

Casper, Greene Salvage 3d Places For Section 1 In State Wrestling

By RAY LAPOLLA

ROCHESTER—Barry Casper, a Rye Neck High School senior with an illustrious Westchester wrestling record, and Steve Greene, a Horace Greeley High sophomore who has lost only once in two years, garnered Section 1's only points in the seventh annual State Intersectional meet.

In the two-day competition concluded Saturday night at Rochester Institute of Technology before an SRO 3,100, Casper and Greene salvaged third places, respective at 123 and 130 pounds.

With victory in the last of the title matches, Section 4 — the Southern Tier — annexed the team championship with 81 points to 77 for Section 11 (Suffolk). They were followed by Section 8 (Nassau) with 63, Section 5 (Rochester area) 55, Section 3 (Syracuse area) 44, Section 9 (Rockland and Catskills) 41, Section 2 (Albany-Schenectady) 22, Section 6 (Niagara Frontier) 20, Section 1 (Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess) 15 and Section 7 (Plattsburgh-Champlain) 8.

Sections 4 and 11 had three individual champions each, Sections 3, 5 and 8 two apiece and Section 9 one.

Randy Payne of Sidney High in Section 4 won his third straight State title and, in taking the 123-pound crown, he concluded a 27-0 year and a 109-1 high school mat career.

Last year's 98-pound titlist, Lee Klepper of Suffern (Section 9), was 106-pound victor. He won over Ivan Gonzales of Brentwood (11) who upended 1968's champion at 106, Bob Pina of Freeport (8) in a 7-6 semi. Klepper has had a 26-0 year.

Other champions are Section 3's Jerry Siefert of Sherbourne East, 148, and Bill McCauley of Skaneateles, 218; Section 4's Scott Ross of Ithaca, 130, and

Gary Robinson of Elmore South Side, unlimited heavyweight; Section 5's Ron Tojowski of Pioneer, 168, and Ernie DiBella of Pittsford, 178; Section 8's Tom Campanile, 98, and John Henning, 141, both of Wantagh; and Section 11's Steve Weiss of Lindenhurst, 115; Joe Russo, West Islip, 136, and Bill Prolos of Port Jefferson, 157.

Greene's first career loss was a heart-breaker. The riding-time clock did it in the gruelling semifinal with Art Trovei of Port Jervis in Section 9.

Coach Bill Snyder's sophomore got an early 4-2 edge with a takedown and reversal to his opponent's reversal. For most of the session Trovei had a grip which Greene could not break. Trovei built riding time in this middle period. With 1:10 left in the third Trovei escaped and with 30 seconds remaining got a takedown for a 5-4 lead but at the buzzer Greene spun away for an escape to knot at 5 all.

The time-advantage defeat was the first setback for Greene who had a 20-0 season and a career mark of 30-0, including 7-0 and 13-0 regular campaigns. He was a Connecticut Prep State champ in 1968 and Section 1 king this season.

In his quarterfinal, after a first-round bye, Greene pinned Joe Savino of Mepham (8) in 1:40 of the first with the score 4-2 in favor of the Long Islander.

In his semifinal against John Scanlon of Pearl River (9), Casper made a desperation move trying to work loose from an arm lock but, his legs high, he could not make the full circuit and actually pinned himself. He was trailing 4-0 at the time — a minute left in the middle period.

Casper romped, 7-1, over Pete Pappas of Amityville, in his quarterfinal with takedowns in the first and second and an escape in the second. He broke up two minutes riding time in the third.

Casper's only prior 1968-69 loss also was to Scanlon, in Rye Neck's Shoreline final. Casper's final 4-year record is 103-7.

In a Section 1 quarterfinal defeat, Peekskill's Paul Tronto, 136, lost, 4-0, to Suffern's Bill Anderson (9).

At 106, Pina shutout Rye's Tom Blank (third 98 last year), 7-0; and Joe Pitts, 115, of Scotia was 9-0 over Frank DeGrazio of Pelham.

Chet Sanders of Massapequa, 148, eliminated Sal Terrana of Westlake and Ed Carlsson of Valley Stream Central, 148, nipped Frank Lyman of White Plains, on riding time after Lyman had rallied to heat 3-all.

Scotia's Walt Sustek trimmed Port Chester heavyweight George Smith, 7-1, Mount Vernon's unlimited heavyweight, Bob Hill, had a first-period takedown but, at 1:19, he was pinned by Tim Diedrich of Corning

West (5). Hill was a first round winner via a pin over Jim Miller of Niagara Wheatfield (6).

Section 1 matmen losing in the first round were Steve Ernst, 98, of Pelham, 9-2 to Jim Verrastra of Tonawanda (6); Don Locke, 141, of Wappingers Falls, 7-4, to Tom Rust of Kenmore East (6); and Ted Crawford, 168, of Hastings, pinned by Dic Hatten of Baldwinsville (3).

It was the end of the high school wrestling road for DeGrazio, 23-2 for the year, 45-13 overall, Tronton 17-3 and 28-7; Terrana, 20-1 and 44-8-1; Lyman 25-1 and 51-12-3, Casper.



SACHEL PAIGE, Atlanta Braves' assistant trainer, does some exercise hopping over a row of bats during workout Sunday at Municipal Stadium in West Palm Beach, Fla. — AP Wirephoto.

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