

# Bergen tournament enticing

**T**here will be numerous bouts to anticipate Tuesday and Wednesday when the Bergen County coaches holiday wrestling tournament is conducted at Paramus. One could be Morgan Horner of Hasbrouck Heights against Garfield's **Ardian Ramadani**, if they come in at the same weight.

Horner was named Most Outstanding Wrestler in the Garfield tournament Dec. 18 after fighting off Armandani, 9-7, in overtime of the 171-pound final.

The report from Heights coach **Mike Scuille** is that Horner opened a 7-2 lead on two outside-single takedowns, one low double, and an escape. Ramadani came back spectacularly with a double-underhook hip toss, putting Horner to his back. Horner reversed, and Ramadani escaped at the final buzzer for a tie. Horner



**RON FOX**  
WRESTLING

circled around for the winning move.

Dumont sophomore **Anthony Dunkin** had another big win, 9-7, in overtime over Garfield's **Anthony Barber**, who finished at the seventh-eighth level of the State tournament last season.

**WRESTLING ON HIS MIND** — While enjoying the football season, NJSIAA wrestling historian **Bill Savage** — the former Paramus and Elmwood Park coach — was thinking about his favorite sport. He wants it told that two All-State players for Parochial 4 champion Bergen Catholic have fathers who wrestled. Tight end-linebacker **Dominic Santoli's** father, **Gene**, was a coaches tournament champion and also wrestled for Bucknell. Quarterback **Matt LoVecchio's** father, **Larry**, was a regional runner-up as a high school junior who broke an elbow his senior year and went on to play football at Franklin & Marshall. **Tony Karcich**, coach of Parochial Group 3 champion St. Joseph, was second in the state as a Hackensack senior.

**APOLOGIES** — We wrongly assumed in a recent season preview that Bergen County freshman tournament 145-pound champion **Eric Mourkakos** still was at

Tenaflly. He's not. He has transferred to Bergen Catholic, we're informed.

**CATCHING UP** — **Jason English** of Hawthorne didn't do a lot of wrestling last season, but spent his time wisely. English's season got off to a late start because he had to sit out 30 days after transferring from Bergen Catholic. He took the mat for a while, but his season ended abruptly prior to the district tournament due to a separated shoulder. But in between delays, English won a Passaic County tournament championship.

The 135-pound senior and his teammates opened the Mahwah tournament last weekend, and travel this week to the Hawk Classic at Manchester Township High School in Lakehurst, where the Toms River schools, Lacey Township, and Manchester will provide the competition. . . . Ridgefield Park has a pair of transfers active: **Rodney Bryson**, who moved in from Atlanta; and **Derek Picinich**, whose family moved in from New Milford. The latter's family moved prior to last year's districts, so the wrestler lost out on an opportunity to compete in the postseason.

Tues  
Dec 28  
1999

## Norgaard seeks share of history

By **RON FOX**

Staff Writer

Second in the State championships in March, St. Joseph middleweight Erik Norgaard is seeking to be second again this week, but with a major clarification. Norgaard is not hoping to be a runner-up.

The rugged senior's goal is to become only the second wrestler in the 40-year history of the Bergen County Coaches Association's Holiday Wrestling Tournament to be a four-time champion. Jason Hernandez of Bergen Catholic made the sweep from 1990 through '93 and went on to a State championship and a scholarship to Boston University.

Norgaard went unbeaten last year until the State title bout, when New Providence's Donnie DeFilippis battled off his back and pinned in the wildest bout of the finals in Atlantic City.

### WRESTLING

Paramus serves as the host school for the seventh year. The field of 48 teams and more than 450 wrestlers is so large that two gyms are used simultaneously for this morning's opening rounds. The quar-

terfinals are Tuesday night. George Jockish, director of one of the nation's largest tournaments since 1985, says 11 schools have served as host since the inception of the tournament, the brainchild of then-Tenaflly coach Jack Armstrong. North Bergen is the only non-Bergen County school involved.

Returning champions and the weights at which they were victorious are Steven Hult of Pascack Valley (103), Mike Palo of St. Joseph (125), Chris Bitetto of Hackensack (135), Norgaard (140), and Austin Wall of Indian Hills (171).

Bitetto won a State championship in March, Norgaard took his silver medal, Hult was fifth, and Palo sixth. Bitetto is conducting his own crusade to sweep the counties. A junior, he is halfway there with consecutive Holiday titles.

Mike Massenzio, third in the State at 145 pounds last season with Indian Hills, has returned to his original school, St. Joseph, fortifying the Green Knights in their attempt to repeat as overall tournament champions.

Also back are three wrestlers who have much in common: Garfield's Anthony Barber (108 pounds last year), Bergen Catholic's Dominic Santoli (215), and Don Bosco Prep's Paul Siemon (145). All were second in the County and seventh-eighth in the State.

### WRESTLING SCHEDULE

#### BCCA Holiday tournament

#### Tuesday

Preliminaries, 10 a.m.  
Quarterfinals, 7:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Semifinals and fifth-place consolations, 11 a.m.  
Third-place consolations, 5:30 p.m.  
Finals, 7 p.m.

# Freshmen make their mark

Wed Dec 29, 1999

## W-R's Marotta, BC's Kaiser off to a strong start

**T**wo newcomers reached the Bergen County Coaches Holiday Tournament finals at 103 pounds last week. However, veteran observers needed no introductions when the two freshmen stepped forward.

Wood-Ridge's **Mike Marotta** was second in the State Federation tournament for middle-schoolers, and Bergen Catholic's **Rob Kaiser** was even better known. Kaiser was a three-time recreation All-American, an AAU national freestyle champion, and fifth in Greco-Roman style wrestling.



RON  
FOX

Marotta won, 7-6, on a takedown in the third period to become the first Bergen County champion from Wood-Ridge. He is coached by **Evan Dolan**, a three-time County champion while at Hasbrouck Heights who was a three-time NCAA qualifier at Rider

College, where he holds the records for takedowns in a season and in a career.

Dolan replaces his brother, **Sean**, who was offered a teaching position in Randolph. It was one of those offers a man cannot refuse. His wife, **Lisa**, recently gave birth to twins, giving them three toddlers to watch over.

The changing of the guard at Wood-Ridge was a natural. "Sean got the feeder program started and he handed it to me because he wanted it to fall into the right hands," he says. "Fortunately, a kid like Mike Marotta got interested in the program and when he wrestled in the County tournament people already knew about him. He's tough and he's been at or near the top every season [on the recreation level] and he's wrestled in a lot of states."

**CORREGGIO IS DRIVEN:** On an evening when former Bergen County champions **Dan Weck** and **Gene Santoli** handed out gold medals to their sons — new champions **James Weck** and **Dominick Santoli**, both of Bergen Catholic — Bergenfield's **Bob Correggio** stood tall. Correggio, the County 125-pound champion, is the first gold medalist from Bergenfield in 13 years. But he has battled longer odds. Correggio lost his mother to lung cancer when he was 12 and lost his father to brain stem cancer 25 months later.

**JUST PLUGGING AWAY:** Weck, voted the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler, proved to be solid in the hips during the entire tournament. He said he wasn't necessarily gunning for a second family title or intent on locking in the cradle that led him to a 9-6 win over

Lyndhurst's **Dennis McSweeney**. "I never compare myself to my father," he said. "I know he was good and I was just trying to do my best. I was happy I didn't gas early and I know you've always got a shot. I almost had the cradle earlier, but you just go with whatever is open."

**THE CENTURY:** **Bob Whitaker**, a 1965 State champion for Ridgewood, should have been included in the Honorable Mention list for The Record's Bergen County All-Century team instead of Bergen Catholic's **Nick Fokas**, who placed twice but did not win.

**HUSKY PERFORMANCE:** Behind the big three of Bergen Catholic, Indian Hills, and St. Joseph in the point standings were smaller schools Glen Rock and Dumont.

The fifth-place finish of Dumont is even more impressive, considering that two solid wrestlers who came up through the town program, freshman **Matt McConville** and sophomore **Brian Lucas**, compete for BC instead of the home school. **Anthony Dunkin**, one standout who stayed home, has been sensational for **Frank Manning's** Huskies and took second at 112 pounds to returning State medal winner **Steve Hult**. Dunkin, a sophomore, pinned all three of his other tournament opponents and had Hult down, 6-0, in the first period.

**HITTING THE ROAD:** Bergen Catholic travels Thursday to Texas for the Lone Star Duals. Second-year coach **Dave Bell**

has fortified his staff with the addition of former State champion and All-Century pick **Pete Gonzalez**, alumnus **Joe Pichetto**, who last winter completed four years of wrestling at Seton Hall; and **Jim Grosso**, who has been an additional instructor at various sites, including Fairleigh Dickinson University.

**FAMILIAR PRESENTERS:** Two-time champion **Rich Bitetto** gave his brother, Hackensack's three-time winner **Chris Bitetto**, his gold medal; former champion **Karl Norgaard** presented a gold medal to his brother, four-time winner **Erik Norgaard**; and another champ, **Adam Sica**, handed a fourth-place award to his brother, **Luke Sica** of Lyndhurst.

# Hackensack's Bitetto

## gains semis

Tues  
Dec 28, 1999

By **NICK FORTUNA**

Special to The Record

**PARAMUS** — Hackensack junior Chris Bitetto stood next to his brother before squaring off against Saddle Brook's Bill Schneider on Tuesday, listening attentively to some final words of encouragement.

"Mentally, he helps me out a lot," Bitetto said of his brother, Rich, a 1996 State champion at 140 pounds. "I know that whatever he yells out, it's going to help me, so I listen to him. He told me to get my moves down, wrestle smart, and work for the pin."

### BERGEN WRESTLING

Chris Bitetto followed his brother's advice, scoring eight points before pinning Schneider in 1:16 to advance to the semifinals of the Bergen County Coaches Association Holiday Wrestling Tournament at Paramus High School. The two-day tournament concludes today, with semifinal action starting at 11 a.m. and the finals at 7 p.m.

Bitetto, the favorite in the 140-pound division after winning a State title at 135 pounds last season, is trying to earn his third County title in as many years, an accomplishment Hackensack coach John Stallone feels is well within his reach.

"People are expecting him to win this, but he still takes it one match at a time and takes everyone seriously," Stallone said. "He's a smart kid, and is always trying to get better. He never thinks it's OK to slow down, and never believes he's good enough."

Bitetto stormed through the first three rounds Tuesday, pinning Garfield's Antonio Chetta in 1:28 in the preliminary

round and felling Palisades Park's Alex Copp in 2:25 of the first round. His victory over Schneider improved his record to 6-0 for the season, with each win the result of a pin.

"I had good position and hand-fighting," Bitetto said of his quarterfinal win. "This tournament helps me get some of the rust off from the off-season and get my technique and my moves down."

Another County title would give Bitetto a chance to make history in his senior year by winning four County titles. St.

Joseph's Erik Norgaard will try to become only the second wrestler to accomplish that feat today in the 145-pound division. Bergen Catholic's Jason Hernandez is the lone four-time winner, winning titles in 1990-93. But after tasting victory at the States last season, Bitetto has his sights set on loftier goals.

"I'm just getting set for States," Bitetto said. "That means everything. That's what I wanted my whole life, and there's nothing that can compare to that. Even if I never win four County titles, I've still had a good run."

Norgaard, a runner-up at last season's State tournament, faced little adversity during the first day of his quest for a fourth State title. He pinned Wood-Ridge's Nick Riccardella in 1:33 in the preliminary round and pinned Northern Highlands' Jesse Simons in 1:17 of the first round. In the quarterfinals, Norgaard faced Bitetto's teammate, Jason Chacon, and emerged with another first-period pin.



JIRO OSE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jason Schanck of Northern Valley at Demarest looks for the pin call in his 160 bout with Dwight-Englewood's Geo Tabbol.

## WRESTLING

### Bergen Coaches tourn.

#### PRELIMINARY ROUND

**103** — Anthony Bianco, Emerson/Park Ridge, dec. Dave Karendel, Dwight Englewood, 14-5; Mike Marozza, Wood Ridge, pin Rich Baldan, Don Bosco, 1:00; Ryan Strobel, Pascack Hills, pin Mike Rooney, New Milford, 1:21; Mark Ramos, Lodi, pin Vinny Petraglia, Pascack Valley, 2:51; Joe Butler, Westwood, tech. fall Dallas Hill, Hasbrouck Heights, 17-2; Matt Raspanti, Bergen Tech, pin Matt Haight, Indian Hills, 1:54; Mike Buccì, Paramus, pin Chris Rosett, St. Mary's, 0:22; Joe Scaglione, Lyndhurst, pin Mark Van Burin, Dumont, 5:44.

**112** — Steve Hult, Pascack Valley, pin Mike Serio, Glen Rock, 1:03; Nicky Matteo, Ramsey, dec. Luis Rabelo, North Bergen, 9-6; Christian Diaz, Cliffside Park, pin Gerard Petrino, Cresskill, 0:48; David Burns, Bergenfield, dec. Mark Defalco, Bergen Tech, 6-0; Jared Majka, Ramapo, pin Mike Colon, Elmwood Park, 1:18; Rodereck Alfonso, Bergen Catholic, dec. Mike Ramos, Indian Hills, 9-3; Chris Rojas, Leonia, dec. Tom Cannon, Don Bosco, 6-3; Mike Lazar, Fair Lawn, dec. Jamen Vassallo, Pascack Hills, 13-9; Mike Decio, Becton, pin, Brian May, Hackensack, 4:42.

**119** — Ricky LaForge, Indian Hills, pin Les Barbire, Becton, 2:21; Mike Accardino, NV-Demarest, pin, Max Chin, Leonia, 3:15; Chris Lowe, St. Joseph, dec. Mike DeRosa, Hackensack, 9-5; T.J. Challenger, Dumont, pin Dan Powers, Ramapo, 2:29; Ron Palmieri, North Bergen, pin Mike Cherkizian, Dwight Englewood, 0:23; Ryan McSweeney, NV-Old Tappan, pin Kevin Russell, Pascack Hills, 4:44; David Acosta, Cresskill, pin Chris Shaffer, Ramsey, 3:39; Laki Pothos, Fort Lee, pin Jon Porto, Pascack Hills, 2:29; Mark Romeo, Ridgewood, pin Carl Cocuzza, Elmwood Park, 2:46; Mike Galorenzo, Bergen Catholic, pin Derek Bronsky, New Milford, 0:54; Dave Botwin, Cliffside Park, dec. Jim Azzolina, Westwood, 12-10 OT; Jason Fink, Paramus, dec. Mark Borges, Glen Rock, 9-5; Mike Occhipinti, Pascack Valley, pin Tom Roth, Don Bosco, 0:59; Jeff Alfonso, Garfield, tech. fall Dave Dombrowski, Rutherford, 17-2.

