

Kuhn, Walczyk Ends Wrestling Season in Sectional Finals

Senior Mike Kuhn was 41 seconds away from going to the state wrestling championships on this weekend. He had a 5-3 lead over Trevor Graham of Spencerport when he gave up two points to end the regulation match in a 5-5 tie.

In the overtime, three one minute periods, Kuhn managed a point at time, escaping three times.

Graham grabbed his points on two takedowns and an escape. East Rochester had 11 members of its wrestling team in the Interclass tournament for Section 5 division honors last weekend at Fairport. The finals were witnessed on Saturday night by an overflow crowd of 2,000 mat fans.

Kuhn was one of the favorites to carry ER's colors into the state championship on Friday and Saturday in Syracuse.

Two other strong Bomber matmen also were eliminated. Senior Romeo Battazzi in the 135 pound class gained a first round bye and then pinned Jeff Staheli of Williamson in 2:30.

In the semifinals, Battazzi was up against his longtime nemesis, Matt King of Canandaigua. King ruled the mats this time, 4-2.

In two matches during the regular season, King had beaten Battazzi, 8-2 and the second scrap ended in a 0-0 tie.

It was a heartbreaking finale for Battazzi, who has wrestled



Frank Argento

for Coach Don Quinn four years.

With Kuhn at 126 and Battazzi out of contention for a trip to Syracuse, ER's hopes were on Joe Walczyk, a surprising 141 pound junior.

Walczyk gained three consecutive decisions to move into the championship argument against Rick Gould of Bolivar. The match ended in a 5-4 loss.

Walczyk made it to the end by gaining nods over Mike Ashley of Pavilion, 9-3; Morris White of Canandaigua, 9-7 and Paul Richard of Geneseo, 8-7.

Two weeks ago, Walczyk showed he was ready for the tourney by beating Richard.

Richard made it to the states last year and finished in a



Curtis Doreen

fourth slot. Earlier in the season, White trounced Walczyk, 12-4 at Canandaigua. In other Bomber results, 94 pounder Mark Rosati had a smart 2:50 pin over Mike Cook of Geneseo in the lid-lifter.

But the drawings put him up against Canandaigua's slick Marty King in match No. 2 and King ended the conflict in 1:31. King made it to the states and Coach Don Quinn labeled him as a potential champ.

Tim Quinn couldn't make an appearance on the mats in the 101 division and lost the match to illness...the pesky flu.

Tom Pagano at 108 turned

back Tom Moses of Geneva, 7-6, but couldn't keep Dan Scheele from beating him, 18-9.

Scott McIntosh, a junior at 115, easily eliminated Jim Hughes of Notre Dame of Batavia, 13-7 and had an easier time with Dan Schirmer of York, 15-4. He bowed to Chris Kane of Penfield, 5-2.

Frank Argento's work lasted only 40 seconds in the 122 class before he was pinned by Bill Affronti of Wayne.

Sophomore Craig Venette chalked up a 6-5 victory in his first 148 pound match and then lost a tight 9-8 decision to Don Carmer of Geneseo.

Curtis Doreen, at 158, had Mendon's crack Rick Kase as his opening round opponent and lost by a 6-1 decision.

In the 250 class, Joe Santucci was up against the tourney champ, John Cosentino of Geneva.

At 1:10, Santucci was pinned.

Of the 11 Bomber matmen in the tourney, Coach Quinn said 9 will be back next season.

Kuhn and Battazzi graduate in June but Tim Quinn, Pagano, Scott McIntosh, Argento, Walczyk, Venette Doreen, Dave Bellinger, and Santucci, will be back with some good material from Jim Tortorici's junior varsity team.