

Pioneer matmen battle for No. 1 state rating

SYRACUSE — Powerful Pioneer Central of Section 6 continued to pressure unbeaten Union Endicott for the top spot in the New York State Scholastic Wrestling Ratings.

Pioneer, rated No. 2, again won the prestigious Salamanca Wrestling Invitational with 111½ points outdistancing runner-up Olean (77) by 34½ points. Twenty-one teams competed in the tournament.

Meanwhile, Union-Endicott took the STAC (Southern Tier Athletic Conference) Tournament Saturday with 105 points. Homer, an earlier season victim of Peru Central, finished second with 69 points.

Third rated Baldwinsville, unbeaten in 15 duals this year and 47 straight, escaped with a 26-20 victory over West Genesee only after former state heavyweight champion Dan Lang pinned his foe in the final match of the competition. It marks the second time this season Baldwinsville's Lang had won key matches for a team victory.

Peru Central held tight to its No. 4 ranking winning the Suburban Council Invitational by six points over sixth ranked Niskayuna. Potent Brentwood Ross crushed rated Newburgh Free Academy, 45-10, for their 79th consecutive dual victory. The loss knocked Newburgh out of the top 20.

Also dropping from the ratings was Brentwood Sonderling who lost to Tappan Zee. However, Huntington bounced Tappan Zee, 33-13, to hold its 10th spot in the standings.

State Scholastic Wrestling Ratings

1. Union Endicott, Section 4	12-0
2. Pioneer, Section 6	12-0
3. Baldwinsville, Section 3	15-0
4. PERU CENTRAL, Section 7	10-0
5. Brentwood Ross, Section 11	12-0
6. Schenectady Niskayuna, Section 2	13-0
7. Mount Vernon, Section 1	9-0-1
8. Spencerport, Section 5	12-0
9. Mepham, Section 8	11-1
10. Huntington, Section 11	12-1
11. Niagara Wheelfield, Section 6	15-0
12. Island Trees, Section 8	14-0
13. Horseheads, Section 4	13-0
14. Lancaster, Section 6	15-0
15. Poughkeepsie Arlington, Section 1	14-1
16. Lowville, Section 3	13-0
17. Pearl River, Section 9	10-1
18. Tonawanda, Section 6	15-0
19. Hilton, Section 5	11-1
20. Minisink Valley, Section 9	13-1
Tappan Zee, Section 7 (tie)	12-3