**125** — Antonio Viera, North Bergen, pin Steve Owinrin, Pascack Valley, 3:13; Adam Uffleman, Pascack Hills, dec. Adam Cohen, Glen Rock, 9-5; James Luciano, Paramus, dec. Joe Judge, Ridgewood, 8-3; Ron Weissbard, Fair Lawn, dec. Tom Stehn, Waldwick, 13-8; Ian Young, Dumont, pin Mike Lindo, Palisades Park, 1:20; Daniel Suarez, Dwight Englewood, pin Steve Lasplina, Indian Hills, 3:30; Danny Fullam, Emerson/Park Ridge, pin Matt Muscarella, River Dell, 3:45; Eric Angeli, Don Bosco, dec. Vin Geranjo, St. Joseph, 10-0; Luis Escobar, Fort Lee, pin Jeff Merzic, Wood Ridge, 1:29; Matt Michels, Northern Highlands, dec. Andrew Fleming, Cresskill, 17-0; Brian Lucas, Bergen Catholic, pin Billy Dimeuro, Ramapo, 1:55.

**130** — Greg Khoury, Ridgewood, pin Sal Petruso, Emerson/Park Ridge, 3:52; Jonathan Villoslada, Leonia, pin Rob Millan, Ridgewood, 1:53; George Dabal, North Bergen, pin Steve Gucci, Mahwah, 1:02; Greg Vandala, Cresskill, dec. Steve Mallet, Pascack Valley, 5-0; Steve Hurley, Garfield, pin Juan Silva, Hackensack, 1:05; Chris McDonnell, Indian Hills, dec. Matt McConville, Bergen Catholic, 5-1; Chris Flores, Pascack Hills, pin Ed Thomas, Waldwick, 2:42; Tom Verdel, Fair Lawn, pin Alberto Diaz, Saddle Brook, 5:01; James Butcher, Westwood, pin Donald Mammano, NV-Old Tappan, 4:45; Robert DiDomenico, Lodi, pin J.P. Monaco, Ramapo, 0:57

**135** — Dennis McSweeney, Lyndhurst, dec. Tom Gallione, NV-Demarest, 11-2; Matt Marquart, Rutherford, dec. Tony Dilberto, NV/Old Tappan, 6-4; Dan Marfino, Hasbrouck Heights, pin Kevin Fitzpatrick, Don Bosco, 0:48; Jon-Marc Tobin, New Milford, pin Mark Maculoso, Fort Lee, 1:41; Dave Bucco, Paramus, pin Tokuhisa Toyoda, Leonia, 1:20; Chris Jasonos, Cresskill, dec. Omar Sharif, North Bergen, 7-3; Sevak Grigorian, Garfield, pin Derek Snerkey, Bergen Tech, 1:26; Matt Shaban, Indian Hills, pin David Candela, Dumont, 2:40; Justin Gooch, St. Joseph, pin Steve Moravich, Lodi, 0:45; Jeff Seldier, River Dell, pin Gerry Gillespie, Palisades Park, 4:46; Mike Klapper, Glen Rock, dec. Kevin Schulz, Ramapo, 13-6; James Weck, Bergen Catholic, pin Drew Storms, Mahwah, 0:25; Brian Lynch, Emerson/Park Ridge, pin Ed Verdel, Fair Lawn, 1:56; Steve Johnston, Pascack Valley, pin Jason Wiswesser, Hackensack, 0:31; Steve Neff, Bergenfield, pin Jesse DeRosa, Becton, 0:33.

**140** — Chris Bitetto, Hackensack, pin Antonio Chetta, Garfield, 1:28; Alex Copp, Palisades Park, pin Chris Sommerhalter, Emerson/Park Ridge, 3:20; Ben Dilberto, NV-Old Tappan, dec. Mike Voight, Emerson/Park Ridge, 4-2; Bill Schneider, Saddle Brook, dec. Luis Marroquin, North Bergen, 9-4; James Larocca, Bergen Catholic, dec. Nick Catanese, Lyndhurst, 5-4; Chris Costello, Ramsey, dec. Anil Moonasar, Bergenfield, 10-3; Brian Perez, Cresskill, pin Peter Wolthoff, Dumont, 2:52; Eddie An, NV-Demarest, dec. Nick Ruffito, Bergen Tech, 17-8; Matt Kenny, Northern Highlands, pin Travis Hawkins, Leonia, 4:21; Ron Gasparri, Glen Rock, dec. Tom Ferron, Don Bosco, 14-4; Bobby Guy, Fair Lawn, pin Dave DelGreco, River Dell, 0:23; Pat O'Hara, Ridgefield, dec. Ron DePaola, Westwood, 6-4; George Gunset, Pascack Hills, pin Luke Jackson, Hasbrouck Heights, 2:09; Jerry Rinaldi, Lodi, pin Rich Owmirin, Pascack Valley, 4:59; Gerard Ridings, New Milford, pin Kevin Klefer, Mahwah, 2:26.

**145** — Erik Norgaard, St. Joseph, pin Nick Riccardella, Wood Ridge, 1:33; Jesse Simons, Northern Highlands, dec. Diego Jimenez, North Bergen, 5-3 OT; Jason Chacon, Hackensack, pin Brian Carroll, Ramapo, 0:25; Mike Ruffini, Pascack Hills, pin Jesse Schaeffe, Dwight Englewood, 2:28; Kyle Lezette, Dumont, dec. Tom Calnan, Bergen Catholic, 12-3; Ken Celenza, Saddle Brook, pin Ryan Doherty, NV-Demarest, 1:12; Marc Zabal, Indian Hills.

**152** — Atim Basrush, Westwood, pin Sihwang Chol, Cresskill, 2:53.

**160** — Mike Massenzio, St. Joseph, pin Jamie Sanjuan, Don Bosco, 0:48; Jason Lotz, Westwood, pin Dan Janz, Wood Ridge, 1:51; Marco Bravo, North Bergen, pin Nick Cantone, Becton, 4:45; Jason Schanck, NV-Demarest, dec. Rich Sellitto, Hackensack, 12-0; Adam Basira, Fair Lawn, dec. Adam Storms, Mahwah, 4-3; Geo Tabbol, Dwight Englewood, pin Hrag Hamalian, Pascack Valley, 1:54; Jose Valdez, Glen Rock, pin Chris Napier, Bergen Tech, 1:15; Nick Calandrino, Emerson/Park Ridge, pin Mike Collado, Ramapo, 0:50; Dan Pergola, Northern Highlands, pin Albert Huh, Cresskill, 5:27; James Shanley, Hasbrouck Heights, pin Eric Marczo, Indian Hills, 1:12; Mike Fanslau, Saddle Brook, pin Brian Rischman, Pascack Hills, 3:17.

**171** — Morgan Horner, Hasbrouck Heights, pin Neal Osborne, Dumont, 1:44; Casey Van Brookhoven, Ramapo, pin Andrew Nunn-Miller, Cresskill, 1:24; Rob Ollett, Northern Highlands, pin Mike Vallita, St. Mary's, 1:24; Kevin Kohan, Pascack Valley, pin Peter Francis, Mahwah, 0:42; Ryan Goodman, Dwight Englewood, pin Brian Meador, Pascack Hills, 0:20; Anthony Primevano, Lyndhurst, pin Matt Kersey, Hackensack, 3:15; Mike Quinn, River Dell, pin David Greene, Westwood, 0:49; Adrian Ramadan, Garfield, pin Boris Paucinac, Ridgefield, 1:56; Ron Saglimbene, Don Bosco, dec. Jay Brower, NV-Old Tappan, 19-7; Tom Hill, Emerson/Park Ridge, pin Dustin DeMercurio, St. Joseph, 3:17; Scott Barchetto, Paramus, pin Shane Ryan, Becton, 3:06; Chris Sadowski, Rutherford, pin Eugene Graf, Saddle Brook, 1:35; Tom Osgoodby, Waldwick, pin Matt Goodmark, Indian Hills, 1:46; Derek Picinich, Ridgefield Park, pin Paul Markowski, Paramus Catholic, 0:54.

**189** — Austin Wall, Indian Hills, pin Vahan Manjikian, Lodi, 1:12; Dave Wasserman, Fort Lee, pin Dan Slagle, Waldwick, 1:24; James Pascarella, Glen Rock, pin Greg Tabaka, Bergen Tech, 0:51; Jose Sosa, Garfield, pin Andre Latibeaudiere, Leonia, 3:12; Chris Van Jura, Hasbrouck Heights, pin Brian Fitzpatrick, Don Bosco, 1:13; Ron Panfili, Saddle Brook, dec. Nick DiBlasio, NV-Old Tappan, 16-6; Dan Shelton, Ridgefield Park, pin John Hill, Paramus Catholic, 3:22; Joel Thornton, Hackensack, pin John Gennaro, Pascack Valley, 1:47; Glen Candrilli, River Dell, pin Dave Cosentino, Dumont, 4:50; Luke Sica, Lyndhurst, pin Will Lebron, Cliffside Park, 5:08; Matt Romeo, St. Joseph, pin Nate Smith, Mahwah, 1:03; Ken Veras, North Bergen, dec. John Kim, Dwight Englewood, 1-0; Mike Hendricks, Ridgefield, pin Jim D'Agostino, Ramsey, 4:52.

**215** — Dom Santoli, Bergen Catholic, pin Matt Natelli, Waldwick, 0:33; Adam Plat, Pascack Hills, pin Saverio Minervino, Lyndhurst, 1:43; Adam Heald, Ramsey, dec. Brian Dini, Ramapo, 5-2; Chris Walczak, Ridgefield, dec. Kevin Tedesco, Ridgefield, 4-2; Dan Gold, Paramus, pin Jeremy Calandrino, Emerson/Park Ridge, 1:55; Dan Farina, Paramus Catholic, dec. Tim Hade, Dwight Englewood, 14-4; Bryan Diorio, Indian Hills, dec. Doug Cotto, Glen Rock, 3-1; Adam Blakeman, Dumont, dec. Vic DeCarlo, Midland Park,

9-7; Greg Shub, Rutherford, pin Dan Rosenheim, Fort Lee, 3:31; Chris DiSanto, Saddle Brook, pin Blake DiFrancesco, NV-Demarest, 0:55; Amir Saadah, Fair Lawn, tech. fall Phil Ziganto, Leonia, 17-1; Anthony Romero, St. Mary's, dec. Doug Veeblauw, Mahwah, 11-8.

**275** — Adam Ackerman, Bergen Catholic, pin Tom Omelia, Westwood, 0:11; Steve Van Soest, Indian Hills, pin Dan Giannini, Pascack Hills, 2:23; Stephen Morris, Bergen Tech, pin Luke Midgley, Palisades Park, 1:04; Ian Les, Northern Highlands, pin Johnny Valencia, Cresskill, 4:40; Jay Salerno, Leonia, pin Garrett Rothschild, Pascack Valley, 0:48; James Haak, River Dell, pin Greg Evans, Elmwood Park, 2:23; Mike Duffy, Don Bosco, pin Dan Mangani, Ridgefield, 1:59; Bill Ruggles, Fair Lawn, dec. Sam Lim, NV-Demarest, 11-4; Joe Bertelloni, NV-Old Tappan, pin Dave Garcia, Becton, 0:56; Glenn Chamer, Ramsey, pin Sam Elshinawy, Lyndhurst, 2:30; Jason Cruz, North Bergen, dec. Max Reiss, Ramapo, 11-0.

#### FIRST ROUND

**103** — Gerard Carroll, Hackensack, dec. Anthony Bianco, Emer/Park Ridge, 10-6; Mike Marozza, Wood-Ridge, dec. Matt Arlington, Mahwah, 12-4; Ryan Strobel, Pascack Hills, tech fall Luke Hintzen, Fair Lawn, 17-2; Mark Ramos, Lodi, dec. Matt Webb, Ridgefield, 11-1; Joe Butler, Westwood, pin Christian Victorian, NV/Old Tappan, 3:57; Evan Gallucio, Glen Rock, pin Matt Raspanti, Bergen Tech, 0:43; Alex Brito, North Bergen, dec. Mike Buccì, Paramus, 7-5 (OT); Robert Kaiser, Bergen Catholic, pin Joe Scaglione, Lyndhurst, 1:41.

**112** — Steve Hult, Pascack Valley, pin Nicky Matteo, Ramsey, 0:36; Will Vecchione, Paramus, dec. Christian Diaz, Cliffside Park, 17-4; Ken Chu, River Dell, pin David Burns, Bergenfield, 1:07; Jared Majka, Ramapo, dec. Mark Bradley, Saddle Brook, 5-1; Anthony Dunkin, Dumont, pin Rodereck Alfonso, Bergen Catholic, 1:43; Chris Rojas, Leonia, dec. Mike Rose, Wood-Ridge, 6-3; Mike Lazar, Fair Lawn, pin Cesar DeLaCruz, Lyndhurst, 1:41; Mike Decio, Becton, pin Mike Almeida, Mahwah, 3:30.

**119** — Ricky LaForge, Indian Hills, pin Mike Accardino, NV/Demarest, 1:54; T.J. Challenger, Dumont, dec. Chris Lowe, St. Joseph's 7-5; Rob Palmieri, North Bergen, dec. Ryan McSweeney, NV/Old Tappan, 9-5; David Acosta, Cresskill, pin Laki Pothos, Fort Lee, 2:49; Mark Romeo, Ridgewood, dec. Mike Galorenzo, Bergen Catholic, 11-8; Dave Botwin, Cliffside Park, dec. Tom Herman, Ridgefield, 12-11; Jason Fink, Paramus, dec. Jake Joy, Fair Lawn, 6-5; Jeff Alfonso, Garfield, dec. Mike Occhipinti, Pascack Valley, 18-7.

**125** — Antonio Viera, North Bergen, pin Adam Uffleman, Pascack Hills, 1:08; Chris Labrose, Hackensack, pin James Luciano, Paramus, 4:17; Joe Pedevill, Mahwah, dec. Ron Weissbard, Fair Lawn, 12-4; Dave Ferrell, Bergen Tech, pin Ian Young, Dumont, 3:35; Bob Correggio, Bergenfield, pin Daniel Suarez, Dwight-Englewood, 1:57; Danny Fullam, Emer/Park Ridge, pin Eric Angeli, Don Bosco, 3:48; Luis Escobar, Fort Lee, dec. Chris Costa, Lodi, 10-5; Brian Lucas, Bergen Catholic, dec. Matt Michels, Northern Highlands, 8-2.

**130** — Mike Palo, St. Joseph's, tech fall Greg Khoury, Ridgewood, 18-2; Jonathan Villoslada, Leonia, dec. Tim Dillon, Bergenfield, 7-4; George Dabal, North Bergen, pin Greg Vadala, Cresskill, 0:17; Steve Hurley, Garfield, pin Frank Bianci, Elmwood Park, 3:17; Chris McDonnell, Indian Hills, pin Chris Flores, Pascack Hills, 0:48; Kon Verdel, Fair Lawn, dec. Luke Getto, Northern Highlands, 9-6; Dave Sica, Lyndhurst, dec. James Butcher, Westwood, 10-7; Robert DiDomenico, Lodi, pin Erik Linsalata, Bergen Tech, 0:59.

**135** — Dennis McSweeney, Lyndhurst, pin Matt Marquart, Rutherford, 1:51; Jon-Marc Tobin, New Milford, pin Dan Marfino, Hasbrouck Heights, 5:05; Dave Bucco, Paramus, pin Chris Jasonos, Cresskill, 1:30; Matt Shaban, Indian Hills, tech fall Sevak Grigorian, Garfield, 16-1; Justin Gooch, St. Joseph's, pin Jeff Seidler, River Dell, 1:31; James Weck, Bergen Catholic, dec. Mike Klapper, Glen Rock, 9-4; Brian Lynch, Emer/Park Ridge, dec. Alex Varallo, Midland Park, 6-4; Steve Neff, Bergenfield, dec. Steve Johnston, Pascack Valley, 6-2.

