

5 Finger Lakers earn state berths —

Optimism high for Section 5 wrestlers

ROCHESTER — Optimism is high that Section 5 will win its first-ever state wrestling title this weekend in Syracuse.

And according to Newark Coach Jack Fisher, who sends seniors Bob Button and Scott Eberhardt as part of the Section 5 contingent, that optimism could easily turn into realism.

"This is the best team Section 5 has had in the 10 years I've been here," Fisher said. "We've never had a team with so many quality wrestlers. If everyone wrestles up to par, we've got a real shot at winning it all."

Button and Eberhardt join Canandaigua's trio of Marty and Matt King and Joe Kuras as Section 5 representatives. The five all earned the honor during qualifying competition Friday and Saturday at the Rochester Institute of Tech-

nology.

Button and the King brothers have been to the states before. So has Trevor Graham of Spencerport and Tony Cotroneo of Irondequoit, both of whom also earned the right to go to Syracuse this weekend.

With five of thirteen Section 5 wrestlers having been through it before, experience should be an added bonus.

"The five returnees should be the backbone of the team," Fisher said. "Each one is capable of winning his weight class. A lot will depend on the pairings, but that's all the luck of the draw."

Probably the wrestler with the most to prove at the state tourney will be Button, a runnerup as a sophomore and a third place finisher last season as a junior.

Button ran his season's record to

33-0 Saturday at the state qualifier, pinning Brighton's Mark Glickman in the 215 pounds finals in 2:36. Of Button's 33 wins, 26 have been by pin, the other seven via forfeit.

With 136 varsity wins, including 90 pins and four Section 5 titles, a state championship is the pot of gold at the end of Button's rainbow. Button could end up in a rematch with Elmira's Andy Swab, who defeated him in an early round bout last year. Since that time Button has met and defeated Swab twice.

Eberhardt advanced to the states with a 9-2 decision over Corning East's Mark Easling in a 167-pound matchup. The win was the 95th of Eberhardt's career, including a 32-1 mark this season.

The King brothers both earned their way back to the states, each winning four matches at RIT. Marty, at 91 pounds, decisioned Dan

Bower (Red Creek) and Gary Dempsey (Leroy), while pinning Joel Lampson (Waterloo) and Jeff Joice (Warsaw).

Matt, a 132-pounder, pinned Andy Banglis (Leroy) and Charles Jordan (Wayne) and decisioned Kevin DeRidder (Marion) and Jordan in the finals.

Kuras, wrestling at 250 pounds, pinned his first three opponents, Lou Cosentino (Geneva), Gary DeVries (Marion) and Bob Collie (Palmyra-Macedon), before decisioning Bishop Kearney's John DiMarisco in the finals.

Canandaigua was denied a fourth wrestler and possibly a fifth in the state tournament when Joe Ricciotti (98) and Mike Reho (145) both lost in the finals.

Canandaigua is the only team in Section 5 to send three wrestlers to the state tournament.

Section 5 wrestling

Section 5 State Qualifier

91 — Marty King (Canandaigua) decided Todd Krienke (McQuaid) 13-0. 98 — Ted Pittinano (Schroeder) decided Joe Ricciotti (Canandaigua) 3-0. 105 — Rich LaPaglia (Spencerport) won by default over Bill Toomey (Schroeder). 112 — Tony Cotroneo (Irondequoit) pinned Rick Azzano (Wayne) 3:27. 119 — Tim Lehmann (Irondequoit) decided Scott McIntosh (East Rochester) 8-6. 126 — Chris Kane (Penfield) decided Glen Lock (Irondequoit) 6-2. 132 — Matt King (Canandaigua) decided Charles Jordan 12-2.

138 — Trevor Graham (Spencerport) decided Steve Azzano (Wayne) 13-3. 145 — Todd Buenting (Brockport) decided Mike Reho (Canandaigua) 5-3. 155 — Scott Kay (Fairport) won by default over Craig Venette (East Rochester). 167 — Terry Kent (Brighton) decided Steve Metz (Attica) 5-2. 177 — Scott Eberhardt (Newark) decided Mark Easing (Coming East) 9-2. 215 — Bob Button (Newark) pinned Mark Glickman (Brighton) 2:36. 250 — Joe Kuras (Canandaigua) decided John Dimarsico (Bishop Kearney) 9-5.