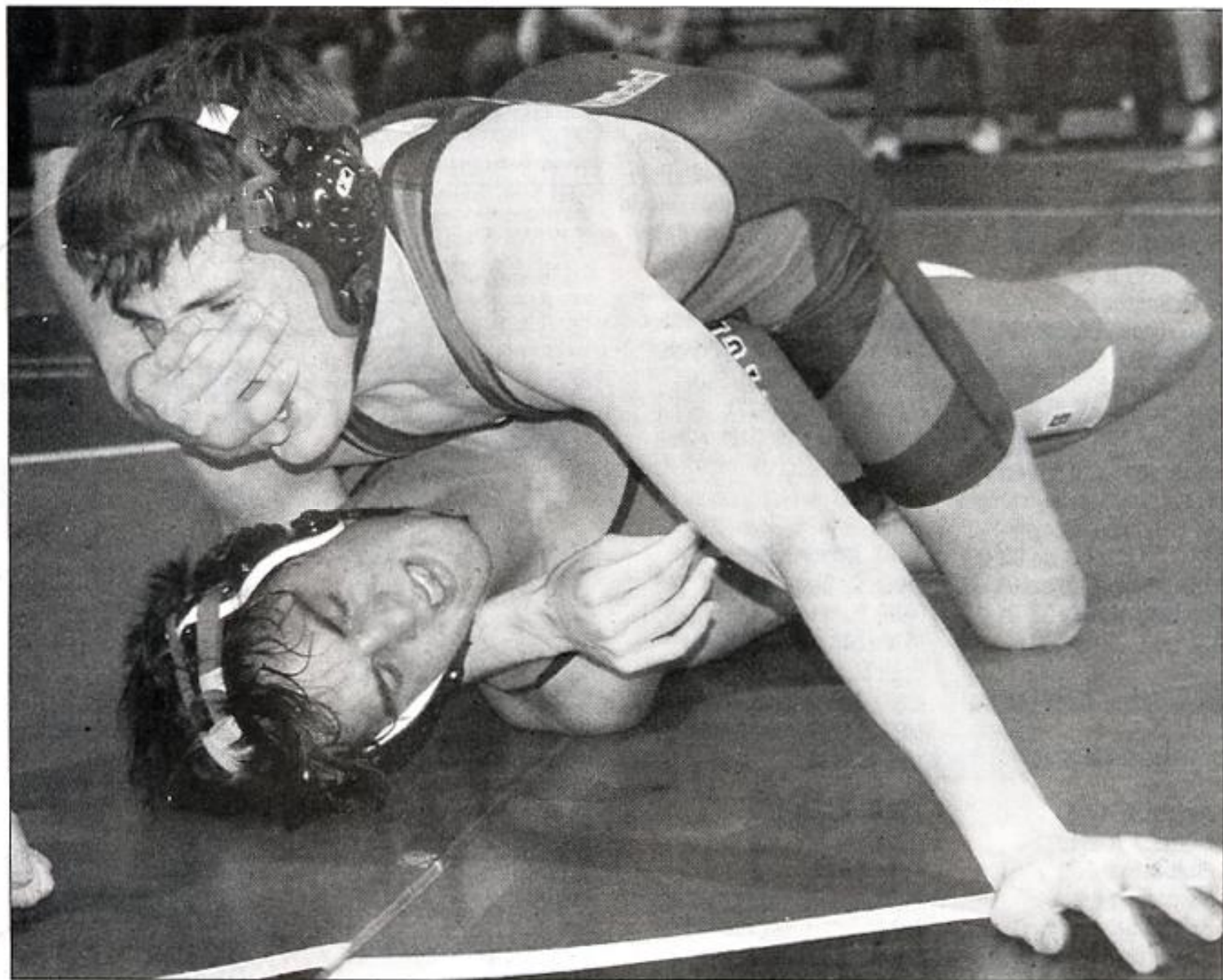


# County champs!



MATT WING

Hornell's Andy Drake, top, closes in on a pin over Letchworth's Joe Hendrickson during their 145-pound match Tuesday.

*HHS takes conference title on slimmest of victories*

# HHS takes conference title on slimmest of victories

By **MATT WING**

TRIBUNE SPORTS

GAINESVILLE — Tuesday's tri-meet between Hornell, Attica and host Letchworth brought together five top-ranked wrestlers in Section V, Division II and six more ranked No. 2 in their respective weight classes, but the biggest story of the evening was the performance of the Red Raiders in the first head-to-head matchup of the evening.