**140** — Chris Bitetto, Hackensack, pin Alex Copp, Palisades Park, 2:25; Bill Schneider, Saddle Brook, dec. Ben Dilberto, NV/Old Tappan, 12-6; James Larocca, Bergen Catholic, dec. Chris Costello, Ramsey, 5-2; Eddie An, NV/Demarest, tech fall Brian Perez, Cresskill, 19-4; Matt Kenny, Northern Highlands, dec. Ron Gasparri, Glen Rock, 12-4; Pat O'Hara, Ridgefield, dec. Bobby Guy, Fair Lawn, 6-4; George Gunset, Pascack Hills, pin Jerry Rinaldi, Lodi, 1:00; Gerard Ridings, New Milford, pin Mike Sanfilippo, Indian Hills, 3:25.

Wed Dec 29, 1999

Tues Dec 28, 1999

145 — Erik Norgaard, St. Joseph's, pin Jesse Simons, Northern Highlands, 1:17; Jason Chacon, Hackensack, pin Mike Ruffini, Pascack Hills, 3:30; Kyle Lezette, Dumont, dec. Ken Celenza, Saddle Brook, 6-2; Aaron Salma, Fair Lawn, pin Chris Rasmussen, Mahwah, 0:51; Pat Ronyne, Glen Rock, dec. Corey Pottan, NV/Old Tappan, 8-7; Anson Welch, Ridgewood, dec. Eric Fugnitti, Ridgefield, 5-3; Justin Dolci, Paramus Catholic, dec. Koe D'Augustine, Waldwick, 19-11; Frank Petrucci, Don Bosco, tech fall, Chris Falto, Paramus, 23-7.

152 — Paul Siemon, Don Bosco, pin Atim Basrushi, Westwood, 1:26; Charles Lucas, Dumont, dec. Mike Califano, Fair Lawn, 8-3; Anthony Servis, Ridgefield, dec. Pete Gomez, Northern Highlands, 4-2; Tom Serio, Glen Rock, pin T.J. Kronke, Hasbrouck Heights, 1:47; Rodney Brydsaw, Ridgefield Park, pin Charles O'Hanlon, Cliffside Park, 5:04; Tim McCarthy, Bergen Catholic, dec. Nick Gallo, River Dell, 12-4; Dave Amerman, Indian Hills, dec. A.J. Dolan, St. Mary's, 18-4; Joe Chermack, Lodi, pin Andrew Haer, Ridgewood, 1:30.

160 — Mike Massenzio, St. Joseph's, pin Jason Lotz, Westwood, 0:44; Tom Ratto, NV/Old Tappan, pin Marco Bravo, North Bergen, 2:50; Jason Schanck, NV/Demarest, dec. Andrew Marchetto-Ryan, Midland Park, 11-9; George Tabbol, Dwight-Englewood, pin Adam Baeira, Fair Lawn, 0:47; Jose Valdez, Glen Rock, pin Nick Calandrino, Emer/Park Ridge, 3:33; Dan Pergola, Northern Highlands, dec. Mike Buldo, Paramus, 10-6; Ross Flatt, Ridgewood, pin James Shanley, Hasbrouck Heights, 0:13; Mark Radoian, Fort Lee, pin Mike Fanslau, Saddle Brook, 0:23.

171 — Morgan Horner, Hasbrouck Heights, pin Casey Van Brookhoven, Ramapo, 3:45; Rob Ollett, Northern Highlands, dec. Kevin Kohan, Pascack Valley, 10-9; Ryan Goodman, Dwight-Englewood, pin Jim McTigue, NV/Demarest, 3:19; Mike Quinn, River Dell, pin Anthony Primevano, Lyndhurst, 2:49; Ardan Ramadan, Garfield, pin Ron Saglimbene, Don Bosco, 1:53; Scott Barchetto, Paramus, dec. Tom Hill, Emer/Park Ridge, 11-0; Chris Sadowski, Rutherford, pin Tom Osgoodby, Waldwick, 1:15; Evan Tryforos, Glen Rock, dec. Derek Plcinich, Ridgefield Park, 11-4.

169 — Austin Wall, Indian Hills, pin Dave Wasserman, Fort Lee, 2:23; Scott Wisniewski, Elmwood Park, dec. James Pascarelli, Glen Rock, 4-2; Jose Sosa, Garfield, dec. Chris VanJura, Hasbrouck Heights, 16-4; Dan Shelton, Ridgefield Park, pin Rob Panfill, Saddle Brook, 0:47; Anthony Mazzo, Emer/Park Ridge, pin Joel Thornton, Hackensack, 3:14; Luke Sica, Lyndhurst, dec. Glen Candrilli, River Dell, 11-1; Matt Romeo, St. Joseph's, pin Ken Veras, North Bergen, 2:44; Eddie Guy, Fair Lawn, pin Mike Hendricks, Ridgefield, 1:16.

215 — Dom Santoli, Bergen Catholic, pin Chris Bermudez, Hasbrouck Heights, 1:26; Adam Heald, Ramsey, pin Adam Platt, Pascack Hills, 1:35; Chris Walczak, Ridgewood, pin Dan Gold, Paramus, 1:27; Jim Malizia, St. Joseph's, dec. Dan Farina, Paramus Catholic, 5-3; Bryan Diorio, Indian Hills, pin Adam Blakeman, Dumont, 1:01; Greg Shub, Rutherford, pin Frank Vetere, Cresskill, 2:54; Amir Saadah, Fair Lawn, dec. Chris DiSanto, Saddle Brook, 6-3; Bill Cummins, Pascack Valley, pin Anthony Romero, St. Mary's, 5:49.

275 — Adam Ackerman, Bergen Catholic, pin Jason Abrams, St. Joseph's, 0:38; Stephen Morris, Bergen Tech pin Steve Vansoest, Indian Hills, 1:29; Ian Les, Northern Highlands, pin Karon Singleton, Hackensack, 3:04; Jesse Daniele, Hasbrouck Heights, pin Jay Salerno, Leonia, 1:05; James Haak, River Dell, pin Mike Duffy, Don Bosco, 1:29; Anthony Buldo, Paramus, dec. Bill Ruggles, Fair Lawn, 3-0; Anthony Robertson Dumont, pin Joe Bertelloni, NV/Old Tappan, 4:44; Glenn Cramer, Ramsey, pin Jason Cruz, North Bergen, 1:04.

#### SEMIFINALS

103 — Mike Marotta, Wood-Ridge, pin Mark Ramos, Lodi, 3:08; Robert Kaiser, Bergen Tech, dec. Joe Butcher, Westwood, 4-3.

112 — Steve Hult, Pascack Valley, pin Ken Chu, River Dell, 2:50; Anthony Dunkin, Dumont, pin Mike Decio, Becton, 2:42.

119 — Ricky LaForge, Indian Hills, pin David Acosta, Cresskill, 1:15; Jeff Alfonso, Garfield, dec. Mark Romeo, Ridgewood, 9-3.

125 — Dave Ferrell, Bergen Tech, dec. Antonio Viera, North Bergen, 5-2; Bob Correggio, Bergenfield, dec. Brian Lucas, Bergen Catholic, 3-1.

130 — Mike Palo, St. Joseph, pin George Dabal, North Bergen, 3:35; Rob DiDomenico, Lodi, pin Chris McDonnell, Indian Hills, 0:27.

135 — Dennis McSweeney, Lyndhurst, dec. Matt Shaban, Indian Hills, 9-5; James Weck, Bergen Catholic, pin Steve Neff, Bergenfield, 1:30.

140 — Chris Bitetto, Hackensack, pin Eddie An, NV/Demarest, 2:28; Matt Kenny Northern Highlands, dec. Gerard Ridings, 8-6.

145 — Erik Noorgaard, St. Joseph, pin Aaron Salma, Fair Lawn, 1:58; Frank Petrucci, Don Bosco Prep, tech. fall Pat Ronyne, Glen Rock, 22-7.

152 — Paul Siemon, Don Bosco Prep, dec. Anthony Servis, Ridgefield, 8-1; Dave Amerman, Indian Hills, pin Tim McCarthy, Bergen Catholic, 3:39.

160 — Mike Massenzio, St. Joseph, pin Jason Schanck, NV/Demarest, 1:24; Mark Radoian, Fort Lee, dec. Jose Valdez, Glen Rock, 8-7.

171 — Morgan Horner, Hasbrouck Heights, dec. Mike Quinn, River Dell, 16-6; Evan Tryforos, Glen Rock, pin Ardan Ramadan, Garfield, 5:04.

169 — Austin Wall, Indian Hills, pin Jose Sosa, Garfield, 3:03; Matt Romeo, St. Joseph, dec. Luke Sica, Lyndhurst, 5-4.

215 — Dom Santoli, Bergen Catholic, dec. Chris Walczak, Ridgewood, 16-5; Bryan Diorio, Indian Hills, dec. Bill Cummins, Pascack Valley, 6-4.

275 — Adam Ackerman, Bergen Catholic, pin Jesse Daniele, Hasbrouck Heights, 2:31; Anthony Buldo, Paramus, pin Anthony Robertson, Dumont, 1:24.

#### FINALS

103 — Mike Marotta, Wood-Ridge, dec. Robert Kaiser, Bergen Catholic, 7-6.

112 — Steve Hult, Pascack Valley, dec. Anthony Dunkin, Dumont, 13-7.

119 — Ricky LaForge, Indian Hills, dec. Jeff Alfonso, Garfield, 6-3.

125 — Bob Correggio, Bergenfield, dec. Dave Ferrell, Bergen Tech, 4-2.

130 — Mike Palo, St. Joseph, dec. Robert DiDomenico, Lodi, 8-5.

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152 — Paul Siemon, Don Bosco Prep, dec. Dave Amerman, Indian Hills, 15-5.

160 — Mike Massenzio, St. Joseph, dec. Mark Radoian, Fort Lee, 9-1.

171 — Morgan Horner, Hasbrouck Heights, dec. Evan Tryforos, Glen Rock, 10-7.

169 — Austin Wall, Indian Hills, dec. Matt Romeo, St. Joseph, 9-4.

215 — Dominic Santoli, Bergen Catholic, dec. Bryan Diorio, Indian Hills, 16-5.

275 — Adam Ackerman, Bergen Catholic, pin Anthony Buldo, Paramus, 2:08.

**Most Outstanding Wrestler** — James Weck, Bergen Catholic

#### THIRD-PLACE CONSOLATIONS

103 — Butcher dec Ramos, 9-2; 112 — Chu pin Decio, 2:20; 119 — Romeo pin Acosta, 3:00; 125 — Viera dec. Lucas, 4-2; 130 — McDonnell dec. Dabal, 5-1; 135 — Shaban dec. Neff, 5-2; 140 — Ridings by forfeit over An; 145 — Salma dec. Ronyne, 6-5; 152 — McCarthy dec. Servis, 10-3; 160 — Valdez dec. Schanck, 5-4; 171 — Ramadan dec. Quinn, 10-1; 169 — Sosa dec. Sica, 3-2; 215 — Cummins dec. Walczak, 6-1; 275 — Daniele dec. Robertson, 6-1.

#### FIFTH-PLACE CONSOLATIONS

103 — Gallucio dec. Carroll, 4-4, criteria; 112 — Majka dec. Rojas, 12-5; 119 — Palmieri dec. Fink, 6-0; 125 — Labrose dec. Angelli, 3-2; 130 — Hurley dec. Verdel, 12-2; 135 — Tobin pin Lynch, 0:48; 140 — O'Hara dec. Schneider, 11-7; 145 — Chacon dec. Dolci, 14-7; 152 — Lucas dec. Brydsaw, 4-0; 160 — Ratto pin Flatt, 4:41; 171 — Ollett dec. Barchetto, 4-3; 169 — Guy pin Wisniewski, 1:14; 215 — Malizia dec. Saadah, 5-3; 275 — Les pin Haak, 4:48.

#### TEAM SCORING

Bergen Catholic 167, Indian Hills 153.5, St. Joseph 138.5, Glen Rock 90, Garfield 82, Fair Lawn 75.5, Don Bosco Prep 73.5, Dumont 73, Hackensack 73, Paramus 69, Northern Highlands 67, Pascack Valley 65, Hasbrouck Heights 64, River Dell 64, Ridgewood 62, North Bergen 61, Lodi 56.5, Lyndhurst 50, Bergenfield 44, New Milford 40, Bergen Tech 36, Fort Lee 36, Northern Valley at Demarest 34.5, Westwood 34.5, Ridgefield 34, Emerson-Park Ridge 32, Pascack Hills 30.5, Northern Valley at Old Tappan 29, Wood-Ridge 29, Ridgefield Park 25, Cresskill 24, Saddle Brook 24, Dwight-Englewood 20, Ramsey 18, Rutherford 18, Leonia 17, Ramapo 17, Becton 16, Cliffside Park 13, Paramus Catholic 13, Waldwick 8, St. Mary's 7.5, Elmwood Park 7, Mahwah 5, Palisades Park 4, Midland Park 0.

#### QUARTERFINALS

103 — Mike Marotta, Wood-Ridge, dec. Gerard Carroll, Hackensack, 5-1; Mark Ramos, Lodi, dec. Ryan Strobel, Pascack Hills, 6-5; Mark Butcher, Westwood, dec. Evan Gallucio, Glen Rock, 3-0; Robert Kaiser, Bergen Catholic, pin Alex Brito, North Bergen, 1:36.

112 — Steve Hult, Pascack Valley, pin Vecchione, 1:31; Ken Chu, River Dell, pin Jared Majka, Ramapo, 0:34; Anthony Dunkin, Dumont, pin Chris Rojas, Leonia, 3:08; Mike Decio, Becton, dec. Mike Lazar, Fair Law, 5-2.

119 — Ricky LaForge, Indian Hills, pin T.J. Chalener, Dumont, 3:06; Dave Acosta, Cresskill, dec. Rob Palmieri, North Bergen, 6-5; Mark Romeo, Ridgewood, pin Dave Botwin, Cliffside Park, 1:58; Jeff Alfonso, Garfield, tech fall Jason Fink, Paramus, 11-0.

125 — Antonio Viera, North Bergen, dec. Chris Labrose, Hackensack, 7-3; Dave Ferrell, Bergen Tech, pin Joe Pedevill, Mahwah, 3:58; Bob Correggio, Bergenfield, pin Eric Angelli, Don Bosco, 2:10; Brian Lucas, Bergen Catholic, pin Luis Escobar, Fort Lee, 5:52.

130 — Mike Palo, St. Joseph, dec. Jonathan Villoslada, Leonia, 20-7; George Dabal, North Bergen, pin Steve Hurley, Garfield, 5:39; Chris McDonnell, Indian Hills, dec. Kon Verdel, Fair Lawn, 9-0; Robert DiDomenico, Lodi, tech. fall Dave Sica, Lyndhurst, 17-2.

