

Experience is key to state wrestling



It may be the best of times or the worst of times for Section 9 Friday and Saturday in the New York State Intersectional Wrestling championships at the Onondaga County War Memorial in Syracuse. It all depends on how well the section's experienced wrestlers perform.

In theory, a sectional team should have at least four or five wrestlers who have competed in the intersectional tourney before for any amount of success, especially before the usual crowd of 5,000. But this year's contingent from Rockland, Ulster, Orange and Sullivan counties, has only two returnees — Ed and Lou Banach of Port Jervis.

Granted, Lou Banach, who is the defending 177-pound state champion, and Ed, the runnerup at 155 last year, provide the sectional team with great strength up front, but the team will need solid placing from the 12 other wrestlers in order to win its first state title since 1975.

"I think we have a real good team," said Port Jervis coach Mark Faller, whose team has six wrestlers in the tourney. "I would not be surprised if Section 9 won."

"It's a pretty good team but I don't think it's as good as the 1975 team," said Tappan Zee coach Bill Sweet. "We're not as old as that team in experience and age. We had a lot of seniors on that team."

This year, Section 9 will have only six seniors, combined with two freshmen, two sophomores, and four juniors. Even so, Faller thinks that experience may not mean much at the state championships.

"I think that can be deceptive," said Faller. "It was Louie's (Banach) first trip up to the states when he won it."

"Every kid we have is an excep-



BOB
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tional athlete," he added. "They're all ambitious, tough kids."

Here's the way this team shapes up in each weight class:

91 — Bruce Chase, Port Jervis, freshman: Chase opens with Scott Dumas from Section 10 (St. Lawrence County), which is traditionally a weak wrestling area. Chase should place and might reach the finals because Cal DeStefanis of Section 8 (Nassau County) is in the other bracket.

98 — Andy Silverberg, Ramapo, freshman: Silverberg is regarded as a potential blue chipper, if not this year, then for future years. But he's in a tough bracket with Al DeStefanis, Carl's brother, and Rory Legacy of Section 5 (Rochester). Silverberg will earn whatever place he gets.

105 — Bill White, Suffern, sophomore: White has been improving throughout the season and must be regarded as a darkhorse. His toughest competition should come from Paul Wideman of Section 11 (Suffolk County), the 98-pound champion last year.

112 — John Lynch, Clarkstown North, senior: Both Sweet and Faller like Lynch's determination and mental attitude. He's in a weak weight class and could cradle his way into the finals if he defeats Chris Brown of Section 2 (Albany) in his first bout.

(Please turn to 6D)

Experience keys state wrestling

(Continued from 1D)

119 — Hank Renella, Clarkstown North, senior: It's bad enough that Bob Bury of Calhoun-3, a two-time state champion seeking to become the third three-time state champion, is in this weight class. It's worse that Renella meets him in the opening round.

126 — Dan Desimone, Suffern, senior: Desimone has been getting many key points lately with low, double-leg takedowns and may have to resort to them in order to place. He should win his first bout against Steve Greene of Section 10 but Ed Pidgeon of Section 8, who was runnerup at 119 last year, is in the wings. Desimone, however, could place in the top five.

132 — Dennis Walsh, Suffern, senior: Faller thinks Walsh can get to the finals. But he'll have to get by Kevin Murphy of Section 8 in the first round.

138 — Kevin Troche, Port Jervis, sophomore: Troche meets Bill Gemmill of Section 10, a returning sectional champion, in the first round. Tom Fiorvanti of Section 8, who is 25-0-1 this year, is another contender. Troche may have trouble placing.

145 — Ron Simonson, Port Jervis, junior: In order to win, Simonson will have to beat defending champion Paul Meyers of Section 3 (Syracuse), and last year's 132-pound champion, Tom Pickard from Section 8. Meyers will be gunning for Simonson after losing by default to him earlier this season. Look for Simonson to place but not make the finals.

155 — Dave Avdoyan, Tappan Zee, junior: "He's been wrestling better and better each time he gets on the mat," said Sweet.

"He's got a better single leg takedown than his brother," said Faller. Avdoyan's brother, Gary, was fifth in the states at 138 last year. Dave may wind up in the same spot.

167 — Ed Banach, Port Jervis, senior: Banach, along with his brother, has to win in order for Section 9 to have any chance of winning the state title. It'll be hard. This may be the toughest weight class in the tourney and the winner may be named the Most Valuable Wrestler.

Banach will have a comparatively easy match in the first round against Rick Wetzler of Section 8. But after him may come Tim Dean of Elmira-4, who was fourth at 167 last year, or Tim Hyer of Ilion-3, who was sixth last year.

Should Banach make his way to the finals, he'll probably meet either defending 167-pound champion Mike Varmette of Section 2 or John Zito, a 177-pound sectional champion last year-round against Rick Wetzler of Section 8. But after him may come Tim Dean of Elmira-4, who was fourth at 167 last year, or Tim Hyer of Ilion-3, who was sixth last year.

