



Art Pittman, left, of N-W battles with K-E's Chris Lawson

... Lawson was awarded victory after overtime session and chosen MVP

# Falcon wrestlers grab league meet

By EDSLOWINSKI

Eleven of the 14 top seeded wrestlers lived up to their billings in the annual Niagara Frontier League meet over the weekend as Niagara Wheatfield retained the team crown while scoring 140½ points. The phenomenal Falcons also led the tourney, which wound up Saturday night with five individual champions.

Lockport's George Reed scored an upset victory as he started the final round of competition, pinning Kenmore East's Don Soloway in the 88-lb. class. It took Reed only three seconds of the middle stanza to gain the fall after the first period was evenly contested.

In the 98-lb. division, the top four wrestlers finished in the order of their seeds. N-W's Nick Perri led the way with a lopsided decision over Niagara Falls' Clyde Wallace, 15-2.

Keith Homme gave Lockport its second individual champion with a narrow 2-1 win over K-E's Don Deinhart in the 105-lb. affair. The Lions were surprisingly strong as they finished with 65 points, putting them in third place behind Niagara-Wheatfield and Ken-East.

N-W's Tom Caterisano captured the 112-lb. class honors as he beat out East's Joe Palmieri. After being frustrated in earlier matches, K-E brought home an individual championship. Top rated Ray Pfeifer showed his stuff in the 119-lb. category en route to dominating N-W's Jim Falbo, 14-1.

Willie Moore's win over Scott Andrews in the 126-lb.

class provided Niagara Falls with its only individual winner. Moore showed lightning quickness when he needed it as he posted a 5-0 shutout.

LaSalle had two fine performances turned in by top seeded John Elsberry in the 132 lb. class and Fred Hoover in the 138-lb. division. Elsberry pinned a 6-3 loss on N-W's Jim Letcher, while it took Hoover an overtime period to edge highly regarded Greg Germany of Niagara Falls.

Ken-East's Tom Gill wasn't even tested in his bid for the 145-lb. championship as he walked right into the awards area with a pin over Lockport's Mark Wolcott at 3:54 of their title encounter.

N-W's Art Pittman and K-E's Chris Lawson, two grapplers who tied earlier in the season, 2-2, met in the 155-lb. category. Both were undefeated but all of Pittman's wins were by pins. Lawson surprised Pittman by scoring four points right off the bat. Pittman didn't panic as he tied the match, forcing an overtime period. Pittman scored first, but Lawson deadlocked it again. Neither wrestler managed to score in the third overtime period.

The NFL's finest referees were forced to vote to determine a winner. The decision went to Lawson.

Adding to Pittman's misery was the coaches' choice for most valuable wrestler of the tourney. It was Lawson again by one point over Pittman's teammate, Paul Chianchetti.

Chianchetti took only 1:16 to bury Lew-Port's Bruce Pryce in the 167-lb. division. He

pinned all his opposition except one.

Steve Miller added to the Falcon cause by pinning Mitch Levine in 5:23.

Lew-Port's sophomore sensation, Tom Blinco, was victorious in the 215-lb. showdown with N-W's Pat D'Amuro.

N-W's Jim Briggs ended the competition with a 250-lb. win over L-P's Pete Battaglia. Briggs won the battle with a pin at 3:54.

88: George Reed (Lkpt) pinned Don Soloway (KE), 2:03

98: Nick Perri (NW) dec. Clyde Wallace (NF), 15-2

105: Keith Homme (Lkpt) dec. Don Deinhart (KE), 2-1

112: Tom Caterisano (NW) dec. Joe Palmieri (KE), 8-4

119: Ray Pfeifer (KE) dec. Jim Falbo (NW), 14-1

126: Willie Moore (NF) dec. Scott Andrews (L-P), 5-0

132: John Elsberry (LaS) dec. Jim Letcher (NW), 6-3

138: Fred Hoover (LaS) dec. Greg Germany (NF), 4-3 (over-time)

145: Tom Gill (KE) pinned Mark Wolcott (Lkpt), 3:54

155: Chris Lawson (KE) dec. Art Pittman (NW) by judges vote

167: Paul Chianchetti (NW) pinned Bruce Pryce (L-P), 1:16

177: Steve Miller (NW) pinned Mitch Levine (KE), 5:23

215: Tom Blinco (L-P) dec. Pat D'Amuro (NW), 2-1

250: Jim Briggs (NW) pinned Pete Battaglia (L-P), 3:54

## TEAM SCORING

Niagara Wheatfield	140½
Kenmore East	105
Lockport	65
Lewiston Porter	60½
Niagara Falls	55
LaSalle	39
Kenmore West	32½
North Tonawanda	23
Tonawanda	2
Trott	2



Paul Chianchetti of N-W, left, avoids hold

... He defeated Bruce Pryce to earn individual title