

ER Crushes Irondequoit, 41-12

From Football to Wrestling, Quinn's Bombers Keep Winning

Don Quinn continues to sing the blues. At the beginning of the football season, he said, "The team that wins the Monroe County Eastern Division championship will lose at least one game."

Quinn's East Rochester team won 10 games and didn't lose any. It not only won the County East crown but added a half share of the New York State championship with Farmingdale. And it was the No. 2 team in a poll conducted by the Philadelphia Journal that rates teams from Maine to Virginia. In the last week, ER was displaced by Anandale, Va., who finished 14-0.

At the beginning of the wrestling season, Quinn said, "Irondequoit, Brighton and Fairport will be tough."

Last Saturday night, Quinn's matmen literally obliterated a visiting and previously unbeaten Irondequoit team, 41-12.

Two nights before, the losers wiped out Brighton. Fairport didn't have it easy with Penfield.

There is a scent of another unbeaten season for Quinn and his Bombers. And there is a sweet smell of a New York State championship for one of the Bombers... John Zito.

At this point, Zito, who lost in the finals of the state meet last year, is the area's most talked about wrestler. He is the peer of the 167 pounders.

Against Irondequoit, Quinn moved Zito up to the 177 ranks. The visitors failed to show a competitor on the mats. Zito won by a forfeit. Irondequoit coach Art Connorton said his two matmen in the 167 class, Ron Campo and John Redder, were ailing. "It must have been stage fright," one ER rooter said.

By the time Quinn moved Zito from 167 to 177, ER had piled up a 32-12 lead.

This was the year Connorton dreamed of taking the County East. He saw his team trail 5-0 after the first match as ER's 98 pounder, John Walczyk, took a superior decision over Scott Pearson by racking up a 13-0 win.

Walczyk actually was scheduled to go in the 105 class but Quinn did some juggling and gave the assignment to his usual freshman 98 pounder, Tom Pagano.

Pagano was up against Irondequoit's real classy Tony Cotroneo, a member of the Cotroneo family tree that produced ER's crack Keith Cotroneo of the 1971-72 season.

Cotroneo pinned Pagano at the 1:12 mark. That gave the visitors a 6-5 lead.

It moved to 9-5 when Mike Brien lost a three-point decision to Tim Lehmann. The argument was 0-0 after two periods. Lehmann then knitted three two-pointers in a row.

Quinn then received three straight victories to give the Bombers a 20-9 lead.

Romeo Battazzi, a junior whom Quinn hails as a "feal

comer", was riding a 5-0 lead in the 119 class and figured it was time to bring the match to an end. He pinned Glen Locke at 3:05.

Mike Kuhn took the 126 conflict, good for four points, by an easy 12-3 major decision over Jim Brault.

Joe Walczyk, the other half of the Walczyk brothers' act, crushed Preston Stall, 15-1, to add five points to ER's profit column.

The Bomber string was nipped in the 138 pound tilt, as Dave Alongi lost to Dave Schneider, 6-0. All the winners' counters came in the third period.

The home club then fashioned five straight victories. Bruce Kier won a bruiser over Tom Lehmann by a 7-1 score, in the 145 division.

Dennis Essom was trailing 4-3 in his 155 dispute with Paul Salamone and then had his rival in a near fall as the seconds clicked away in the second period, nabbing five points. Four more in the last chapter brought him a 11-6 verdict.

In the 167 division, where Zito rules the domain, Quinn turned the assignment over to Drew McGregor and the result was a pin at 2:51 over Scott Simpson.

Rick Sidor was on the mats in the heavyweight class and all he did was unravel Paul Gibson for a soft 12-5 nod.