135 — Dennis McSweeney, Lyndhurst, dec. Jon-Marc Tobin, New Milford, 13-9; Dave Bucco, Paramus, dec. Matt Shaban, Indian Hills, 5-3; James Weck, Bergen Catholic, pin Justin Goch, St. Joseph, 2:53; Steve Neff, Bergenfield, dec. Brian Lynch, Emerson-Park Ridge, 7-2.

140 — Chris Bitetto, Hackensack, pin Bill Schneider, Saddle Brook, 1:16; Eddie An, NV/Demarest, by disqualification over James Larocca, Bergen Catholic; Matt Kenny, Northern Highlands, dec. Pat O'Hara, Ridgefield, 7-3; Gerard Ridings, New Milford, pin George Gunset, Pascack Hills, 1:35.

145 — Erik Noorgaard, St. Joseph, pin Jesse Simons, Northern Highlands, 1:00; Aaron Salma, Fair Lawn, dec. Kyle Lezette, Dumont, 5-2; Pat Ronyne, Glen Rock, pin Anson Welch, Ridgewood, 1:12; Frank Petrucci, Don Bosco Prep, tech. fall Justin Dolci, Paramus Catholic, 22-6.

152 — Paul Siemon, Don Bosco Prep, dec. Charles Lucas, Dumont, 2-1; Anthony Servis, Ridgefield, dec. Tom Serio, Glen Rock, 2-0; Tim McCarthy, Bergen Catholic, dec. Rodney Brydsaw, Ridgefield, 15-2; Dave Amerman, Indian Hills, dec. Joe Chermack, Lodi, 7-1.

160 — Mike Massenzio, St. Joseph, pin Tom Ratto, NV/Old Tappan, 1:47; Jason Schanck, NV/Demarest, dec. Geo Tabbol, Dwight-Englewood, 11-2; Jose Valdez, Glen Rock, dec. Dan Pergola, Northern Highlands, 12-4; Mark Radoian, Fort Lee, dec. Ross Flatt, 7-5 (OT).

171 — Morgan Horner, Hasbrouck Heights, dec. Rob Ollett, Northern Highlands, 17-7; Mike Quinn, River Dell, dec. Ryan Goodman, Dwight-Englewood, 9-7; Ardan Ramadan, pin Scott Barchetto, Paramus, 4:32; Evan Tryforos, Glen Rock, dec. Chris Sadowski, Rutherford, 12-2.

169 — Austin Wall, Indian Hills, pin Scott Wisniewski, Elmwood Park, 1:42; Jose Sosa, Garfield, dec. Dan Shelton, Ridgefield Park, 6-4 (OT); Luke Sica, Lyndhurst dec. Anthony Mazzo, Emerson-Park Ridge, 4-3; Matt Romeo, St. Joseph, dec. Eddie Guy, Fair Lawn, 7-4.

215 — Dom Santoli, Bergen Catholic, pin Adam Heald, Ramsey, 1:35; Chris Walczak, Ridgewood, pin Jim Malizia, St. Joseph, 4:41; Bryan Diorio, Indian Hills, dec. Greg Shub, Rutherford, 6-3; Bill Cummins, Pascack Valley, pin Amir Saadah, Fair Lawn, 5:02.

275 — Adam Ackerman, Bergen Catholic, pin Stephen Morris, Bergen Tech, 2:37; Jesse Daniele, Hasbrouck Heights, dec. Ian Les, Northern Highlands, 12-2; Anthony Buldo, Paramus, pin James Haak, River Dell, 5:03; Anthony Robertson, Dumont, pin Glenn Creamer, Ramsey, 0:32.

# Norgaard wins fourth

## Weck, Santoli lead BC to crown

By **RON FOX**

Staff Writer

PARAMUS — Despite becoming only the second wrestler in the 40-year history of the tournament to win four consecutive titles, St. Joseph's Erik Norgaard had a feeling he would not be named its Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Bergen County Coaches Holiday Tournament on Wednesday.

"It usually doesn't go to parochial schools," he said before picking up the Most Pins trophy — five in seven minutes, 38 seconds — the honor that precedes the biggest one, the Most Outstanding Wrestler. The 145-pound Norgaard was right and wrong. He did not earn the vote of the coaches, but a parochial-school wrestler did get it.

On what could have been labeled Family Night, the honor went to Bergen Catholic junior James Weck, the subject of the warmest story of the final round. The sixth-seeded 135-pounder became the first son of a former BCCA champion to win a title, and he did it with a flair, cradling top-seeded Dennis McSweeney of Lyndhurst from the top position with a minute left to tie, and then putting him to his back again for three points off a half-nelson for a 9-6 victory.

To make the scene even more heartwarming, Dan Weck, 130-pound champion in 1966 for Pascack Valley, presented the gold medal and ceremonial bout chart with father and son hugging with great emotion.

"I figured it had been done before," the younger Weck said, explaining his surprise over the fuss made over him. The father-son combination was equaled later by Bergen Catholic's 215-pound champion Dominic Santoli, who followed in the footsteps of dad Gene Santoli, the heavyweight champion — also for Pascack Valley — in 1970. The Santolis also hugged on the mat as Gene made the award presentation.

It was the younger Santoli's convincing 16-5 win over Indian Hills' Bryan Diorio that clinched Bergen Catholic's team title. Heavyweight teammate Adam Ackermann capped it with a 2:08 pin of sixth-seeded Adam Buldo of Paramus as BC edged Indian Hills, 167-153½. Indian Hills finished second to St. Joseph last year. BC had not won since taking a fourth straight team title in 1996, and proved it is back under

### BERGEN WRESTLING

coach Dave Bell after a rebuilding season last year.

There was big news all around as returning State champion Chris Bitetto of Hackensack, only a junior, won his third title, a 3:32 pin with a head-and-half on Northern Highlands' Matt Kenney at 140 pounds. Another junior, St. Joseph's Mike Palo, also took his third straight, with a tie-breaking single-leg takedown in the second period and an 8-5 win over Lodi's Rob DiDomenico at 130 pounds.

Mike Marotta of Wood-Ridge won a 7-6 battle with BC's Robert Kaiser at 103 pounds with a high double-leg takedown with 55 seconds left for a 7-5 lead to win his school's first Bergen County gold medal. Steve Hult of Pascack Valley repeated as a champion, downing Dumont's Anthony Dunkin, 13-6.

In a battle of former State medalists, Indian Hills' Ricky LaForge won at 119 pounds over Garfield's Jeff Alfonso, 6-3, as he stacked out of Alfonso's duck-under and got the takedown with 10 seconds remaining. It was a major step forward.

"The last time we met, it wasn't a very good experience," he said. "He beat me in the region last year and I think I made up for it tonight."

Austin Wall of Indian Hills repeated at 189 pounds, 9-4, over St. Joseph's Matt Romeo with double-leg, spin, and driving takedowns.

Bergenfield 125-pounder Bob Correggio prevented Dave Ferrell from winning Bergen Tech's first title with a workarround takedown with 42 seconds left for a 4-2 win. Don Bosco Prep's Paul Siemon won at 152 pounds, 15-5, over Indian Hills' seventh-seeded Dave Amerman, who wrestled last year for Ramapo. State bronze medalist Mike Massenzio of St. Joseph won at 160 pounds, 9-1 over Fort Lee's Mike Radoian. Massenzio was a transfer from Indian Hills, which could have used his points. Two titanic bursts for reversals in the second period lifted Hasbrouck Heights' Morgan Horner past Glen Rock's Evan Tryforos, 9-1, at 171.

Norgaard, who moves with a most confident walk, said he's always as calm

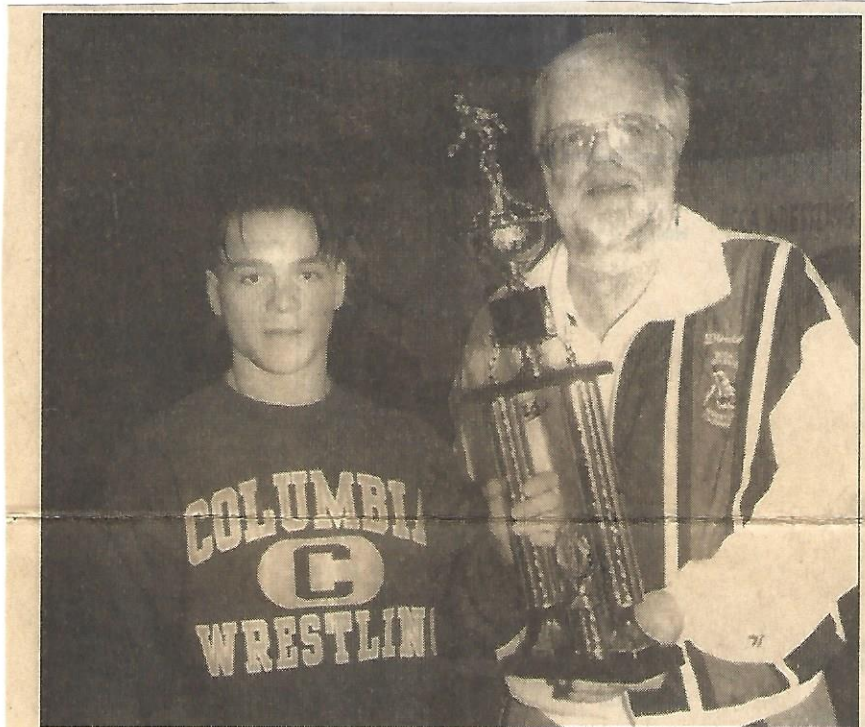
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as he looks. "Just another day at the office," he said after a 1:50 pin of Don Bosco's Frank Petrucci with an armbar and half. "The pressure match, that's

the ideal. That's what you're looking for, and I've been in that situation a million times. [I've been wrestling] since I was born."

He and BC's Jason Hernandez are the lone four-time winners.

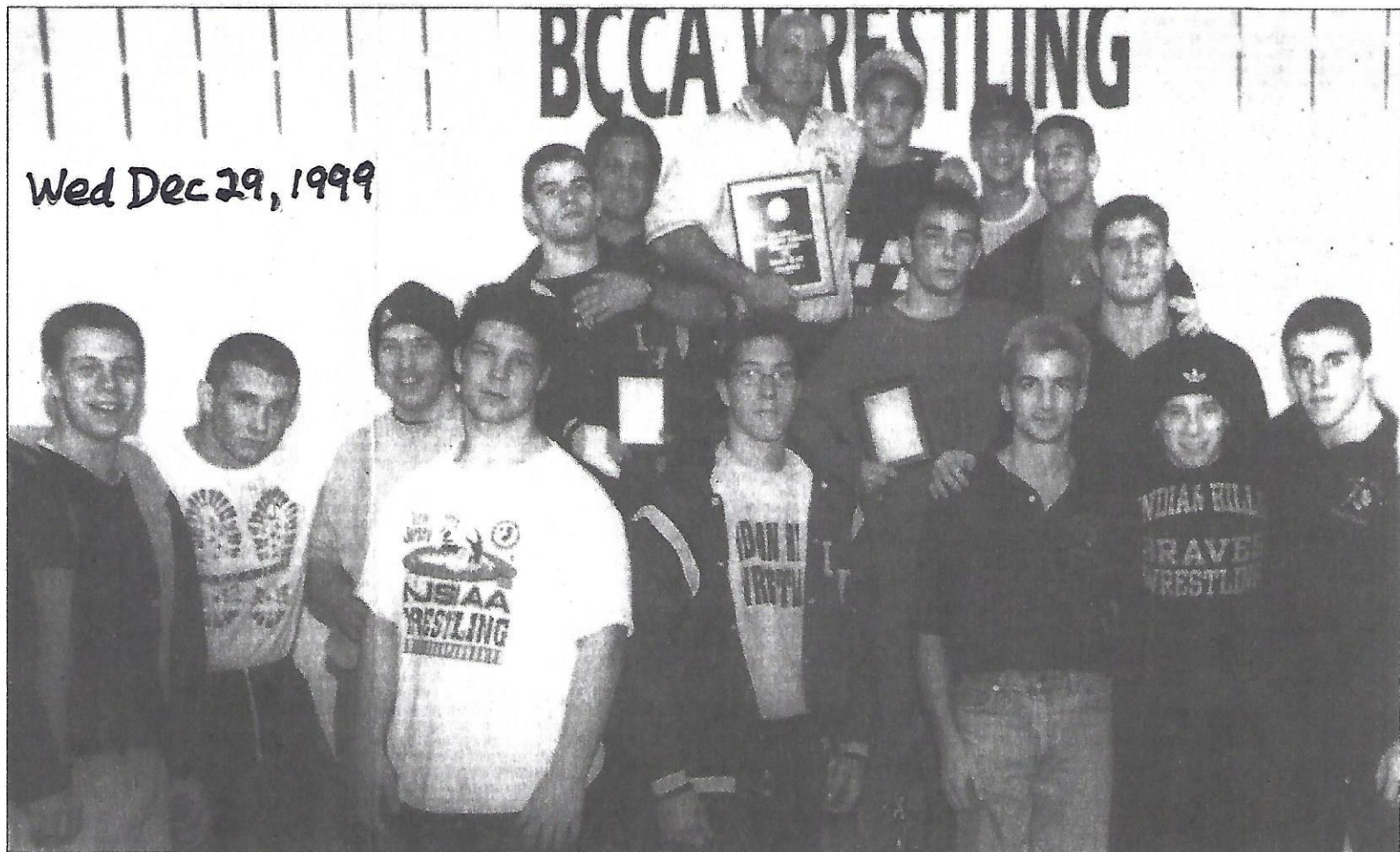
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TOM MOORHEAD

Paramus' George Jockish, the 15-year director of the Bergen County wrestling tournament, is about to present St. Joseph senior Erik Norgaard of Leonia with the trophy for Most Pins in the event. Norgaard dominated his opponents at 145 pounds, pinning all five of them in a total of seven minutes, 38 seconds. Norgaard became only the second wrestler in the 40-year history of the county tournament to win four championship titles. Jason Hernandez, a 1995 graduate of Bergen Catholic, was the first wrestler to accomplish the feat. Norgaard wears the wrestling sweatshirt of his next stop, Columbia University.

