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Foxcroft Academy's Zach Caron (left) tries to take down Ellsworth's Josh Wright during the 145-pound championship match at the Penobscot Valley Conference Wrestling Championships at Ellsworth on Saturday.

# PVC

Continued from Page B4

said Caron, a two-time defending individual state champion. "I won both, but they were definitely close matches that could go either way."

Ellsworth's Trent Goodman won the third head-to-head final with Foxcroft, scoring a 10-0 major decision over Billy Brock at 182 pounds.

But Foxcroft — despite missing injured 285-pound competitor Connor Holmes — had too much depth, winning both of its third-place matches and going 5-3 in championship-round bouts to expand what was just a 133-129 lead over Ellsworth heading into the consolation finals.

Other individual champions for the Ponies were R.J. Nelson at 132 pounds, Brandon Brock (195) and Michael Pendriss (220). Joining Billy Brock with second-place finishes were Brandon Weston (106) and Dustin Simmons (152) while Cameron Cookson (120) and Conner John-



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John Bapst's Jared Smith (left) tries to get out of a foot hold from Foxcroft Academy's Brandon Brock during the 195-pound championship match Saturday at the Penobscot Valley Conference Wrestling Championships at Ellsworth.

son (138) each won his third-place match.

Ellsworth, which had defending state champion Con-



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John Bapst's Jacob Emery (left) tries to get out of a hold from Bucksport's Foster Ashmore during the 113-pound championship match at the Penobscot Valley Conference Wrestling Championships at Ellsworth on Saturday.

nor Petros sidelined by injury, split its six championship finals. The Eagles got additional victories from Peyton Cole (138 pounds) and Austin Smith (170) and another second from Andrew Brown at 160.

Jacob Hesseltine led Dexter by pinning Brown at 3:29 of their 160-pound final, with the Tigers also getting seconds from Tyler Beem (132), Isaiah Hesseltine (138), Bryce Sweet (170) and Tanner Hall (285).

Bucksport crowned two individual champions in Foster Ashmore at 113 pounds and Brody Boynton at 152, while Piscataquis went 4-1 in its consolation finals with Ethan Moulton (113), Zach Wilson (145), Ethan Cooley (160) and Matthew Griffith (170) all placing third and Mitchell Nuite (182) finishing fourth.

Penobscot Valley of Howland won the smallest and largest weight classes, with Codi Sirois winning at 106 pounds and Richard Woodward earning the 285-pound crown.

Daegan Eastman of Mattanawcook Academy of Lincoln was the 120-pound champion.

## Skowhegan dominates KVAC; Winslow team wins Class B

BY ERNIE CLARK  
BDN STAFF

AUGUSTA — The three-time defending Eastern Maine Class A champion Skowhegan wrestling team remained unbeaten on the season Saturday, rolling to victory at the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference championships at Cony High School.

### HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

The Indians crowned five individual champions and amassed 224.5 points, far ahead of runner-up Nokomis of Newport, which finished second with 124.

Host Cony was third with 119 points, followed by Camden Hills of Rockport (109) and the top Class B school in the event, Winslow with 96 points.

Winning individual titles for Skowhegan were Cody Craig at 113 pounds, Cooper Holland at 132, Julian Sirois at 152, Kameron Doucette at 160 pounds and Logan Stevens at 182.

Craig, Sirois, Doucette and Stevens remained undefeated on the season.

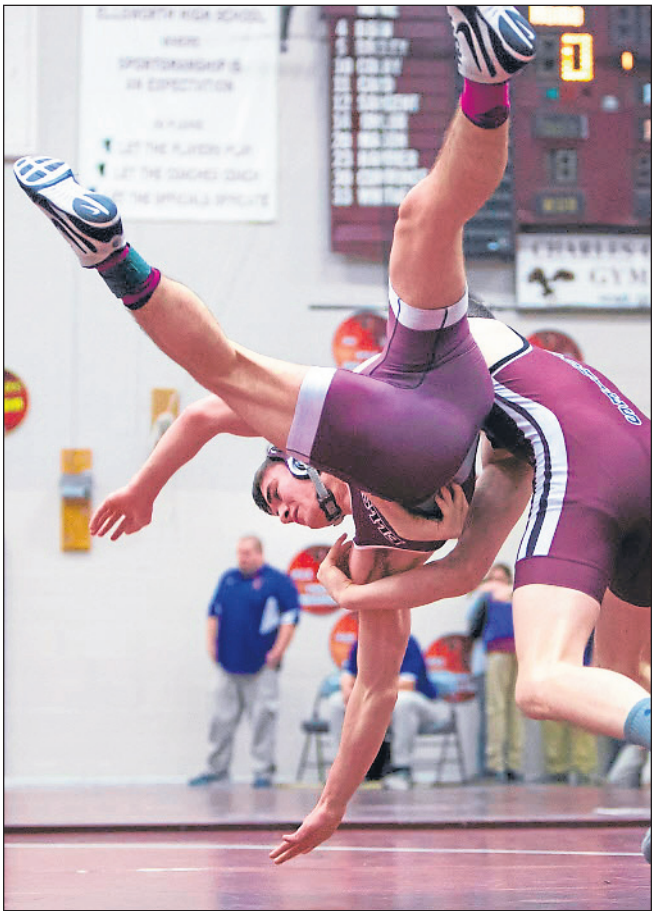
Skowhegan also got a second-place finish from Samson Sirois at 126 pounds, thirds from Austin Merrill (106), Luke Bolster (145) and Caleb Vautier (285) and fourths from Richard Oberg (120) and Daniel Laweryson (195).

