



The New Jersey Devils move on to the next round. 3C

# Sports

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DAILY MESSENGER

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2007

## FROM THE SIDELINES

Staff and wire reports

### Lakers even record

The Finger Lakes Community College men's lacrosse team rallied from a three-goal deficit in the fourth quarter and then got an overtime goal from **Jon Briggs** off a pass from **Hector Alejandro** for a 12-11 win over Delhi Sunday afternoon.

FLCC led early 5-1. Delhi rallied to tie it at 5-5 by half-time and then took an 11-8 lead into the final period before the Lakers stormed back.

**Nick Boylan** had six goals and two assists for FLCC, which improved its record to 6-6 for the season. **Alejandro** and **Matt Lilly** added two goals each with goalie **Matt Schmelzlen** making 16 saves.

The Lakers travel to Hudson Valley CC for a 4 p.m. game today.

### Amerks down 2-1

**Mikhail Grabovski** scored 17 seconds into the second overtime period as the Hamilton Bulldogs beat the Rochester Amerks 5-4 Sunday in AHL playoff action.

The Bulldogs take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven first-round series.

The Bulldogs were on their way to winning in regulation, but **Michael Ryan** scored with one minute left in the third period to send the game to overtime.

Game 3 is Tuesday in Hamilton.

### It's all about Dodger green now

Not to put a damper on the Los Angeles Dodgers' fast start or anything, but local fans will be fascinated to scan some new statistics released by Forbes.

According to Forbes:  
• The value of the Dodgers' franchise increased 31 percent last year, to \$632 million, ranking the club fourth in the major leagues behind the New York Yankees, New York Mets and Boston Red Sox.  
• The Dodgers last year had the second-best operating income, \$27.5 million, behind only the Florida Marlins.

• **Frank McCourt** bought the Dodgers for \$421 million in 2004 and has seen the worth of the franchise jump more than 50 percent in only three years.

Despite this, McCourt raised ticket prices by up to 40 percent this season and increased the price of parking by 50 percent, a \$5-a-car increase a car.

### Evidently not an instant classic

UCLA game Notre Dame all it could handle on the football field last season before losing at South Bend, Ind., in the final minute, 20-17.

We mention this now in hopes of jogging some memories at ESPN, which aired a feature on Notre Dame's spring game and listed several "notable games" on the Fighting Irish schedule this season.

USC was mentioned. So was Stanford (2006 record: 1-11). But no UCLA.

Attention, Bristol: The date of that game again, just to jot down on a Post-It note — Oct. 6, 2007: Notre Dame at UCLA.

## TODAY'S TRIVIA

Where did the Los Angeles Angels rank in Forbes' latest major-league franchise valuations?

See answer on page 4C.

## DAILY MESSENGER WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

# THE ULTIMATE GOAL

By MIKE CUTILLO

Messenger Post Staff



Dan Mandara  
Canandaigua  
Wrestling

STAFF PHOTO/JACK HALEY

**CANANDAIGUA** — Wrestling has always been a family affair for Dan Mandara.

His dad, Tom, was the varsity coach at Victor for 22 years and an at-home opponent for young Dan, who caught the wrestling bug early. His older sisters, Lacy and Carly, also were early opponents who regularly used to school him (he since has returned the favor, by the way). And his mom, Laura, is probably his biggest fan.

So, when Mandara beat Mark Lewandowski of Lancaster 8-4 on March 3 in the 125-pound final of the state Division I tournament, the whole family celebrated.

"My dad probably said what every parent would say, that he was proud of me and just very happy," said Mandara, a senior at Canandaigua Academy. "My whole family was happy, not just my dad, but my sisters, my mother, everyone."

Mandara shined in what was a fabulous season for area grapplers. Ten Section 5 wrestlers won state titles in either Division I or II, including Mandara, the 2007 Daily Messenger Wrestler of the Year. He went 38-4 in his senior season with a 150-22 record. But the biggest win was that last one, which allowed Mandara to reach the main goal he set for himself this winter — to win a state title after finishing third at 119 as a junior and fourth at 112 as a sophomore.

"I never really thought it would happen until my sophomore year when I went to states and I realized I was up there with the best guys in the state and that I could do it," Mandara said.

And once he did, what were his feelings?

