

Bees capture mat crown

★ Controversy, rhubarb mar sectional final

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The first four bouts of the Section Three wrestling finals last night at the Syracuse War Memorial weren't exactly a thrill a minute. Oh, there was a minor upset at 91 pounds, but the other three bouts had top seeds winning.

Then, as the fifth bout ended, the wrestling came to a screeching halt and the fighting started.

The key question was: when Baldwinsville 119-pounder Kevin Johnson put Canastota's Mark Hood on his back for two points to pull out a pulsating 8-7 win, had time expired? If you were a Canastota fan, the answer was an emphatic yes. If you were from B'ville, a strong no vote was in order.

As the exhausted wrestlers got to their feet, B'ville coach Leo Johnson jumped up and signaled for two points; Canastota co-coaches Jim Giufre and Jack Romagnoli screamed "no way."

After a discussion on the sidelines, and much booing from the heated-up Canastota fans, referee Jerry Pleskach decided the points

came at the instant the bout ended, so the 8-7 final score stuck. Giufre and Romagnoli were beside themselves, but their continued arguing fell on deaf ears.

WM turned 'ugly'

Even though the bout had no bearing on the team title, which Baldwinsville won with 112½ points to defending champ Fulton's 98, some Canastota fans soon got very angry. Everything from sandwiches, still in their little baggies, to coins pelted the mat, fights broke out in few corners of the WM and threats and shaking fists volleyed from the fan to fan, fans to coaches, and fans to referees. At one point the scene almost got very ugly, but cooler heads, and the appearance of Syracuse police, finally stopped a possible riot.

"We're in a no-win situation," said veteran B'ville coach Leo Johnson. "We get the call and we're bums. We don't get the call, and we lose the bout."

Perhaps even worse than the temporary violence, the fan outburst also took attention away from a great bout between Hood (32-3) and Johnson (31-3-1), both seniors.

"Mark Hood is one of the best kids you'll ever meet," said Romagnoli at the end of a long day. "It's a shame this had to happen to him."

Kevin Johnson was only one of three Bees to win Section Three titles. At 112 pounds, senior Rob Allen (32-1) earned the right to wrestle at the states next weekend (also at the WM) by beating West Genesee's John Morgans 5-2 in the finals. Also, Pat Conners and Marcellus' Brian Sutherland (28-2-1) tangled in a brutal 177-pound final before Conners (31-3) pulled out an 11-8 win.

"The kids we had in the finals all wrestled their heads off," said Johnson, who won his seventh sectional title as the Bees coach. "And even the kids who didn't reach the finals wrestled very hard."

Baldwinsville had two others in the finals, but 91-pounder Joe Loffredo (30-3), the top seed, dropped a 4-3 decision to outstanding Morrisville-Eaton frosh Doug Youngs (30-2). Also, the Bees' Brad Johnson (26-6) ran into a formidable hurdle in former state champ John Pauley (33-0) of New Hartford, as the latter turned in an easy 9-0 decision.

Third-place Canastota (94½ points), despite the disappointment at 119, had two champions in top seeds Dave Gleeson and Mike Relyea. Gleeson and Relyea were very impressive in the finals. Gleeson (36-1-1), a defending state champ and only a sophomore, routed Solvay's Dave McCarthy, 12-4, and Relyea (33-3) destroyed LaFayette's John Carroll, 16-3.

Fulton, the state's dual meet champs, also had two titlists — defending Sectional champ Mike Narewski at 145 and Jeff Merritt at 155.

Narewski (30-1) pinned his way to the finals and then rolled to a 16-4 decision over Holland-Patent's Kendall Wood.

Merritt, who apparently has peaked for the post-season, was the tourney's individual standout with four falls, including a pin of previously unbeaten and top-seeded Dave Jackowski (26-1) of South Jefferson in the finals. For his efforts, Merritt (25-5) was chosen the most outstanding wrestler by a vote of the coaches.

Two top seeds who didn't get upset were Oswego's Brian Akley at 138 and New Hartford's Dan Keating at 132. Akley (29-0), who now has 125 career wins (125-24-1), parlayed a late four-point move into a 5-2 decision over Whitesboro's Paul Evans, while Keating (32-2), who pinned his way to the finals, made it much easier for himself in his final

Section Three Championships

At War Memorial

Final Team Scoring

Baldwinsville 112½, Fulton 98, Canastota 94½, New Hartford 53½, Lowville 51, Morrisville-Eaton 44½, West Genesee 38½, Jordan-Elbridge 36, East Syracuse-Minoa 34½, Holland Patent 31, Homer 29½, Whitesboro 29.