177 — Lou Banach, Port Jervis, senior: Banach could very well defend his state championship. He's in the easier of the two brackets. Charbel Karratt of Section 3, who Banach decided in last year's finals, 11-3, and John Doherty, Section 4's 167-pound champion last year, are in the other bracket.

215 — Bob Masters, Port Jervis, junior: Masters will have to do a lot better in the state meet than he did in the sectional meet, which he won by criteria in the finals. Masters should get by Bernie Corbine of Section 10 in his first bout but then faces Bill Swertfager of Section 1 (Westchester) in the semifinals.

Somehow, Masters, because of his seeding, may wind up in the finals. And, with a little bit of luck, may become champion.

250 — Charlie Valois, Clarkstown South, junior: Valois' habit of starting slow may put him in more trouble than he may care to be in. But if he gets off fast, he should place and might even win.

Valois faces Chris Bradley from Section 4, who has a 20-1 record as compared to Valois' 25-0. If he wins that bout, Valois meets Albert Lavigne of Section 7, who was fourth at 250 last year, in what should be a tough match.

The tournament begins Friday at 5 p.m. with the first two rounds and one round of wrestlebacks. The semifinals start at 11 a.m. on Saturday with the consolations at 6 p.m. and the finals at 8 p.m.

South's Valois the lone Rockland survivor

By **BOB SELIGMAN**
Staff Writer

SYRACUSE — "I didn't wrestle smart. I was flat," said Lou Banach of Port Jervis.

And in the end he was beaten in the biggest surprise of the night Friday in the 16th annual New York State Intersectional wrestling tournament at Onondaga County War Memorial.

Banach, the defending 177-pound champion, lost his quarterfinal bout to Mark Davis of Shenendehowa-2, 10-8, as 1,200 fans watched.

Banach was one of the 11 wres-

tlers from Section 9 who lost in either the preliminaries or quarterfinals. Only Charles Valois of Clarkstown South in the Unlimited Division and 167-pound Ed Banach and 145-pound Kevin Troche, both of Port Jervis, qualified for this morning's semifinals.

Andy Silverberg of Ramapo, Dave Avdoyan of Tappan Zee, Dan Desimone, Bill White Jr., and Dennis Walsh of Suffern and Hank Renella and John Lynch of Clarkstown North were the seven Rockland County wrestlers eliminated from championship contention. White and Lynch, in fact, are out of the tournament entirely. Lynch did not

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qualify for the wrestlebacks while White lost to Bob Buscher of Westlake-1 on a referee's decision in the first round of the wrestlebacks.

Despite all the failures, Section 9 (Rockland, Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties) is sixth in the team standings with 41 points. Section 3, the host section, leads with 80 points.

Davis' upset of Banach was even more remarkable considering that Davis was knocked woozy in the first five seconds of the bout after colliding heads with Banach. Just after he went ahead of Banach for good, 5-4, early in the third period, Davis used up the last 10 seconds of his three-minute allotment for injury time because of dizziness. If he had needed any more time to recover from the injury he would have had to default.

"I couldn't see very well," said Davis, who is now 32-0 this season.

But he could see Banach well enough to take him down and almost pin him midway through the

third period, to take command of the bout, 10-4. Banach's comeback was much too belated.

"He gave me too much of an opening," said Davis of the crucial move. "He was up too high."

"The easy move caught me," said Banach of Davis' comearound takedown, or "dump," as it's known.

Valois, meanwhile, was looking like Rockland County wrestling's version of the Lone Ranger, because of the ambushes suffered by his sidekicks. He will ride again Saturday after a last-second nearfall in his quarterfinal match against David Poirier of Massena-

10 broke a 2-2 tie and gave Valois a 4-2 victory.

In the preliminary round Valois pinned Chris Bradley of Whitney Point-4 in 2:32.

"I was trying to keep him flat on the mat," explained Valois of his strategy against Poirier, which resulted in the dramatic nearfall. "He was getting tired."

So was Valois, whose strength was gradually diminished throughout the bout by Poirier's strong legs.

(Please turn to 3B)

Valois lone local survivor

(Continued from 1B)

In the preliminary round Valois pinned Chris Bradley of Whitney Point-4 in 2:32.

"I was trying to keep him flat on the mat," explained Valois of his strategy against Poirier, which resulted in the dramatic near-fall. "He was getting tired."

So was Valois, whose strength was gradually diminished throughout the bout by Poirier's strong legs.

In the preliminary round it didn't seem that anything could diminish Section 9's quest for the state title. Of the section's 14 wrestlers, 13 either won their preliminary bouts or advanced via byes. But then the roof fell in.

"Our young people's inexperience is showing," said Tappan Zee coach Bill Sweet. "We wrestled a lot of juniors and seniors." Section 9's team has eight underclassmen.

"It was nice pairings," added Suffern coach Bill White Sr. of the section's first-round successes.

"Look at how many times we beat Section 7 (Lake Champlain area) and Section 10 (St. Lawrence Valley)." Both sections are traditionally weak wrestling areas.

