



STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS AAA SEMIFINAL NOTEBOOK

By David Ackley

For Tom Elling's Pennsylvania Wrestling News

THE CLUB GROWS AND GROWS – The 100 win club inducted three more this morning as Indian Valley senior Kaleb Loht earned his way as did Norristown sophomore Brett Harner. ... Loht will be Indian Valley's last member and the final medalist as it will consolidate with Lewistown next year and become the Mifflin County Huskies. ... Loht will wrestle for fifth place. ... The final 100th win was earned by Bellefonte's Brad Greib in the consolation semifinals. ... Greib will try to end his career with a bronze medal.

NEWCOMERS MAKE A MARK – Three freshmen have made their way to the AAA finals tonight. Leading the way is unbeaten Chance Marsteller of Kennard-Dale with a 41-0 mark. He'll face a former state runner-up Mark Havers of Bradford in the championship at 152 pounds. Havers is twice beaten on the season (38-2) ... Solanco's Thomas Haines is in at 215 with his 49-4 mark and rounding out the ninth graders is Ethan Lizak at Parkland. Lizak (33-9) opens the finals at 103 against Council Rock South junior Billy Rappo.

SECOND GENERATION – Marsteller's coach – Mike Balestrini – is the first of former Shikellamy coach Phil Lockcuff's former wrestlers to coach a PIAA finalist. Lockcuff coached 12 AAA state champions in 24 seasons at the Northumberland County school.

GOOD MORNING FOR UNBEATENS – Of the eight wrestlers with perfect season records going into the semifinals – seven remained that way. Nico Megalusi continued his quest for a third-straight unbeaten state championship season. Also staying perfect were J.M. Staudenmayer of Plymouth-Whitemarsh, Brian Brill of Central Mountain, Josh Pople of Wilkes-Barre Coughlin, Avere Robinson of Susquehanna Township, Nazareth's Zach Horan and Marsteller. The Blue Eagle senior has been to the finals in all four years and is looking for his first state championship gold medal. ... The lone unbeaten to become a former unbeaten was last year's 215-pound runner-up Zach Nye of East Pennsboro. Nye dropped a heart-breaking 3-2 decision to Brandan Clark of Methacton.

Finalists by District

District	Finalists
1	4
2	1
3	10
4	0
6	2
7	5
8	0
9	1
10	0
11	5
12	0