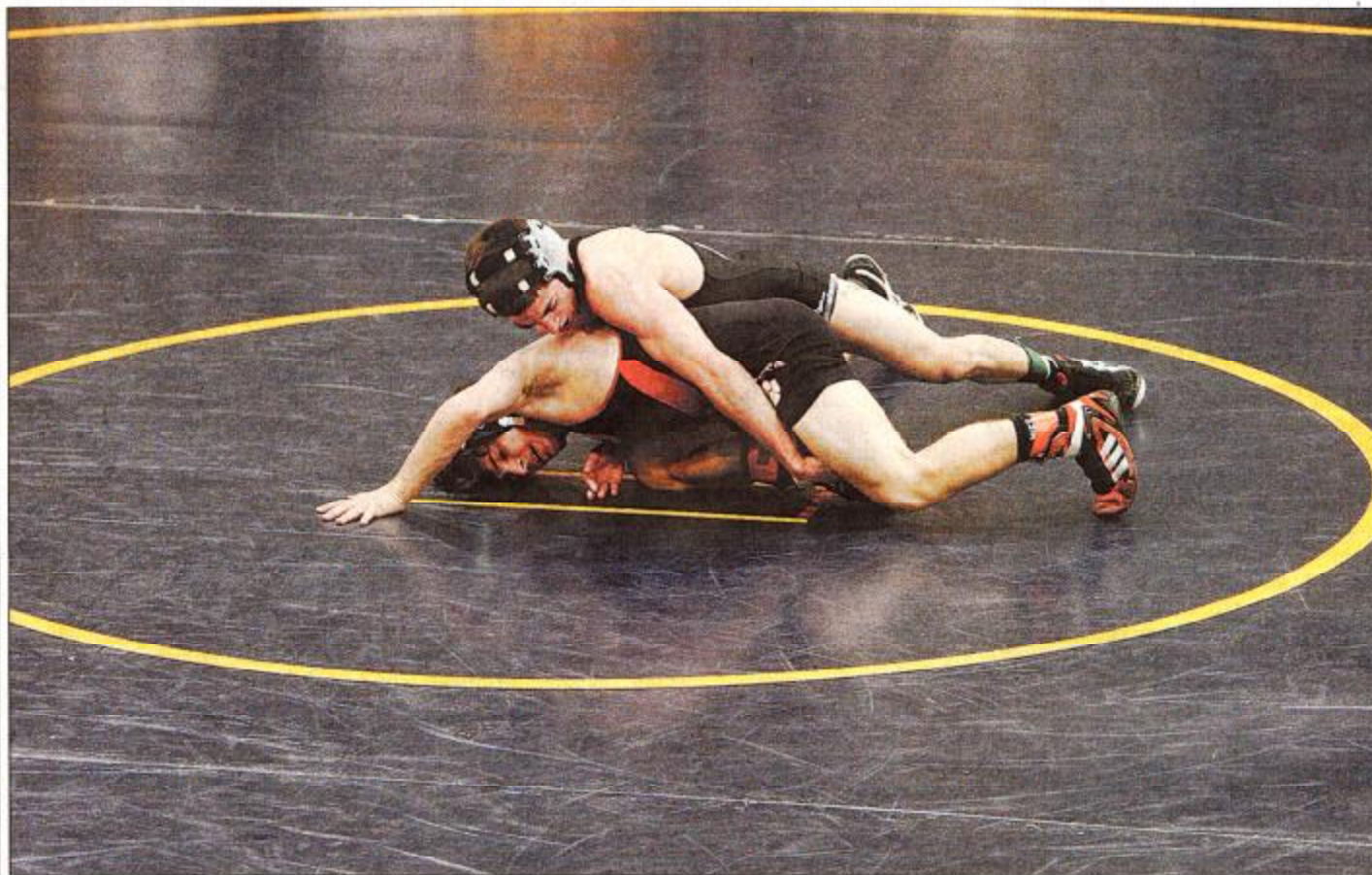


HIGH SCHOOL REPORT



JEN RYNDAL staff photographer

Greece Athena's Alex Marianetti, top, looks for leverage against Joe Smaldone of Geneva in the 103-pound final of the Teike-Bernabi Tournament. Marianetti, a junior, scored a 5-1 victory over the defending Section V Class champ to improve to 17-1 this season.

