Healthy Rosa captures title

By TOM FITZGERALD
D&C Sportswriter

It's tough to talk with tonsilitis, and it's even tougher to wrestle with the flu, says Steve Rosa.

The Rush-Henrietta senior has suffered from both ailments the last two weeks and thinks they contributed to his only defeats of the seasdn.

Last night, however, he was healthy and took out his frustrations on Hilton's Bob Clark, pinning him at three minutes and three seconds in the Section 5 high school wrestling championships.

ROSA, who lost in the Monroe County finals to East Rochester's Andy Brien and in the sectional class AAA final to Clark, raised his record to 29-2.

A crowd of 2,287 at Brockport State saw Rosa pick Clark off his feet and hold him for several seconds before deciding what to do. He went for the cradle hold, got it, and won his revenge.

"Everybody thought I was finished," said Rosa. "When I had him up there I was thinking about going for the take-down, playing it safe. I've never been in that position before. All I can think about is going down to Syracuse."

Rosa, in the 181-pound class, will be joined by the other 13 local champions, led by four unbeaten contenders — John Kinley of Webster Thomas at 219, Roy Lang of Wayne at 159, Dave Stulpin of Spencerport at 149, and Robert Hadsell of Canandaigua at 136.

McQUAID will have two wrestlers in the state tournament, next Friday and Saturday at Syracuse, Rich Salamone at 95 and John Smallridge at 109.

Kinley pinned Keith Piccirilli of Rush-Henrietta Roth at 3:42. Lang scored an escape in the second overtime to beat Webster Schroeder's Wayne Taft, 1-0. Stulpin beat East Rochester's Bob Steinruck, 8-3, and said, "I've wrestled since fifth grade to get to the state's and I finally did it."

Hadsell was named the outstanding wrestler of the sectionals after beating Hilton's Chuck Patridge, 19-4.

SALAMONE beat Geneseo's Kevin Richard, 4-0, at 95 pounds. After the state tournament, he says, he'll have to start gaining weight. "The lowest class in college (possibly Bucknell) is 118," he said.

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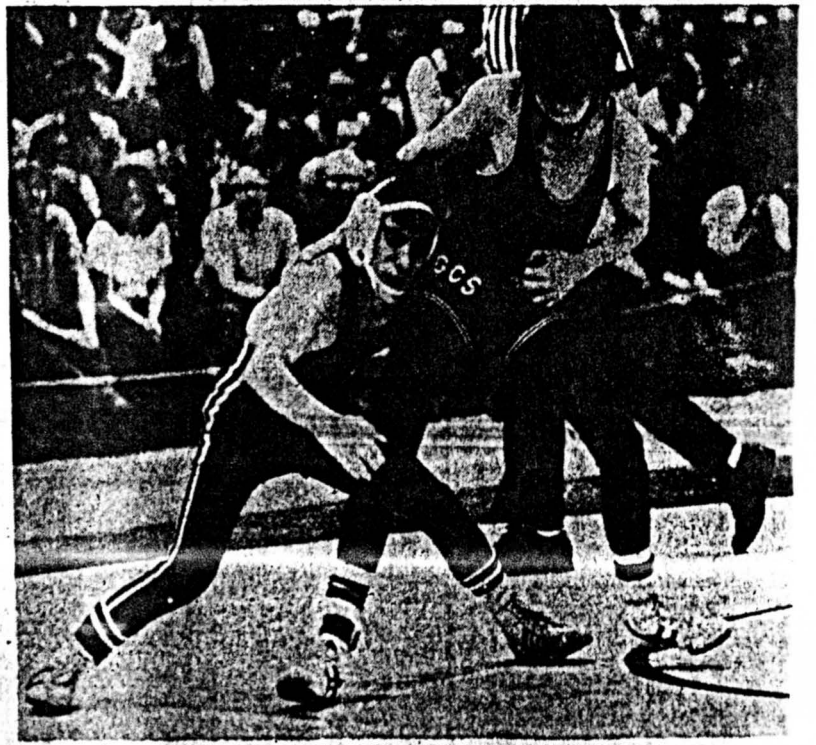

D&C photo by Jim

McQuaid's Rich Salamone (left) ties up Geneseo's Kevin Richard in the 94-pound m

Rosa

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His teammate, Smallridge, decisioned previously unbeaten Alex Cole of Cuba, 13-2. A third McQuaid wrestler, Pete Springer, was beaten, 6-2, by Greece Arcadia's Greg Locke at 130.

Don St. James of Rush-Henrietta Sperry said his victory over East's Mike Hendrix was more thrilling than winning the world age-group freestyle championships last summer in the Dominican Republic. "Everybody I know is here," he said. "Nobody knows me down there."

Section 5

Wrestling Championships

Unl—Chris Shaffer (Waterloo) dec. Rick Boor (Livon), 4-3.

95—Rich Salamone (McQuaid) dec. Kevin Richard (Geneseo) 4-0

102—Don St James (Rush-Henrietta Sperry) dec Mike Hendrix (East), 6-4).

109—John Smallridge (McQuaid) dec. Alex Cole (Cuba) 13-2.

116—Mike Fuller (Warsaw) dec. Dave Halladay (Fairport), 11-6.

123—Robin Parker (Caledonia-Mumford) dec. Jerry Sacchitella (Spencerport), 10-4.

130—Greg Locke (Greece-Arcadia) dec. Pete Springer (McQuaid), 6-2.

136—Robert Hadsell (Canandaigua) dec. Chuck Partridge (Hilton), 19-4.

142—Gerry Savoie (Fairport) dec. Don O'Mara (Greece Arcadia), 7-2.

149—Dave Stulpin (Spencerport) dec. Bob Steinruck (East Rochester), 8-3.

159—Roy Lang (Wayne) dec. Wayne Tatt (Webster Schroeder), 1-0 (overtime)

171—Frank Kiff (Bath) pinned Larry Allerton (Newark), 27-0.

181—Steve Rosa (Rush-Henrietta Sperry) pinned Bob Clark (Hilton), 3:03.

219—John Kinley (Webster Thomas) pinned Keith Piccirilli (Rush-Henrietta Roth) 3:42.