

★ York Tops Area Wrestlers

The 1979 Livingston-Wyoming County Wrestling Tournament was held Feb. 17 at the Livonia Senior High School. There were 14 schools participating and the York Knights placed first with 180 1/2 pts!

TEAM STANDINGS

1st, York, 180 1/2 pts.; 2nd, Caledonia, 154 1/2; 3rd, Livonia, 136; 4th, Geneseo, 133 5th, Warsaw, 98; 6th, Avon, 61; 7th, LeRoy, 55; 8th, Keshequa, 51; 9th & 10th Letchworth and Dansville 39; 11th, Wayland 26; 12th, H F - L 24; 13th Perry 15; 14th Mt. Morris 10.

All individual winners received ribbons instead of trophies due to the Livingston Conference rules.

Top four in each weight class: 91#: 1st, Lyle Turybury, York; 2nd Dan Tucker Warsaw; 3rd Bill Donovan Keshequa; 4th Dan Love Geneseo.

98#: 1st Van Schirmer, York; 2nd Jeff MacDonald, Caledonia; 3rd Dave Duffy, Dansville; 4th Steve Fite, Warsaw.

105#: 1st Dana Richard, Geneseo; 2nd Tim Mowry, LeRoy; 3rd Tim Mathis, Caledonia; 4th Scott Mosmon, York.

112#: 1st Tracy Regan, Avon; 2nd Pete Loftus, LeRoy; 3rd Doug Hendrickson, York; 4th Paul Keough, Warsaw.

119#: 1st Jeff Shirmer, York; 2nd Dan Carman, Geneseo; 3rd Dave Fisher, Caledonia; 4th Sam Schilaci, Warsaw.

126#: 1st Scott Thompson, Livonia; 2nd Steve Scott, Caledonia; 3rd Mike Traxler, LeRoy; 4th Ed Wing, Letchworth.

132#: 1st Joe Barber, Letchworth; 2nd Dave Vascianne, York; 3rd Jim Holbert, Livonia; 4th Tim MacDonald, Caledonia.

138#: 1st Paul Richard, Geneseo; 2nd Tom Moore, Livonia; 3rd Jay Chapin, Perry; 4th Jon Smalt, Dansville.

145#: 1st Todd Read, York; 2nd Don Carman, Geneseo; 3rd Rick Davis, Warsaw; 4th Dave Ianiro, Caledonia.

155#: 1st Ben Valente, Caledonia; 2nd Rick Cisco, Livonia; 3rd Jim Price, Dansville; 4th Bill Goodenow, Warsaw.

167#: 1st Doug Nothnagle, Caledonia; 2nd Jeff Meehan, HFL; 3rd Bill Simmons, York; 4th Todd Backus, Livonia.

177#: 1st Ron Kidder,

Livonia; 2nd Guy Reynolds, York; 3rd Dan Wood, Keshequa; 4th Doug Clements, Caledonia.

HWY: 1st John Schoonover, Livonia; 2nd Mark Goosens, Avon; 3rd Mike Streamer, Warsaw; 4th Bruce Eastman, Mount Morris.

UNL: 1st Chip Baird, Wayland; 2nd Chris Sica, Geneseo; 3rd Brian Bailey, Keshequa; 4th Shawn Ball, Warsaw.

All wrestlers should be commended for their discipline to weight control, adjustment to long hours, execution of good wrestling skills, demonstration of great sportsmanship, and the endurance and stamina necessary for a highly competitive tournament.

Some wrestlers won in a quiet dignified manner while others expressed their emotions with great physical zeal.

All coaches should be commended for their outstanding leadership; the promotion of a fine sport; and the insistence of expressing good sportsmanship at all times.

Interesting facts:

York has taken first place in the counties two years in a row. Nearly all of their team are seniors and will be graduating. York is proud of their wrestling record accomplishments.

Steve Scott, a Caledonia Raider with a 4-1 record and one who has been idle the best part of two seasons, lost to Scott Thompson, a Livonia Bulldog with 11-2 record, in the finals with a score 13-12. It was an extremely exciting match as the wrestlers struggled for the championship.

Joe Barber, a Letchworth Indian with a 11-2-1 record, nudged Dave Vascianne, a York Knight with 12-0-1 record, out of the championship by a score of 12 - 11. Again the spectators were strongly vocal in their support.

Chip Baird, a Wayland Redski with a 12-1 record, achieved the fastest pin in the finals when he pinned Chris Sica, a Geneseo Devil with a 9-0 record, in 35 seconds!!

Section V Class B Tournament will be held Friday, Feb. 23, at 5 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. at the Geneseo High School.

--M Regan

Batavia Downs Opens 26th

Thirty nine years ago a new sport came upon the Western New York scene. Parimutuel harness racing became a reality at the old Genesee County fair grounds and Batavia Downs was born.

Sometime in 1979 the seventeen millionth patron will walk through the gates and sometime later in this season another fan will make a wager at one of the mutuel windows and in that wager will be the dollar which makes the total money bet at the Downs reach the one billion dollar mark.

It has been a long road with good times and bad, but the anticipation for the new season which begins next Monday, Feb. 26, is for a fine year of racing.

Between next Monday and closing night for the early meeting, which is April 21, almost 500 races will be contested. Among them will be the \$20,000 Canadian-American Pace on Friday,

April 20th. This prestigious event has been a part of the Downs racing program for many years now. It was a few years back that Batavia hosted the final of the Canadian - American dash and made it the first race for \$50,000 in Western New York harness racing history.

The winter-long accumulation of snow has been removed from the parking lots and the barn area. This herculean task involved hundreds of truck loads of the white stuff being scraped up, loaded and carted to remote sections of the grounds.

The racing surface has wintered well, drivers such as Fred Haslip (last fall's dash winner), representing the elder statesmen among the drivers, and Ed McNeight (runner-up in the percentage race), who is one of the young element in harness racing, will be back and a full complement of horses will be in the