Marianetti displays drive to win at Teike-Bernabi

JAMES JOHNSON

STAFF WRITER

SPENCERPORT — While Alex Marianetti did not want it, Brighton's Zach Ellis handed the Greece Athena wrestler a great incentive plan for the 2006-07 season.

Marianetti was six seconds away from qualifying for last season's state wrestling tournament when Ellis rallied to defeat him at SuperSectionals.

It's been difficult for Marianetti to relax since then, and on a mat, that's not necessarily a bad thing.

Marianetti, a junior at Athena, continued his drive to redeem his 2005-06 season-ending loss and get to states by winning the 103-pound division Saturday night at Spencerport's Teike-Bernabi Tournament.

The Spencerport Rangers earned the redemption they were seeking as well, winning the team scoring with 175.5 points to runner-up Shenendehowa's 168.5. The Plainsmen outscored the Rangers in last year's tournament.

While it was not quite Marianetti's best performance on the mat, his 5-1 decision over Geneva sophomore Joe Smaldone at Spencerport improved the Athena lightweight's record to 17-1 this winter.

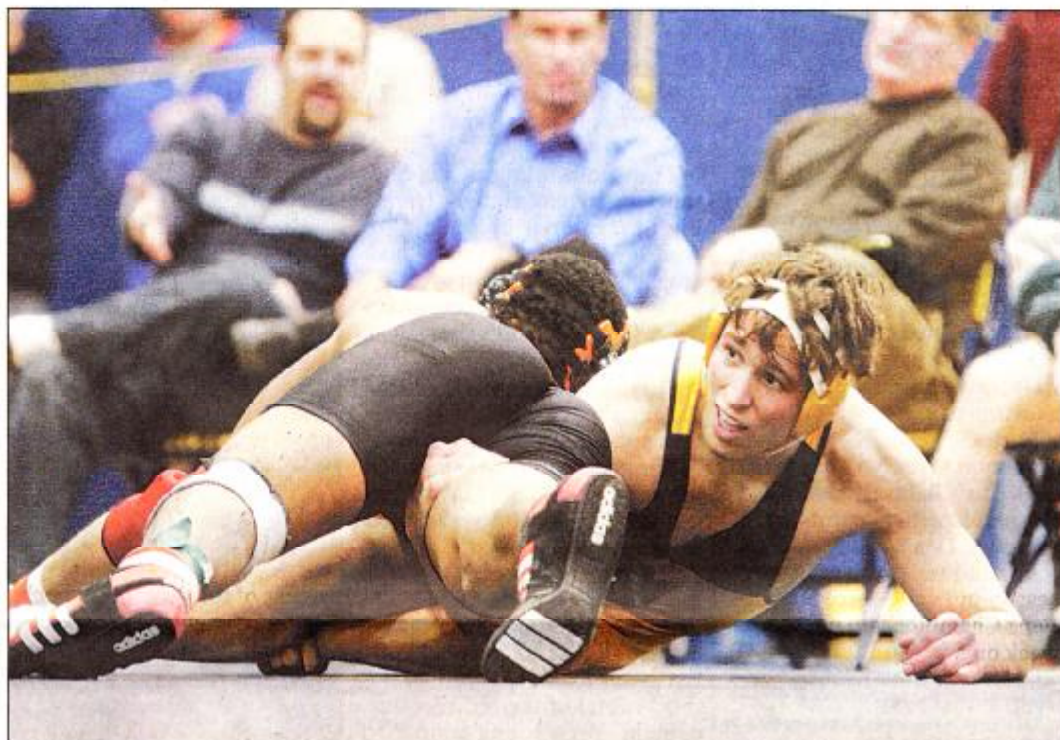
"I'm bigger, stronger and faster," Marianetti said. "Overall, I've come so far from last year.