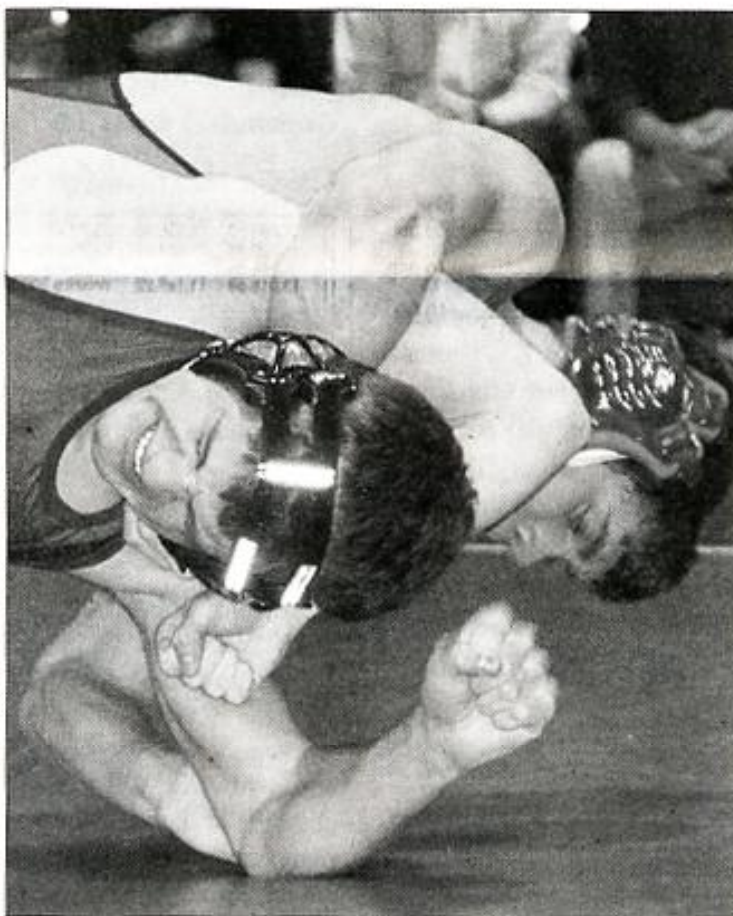
## WRESTLING

Hornell picked up six points from senior co-captain Andy Drake and held on for a 31-30 win over Letchworth, giving HHS the Livingston County Division I regular-season title for the first time since the 2002-03 season with a perfect 7-0 record in conference dual meets.

The Indians also were undefeated in conference competition heading into the contest at 6-0.

"It's been a couple of years since we've had it and to have it my senior year is unbelievable," Drake said. "Especially having a match like that."

Ahead 16-12 heading into the 140-pound contest, Hornell coach Matt Sheldon decided to send Aaron Parks out to face Ben Stanford and



MATT WING

Hornell's Tyler Sick, top, jockeys for position during his 152-pound bout with Attica's Phil Metz Tuesday evening at Letchworth High School in Gainesville. Sick earned a pin in 1:35.

take a chance at 145 with Drake going up against the heavily-favored Joe Hendrickson.

Parks pinned Stanford in just 13 seconds and Drake rallied from a 3-0 deficit by picking up two points for a reversal and three more when he took Hendrickson to his back on the same move, giving Drake a 5-3 lead heading

into the third and final period.

"We've seen them once before and Aaron Parks had a tough match with him and only beat him by one point," said Drake of facing Hendrickson. "He's beaten me five times throughout my varsity career, so I just went in trying to wrestle smart.

"Every time I've wrestled him, he's been up and I come

back a little at a time, but I've never passed him in points."

Drake took a 6-3 lead when Hendrickson allowed him up to start the third period and Drake took advantage. The veteran Raider used the momentum to take Hendrickson down and finished the move with a pin 4:55 into the match.

"I've been working this whole year on getting better at defending and shooting, but this match I had to concentrate on defending," Drake said. "I wanted to defend his shots and he left his arm back and I got to under hook it. I knew I was going to turn him."

The pin gave Hornell a 28-12 lead and Tyler Sick's 6-1 decision over Alan Fagan at 152 put the Raiders ahead 31-12 with only three matches to go, mathematically clinching the team victory for Hornell, which won despite not having senior Ryan Dieter available because of a shoulder injury.

"I was real nervous without Ryan Dieter, so I had to make a couple changes," Sheldon said. "Really, it came down to the Andy Drake. (Hendrickson) is a real quality kid and most people expect him to go to states at 45. Andy wrestling like that and pinning him, that was the match."

The 19-point advantage

**Turn to 2B**

## County champs

### Continued from 1B

was quickly trimmed to one at the end of the contest with pins from Letchworth's Jeff Holly (160), Matt Hendrickson (171) and Matt Brown (189).

That one-point differential could be attributed to most of the matches, but most importantly was the 112-pound match, the third of the night.

Hornell's Adam Dwyer took a 7-2 lead into the third period on Dakota Hendrickson and got another takedown to bring his advantage to 9-2. Sheldon urged Dwyer to give up the one point for an escape in order for a chance at an eight-point lead and the extra team point for a major decision. Hendrickson's lack of focus and Dwyer's quick reaction led to an immediate takedown and Dwyer hung on over the final 20 seconds to earn an 11-3 major decision.

