

Middies' Solero, 2 Rockland wrestlers reach finals

By JOHN SZEFC
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SYRACUSE

A confident Ruben Solero of Middletown High School led two other Section 9 wrestlers into the finals of the New York State Intersectionals here Saturday afternoon at the War Memorial.

"I'm going out to get something to eat now with coach (Art Gage), then I'm going to come back and win tonight," said Solero after he had disposed of John Laboy of Edison (Section 5) in the semi-finals, 9-5.

Reaching the finals with Solero were two Rockland County wrestlers, 105-pounder Joe Goldsmith of Ramapo and sensational Jim Hohman (27-0), Pearl River 177-pounder.

Goldsmith, unbeaten in 21 bouts going into the semi-finals, decisioned Darnell Mitchell of Mt. Vernon (Section 1), 14-1.

Hohman's victory was much more impressive. Hohman, bumping into Section 5 terror Dwight Cartwright of Keshauqua, who had pinned 21 straight opponents—including one in the quarter-finals here—wound up pinning Cartwright in 2:50.

Hohman was on his back and looked as if he was going to be pinned, but reversed the Keshauqua terror and pinned him instead.

Solero's win in the semi-finals assured him of the highest finish in a state meet by any Middletown High wrestler in the nine years the Intersectionals have been held. Tony Ptak, now a senior at East

Stroudsburg (Pa.) State College, finished third in 1966 and Joe Radivoy collected a third in the first state tournament in 1963.

Solero, who gave Gage some anxious moments in the quarter-finals earlier Saturday before decisioning Lloyd Weigel of Chittenango (Section 3), 9-6, restored his coach's complete confidence in the semis.

"He looked a lot better in the

semis," Gage said. Gage had been concerned in the quarter-finals over Solero nearly losing a 7-2 lead. Solero was warned once for stalling and then penalized a point for the infraction. "He looked both good and bad out there," Gage said after the match. But the Middie coach had a big smile on his face following the semi-finals.

The other two wrestlers from Orange County, Steve Saul and

Dan Simmons of Port Jervis, were eliminated in the quarter-finals.

Saul got a tough break in his 112-pound match, dropping a 6-4 decision to Bob Labate of Lakeland (Section 1) on a last-second takedown.

Saul, who had taken an early 2-0 lead, fought back from behind in the latter stages of the third period, getting an escape for a 4-4 deadlock. Neither wrestler had a

riding time advantage and it appeared the bout would go into overtime.

But Labate managed to gain a takedown at the buzzer, much to the dislike of Port coach Al Wilgard. "Steve was still moving and scooting his hips. The call wasn't right," Wilgard said.

Saul agreed. "He didn't have me," the disheartened Port wrestler said. It marked the second straight year Saul had lost in the quarterfinals here. "Steve went to the defensive a little too soon. It hurt him," said Wilgard, who lost his other wrestler, heavyweight Simmons, about an hour later.

Simmons, unbeaten in 16 bouts this season after a late start because of an appendectomy, trailed Joel Puleo of Iroquois (Section 6) when the end came 31 seconds into the second period.

Earlier, Wilgard and Simmons revealed for the first time that Simmons, who was out of action between Dec. 3 and Jan. 9, really did not have an injured leg. Wilgard had feared Simmons might've been a target for some unwarranted "figure-four holds" during the regular season.

Asked how the news never leaked out before, Wilgard said, "A lot of our internal problems stay right in our team room. They never get out."

Section 9, which lost two of 13 wrestlers in Friday's preliminaries, lost eight in the quarter-finals, including Saul and Simmons.

Intersectional mat results

Results of the New York Intersectional Wrestling Tournament:

QUARTER-FINALS

96 POUNDS—Jacobson (Fulton-3) dec. Welch (Geneva-5), 3-2; Sloane (Niagara-Wheatfield-6) pinned Daniels (Beekmantown-7), 4:21; Olzewski (Hauptague-11) dec. DeGraff (Sacradale-1), 17-3; Smith (Calhoun-8) pinned Brenner (Clarkstown-9), 5:58.

105 POUNDS—Goldsmith (Ramapo-9) dec. Noble (Canton-10), 11-2; Mitchell (Mt. Vernon-1) dec. Applebaum (Glen Cove-8), 2-0; Casavatt (Hoosick Falls-2) dec. Frank (Rome-3), 15-12; Marchinek (Walt Whitman-11) dec. Trombley (Northern Adirondack-7), 7-0.

112 POUNDS—Dixon (Farmingdale-8) dec. Rock (Peru-7), 10-0; Hunt (W. Genesee-3) dec. Welch (Geneva-5), 5-1; Labate (Lakeland-1) dec. Saul (Port Jervis-9), 6-4; Gonzalez (Brentwood-11) dec. Popolizio (Mohonasen-2), 9-2.

119 POUNDS—Laboy (Edison-5) dec. Keenan (Pioneer-6), 7-4; Solero (Middletown-9) dec. Weigel (Chittenango-3), 9-6; Larrache (Brentwood-11) dec. Valesio (MacArthur-8), 11-5; Thomas (Rye-1) won by default.

126 POUNDS—Granowitz (Massapequa-8) dec. Cook (Herman-DeKalb-10), 8-3; Antonacci (Brentwood-11) dec. Moffitt (Hudson Falls-2), 10-2; Casper (Rye Neck-1) dec. Voorhis (Indian River-3), 2-0 in overtime; Killings (Edison-5) dec. Woods (Suffern-9), 6-3.