Section 9 had four of its eight first-round victories over wrestlers from those two areas, while Valois won his quarterfinal bout over Poirier, of Section 10.

Lou Banach wasn't the only defending champion to be defeated.

Brian Parisi of Ithaca-4, last year's 91-pound champion, lost in the quarterfinals of the 98-pound class to Todd Cummings of Smithtown East-11, 3-0.

Mike Varmette, the defending 167-pound champion, was quickly dethroned in the preliminary round by Kirk Stephens of Olean-6, 8-4. When Stephens lost to John Vito of East Rochester-5 in the quarterfinals, Varmette was eliminated from the tournament because the wrestler he had lost to in the preliminaries was defeated in the next round.

Four other defending champions remain in contention.

The semifinals began this morning at 11 a.m. The consolations begin at 6 p.m. with the finals following at 8 p.m.

TEAM SCORES

Section 3 80, Section 11 75½, Section 8 62, Section 4 61, Section 5 51½, Section 9 41, Section 6 and Section 2 40, Section 1 37, Section 7 14½, Section 10 9.

PRELIMINARIES

91—Dennis Voltz (Sidney-4) dec. Les Friend (Pioneer-6), 7-0; Mike Catania (N. Syracuse-3) dec. Darwin Miller (Adirondack-7), 12-0; Bruce Chase (Port Jervis-9) pin. Scott Dumas (Franklin Acad.-10), 1:48.

98—Andy Silverberg (Ramapo-9) dec. Joel Feingold (Niskayuna-2), 1-0; Rory Legacy (Spencerport-5) pin. Steve Forsythe (Gouverneur-10), 1:05; Paul Sato (Arlington-1) pin. Brian LeClair (Adirondack-7) 2:45.

105—Frank Famiano (Draper-2) dec. Bob Buscher (Westlake-1), 3-0, overtime; Mark Murray (Susquehanna Valley-4) dec. Ed White (Potsdam-10), 6-0; Bob Starkweather (McQuaid-5) dec. Clarke Anderson (Olean-6), 6-2.

112—Chris Brown (Queensbury-2) dec. John Lynch (Clarkstown North-9), 9-5; Greg Manuel (Kingston-1) dec. Scott Rock (Saranac-7), 9-2; Ken Wadsworth (Vestal-4) dec. Mike Guyette (Potsdam-10), 7-2.

119—Dan Keane (Tioga-4) dec. Mark Shortlee (Phoenix-3), 9-8; Pete Bellucci (Mahopac-1) dec. Kevin Bruno (Peru-7), 6-1; Don St. James (Rush Henrietta Sperry-5) pin. Jim Nelson (Queensbury-2), 1:58, overtime.

126—Dan Desimone (Suffern-9) dec. Steve Green (Potsdam-10), 8-4; Gary Herrmann (Liverpool-3) dec. Dave Varano (Peru-7), 4-0; Mike Vilce (Union Endicott-4) pin. Kevin Forrest (Olean-5), 3:04.

132—Dennis Walsh (Suffern-9) dec. Kevin Murphy (Lynbrook-8), 2-1, overtime; Marcus Phillips (Avon-5) dec. Ron Schenk (W. Seneca East-6), 16-9; Bill Swezey (West Islip-11) dec. Ray Ackerman (Saugerties-1), 7-1.

138—Jeff Iacovelli (Ithaca-4) dec. Dave Lynn (Canadaigua-5), 7-1; Kevin Troche (Port Jervis-9) dec. Bill Gemmil (Ogdensburg-10), 9-1; Lance Davis (Woodlands-1) dec. Tom Fiorvanti (Massapequa-8), 3-2.

145—Pat Malay (Iroquois-6) dec. Brian Parise (Westlake-1), 9-4; Tom Pickard (Baldwinsville-3) dec. Cam Biggs (Peru-7), 16-2; Roy Lobdell (Deposit-4) pin. Duane Fish (Herman DeKalb-10), 5:37.

155—Dave Avdoyan (Tappan Zee-9) dec. Brian Provost (Peru-7), 7-2; Tony Damiani (Mepham-8), pin. Paul Bass (Westhampton Beach-11), 3:21; Len Barber (Rochester East-5), dec. Tab Winner (Oxford-4), 7-6.

167—Kirk Stephens (Olean-6) dec. Mike Varmette (Glens Falls-2), 8-4; Ed Branach (Port Jervis-9) pin. Rick Wetzler (Bellmore Kennedy-8), 2:58; Tim Dean (Elmira Southside-4) dec. Bob DiVico (Ossining-1), 11-4.

177—Bob Dunlap (Gates Chili-5) pin. Cedrick Hinton (Sweet Home-6), 1:42, overtime; John Dougherty (Tioga-4) dec. Mike Ornsby (Peru-7), 6-0; Kirk Maisch (Kingston-1) dec. Terry Mosow (Massena-10), 4-3.

215—Dana Sterma (Elmira Free-4) dec. Charles Hill (Edison Tech-5), 9-2; Ron Hiller (Farmingdale-8) pin. Mike Regnet (Williamsville North-6), 5:59; Dick Meyer (Beaver River-3) pin. Bob Burnell (Beekmantown-7), 1:35.