"Just that, 'It's finally over.' Happiness," he said. "It was kind of bittersweet because I knew I was never going to

See MANDARA, 2C▶

## DAILY MESSENGER ALL-LEAGUE SCHEDULE

SKIING

Monday, April 16

HOCKEY

Sunday

SWIMMING

Tuesday, April 17

WRESTLING

Today

GRLSBOWLING

Wednesday, April 18

GRLSBASKETBALL

Tomorrow

BOYSBOWLING

Thursday, April 19

INDOOR TRACK

Friday, April 20

BOYS BASKETBALL

Wednesday

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT | Red Sox-Yankees rivalry

# Baseball's biggest feud

*There's a long way to go, but the Red Sox get the early leg up on the Yankees.*

By JIM LITKE

AP Sports Columnist

**A**fter decades of study, scientists revealed nearly three weeks ago that a disease may help explain the long-running feud between the Hatfields and McCoys. Had those same researchers asked, Red Sox fans could have suggested something much simpler.

Envy.

Sunday night's extravaganza between the Red Sox and the Yankees marked the 1,999th time the two teams met in the regular season since 1903, and rarely has it produced a more satisfying weekend in Boston. The Red Sox came from behind to win all three games, sweeping a series in Fenway for the first time since 1990. They hit four straight home runs in the span of 10 pitches in the third inning of the last one, a feat that's only been accomplished five times in major league history.

By the end of that-back-to-back-to-back-to-back sequence, it was harder to tell whether the better party was taking place in the Red Sox dugout or the stands, jammed with a crowd of 36,905, the second-largest at Fenway since World War II.

For all that, though, New York left town still holding a 179-game lead in the regular-season tally, not to mention 26 World Series titles to Boston's half-dozen. With five more series scheduled between the division rivals even before a possible playoff matchup, Red Sox third baseman Mike Lowell cautioned the locals not to get too excited.

"You've got to keep it in perspective," the hero of Sunday night's tug-of-war said. "It's April."

Besides, the Red Sox had just about everything in their favor. Manager Terry



Boston Red Sox third baseman Mike Lowell (25) is congratulated by teammate David Ortiz while manager Terry Francona, right, looks on after Lowell's three-run home run in the seventh inning against New York Sunday night at Fenway Park.

Francona's rotation happened to align just perfectly for the series, with Big Three starters Curt Schilling, Josh Beckett and Daisuke Matsuzaka prepared to give the Yankees a preview of what to expect should the two teams meet in October.

"We didn't maneuver to have it work out this way," Francona said as the weekend began, "but we're not going to apologize for having those three going."

On the other hand, Yankee manager Joe Torre should have apologized for throwing Jeff Karstens, fresh off the disabled list and with only one rehab start, on Saturday, then coming back with Chase Wright, making just his second major league start ever, on Sunday. But it wasn't like he had a choice. Thanks to a variety of aches and pains,

the top of his rotation — Chien-Ming Wang, Mike Mussina and Carl Pavano — wasn't available for anything more strenuous than playing catch.

During a mid-inning interview on TV, Torre bravely mumbled something about playing with "the team you have" rather than the "one you wish you had." The Yankees still have the largest payroll in baseball — \$195.2 million, with Boston next at \$143.5 million — and four of the top seven names on the salary list. And if the guy at the very top, Alex Rodriguez, wasn't having one of the most productive months in history, general manager Brian Cashman might have his checkbook out already.

The last time the teams met in Boston, the Yankees swept a five-game series in August that effectively locked

up the American League East title. Karstens still hadn't thrown a pitch in the major leagues and Wright had yet to make a start above Class AA.

Matsuzaka, meanwhile, was still in Japan, not yet the central figure in a bidding war that would eventually cost the Red Sox \$103.1 million to lure him to Boston. He gave up six runs in seven-plus innings, but he got a lot more support than in his two previous starts and had the good sense to say about his good fortune, "There's no way I can be satisfied."

Once the buzz from the weekend quiets down, Red Sox fans would be wise to take those words to heart. Their World Series title in 2004 raised expectations considerably, and the cost of doing business by even more.

## DAILY MESSENGER WRESTLING FIRST-TEAM ALL-STARS



**Alex Ekstrom**  
Palmyra-Macedon

**Season in review:** Sophomore has already been on the varsity for four seasons and was first-teamer last season. ... Went 48-1 and won a New York state championship. ... Also was a Section 5 champ and came in third at the sophomore nationals. ... Son of Bob and Lynn Ekstrom, he hopes to wrestle at a Division I school in college. ... Also plays soccer.