Nokomis was paced by Christopher Wilson, the individual champion at 195 pounds, and 285-pound winner Hunter Glidden. Jacob Booth added a second-place finish for the Warriors at 120 pounds while David Wilson (160) placed third and Quintan Richards (138) and Kolen Fraser each finished fourth.

Named wrestlers of the meet were 120-pound champion Peter DelGallo of Gardiner in Class A and 138-pound winner Steven Thompson of Medomak Valley of Waldoboro in Class B.

Other weight-class champions were Noah Dumas (106) and Garrison Storey (220) of Cony, Noah Lang (126) of Camden Hills, Justin Studholme (145) of Erskine Academy of South China and Robert Heatherman (170) of Brunswick-Mount Ararat.

Named KVAC coaches of the year were Tenney Noyes and Brooks Thompson of Skowhegan in Class A and Jason Yates of Oceanside of Rockland-Thomaston in Class B.



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Foxcroft Academy's Zach Caron (right) takes down Ellsworth's Josh Wright during the 145-pound championship match at the Penobscot Valley Conference Wrestling Championships at Ellsworth on Saturday.



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Foxcroft Academy's Antonio Ayala celebrates after defeating Ellsworth's Logan Lord in the 126-pound championship match Saturday in Ellsworth.



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Bucksport's Brody Boynton (left) wrestles Foxcroft Academy's Dustin Simmons in the 152-pound championship match Saturday in Ellsworth.



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Mattanawcook Academy's Daegan Eastman (left) tries to take down Bucksport's Ethan Minnick (right) during the 120-pound championship match Saturday at the Penobscot Valley Conference Wrestling Championships at Ellsworth.

# Bapst

Continued from Page B4

Grace Philippon, Hannah's sophomore sister, had six points and a game-high 12 rebounds to go with two assists.

Maddie Card had 15 points, seven rebounds, two steals and two assists for the 11-6 Eagles and fellow senior guard Kate Whitney contributed 10 points, 10 rebounds, five steals, three assists and two blocked shots. Samantha Mason had eight points for Ellsworth and Caitlin Bean had seven rebounds and two steals to go with three points.

Bangor-based John Bapst parlayed an effective 2-3 zone and total control of the boards to manufacture a 35-13 halftime lead. Hannah Philippon had 13 points and seven rebounds and Bell had 12 points and three rebounds as the Crusaders outrebounded the Eagles 23-11, leading to several second-chance points.

But after Hannah Philippon's free throw opened the second half, the Eagles began crashing the boards aggressively and boxing out and they scored the final 12 points of the quarter to pull within 36-25. Whitney had four points of her eight second-half points and Card had a 3-pointer and an assist.

Ellsworth outrebounded John Bapst 14-8 and Bapst went 0-for-9 from the floor in the quarter.

Ellsworth used a 9-2 run in the fourth quarter to close to within 50-44 as Card scored five points and Mason had four.

But Bell and Abbey Legasse each sank two free throws to extend the lead to 10 and Ellsworth couldn't get any closer than eight.

"We played real well in the first half," said Bell. "They made us a little nervous in the second half but we battled hard and ended up with the win. Our free throws definitely helped us keep the lead. Without the free throws, it would have

been a more interesting game."

John Bapst converted 15 of its 19 fourth-quarter free throw attempts.

"We didn't play good defense in the first half and we didn't rebound well," said Card, who had 13 second-half points including three, 3-pointers. "We didn't have the fire under our butts. But we stepped it up in the second half. We played with a lot of heart out there."

Ellsworth coach Andy Pooler felt his team may have been "a little starstruck" by the Cross Insurance Center in the first half but played with "more energy" in the second half.

"They're a better basketball team than they showed in the first half," said John Bapst coach Mike Webb. "We knew we needed to rebound well against them. I thought we played very well."

John Bapst outrebounded Ellsworth 40-31 and outrebounded the Eagles 27-6 from the foul line.



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