

Canandaigua's Chinn loses in title match

■ Sophomore joins three Section V teammates with second-place finishes.

BY STAFF WRITER

JAMES JOHNSON

SYRACUSE — Trevor Chinn wrestled his way to the state finals on Saturday and was greeted by the same opponent that blocked him from becoming a champion as a seventh-grader.

Wrestling

Ryan Needle, a junior at Newfane in Section VI, stopped Chinn again. This time by a score of 7-4 in the 130-pound final, as the Canandaigua sophomore was one of four Section V wrestlers to lose in championship matches at the Onondaga County War Memorial.

Rush-Henrietta senior Jason Chase was defeated in overtime in the 125 final. Webster freshman Gregor Gillespie, a third-place finisher last year, was shut

out 3-0 at 112 by senior Patrick Flynn from Huntington in Section XI on Long Island.

Wayne junior Mike Patterson reached the 215 final, where he lost 7-5 to Jim Nelson from Southwestern in Section VI.

Eight wrestlers from Section V were among the top six finishers in their weight classes.

Chinn and Needle have known and wrestled each other since they were pee-wees. They have gone to the same camps and even have similar curly hair-styles.

They were 96 pounders when they wrestled each other in the 1999 championship.

"Seventh-grade was a long time ago but I just wanted to avenge that match," said Chinn, who has placed all three times that he has wrestled at states.

"It was the same kid, in the



Gregor Gillespie

The Webster freshman loses in the 112-pound final.

same tournament on the same mat."

Canandaigua coach Rich Romeo said that Chinn followed the game plan to beat Needle this time, but had to alter it when the score was tied 2-2 at the start of the third period.

"We didn't get into a position where we could ride him," Romeo said.

Chinn let Needle to his feet at the start of the final period and that led to the Section VI champion scoring another takedown with :55 to go to gain control.

"I had to open up a lot more," Chinn said. "But he's so quick, I couldn't get in."

Chase lost 7-5 in overtime to



Jason Chase

Rush-Henrietta senior loses in overtime in the 125 final.

Steven Palacios from Huntington-XI. There were 19 seconds left in the third period when Palacios snared the takedown he needed to force more wrestling.

Palacios and Chase, whose right eye was swollen from a head-butt in his semifinal bout, were noticeably tired but the Section XI champion had another burst of energy with 28 seconds to go.

"I'll never forget the end of this match," Chase said. "I could've been warned for stalling twice, not lost a point and still won (in regulation)."

"Becoming a state champion has been my goal and I came a

couple of seconds short. I didn't wrestle smart I guess, but there's nothing I can do about it now."

Gillespie didn't make much progress against Flynn, a former champion at 103 and runner-up last season, until the final period.

"I was very close to a reversal and a takedown (in the final 30 seconds)," Gillespie said. "I just couldn't finish it. He had great hips."

Canandaigua junior Tom Cuppernell finished third at 145 after beating Adam Molano of MacArthur-VIII 5-2.

Cuppernell remained in the championship bracket until the semifinals, where he lost 10-5 to Chris Horning from Baldwinsville-III.

Adam Ezell, the 160-pound Holley senior, came in fourth. Ezell ran into a machine-like wrestler named Matt Herrington from LaSalle-II, who beat the Section V champion 23-9.

Hornell junior Cory Lawrence, the most outstanding

wrestler at last week's state qualifiers in Section V, had to settle for a fourth-place finish at 152. □

STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS
at Onondaga County War Memorial,
Syracuse

Section V results

Team scores: Section 11 256 points, Section 8 194.5, Section 4 187.5, Section 6 155, Section 3 154.5, **Section 5 150**, Section 2 136, Section 9 71.5, Catholic High Schools 62, Section 10 55, Section 7 44, Section 1 40, Public School Athletic League 4.

96 pounds: Tom Finnerty (Brentwood-11) defeated Scott Prutzman (Valley Central-9) 8-7; **103:** Troy Nickerson (Chenango Forks-4) pinned Thomas Magnani (St. Anthony's), 3:07; **112:** Patrick Flynn (Huntington-11) def. **Gregor Gillespie (Webster), 3-0.**

119: J.R. Roberts (Medina-6) def. Lucas Magnani (St. Anthony's) 11-6; **125:** Steven Palacios (Huntington-11) def. **Jason Chase (Rush-Henrietta) 7-5 in overtime.**

130: Ryan Needle (Newfane-6) def. **Trevor Chinn (Canandaigua) 7-4;** **135:** Chris Hand (Whitney Point-4) pinned Josh Herzig (Lowville-3) 2:35; **140:** James Strouse (MacArthur-8) def. Nick Hawrychak (Guilderland-2) 8-6.

145: Stephon Sair (Huntington-11) def. Chris Horning (Baldwinsville-3) 9-7; **152:** Jose Viera (Central Islip-11) pinned Dwayne Hash-Barberis (Scotia-II) 3:42; **160:** Matt Herrington (LaSalle-2) def. Carlos Patrick (Freeport-8) 8-3; **171:** Greg Lawrence (Calhoun-8) def. Ben Harardon-Kane (Coming-4) 3-2.

189: Chris Weidman (Baldwin-8) def. Chris Parris (North Babylon-11) 2-1 (overtime criteria); **215:** Jim Nelson (Southwestern-6) def. **Mike Patterson (Wayne) 7-5;** **275:** Anthony Chamorro (Sidney-4) def. Charles McCullough (Gloen Cove-8) 3-1.