# *Scenes from the county wrestling tournament finals*

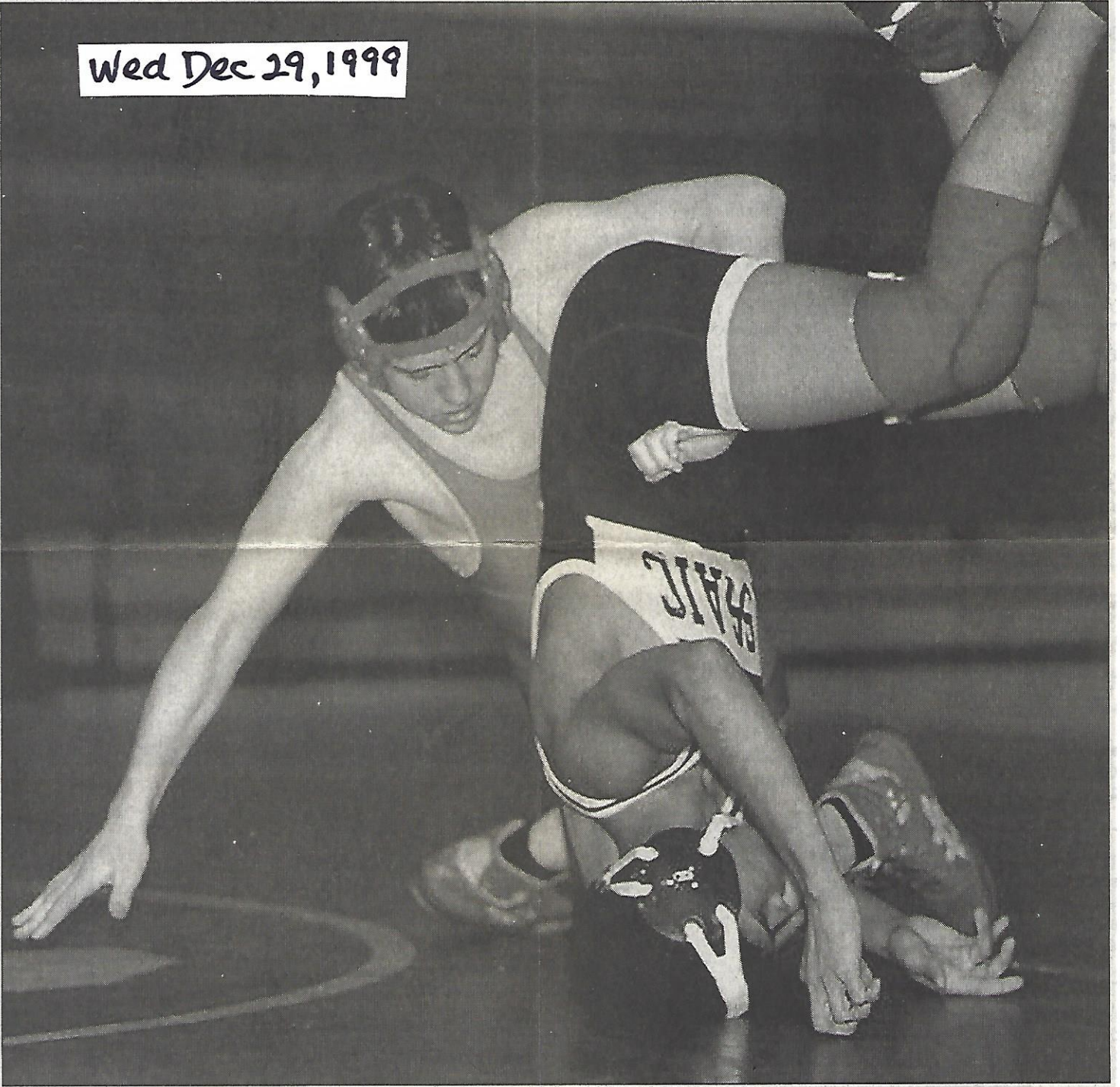


TOM MOORHEAD

This is the Indian Hills wrestling team that finished first among Group 3 schools in the county wrestling tournament for the second consecutive season and, for the second straight year, placed second in the field of 48 teams, this season finishing behind Bergen Catholic by 13-and-a-half points, 167-to-153.5, at Paramus High School. The Braves' new head coach, Rob Davis, is in the front row (third from right). Standing at the top holding a plaque is one of Indian Hills' assistant coaches, Dan McDonnell, who is the long-time director of the Oakland recreation wrestling program for grammar school students.



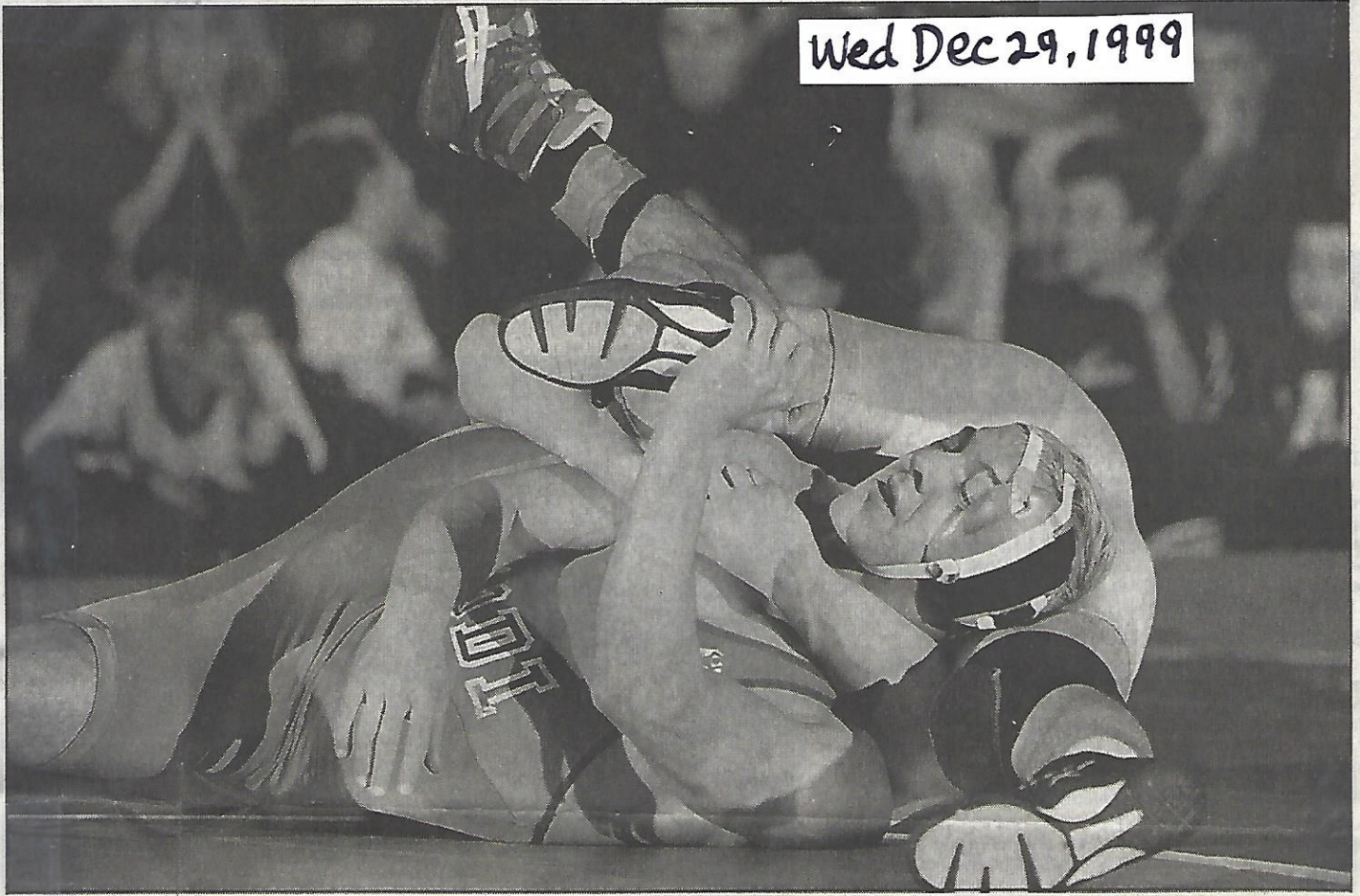
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ED HILL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

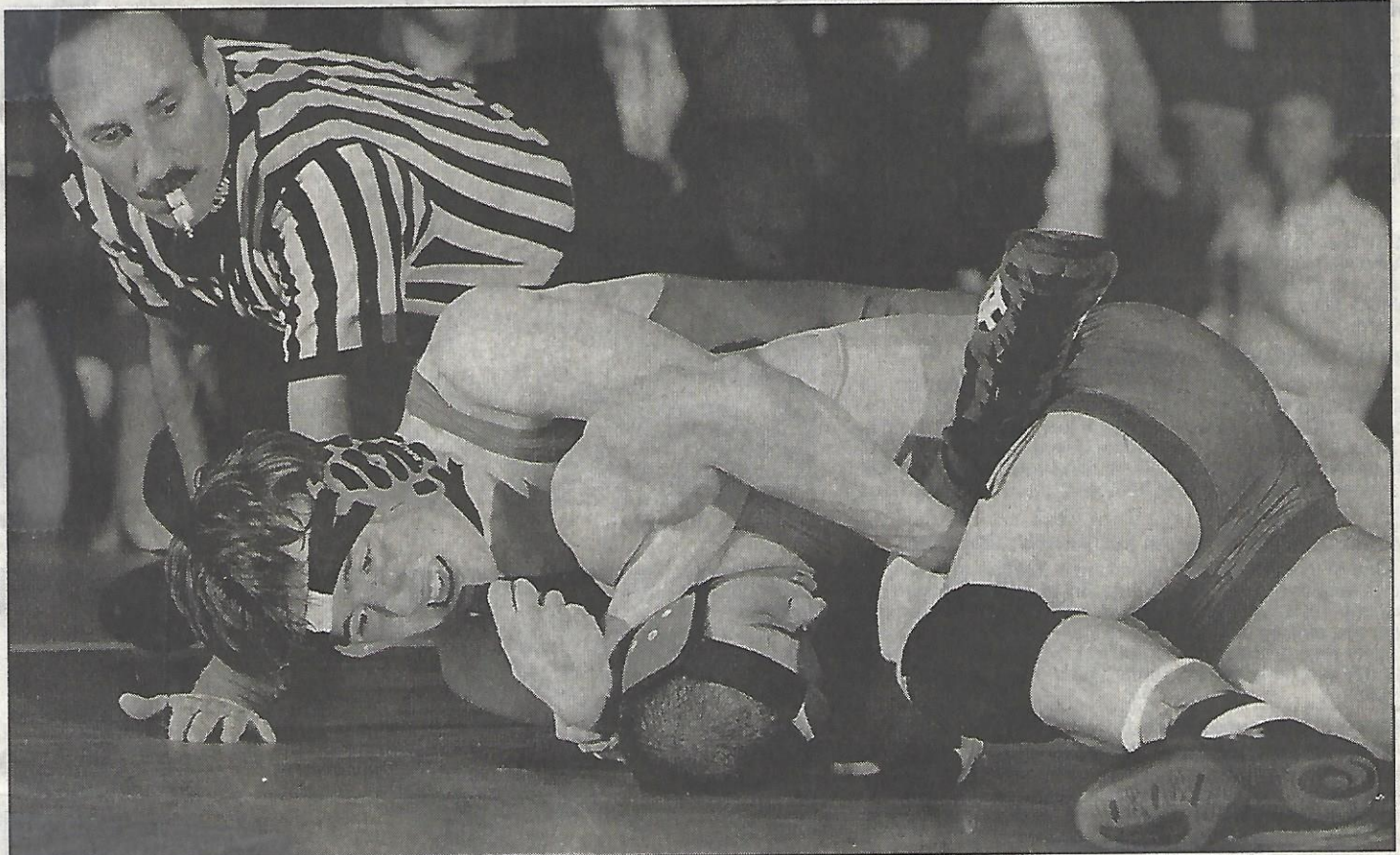
Bergen Catholic's James Weck, left, was voted Most Outstanding Wrestler of Bergen County Coaches Holiday Tournament.

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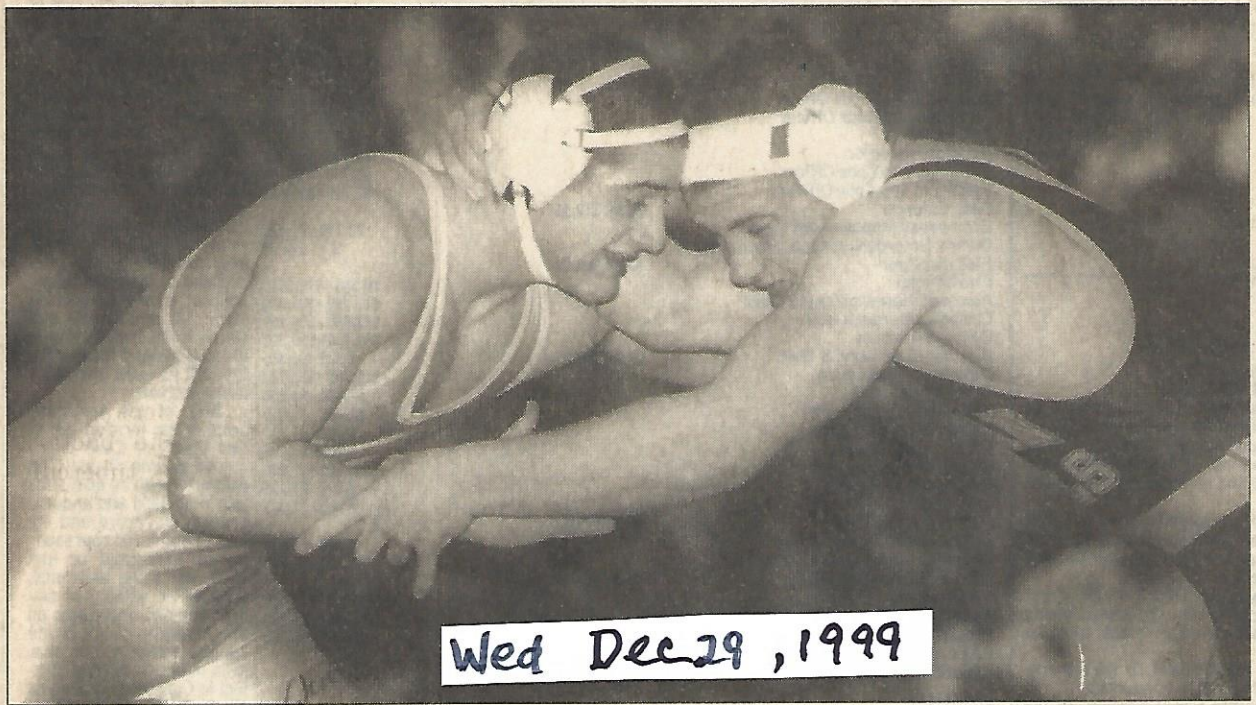
MEL EVANS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Palo of St. Joseph controls Rob DiDomenico of Lodi in their 130-pound title bout. Palo went on to win an 8-5 decision.



MEL EVANS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bergen Catholic's James Weck takes Most Outstanding Wrestler honors with his win over Lyndhurst's Dennis McSweeney.



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TOM MOORHEAD

In a battle of standout football players, St. Joseph senior Matt Romeo (left), the Green Knights' productive tailback, and Indian Hills senior Austin Wall, the Braves' talented quarterback, fight for the right to be called the best 189-pounder in Bergen County. The quarterback won, 9-4, for his second successive county crown.

## Results of county wrestling tournament finals

103 — Mike Marotta (Wood-Ridge) decided Robert Kalsner (Bergen Catholic), 7-6.

112 — Steve Hult (Pascack Valley) decided Anthony Dunkin (Dumont), 13-7.

119 — Ricky LaForge (Indian Hills) decided Jeff Alfonso (Garfield), 6-3.

125 — Bob Correggio (Bergenfield) decided Dave Ferrell (Bergen Tech), 4-2.

130 — Mike Palo (St. Joseph) decided Rob DiDomenico (Lodi), 8-5.

