

Fairport Gets Taste of Bomber Power

The Fairport wrestling fans were looking for a "kill" last Saturday night. And East Rochester mat addicts were looking for a miracle. With 3,000 up in their seats, followers loosening their vocal chords, the Red Raider machine ran out of gas and East Rochester nabbed the Monroe County East Wrestling championship.

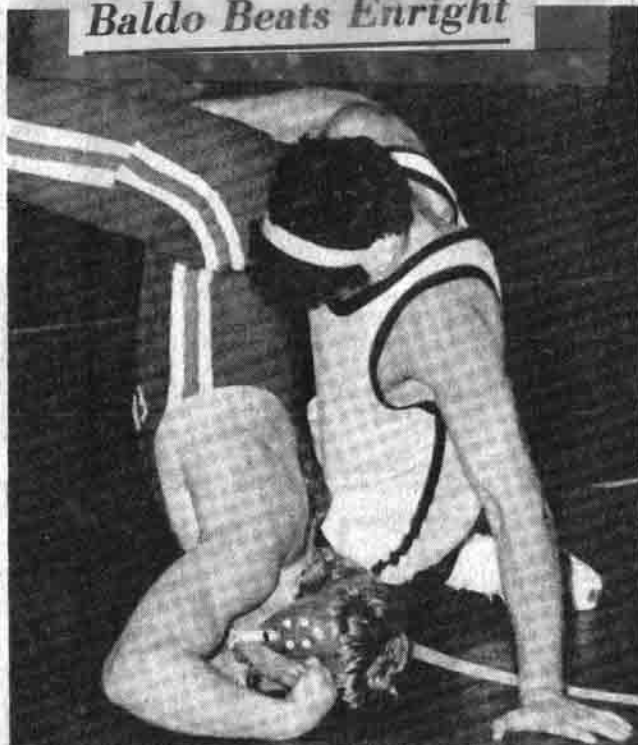
It happened last Saturday night and the drama and emotion was something only East Rochester is familiar with. The last gasp was a 27-23 victory for Coach Don Quinn's Bombers. And at 28 minutes to nine, big Joe Baldo, all 218 pounds of him was running around the mat with both forefingers in the air and showing who was number "1".

Baldo had seconds before disposed of Fairport's "Mr. America," muscular Dan Enright. It was a match between Atlas and "Jack the Giant Killer." It was a scrap that would decide whether little East Rochester would beat mammoth Fairport that includes Midvale, Bushnell's Basin and even Egypt.

The end result, the Bombers won their ninth in a row in County East, Fairport swallowed a first setback in nine matches and had a 23 match win streak snapped.

Baldo, Quinn's No. two superman next to undefeated John Zito, needed a draw to clinch a Bomber win. ER was in front 24-23 and Enright was

Baldo Beats Enright



UNDER CONTROL--Joe Baldo, East Rochester heavyweight, has things under control as he stacks Fairport's Dan Enright. Baldo went on to win in the battle of undefeated heavyweights, 5-2. Photo by Mike Lennon.

showing his muscles with a 20-2 record. "Big Joe" was 19-2. The first period was a draw. Neither tallied a point. The period ended with both in a mid-mat hug.

Thirty seconds into the second period Baldo managed a one-point escape. There was

a thunderous roar in the ER stands. At 1:12, Enright took Joe for a two-point reversal.

"No sweat for Baldo." With a second to go, Joe escaped again from Enright. It was 2-2 into the last two minutes.

At 1:36 of the last period, the referee broke the matmen

and the matadors were in center stage again. Stalking each other, Baldo caught Enright and brought him down with 45 seconds on the clock.

Baldo had Enright in his favorite "cradle." Enright's muscles melted. Joe held on and on. He took a look at the clock. It read 26 seconds. Enright's muscles were sagged. Baldo won it with a near fall three points.

Baldo said after the clash, "I knew I could beat him." Quinn praised his big boy with a "you wrestled smart, Joe, real smart."

Before Baldo's match, the Bombers had moved back into contention when Kevin Maynard, who usually wrestles with the Jayvees turned in a surprising three-point win over Red Raider Billy Guarino.

Maynard, at 180, had Guarino at 0-0 in the first period. At 1:15 of chapter two, there was a smell of a default success as Guarino suffered an elbow injury. Maynard got on the scoreboard for one point on a second stalling warning netted by Guarino.

It was 1-1 at 18 seconds to go when Maynard took Guarino down and took a 3-1 lead. Maynard gave up a warning point in the third quarter and six seconds before the close, escaped to end it at 4-2.

ER was back, 23-18 when Quinn's superman, John Zito

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(Continued from Page 1) and his 170 pounds took on Fairport's Bob Kyff. Earlier in the season, Zito beat Kyff in overtime, 5-4. This time, Zito needed a win to give ER a chance to still win this one.

At the minute mark of period one, Zito trailed 2-0 on a reversal. Plenty of time yet. Twenty seconds later, Zito had an escape. It was 2-2 at 1:18 of the second period as Zito broke a Kyff hold.

And at the :50 mark, Zito moved ahead, 4-2 on a two-point reversal. Kyff was stubborn. Three times Zito tried to turn him over for a pin but the Red Raider clamped an arm on one of Zito's legs.

Quinn called it a deliberate stall. The referee disagreed. With 25 seconds to go in the match, Kyff tallied an escape. It ended 4-3.

The Bombers were off to a 6-0 lead as little Mike Brien pinned Raider Dan Bucci at the 3:26 mark. Brien had a 4-1 lead at the time. The victory was the 11th of the season for the 98 pounder. He lost two.

In the 108 match, Bomber Curtis Doreen was an 11-12 victim of Bob Arao. That closed the score to 6-4.

Sophomore Romeo Battazzi ran into Fairport's classy Chuck Tortorello in the 115 class. Battazzi was a 7-3 loser. Fairport took a 7-6 lead. Jeff Kier and his 122 pounds look on Ken Catalfano. It ended in an easy 14-4 win for Kier. The Bombers moved in front, 10-7.

On the mat came 129-pounder Dave Yacono. The enemy was Scott Hills. It

was 2-0 in period one and 5-0 for Yacono with a three-point near fall. At 1:26, Yacono flattened Hills. The six-point pin came at 3:24. ER took a 16-7 lead.

Bob Marianetti was up against Raider Ken Jamison, with a 16-0 record. Marianetti worked to give nothing more than a decision to his rival. Jamison had a horrendous pin skein. Marianetti lost 6-3. His teammates called it a near victory. ER's game lead was 16-10.

Bruce Kier at 141 took a 1-0 lead over Scott Gillman in the first period, then fell back 4-2 in period two. At the 3:28 mark, Kier was flat. The six point pin tied the match at 16-16.

Dennis Essom and Fairport's Russ Sutley were cautious in their 148 class scrap. Sutley led 2-1 in period one. Essom trailed 4-3 after period two. The match ended 6-6. Score ER 18, Fairport 18.

In the 158 tussle, Bomber Dave Prong took on Raider executioner Rich Bowland. It was a 20-5 superior victory for Bowland. Prong trailed 2-0 at the end of the first chapter and 8-2 at the finals of the second. Then it became a matter of Prong averting a pin.