



Bill Schultz of Tonawanda
... Looks at referee during match



Schultz is held by Keith Sterns
... Sterns went on to win the match



The last gasp of Schultz
... Sterns of Pioneer wins 138-lb. class

Sloand, Grmusha, Pfeifer win Intersectional wrestling crowns

Seven Niagara Frontier League wrestlers competed in the finals of the Section VI qualifier meet at Sweet Home High School Saturday night. Only three came out victors and will move on to the Intersectional Championships next weekend in the Utica War Memorial.

Bob Sloand of Niagara-Wheatfield, the state 105-pound champion last season, moved up to 119 pounds this year where he faced Tonawanda's Norm Simon in the finals. It was the only match where two NFL wrestlers faced each other in the final round. Sloand pinned Simon in 1:54 to advance to the Intersections. It was his third consecutive pin in the meet.

Tonawanda's Peter Grmusha became the second NFL wrestler to return to the state finals when he recorded a 6-0 victory over Medina's Ron Taylor in the unlimited class. Grmusha is undefeated in action this year.

Ray Pfeifer of Kenmore East will represent Section VI in the 98-pound class. He decisioned Rick Rothfuss of Iroquois, 13-2. Pfeifer had a 27-1-0 record going into the meet while Rothfuss had a 19-4-0.

Bill Schultz of Tonawanda put up a valiant effort before losing to Keith Sterns of Pioneer in the 138-pound class. Forced to call time out when a muscle cramp incapacitated him in the first period, he returned to make a gutsy showing. Sterns was too much however as he pinned Schultz in 1:18 of the second period.

Ed Lawrence of Maryvale eliminated Niagara-Wheatfield's Paul Cianchetti in the 167-pound class when he won a hotly-disputed 9-8 decision. Cianchetti appeared to have won the match with his aggressive style but the referee saw it differently.

Jim Briggs of Niagara-Wheatfield lost a 10-7 decision to Bruce Johnson of Falconer in the heavyweight class. Briggs was undefeated going into the match with a 27-0-0 slate. Johnson had a 25-1-0 record.

Maryvale's Pete Roetzer was voted outstanding wrestler in a poll of the competitors. Roetzer, a senior at the Cheektowaga school, took the 145-pound crown with a 10-4 verdict over Pioneer's Garry Devin.

Section VI finished fourth in last year's Intersectional Championship

meet. A total of 13 matmen will make up the Section VI team this year. Section VIII (Long Island) is the defending champion.

CONSOLATIONS

98: Booker (S) d. Moore (Port), 13-2. 105: Smith (Frank) d. Burks (GI), 4-3. 112: Hogan (Cla) d. Swanson (Port), 13-0. 126: Thomas (GI) d. Lenhart (Star), 8-0. 132: Granger (PV) d. Eisenman (NW), 9-5. 138: Brown (WmsS) d. Churder (NT), by default. 145: Bieger (WmsN) d. Miller (Port), default. 155: Grandits (SH) d. Pittman (NW), 4-0. 167: Rogers (WmsN) d. Marone (Ton.), 5-0. 177: D'Amuro (NW) d. Bradley (Ak), 2-0. **Heavyweight:** Lord (Frank) d. Stebbins (LS), 3-0. **Unlimited:** Stacy (Frank) d. Mudra (KE).

FINALS

98: Pfeifer (KE) d. Rothfuss (Iro), 12-3. 105: Arnold (Pio) d. Moberg (SW), 2-0. 112: Bedell (WmsN) d. Kaczmarek (Front), ot. 4-3. 119: Sloand (NW) pinned Simon (Ton.) 1:54. 126: Roblee (Pio) pinned Heim (WmsN), 4:49. 132: Anderson (Olean) d. Leroy (Mary), 7-1. 138: Sterns (Pio) d. Schultz (Ton.), 3:18. 145: Roetzer (Mary) d. Devin (Pio), 10-4. 155: Rowe (Rip) d. Martinack (Lanc), 6-3. 167: Lawrence (Mary) d. Cianchetti (NW), 9-8. 177: Boyd (Ham) d. D. Johnson (Fal), 2-1. **Heavyweight:** B. Johnson (Fal) d. Briggs (NW), 10-7. **Unlimited:** Grmusha (Ton.) d. Taylor (Med), 6-0.



