

Rochester Wrestling News

Amateur Wrestling in and around Rochester (New York Section Five)
Volume 2, Number 6 June, 1989



Tim Habecker, 180.5 pounds, shooting a double on John Leone while working out for the Empire Games. Habecker of Marion and Ithaca College, won the ESG trials recently. He won a gold medal in Greco last year. Leone is Western Area Coach. Morone photo

NYS Championships

May 27-28 Endicott, NY
Jeff Mohr, 105.5, wins title

Several Section Five wrestlers fared well at the New York State Championships, held at Union Endicott High School. Jeff Mohr, 105.5, Gates Chili, won the title in Greco Roman. Mohr also took a fourth in freestyle. Mohr competes for the Rochester Wrestling Club.

Placing second were Terry Lucero, 178 Greco (to Adam Mariano, rated one of the best high school wrestlers in the country), Joe Smallidge, 98 Greco, and Bill Miller, 165 Greco (to JJ Stanbro, the winningest wrestler in NYS).

Among the surprises was state champ Tom Sinacore of Long Island only placing sixth at 123 pounds freestyle. JJ Stanbro, Johnson City, was a double champion in freestyle (154) and Greco Roman (165). In the freestyle competition, he defeated Jamie St John, Port Jefferson. St John is a two-time state champ at 145 pounds. Stanbro placed second in the states in March. Stanbro, who has the most wins of any New York high school wrestler in history, is perhaps the best wrestler in the state without a state title.

The top four wrestlers in each weight

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Profile: Brian Gray

Wellsville junior making a name for himself

About ten years ago, something very significant started in the Wellsville wrestling room. Brian Gray Sr. took his seven year old son Brian to a midget wrestling practice and according to Brian Jr., "I tried the sport, liked it, and have just never stopped." This past season Brian was only one step away from going to the state tournament. Gray lost to a tough Terry Lucero of Bloomfield in the 155 pound finals of the state qualifier.

Brian's varsity career started in 1985 when he was an eighth grader. Forced into the lineup due to a lack of wrestlers, Brian was 10-13-2. In his freshman season, he started to develop strength and add a few more moves. He improved to 15-13. As a sophomore, he made people take notice. He posted a 28-7 record, placing third in the Class B Sectionals.

Gray went to camp over the summer and competed in some tournaments. He started the season with great enthusiasm. In his first two tournaments at Portville and Waterloo, he sailed into the finals before beating both finalists by technical falls. He was Outstanding Wrestler at both events.

With a 25-2 record, Brian was top seeded in the Class B Sectionals. He swept the tournament by scoring a pin, technical fall, and two decisions (9-2 and 12-7). He became only the second wrestler in Wellsville history to win a sectional wrestling title.

The next week at the State Qualifiers, Brian first beat Tony Ianucci of Edison, 13-7. After that, he pinned Addison's Bill Sullivan in 27 seconds to record the tournament's quickest pin. In the semifinals, Gray nipped Webster's Andy Berg 5-2. "I had watched Berg wrestle in his other matches and knew he was tough," said Coach Bob McMorris. "He showed tremendous strength but didn't use a whole lot of moves. I knew if Brian wrestled well, he would eventually catch Andy."

That is one of Gray's strengths. He keeps pushing until the other guy gets tired and makes a mistake. Before the finals, Brian was more quiet than usual. The strain from his semifinal match was evident and he never seemed to get his offense going.

With about 1:30 gone in the first period, Lucero snagged an ankle pick, putting Brian directly to his back. He was pinned with about ten seconds remaining in the period to wind up in second place. His career record now stands at 85-36-2.

Brian is an 85 plus junior who also plays linebacker and fullback on the football team. However, wrestling is his number one sport. Brian feels that he is a well-rounded wrestler, using a little bit of everything. His biggest strength, though, is on his

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Walt Teike Retiring

Spencerport AD to step down June 30th.
Will be MCC Wrestling Coach

You know him as the former coach with a passion for the color red. Outfitted in red socks and red suspenders, Walt Teike was Spencerport's flamboyant wrestling coach for fourteen years. But thousands of others know him as a teacher and Director of Physical Education and Athletics. Others know him as an active Rotary Club volunteer.

Walt Teike has announced his retirement, effective June 30th, after twenty-two years of teaching, coaching, and supervising in the Spencerport school district. He's been in education for thirty-two years - at Pittsford, Bishop Kearney, Edison, and Spencerport.

Teike, whose coaching career spanned the late 60's and 70's, has been one of the most successful coaches in the state. His teams have won numerous honors, including nine Monroe County titles, six Class A Sectional titles, and three East-West titles. He engineered over 230 wins, and produced eleven state placewinners.

