No. 1 Spencerport takes on tough Attica

JAMES JOHNSON

Attica wrestling coach Eric Romesser tried to convince his team that it's just another dual meet.

But when Spencerport and Attica collide, it's not just another dual meet, and the 1,000 or so people expected tonight at Attica Central High School are well aware of that.

Spencerport (8-0) is No. 1 in the Democrat and Chronicle's large-schools poll, and Attica (15-1) is No. 2.

The first match is scheduled to

start at 7 p.m.

Romesser finally had to admit: "We've waited all season for this match. It should be a doozy."

Spencerport handled Attica 40-18 last season and has beaten the Blue Devils in two tournaments this season.

Romesser says the Blue Devils are a little bit more experienced this season, and a competitive schedule has helped tune them up.

"I think we match up pretty well...

with them," Romesser said. "Wehave nothing to lose since they are No. 1 and we are No. 2."

One match to watch is at 103 pounds, where Spencerport's Shawn Hibbs (24-2), a 1999 state champion, will face Attica's Nick VanSon, who has more than 20 wins.

The names have changed over the years at Spencerport but the Rangers get the same results plenty of wins. Spencerport hasn't lost to a Section V team in at least

five years.

Five Rangers reached the finals at the Monroe County League Championships. Hibbs was the only Speneerport wrestler to win his class but Chuck Olas (119), Mike Wojtowicz (130), Mike Bourne (135) and Steve Stulpin (145) lost either in overtime or by a point in regulation.

The disappointment didn't linger. They helped Spencerport crush Greece Athena, the second-place team in the Monroe County League West Division standings. Stulpin, a freshman, had an impressive 9-1 win over Mike Pagano, a Section V champion last season.