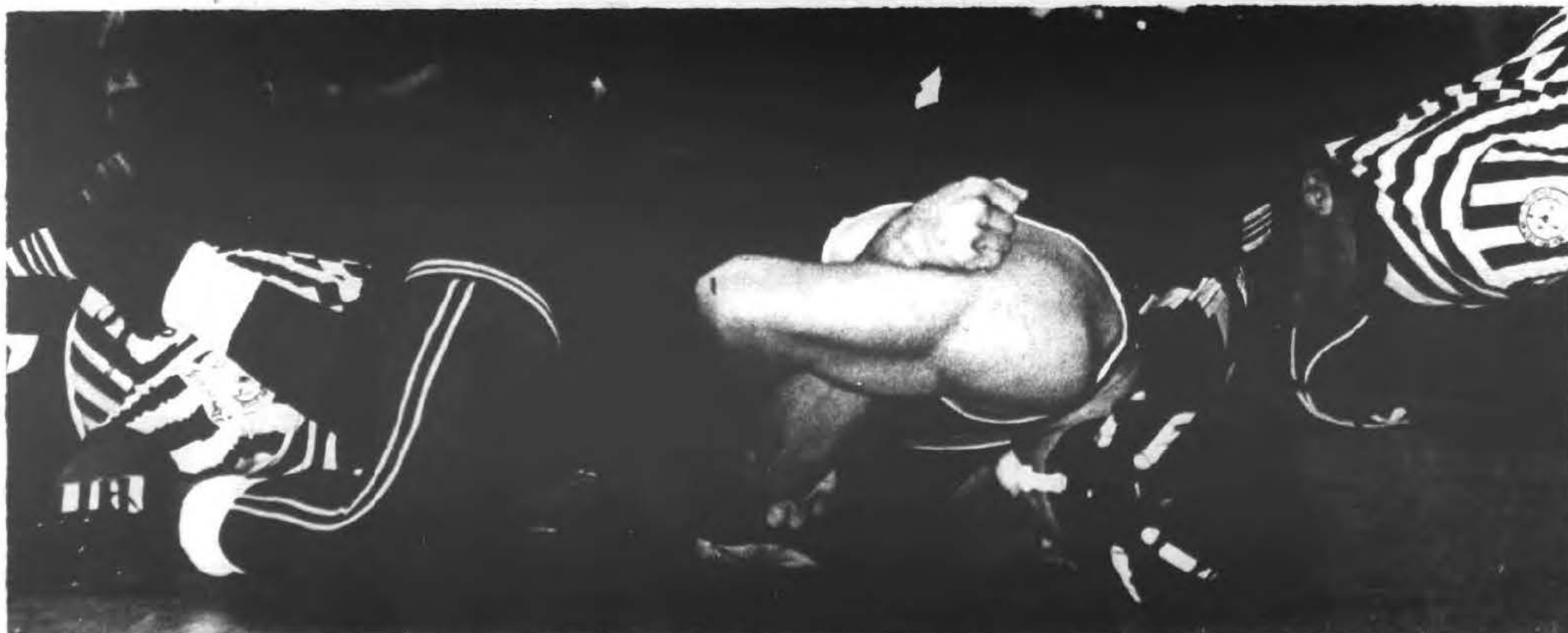
Pete Grmusha of Tonawanda, left, in finals
... He defeated Ron Taylor of Medina in unlimited class

Photos by

David R. Battaglia



Bruce Johnson of Falconer on top
... Of Niagara-Wheatfield's Jim Briggs



Norm Simon of Tonawanda is underneath N-W's Bob Sloand
... Sloand defeated Simon to win 119-lb. class and advance to Utica



Ray Pfeifer of Ken-East
... Tangles with Rick Rothfuss of Iroquois