



**FOURTH AT 130-LBS...**Brearley's Joe Lospinoso, getting the takedown, placed fourth at 130-lbs.



**SQUARING OFF AT 135-LBS...**Raider Ricky Olsson, left, prepares to begin his bout with Fred Shea of Buena.



**FACING A TOUGH COMPETITOR...**Raider Sal Gano, left, gets set for his 125-lb bout with TJ Mitchell of Raritan.

## Raider Mineo Places Eighth, Gano Upset in Pre-Quarterfinals at NJSIAA Wrestling Tournament

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

wrestlers," said Mineo. "The second kid (in the wrestlebacks) was a region champ. He was very strong but I went out there very aggressive, got him on his back and almost stuck him. It's my senior year. I didn't want my season to end. I came out with my best stuff. I have achieved what I came for. It's a great feeling."

"The Jackson kid was really tough and he had a lot of funk and things like that. Pat got caught up in a little daze but we got him focused. We got

him back," said Raider Head Coach John Scholz. "He's on fire right now." In his consolation bout for seventh

place Mineo injured his ankle to place eighth. Raider senior Sal Gano was defeated, 9-3, his 125-lb pre-quarterfinal bout with TJ Mitchell of Raritan. He then was nipped, 5-3, in the first round wrestlebacks by Rich Bushby of Kingsway. Gano scored a takedown and an escape but Bushby retaliated with a takedown and capitalized with a three-point nearfall. Raider senior Ricky Olsson lost in the 135-lb first round via fall to Fred Shea of Buena.

"Sal, I really feel bad for. But if you are going to get a loss, this is one of the biggest places to get one. His work ethic, everything he did this year was great," commented coach Scholz. "Ricky! It was amazing to

see him place third in the region tournament and to win against a tough kid. You really need to get here (Atlantic City) early on, your sophomore or junior year. Your senior year, it's a little tough, all the overwhelming things but I'm happy for him."

Brearley sophomore Kenny Knapp advanced to the 103-lb semifinals with a 1:50 fall (cradle) in the pre-quarterfinals followed by a 7-1 decision over Camden Catholic's Mike Tully. After suffering a 10-9 setback to Sean Boylan of Holy Spirit, Knapp defeated Derrick Russell of Jackson Memorial, 7-3. Knapp then claimed third place by winning an 11-3, majority decision over South Plainfield's Nick Heilman.

"He showed great maturity and resilience when he was defeated by Boylan in the semi's. He refocused himself and completed the tournament in a dominating fashion," said David Brearley Head Coach Brian Luciani.

Brearley's Joe Lospinoso (130-lbs) won his first two bouts to advance to the quarterfinals where he dropped an 8-7, 4 OT ride out to Dan Butcher of Westwood. Lospinoso won his next three wrestlebacks then finished fourth after being decided, 15-7, by Karon Reid of Brick Memorial.

"He came out of nowhere and shocked the wrestling community with an amazing display of quickness, speed and finesse the entire weekend. He was on a different level and shocked even his most ardent supporters," said Luciani.

After losing his 215-lb quarterfinal bout, 3-2, Brearley's Jesse Boyden finished sixth after dropping a 7-3 decision to Ken Ampona of Hightstown.

"He was the captain for the past two seasons and someone who carries the load for his teammates," said

Luciani. "He is always looking to improve and is the last to leave the practice room. He wrestled with confidence and passion, always striving to succeed."

Luciani added, "These three young

men are part of a team that, as far as I have been here, demonstrated dominance reminiscent of past Roselle Park and South Plainfield teams. They have raised the bar to new heights, and continue to strive for excellence. The three are the embodiment of discipline and hard work, traits that will translate into success when they themselves graduate and move on with their lives."

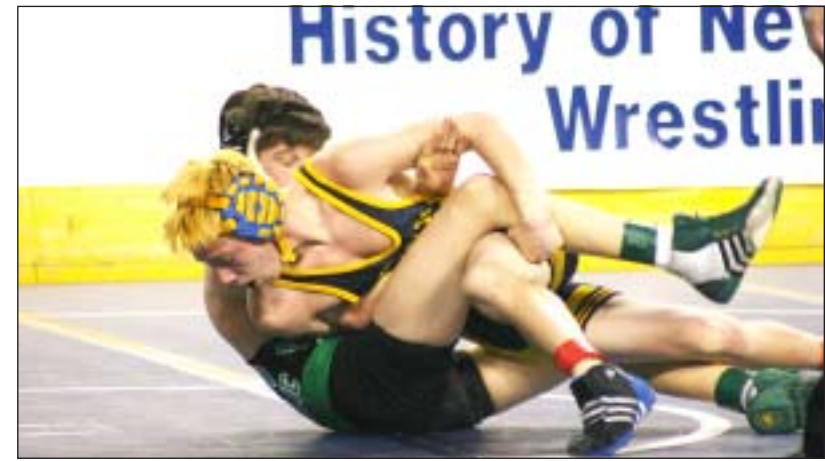
Fred Lecomte contributed the Brearley quotes to the story.

### CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- 103: — Frank Cagnina (Bergen Catholic) d Sean Boylan (Holy Spirit), 7-1
- 112: — Dan Kelly (Delaware Valley) d Patrick Hunter (South Plainfield), 3-2
- 119: — Matt Oliver (Toms River N) d Pat Strizki (Hunterdon Central), 5-3
- 125: — Joe Trause (Bergen Catholic) d Cody Fobes (Howell), 13-5
- 130: — Tyler Milonas (Jefferson) d James Bashada (Christian Brothers), 9-1
- 135: — Trevor Melde (Delbarton) d Nick Murray (Bound Brook), 11-2
- 140: — Frank Molinaro (Southern) d John Barnett (Jefferson), 3-1
- 145: — Nick Menditto (Ocean Twp) d Luke Lanno (Southern), 3-2, 4OT
- 152: — Scott Winston (Jackson) d Frank McLaughlin (Hillsborough), 7-3
- 160: — Ken Carney (Jackson) d Dan Seidenberg (Raritan), 6-2
- 171: — Anthony Tringone (Camden Catholic) d Kyle Kiss (Ocean Twp), 4-2
- 189: — Mac Mancuso (Holy Spirit) d Tyler Smith (Belvidere), 7-1
- 215: — Alex Silvestro (Paulsboro) d Glenn Carson (Southern), 6-4
- Hwt: — Zack Rey (Hopatcong) d Drew Doyle (Wall), 4-3

### UNION COUNTY PLACEMENTS:

- THIRD PLACE: 103: — Kenny Knapp (Brearley) d Nick Heilman (So. Plainfield), 11-3
- 130: — Karon Reid (Don Bosco Prep) d Joe Lospinoso (Brearley), 15-7
- FIFTH PLACE: 215: — Ken Ampona (Hightstown) d Jesse Boyden (Brearley), 7-3
- SEVENTH PLACE: 145: — Cory Vernon (Hackettstown) won by injury default over Pat Mineo (SPF)



**THIRD AT 103-LBS...**Brearley's Kenny Knapp, top, placed third at 103-lbs.



**A BLAST FROM THE PAST...**After a few decades, The Westfield Leader/Times Sports Editor Dave Corbin, right, finally stumbles into Sigma Pi fraternity brother Kenny Melchior at the state championships in AC. Melchior was an NCAA Division I National Champion for Lock Haven University (in the Good Old Days).

### Watching Conference Bowling Selections:

**WESTFIELD**—The Westfield High School bowling team had six members selected to the All-Watchung Conference bowling list. Since there are five starters on a bowling team, this was a first in the history of the all-conference bowling teams. The teams were selected by their final-conference average, as has been the procedure followed in the past.

**1ST TEAM:** Alex Wronski (Westfield), Kent Henderson (Linden), Brett Ettinger (Westfield), Dennis Ward (Elizabeth), Jay Fatura (Kearny), Patrick Stegmier (Linden), Harrison Mercado (Westfield)

**2ND TEAM:** Xavier Ysabel (Elizabeth), Keith Bulle (Elizabeth), Eric Curialle (Westfield), Jesse Embry (Westfield), Joe Tufaro (Scotch Plains-Fanwood), Leo Geronimo (Elizabeth), Daniel Hebert (Linden)

**3RD TEAM:** James Mason (Scotch Plains-Fanwood), Ken Wasserman (Scotch Plains-Fanwood), Megan Turczynski (Elizabeth), Nick Provenzano (Linden), Bryan Elsasser (Westfield), Eric Wasserman (Scotch Plains-Fanwood), Marc Silva (Kearny), Mike Churus (Union), Jessica Arias (Union)

### Raider Alleman Wins Shot at Eastern States

Raider junior Mike Alleman won the shot put event at the 71st Eastern States Championships at the 168th Street Armory in New York with a personal-best heave of 59'11.5".

### SPF Hockey to Hold Community Skate

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Ice Hockey Association will be holding its second annual community skate at Union Sports Arena on Saturday, March 10 at 6:45 p.m. Many of the varsity ice hockey players from the high school will be on hand for games, prizes and contests. All Scotch Plains-Fanwood elementary and middle school kids are invited. Please go to [www.unionsportsarena.com\\_for\\_directors](http://www.unionsportsarena.com_for_directors).

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This gracious Colonial is tastefully decorated and full of old world charm. The home features 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, stunning refinished wood floors, quaint front porch, large & bright living spaces, and a beautifully landscaped property. A commuter's dream... located close to town & transportation. (052111035)



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