**Eric Ekstrom**  
Palmyra-Macedon

**Season in review:** A senior, he capped his fourth year on varsity with a 42-10 record this season. ... Was second-team Daily Messenger all-star last year. ... Went 102-32 in his career. ... Wrestled in the state tournament this year. ... The son of Bob and Lynn Ekstrom, he plans on wrestling in college. ... Also the captain of the Pal-Mac football team last fall.



**Nick Fratto**  
Geneva

**Season in review:** Repeat first-teamer, senior was on varsity for six seasons. ... Had 38 wins, including a school single-season record 29 pins. ... A two-time Class A sectional champ and 2007 SuperSectional champ, he placed sixth in the state meet. ... Won SuperSectionals with a pin in 1:47 in the finals. ... Son of Cindy and Carmen Fratto.



**Kyle Ingraham**  
Canandaigua

**Season in review:** Senior 145-pounder for the Braves. ... Went 19-4 after sitting out all of his junior season. ... Was a four-time Section 5 champ, a five-time SuperSectional winner and a five-time state tournament participant. ... Won a state title his freshman season. ... Son of Trent and Alice, he finished fourth in this year's Division I state tourney.



**Tyler Marlow**  
Palmyra-Macedon

**Season in review:** Sophomore was one of four Pal-Mac wrestlers in the state meet. ... Was 36-3 on the season and is 72-10 in two varsity seasons. ... Already a three-time Section 5 champ, added a state championship in Division II at 103. ... Son of Ken and Pam VanKoeveering, he hopes to wrestle at a Division I school college.



**Josh Mateo**  
Waterloo

**Season in review:** The Waterloo senior was a first-team all-Finger Lakes Central coaches all-star at 160 pounds and is a first-team Daily Messenger repeat selection. ... Took fifth in the state Division II tourney with a 7-1 win over David Kohlback of Windsor in the fifth-place match. ... Won sectional Class BBBB championship and was beaten in finals of SuperSectionals.



**Josh Mayville**  
Marion

**Season in review:** Junior has been on varsity four seasons. ... 50-1 this season and was Mathew Marino, League, Genesee Valley, Newark and sectional champ. ... Runner-up at the state Division II meet, losing his only match of the season in the 140 finals to David Perrigo of Gouverneur. ... Son of Norman and Virginia Mayville, he is a four-time league champ.



**Mike Tellier**  
North Rose-Wolcott

**Season in review:** The senior was on the varsity for five years. ... Went 38-3 this season, 149-26 in his career. ... Won a Section 5 title for the third time this season and placed second at state meet. ... Son of Jean and Boonie Tellier, he will attend Niagara Community College and hopefully wrestle. ... Also plays soccer and baseball.



**Sean Walton**  
Palmyra-Macedon

**Season in review:** Sophomore 112-pounder has been on the varsity four seasons. ... 43-6 this season and is 131-31 in his career. ... A three-time sectional champ, he went to the state Division II tournament this season and finished third, winning the consolation final 5-3. ... Son of Steve and Cindy Walton, he hopes to wrestle in college.

## The ultimate goal

► MANDARA, from page 1C

wrestle in a high school match again. It was relief, but it was sad, too."

Like sons of basketball coaches who often are called gym rats, Mandara could be called a mat rat because he has been hanging around them ever since he was a kid tagging along with his dad.

"When Dan was little, I remember Tom bringing him to the Bradshaw Tournament and Dan used to do backflips and handstands all over the mats," remembers Rich Romeo, Mandara's coach at CA. "Dan has always had great agility and balance." "I used to go to wrestling matches all the time with my dad. I was always with the Victor guys. I looked up to them," Mandara said. "Everybody wanted me to wrestle in Victor. People would come up to me and say, 'You're not going to wrestle in Canandaigua, are you?' And I ended up in Canandaigua, their main rival."

Mandara said he learned to love the sport from being around it so much as a youngster, but simple passion wasn't going to allow him to attain his ultimate goal. He had to work for that and correct some flaws, especially his techniques from the bottom position on the mat.

"My bottom work, from eighth grade to junior year,

was really a weakness," Mandara said. "So, during junior year, I starting staying after practice and working with Dale Oliver, our assistant coach, and it finally paid off. No one held me down this year."

He always had been strong and quick with good awareness of where he was on the mat and of situations. Once he corrected the one chink in the armor, he became nearly unbeatable.

