

# Bill Havens Has Fine Mat Mark at Alfred

*Special to The  
Democrat and Chronicle*

ALFRED — Bill Havens, who doubles as Alfred Tech's athletics director and wrestling coach, has won 18 matches, lost four and tied one since he revived the sport after a three-year layoff in 1958.

In his opening season, 1958-59, his squad won four and lost two meets. In 1960-61, and again last season, his teams had identical seven and one one records.

Havens was a stand-out athlete at Hornell High School in the mid-thirties. He was graduated



Bill Havens

from Ithaca College in 1941 and entered the Navy to train recruit companies at San Diego, Calif. Soon after the outbreak of war, he was commissioned and sent to the Southern Pacific as a PT boat commander.

Bill spent two tours of duty in the Solomon Islands area and one tour in the Mediterranean area where his group took part in the landings at Southern France. In between, he instructed boat crews at Davisville, R.I. Although he never talks about it, Bill won the Silver Star, two Purple Hearts, and two unit citations. He rose to the rank of lieutenant commander.

Havens joined the Alfred Tech staff in 1949 and set up the Tech intercollegiate program in 1952. He waits patiently for more two-year colleges to install wrestling. Bill expects to add Canton

Tech and Onondaga County Community College to his schedule next year. The only two-year colleges he now meets are Paul Smith's, Delhi Tech, and Orange County Community College of Middletown, N.Y. The rest of the schedule is made up of freshman and varsity teams from four-year colleges.

Bill developed the 1960 191-pound National Junior College Champion, Jeff Crothers, and the current University of Georgia mat captain, Alan Hicks of Corning, N.Y.

The Hornell resident believes that he wins just as many matches on conditioning as he does on wrestling know-how and well-conditioned wrestlers have become an Alfred Tech trade mark. That is why running and calisthenics are a required portion of every Tech wrestling practice.