250—Joe Baldo (Rochester East-5) dec. Thomas Wyld (Guilderland-2), 12-1, overtime; Al Lavigne (Beekmantown-7) pin. Jeff Borders (Kenmore East-6), 1:37; Charles Valois (Clarkstown South-9) pin. Chris Bradley (Whitney Point-4), 2:32.

QUARTERFINALS

91—Victor Montalvo (Central Islip-11) dec. Chase, 12-3; Carl DeStefanis (Locust Valley-8) dec. Bob Griffin (Hoosick Falls-2), 6-2; Catania dec. Chuck Kennedy (Kingston-1), 12-0; Voltz dec. Lee Friend (Pioneer-6), 9-1.

98—Charlie Morley (Medina-6) dec. Silverberg, 9-5; Todd Cummings (Smith East-11) dec. Dave Parisi (Ithaca-4), 3-0; Matt Colicani (Syracuse CBA-3) dec. Sato, 10-2; Al DeStefanis (Locust Valley-8) dec. Legacy, 5-0.

105—Famiano dec. Bill White (Suffern-9), 4-2; Joe Labbate (E. Syracuse Minoa-3) pin. Brian Bell (Peru-7), 3:16; Paul Wideman (Huntington-11) dec. Murray, 9-3; Starkweather dec. Joe Rabin (Elmont-8), 3-1.

112—Don Mason (Pioneer-6) dec. Manuel, 6-0, overtime; Mike Macchia (Island Trees-8) dec. Kevin Richard (Geneseo-5), 6-4; Steve Grau (Beaver River-3) dec. Brown, 3-2; Wadsworth dec. Mark Palzer (Walt Whitman-11), 6-2.

119—Keane dec. Tom Hake (Sayville-11), 7-2; Bob Bury (Calhoun-8) dec. Hank Renella (Clarkstown North-9), 10-0; Eric Simpson (Olean-6) dec. Belluci, 20-6; St. James dec. John Kelly (Ogdensburg-10), 24-3.

126—Neal Zandle (Niskayuna-2) dec. Desimone, 7-0; Ed Pidgeon (Locust Valley-8) dec. Ron Winnie (Spencerport-5), 14-5; Mike Giustizia (Walt Whitman-11) pin. Herrmann, 3-21; Wilce dec. Dan Rodd (Arlington-1), 6-3.

132—Mike St. Amour (New Hartford-3) dec. Walsh, 5-4; Mark DeFeo (Mount Pleasant-2) dec. Phillips, 15-0; Gregg Bruno (Peru-7) dec. Joe Trathen (Madrid-Waddington-10), 8-1; Swezey dec. Steve Koob (Union Endicott-4), 3-1, overtime.

138—Iacovelli dec. Mike Casciell (Depew-4), 5-2; Mike Thomas (Huntington-11) dec. Ron Abigail (Niskayuna-2), 5-1; Trouche dec. Barry Albert (Baldwinsville-3), 2-1, overtime; Davis dec. Dan Vando (Peru-7), 12-2.

145—Malay dec. Tony Bruno (Brockport-5), 14-9; Paul Meyers (Baldwin-8) dec. Mike Rodgers (Half Hollow Hills-11), 3-1; Pickard dec. Joe Poprowski (Mount Pleasant-2), 12-0; Lobdell dec. Ron Simonson (Port Jervis-9), 15-6.

155—Steve Distin (Fulton-3) pin. Avdoyan, 4:44; Tyrone Tripline (Mount Vernon-1) dec. Jim Oliver (Niskayuna-2), 15-6; Damiani dec. Kevin Brown (Gouverneur-10), 10-3; Chris Leichtweis (Olean-6) dec. Barber, 6-1.

167—John Zito (Rochester East-5) dec. Stephen, 5-2; Chester Gayles (Ward Melville-11) pin. Steve Mettruck (Massena-10), 2:36; Branach dec. Tim Hyer (Ilion-3), 13-4; Dean dec. Bob Provost (Peru-7), 18-1.

177—Dunlap dec. John Dukich (Bethpage-8), 4-3; Mark Davis (Shenendehowa-2) dec. Lou Banach (Port Jervis-9), 10-8; Matt Boyle (Amityville-11) dec. Dougherty, 10-6; Charles Karrat (New Hartford-3) dec. Maisch, 4-3.

215—Bill Swertfager (Horace Greeley-1) dec. Sterma, 14-5; Bernie Corbine (Canton-10) dec. Bob Masters (Port Jervis-9), 8-3; Dan George (Glens Falls-2) dec. Heller, 8-6; Robert Jasaites (Walt Whitman-11) dec. Meyer, 3-2, c overtime.

250—Baldo pin. Doug Andress (Peekskill-1), 5:59; Jim Sleeper (West Genesee-6) pin. Rich Panetta (Hicksville-8), 3:32; Lavigne dec. George Schmidt (Ward Melville-11), 10-1; Valois dec. Dave Porter (Massena-10), 4-2.

