Richie McPhee Loses In Mat Tournament

The win streak of talented 177-pounder Richie McPhee ended at 28 wins last Saturday night at the Section 5 Wrestling Tournament at the Rochester War Memorial.

The lone defeat came in the finals of that division, when McPhee bowed to Webster's Robert Menz by an 8-4 decision.

McPhee, a junior and a power on Coach Don Quinn's club all season, helped the team pack up a 9-win, 5-loss, and single tie record. He had moved into the title fray by starting off the tourney battles with a 6-0 nod over Charlotte's Joe Lynch.

In the semifinal tilt, McPhee was trailing Billy Bartosch of Canandaigua by a 4-0 deficit at the end of the first two minutes and then rebounded to rack up a 6-4 decision.

If McPhee had won, he would have moved into the State Intersectional Tourney slated for the Utica War Memorial this weekend. Two other Bomber matmen also succumbed to stiff opposition in the Section 5 tourney.

Chris Bourne, Coach Quinn's sensational 105pounder, opened with a 7-2 win over Larry Telkey of Hornell and then dropped a semifinal scrap to Dave Stulpin of Spencerport, 8-4. Oddly, Bourne, a sophomore member of the Bombers, had beat Stulpin two weeks ago, 7-2, in the Monroe County Tournament.

In the consolation fracas for third place, Bourne then whipped Calvin Fairwell of East High, 9-1.

Don Verni, third Bomber in the tourney, and tusseling in the unlimited weight class, had to sweat for his opening nod. It took an overtime period, before Verni scored a pin over Eric Davis of Madison High.

Verni then dropped an 8-2 verdict to Canandaigua's crack Steve Costa. He nabbed consolation laurels by gaining a default verdict over Terry Conway, Dansville.

Quinn said last Monday he was pleased with the season efforts of his club. The fact that Verni, a junior, along with Bourne and McPhee will be back next season, makes him see a good chance the Bombers will regain their longtime prestige in area mat circles.

Also returning are Dom Aloisio, Ron Ricotta, Pat Farchione, Jim VanThof, Don Quinn Jr., Dan Goodman, Phil Pettinato, Tim Duffy, Gary Parrotta, and Mark Nacarella, along with several matmen who will move up from Coach Sammy Morabito's junior varsity ranks.