

Bomber Matmen Eye County Match

Tournament action is all that is left of the 1972-73 wrestling team at East Rochester High School, and though Coach Don Quinn's charges have not been overpowering as in past seasons, his club has had some glittering moments.

The Bombers will be waging mat warfare on Friday and Saturday in the Monroe County Tournament on the Rush-Henrietta floor.

At least five of Quinn's stronger boys have a chance to nab their respective weight titles. They'll be competing against the best in both the County East and West Divisions.

The local standard bearers are Teddy Hagberg, Chris Bourne, Jim VanThof, Billy Schick, Tim Duffy, Richie McPhee and Jimmy Smith. Two of the aforementioned are still showing undefeated records. Bourne, the Bomber's classy 108 pounder, has a 9-0 record and McPhee hasn't lost a match either.

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Quinn's scrappers lost out on another win last Thursday afternoon at Irondequoit, this time by a 23-23 tie. The scrap went down to the last match of the heavyweight tiff. ER had a 23-20 edge at the time and Bomber Don Verni needed at least a tie to nab the verdict for the wrestlers. Verni dropped a hairline 3-2 nod and that ended the matches a stalemate.

The Bombers actually won only five of the 12 scraps.

The score was Irondequoit 20, ER 17 when McPhee, the peer of all County East 180 pounders faced his foe. In a fast 1:44, McPhee had his rival flattened and the ER club was tied with the Baysiders. Then came Verni's loss to Irondequoit's John Reeder.

The loss made the Bomber season record, 9-5-1.

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Last Saturday, the locals participated in the annual East against West division day and bowed to Hilton of the Western Division in a tussle between second place league finishers.

Hilton caught the Bombers on an off day, and posted a 30-13 verdict. After nine matches, the Bombers were in the dust, 30-3. Duffy then worked hard for a 8-7 decision in the 170 pounder and McPhee did his usual thing, bagging his 16th win of the season with a soft 12-1 decision. Other Bomber tallymen were Bourne who copped his specialty, the 108 pound tiff with 5-2 nod and VanThof, who pocketed the 148 pound tussle with a 3-0 decision.

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Bombers able to achieve triumphs on Saturday's finals will move into the Section 5 tournament to be staged at the Fairport High gym on March 2 and 3.



Bill Schick

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