"I think if there was one thing different about Dan it would be his ability to perform on the mat," Romeo said. "He was never scared of an opponent he had to face. Don't get me wrong, I don't know if he was sure he would win, but he always opened up and wrestled without fear of making a mistake."

"I feel lucky that I was able to coach an athlete like Dan and to have the support needed from his parents to develop a state champion."

Now, Mandara will be working on improving all facets as he takes a step up to the NCAA Division II level to wrestle for Ashland University in Ohio. He says conditioning, mental toughness and general technique work are on his summer agenda.

Mandara is thinking about majoring in elementary education and says he might not mind following in his father's footsteps and coaching as well.

"I love coaching little kids," he said. "but we'll have to see what happens."

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## Tough draw for U.S. women

The Associated Press

WUHAN, China — The top-ranked United States got a tough draw Sunday for this year's women's World Cup, placed in Group B with Sweden, North Korea and Nigeria.

Sweden was runner-up at the 2003 World Cup and is ranked No. 4 by world governing body FIFA. North Korea is ranked No. 5, Asia's

top team.

The United States, one of the four seeded teams this year, has won the World Cup twice — the inaugural tournament in 1991 and again in '99. Norway won in 1995 and Germany is the defending champion.

The Americans, who were knocked out in the semifinals by Germany in 2003, will open against North Korea.

**Bob Dierna**  
Wayne

(No photo available)  
**Season in review:** Eighth-grade 96-pounder for the Finger Lakes East-champion Eagles. ... Went 38-5 on the season. ... Section 5 Division I champ at his weight class. ... Finished fifth in states with a 9-0 win over Danny Arnel from Syosset.

**Brian Quick**

Palmyra-Macedon coach

(No photo available)  
**Season in review:** Has a 90-49 dual record in nine years of coaching. ... Sent four wrestlers to the state meet with all four placing in the top three. ... Has coached two state champs and two high school All-Americans. ... Team was 4-1 in the FL East this season and second as a team at the state championships in Division II.

### Coaches' wrestling all-stars

#### Finger Lakes East First team

96 - Bobby Dierna, Wayne, eighth grade; 103 - Joe Smaldone, Geneva, jr.; Tyler Marlow, Pal-Mac, so.; 112 - Vinnie Digravio, Wayne, so.; Sean Walton, Pal-Mac, so.; 119 - Dave Leberth, Wayne; 125 - Dan Mandara, Canandaigua, sr.; Alex Ekstrom, Pal-Mac, so.; 130 - Mike Dattilo, Victor, sr.

135 - Chris Payne, Victor, sr.; 140 - Cory Mahoney, Canandaigua, sr.; Eric Ekstrom, Pal-Mac, sr.; 152 - Nick Fratto, Geneva, sr.; 160 - Kevin Connelly, Wayne, sr.; 171 - Ryan Macomber, Canandaigua, sr.; 189 - Kirt Freischlag, Wayne, sr.; 215 - Mike Rapple, Geneva, so.; 275 - Chris Gonzales, Newark, jr.

#### Second team

96 - Miles Nelson, Geneva, eighth grade; 103 - Troy Cain, Newark; 112 - David Bradshaw, Canandaigua, so.; 119 - James Carney, Victor; 125 - Steve Singley, Wayne, sr.; 130 - Jeff Mariannette, Wayne, sr.; 135 - Kevin Steinruck, Wayne; 140 - Sean Toomey, Victor, jr.; 145 - Chris Marvin, Wayne; 152 - Mark Collins, Victor, sr.; 160 - Nick Burke, Victor, jr.; 171 - Joe Paz, Wayne, sr.; 189 - Peter Thomas, Canandaigua, sr.; 215 - Eric Chapple, Newark, sr.; 275 - T.J. May, Wayne, sr.

#### Honorable mention

Seth Gilligan, Carl Hartwell, Max Krueger, Bobby Bradshaw, Skyler Miller, Joel Stitt, Canandaigua; Eric Dittmar, Derrick Oberdorf, Ian Green, Adam Golding, Newark; Sean Bennett, Geneva; Preston Miller, Victor; Gio Bianchi, Wayne.

#### Finger Lakes Central First team

96 - Lance Zerniak, Sodus,

so.; 103 - Josh Rood, Sodus, so.; 112 - Dakota Robarge, Whitman, fr.; 119 - Greg Shove, NR-W, fr.; 125 - Curtis Brosius, Waterloo, jr.; 130 - Josh Bielemeier, NR-W, so.; 135 - Mike Tellier, NR-W, so.; Dustin Luckenbill, Mynderse, jr.