"The kids don't realize how important it is to either not give up the major decision or to get it," said Sheldon. "Adam had a good takedown at the end. That's how you are going to win because I knew it was going to be close."

Dan Rosemier also picked up some late team points in the first match of the evening at 215 pounds. Tied at 2-2 heading into the third period with Camden Barber, Rosemier chose the bot-

tom and got a reversal to take the lead. With five seconds left on the clock, Rosemier finished off the match with a pin to give HHS three extra team points.

Seniors Joe Murray (130) and Scott Ray (135) also picked up tough points with hard-fought decisions.

Parks and Sick have been the most consistent of the Red Raiders all season and both are ranked No. 1 in the latest Section V, Division II polls for their respective weight classes. Parks has added to his resume during the past week with an 11-second pin Thursday in Dansville and a 13-second pin Tuesday.

"It's a good feeling," Parks said of winning the league title. "It's the first time I've won it since my freshman year, so it feels good to be a senior and win it again."

"To start off really hard and aggressive," he added of his dominating performances lately. "If I can hit them with a good, hard takedown fast, usually I can put them on their back. Before they have a chance to react the match is over."

Hornell and Attica took the mats next and the Blue Devils showed off their power in the lower weights by building a 21-3 lead after the first six weight classes en route to a 37-21 victory.

"I don't think we were really

into the match," said Sheldon.

"It's so frustrating because some of the kids were winning or could win and they are just making silly mistakes. We drill it and work with them not to make those mistakes. Three of our kids got pinned or lost because of silly mistakes."

Hornell's only points during the first half of the match came from a 7-0 decision by Austin Dwyer at 125, but with the heart of Hornell's order up - Drake, Parks and Sick - the Red Raiders got back into the match in a hurry.

Drake got his second pin of the evening, this time in just 44 seconds at 140, and Parks had to work hard for a 4-1 win over Wes Ford at 145 to cut the deficit to 21-12. Sick pinned Phil Metz in the first period at 152 and junior varsity member Tony Persichilli had David Jennings on the ropes at 160.

Persichilli led 4-0, but gave it all away when Jennings took him to his back in the final two-minute period and got the pin to give the Blue Devils a 27-18 advantage instead of a 21-21 tie. Luke Pariso's major decision over Brion Fuller at 171 and Nic Scripp's pin of Doug Drew at 189 clinched the win for Attica.

Rosemier earned his second pin of the evening in the match's final head-to-head contest, but the score was well out of reach

already.

Letchworth came back with a 40-16 win over Attica in the final team battle, giving all three teams a win and a loss on the evening.

Hornell finishes its dual meet season with an impressive 16-4 record to go along with two tournament titles in the first tournament of the season in Bath and at home in the State Farm Classic. The Red Raiders will be hoping for tournament title No. 3 on Saturday as they prepare for the Livingston County Tournament in LeRoy. Action begins Friday at 4 p.m.

#### Hornell 31, Letchworth 39

215 Dan Rosemier (H) by pin over Camden Barber 5:55 103 Bucky Hendrickson (L) by dec. over Joe Sirianni 6-4 112 Adam Dwyer (H) by maj. dec. over Dakota Hendrickson 1:19 Mike Nevinger (L) by pin over Kevin McAllister 1:26 125 Weston Weaver (L) by dec. over Austin Dwyer 4-0 130 Joe Murray (H) by dec. over Pat Pankow 5-4 135 Scott Ray (H) by dec. over Evan Syfor 8-3 140 Aaron Parks (H) by pin over Ben Stanford :13 145 Andy Drake (H) by pin over Joe Hendrickson 4:55 152 Tyler Sick (H) by dec. over Alan Fagan 6-1 160 Jeff Holly (L) by pin over Tony Persichilli 1:09 171 Matt Hendrickson (L) by pin over Brion Fuller 1:13 189 Matt Brown (L) by pin over Doug Drew

#### Attica 37, Hornell 21

103 Jamie Carpenter (A) by tech. fall over Joe Sirianni 22-4 112 Kyler Dabolt(A) by maj. dec. over Adam Dwyer 10-2 119 Dylan Dabolt (A) by pin over Kevin McAllister 1:23 125 Austin Dwyer (H) by dec. over Nick Napierski 7-0 130 Jeremy Dominesey (A) by dec. over Joe Murray 5-0 135 Dylan Rusiniak (A) by dec. Scott Ray 5-3 140 Andy Drake (H) by pin over Nate Barry :44 145 Aaron Parks (H) by dec. over Wes Ford 4-1 152 Tyler Sick (H) by pin over Phil Metz 1:35 160 Dave Jennings (A) pin over Tony Persichilli 4:29 171 Luke Pariso (A) by maj. dec. over Brion Fuller 15-2 189 Nic Scripp (A) by pin over Doug Drew 1:31 215 Dan Rosemier (H) by pin over Brock Minnick 1:32