



**MAT CHAMPIONS** — Outstanding members of the Niagara-Wheatfield Central School varsity wrestling team, unbeaten Niagara Frontier League champion, pose with their coaches as they prepare for the Section VI, Class AA tournament Saturday. Left to right, first row, Rich Norton, Dave Daigler, Mike Rizzo, Paul Wein-

gartner; second row, Tim Weingartner, Paul Hutchison, Dave Eiseman, Gary Castiglione; third row, Jim Miller, Chris Wager, John Rinker, Rod Goodson; fourth row, Manager Bob Mollosky, Head Coach Armand Cacciatore and Assistant Coach Dennis Matteson.

## N-W Matmen Eye Sectionals ★

By **BOB WEBBER**  
Gazette Sports Writer

Niagara-Wheatfield Central School's wrestling team, the unbeaten Niagara Frontier League champion, may be hard pressed to defend its Section VI, Class AA tournament championship Saturday at host Williamsville North.

Preliminaries start at 11 a.m. with semifinals to follow in the afternoon. Consolation and final matches begin at 7 p.m.

Although the Falcons have 11 seeded wrestlers, including four who are top seeded, Coach Armand (Ace) Cacciatore is worried. Two of his regulars will be missing. Don Kroening, a 155-pounder, has the measles. Rodney Goodson, 165-pounder, is out with an injured knee.

Cacciatore said Tim Weingartner from the junior varsity will replace Kroening and either Tony Caterisano or Wayne Printup would move up for Goodson.

### Top Seeded

The top-seeded Falcons are Rich Norton, 123 pounds; Paul Hutchison, 145; John Rinker, 175, all unbeaten; and Chris Wager, 185. Rinker and Norton are defending Class AA individual titles they won last year.

Other seeded N-W matmen include heavyweight Jim Miller, Paul Weingartner, Mike Rizzo, Ted Raverrini, Gary Castiglione, Dave Eiseman and Tim Weingartner. Big Mike Johnson has been entered in the unlimited class.

Cacciatore again expects strong opposition from Iroquois, an unbeaten Erie County Conference divisional champion and N-W's chief rival every year in the Double A sectional tourney.

Iroquois has nine lettermen on its squad and eight of them have been seeded. The eight-school field also includes

Williamsville South, Olean, Cleveland Hill, Clarence and East Aurora.

The Class BBB tournament gets underway today at 5 p.m. at Medina, the unbeaten Niagara-Orleans League champion. It concludes Saturday night.

Unbeaten wrestlers in the Triple B action include Wilson's Mike Moley (123 pounds), Starpoint's Stuart Otto (137), Newfane's Dave Platt (155) and Medina's Chuck Pettit (175).

The Class A tourney is set


for Cheektowaga tonight and Saturday with Trott Vocational's Pete Green a strong contender for the 215-pound individual title. Tonawanda is host for the Class AAA tourney.

Individual winners from this weekend's tourneys and last Saturday's Class 4A event won by Kenmore East advance to the intersectional qualifier March 7 at Erie County Community College. The qualifier determines the Section VI team for the state tourney March 13-14 at Syracuse.

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