WRESTLEBACK

First Round

91—Graham dec. Friend, 5-2; Miller dec. Kennedy, 4-2.

105—Buscher dec. White by referee's decision; Rabin dec. Anderson, 4-2.

112—Palzer pin. Gutette, 2:53.

119—Hake pin. Shortleeve, 38 OT; Nelson dec. Kelly, 4-0.

126—Forrest dec. Kelly, 4-0; Ackerman dec. Koob, 1-0.

138—Casciell dec. Lynn, by criteria; Albert dec. Gemmil, 10-9; Fiorvanti dec. Yando, 4-1.

145—Riggs dec. Toporowski, 2-1 OT; Simonson pin. Fish, 2:59; Brown dec. Bass, 6-1.

167—Weltzer dec. Hyer, 6-5; DiVico dec. Provost, 11-2.

177—Dukich pin. Hinton, 4:59.

250—Wyld dec. Andress 5-4; Schmidt pin. Borders, 2:01; Poirier dec. Bradley, 4-0.

Dismal day for Rockland wrestlers

By **BOB SELIGMAN**
Staff Writer

SYRACUSE — Ed Banach of Port Jervis decisioned John Zito of East Rochester, 10-4, Saturday, to win the 167-pound weight class and give Section 9 its only individual champion in the 16th annual New York State Wrestling Tournament before 5,000 fans at the Onondaga County War Memorial.

Banach's teammates, Kevin Troche, lost an 11-7 decision to

Mike Thomas of Huntington — 11, Suffolk County, in the 138-pound finals.

Banach's brother, Lew, last year's 177-pound champion, finished third in the same weight class this year.

For the first time in the tournament's history, Rockland County did not place a wrestler in the top four. Only 132-pound Dennis Walsh of Suffern and 250-pound Charlie Valois of Clarkstown South placed as

high as sixth from the eight man Rockland team.

The only other placer among the 14 wrestlers from Rockland, Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties, was 91-pound Bruce Chase of Port Jervis who was fifth.

Port Jervis won the school team title for the second year in a row with 71 points.

Section 9 finished eighth overall with 91 points. Section 3 (Syracuse)

won the sectional title with 198 points.

Tom Pickard of Baldwinsville-3 was named the tournament's most valuable wrestler by coaches and sports writers. Bob Bury of Calhoun-8, in Nassau County, was second in the voting after becoming the third three time state champion in the tournament's history. Mark Iacovalli and Dan Hunt were the other three time champions.

(Please turn to 5D)

Rockland's worst day at state mat tourney

(Continued from 1D)

Banach, who was runner-up at 155-pounds last year, had to overcome a 2-0 defeat the the end of the first period. He reversed and almost pinned Zito in the second period to take the lead for good, 5-2. Zito closed to within 5-4 with 34 seconds remaining but Banach then took him down again and almost pinned him to clinch the bout.

"I just covered everything he tried," said an elated Banach after the bout. "I had him figured out all to the end."

"The difference was Eddy's aggressiveness," said Port Jervis coach Mark Faller. "He just doesn't let up."

Troche, meanwhile, had a tougher time, falling behind, 7-1, after the first period.

"I was just making mistakes," said Troche a sophomore. "I wanted to have a better controlled match but I just let it get away from me."

Valois, the only Rockland wrestler to qualify for the semi-finals, lost a 14-7 decision to Albert Lavigne of Beekmantown-7, near Plattsburg. Valois took a 2-0 lead in the second period but was then almost pinned later in the period to fall behind, 5-2.

Valois almost pinned Lavigne early in the third period with an arm bar but Lavigne then went ahead for good, 10-5, by taking Valois down and almost pinning him again midway through the period.

Walsh suffered the toughest luck of any local wrestler. After winning his first bout of the day in the wrestle backs, 6-3, over Ray Akerman of Saugerties-1 Walsh lost in the last four seconds on an escape to Gregg Bruno of Union-Endicott-4, 4-3. In the battle for fifth place, Walsh again lost on an escape in the last five seconds to Marcus Phillips of Avon-5, near Rochester, 7-6.

Valois also lost a tough bout for fifth place losing to David Poririer of Massena-10, near the Canadian border, on a referees decision.

Rockland's wrestlers, who did not show well Friday, continued to fare poorly Saturday morning in the second round of the wrestlebacks.

Andy Silverburg, Ramapo's 98-pounder, couldn't do anything against Rory Lagacy of Spencerport-5, and was decisioned, 4-0.

Hank Renella of Clarkstown North, and 119-pound Tom Hake of Sayville-11, battled to a scoreless tie through two periods. But Hake escaped and then

took Renella down in the third period to defeat the North senior, 3-0.

Dan Desimone of Suffern, was no match for 126-pound Ron Winie of Spencerport-5, and lost, 9-1. Winie almost pinned Desimone in both the second and third periods.