In 1975, Spencerport was New York State Tournament champions. That year, they sent three men to the state meet in Syracuse - Frank DeAngelis (1st), Rory Morris (2nd), and Kevin Murray (4th).

Dressed in a candy apple red suit at his retirement party, Teike was overheard saying that the event was really an excuse to call a reunion for Spencerport wrestlers. In fact, many Spencerport oldtimers were in attendance, including Lou Teike, Frank DeAngelis, Dave Stulpin, Ron Winnie, PJ Cosmano, Dave Travis, Leon Becoats, Gary Baxter, Steve Silver, Rick Elliot, Mike Van Schoit, Ron

continued on page three

Wrestling on TV!

Saturday, July 8, 6:05 pm WTBS

Superstation WTBS has announced it will air the US International of Freestyle Wrestling on US Olympic Gold on Saturday, July 8th at 6:05 Eastern time. Several countries will compete.

The American team is expected to be led by both 1988 Olympic champs, John Smith (136.5) and Kenny Monday (163). Also Bill Scher, 220, bronze medalist, Tim Vanni, 105.5, 4th place, Olympics. Randy Lewis, 136.5, 1984 Olympic champ, is expected to also attend, as is 1981 World champ, Chris Campbell. Campbell recently came out of retirement because he "left some things undone." Campbell is now a lawyer in Syracuse.

Rochester Wrestling News

RWN is a Monthly magazine. It is published each and every month of the year. Issues put out during wrestling season (November to March) contain even more news than normal.

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States, continued

class qualify for the junior nationals in Iowa over the summer. This exciting tournament is one of the largest in the world.

Junior Freestyle

- 98
1 Lance Allen, Huntington
2 Todd Rutecki, Mohawk Valley
3 Jim Douglas, Bethpage
4 Joe Smallidge, RWC
5 Ted Secoolish, Johnson City
6 Rietro Furgiuele, East Roch
105.5
1 David Bracero, Suffolk PAL
2 Bob Steffter, Patch-Med
3 Marcus Henderson, SV
4 Jeff Mohr, RWC
5 Todd Strychalsky, Patch-Med
6 Travis Smith, Huntington
114.5
1 David Hirsch, Suffern
2 Joe Toner, Johnson City
3 Keith Strychalsky, Patch-Med
4 Chris Kumrow, Buffalo
5 Chris Matteoli, Suffern
6 Luke Melone, Huntington

- 123
1 Kurt Wagner, Port Jeff
2 Bryan Roggie, Castorland
3 Adam Rothman, Suffolk
4 Don Ross, Sachem
5 Steve Caruso, MVWC
6 Tom Sinacore, Bethpage

- 132
1 Jason Inzillo, Lindenhurst
2 Kent Maslin, Whitney Point
3 David Brainard, Falconer
4 Ken Johnson, Huntington
5 Anthony Conte, RWC
6 Shawn Bauer, RWC
143
1 Rudy Godoy, Sachem
2 Tom Shifflet, Williamsville
3 Ed Moak, Averill Park
4 Brandon McNaught, Walton
5 Chris O'Byrne, NYAC
6 Tim Godoy, Sachem

- 154
1 JJ Stanbro, Johnson City
2 James St. John, Port Jeff
3 Paul Johnson, Endicott
4 Bill Terry, Freeport, LI
5 J Dellapia, Minisink Valley
165
1 Dean Morrison, Port Jeff
2 Mike Luick, Niagara
3 Jamie Kirmsir, PYA
4 Israel Medina, Freeport
5 Brian Gray, Southern Tier

- 178
1 Adam Mariano, Sachem
2 Terry Lucero, Bloomfield
3 Chris Durdon, Whitney Pt.
4 Emilio Collins, Suffern
5 Jason Rucker, Saratoga
6 Mike Thompson, Sus Valley
191.5
1 Nick Hall, Longwood

- 2 Mike Bucci, Tivoli
3 John Nutt, Mustana
4 Jason Luhmer, Suffolk PAL
220
1 Sean McLaughlin, Babylon
2 Cary Huggard, Freeport
3 Kevin Brinkworth, Buffalo
4 Todd Haven, Johnson City
5 Troy Stark, Canandaigua

- 275
1 Joe Yanis, Minisink
2 Trevor Higgs, Katonah
3 Joe Pettito, PYA
4 Mark Silvanic, Whitney Pt
5 Scott McAndrew, Sachem

Junior Greco Roman

- 98
1 Todd Rutecki, Mohawk Vall
2 Joe Smallidge, RWC
3 Ted Secoolish, JC
4 Tom Uccellini, ATWA
5 Mat Klucina, ATWA

