



## Auburnian wins championship

Auburn High's Joe Alberti won the 121 pound championship of the Auburn Invitational Wrestling Tournament Wednesday with this pin of Tim Hathaway of Indian River in the finals. Alberti also scored two other pins during the day.





## *State champ in control*

Stu Gillette of Indian River, undaunted by a bloody nose, has control of Bob Cucci of Rush-Henrietta in the 147 pound championship match Wednesday. Gillette, who won the state title last year, scored a 9-4 decision.



## *Friendly tug of war*

Gordon Gilliam, on the left, and Jack Williams, head wrestling coaches at Rush-Henrietta and Indian River respectively, proudly hold the championship trophy of the Auburn Invitational Wrestling Tournament after their two teams wound up in a tie Wednesday with 79½ points.



## Auburn mat tourney champions

The individual champions of the 12th annual Auburn Invitational Wrestling Tournament pose for the C-A photographer following the presentation Wednesday. Pictured in the first row from the left and their weights are: Dale Nupp, Rush-Harrietta, 134; Kim Lorenz, Myndersee,

123; Joe Alberti, Auburn, 121; Doug Goodfellow, ES-M, 114; Abel Lynch, Indian River, 107; Tim Nellis, Sandy Creek, 100. Second row, l. to r., Dave Hept, R-H, heavyweight; Jim Laidell, IR, 179; Rick Miller, SC, 167; Steve Gillette, IR, 167; Sta Gillette, IR, 147; and Warren Stampf, R-H, 140.



# R-H, Indian River divide mat honors

# AHS tourney ends in tie, Alberti Maroon champion

By DAVE DeLORENZO

It was fitting the wrestling teams from Indian River Central and Rush-Henrietta wound up in a flat-footed tie for the championship in the 12th annual Auburn Invitational Wrestling Tournament Wednesday.

The two teams were closer than a whisker all day in the point standings, both sent six men into the finals, split four head-on matches between athletes representing the two schools and both teams displayed good sportsmanship. They both finished with 79½ points.

It is a first for the local tournament to have dual champs and it is a rarity. The question was in doubt for some time as first it appeared Indian River won, then the tie was announced and further discussion seemed to lean to Rush-Henrietta.

The confusion came about over half points awarded for decisions of 10 points or more and no points being awarded for byes. However, the matter was all resolved following a meeting with tournament director Dick Jones and coaches Gordon Gilfillian of R-H and Jack Williams of IR.

For IR it was a great accomplishment as it is a very small school and it was competing really for the first time against their big brothers. The same was true for little Sandy Creek and both schools displayed great potential as the latter finished third with 59½ points.

The most coveted award — the Most Valuable Wrestler — went to Rick Miller of Sandy Creek, the 167 pound champion, who scored three impressive pins during the day. Auburn High's Joe Alberti was in the running for the honor after scoring a trio of falls in the 121 pound class in a great showing.

The quickest pin award went to Lynn Chuley of Mynderse Academy of Seneca Falls who put away his foe in just 13 seconds in the consolation bout for third place in the 140 pound class.

Trailing the top three schools in order were East Syracuse-Minoa, 48; Mynderse, 39½; Auburn, 33; Corning East, 28; and Nottingham, 0.

Indian River had four individual champions, two runnerups and a third place winner. Rush-Henrietta had three champs, three runnerups and three more in third spot. SC had two champions and two runnerups plus a third place finisher. Mynderse had a champ, runnerup and a pair of third place finishers while ES-M had one champ, two runnerups and a third. Auburn had one man in each of the top three places while Corning East had a runnerup and three third place finishers.

In the 98 pound opener, it was Tim Nellis of SC overcoming Jeff Converse of Mynderse 5-0. The 107 match went into overtime after Abel Lynch of IR and Dennis Yeager of CE tied 6-6 in regulation time, Lynch gaining a point for a stall with nine seconds left then another for riding time to just gain the tie. He went on to pin Yeager in the second overtime period.

The 114 pound class also went overtime as Dale Fiegle of SC and Doug Goodfellow of ES-M put on a tough battle. They were tied 2-2 in regulation time then both scored just one point in overtime with a decision by three referees needed before Goodfellow was crowned champion for his aggressiveness.