140 - Justin Deal, Waterloo, sr.; 145 - Bryant Tumblekies, Waterloo, sr.; 152 - E.P. Phillips, Sodus, jr.; 160 - Josh Mateo, Waterloo, sr.; 171 - Mike Norton, NR-W, sr.; 189 - D.T. Benedict, Penn Yan, sr.; 215 - Mike Quinn, Mynderse, sr.; 275 - Chad Hanshaw, Sodus, sr.

#### Second team

103 - Austin Cummings, Midlakes, fr.; Andrew Giannino, Mynderse, so.; 112 - Steve Rathbone, Midlakes, jr.; 119 - Jeff Clark, Whitman, so.; 125 - Jesse Rosato, Whitman, so.; 130 - Kyle Beasley, Waterloo, sr. 135 - Preston Wheeler, Waterloo, sr.

145 - Justin Galusha, Penn Yan, jr.; 152 - James Lee, Mynderse, jr.; 160 - Adam Slater, Sodus, so.; 171 - Shawn Wilson, Mynderse, so.; 189 - Josh Morocco, Midlakes, sr.; 215 - Randy Hill, Sodus, sr.; 275 - Bill Hanvey, Midlakes, sr.

#### Honorable mention

112 - Matt Guerrieri, Waterloo, jr.; Anthony Davis, Mynderse, fr.; 119 - Tyler Brooks-Lambert, Midlakes, fr.; 125 - Pat Walsh, Mynderse, sr.; 130 - Scott Hanshaw, Sodus, so.; 140 - Corey Youells, NR-W, fr.; 145 - Brandon Jones, Whitman, sr.

152 - Ryan Teed, Midlakes, so.; Josh Hill, Whitman, so.; 160 - Billy Bowman, NR-W, sr.; 189 - Tim Bush, NR-W, sr.; 215 - Trent Jones, Midlakes, sr.; 275 - Issac Davis, Penn Yan, jr.; Zach Bowen, Midlakes, so.

Coach of the Year - Kirk Ward, Mynderse

### Daily Messenger All-League Wrestlers

#### First Team

Dan Mandara, Canandaigua, Wrestler of the Year  
Bob Dierna, Wayne  
Alex Ekstrom, Palmyra-Macedon  
Eric Ekstrom, Palmyra-Macedon  
Nick Fratto, Geneva  
Kyle Ingraham, Canandaigua  
Tyler Marlow, Palmyra-Macedon  
Josh Mateo, Waterloo  
Josh Mayville, Marion  
Mike Tellier, North Rose-Wolcott  
Sean Walton, Palmyra-Macedon  
Brian Quick, Palmyra-Macedon, Coach of the Year

#### Second Team

Kevin Connelly, Wayne  
Vinnie Digravio, Wayne  
Kurt Freischlag, Wayne  
Dave Leberth, Wayne  
Ryan Macomber, Canandaigua  
Cory Mahoney, Canandaigua  
Nic Mayville, Marion  
Chris Payne, Victor  
Craig Scott, Lyons  
Joe Smaldone, Geneva  
Lance Zerniak, Sodus

### All-star selection process

The Daily Messenger Player of the Year, first-team and second-team all-stars are selected independently by the Daily Messenger sports staff based on firsthand observations, coaches' reports and season statistics. The Daily Messenger all-star lists are different from the coaches' all-star lists and are in no way affiliated with those lists. Preference is given, both for Player of the Year and for first-team selections, to athletes and coaches from schools in the Daily Messenger circulation area, including: Bloomfield, Canandaigua, Gananda, Honeoye, Marcus Whitman, Midlakes, Naples, Palmyra-Macedon, Red Jacket and Victor.

## Brajkovic overcomes flat tire

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Janez Brajkovic of Slovenia overcame a flat tire with the help of teammates and held on for his biggest victory, winning the Tour de Georgia by 12 seconds over Christian Vande Velde.

Brajkovic surged to the lead in the fourth stage of the

weeklong event, a time trial up Lookout Mountain, and held on over the last three days.

Brajkovic's team came through when his rear tire went flat with just less than five laps to go on the 7 1/2-mile circuit course through the streets of downtown Atlanta.



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