- 105.5
1 Jeff Mohr, RWN
2 Todd Wilday, ATWA
3 Scott Curtis, ATWA
114.5
1 Tom Mangan, Averill Park
2 Mike Jamison, MVWC
3 Craig Schliffstein, Sec 8
4 Todd Strychalsky, Patch-Med
5 Jason Curley, Patch-Med
6 Kevin Pratt, Newburg

- 123
1 Frank Fronhofer, ATWA
2 Don Ross, Sachem
3 Mark Munnich, Nassau
4 Joe Toner, JC
5 Chris Walsh, Whitney Pt
6 Pat McGovern, Patch-Med

- 132
1 Van Fronhofer, ATWA
2 Kent Maslin, Whitney Pt
3 David Isselboche, Patch-Med
4 Dennis Wright, STWA
5 Shane Drumm, Schuylerville
6 Shawn Bauer, RWC

- 143
1 D Macnaughton, Queensbury
2 Jeff Prendergast, ATWA
3 Ed Moak, Averill Park
4 Chris O'Byrne, NYAC
5 Joe Schultz, Patch-Med
6 Ray Lizzol, Longwood

- 154
1 Corey Schroeder, ATWA
2 Charlton Woodley, Longwood
3 Matt Sorochinsky, JC
4 C McNaughton, Queensbury
5 Robert Salas, Patch-Med
6 Kreeb Howard, Mohawk Vall

- 165
1 JJ Stanbro, Johnson City
2 William Miller, Roch Lilacs
3 Brian Gray, Southern Tier
4 Kerry McCly, Longwood
5 Ed Ruland, Patch-Med

- 6 Jon Schlosser, Patch-Med
178
1 Chris Durdon, Whitney Pt
2 Jason Rucker, Saratoga
3 Nate Howard, MVWC
4 David Stewart, MVWC

- 191.5
1 Mike Bucci, Red Hook
2 Steve Cronmiller, Lilacs
3 Tim Colgan, JC
4 Jason Schwenk, Suffolk

- 220
1 Dan Coulombe, Averill Pk
2 Todd Haven, JC
3 Sean McLaughlin, Freeport
275
1 Scott McAndrew, Sachem

Open Freestyle

- 105.5 no entries
114.5
1 Darren Goldstein, Rocky Pt
125.5
1 Matt Blood, Southern Tier
2 Joel Baker, Southern Tier
136.5
1 Pat Hart, MVWC
2 Tim Hunt, MVWC
3 Joe Amuso, Westchester
4 Jim Acquista, N Shore
5 Joe Greene, JC
6 Dan Cole, UE

- 149.5
1 Gene Mills, MVWC
2 Rich Parete, Stoneridge
3 Eric Simpson, STWC
4 Jeff Brown, Mt Kisco
5 Corey Carter, NYAC
6 Dave Hollenbeck, Hamburg

- 163
1 Steve Fontana, N Shore WC
2 John Gautreau, Syracuse
3 Dave Robin, Poughuag
4 Nelson Colley, Brockport
5 Wayne Bell, Homer
6 Townley Hedrick, STWC

- 180.5
1 John Lucas, N Shore WC
2 Joe LaRocca, Patchoque
3 Dave Ciocea, UE (RIT)
4 Jon Boyd, MVWC (RIT)
5 Dale Robin, Poughuag
6 Bill Stanbro, JCRWC

- 198
1 Skip Mullen, N Shore
2 Tom Lynch, ATWA
3 Jim Biel, MVWC
4 Brian Quick, Brockport
5 Brad Paddock, Lilacs
220 & 286 no entries

Brian Gray, continued

feet. This past year he scored 87 takedowns while giving up only 8.

Brian's goals for next season are to repeat as Section Five Class B champ, win the qualifiers, and place in the state tournament.

Since the season, Gray has been on a non-stop route to make these goals become a reality. He has been a member of the Southern Tier wrestling club under the direction of Alfred State coach Greg Johnson, a three-time NCAA champ. Said Gray, "I am much better now than I was at the end of the season. Since I started working with Coach Johnson, I am more aggressive and more confident."

Brian has also participated in several tournaments this spring. In the NYS Greco Championships, he placed third, qualifying him for the Junior Nationals in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in July. In the freestyle state tournament, he took a fifth. Most recently, Brian took a second at the Empire Games trials, qualifying him for the finals held in Ithaca.

"Nothing is ever guaranteed and you never know what is going to happen the sport of wrestling," says Coach McMorris. "I do know that anybody who wrestles Brian Gray next year better be prepared to wrestle for a full six minutes. Win or lose, Brian is going to give you one hell of a battle."

