

Wrestlers feel pressure at SuperSectionals

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There will be 240 wrestlers at Webster Schroeder High School today when SuperSectionals open.

Some won their weights at last week's class meets. Some barely qualified in fourth.

But last week means nothing. Everyone is on level ground again. Win four times and earn a spot in the state tournament.

It's the most pressure-packed wrestling weekend, especially for seniors who take a last shot at pinning down their ultimate goal.

Some are trying to return to the state tournament, such as Warsaw's Charlie Voorhees and Holley's Ashley-John Grillo. Others who have come so close before, such as Spencerport's Billy Jacoutot and Fairport's Matt Melrose, are trying

desperately to reach their first.

"It's something that I've wanted ever since I was little," Jacoutot said.



Grillo

"And it does kind of all come down to this weekend."

He may feel more pressure than most, but that's not uncommon. He has always dealt with the pressure of being the son of the coach of Section V's best —

and arguably most hated — team.

"I know (some fans) want every Spencerport guy to lose pretty much, to put it bluntly," he said. "But I'm sure they want me to lose a little more."

Jacoutot has come close to states before. He lost in the SuperSectional finals as a freshman and last year. He was 35-0 this season until losing

9-5 to Canandaigua's Wes Bennett — who he pinned earlier this year — in last week's 119-pound Class A final.



Jacoutot

"He can't get sidetracked on how bad he wants it because everybody wants it bad," Bill Jacoutot Sr. said. "All I want him to do is represent his ability and if that's good enough to beat four oppo-

nents I'll be very proud of him.

"One of my son's greatest assets is his mental toughness."

Holley's Grillo is also the son — and namesake — of his coach and father, John Grillo.

He went from a first-round SuperSectional loss as a freshman to the champion as a sophomore. He was the first Holley wrestler to

reach states, where he finished fifth.

Before last year's SuperSectional finals, it looked like Grillo would return to states. He met Wayland-Cohocton eighth-grader Tim Page in the title bout. Grillo had never lost to Page in previous meetings but he did this time 5-2.

"I try not to put the pressure on myself but in the back of my mind it's there," said Grillo Jr., who has won three straight sectional titles.

This weekend it will be tough at 112 pounds. Voorhees, second in the state at 105 as a sophomore, and Canandaigua's Jimmy Simmons are other contenders.

Whatever happens, Jacoutot and Grillo say they'll survive.

"Win or lose I'll be able to handle it," said Grillo, 155-15 for his career.

"I know if I don't win the world's not going to end," said Jacoutot, who is 145-18. "My life's going to go on." □

At a glance



■ **Overview:** SuperSectional wrestling begins at 5 p.m. today at Webster Schroeder Junior High. Finals begin about 7 p.m. tomorrow.

■ **Hall inductees:** Inductees to the Section V Wrestling Hall of Fame before the finals are:

Earl Fuller, who retired in 1995 after coaching Rochester Institute of Technology for 47 years.

Don Quinn, the winningest coach in Section V history (368 victories).

Dwight Cartwright, a former state champion for Keshequa.

Clayton Barnard, a former standout Hilton wrestler who died in 1978 of leukemia at age 24.