Individual results

Championship finals

91 — Youngs (ME) dec. Loffredo (Bv) 4-3; 98 — Gleeson (Can) dec. McCarthy (Sol) 12-4; 105 — Pauley (NH) dec. B. Johnson (Bv) 9-0; 112 — Allen (Bv) dec. Morgans (WG) 5-2; 119 — K. Johnson (Bv) dec. Hood (Can) 8-7; 126 — Balog (RFA) dec. Bredis (ESM) 7-6; 132 — Keating (NH) dec. Ware (WG) 16-6; 138 — Akley (OSW) dec. Evans (Wh) 5-2; 145 — Narewski (Ful) dec. Wood (HP) 16-4; 155 — Merritt (Ful) pinned Jackowski (SJ) 3-59; 167 — Relyea (Can) dec. Carroll (LaF) 16-3; 177 — Conners (Bv) dec. Sutherland (Marc.) 11-8; 215 — Williams (Fowler) dec. Hatch (ME) 6-3; 250 — Morrison (Low) pinned Chambers (JE) 3-41.

MOW — Fulton's Jeff Merritt. Aggregate Pin Award — Lowville's Randy Morrison.

Consolations

91 — Houppert (BR) dec. Button (On) 4-2; 98 — LaBette (ESM) dec. Cowen (Hom) 11-3; 105 — Peavy (Mad) pinned Caza (Ful) 4-59; 112 — Kampnick (GB) dec. Wilcox (Hom) 12-6; 119 — Hunt (Wat) dec. Dobransky (Carth) 0-0, 5-0 OT; 126 — Angeleri (Ful) dec. Alpha (JE) 5-2; 132 — Atkinson (Ful) won by forfeit; 138 — Rice (Low) pinned Schreppel (HP) 4-22; 145 — Kuranda (Hom) dec. Woodruff (Cop) 8-5; 155 — Hazen (Can) dec. Rey (Sol) 10-4; 167 — Platt (Adir) dec. Stimson (CNS) 6-2; 177 — Wallon (CNS) pinned Eisenhut (Can) 2-59; 215 — O'Brien (Chitt) pinned Martin (Moh) 2-31; 250 — Korhas (CS) pinned Rathburn (Dol) 3-36.

Quarterfinals

91 — Loffredo (Bv) won by default over Jayne (JE); Houppert (B. River) dec. Scaronell (Lif. Falls) 1-0; Button pinned Vahey (LaF) 4-1; Youngs (ME) pinned Campbell (ESM) 5-47; 98 — Gleeson (Can) pinned Moonan (VVS) 4-53; Cowen (Homer) dec. Dick (S. Jeff) 2-1; LaBette (ESM) pinned Coon (Mad) 1-51; McCarthy (Sol) dec. Precourt (Mad) 6-0; 105 — J. Pauley (NH) dec. Howard (Ind. River) 10-0; Peavy (Mad) dec. Ennis (Mt. Mark) 7-2; Caza (Ful) dec. Kidder (ESM) 9-7; B. Johnson (Bv) pinned Printup (LaF) 1-45; 112 — Allen (Bv) dec. Gratch (RFA) 16-1; Wilcox (Homer) pinned Aubel (Lowville) 5-54; Morgans (WG) dec. Miller (OCS) 7-1; Kampnick (GB) pinned Dolbear (Mex) 5-6; 119 — K. Johnson (Bv) pinned Annable (OCS) 3-10; Dobransky (Carth) dec. Vitorilo (Chitt) 7-5; Hunt (W'town) dec. Lowe (Sauquoit) 6-2; Hood (Can) dec. Green (Aub) 11-2; 126 — Angeleri (Ful) pinned Hall (CM)

2-23; Balog (RFA) dec. S. Halpin (Bv) 9-8; Bredis (ESM) dec. Kingsley (Chitt) 1-0; Alpha (JE) dec. Guardino (1000 ls.) 5-1; 132 — Keatig (NH) pinned Pelligra (Marc.) 1-24; Evans (Wh) dec. Dugar (JE) 7-4; Atkinson (Ful) dec. Brown (ME) 6-1; Ware (WG) dec. Winters (Carth) 12-2;