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Teike, continued

Brongo, Kevin Murray, Rory Morris, and several others.

The fact that his retirement party was overloaded with former wrestlers underscores Teike's feelings that the highlight of his career was simply his association with all his wrestlers. Walt has also been very active in the Rotary Club. With his wife, he was director of the Rotary Sunshine Camp, a camp for disadvantaged children. In all, he has served as a volunteer for 23 years.

During Teike's heyday, Section Five Wrestling was arguably at its best. Of course, the level of excellence is greater today, but it's hard to imagine a more exciting period than the 70's. Media coverage was great, and this set up many interesting match-ups. In those days, when Spencerport took on Eastridge, or Hilton, or Gates, or Churchville, or Arcadia, or Canandaigua, or East Rochester, or Fairport, (or dozens of others), if you didn't show up early, you didn't get in. Gymnasiums were popping with thousands of screaming fans.

Walt Teike's teams never disappointed. And from the smallest to the largest, his wrestlers shared certain characteristics. Spencerport wrestlers were aggressive, even hostile. They wouldn't just beat you, they'd beat you up! Those guys had great technique, and they used it for the full six minutes. And their superior mat savvy put them over the top in many close matches.

And through it all, Walt Teike was always in control. Sometimes controversial, always colorful, Teike seemed to bring out the best in his athletes. Kids just rose to the occasion, like Rory Morris, an average wrestler at best, whom Teike pushed to a state runner-up position.

A lot of Teike's kids are still rising today. Looking at the ranks of former Spencerport wrestlers, you'll see an unusually large number of them successfully employed in all kinds of trades and businesses. Several of them own their own companies.

Coach Teike has won all kinds of awards throughout his career. At his retirement party, he was presented with yet another. The annual Bernabi Tournament will now be the *Teike-Bernabi* Tournament.

Just recently, Walt was named head wrestling coach at Monroe Community College. "I'm looking forward to the new challenge of working at MCC," said Teike, 55. Though he hasn't coached in eight years, he claims the coaching bug never went away. "You can't beat working with young people," says Walt.

With his expertise, look for a revitalized MCC team in the near future.



Walt Teike (left), former Spencerport coach, embracing former starr, Leon Becoats. Morone photo

New Feature!

Then and Now: Pat "Hondo" Holmes

Cardinal Mooney / Swarthmore star overcomes slow start

In March of 1980, Pat Holmes, of Cardinal Mooney and Swarthmore College (PA), was wrestling in the Division III NCAA's. While on his way to second place at 134 pounds, one matside observer remarked "That guy must be one hell of a wrestler, 'cause he certainly don't win by strength or speed".

Very true. There is no hint of muscle anywhere on Holmes' body, and he doesn't have a particularly athletic look. In other words, he's never psyched out an opponent at the weigh-ins. He wins each match the old fashioned way - he earns it.

Actually, Holmes started the sport because he was a flop at other sports. Says his father, "Pat wanted to be an athlete, and I promised him he would be. So I took stock of his Assets and Liabilities. On the asset side, he was thin and wiry. He had unbelievable stamina, and a quick mind. But on the liabilities side, he was slow of foot and weak. He had a heart murmur and terrible hand-eye coordination. We chose wrestling. It wasn't easy. Pat spent the first year on his back."

As a junior in high school, Pat struggled to make the varsity. When he did, he was only 5-13 (at one point, 0-8). But he had a lot of desire. And he believed in himself, even though hardly anyone else did. Despite the many beatings he endured those first few years, he always maintained his air of confidence. He once got beat 30-0. You can't even do that these days. Pat spent a lot of time on the mats. He competed in 15 off-season tournaments. He took his licks and learned.

Slowly, his efforts were rewarded. His skill level began approaching his confidence level. As a senior, he went 23-5, with

continued on last page



Pat Holmes, 134 pounds, during dual meet action for Swarthmore College. Holmes won 116 matches against 25 losses. He owns twelve school records for wins, pins, and finishes. Today, Pat and his wife Sylvia live in Pasadena, CA.

