

# ER's Plan: Lightly but Politely

By RAY BUCK

Before it ever happened, East Rochester wrestling coach Don Quinn knew one thing: "We had to keep it close in the light weights. Our strength all season has been 145 (pounds) and up."

It was a yellow-light look of caution at Spencerport prior to Saturday night's County championship showdown, the grand finale of East-West Day at Spencerport.

Three bouts into the match, it was ER 12, Spencerport zip.

That was a tip-off of things to come. ER denied Spencerport a headstart, then carried out a rather stunning 30-17 victory over the Rangers.

Quinn said the key bouts were victories by Jack Connors at 105, Mark Morabito at 112 and John Barber at 133.

"I figured we'd have trouble at 105," admits Quinn, but Connors went out and won 7-6. Then Morabito scored a pin when Quinn was simply looking for a win.

However, Quinn expected John Gueli to win at 119. Instead, he was beaten by a takedown at the buzzer.

ER quickly got those points back when Barber won with a takedown of his own at the buzzer at 133. "That," says Quinn, "was a big upset. I really didn't figure we'd win there."

"Then came my decision: Should I put (Bob) Steinruck against (Spencerport's Dave) Stulpin at 145?" Both Steinruck and Stulpin are undefeated. Quinn decided: push Steinruck ahead to 155 and dodge Stulpin.

"In athletics, as a whole," explains Quinn, "if you go with your so-called king and he gets knocked off, it takes the steam out of your whole team. It can also get the adrenalin flowing (if he wins) . . . but we didn't need the adrenalin. We didn't really need to beat Stulpin, so we conceded six points."

Steinruck won four of those six points back immediately with a superior decision (11-1) at 155. John Antonelli moved up to 167 and won, then John Zitto won by default at 177 to clinch the victory. (The default occurred when Spencerport's John Kozlowski suffered a head injury in the second period and couldn't continue.)