135 — James Weck

(Bergen Catholic) decided Dennis McSweeney (Lyndhurst), 9-6.

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160 — Mike Massenzio (St. Joseph Regional) decided Mark Radolan (Fort Lee), 9-1.

171 — Morgan Horner

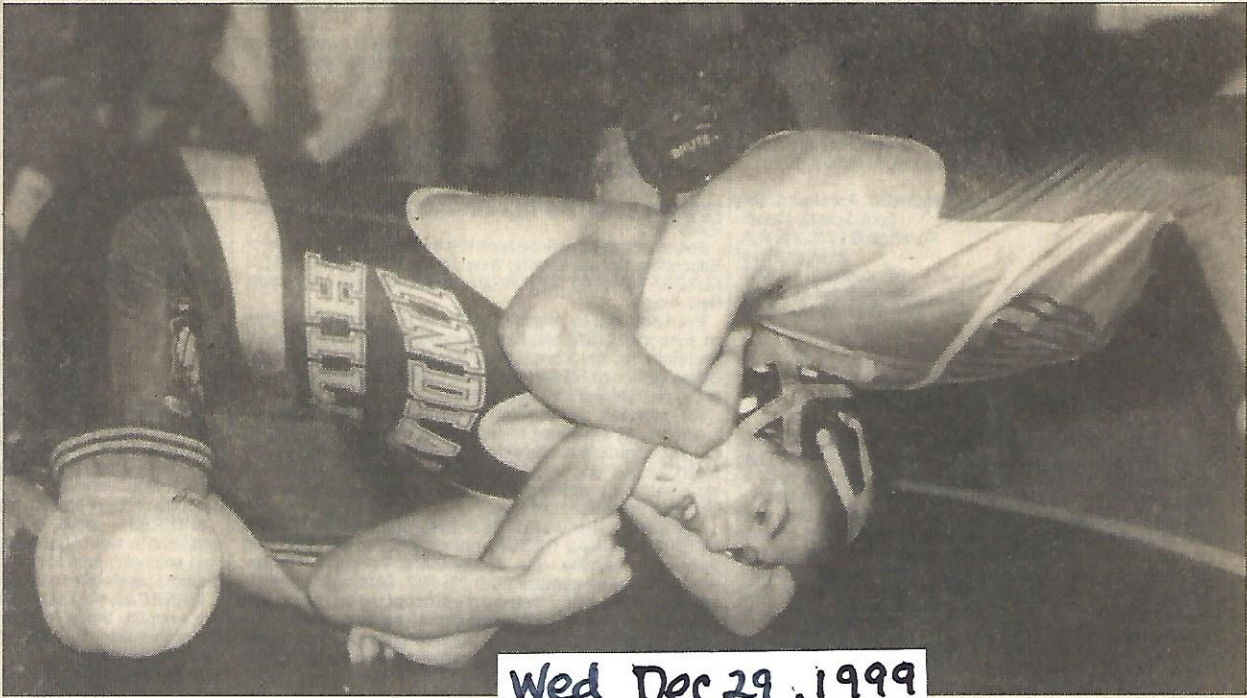
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215 — Dominic Santoli (Bergen Catholic) decided Bryan Diorio (Indian Hills), 16-5.

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**MOST OUTSTANDING WRESTLER:** James Weck (Bergen Catholic).



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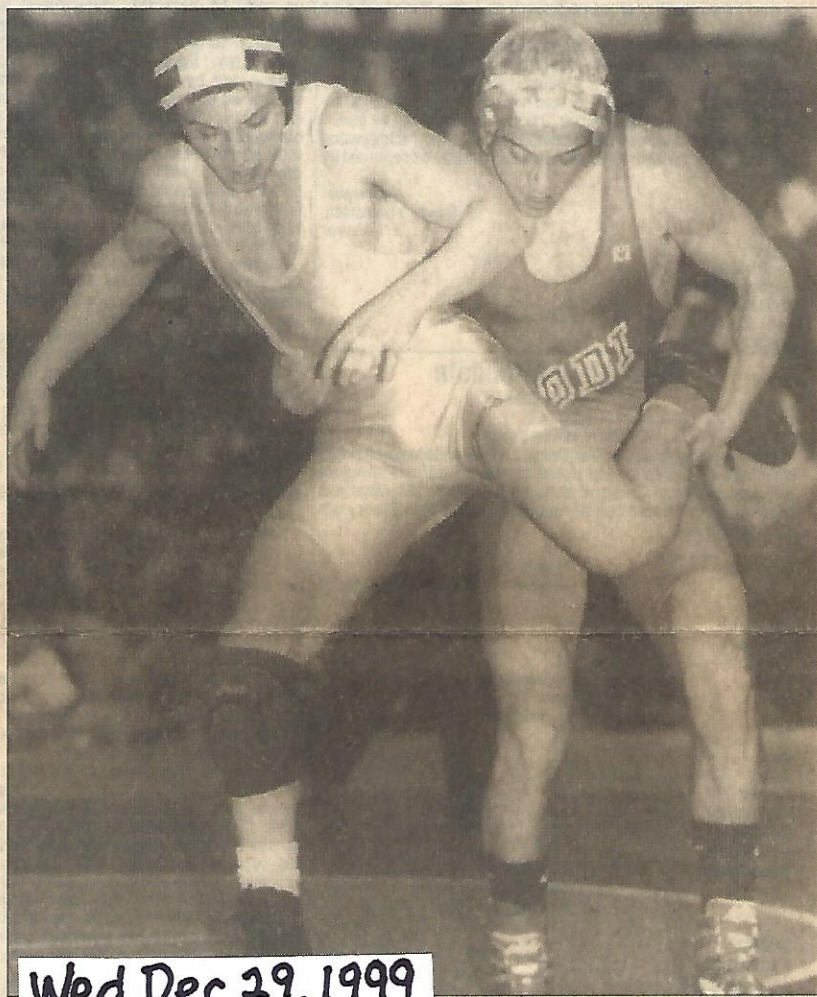
TOM MOORHEAD

Indian Hills junior Ricky LaForge (left) appears to be in trouble in his tangle with Garfield senior Jeff Alfonso for county supremacy at 119 pounds. However, LaForge emerged with a 6-3 triumph.



TOM MOORHEAD

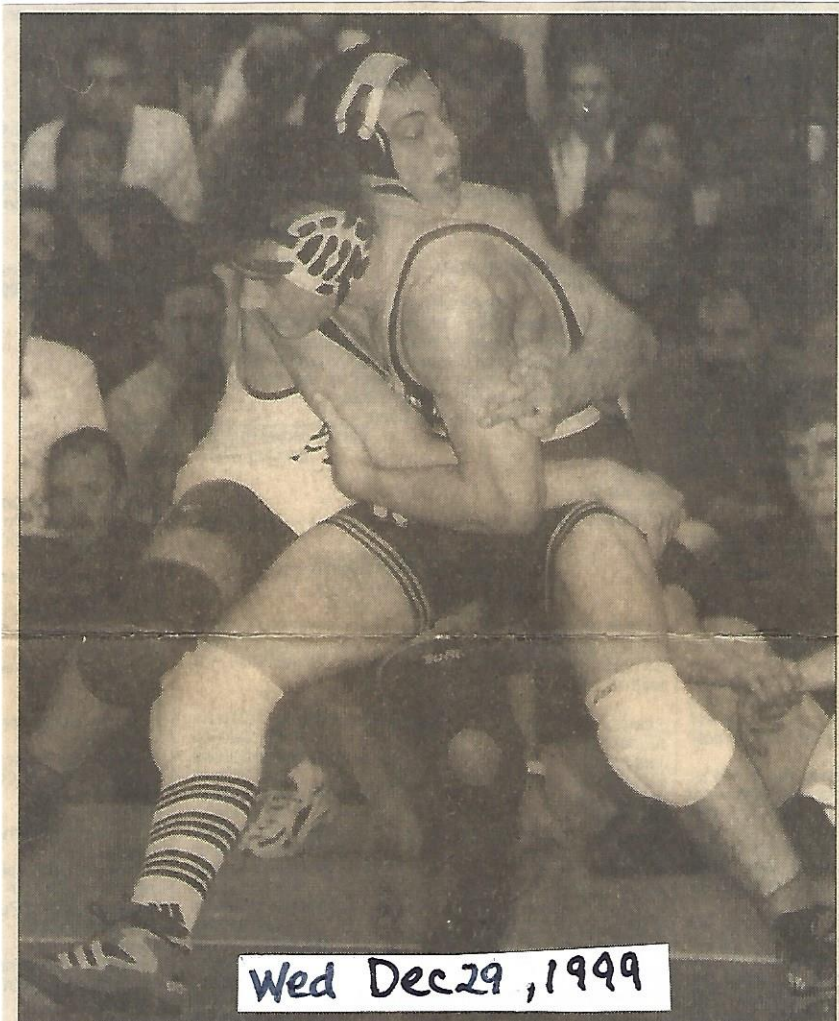
Pascack Valley sophomore Ryan Hult has Dumont sophomore Anthony Dunkin down for the count in their county-final bout at 112 pounds. Hult, last year's Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Region 2 tournament and a fifth-place finisher in the state tournament at 103 pounds, prevailed, 13-7, for his second county title at the expense of Dunkin.



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TOM MOORHEAD

Lodi senior Rob DiDomenico grabs the left leg of St. Joseph junior Mike Palo of Belleville in their quest for the gold at 130 pounds, a mission in which Palo was successful with his 8-5 verdict to grab his second county crown; he won the 125-pound title last year.



TOM MOORHEAD

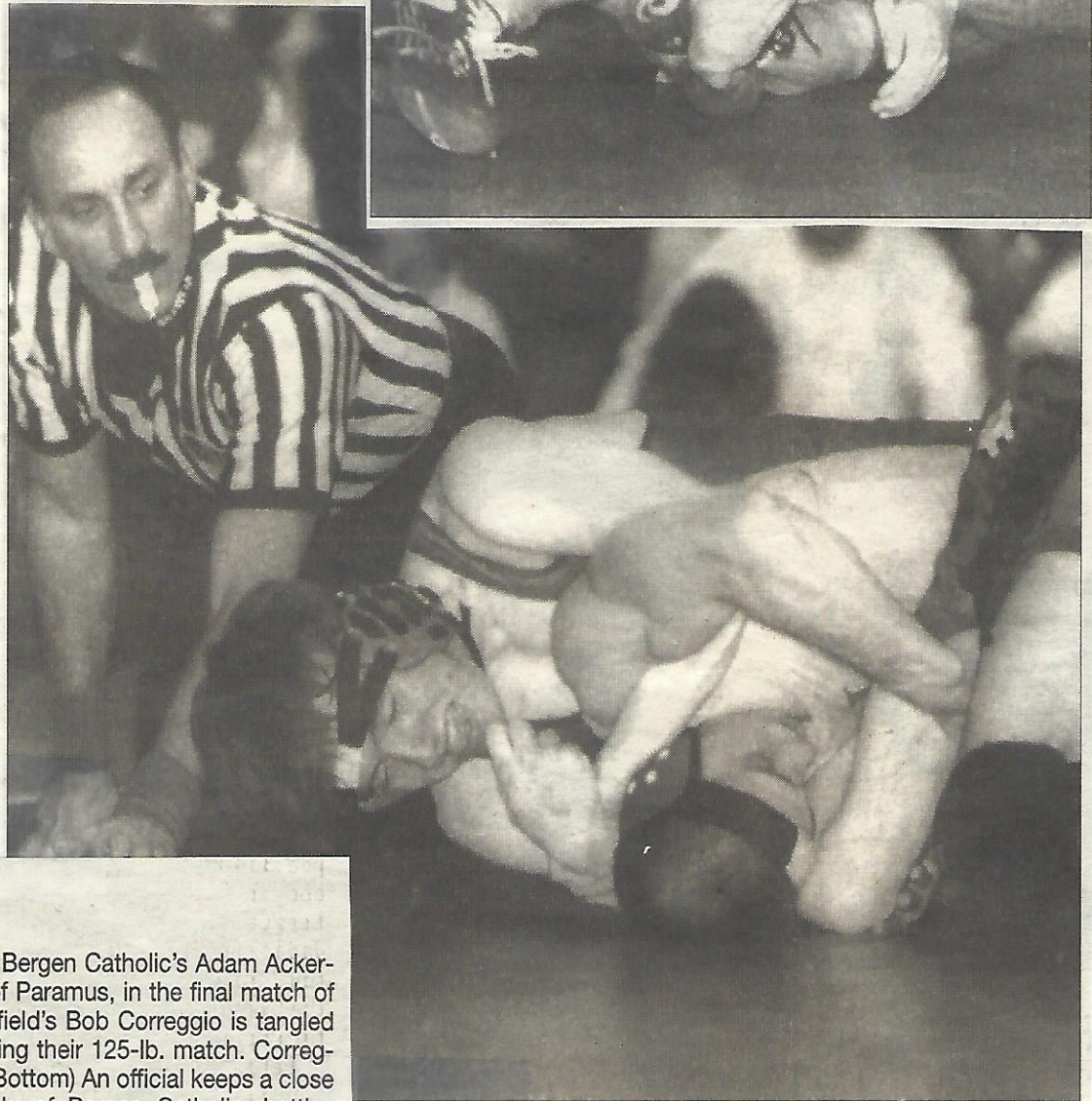
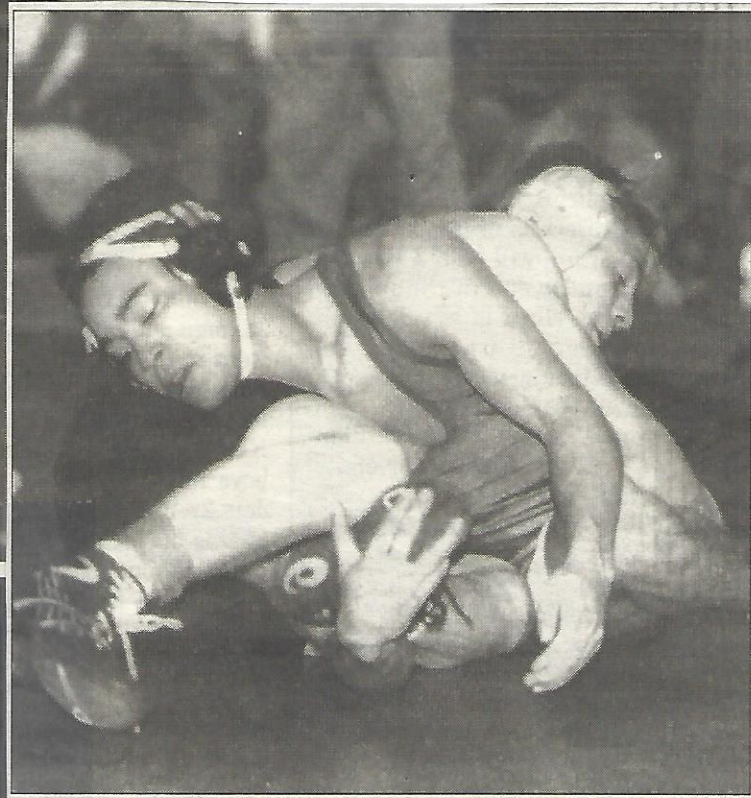
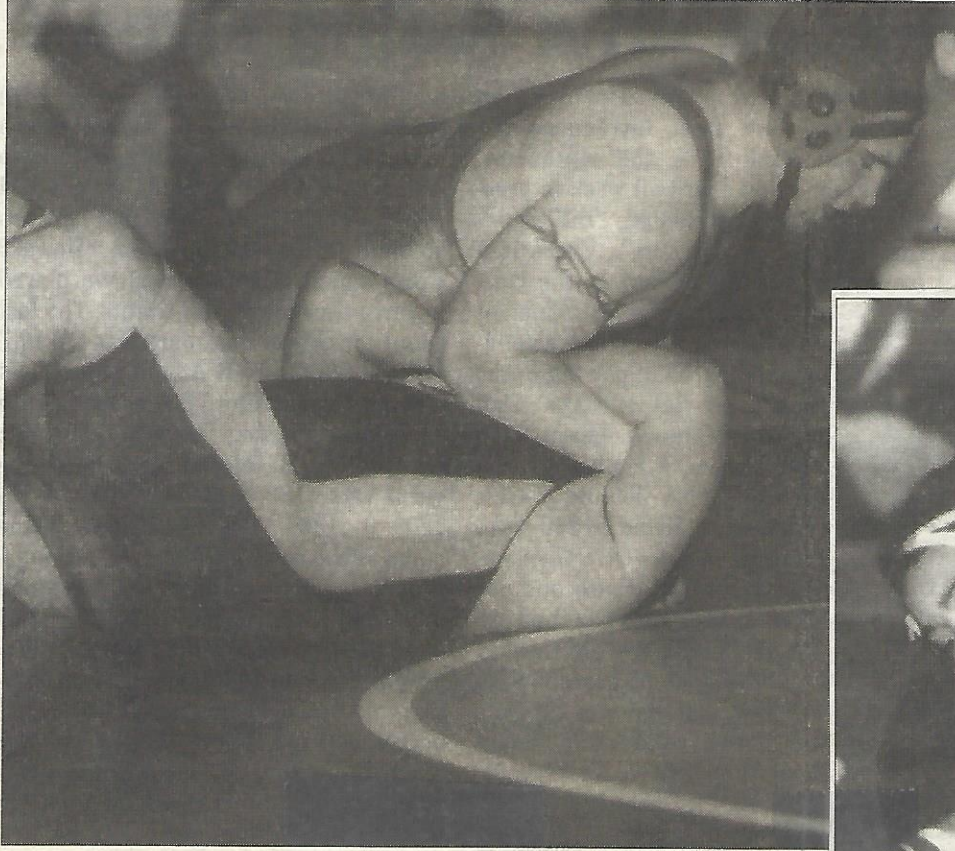
Don Bosco senior Paul Siemon of Paramus has Indian Hills junior Dave Amerman (front) contained in their duel at 152 pounds. Siemon, who last year became Bosco's first-ever regional champion, controlled the match, winning, 15-5.



