

HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Brown gives city a rare shot at a state title

■ The Franklin senior pins his opponent and advances into previously uncharted

BY STAFF WRITER
JAMES JOHNSON

No one's certain when the last time a wrestler from the Rochester city school district made it to the state wrestling

Wrestling The answer is now Franklin senior Michael Brown, who earned a trip to the prestigious tournament in Syracuse last night in front of 2,500 spectators at Fairport high.

Brown pinned Gates Chili junior Jason MacArtney at the 425 mark of the SuperSectional 171-pound tournament final.

To do so, Brown had to defeat MacArtney for the second time in a week, this time using a bear hug to bring the match to a swift end.

Brown (22-0) overcame a shoulder injury this season.

"I didn't think I would feel this good, but it does," Brown said about earning a trip to the state tournament.

The finalists in all 11 weight divisions were vying for one spot each on Section V's New York State tournament team.

Brown's match with MacArtney was once again going back and forth before Brown saw an opening. He moved in and clamped a bear hug on MacArtney.

When the wrestlers hit the mat, Brown came out on top of a quick flurry and earned the pin.

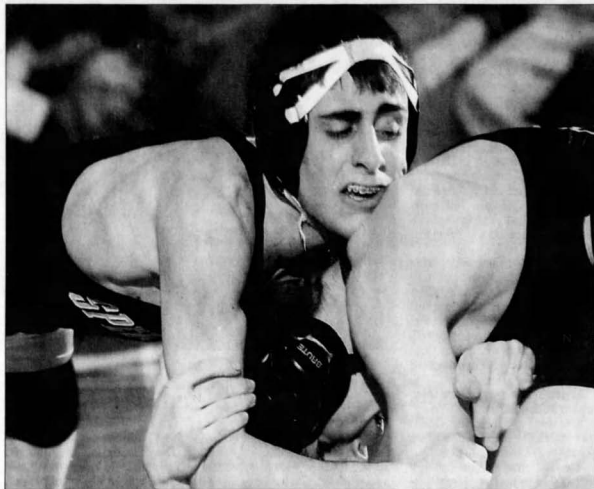
"I squeezed as hard as I could," Brown said.

"When he hit his back, I knew I could end it right there. I started squeezing for my life."

Spencerport's Gary Borrelli was named the most outstanding wrestler of the meet after earning his first state berth.

Borrelli edged Pittsford's Troy Forte 5-3 in the 112 final.

Borrelli dominated Forte in the Section V Class A final last week, but this meeting was filled with much more tension as he had to pick



MAX SCHULTE staff photographer

Chin music Gary Borrelli of Spencerport ties up Troy Forte of Pittsford in the 112-pound final.

up the winning points in overtime.

"I wasn't happy with the way I wrestled," Borrelli said. "I thought about it and I said 'Hey, I won the match, I should be happy' and I am." Forte wiggled his way to an escape with about a minute left in the third period, tying the score, 3-3.

"It didn't cross my mind that I was going to lose the match," Borrelli, who remained undefeated said. "I just thought about winning the match."

Borrelli then sucked in Forte's leg and drove himself forward. When Forte hit the mat, Borrelli hustled behind his opponent to win.

"I think he was trying to tie up and I went under it," Borrelli said. "Once I had his leg, I knew I had him."

Greece Olympia junior Joe Velte defeated Spencerport's Shawn Hibbs in the 103 finals at the Monroe County and Class A Tournaments.

When they met again for a state berth last night, it was Hibbs who came out on top 8-2.

"There's no feeling better than this," Hibbs said. "I've never felt anything this good."

Hibbs studied tape and stressed fundamentals while preparing for Velte this time around.

"I did all the extras besides just wrestling," Hibbs said. "We felt that as long as I stayed on him, he couldn't get on me."

Rush-Henrietta's Shamir Rhodes earned the 145-pound slot beating Canandaigua's Justin Hoch 4-2.

It was Hoch who handed Rhodes his second loss in two weeks at last week's sectionals.

"You can't focus in every match like you want to," Rhodes said. "I'm glad those two matches (losses) happened earlier. I was aware of what could happen."

