



Automatic Bids Accounted For Wildcard Announcement Awaits

TIM SCHNEIDER, Volunteer Writer
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ROCHESTER — Section V champions have been crowned and the state meet in Albany is just a week away. Over the next week the wildcard system will determine whether or not Section V runners up will have a chance for a state title as well.

Defending state champions Bob Dierna of Wayne, Paul Glover of Spencerport, Quinton Murphy of Holley, Ian Paddock of Warsaw and Mike Nevinger of Letchworth all won their respective weight classes for a return trip to the State Championships to be held next weekend in Albany.

Three former state champions, Cody Hutcheson of Bath and Alex Ekstrom and Tyler Marlow of Pal-Mac, will need at-large berths to defend their titles. Ekstrom lost a 5-0 decision to Paddock at 135-pounds in one of the most anticipated matches in Section V history and Hutcheson lost a 3-0 decision to Attica's Luke Pariso at 171-pounds. Marlow, a state champion in 2007, lost by fall to Murphy in 1:36.

Returning to states and vying for their first division II state title are Colton Dalberth of Marion, Sean Walton and Matt Hasbrouck of Pal-Mac, Owen Scott of Lyons, Pariso of Attica, Craig Amidon of Canisteo-Greenwood and Mike Raplee of Dundee.

In Division I, Pittsford's C.J. Howard, Wayne's Vinnie Digravio, Greece Olympia's Josh Veltre, Hilton's John Velieri and Brockport's Christian Boley all seek their first state title after placing in the top six last year.

Division I

Bob Dierna's younger brother, Alec, kept the 96-pound title in the family by defeating Spencerport's Geoff Brown 3-2 with a last second reversal.

Penfield's Brandon Ling defeated Ian Ross at 103-pounds, 1-0, to advance to the state meet for the first time. The junior's record stands at 46-3 on the season.

Bob Dierna defeated Penfield's James Montante, 9-2, at 112-pounds to advance to states and defend his title. Montante, a wildcard recipient last season, will likely receive a wildcard again this season.

Sixth seeded Cam Kelly of Pittsford defeated Fairport's Jeff

Slabe and Spencerport's J.P. Hayden in the 119-pound weight class on Saturday afternoon to earn a trip to Albany. Kelly is the lowest seeded wrestler in division I to advance to the state tournament.

Gates-Chili's Lewis Cucchiara avenged a loss to Greece Olympia's Joe Bonaldi from three weeks ago at the Monroe County Championships with a last second takedown to win by 3-1 decision. Bonaldi, a sophomore and a runner up at Super Sectionals last year, is in good position to obtain a wildcard berth.

Similar to the way 135-pounds shook out, Brighton's T.J. Glickman received points for a takedown with time expiring to defeat Fairport's Dean Elvin and take the 140-pound class. Glickman, 35-6 on the season, needed overtime to reach the final. He defeated Hilton's Jesse Baymer, 3-1, with a takedown in overtime.

Spencerport's Paul Morabito had no trouble winning the 145-pound automatic berth to states with a 4-0 victory over Sean Grove of Rush-Henrietta. Morabito improved his record to 37-1 on the season, the lone loss coming from defending state champion Zach Clemente of Lasalle in the Teike/Bernabi championship match.

Olympia's Veltre earned his 200th win during the semifinals at 152-pounds. He earned his 201st win a short time later when he defeated Fairport's Dave Foley 5-2. Veltre's season record stands at an unblemished 56-0.

Hilton's Velieri defeated Wayne's Chris Marvin, 5-2 at 160-pounds. Marvin, the top seed and runner up last year to eventual state champion Bryan Bourne, will have to wait until at-large berths are announced to see if he will be invited to Albany.

For the second consecutive weekend, Spencerport's Nick Baxter met Churchville-Chili's Greg Schworm in the 171-pound championship. For the second consecutive weekend Baxter won. For the second consecutive weekend, Baxter did not allow a point in the process. Baxter defeated Schworm by 5-0 decision and heads into Albany with a 34-5 record on the year.

Three weeks ago, Brendan Dwyer nearly upset Brockport's Boley. Dwyer struck first and looked in position to turn the corner and upset Boley this time, but Boley quickly rebounded and went on to win 8-4 and advance to the state tournament. Dwyer can expect an at-large berth for the second straight year.

Spencerport's Glover defeated Brighton's James Gilbert 9-2 and will head back to the state meet with hopes for a second straight state championship.

Spencerport's Enzo Zagari needed double overtime to avenge a loss to Brighton's Mibo Aiono during the Monroe County Championships. Zagari escaped during his half of the second overtime and was able to maintain control of Aiono during Aiono's turn in the down position.