Dave Avdoyan of Tappan Zee, had a much closer match but fell to 157-pound Jim Oliver of Niskayuna-2, 3-0, in overtime. Avdoyan trailed Oliver, 4-2, with 15 seconds remaining in regulation but his reverse tied the bout, 4-4. In overtime however, Oliver almost pinned Avdoyan, in the third extra period to earn the victory.

Other section 9 wrestlers who lost in the second consolation round were 145-pound Ron Simonson and heavyweight Bob Masters, both of Port Jervis.

Sign-up time

PEARL RIVER SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Applications for the fifth annual Pearl River Softball Tournament, held May 27, 28, 29 and Saturdays in June until completion, are now being accepted. There is a \$75 entry fee for each team.

The single elimination tournament will use Rockland County Modified Fast-Pitch Softball. Rules with no bunting or stealing.

Applications must be received by May 14 and a tournament meeting to discuss rules and draw team pairings will be held at 5:30 p.m., May 21 at The Nickelodeon Tavern, 33 West Central Ave., Pearl River.

For applications or further information write Pearl River Softball Tournament, P.O. Box 771, Pearl River.

New York State Wrestling Summary

FINALS

91— Voltz dec. Montalvo, 11-7; 98— DeStefanis dec. Coolican, 702; 105— Wideman dec. Labatte, 2-0, of; 112— Macchia dec. Wadsworth, 4-1; 119— Bury dec. St. James, 8-2; 126— Giustizia dec. Pidgeon, 6-3; 132— DeMeo dec. Swezey, 9-1; 138— Thomas dec. Troche 11-7; 145— Pickard dec. Meyers 14-0; 155— Leichtweiss dec. Distin 5-0; 167— Banach dec. Zito 10-4; 177— Karrat dec. Davis 9-7; 215— Swertfager dec. George 5-0; 250— Sleeper dec. Lavigne 10-0.

Final Team Scores

1. Section 3 (Syracuse), 198; 2. Section 11 (Suffolk), 174; 3. Section 8 (Nassau), 164.5; 4. Section 4 (Southern Tier), 150.5; 5. Section 5 (Rochester), 146.5; 6. Section 2 (Albany), 177; 7. Section 9 (Catskills), 91; 8. Section 1. —Westchester) 86; 9. Section 6 (Buffalo) 66.5; 10. Section 7 (Plattsburg) 48; 11. Section 10 (St. Lawrence County) 15.wresta

Third and Fourth Places

91— DeStefanis dec. Catania, 11-2; 98— Legacy dec. Parisi, 5-2; Buscher dec. Rabin, 4-2; 112— Ritchard dec. Manuel, 8-0; 119— Keene dec. Hake, 3:39; 126— Zandle dec. Winnie, 12-6; 132— St. Amour dec. Bruno, referee's decision.

138— Iacovelli dec. Davis, 5-1; 145— Higgs dec. Parice, 9-1; 155— Damiani dec. Barber, 4-3; 167— Dean dec. Gayles, 7-3; 177— Banach dec. Dougherty, 3-1; 215— Meyer pin. Stermer, 4:30; 250— Baldo pin. Wyld, 2:29.

Fifth and Sixth Places

91— Chase pin. Griffen, 1:30; 98— Morley dec. Cummings, 10-9; 105— Stark dec. Famiano, 7-1; 112— Grau dec. Mason, 5-4; 119— Simpson dec. Nelson, 4-2; 126— Herrmann dec. Wilce, 4-0; 132— Phillips dec. Walsh, 7-6.

138— Abigail dec. Fiorvanti, 6-1; 145— Lobdell over Malay by forfeit; 155— Tripline pin. Oliver, 3:52; 167— Stephen dec. Wetzler, 3-1; 177— Dunlop over Wetzler by forfeit; 215— Jasaites dec. Corbins, 9-6; 250— Poirier over Valois by criteria OT.

SEMIFINALS

91— Dennis Voltz (Sidney-4) pin. Carl DeStefanis (Locust Valley-8), 2:29; Victor Montalvo (Central Islip-11) dec. Mike Catania (N. Syracuse-3), 9-2.

98— Matt Coolican (CBA Syracuse-3) dec. Todd Cummings (Smithtown East-11), 8-6; Al DeStefanis (Locust Valley-8) dec. Charlie Morley (Medina-6), 1-0.

105— Joe Labbate (East Syracuse-Mineffo-3) dec. Frank Famiano (Draper-2), 12-8; Paul Wideman (Huntington-11) dec. Rob Starkweather (McQuaid-5), 7-1.

112— Mike Macchia (Island Trees-

8) dec. Dan Mason (Pioneer-6), 14-2; Ken Wadsworth (Vestal-4) dec. Steve Grau (Beaver River-3), 3-1.

119— Bob Bury (Calhoun-8) dec. Dan Keene (Tioga-4), 7-1; Don St. James (Rush Henrietta Sperry-5) dec. Eric Simpson (Olean-6), 14-5.

