

# Leslie wins 3rd title in C-C wrestling finals

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Although he could have chosen to wrestle at a lower weight class, Darrell Leslie decided to stick to his guns at 122 pounds.

The decision had nothing to do with having to push himself away from the dinner table.

"I didn't want people thinking I was trying to duck anybody in my weight class," the Madison senior said. Like such 122-pound toughies as Don St. James of Rush-Henrietta Sperry and Steve Levine of Brighton.

Leslie had little problem moving through the City-Catholic League competition. He won his third straight league championship last night at Cardinal Mooney by pinning Jefferson's Brian Heed in the finals in 3:21.

His performance wasn't enough to keep McQuaid from winning the team trophy by 12 points over runnerup Madison.

McQuaid made up for a 27-24 dual-meet loss to East earlier in the week by placing six wrestlers in the finals. Five of them won titles — Steve Nally (101 pounds), Rob Starkweather (108), Paul Nesser (129), Vince Baiamonte (170) and Phil Lanzatella (180).

The champions were operating under a handicap. They had only nine entries in the 14 classes because of illnesses and a knee injury suffered by tough 148-pounder John McGuire.

McGuire was injured in the East match and defaulted to Len Barber, his only loss after 14 victories and a tie.

"If he can't wrestle in the sectionals, we'll try for a wild-card entry in the state tournament," said Coach John Roselli.

"Coach Roselli was upset that we had four byes in the first round," said Starkweather. "You can't pick up any pin points with byes. He told us we needed pins in the finals."

Starkweather (121-0), one of the few unbeaten wrestlers in the area didn't score a pin but settled for a convincing 11-0 victory over Bishop Kearney's Steve Stadtmiller.

But Nally and Nesser, defending league champions like Starkweather, came up with pins. Nally took 3:47 to beat Ussery Silas of Madison, and Nesser stopped Joe Morone of Edison at 2:56.



McQuaid's Robert Starkweather controls Steve Stadtmiller of Bishop Kearney.

"I never thought I'd get a pin," said Nesser. "I beat him 7-6 in duals and it went down to the last second."

There were six pins in all. Franklin junior Ron Snowden (12-1) scored his ninth pin by beating Donald Hill of Madison at 1:11. Greg Eiffert (15-0) of Kearney pinned Ernie Daniels of Charlotte at 141 pounds at 4:31.

And in the unlimited class, sophomore Henry Hood of Madison pinned freshman John DeMarsco of Kearney at 1:11.

Barber of East made up for last year's championships. He pulled ligaments in his shoulder in the first 20 seconds of the finals last year. This time he beat Len Rogers of McQuaid, 6-2, to run his record to 22-1.

In one of the most exciting matches, Kevin Lighthouse of East held off Chris Roncone of Mooney in the final moments to win the 148-pound title, 3-2.

John Bellomo, a Kearney sophomore, trailed by 4-3 at 94 pounds until he scored a near-fall in the third period to beat Clarence Brown of Franklin, 6-4.

Edison's Charlie Hill, another defending champion, piled up the points to beat Mike Hampton of East at 218, 17-4. Baia Monte captured the highest-scoring match, a 16-12 with Edison's Dean Hitchcock.

### City-Catholic League Tournament

Team scoring — McQuaid 147½, Madison 135½, East 102, Bishop Kearney 89, Edison Tech 87½, Franklin 62, Cardinal Mooney 37, Aquinas 32, Charlotte 24, Jefferson 24.

94 — John Bellomo (BK) dec. Clarence Brown (Fr), 6-4; 101 — Steve Nally (Mc) pinned Ussery Silas (Ma), 3:47; 108 — Rob Starkweather (Mc) dec. Steve Stadtmiller (BK), 11-0; 115 — Ron Snowden (Fr) pinned Donald Hill (Ma), 1:11; 122 — Darrell Leslie (Ma) pinned Brian Heed (J), 3:21; 129 — Paul Nesser (Mc) pinned Joe Morone (Ed), 2:56; 135 — Maverick Franklin (Ea) dec. Bill Adams (BK), 10-1; 141 — Greg Eiffert (BK) pinned Ernie Daniels (Ch), 4:31; 148 — Kevin Lighthouse (Ea) dec. Chris Roncone (CM), 3-2; 158 — Len Barber (Ea) dec. Len Rogers (Mc), 6-2; Vince Baia Monte (Mc) dec. Dean Hitchcock (Ed), 16-12; 180 — Phil Lanzatella (Mc) dec. John Maher (ea), 4-2; 218 — Charlie Hill (Ed) dec. Mike Hampton (Ea), 17-4; 253 — Henry Hood (Ma) pinned John DeMarsco (BK), 1:11.

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