

Rosa pulls out win at Section 5 state wrestling qualifier

By Michael Lewis

Democrat and Chronicle

Tom Rosa flirted with disaster last night, but the Rush-Henrietta Sperry wrestler lived to talk about it.

"I don't believe I pulled that one out," said Rosa, who turned a 4-0 deficit into a 6-4 victory over Penfield's Robin Fluman in the 167-pound class at the Section 5 wrestling state qualifier.

Rosa, one of two undefeated wrestlers in the section, had every reason to be shaking his head in disbelief after coming back before an estimated crowd of 1,500 at Fairport High. Entering the third and final period, Rosa, a senior, looked up from the short end of a 4-0 score, and Fluman (25-10) had command of the match from the "up" referee's position.

It was hardly a textbook victory, but Rosa made his moves and points when it counted.

Seconds into the third period, Rosa recorded a point for an escape. Midway through the period, he was awarded two more points for a takedown to close within 4-3. With seven seconds left in the match, Rosa was awarded three points for a near pin of Fluman. He held on to win, and Rosa will be one of 14 athletes representing Section 5 at the state championships this Friday and Saturday in Syracuse.

Rosa admitted he thought about giving up in the third period, "but when I got to that state (of mind), I thought, what the heck and go for it."

"That was one good match," added Rosa. "The kid's good. He's tough. He gave me the best two matches all year. He's the only one to take me down all year, and he did it twice... We both tired at the end, but I caught him... It's a tough way to lose. I just know how he feels."

Rosa wasn't the only wrestler to be grateful to be going to Syracuse. Bob Brawn of Spencerport was glad just to be in the finals. Brawn (30-2-1) decided previously-unbeaten Van Schirmer (32-1) of York at 126, 6-2.

"This far exceeded my goal," said Brawn. "It seems like a Cinderella season. This is incredible. I was hoping for 20 victories and I ended up with 30. The competition in my class was not as good as last year or as in some of the other weight classes this year."

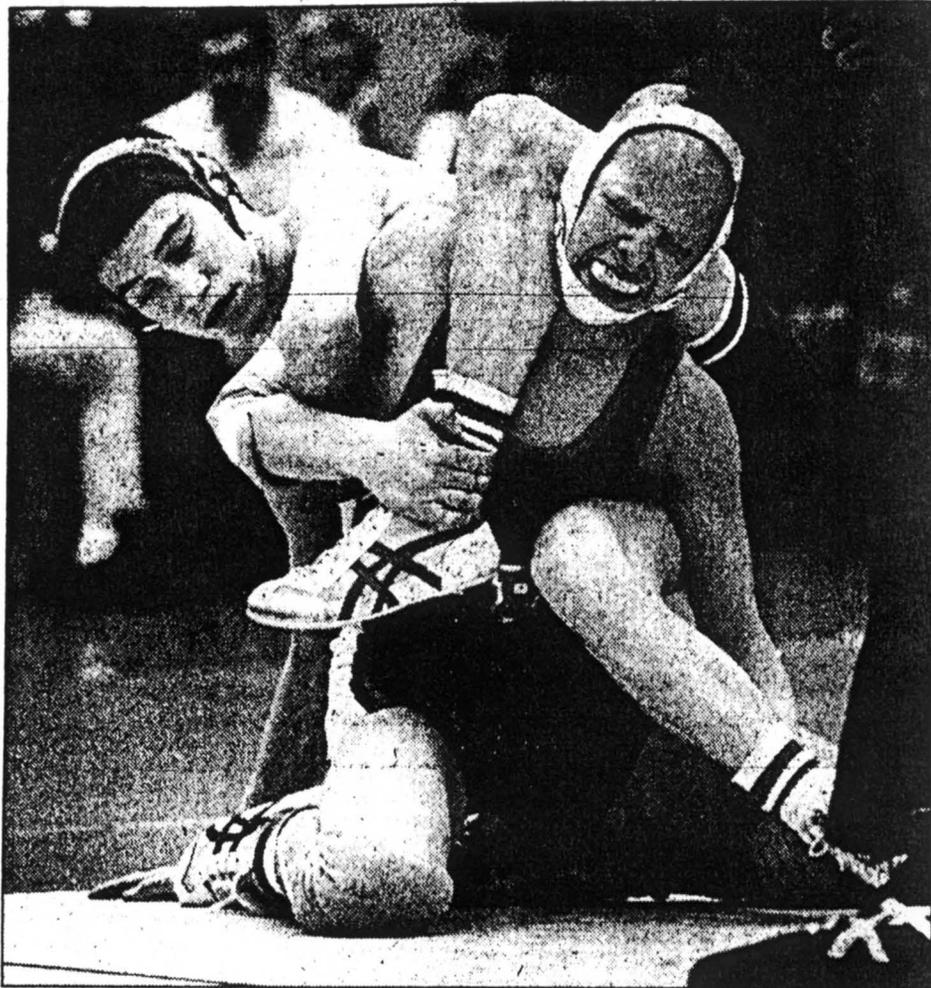
"Back in my mind, I didn't think it would be possible (going to the states). I ought there would be someone popping up and getting in the way, like Chris Kane."