TOM MOORHEAD

**Bergen Catholic junior James Weck of River Vale carries the Paul Tashian Memorial Trophy that proclaims him as the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Bergen County tournament. Mr. Tashian was a wrestler at Paramus High School and later a referee in the sport. He tragically died of cancer in 1981 at the age of 37. The Tashian Most Outstanding Wrestler Award is given to a wrestler who, as Mr. Tashian did, shows dedication to the sport and exceeds his expectations. Weck, seeded sixth in the 135-pound class, upset the top-seed, Lyndhurst junior Dennis McSweeney, in the championship round by putting him to his back for three points in the last minute of their bout to carve out a 9-6 victory for the title. Joining Weck are three members of the Tashian family — two of Mr. Tashian's sons, David (center) of Midland Park, who is the assistant wrestling coach at Bogota High School, and Paul (left) of Freehold with his four-year old son, Paul. In the ultimate move, Weck's father, Dan, who won a Bergen County championship at 130 pounds in 1966 wrestling for Pascack Valley, presented his son with his gold medal and ceremonial bout chart at the awards ceremony. James is the first son of a former county champion to win a county title.**

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## On the mats

At the BCCA Wrestling Tournament, Bergen Catholic's Adam Ackerman (Top left) pins Anthony Buldo, of Paramus, in the final match of the 275 lb. class. (Top right) Bergenfield's Bob Correggio is tangled with Bergen Tech's Dave Ferrell, during their 125-lb. match. Correggio won a 4-2 decision over Ferrell. (Bottom) An official keeps a close eye on the action, as James Weck, of Bergen Catholic, battles against Dennis McSweeney, of Lyndhurst. Weck fell behind, 6-3, but rallied to win a 9-6 decision.



## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

# A passion for winning

By **BOB KURLAND**

Staff Writer

**W**restling has been a way of life for Erik Norgaard for so long that he hardly remembers when he started in the sport.

It was almost preordained that he would wrestle because his father Gary wrestled for Leonia and older brother Karl was All-County at St. Joseph.

"I really can't remember when wrestling wasn't part of my life," says Norgaard, who is The Record's Athlete of the Week. He also could add that winning is a way of life as he's captured 107 bouts, with 10 coming this season. That includes five pins in seven minutes 38 seconds while capturing his fourth consecutive Bergen County Coaches Holiday Wrestling Tournament championship.

Wrestling takes up so much of his time, especially in the summer, that "The high school season is sort of my off-season."

This is not to say the sport is everything, because he's never neglected his studies at St. Joseph and currently stands sixth in his class. Pointing up his excellent academics is that he's almost a straight-A student who slipped below that only twice (a B in pre-calculus and a B-plus in biology). In September he'll be tested in the classroom and on the mat when he enrolls at Columbia.

"I also looked at Brown, Rutgers, Lehigh, and Virginia," he says. "But I liked the fact that Columbia

was near home and I really will enjoy living in the city." He'll probably study pre-law, and at least for now is thinking of eventually getting into investment banking. "That's where the money is."

Meanwhile, he has a big senior year in front of him, with a State title high on the list. He's still upset over losing in the championship last year to New Providence's Dennis DeFilippis.

"I can still see it in my mind and I'm not sure what happened," says Norgaard. "It was 0-0, I had him on his back, and suddenly I made a mistake and he pinned me. I'm looking to catch up to him in college."

During his early years, he also played baseball, football, and soccer. "I really thought of playing football in high school," he says, "because I love to hit people on the field. But as a freshman I gave it up to concentrate on wrestling."

The transition to high school wrestling was easy because his coach, Kerry "Hef" Kohlheffer, coached him in a Garfield recreation program.

"I knew he'd be special," says Kohlheffer, "because he worked his way to the finals in every tourney he entered, and as a sixth-grader entered the National Junior event and placed third. He has always been a natural and is even better this year because he's a little stronger and smarter."

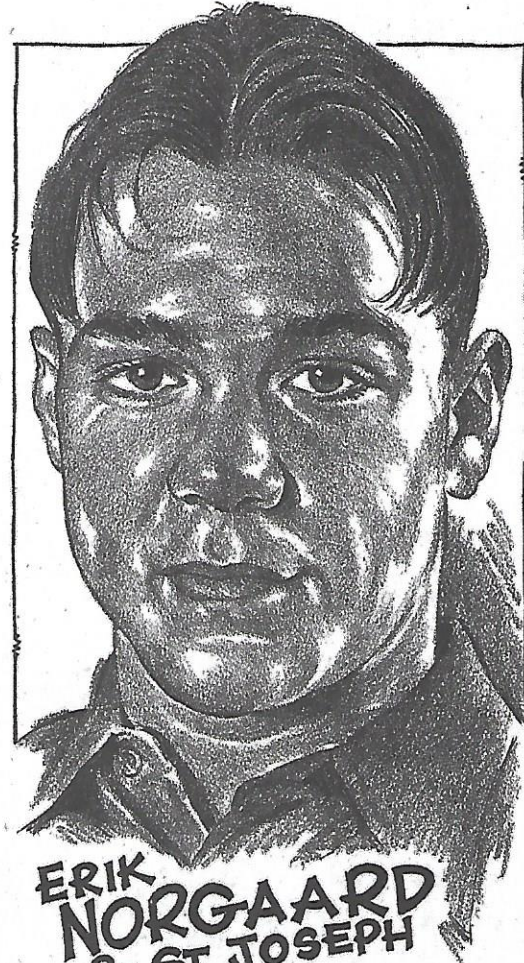
He's also the school's vice president and is a member of the Spanish Society and Cooking Club. "I love to cook," he says, "pasta is my specialty. And probably my best dish is chicken Marsala."

When school is over he'll be hitting the road to participate in major freestyle and Greco-Roman tournaments. Last summer he went to Oklahoma for the National Duals championships and posted a 7-2 record that included a loss to the No. 5 wrestler in the world. This year he hopes to improve on that record.

But winning a State championship is *the* goal!

\* \* \*

Runners-up for Athlete of the Week are: **Lauren Bolger** of Saddle Brook, **John Blackgrove** of Pascack Valley, **John Morin** of Northern Highlands, and **Ryan Pissari** of Ramapo for basketball, and **Bob Correggio** of Bergenfield and **James Weck** of Bergen Catholic for wrestling.



**ERIK NORGGAARD OF ST. JOSEPH**

CHARLIE McGRATH 1-5-2000

### SPORT: WRESTLING

**WEIGHT CLASS:** 145 pounds **CLASS:** Senior **AGE:** 18  
**LATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT**

is only the second wrestler in the 40-year history of the Bergen County Coaches Association holiday tournament to win four straight championships.

#### BACKGROUND

Comes from a wrestling family, and began wrestling competitively in the third grade.

#### QUOTE

"The mind tires before the body, so when you think you can't go on, you can. And if you train like a madman, you can exceed all boundaries set by man."

# HIGH SCHOOL BEST OF THE CENTURY WRESTLING

## BERGEN

## TEAM

### **PASCACK HILLS, 1977**

Bucky Rehain's Cowboys were 14-0, set a national pin record with 128, and had three State champions: Tom Husted, Tim Catalfo, and Chris Catalfo; with Bob Davis third.

## EVENTS

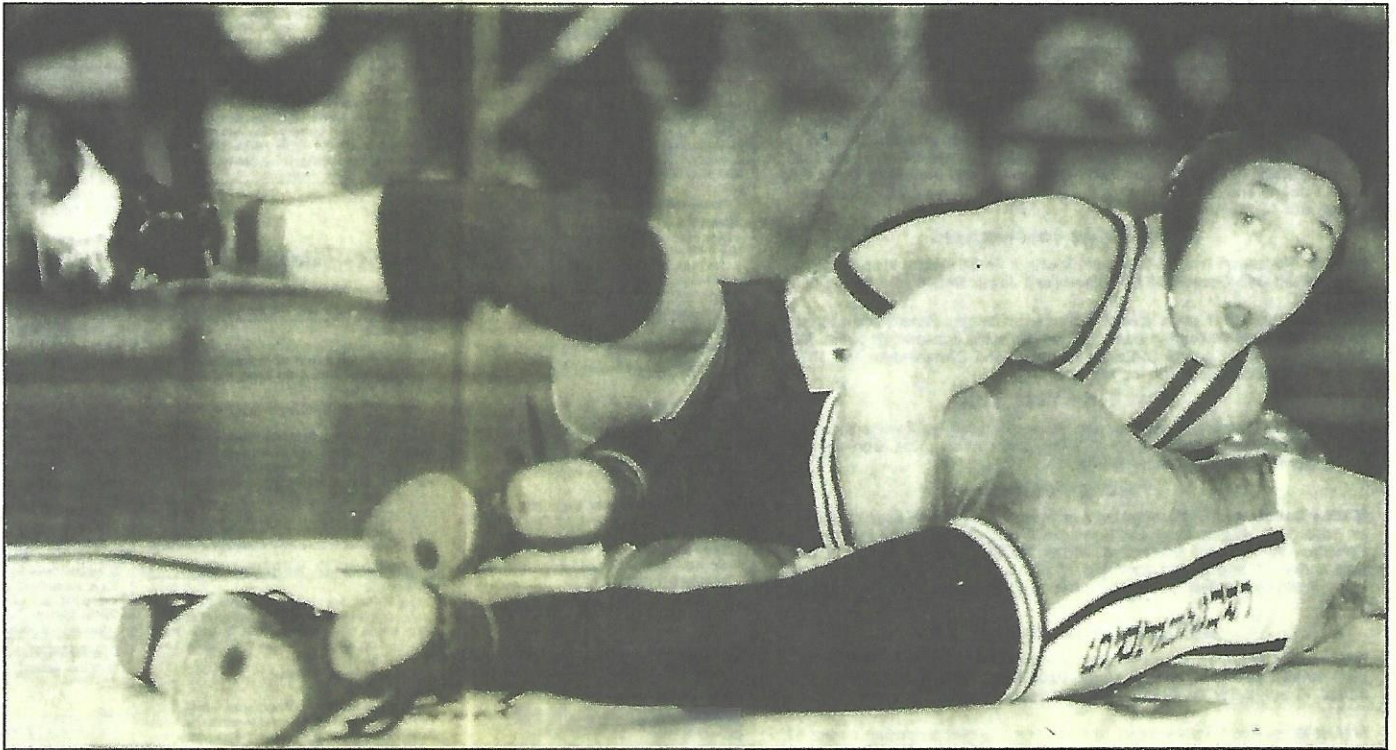
**BOUNTS:** Bergenfield's Pete Georgoutsos, 20-16, over Bergen Catholic's Tim Doherty in the 1981 regional finals; and Hackensack's Chris Bitetto, 18-17, over Pascack Hills' Justin Frohlich in the December 1998 Bergen County Holiday Tournament.

**DUAL MEET:** Hackensack over Pascack Hills, 34-24, for No. 1 spot in Bergen County, Feb. 11, 1976, to snap the Cowboys' 52-match winning streak. Pascack Hills expected to win at 135 pounds, but Vito Errico dropped down a weight class to avoid Tim Catalfo at 141 and make the win possible. At Hackensack, it drew the County's largest wrestling audience at the time, more than 2,200.

## COACH

### **SAL CASCIO, Bergenfield**

Builder of a powerhouse in the Sixties, Cascio also was an innovator who started a recreation team to serve as a feeder program and devised camps and clinics to teach the sport to all kids. Other top coaches included Frank Bennett, Fair Lawn; Bucky Rehain, Pascack Hills; Stan Woods, Emerson/Park Ridge.



