

# Molano Part of Big Mac Attack

By Chris Antonacci

STAFF WRITER

For Adam Molano, looks were deceiving.

The MacArthur senior revealed a ripped physique after he slipped off his warmups. He also was missing an incisor. Molano then attacked Farmingdale's Nakyle Bethay from the opening whistle with a relentless pursuit.

But Molano also demonstrated cunning, craftiness and composure with his analytical approach. He avoided a leg sweep, leaped into the air and then landed a reversal 30 seconds into the second period. Molano then worked Bethay with two takedowns

in the period before he won the 152-pound final with a pin in 4:12 at the Nassau Wrestling Championships in front of more than 1,000 spectators yesterday at Nassau CC.

After leading MacArthur to its third straight Nassau championship, Molano and fellow champions Matt DeLorenzo (112) and Gian Villante (215) will compete at the state tournament on March 7-8 in Syracuse.

Molano might have been focused on winning a state title after he finished fourth at 145 pounds last year, but he remains uncertain about his long-term ambitions. He's going to Brown because it offered an open curriculum that will allow Molano, who scored 1,500 on the SAT and is ranked sixth among the 258 students in his graduating class, to remain flexible in his academic pursuits. "It suits my personality," Molano said. "I change my mind pretty often. One day, I want to do marine biology, and the next day I want to be a chef. The only things that stay constant in my life is wrestling and wanting to be the best."

MacArthur maintained its dominance with 291.5 points in the team standings as 13 of its 25 qualifiers placed. Long Beach was second with 180 points.

The 112-pound bracket exemplified MacArthur's depth. Senior Matt DeLorenzo escaped with 1:24 left in

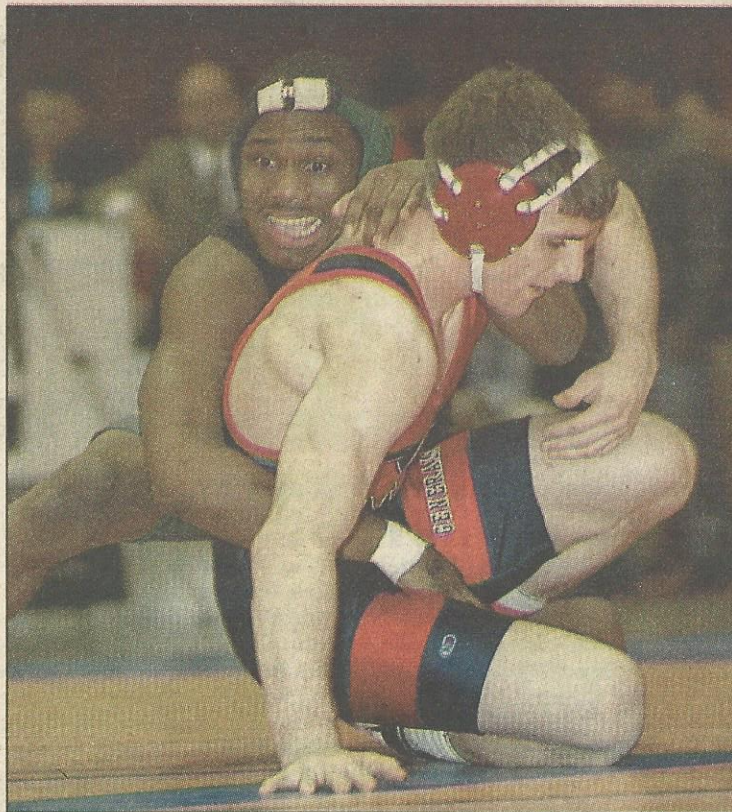


Photo by Richard Slattery

Farmingdale's Nakyle Bethay, left, has brief advantage over MacArthur's Adam Molano, but Molano took the Nassau 152-pound title with a pin.

the third period to defeat classmate T.J. Lazarus, 1-0, in the final. Lazarus had beaten teammate Bruce Popko, 8-4, in a semifinal bout. Popko, the 103-pound champion last year, was pinned by Garden City's Matt Ganas in 2:52 and placed fourth.

In other encounter between teammates, Massapequa's Mike LaBella beat Ron Lanzillotta, 3-0, in

the 189-pound final.

In the 119-pound final, returning Nassau champ Jamie Sgaglione of Plainedge, who was named Most Outstanding Wrestler, landed a five-point move in the final minute to key his 8-7 victory over Freeport's Keith Mitchell.

East Meadow's Matt DeLuca, who was named Champion of Champions, escaped with 18 seconds left to break a tie at 5 in the 160-pound final against Calhoun's Anthony Tobia.

Bethpage's Steve Ifasi concluded the evening when he rolled out from his stomach and pinned Seaford's Chris Schurlein in 1:55 after trailing 3-0 in the 275-pound final. Ifasi won the most pins/least time award, posting four falls in 15:57 throughout the two-day tournament.