132 POUNDS—Greene (Horace Greeley-1) dec. Leece (Linton-2), 12-0; Hannon (Portville-6) dec. Ashline (Ausable Valley-7), 10-1; Stumps (Rush-Henrietta-5) dec. Alger (Norwich-3), 5-4; Golden (Island Trees-8) dec. Intraglia (W. Babylon-11), 11-2.

138 POUNDS—Gillette (Indian River-3) dec. Bonville (Peru-7), 10-4; Hartwell (Canandaigua-5)

dec. Alleva (Rye-1), 12-1; Houlihan (Niskayuna-2) dec. Sernofsky (Iroquois-6), 4-2; Carrasquillo (Brentwood-11) dec. Cavayero (Bellmore-Kennedy-8), 7-2.

145 POUNDS—Galea (Brentwood-11) pinned Hauser (Ramapo-9), 5:45; Krysak (Guilfordland-2) dec. Everett (Peru-7), 10-2; Cuyler (Elmira-4) pinned Valeri (Spencerport-5), 3:35; Porter (S. Jefferson-3) dec. Munroe (Ardley-1), 4-0.

155 POUNDS—Rust (Kenore East-6) dec. Polakoff (Hastings-1), 10-5; Horvath (Ramapo-9) pinned Duprey (Peru-7), 3:27; Jantzi (Lowville-3) dec. Horn (Shaker-2), 5-0; Molbury (Carey-8) dec. Jenks (Chenango Forks-4), 6-0.

167 POUNDS—Hunt (Niagara Falls-6) dec. Farsetta (Pearl River-9), 14-12; Remick (Whitesboro-3) dec. Kivett (Peru-7), 11-3; Bruns (W. Babylon-11) dec. Brown (Long Beach-8), 5-1; Blank (Irondequoit-5) dec. Young (Sleepy Hollow-1), 17-2.

177 POUNDS—Hohman (Pearl River-9) dec. Tompkins (Sleepy Hollow-1), 6-2; Cartwright (Keshauqua-5) pinned Jones (Homer-4), 3:45; Smith (Brentwood-11) dec. Wolf (Lancaster-6), 15-0; Bratt (Westhill-3) dec. Jones (Scotia-2), 10-4.

215 POUNDS—Green (Bayport-11) pinned Beucher (Carle Place-8), 2:49; Puleo (Iroquois) pinned Simmons (Port Jervis-9), 2:31; Rosecrans (W. Genesee-3) dec. Burrell (Owego-4), 3-0; Schuster (Pembroke-5) pinned Aslanian (Massena-10), 5:27.

250 POUNDS—Rano (North Shore-8) dec. Fairclough (Cicero-3), 2-0; Croce (Lindenbush-11) pinned Potacinala (Kenmore East-6), 3:57; Bartlett (Elmira-4) pinned O'Neill (Clarkstown-9), 3:08; Hill (Mt. Vernon-1) pinned Tyndall (Madrid-Waddington-10), 4:32.

SEMI-FINALS

96 POUNDS—Sloane (Niagara-Wheatfield-6)

dec. Jacobson (Fulton-3), 11-2; Smith (Calhoun-8) dec. Olzewski (Hauptague-11), 5-2.

105 POUNDS—Goldsmith (ramapo-9) dec. Mitchell (Mt. Vernon-1), 14-1; Casavatt (Hoosick Falls-2) dec. Marchinek (Whitman-11), 10-2.

112 POUNDS—Hunt (W. Genesee-3) dec. Dixon (Farmingdale-8), 7-6; Gonzales (Brentwood-11) dec. Labate (Lakeland-1), 10-6.

119 POUNDS—Solero (Middletown-9) dec. Laboy (Edison-5), 9-5; Larrache (Brentwood-11) dec. Thomas (Rye), 9-1.

126 POUNDS—Antonacci (Brentwood-11) dec. Granowitz (Massapequa-8), 1-0; Casper (Rye Neck-1) dec. Killings (Edison-5), 7-3.

132 POUNDS—Greene (Horace Greeley-1) dec. Hannon (Portville-6), 8-4; Golden (Island Trees-8) dec. Stumps (Rush-Henrietta-5), 7-1.

138 POUNDS—Gillette (Indian River-3) dec. Hartwell (Canandaigua-5), 5-3; Houlihan (Niskayuna-2) dec. Carrasquillo (Brentwood-11), 2-1.

145 POUNDS—Galea (Brentwood-11) dec. Krysak (Guilfordland-2), 10-4; Cuyler (Elmira-4) dec. Porter (S. Jefferson-3), 2-0.

155 POUNDS—Rust (Kenmore East-6) dec. Horvath (Ramapo-9), 4-2; Molbury (Carey-8) dec. Jantzi (Lowville-3), 6-4.

167 POUNDS—Hunt (Niagara Falls-6) dec. Remick (Whitesboro-3), 5-4; Blank (Irondequoit-5) dec. Bruns (W. Babylon-11), 11-4.

177 POUNDS—Hohman (Pearl River-9) pinned Cartwright (Keshauqua-5), 2:50; Bratt (Westhill-3) dec. Smith (Brentwood-11), 1-0 in overtime.

215 POUNDS—Puleo (Iroquois-6) dec. Green (Bayport-11), 9-1; Rosecrans (W. Genesee-3) dec. Schuster (Pembroke-5), 9-6.

250 POUNDS—Rano (North Shore-8) pinned Croce (Lindenbush-11), 1:13; Hill (Mt. Vernon-1) pinned Bartlett (Elmira-4), 1:50.