

ES-M captures AHS wrestling tourney

Catalano lone Auburn High champ

Gaining four firsts, a second and a third, pre-tournament favorite East Syracuse-Minoa squeaked by Rome Free Academy, 76-73-2, to win the 15th Annual Auburn Christmas Wrestling Tournament held at the Auburn High gym Thursday.

The remaining six teams were far behind the leaders. Bishop McQuaid of Rochester was third with 39 points. Port Byron finished fourth with 31. Mynderse Academy was fifth with 27, Auburn, sixth with 26, Oswego seventh with 20 and Corning East eighth with three.

Vito Urso of RFA was voted Most Valuable Wrestler. Urso won the 132 pound class by virtue of a 1-0 win over Mike Flanagan of Auburn, a 12-0 decision over Jeff O'Hara of McQuaid and a 6-2 win in the final over heavily favored Vince Gerace of East Syracuse-Minoa.

Dave DeLorenzo of Auburn, who finished third in the 145-pound class, gained the quickest pin by downing Don Hayes of Mynderse in only 20 seconds in a first round match.

Bishop McQuaid took the role of tournament co-favorite when they gained four firsts, two seconds and four thirds in the seedings. The young Rochester team, however, eventually finished far behind.

Two undefeated wrestlers, John Smallridge of McQuaid and Rome's Fred Festa, clashed in the 98 pound final. Smallridge won 5-3 but never clearly established superiority over Festa. The McQuaid grappler was twice called for stalling.

Auburn's Dave Catalano emerged as the Maroons' only winner and he did it in brilliant fashion. He pinned third-seeded Herb Casey of Port Byron in the final of the 105-pound class in 3:30. Catalano scored all his victories by pins. He took Kelly LeBlanc of Oswego in only 40 seconds in the opening round, then downed Jim Mahar of Rome in 3:04 to gain the finals.

Top seeded Rick Bready of ESM had little trouble against second-ranked John Donahue of Rome in the 112 pound class. Bready is now 6-0 on the season. John Petrosino of Auburn finished fourth losing the consolation bout to Dave Maurice of Corning East, 13-5.

Terry Brown, second seeded before the tournament, scored Port Byron's only win of the day when he upset top seeded Tony Petrosino of Auburn in the 119 pound class.

Petrosino was down 5-1 after two periods and fought back to within one, but Brown hung on to win.

Rome's Lou Vito, second seeded in the 126 pound class, gained four votes for the Most

Valuable Wrestler by downing highly rated Steve Wu of Bishop McQuaid, 6-2. Vito had breezed through his preliminary bouts 20-1 and 11-1.

Vito Urso was seeded only third but defeated Vince Gerace the defending champion, at 132 pounds by a 6-2 score. Urso showed quickness with several darting moves to keep away from the highly touted Gerace of East Syracuse-Minoa.

Bob Landis of Auburn was seeded first in the 138 pound class but the Auburn senior was beaten by second ranked Brian Richardson of Rome in the final 5-4. Landis

showed no signs of favoring the broken hand he suffered six weeks ago in the loss. Perry Martino of East Syracuse-Minoa won an important victory in the 145 pound class by defeating second seeded Gary DeMatteo of Rome 2-0. Auburn's DeLorenzo lost to Martino in the semifinals but defeated Ike Brennan of Bishop McQuaid for third place.

Third seeded Pete Greiner of ESM downed top ranked Ron Ahart of Oswego in the final of the 155 pound class with a pin in 4:30.

Otto Allman of East Syracuse was first seeding in the 167-pound class and earned valuable points for his team with a third period fall of second rated Tim Bentley of Mynderse. Allman was never a serious threat until the deciding period. Auburn's Scott McCormick lost a hotly contested match to Bentley 9-8 in the semifinals. McCormick came on to finish third with a 4-0 win over Leo Hess of Port Byron in the consolation match.

Ken Zigrino of Rome decided Eric Rosenkrans of Mynderse Academy 5-2 to win the 177 pound class. Auburn's Scott Clifford was pinned in the opening round by Chris Poluikis of McQuaid.

Second seeded Howard Mulcahy of Oswego edged fourth ranked Dave Coville of Mynderse Academy 2-1 in the heavyweight class. Auburn frosh Jim Dunster was downed by Coville in the opening round.

ESM also captured the junior varsity crown with 58 1/2 points. Bishop McQuaid was second with 52, followed by Auburn with 48 1/2, Phoenix with 35, Oswego with 32 1/2, Skaneateles with 29, Mynderse with eight and Union Springs with none. Auburn winners in the jayvee tournament were Mike Burke at 105, Mark Collins at 126 and Eugene Richardson at 138.

95 lb. — Smallridge (McQ) decided Festa (R.F.A.), 5-3.
105 lb. — Catalano (Aub.) pinned Casey, (PB) 3:30.
112 lb. — Bready (ESM) pinned Donahue (R.F.A.) 1:36.
119 lb. — Brown (PB) decided Petrosino (Aub.), 5-4.
126 lb. — Vito (R.F.A.) decided Steve (McQ), 6-2.
132 lb. — Urso (R.F.A.) decided Gerace (ESM), 6-2.
138 lb. — Richardson (Aub.) decided Landis (Aub.), 4-3.
145 lb. — Martino (ESM) decided DeMatteo (R.F.A.), 2-0.
155 lb. — Greiner (ESM) pinned Ahart (OSW), 4:19.
167 lb. — Allman (ESM) pinned Bentley, (Myd.), 5:05.
177 lb. — Figrino (R.F.A.) decided Rosenkrans (Myd.), 5-2.
HWT. — Mulcahy (Osw.) decided Coville (Myd.), 2-1.



DAVE CATALANO
... Auburn's champ



Winning East Syracuse-Minoa matmen

Coach Bob Reistrom of East Syracuse-Minoa and his co-captains, Pete Greiner, left front, and Vince Gerace, hold trophy after win-

ning the Auburn Invitational Wrestling Tournament last night on the AHS mats. Members of the champion squad look on.





Individual mat champions

The individual champions in the all-day Auburn High School Invitational Wrestling Tournament are pictured above: front row, left to right — Dave Catalano, 105, Auburn; Rich Bready, 112, East Syracuse-Minoa; Terry Brown, 119, Port Byron Central; back row —

Lou Veto, 126, Rome Free Academy; Vito Urso, 132, RFA; Brian Richardson, 138, RFA; Terry Martino, 145, ES-M; Pete Greiner, 155, ES-M; Otto Allman, 167, ES-M; Ken Zigrino, 177, RFA and Howard Mulcahney, heavyweight, Oswego.



Trophies winner

Vito Urso, left, of Rome Free Academy was voted the most valuable wrestler in the Auburn High Invitational mat tournament staged yesterday in the AHS gym. Urso is congratulating Dave DeLorenzo of Auburn who scored the quickest pin of the tourney. East Syracuse-Minoa won the team title by nosing out RFA.