in five encounters was to Haverling High of Bath 82-79.

All the schools are expected to be followed by large delegations from their respective student bodies and tickets for the C-M tournament will be on sale at the door.