"I knew I couldn't let myself hit that wall again."

Greece Athena 140-pounder Mike Pagano and 215-pounder Shaun Murray made the work they did with each other in practice pay off, as they both won their finals. Pagano was an 11-6 winner over Mike Ellis from Mynderse. Murray defeated Mike Latek of Eastridge 10-2.

"I'm a senior so this was it," Murray said. "I knew it had to come now or it wasn't. I couldn't let Pagano go alone."

Both wrestlers attended Dan Gable's training camp for two weeks during the off-season. While they also pushed each other in practice, Athena coach Frank Vito also reminded the pair of what was in reach.

"(Vito) put so much into it," Pagano, a junior, said. "We owed it to him."



Thanks, mom Franklin's Michael Brown gets a congratulatory hug from his mom after winning the 171-pound class.

Results

SUPERSECTIONSALS NYS Tournament Qualifiers At Fairport High School

Finals and 3rd-place match results

96 pounds: Trevor Chinn

(Canandaigua) defeated Jeff Tiekke (Hol-

ley) 7-2. Third-place: Gerry Fortuna

(Dundee) def. Peter Pagan (Wayne) 5-3.

103: Shawn Hibbs (Spencerport) def.

Joe Velte (Greece Olympia) 8-2. Third-

place: Brian Spaulding (Campbell-

Savona) pinned Tim Sampsel (East

Rochester), 37 seconds.

112: Gary Borrelli (Spencerport) def.

Troy Forte (Pittsford) 5-3 (overtime). Third-

place: Kory Holland (Hornell) pinned Tim

Page (Wayland-Cohocton) 3-28.

119: Mike Smith (Hornell) def. Bill

Schell (Warsaw) 7-2. Third place: Pat

Beach (Olympia) def. Jose Pao (Ironde-

quoit) 6-2.

125: Dave Hadden (Geneva) def. Bill

Merle (Alexandria) 3-2. Third-place: Kris-

tan Alexander (Le Roy) def. Jeff Collier

(Pentfield) 9-3.

130: Zach Jones (Addison) def. Mike

Wojtowicz (Spencerport) 5-3. Third-place:

Chris Bala (Campbell-Savona) 3-1. Third-

place: Mike Campopiano (Spencerport)

def. Earl Wolcott (Perry) 11-4.

140: Mike Pagano (Greece Athena)

def. Mike Ellis (Mynderse) 11-6. Third-

place: Matt Cannon (Webster) def. Justin

Sullivan (Hilton) 8-5.

145: Shamir Rhodes (Rush-Henrietta)

def. Justin Hoch (Canandaigua) 4-2.

Third-place: Jason Menzie (Byron-Bergen)

def. Josh Miller (Webster) 14-12.

150: Lucas Flint (Pawling) pinned Geoff

Selleck (Rush-Henrietta) 5:16. Third-

place: Joe DeFilippo (Webster) def.

Tremell Jones (East) 3-1.

160: Erich Steffans (Wayland-Cohoc-

ton) def. Dan Chase (Rush-Henrietta) 5-4.

Third-place: Nate Parmenter

(Canandaigua) def. Joe Ticoni (Watertown)

1-0.

171: Michael Brown (Franklin) pinned

Jason MacArtney (Gates Chili) 4:25.

Third-place: Zach Lehmann (Brighton)

def. Donnie Moore (Bolivar-Richburg) 3-2.

189: Jared Roy (Addison) def. Dan

Nonstrand (Le Roy) 4-2 (overtime). Third-

place: Brett Wilson (Lyndonville) def. Tar-

qus Taylor (Rush-Henrietta) 5-4.

215: Shaun Murray (Greece Athena)

def. Mike Latek (Eastridge) 10-2. Third-

place: Mark Autman (Alfred-Almond) pinned

Piil Congdon (Midakes) 4:01.

275: Dave Lettier (Warsaw) def. Lucas

Silversmith (Lyndonville) 11-4. Third-

place: Brad Palmer (Webster) pinned John

Smyth (Greece Athena) 2:39.