There might have been a Brawn-Kane confrontation, but Brawn dropped down from 132 to 126 for the sectionals. Kane (33-1) stayed at 132 and won that title with a 24-6 victory over another previously-unbeaten wrestler, Tim Fitzgerald (31-1) of Lyons.

Kane, a senior who will make his second appearance at the states, rolled off a 7-0 lead in the first period.

"He had to start gambling at that point, and that was a turning point of the match," Kane said. "I got him on his back to make it 12-1. You've got to go for everything in this match."

Fitzgerald's defeat left only Rosa and Rich Bottone of Hornell as the only undefeated Sec-



Kevin Higley Democrat and Chronicle

Paul Lamphier of Canandaigua (left) tangles with John Hanselman of East Rochester in their bout at 98 pounds. Lamphier scored a 7-0 decision.

tion 5 wrestlers. Bottone (28-0) recorded a 9-3 victory over Rob Everts of Brighton at 155.

Though no team scoring was kept, Canandaigua dominated the qualifier with four individual champions — freshmen Butch Hibbard (91), Paul Lamphier (98), and sophomore Marty King (112) and senior Morris White (145) won their respective bouts.

Hibbard pinned Kevin Bishop of Greece Athena at 91 in 5:27. Lamphier defeated East Rochester's John Hanselman at 98, 7-0. King, a three-time sectional champion, rolled over Mike Hofer of Kendall, 10-1. And White decided John Suhr of Spencerport, 9-6.

This will be King's third trip to the state meet (he was allowed to wrestle in eighth grade), finishing second and third. Did he have any words of wisdom to give his two younger teammates?

"They're saying they're glad to go to the states," King said. "That's what I was saying two years ago. You can never be satisfied with what you've got. You're going to regret it later in life."

Like King, Mynderse Academy's Steve Siegfried has wrestled on the varsity since eighth

grade, but this will be his first trip to the states. Siegfried, a senior with a 127-13-4 career record, defeated Dan Sacco of Letchworth at 105, 8-4.

"I've had close shots at going (to the states) twice," Siegfried said. "This was my last chance. My goal always was to make the states. Not just to get there; I want to win it."

Caledonia-Mumford's Joe Gustainis was a double winner. He pinned Phil Weaver of Bath in 1:38 at 215. Before the meet, he was given the first Scott Trainor award and a \$500 scholarship. The award and scholarship are given to an outstanding Section 5 wrestler. Trainor, who was a Section 5 champion at Churchville-Chili, died in a car accident Sept. 19, 1981.

