

ROCK HILL - With a state championship hanging in the balance, **Summerville's** Rueben Daniels delivered a stunning pin in the final match as the Green Wave won its first Class AAAA **wrestling** title since 1993 with a 38-29 victory over **Rock Hill**.

The pin capped two hours of drama a Hollywood producer would have been hard-pressed to top.

Rock Hill (20-1) entered undefeated and had won the last four state **wrestling** championships. After jumping to an 18-3 lead, the Bearcats seemed poised to win another in front of a rowdy home crowd.

But first-year coach Kenny Walker's **Summerville** squad won eight of the final 11 matches to capture the title.

“We told the kids that **Summerville's** been in a lot of finals, too,” Walker said. “We knew we had to wrestle with pride and guts, and that's what we did tonight.

“We wrestled for the whole town of **Summerville**.”

After erasing the early deficit, the Green Wave (18-2) trailed **Rock Hill**, 23-20, entering the final four matches.

Joey Leviner and Ryan Kerrigan, both seniors, recorded back-to-back pins in the 171 and 189-pound weight classes to give **Summerville** a 32-23 advantage.

Rock Hill's Ryan Adams pinned Antwan Greene in 215-pound bout to slice the Green Wave's lead to 32-29 and set the stage for a dramatic final match.

To preserve the **Summerville** victory, Daniels could do no worse than lose his match by seven points. Daniels took all the guesswork out of the outcome with his pin at 1:01 of the first period.

“I just knew I had to do it - the state championship was on the line,” Daniels said. “It felt great.”

Walker said: “We told Rueben to get in good position, and stay out of trouble. When the heavyweights start rolling around, anything can happen.”

No match was as dramatic as **Summerville** freshman Brent LaPrad's, who delivered the team's first win in a nailbiting 7-6 triumph at 125.

Braxton Harrison notched the first of four straight Green Wave wins with a first-period pin at 135.

Individual state champion Geoff Roberts followed Harrison with a 3-2 decision over **Rock Hill's** Marquis Turner.

“It felt good to (win a title) by myself, but this is what I really wanted,” Roberts said of the team's accomplishment. “This team has stuck together like a family, and I knew we could do it.”

In a surprising battle at 145, **Summerville** sophomore Quinn Tolbert recorded a 14-10 win over state champion Tanner Barnes.

Tolbert's triumph pulled **Summerville** within three points of the Bearcats, and **Summerville's** Erik Jones followed with a third-period pin to give the Wave its first lead, 21-18.

The championship marked the 18th straight year either **Summerville** or **Rock Hill** has won the state title. Steve LaPrad, an assistant on this year's team, was the Green Wave's head coach during the school's previous title runs.

``For these kids to come as far as they did, as young as they are ... is great," LaPrad said. ``(Walker) has done a great job. Any time you beat **Rock Hill**, it's unbelievable."

The day was marked by close losses for both sides.

Summerville's Jeff Healy came just short in a 12-10 overtime decision to Tay Whitlock at 130, and the Green Wave's Chris Wills opened the day with a hard fought, 7-4 loss to **Rock Hill's** Terrance Thompson.

Summerville had lost to the Bearcats, 44-34, at the Battery Creek Duals earlier this season.

``We knew we had to turn some matches over that we lost last time," Walker said. ``We did that today in a big way."

SUMMERVILLE 38, ROCK HILL 29

103-T. Thompson (RH) dec. C. Wills 7-6; 112-M. Cherry (RH) pin J. Power 4:40; 119-C. Collins (RH) pin N. Corbett 4:22; 125-B. LaPrad (S) dec. J. Soles 7-6; 130-T. Whitlock (RH) dec. J. Healy 12-10 (OT); 135-B. Harrison (S) pin C. Hinson 2:00; 140-G. Roberts (S) dec. M. Turner, 3-2; 145-Q. Tolbert (S) dec. T. Barnes, 14-10; 152-E. Jones (S) pin T. Martin 4:20; 160-M. Rickenbacker (RH) tech. fall R. Warner; 171-J. Leviner (S) pin F. Hart 5:32; 189-R. Kerrigan (S) pin R. Crockett 2:17; 215-R. Adams (RH) pin A. Greene 1:25; HWT-R. Daniels (S) pin D. Feely :50. Note-**Summerville** was deducted one point at 160 pounds for a uniform violation.

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