It was then Alberti's turn to take the mats against Tim Hathaway of SC and after scoring a takedown, pinned him to the mat in the first period. In 128, Kim Lorenz of Mynderse and Vince Gerace of ES-M also very evenly matched, Lorenz winning 3-2 with riding time.

The first head-on match between contenders came at 134 where Dale Nupp of R-H bested Charles Lynch of IR and Nupp proved the best with a 7-3 decision. It was announced this tied the score at 70-all. Then it was Warren Stumpff of R-H against Bruce Jackson of IR at 140 and again R-H triumphed as Stumpff scored a 41 second pin.

It was the same two schools meeting at 147, state champ Stu Gillette for IR and Bob Cucci of R-H. This time IR came out on top as Gillette scored a 9-4 decision.

There was Auburn interest in the 154 pound match as Steve McCormick of the Maroons, last year's 138 pound champ, had gained the finals against Steve Gillette of IR. Again the Gillette twin was victorious, scoring a 9-3 decision in a tough match.

The 167 pound clash saw Miller score a second period pin over Jim Weisenflo of R-H after leading 4-0. The IR-R-H dual continued at 179 and when Jim Laisdell gained a big 14-2 decision over Steve

Wilson, it appeared the small school from the north country cinched the title.

However, after Dave Hept of R-H scored a first period pin over Ed Whalen of ES-M, the points were tallied again and the tie was the result.

**MAT NOTES**— The power failure which hit the city and the high school did not halt the action as they continued under a minimum of lights under the auxiliary power system at the school. The power came on just before the finals. . . . Ken Champlin, a member of the Board of Education, presented the awards to the individual champions, runnerups and third place finishers after each match. . . . A welcome site at the competition was Dave Yantch, the AHS student and athlete who was hit by meningitis right after the football season. He is recuperating and plans to return to school in mid-January. . . . The volunteers who worked the tournament, both at the scorers tables and other jobs, did an outstanding job for AD Henry Vetter. . . . Nottingham entered but brought only six men with them and they were outclassed. . . . Auburn advanced four men past the first round with Mike Flanigan at 98 pounds scoring a pin but then losing in the semis and consolation matches. Scott McCormick earned a fine third in the 145 pound class and the sophomore was very impressive. . . . Auburn had three jayvees in the lineup because of sickness and juggling of the lineup. . . . Stu Gillette is just starting his season after missing the first part with an injury but he showed he still has the strength to go all the way again. . . . IR came in Tuesday and slayed overnight at the high school. . . . Williams is a native Auburnian and Gilfillian is married to a former Auburn girl. . . . Four referees were kept busy working the approximately 132 bouts during the day.

## AHS '5' moves up one notch in state poll

Auburn High's basketball team jumped one notch to 18th in the rankings of the New York State Sports Writers Association large high school poll of this week.

The locals are the only Central New York Cities Conference team listed in the top 20 after the Maroons big 76-49 victory over Watertown 10 days ago.

In the small school poll, Skaneateles is ranked 13th with its 6-0 record, the latest win being the 77-58 victory over Onondaga Central.

Watkins Glen Springs Academy is still at the top of the large school poll with Jamestown second. Neither team played last week. Rounding out the top five are St. Agnes of Rockville Centre, Troy Catholic Central and Hempstead.

Woodlands leads the small school poll with Sharon Springs second and Sacred Heart of Syracuse third.

In the honorable mention, Nottingham of Syracuse, AHS's next foe on Jan. 7, and Watertown are listed.

## PBCS cagers reach finals

Port Byron will be in the finals tonight of the Mexico Invitational Basketball Tournament after besting the host school 61-55 Tuesday night in the first round.

They will oppose General Brown for the title at 8:30 tonight.

The Panthers of Coach Chuck Rooker played a steady and strong game throughout to score the upset and came from behind in the second half after trailing 28-25 at intermission.

Dave Casey led the second half surge with great "quarterbacking" and hit on 10 of his 13 points. Jack Bristol played a strong game for the Panthers with 17 markers while Paul Yaworsky had 10. Paul Geibel led the losers with 22 points.

