

Genesee wrestlers shine

League representatives win first two finals to reach state meet

By MARK COLEY
STAFF WRITER

It would be reasonable to expect Holley 91-pounder Ashley-John Grillo to have a mild case of the jitters.

His father and coach, John Grillo, had much more than just a mild case before the finals of the Section V SuperSectional state wrestling qualifier at Fairport.

Remembering the countless practices and numerous weekends traveling to summer tournaments with Ashley-John and his two other sons, he was getting nervous.

Four minutes and 55 seconds after his match began however, both father and son had something to feel

proud about.

Grillo recorded a technical fall over Penn Yan's Josh Jones to become the Hawks' first SuperSectional champion.

He'll join the Genesee Region's Tom Russo of Lyndonville (98 pounds) in next weekend's New York State Public High School Athletic Association championships at Syracuse. Charlie Voorhees of Warsaw advanced at 105 pounds.

"This is the most incredible feeling for him and myself," said the senior Grillo. "He worked 11 months for this. No one knows how it feels to have a son (who wrestles) and get him to this level."

"I have been pretty much focused for the last two weeks," said

Ashley-John, who advanced to the final with decisions by scores of 7-0 over Jeff Embt of Attica, 6-0 over Spencerport's Gary Borelli and 5-4 in the semifinals over Tim Page of Wayland-Cohocton.

In the final, Grillo was in complete control, leading 4-0 after the first period and scored nine points in the second period for a 14-1 lead. After intentionally letting Jones up in the opening seconds of the third period, Grillo scored the final points of the match on a takedown.

Russo had to do it the hard way to win his sectional title. The two-time class C champion defeated Spencerport's Bill Jacoutot 4-2 and

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pinned defending sectional champ Brian Swedrock of Wayne in 1:01 for the right to face Newark wrestler Jason Celestino in the final.

In the championship match, Russo, a freshman, needed only two takedowns and a tough defense to hold off Celestino by a score of 4-3.

"We set the goal of him getting into the finals," said coach Jim Fisher. "He went one better and wanted to win.

"He put in endless hours of work

to get here."

Voorhees defeated Spencerport's A.J. Miller 9-0 to become the league's third representative. He had to survive two close matches: a 3-1 win over last year's runner-up, Ricky Stewart of Batavia, and a 1-0 decision over Attica's Jeff Mye.

The Genesee Region qualified seven wrestlers for the finals.

Also scheduled to wrestle matches that began after this edition of the *Democrat and Chronicle* went to press were Sean Vanio of Byron-Bergen at 119 pounds, 132-pounder Alex Smith of Alexander, Greg Laude of Attica (138) and defending sectional champion Jon Myers of

Byron-Bergen (145)

You can credit that to a league that has three summer wrestling programs between four schools (Holley, Alexander, Kendall and Attica).

Our league did very well last year," says Kendall coach and league coordinator Jim Sauerban. "These guys practice together during the off-season and they cheer each other on during the year.

"I'm impressed, but not shocked. For awhile people thought we were out in no-man's land and we were behind the times.

"But you have to give thanks to the quality of coaching in our league." □

SECTION V SUPERSECTIONAL STATE WRESTLING QUALIFIER Finals/at Fairport

91 pounds: Ashley-John Grillo (Holley) ff. Josh Jones (Penn Yan), 4-55.

98: Tom Russo (Lyndonville) dec. Jason Celestino (Newark), 4-3.

105: Charlie Voorhees (Warsaw) dec. A.J. Miller (Spencerport), 9-0.

112: Charlie Friscano (Greece Olympia) vs. Terry Hasseier (Newark).

119: Pete Fox (Webster) vs. Shawn Vanio (Byron-Bergen).

126: John Grabowski (Spencerport) vs. Mike Ferris (Brockport).

132: Matt Drake (Hornell) vs. Alex Smith (Alexander).

138: Andy Gustaferrro (Canandaigua) vs. Greg Laude (Attica).

145: Bill Payne (Geneva) vs. Jon Myers (Byron-Bergen).

155: Luke Lamb (Victor) vs. Jeff Green (Hornell).

167: Adam Lehmann (McQuaid) vs. Jeremy Chiarelli (Spencerport).

177: Bob Streb (Hilton) vs. Brett Fletcher (Canandaigua).

215: Mike Liess (Penfield) vs. Erik Mack-Davis (McQuaid).

250: Chris Olchewski (Spencerport) vs. Phil Bauer (Lyons).