

Raiders Tufaro, Jacobs Capture Crowns at Region 3 Mat Tournament

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

turns, and I got that opening and took him straight to his back. I got the claw. He came to his feet. I lifted him to his back and I grabbed one of his feet, so he couldn't push himself over to his stomach, then it was just adjustment from there to get the six [pin]," Christiano explained.

Christiano rolled to the championship bout to face nemesis Joey Balboni (Brearley - Br) after recording a pair of takedowns and a reversal to defeat Pat Murphy (Morristown).

"I've lost to him three times this year, but I am getting something out of every match. I am getting closer and closer, trying to rework the game plan. Hopefully this is the one on the biggest stage where I finally beat him," Christiano said.

Christiano's strategy worked well as they entered the second period with no score, but Balboni recorded three takedowns to grab the title with a 7-2 decision.

Blue Devil Kalimtzi, seeded sixth at 120-lbs, dropped a 7-1 decision to Max Rogers (Del) to

be placed in the wrestlebacks where he recorded a pair of takedowns on Cougar Murray before pinning him in 4:29 with a back-door stack.

"I wanted to leave it all on the mat. I wanted to wrestle my best match. That's my plan for the rest of the day. I didn't want to come off the mats with any regrets," Kalimtzi explained.

His next bout would be with GL's Ryan Morrison, who had defeated in a dual meet.

"I was hoping to see him again. I have to wrestle my match, wrestle smart," Kalimtzi said.

His smart wrestling earned him a 6-4 decision and a showdown for third in a rematch with Rogers. Unfortunately for Kalimtzi, Rogers won, 8-2.

Raider Lapham won his first wrestleback, 10-6, but lost 4-2 to Alex Murray (WH) in the semis. Cougar Ian Henry, seeded fourth at 126-lbs, lost his quarterfinal bout, 7-5, in overtime to Murray then lost, 7-4, to Genaro Cuccolo (HP) in the wrestleback.

Steinfeld dropped an 11-4 de-

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

GETTING A LEG UP...Cougar JP Christiano, top, defeated Pat Murphy (Morristown) to reach the 170-lb championship bout.

cision to Nick Lospinoso (Br) the eventual champion then won his first wrestleback, 5-3, over Mike Reid (Boonton). He then lost to Mike DeVito (WH), 7-2. Cline lost

in the quarterfinals then defeated Pete Jones (Parsippany - Par), 9-8, in the wrestlebacks before losing to GL's Zach Heissler, 5-0. Knepper, after losing in the

quarterfinals, pinned Nick Hajoj (Madison - Mad) in 4:41 in the wrestlebacks and lost to Josh Knight (Plainfield), 7-5.

CHAMPIONSHIPS:

132: — Scott DeVecchio (SoP) md Eamonn Gaffney (Seton Hall Prep - SHP), 14-6

138: — Tyler Hunt (SoP) md Lopez (Del), 12-5

145: — Lospinoso (Br) d Corey Strassenko (SoP), 5-3 OT

152: — Brian Merkel (RP) d Desmond Towns (Motown), 4-3

160: — John Balboni (Br) d Dillon Danis (Par Hills), 7-2

170: — Joey Balboni (Br) d Christiano (C), 7-2

182: — Vic Pozsonyi (RP) p Kevin Matlon (SHP), 1:49

195: — Anthony Tancs (Br) d AJ Iarussi (Summit), 3-1 OT

220: — Jacobs (SPF) p Coiro (Boon), 1:31 Hwt: — Tufaro (SPF) d Proctor (Msx), 5-3

106: — Anthony Cefolo (HP) md Nick DeMarco (Br), 15-4

113: — Christian Innarella (Del) d Brendan Calas (SHP), 3-2

120: — Troy Heilmann (SoP) d Mike Magaldo (WH), 8-5

126: — Anthony Ashnault (SoP) d Nick Anderson (Del), 6-1

THIRD PLACE:

106: — John DeVito (RP) d Alex Pollera (WH), 5-3

113: — Jon Mele (GL) d Sam Kovacs (Parsippany), 6-0

120: — Rogers (Del) d Kalimtzi (W), 8-2

126: — Patsy Davis (Mad) d Murray (WH), 4-2

132: — Matt Coppola (WH) d Dan Reed (Del), 9-6

138: — Opoku (W) d Signorelli (PH), 7-6

145: — DeVito (WH) d Josef Johnson (Del), 3-2

152: — Barber (W) d Cannon (SPF), 3-2

160: — Travis Foster (Linden) d Simon Levin (Millburn), 3-1

170: — Pat Murphy (Motown) d Andrew Nelson (Mountain Lakes), 7-3

182: — Heissler (GL) d Jeff Velez (Br), 7-3

195: — Ives Viola (Colonia) p Knight (Plainfield), 4:47

220: — Russell (SoP) d Kyle Allison (Motown), 5-4

Hwt: — Sumir Burns (L) p Kania (W), :31

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

Raider Mike Steinfeld (145-lbs) works a Peterson roll on Mike Reid (Boonton)

David B. Corbin for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*

Linden's Nick Tekula (106-lbs), top, battles Brearley's Nick DeMarco.

Probitas Verus Honos