Division II

Pal-Mac's Jeff Olena defeated top seeded Jake Requa of Kendall, 7-2 to advance to states at 96-pounds.



Marion's Dalberth, a junior, returns to states hoping to improve on his fourth place finish last year. Dalberth defeated Warsaw's Austin Keough 4-3 in a match riddled with blood stoppages due to a bloody nose belonging to Dalberth.

Last year's 112-pound state runner up Joe Smaldone of Geneva will rely on a wildcard bid to get him to states. Smaldone forfeit the 112-pound championship to Batavia's Nick Lazarony in order to prevent further damage to his already injured elbow.

Holley's Murphy, the 2008 103-pound state champion, defeated Marlow of Pal-Mac, the 2007 103-pound state champion in convincing fashion for the second time this season. Murphy took the 119-pound class by storm, winning the final match by fall in the first period.

Pal-Mac's Sean Walton will represent Section V for the third straight year. After placing third in the state meet in 2007 and 2008, Walton hopes to turn his impressive super sectional showing into a state title. Walton collected four pins, all in the first period, on his way to clinching the 125-pound weight class. In the final North-Rose Wolcott's Greg Shove was the latest victim of Walton, losing by fall in :33. In total, Walton spent 2:25 on the mat this weekend.

Walton's teammate Matt Hasbrouck earned his second straight Section V title while defeating Holley's Tim Banks, 3-1, in overtime at 130-pounds. Hasbrouck thought he won the match with a last second takedown but the points were waved off after a short discussion. Hasbrouck put to rest any controversy by quickly taking down Banks in overtime. Banks, a wildcard recipient in each of the last two years, will likely receive his third wildcard berth.

Warsaw's Ian Paddock now sits just three wins away from the career record for wins in New York state. Paddock improved his season record to 50-0 by defeating fellow three-time state champion Alex Ekstrom. Ekstrom and Paddock, two highly recruited talents who are headed to Oklahoma and Ohio State next year, respectively, are both striving to become Section V's first four-time state champion.

Letchworth's Mike Nevinger, a two-time state champion himself, reached the state tournament again with ease, defeating John Brabon of Lyndonville in the 140-pound class by tech fall in 5:13. Nevinger improved his record to 44-0 on the year and looks to become the third three-time state champion in Section V history behind Ekstrom and Paddock.

Lyon's Owen Scott overcame an injury to his right arm and defeated Hornell's Austin Dwyer 6-2 to earn an invitation to

Albany at 145-pounds.

Alfred-Almond's Jason Fraser halted Owen's twin brother, Craig, from reaching the state meet for the second year in a row. Craig Scott, turned last year's wildcard berth into a top six finish and will likely be given the chance to do the same again this year.

Batavia bumped from Division I to Division II this year and Ryan Darch hoped to earn an automatic bid to states in the process. He'll have to wait for the at-large announcement if he wants to go to Albany for a chance to win a state title. Sophomore Brandon Mills of Canisteo-Greenwood improved to 50-2 on the year in defeating Darch, 3-2.

Attica's Luke Pariso, a state representative last year at 189-pounds on a wildcard, earned the automatic bid this year at 171-pounds after defeating defending state champion Cody Hutcheson of Bath, 3-0. Pariso turned a medical waiver into a Section V title and improved his record to 49-4. Hutcheson will enter the state tournament on a wildcard berth.

After two of the top three seeds in the 189-pound class were lost to injury on the first day of wrestling, top seed Zak Griffith of Warsaw lost to Attica's Dave Jennings. Sixth seeded Kyle Steadman of Holley defeated fourth seeded Jennings by fall at 5:29 to advance to the state championship. Steadman is the highest seed in division II to reach the state tournament.

Craig Amidon of Canisteo-Greenwood breezed through the 215-pound bracket, earning a 10-4 victory over Pal-Mac's Pat Krenz in the championship. Amidon advanced to states last year on a wildcard and failed to place, going 1-2 before bowing out. Amidon's season record stands at 48-0.

Fellow undefeated heavyweight Mike Raplee of Dundee will look to improve on his third place finish at the state meet last year. Raplee defeated R.J. Sharp of Red Creek by fall in 3:45. Sharp and Raplee both advanced to the state tournament last year and Sharp will likely receive a wildcard again this year. Raplee transferred to Dundee from Geneva this year and is Dundee's first state representative in school history.

The 2009 New York State Wrestling Championships will take place next Friday and Saturday in Albany at the Times Union Center. All 30 automatic qualifiers will participate, as well as an unknown number of at-large entries to be determined later this week. Wrestling begins Friday with the Parade of Champions at 10:00 a.m. □

SCHNEIDER@armdrag.com