In other matches, Gates-Chili's Mike Bauer decided Phil Conner of Rush-Henrietta Roth at 119, 11-1. Cardinal Mooney's Mike Rowntree edged Jim Brown of Pittsford Sutherland at 177, 10-8 and Pittsford Mendon's John Brennan defeated Ken Herbert of Letchworth at 250, 8-3.

There was no outstanding wrestler announced last night, but one will be chosen at Section 5's Dinner of Champions March 16.

WRESTLING

Section 5 State qualifier

91 pounds — Butch Hibbard (Canandaigua) pinned Kevin Bishop (Greece Athena), 5:27. '98 — Paul Lamphier (Canandaigua) dec. John Hanselman (East Rochester), 7-0. 105 — Steve Siegfried (Mynderse) dec. Dan Sacco (Letchworth), 8-4. 112 — Marty King (Canandaigua) dec. Mike Hofer (Kendall), 10-1. 119 — Mike Bauer (Gates-Chill) dec. Phil Conner (Rush-Henrietta Roth), 11-1. 126 — Bob Brawn (Brockport) dec. Van Schirmer (York), 6-2. 132 — Chris Kane (Penfield) dec. Tim Fitzgerald (Lyons), 24-6. 138 — Steve Azzano (Wayne Central) dec. Jim Cowey (Bishop Kearney), 10-1. 145 — Morris White (Canandaigua) dec. John Suhr (Spencerport), 9-6. 155 — Rich Battone (Hornell) dec. Rob Everts (Brighton), 9-3. 167 — Tom Rosa (Rush-Henrietta Sperry) dec. Robin Fluman (Penfield), 6-4. 177 — Mike Rowntree (Cardinal Mooney) dec. Jim Brown (Pittsford Sutherland), 10-8. 215 — Joe Gustainus (Caledonia-Mumford) pinned Phil Weaver (Bath), 1:38. 250 — John Brennan (Pittsford Mendon) dec. Ken Herbert (Letchworth), 8-3.

SWIMMING

SECTION 5 INTERSECTION QUALIFIERS

at Monroe Community College

(Top three go to state meet)

200 medley relay — 1, Brighton (Scott Ingwers, Bob Rivers, Greg Schafer, Jeff Brucker), 1:41.01; 200 freestyle — 1, Rob Cronise (Greece Athena), 1:46.835; 2, Mike Kennedy (Fairport); 3, Robert Gadjio (Newark); 200 Individual Medley — 1, Charlie D'Agostino (Brockport), 2:02.65; 2, Craig Lockwood (Pittsford Mendon); 3, Dan DuBois (Rush-Henrietta); 50 freestyle — 1, Rick Slepka (Greece Athena), :21.91; 2, Jerry Miller (Wheatland-Chill); 3, Jeff Bagshaw (Pittsford Mendon); diving — 1, Paul Foster (Dansville), 395.55 points; 2, Jack Shuten (Irondequoit); 3, Carmen Gumina (Webster); 100 butterfly — 1, Todd Kraft (Webster), :54.08; 2, Craig Lockwood (Pittsford Mendon); 3, Kevin Samler (McQuaid), :54.64; 100 freestyle — 1, Rick Slepka (Greece Athena), :48.17; 2, Jeff Bagshaw (Pittsford Mendon); 3, Jerry Miller (Wheatland-Chill); 500 freestyle — 1, Rob Cronise (Greece Athena), 4:53.15; 2, John Hoyle (Fairport); 3, Tom Shaulinski (Fairport); 100 backstroke — 1, Rick Aronberg (Fairport), :57.06; 2, Scott Anderson (Pittsford Sutherland); 3, Brett Porter (Rush-Henrietta); 100 breaststroke — 1, Bob Rivers (Brighton), 1:01.14; 2, Todd Kraft (Webster), 1:02.31; 3, Mike Durand (Pittsford Sutherland); 400 freestyle relay — 1, Pittsford Mendon (Karl Engkvist, Craig Lockwood, Paul Barden, Jeff Bagshaw), 3:16.21.