USA Wrestling NYS Qualifier

Alexander HS April 22

94.5

- 1 Mark Voci, Roch WC
- 2 Jason Sawicki, Pittsford

103.5

- 1 Mike Fanton, Wellsville
- 2 Steven Marion, Kendall

112

- 1 T Herman, Byron Bergen
- 2 Mike McAllister, Brockport
- 3 Anthony Cosmano, Iron

121

- 1 Jim Hines Pittsford WC
- 2 Dan Sweet, Livonia
- 3 Dan Peppitone, Iron
- 4 Brandon Kindred, RWC

132

- 1 Anthony Conte, RWC
- 2 Rusty Grant, Brighton
- 3 Justin Raines, RWC
- 4 Dan Harmon, Caledonia

143

- 1 Wade Marriott, Kendall
- 2 Matt Leach, Brockport
- 3 Mark Cavanaugh, Iron
- 4 Jeremy McVige, Kendall

154

- 1 Todd Miller, Marion
- 2 Tom Doud, Marion
- 3 Jarrod Clark, Batavia
- 4 James Schnell, McQuaid

167

- 1 Chris Vogt, Albion
- 2 S Mansfield, Wayland
- 3 Jason Russ, Roch Lilacs
- 4 Tom Pearse, Kendall

242

- 1 Troy Stark, Canandaigua
- 2 Jermaine Gaston, Lilacs
- 3 Barrett Ferguson, Lilacs

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Holmes, continued

four of those losses to McQuaid's Pete Springer (three times) and Arcadia's Greg Locke (fifth in states that year).

While competing for Swarthmore College, Pat rewrote the history book. He broke twelve school records in wins, pins, finishes, and points. His overall record was 116-25.

In 1980, he placed second in the NCAA's (to an opponent he beat the year before), and in 1981, he placed fourth (losing only to two future NCAA champs).

At the end of Pat's senior season, he suffered a painful elbow injury that prevented him from placing in the nationals. Despite the injury, the seeding committee seeded him in the top eight. It was ironic that an injury would deny him his final chance for a national title. In all his years of competing, Pat never had a serious injury.

Today, Pat Holmes lives with his wife Sylvia in Pasadena, California. They met while both were in college at Swarthmore, and have been married for six years now. He works for a small computer software com-



Pat Holmes, 31 years old, as he appears today. While in college, Holmes placed in the Division III NCAA's twice. An injury at the end of his senior year prevented him from a possible national title.

pany as a product development manager. Prior to that, he was self-employed as a microcomputer consultant. He hopes to someday teach in a college setting.

Pat is still involved in wrestling. He has been JV wrestling coach at South Pasadena High School for three years. And despite being middle-aged (31) as far as wrestling goes, he started competing again. At 5'9", 150, he's about the same size as he was in college.

Pat recently participated in a dual meet against a Japanese College All-Star team. In that match, Pat was leading 4-3 up until the second half. He lost 10-4. "Youth took advantage of me that day," says Pat. He plans on getting in better condition and competing more.

Wrestling has made a lot of difference in Pat's life. It gave him success and confidence. Without it, he never would have gone to Swarthmore and met his wife. Said Pat, "Wrestling is such an egalitarian sport. You don't have to be any certain size or shape to succeed. It doesn't require a lot of coordination, and it builds character." And while Holmes may not have a lot of coordination, he does have an abundance of character.

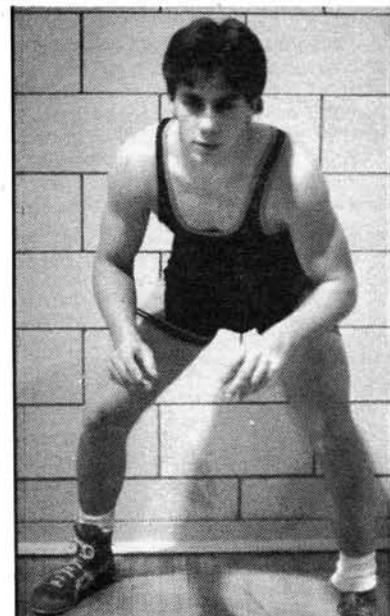
Five RWC Members to Junior Nationals

Five Rochester Wrestling Club members have qualified for the USA Junior National Tournament in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They are Matt Logan, Jeff Mohr, Justin Raines, Joe Smallidge, and Mark Voci. It will be the second trip for Smallidge and Voci.

New York State makes only a minimal donation to send these boys out to Iowa. They must travel at their own expense. Each one's share will be \$450. Rochester Wrestling Club is asking readers to make a small donation to help defray the cost of this trip.

Any donations are tax deductible, as the RWC is a not-for-profit organization. Your check can be made payable to the Rochester Wrestling Club. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Mike Smallidge at 247-7782 (evenings). Mike is the director of the RWC.

Several other Rochester area wrestlers also qualified for the Nationals. See the results from the NYS Championships on page two. The top four in each weight class qualify for the trip to Iowa.



Brian Gray, 155 pounder from Wellsville. Gray surprised a lot of people by placing second in the State Qualifier this year. He has been active during the off-season, and will be top-ranked in Section Five at 155 next season.

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