126— Ed Pidgeon (Locust Valley-8) dec. Neal Zandle (Niskayuna-2), 8-1; Mike Giustizia (Walt Whitman-11) pin. Mike Wilce (Union Endicott-4), 5:30.

132— Mark DeMeo (Mt. Pleasant-2) dec. Gregg Bruno (Peru-7), 6-5; Bill Swezey (West Islip-11) dec. Mike St. Amour (N. Hartford-3), 6-5.

138— Mike Thomas (Huntington-4) dec. Jeff Iacovelli (Ithaca-4), 10-2; Kevin Troche (Port Jervis-9) dec. Lance Davis (Woodlands-1), 3-2.

145— Paul Meyers (Baldwin-8) by default over Pat Malay (Iriquois-6); Tom Pickard (Baldwinsville-3) dec. Ray Lobdell (Deposit-4), 9-6.

155— Steve Distin (Fulton-3) dec. Tyrone Tripline (Mount Vernon-1), 9-1; Chris Leichtweiss (Olean-6) dec. Tony Damiani (Mepham-8), 14-3.

167— John Zito (East Rochester-5) dec. Chester Gayles (Ward Melville-11), 9-7; Ed Banach (Port Jervis-9) dec. Tim Dean (Elmira Southside-4), 11-5.

177— Mark Davis (Shenendhawa-2) dec. Bob Dunlop (Gates Chili-5), 11-1; Charbel Karrat (New Hartford-3) dec. Matt Boyle (Amityville-11), 6-5.

215— Bill Swertfager (Horace Greeley-1) pin. Bernie Corbine (Canton-10), 2:55; Dan George (Glenns Falls-2) dec. Bob Jasaites (Walt Whitman-11), 11-7.

250— Jim Sleeper (West Genesee-3) pin. Joe Baldo (East Rochester-5), 4:58; Al Lavigne (Beekmantown-7) dec. Chuck Valois (Clarkstown So.-9), 14-7.

WRESTLEBACKS

Second Round

91— Bruce Chase (Port Jervis-9) dec. Chuck Kennedy (Kingston-1), 3-2; Bob Griffen (Hoosick Falls-2) dec. Trevor Graham (Spencerport-5), 6-4.

98— Rory Legacy (Spencerport-5) dec. Andy Silverberg (Ramapo-9), 4-0; Dave Parisi (Ithaca-4) pin. Paul Seto (Arlington-1), 2:30.

105— Bob Buscher (Westlake-1) dec. Brian Bell (Peru-7), 3-1; Joe Rabin (Elmont-8) dec. Mark Murray (Susquehanna Valley-4), 7-4 of.

112— Kevin Richard (Geneseo-5) dec. Greg Manuel (Kingston-1), 16-0; Mark Palzer (Walt Whitman-11) dec. Chris Brown (Queensbury-2), 5-4.

119— Tom Hake (Sayville-11) dec. Hank Renella (Clarkstown No.-9), 3-

0; Jim Nelson (Queensbury-2) dec. Pete Belluci (Mahopac-1), 7-2.

126— Ron Winnie (Spencerport-5) dec. Dan DeSimone (Suffern-9), 9-1; Gary Herrmann (Liverpool-3) dec. Kevin Forrest (Olean-6), 12-5.

132— Dennie Walsh (Suffern-9) dec. Ray Ackerman (Saugerties-1), 6-3; Marcus Phillips (Avon-5), won by forfeit.

138— Ron Abigail (Niskayuna-2) dec. Mike Cascioli (Depew-6), 5-3; Tom Fiorvanti (Massapequa-8) dec. Barry Albert (Baldwinsville-3), 6-0.

145— Brian Parice (Westlake-1) dec. Mike Rodgers (Half Hollow Hills-11), 4-2 OT; Cam Riggs (Peru-7) dec. Ronnie Simonson (Port Jervis-9), 10-5.

155— Jim Oliver (Niskayuna-2) dec. Dave Avdoyan (Port Jervis-9), 3-0 OT; Len Barber (East High, Rochester-5) pin. Kevin Brown (Gouverneur-10), 52.

167— Kirk Stephan (Olean-6) pin. Steve Metruck (Massena-10), 4:05; Rick Wetzler (Kennedy-Bellamy-8) dec. Bob DiVico (Ossining-1), 12-5.

177— Lou Banach (Port Jervis-9) dec. John Dukich (Bethpage-8), 8-3; John Dougherty (Tioga-4) dec. Kirk Maisch (Kingston-1), 12-4.

215— Dana Stermer (Elmira Free Academy-4) dec. Bob Masters (Section 9), 7-2; Dick Meyer (Beaver River-3) dec. Ron Heller (Farmingdale-8), 16-9.

250— Thomas Wyld (Guilderland-2) pin. Rich Panetta (Hicksville-8), 2:57; David Poirier (Massena-10) dec. George Schmidt (Ward Melville-11), 6-4.

Third round

91— Catanis dec. Griffen, 5-4; DeStefanis dec. Chase, 5-1.

98— Parisi dec. Morley, 6-0; Legacy dec. Cummings, 11-4.