138 — Akley (OSW) dec. Becker (B. River) 10-0; Schreppel (HP) dec. Berryhill (Liv) 11-6; Rice (Lowville) pinned Way (FP) 5-34; Evans (Wh) dec. LeBlanc (Can) 2-2, 7-1 OT; 145 — Narewski (Ful) pinned Orzell (Sol) 1-13; Kuranda (Homer) dec. Kempney (Lowville) 11-5; Wood (HP) pinned Stevens (SC) 4-15; Woodruff (Cop) dec. McArdeil (Bv) 9-9, 4-0 OT; 155 — Jackowski (S. Jeff) pinned Black (Marc.) 2-31; Hazen (Can) dec. Hall (Wh) 9-8; Merritt (Ful) pinned Wiseman (Sk) 1-59; Rey (Sol) dec. M. Pauley (NH) 4-2; 167 — Relyea (Can) dec. Wood (HP) 11-9; Platt (Adir) dec. Davis (Ful) 10-5; Carroll (LaF) dec. Bradish (Mex) 9-8; Stimson (CNS) dec. Amann (WG) 7-4; 177 — Conners (Bv) pinned Moore (Lowville) 2-43; Wallon (CNS) dec. Kline (Liv) 8-6; Eisenhut (Can) dec. Hodgson (CM) 9-5; Sutherland (Marc.) pinned Durkee (IR) 1-52; O'Brien (Chitt) pinned Bagdovich (Tul) 5-35; Martin (Mohawk) won by default; Hatch dec. Zupano (HP) 5-4; 250 — Korhas (CS) pinned Hendricks 2-26; Morrison (Lowville) pinned Ashcraft (Carth) 1-17; Rathburn (Onelda) dec. Pollock (Ful) 6-3; Chambers (JE) pinned Skinner (LaF) 3-36.

Semifinals

91 — Loffredo (Bv) dec. Houppert (B. River) 6-2; Youngs (ME) dec. Button (Onelda) 11-5; 98 — Gleeson (Can) pinned Cowen (Homer) 1-43; McCarthy (Sol) dec. LaBette (ESM) 3-1; 105 — Pauley (NH) dec. Peavy (Mad) 5-2; B. Johnson (Bv) dec. Caza (Ful) 14-2; 112 — Allen (Bv) pinned Wilcox (Homer) 1-16; Morgans (WG) dec. Kampnick (Gen. Brown) 8-2; 119 — K. Johnson (Bv) dec. Dobransky (Carth) 9-0; Hood (Can) dec. Hunt (W'town) 15-0; 126 — Balog (RFA) dec. Angeleri (Ful) 5-3 OT; Bredis (ESM) dec. Alpha (JE) 7-6; 132 — Keating (NH) pinned Evans (Wh) 1-52; Ware (WG) dec. Atkinson (Ful).

138 — Akley (OSW) dec. Schreppel (HP) 8-0; Evans (Wh) dec. Rice (Lowville) 4-0; 145 — Narewski (Ful) pinned Kuranda (Homer) 4-2; Wood (HP) dec. Woodruff (Copen) 14-6; 155 — Jackowski (S. Jeff) dec. Hazen (Can) 2-1; Merritt (Ful) pinned Rey (Sol) 3-10; 167 — Relyea (Can) pinned Platt (Adir) 3-37; Carroll (LaF) dec. Stimson (CNS) 4-3; 177 — Conners (Bv) dec. Wallon (CNS) 10-4; Sutherland (Marc.) dec. Eisenhut (Can) 15-7; 215 — Williams (Fow) pinned O'Brien (Chitt) 2-22; Hatch (ME) dec. Martin (Mohawk) 11-1; 250 — Morrison (Lowville) pinned Korhas (CS) 3-19; Chambers (JE) pinned Rathburn (Onelda) 1-35.

by scoring a 16-6 superior over West Genesee's Chris Ware.

The surprise weight of the tourney was at 126, where none of the top three seeds made it to the finals. No. 4 seed John Balog's 7-6 squeaker over East Syracuse-Minoa's Dave Briedis was good enough for the title. Briedis, seeded 14th, upset the number two and

three seeds to get to the finals. Balog beat top-seeded Dave Ange-leri of Fulton 5-3 in an overtime semifinal match.

In the upper weights, Fowler's Stan Williams and Morrisville-Eaton's Bill Hatch both had impressive roads to the finals, as Williams scored a 25-5 decision and two falls and Hatch won 11-1 in the

semis. Williams then beat Hatch, 6-3, for the 215-pound title. Top-seeded Kevin Murphy of West Genesee did not wrestle due to an ankle injury.

In the 250-pound final, fourth-seeded Randy Morrison of Lowville pulled an upset by pinning second-seeded Jim Chambers of Jordan-El-bridge in 3:41 of the finals.