DAMION LOGAN

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1999

THE RECORD S-11

BEST OF THE  
**HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING**  
**CENTURY**  
 BERGEN

**WRESTLERS**

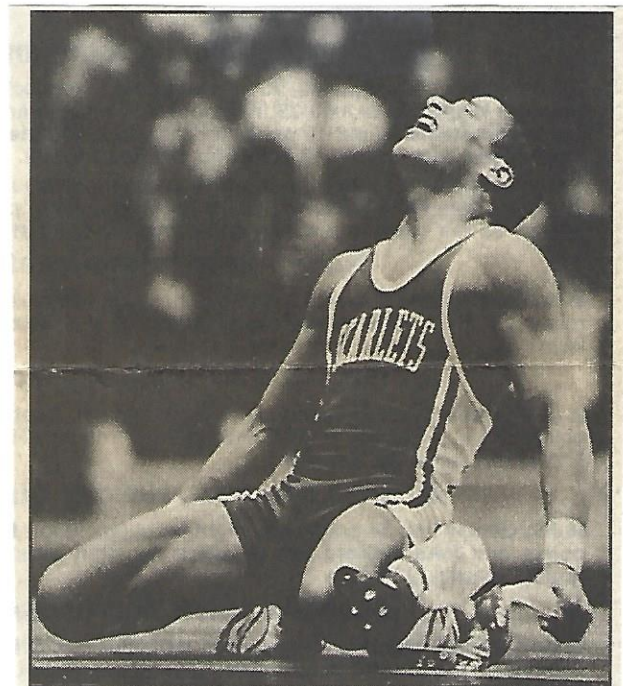
**LIGHTWEIGHTS**

**DAMION LOGAN, St. Joseph, 1996**

Only the seventh wrestler in 63 years to reach the State finals all four years, Logan won as a freshman (103 pounds in 1993), junior (126 in '95), and senior (135 in '96). Among his then-County record 122 wins were two decisions over another eventual three-time champion, Lyndhurst's Don Pritzlaff. However, Logan suffered a concussion during their 1994 State-semis brawl and his only State-finals loss followed. Aggressive with great escapability, Logan is wrestling at the University of Michigan.

**PETE GONZALEZ, Ridgefield Park, 1983**

Gonzalez (109-6-1) was fifth as a sophomore, took the State 115-pound title as a junior in 1983, but was third as a senior despite 30 wins and 25 pins. One of the sad scenes of high school wrestling was that of Gonzalez and his brother/coach Tony on their knees crying after his loss in the semis. Pete was an All-American at Montclair State and is a private wrestling instructor.



PETE GONZALEZ

# WRESTLERS

## LIGHTWEIGHTS

### LELAND STRECKER, Teaneck, 1939

Teaneck's power began with its leadoff man, surprisingly strong for his size. Strecker won the championship at 95 pounds in 1938 at the fifth annual State championship tournament (held at Elizabeth's Grover Cleveland Junior High) and the 105-pound title in 1939, when Teaneck was the host school.

### DENNIS SULLIVAN, Leonia, 1951

Sullivan was voted the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the 1951 tournament after pinning Roselle Park's talented Bob Hahn in 4:03 for the 120-pound title. A year earlier, he was fourth. He went on to compete at Lehigh and eventually became one of New Jersey's finest officials.

### KERIN RAFTERY, Fair Lawn, 1963

The 1963 Most Outstanding Wrestler stopped two aces at 123 pounds: Phillipsburg's Carl Bateman and top-seeded Dave Gleitzman of Union. Raftery wrestled at Syracuse and is the last high school wrestler from the state to place in the Senior Freestyle Nationals. His offseason workouts with Passaic's All-Century choice Dave Pruzanksky (Temple) are legendary.

### ED KOCHAKJI, Bergenfield, 1968

No high school wrestler yet has been credited with having better balance than Kochakji, who won three titles, from 1966 through 1968 (freshmen could not wrestle varsity), once at 115 and twice at 123 pounds. He was voted the State's MOW twice and was a career 80-2 with 70 pins. At C.W. Post, he never lost a dual-meet match and was fourth in the NCAA championships. Kochakji is head coach at Bergen Community College.

### TOM HUSTED, Pascack Hills, 1977

As a freshman, Husted made an immediate impact and put Pascack Hills on the map by reaching the State quarterfinals. He qualified all four years, was fourth once, and won in 1976 (as MOW) and '77. Some say Husted's 6-5 overtime win over Darryl Burley in the 1977 semifinals was the state's greatest bout ever. Burley, an eventual NCAA champion, was Husted's teammate at Lehigh.

### JASON HERNANDEZ, Bergen Catholic, 1994

Fourth twice in the tournament after reaching the semis both times, Hernandez won in grand style as a senior, building a 10-3 lead and pinning returning champion Mike Sandelier of Washington Township (Gloucester County) with a cradle in 3:20. The four-time Bergen County champion set a County record for wins at the time with a 121-8 record and is wrestling at Boston University.

## MIDDLEWEIGHTS

### ROBERT MOONE, Teaneck, 1941

Each year, Moone added 10 pounds and continued winning. He opened with the 125-pound title as a sophomore in 1939 and succeeded the next two years as the winner at 135 and 145 pounds. Team point totals were kept in the tournament those days, and Teaneck had the top score all three years Moone won.

### TOM BOCCHINO, Fair Lawn, 1961

Looking back, fans consider Bocchino the Muhammad Ali of wrestling. He was outspoken, but backed up what he predicted. A great competitor, he won at 136 pounds in 1961 and went on to star at NYU and place in the National AAU championships.

### JOEL RAUCCI, Leonia, 1972

Raucci won so handily in the 1972 semifinals over Garry Osborne of Phillipsburg that the hard-to-impress P'burg fans showed their respect by giving him a standing ovation. Raucci won in 1971 and '72. Sadly, he died at a young age.

### BRIAN WELLS, Pascack Hills, 1987

Only once has the Most Outstanding Wrestler prize been shared. That's when Wells shared it in 1987 with Steve Rivera of Manalapan. Wells was a two-time champion (141 pounds and 148) with a State record of 83 career pins. He was one of the first local wrestlers to stress takedowns in practice and took his expertise to Maryland.

### CHRIS CATALFO, Pascack Hills, 1978

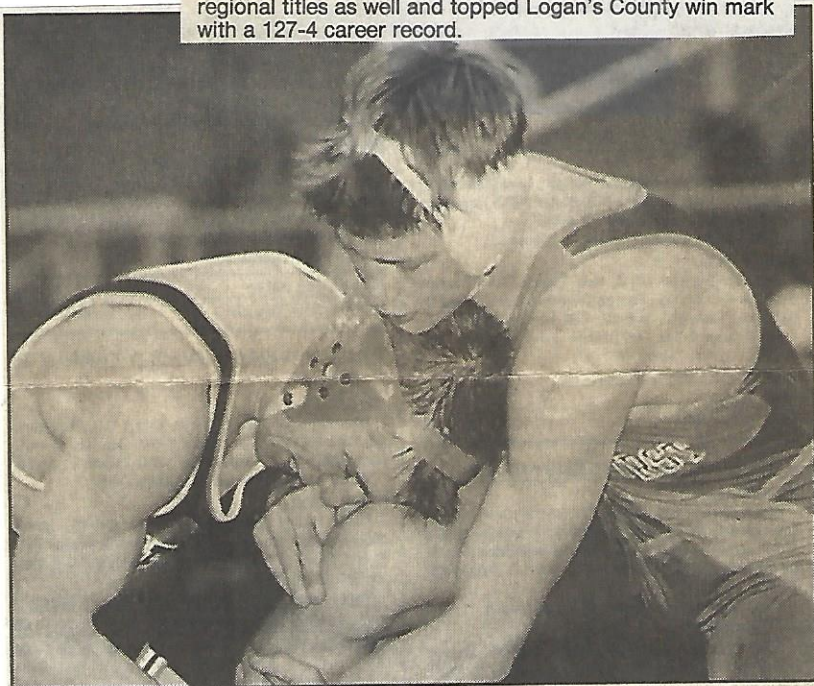
Catalfo soared beyond his 1977 win and '78 second-place finish to Passaic County All-Decade pick Tony Surage of Passaic Valley. He went on to Syracuse, became a member of the 1984 Olympic Greco-Roman team, was a National Greco-Roman champion in 1985, a PanAm Games champion in 1987, and twice a World Cup runner-up.

### SAL MESSINA, Teaneck, 1961

In his championship season of '61, Messina came back from a broken arm suffered in football and beat another championship-bound matman, Bocchino, in a dual meet. The captain of the Teaneck powerhouse, Messina also wrestled at Maryland.

### DON PRITZLAFF, Lyndhurst, 1997

Aggressive but extremely smooth shifting from move to move, the three-time high school champion is destined to be an NCAA champion soon, the experts say. Pritzlaff's a standout at Wisconsin, where he has won Junior Freestyle and Junior Nationals titles and is twice an All-American. In high school, he won three county, four district, and four regional titles as well and topped Logan's County win mark with a 127-4 career record.



DON PRITZLAFF

# WRESTLERS

## UPPERWEIGHTS

### CHARLIE GUNNER, Teaneck, 1944

One of the toughest of the early wrestlers, Gunner won in 1944 at 165 pounds and also proved to be outstanding in another aggressive sport as a Golden Gloves boxing champion. He later coached three Teaneck wrestlers to gold medals: James Balquist (1958), Robert Jalil (1959), and Messina (1961). At the 1967 State championships, Gunner received the Harry E. Lake Award for contributions to wrestling.

### RAY REICHERT, Fair Lawn, 1957

The 1957 Most Outstanding Wrestler was a great physical specimen who intimidated opponents merely by stepping onto the mat. Longtime Hunterdon Central coach Russ Riegel referred to Reichert as one of the best wrestlers he has seen. He proved to be as strong as he looked by handling Rahway's powerful Carlos Garay, 7-2, for the 157-pound title.

### JON BOGERT, Leonia, 1959

Technically sound, extremely strong, and highly skilled is the way Bogert is described. He won the 169-pound title in 1959, a great switch being his most deadly weapon. Bogert went on to star in the classroom and on the mat at Yale.

### GEORGE GALLER, East Paterson, 1964

The powerful Galler is the only Bergen County wrestler to defeat Hackensack's Reggie Williams, who was a state second- and fourth-place finisher. Galler was third in 1963 and won in 1964, at 168 pounds. He is the only two-time Bergen County scoring champion in football and outgained his backfield mate at Wyoming, eventual Miami Dolphins star Jim Kiick.

### JACK INSERRA, Pascack Hills, 1981

The prototype of a 188-pound wrestler, Inserra was a quarterfinalist with Paramus Catholic before shifting to Hills. He lost to All-Century teammate and close friend Bill Hyman in a summer tournament, but avenged the loss in the Bergen County Holiday tournament before Hyman moved to heavyweight. Inserra learned from brother Frank and won with balance and strength. He wrestled and played football at Penn State.

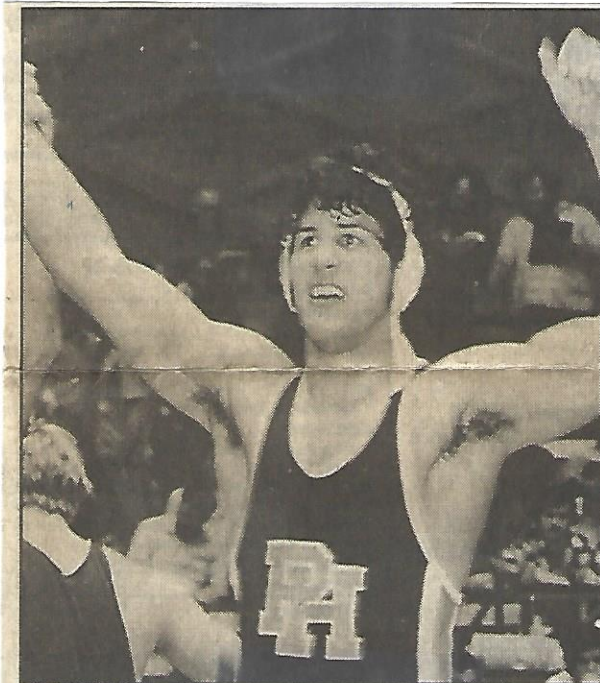
### BILL HYMAN, Saddle Brook, 1981

Hyman immediately followed Inserra to the gold medal stand that year, which was only right. It seemed he and Inserra drove each other to greatness. Hyman was one of the great big men, trimmer than most heavyweights and more mobile. A student of the game and pushed by his brother, Mark. Hyman was an NCAA champion at Temple.

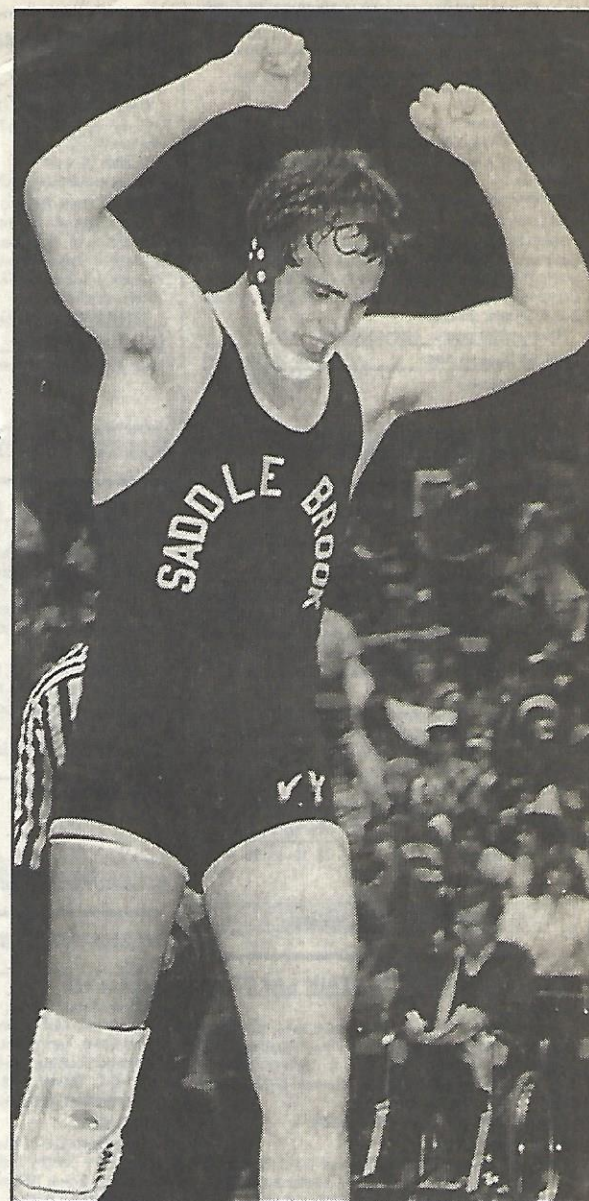
## HONORABLE MENTION

Reggie Williams, Hackensack; Oliver Ruiz, Cliffside Park; Ludlow Gibbons, Teaneck; Robert Jalil, Teaneck; Bob Hurley, Bergenfield; Jim Fiore, St. Cecilia's; Jim Coloneri, Cliffside Park; Hamid Chalileh, Waldwick; Rich Gilmore, Fair Lawn; Drew Black, Mahwah; Anthony Cancro, Teaneck; Tim Catalfo, Pascack Hills; Joe Mocco, Fair Lawn; Don Milone, Cliffside Park; Gene Ashley, Pascack Hills; Keith Stiehler, Lyndhurst; Jim Finn, Bergen Catholic; Frank Lodeserto, St. Joseph; Bill Spindler, Hasbrouck Heights; Nick Fokas, Bergen Catholic; Chris Bitetto, Hackensack; Rich Bitetto, Hackensack.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE:** Bill Savage, NJSIAA historian; George Jockish, Bergen County Coaches Association; Lou Lazzari, Cliffside Park; Ron Fox and Barry Gramlich, The Record.



JACK INSERRA



BILL HYMAN