

Don Quinn Plays The Numbers In Mat Win

East Rochester wrestling team coach Don Quinn abhors gambling, doesn't play the horses at the OTB parlor or wager on the baseball or football games.

But he does play the numbers.

When his crack East Rochester High School mat team took on Fairport last Saturday night, the outcome meant the championship of the Monroe County Eastern Division. Both clubs were 8-0.

Quinn had figured before mat time his Bombers would win by a tight 21-18 score. To Fairport rooters, that was like a day dream...a snowball in hell chance.

The final score was ER 27, Fairport 23.

Quinn figured his 12 matmen would finish this way.

He was sure 101 pounder Mike Brien would get him three points with an opening decision over Fairport's Dan Bucci. A pin netted Brien six.

His 108 pounder, Curtis Doreen would lose three points to the Red Raider's Bob Arao. But Doreen gave up four on a major 11-2 decision.

Quinn had Romeo Battazi losing three and a decision to classy Fairport 115 pounder Chuck Tortorello and he was right again. Battazzi lost 7-3.

When Jeff Kier took to the mats, Quinn had his 122 pounder figured for three points over Ken Catalfamo. Kier put four points on the board with a major 14-4 verdict.

Dave Yacono at 129 was counted on for a three point decision over Scott Hills, but put six counts in the Bomber column with a pin.

Quinn penciled Bob Marianetti for a loss by a pin to Fairport's rugged 135 pounder, Ken Jamison. But Marianetti played it smart and was loosened up for three.

Bruce Kier was sure to put three points in the ER column but the Bomber 141 pounder was a loser by a pin to Scott Gilman.

At that point the score became 16-16, a dead heat tie.

Quinn was right in his addition. The score he figured would be 12-12.

There were five matches to go. Dennis Essom at 145 was counted on for a three point decision but came through with a tie against Russ Sutley. Still knotted, Quinn had Dave Prong able to hold up for only a three-point loss to Raider undefeated Rich Bowland in the 158 class. Bowland annihilated Prong for a superior five point decision.

ER trailed 23-18 with three matches to go. The hopes for a win were all but gone.

Quinn was confident his formidable John Zito would gain a decision over Bob Kyff in the 167 scrap. And Zito did just that.

But Quinn figured 180 pounder Kevin Maynard would give up three points to Billy Guarino and that would make a Bomber win almost hopeless.

But Maynard surprised Quinn with a 4-2 decision and ER was alive and back by one point, 24-23.

That left it up to 218 pounder Joe Baldo, and Quinn figured "Big Joe," did not make any mistakes, would upset Fairport's muscular undefeated Dan Enright by a decision. In a heart throbber, he got the three points Quinn was sure he would nab. Quinn's figures rated the match all even into the finale.

The Bombers won by four. Quinn had added it all up to a three-point victory.