105— Buscher dec. Starkweather, 2-1; Rabin def. Famiano, referee's decision.

112— Richard dec. Grau, 6-0; Palzer pin. Mason, 2:45.

119— Hake dec. Simpson, 11-5; Keense dec. Nelson, 2-0.

126— Winnie dec. Wilce, 9-2; Zandle dec. Herrmann, 9-6.

132— St. Amour dec. Phillips, 12-5; Bruno dec. Walsh, 4-3.

138— Davis dec. Abigail, 8-2; Iacovelli dec. Fiorvanti, 11-6.

145— Parice dec. Lobdell, 4-3; Riggs dec. Meyers, 11-6.

155— Damiani dec. Oliver, 13-2; Barber dec. Tripline, 2-1.

167— Dean pin. Stephen, 4:04; Gayles dec. Wetzler, 9-8.

177— Babach dec. Boyle, 8-1; Dougherty dec. Dunlap, 5-2.

215— Stermer dec. Jasaites, 8-6; Meyer dec. Corbine, 9-5.

250— Wyld dec. Valois, 4-2; Baldo dec. Poirier, 10-0.

County wrestlers gain experience for future

SYRACUSE — Experience. It's the bottom line in any championship wrestling tournament and the 16th annual New York State International wrestling meet here this past weekend was no exception.

In theory, the more times a wrestler has competed in a state meet, the better the results.

Before crowds of about 5,000 at the Onondaga County War Memorial, Section 9 presented a team comprised of 12 (of 14) wrestlers which had never participated in the state championships. And in the end the wrestlers from Rockland, Orange, Ulster and Sullivan counties finished seventh in the sectional team standings. The inexperience factor also contributed mightily to the worst Rockland showing in the history of the tournament. For the first time, no county wrestler finished in the top four. Then again, none of the eight local wrestlers had ever wrestled in the state meet.

By comparison, Section 3 (Syracuse) which won the team title, had five returning wrestlers from last year's tourney.

Competing in the state tourney for the first time doesn't always mean that a wrestler can't win. Lou Branch of Port Jervis, for example, won the 177-pound title last year in his first trip to the states. The year before that he had been on the junior varsity.

Conversely, having state experience doesn't always insure an individual or section championship. Section 9's



BOB
SELIGMAN

only four-time champions, John Scanlon of Pearl River and Paul Pietropaolo of Nanuet, never won the state title although both were runners-up once.

Yet the experience factor does help. Bob Bury, Mark Iacovelli and Dan Hunt, the only three-time state champions in the tournament's history, all lost in their first appearances before winning the next three years. Ed Banach of Port Jervis, this year's 167-pound champion, was fifth and second, respectively, the previous two years. And Steve Silverberg of Ramapo, the 1975 126-pound state champion, won in his senior year after failing to place as a sophomore.

"The first time you come up here you're not looking to win," said Silverberg. "You just want the experience."

"When I came up here as a senior I didn't want anything but the gold," he added. Silverberg was in Syracuse to watch and help his brother, Andy, a 98-pound freshman from Ramapo, in his first appearance in the state meet.

"I would have liked to have won but I have two more

years," said Bill White, Suffern's 105-pound sophomore. "Winning wasn't the most important thing on my mind. This year my goal was really to win the sectionals."

A learning experience

White and John Lynch of Clarkstown North, a 112-pound senior, agreed that their participation in the state meet served as a learning experience.

"Up here the kids have more skills and you can't get by on just muscling a kid," said White.

"It's either you wrestle your best six minutes or you sit where I am now," said Lynch from his sideline observation post after being eliminated from the tournament.

But no one likes to sit where Lynch was. A loss in the state meet can only increase a wrestler's desire to come back and win the following year.

"You have that burning desire to come back up here," said Lynch. "The more times you come up here the more desire you have, like Steve Silverberg. In your heart and soul it sits there and burns so bad until you win."

"I will be back and I will win the tourney," said sophomore Kevin Troche of Port Jervis after losing in the 138-pound finals.

"The big thing is confidence," said Steve Silverberg.

"You lack it when you're young. When you come up here as a senior you feel you can't lose to anyone."

But Section 9 didn't have a lot of seniors and, as a result, lost to just about everyone. In the end, the sectional team that had the talent to pull a major upset and win the intersectional title was just another also-ran.

Looking ahead

But what about next year? Providing that the wrestlers stay healthy Section 9 already has a solid nucleus for next year's intersectional tournament. Andy Silverberg and Bruce Chase of Port Jervis (who was fifth at 91) will be sophomores next year. White and Troche will be juniors. Charlie Valois of Clarkstown South, who was sixth at unlimited this year, Dave Avdoyan of Tappan Zee, and 145-pound Ron Simonson and heavyweight Bob Masters, both of Port Jervis will be seniors.

Waiting in the wings are Barry Chase and Eric Savacool of Port Jervis, both of whom qualified for last year's state meet but not this year.

The potential for Section 9 to win next year's intersectional meet is there. It had the talent this year but not the experience.

Next year it'll have both.