"Every day in practice I go harder and harder."

Marianetti said he chose to wrestle again at 103 despite an eight-pound weight-gain and half-inch growth spurt. Athena assistant coach Mike Rowntree said that Marianetti can deadlift and squat more than 300 pounds.

Smaldone, a 2006 Section V Class A champion, was a formidable opponent for Marianetti.

Smaldone trailed 3-1 after he allowed Marianetti to his feet at the start of the final period. Mar-



JEN RYNDA staff photographer

Spencerport's Paul Glover, right, wrestles Brad Eichelberger of Fredonia in the 189-pound final Saturday. It was the first high school tournament championship for Glover, a sophomore.

ianetti defused another take-down attempt by Smaldone to hustle into position and score again.

Paul and Ian Paddock, 2005 small-school state champions from Warsaw, also won their weight classes.

Ian was tired, and not injured as it appeared after his 14-6 win over Cheektowaga's Jared Messina in the 119 final. Paul looked confident in the 160 final, a 7-2 victory over Chad Sindoni of Athens, Pa.

Up until that point, Sindoni had a case for the most outstanding wrestler award, which ultimately went to Matt Mariacher of Iroquois.

Sindoni edged Spencerport junior Bryan Bourne 2-0 in the 160 semifinals. Sindoni rode Bourne the final two minutes to win.

Bourne recovered and won his

Online Extra

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Teike-Bernabi Tournament

At Spencerport

Team scores: Spencerport 175.5, Shenendehowa 168.5, Fredonia 168.5, Rush-Henrietta 114.5, Warsaw 110, Wayne 109, Lancaster 106, Johnson City 100.5, Athens, Pa. 92, Greece Athena 68.5, LaSalle Institute 51.5, Geneva 51.5, Cheektowaga 51.5, Iroquois 50.5.

Championship matches

96 pounds: Luke Popolizio (Shenendehowa) major decisioned Bobby Dierna (Wayne) 12-3; **103:** Alex Marianetti (Athena) dec. Joe Smaldone (Geneva) 5-1; **112:** Christopher Conti (Fredonia) def. Clint Schaefer (Lancaster) 1-0 (OT).

119: Ian Paddock (Warsaw) major decisioned Jared Messina (Cheektowaga) 14-6; **125:** Mark Lewandowski (Lancaster) dec. Steve Singley (Wayne) 9-2; **130:** Matt Mariacher (Iroquois) dec. Leigh Tobias (Johnson City) 7-3.

135: Zach Clement (LaSalle) dec. Peter Capone (Johnson City) 8-6; **140:** Austin Meys (Shenendehowa) dec. Desi Green (R-H) 3-1; **145:** Nick Fratto (Geneva) dec. Floripe Padua (Fredonia) 4-0.

152: Chris Vigliotti (Spencerport) major dec. Josh McLean (Shenendehowa) 11-0; **160:** Paul Paddock (Warsaw) dec. Chad Sindoni (Athens) 7-2; **171:** Hunter Meys (Shenendehowa) pinned Colin Berry (Johnson City) 3-40.

189: Paul Glover (Spencerport) dec. Brad Eichelberger (Fredonia) 10-5; **215:** Rob Dahn (Fredonia) defeated Billy Romasser (Warsaw) 3-2 (OT); **275:** Eric McKnight (R-H) def. John Piersa (Lancaster) 3-2 (OT).

Most outstanding wrestler: Matt Mariacher (Iroquois).

Bernabi award (most pins, least amount of time): Hunter Meys (Shenendehowa), three pins, 3:45.

next two matches to finish third. Spencerport managed to hold on for the win after two Rangers advanced to finals, compared to four Shenendehowa wrestlers. Chris Vigliotti, one of Spencerport's captains, and sophomore Paul Glover at 189 won their divisions.

Vigliotti's 11-0 win in the 152 championship clinched Spencerport's team title.

"It feels great," Glover said after his final. "This is my first tournament win in high school. It's a nice start." □

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