## NASSAU WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Finals - At Nassau CC

96 — Troplano (East Meadow) d. S. DeLorenzo (MacArthur), 8-2; 103 — Moran (Valley Stream South) d. Moor (Seaford), 10-7; 112 — M. DeLorenzo (MacArthur) vs. Lazarus (MacArthur), 1-0; 119 — Sgaglione (Plainedge) d. Mitchell (Freeport), 8-7; 125 — G. Estevez (Baldwin) d. Bivona (Plainedge), 6-3; 130 — Hagmaier (Division) d. Williams (Long Beach), 6-4; 135 — Jones (Long Beach) d. Higgins (Bethpage), 8-7; 140 — Rodriguez (Long Beach) d. Etri (Bellmore JFK), 5-3 (OT); 145 — Donnelly (Garden City) d. Roehrig (South Side), 1-0; 152 — Molano (MacArthur) p. Bethay (Farmingdale), 4:12; 160 — DeLuca (East Meadow) d. Tobia (Calhoun), 6-5; 171 — Panarelli (Farmingdale) d. O'Donnell (MacArthur), 5-4; 189 — LaBella (Massapequa) d. Lanzillotta (Massapequa), 3-0; 215 — Villante (MacArthur) d. Daddino (Sewanhaka District), 5-4 (2 OT); 275 — Ifasi (Bethpage) p. Schurlein, 1:55. Most Outstanding Wrestler — Jamie Sgaglione (Plainedge), 119. Champion of Champions — Matt DeLuca (East Meadow), 160. Most Pins / Least Time — Steve Ifasi (Bethpage, 275) had four pins in 15:57. Team Scores — MacArthur 291.5, Long Beach 180, Massapequa 118.5, Bethpage 106, East Meadow 87.5, Seaford 87, Farmingdale 74, Garden City 73, Calhoun 72, Bellmore JFK 69.5, Baldwin 68.5, Plainedge 66.5, Valley Stream South 66, Roslyn 61, Locust Valley 50, Freeport 49.5, Wheatley 39.5, South Side 38.5, Division 35.5, Island Trees 34.

Third Place 96 — Bonanno (Massapequa) d. Gillespie (Long Beach), 5-1; 103 — Kessler (Roslyn) d. Cook (East Meadow), 7-6; 112 — Ganas (Garden City) p. Popko (MacArthur) 2:52; 119 — Murray (Roslyn) d. Walsh (Locust Valley), 5-4; 125 — Gardella (Baldwin) d. Catania (MacArthur), OT criteria; 130 — Forman (Massapequa) d. D. Reilmayr (MacArthur), 6-4; 135 — Saviano (MacArthur) d. Grimadi (Mineola), 7-1; 140 — Calvaca (MacArthur) d. Grasso (Seaford), 11-6; 145 — Maltese (Seaford) d. Kosta (Long Beach), 6-4; 152 — Cappello (Oyster Bay) p. Nacht (Lawrence), 3:12; 160 — Franklin (Uniondale) d. Murphy (Long Beach), 14-10; 171 — D'Orazio (Bethpage) d. Bishoff (Island Trees), 3-2; 189 — Oppedisano (Garden City) d. Sciuto (Clarke), 14-1; 215 — Molina (Roslyn) p. Bowker (Calhoun), 3:33; 275 — Khawaja (Locust Valley) p. Ingram (MacArthur), 2:16.

Fifth Place: 96 — Kumar (Long Beach) d. Reilly (Garden City), 6-5; 103 — Anderson (Baldwin) d. Pinto (Bethpage), 18-7; 112 — Simensky (Locust Valley) d. Ginsberg (Bellmore JFK), 4-0; 119 — Schwartz (Bellmore JFK) d. Piervanzzi (Herrick), 5-2; 125 — Martorelli (MacArthur) d. Moriarty (Long Beach) by default; 130 — Murray (North Shore) d. Mulvihill (East Meadow), 2-0 (OT); 135 — Annibell (Calhoun) d. Lewis (Roslyn) by default; 140 — Vlahos (Manhasset) p. Young (Massapequa), 3:34; 145 — Athens (Great Neck North) d. Fernandez (Division), 9-6; 152 — Martinez (Plainview JFK) d. E. Reilmayr (Freeport) by default; 160 — Davison (Mepham) d. Andreno (Lawrence), 8-4; 171 — Ginobbi (Clarke) d. Scott (Freeport), OT criteria; 189 — Bishop (Valley Stream South) p. Hafeez (Syosset), :50; 215 — Monahan (Carle Place) p. Jordan (Long Beach), 2:31; 275 — Eads (Wheatley) d. Weiss (Bellmore JFK), 11-5.