

# Wrestling coaches upset with tourney format

By JOE SEIL

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The new single-elimination format for tomorrow's Section 5 state wrestling qualifier at Fairport High School has a couple of coaches in an uproar in that the first-round pairings

have been determined entirely at random.

Canandaigua Coach Larry Reynolds, who has seven wrestlers entered in tomorrow's tournament, wasn't at all pleased with the pairings, particularly in the 145-pound weight class where CA's Morris White will probably square off with Brockport's Todd Buenting in the quarterfinals. Buenting defeated White in the finals of last week's Class A tournament in Hilton.

"It's not just bad for us; it's bad for

everyone," says Reynolds. "It's not fair to the wrestlers or to the spectators. The best kids shouldn't have to meet in the first or second round. Some of the best matches are going to be in the first or second round."

Section 5 Wrestling Chairman Walt Teike of Spencerport estimates that in 10 of the 14 weight classes, the best matches could be wrestled before the final round, which is scheduled to begin around 7 p.m.

"I think we should always do what's best for the kids," Teike said. "If we don't think of them first then we're negligent. I see some pluses and minuses (to the new format)."

Last year the tournament was conducted on a double elimination basis, which didn't go over too well with the fans.

"I didn't like last year's format at all, and I think they used poor judgment in this year's pairings," said East Rochester Coach Don Quinn, who preceded Teike as Section 5 chairman. "I think the best kid will still win out, but when the finals come, the two best kids won't be wrestling."

In this year's format, each of the winners of the four classifications received a first-round bye. The other pairings were selected at random, meaning that many of the finalists will be determined by the luck of the draw.

"People better be there the whole way if they want to see the best wrestling," said Reynolds.

Here's a look at each weight class:

91 pounds — Canandaigua's Butch Hibbard is the favorite here. He receives a first-round bye and will probably meet Class C runner-up Kevin Griswood of Warsaw in the

quarterfinals. Also in his bracket are McQuaid's Bob Zoeke (who Hibbard beat in last week's Class A final) and Geneva's Mike DeRaddo. Zoeke and DeRaddo meet first round.

98 — CA's Paul Lamphier draws a bye and meets the winner of Bob Otto of Batavia and Tu Do of Penfield. Also tough in the same bracket is Red Creek's Dan Bower and Irondequoit's Joe Ventura. Joel Lamson of Waterloo and East Rochester's John Hanselman are favored in the bottom bracket.

105 — The luck of the draw will probably see Steve Siegfried of Mynderse and Webster Schroeder's Ted Pittinaro meet in the quarterfinals. The winner there will probably meet CA's Joe Hibbard in the semifinals. McQuaid's Todd Krienke is the favorite in the bottom bracket.

112 — CA's Marty King is the heavy favorite to make his third trip to the state tournament in Syracuse next weekend. His toughest competition will probably come from Cardinal Mooney's Safer Kadircan in the quarterfinals.

119 — Perhaps the toughest weight class of the tournament. Victor's Jeff Annesi meets winner of ER's Tim Quinn and Roth's Phil Conner. Marion's Ed Duchesneau is also in the top bracket. CA's Dan Scheele meets Spencerport's Paul Maccarone first round, then gets Gates-Chili's Mike Bauer if he wins. Bauer beat Scheele in last week's Class A finals, 4-3.

126 — Brockport's Bob Brawn and East Rochester's Joe Walczyk are favorites in the upper bracket. York's Van Schirmer, Irondequoit's Bob Lehman and Wayne's Rich Azzano are

favorites in the lower bracket.

132 — Penfield's Chris Kane will probably make his second straight trip to the states. His toughest match could come in the quarterfinals where he'll probably meet Spencerport's Angelo DeAngelis.

138 — Marion's Kevin DeRidder is unbeaten in 29 matches, but he'll get a strong challenge from Brighton's Doug Till and Wayne's Steve Azzano, both in the opposite bracket.

145 — First-round match between Buenting and White could be the one to see. Victor's Dan Ahonen draws a bye and will probably meet Wayne's Joe Friedman in the quarters. Watch out for Geneseo's Dan Carmen in the other bracket.

155 — CA's Kurt Scammell meets Mooney's Steve Klein in first round. Klein beat Scammell last week on the way to finishing second in Class A. Jim Farrell of Geneseo and Rich Bottone of Hornell are in the same bracket. Rob Evarts of Brighton is tough in the top bracket.

167 — Sperry's unbeaten Tom Rosa is the heavy favorite to make his first trip to the state tournament. East Rochester's Chris Schojan provides competition in the bottom bracket.

177 — Rick Tomlinson of Penfield and Mike Hughes of Geneseo will probably square off in the semis. The winner could go all the way.

215 — Phil Weaver of Bath is the favorite in the upper bracket, Cal-Mum's Joe Gustanis in the bottom. Marty Glickman of Brighton (injured last week) may receive an at-large bid.

250 — Mendon's John Brennan is the toughest in the section's weakest weight class.