

BUFFALO BRAVES NOTES: Maple Leaf Gardens, a hallowed place in hockey history, holds about 17,500 for basketball. The old structure is square with many seats extremely far away. The box like shape of the building leaves a good deal of wasted space and many poor seats. . . . Despite the game, most fans wanted to talk about the untimely death of Buffalo Sabre defenseman Tim Horton. Horton, a former Maple Leaf, had played his last game the previous night at the Gardens. He was killed in a high speed crash on his way back to Buffalo. . . . A minute of silence was observed in his memory before the game. . . . Both the Canadian and American national anthems were played, the same as in NHL games. . . . The crowd was distinctly more knowledgeable than previous Toronto throngs which restricted themselves to polite cheering. It was boisterous on the major plays with a distinctive segment of New York fans. . . . The fans particularly enjoyed the late stages of the game when the benches emptied. . . . They also liked the halfcourt shots at halftime on which a shooter can win a car or trip to Bermuda. . . . The fans gave Paul Ruffner an ovation for taping a broken pad on the backboard. Later a large segment chanted "We want Ruffner". . . . Food and beverage prices were generally 20 percent cheaper than at the Aud. . . . No beer is sold in the Gardens. . . . All of the access corridors in the building are covered with hockey photos of past Maple Leaf games and players. . . . The Braves are now 35-32 while the Knicks are 38-26. . . . Buffalo has 14 more games including five at home after tonight. . . . The Braves trail the Knicks by 4 1/2 and Capital by 34, in their bid to face New York rather than Boston in the opening round of the playoffs. . . . McAdoo leads the NBA in scoring and field goal percentage. . . . Ernie D leads in assists and free throw percentage. . . . Frazier has released a new book called "Rockin Steady: A Guide To Basketball Cool." . . . Biggest cheers of the night were for the exit of McAdoo and the entrance of Ruffner, Mike Macaluso and Hawthorne Wingo.

WNY Mat Showdown

By MIKE ABDO
Times Herald Sports Writer
Eight sites . . . eight schools at each site.

That's the Western New York scholastic wrestling showdown under the auspices of Section 6 (five counties) starting Saturday noon and the target will be the championship bouts that will be approximately 7:30 p.m.

The prizes for the muscular young men who'll represent the 64 schools will be berths in the Section 6 championship round, Mar. 1-2, at Sweethome Central School in the Buffalo area. After that, it's the New York State championships Mar. 8-9 at Syracuse.

EACH OF THE eight sites is loaded with talented grapplers but the wrestling buffs will keep just a little sharper eye on what happens at Pioneer Central, the school in the triangle that makes up Cattaraugus-Wyoming and Allegany counties.

Pioneer was the unbeaten powerhouse that leveled off Niagara-Wheatfield Central, as well as Iroquois Central, two other schools considered as "makers of the big winners on the mat."

Pioneer could have as many as six-seven winners and in

Mike Arnold has a senior who traveled to the state action the past two years, finishing second each time. There also are Phil Roblee and Keith Stearns, two others unbeaten this year.

OLEAN HIGH School, with unbeaten Kirk Anderson and once-beaten Dan Shembada as solid favorites to advance, is in the Division 4 test at Iroquois Central and in Thursday night's seeding sessions emerged with three No. One seeds; a second seed (Sheahan Simon), a third seed (Dave Crean) and a fourth seed (Tom Bushnell). Anderson, last year, advanced to the state action.

In the Division 6 test at Newfane Central, Salamanca placed Mike Newark, John Fitzgerald and Mark Sartori as No. One seeds and three others as No. two seeds: Tom Ciolek, Jack Hager and Pete Newark. Four other Salamanca grapplers named as fourth seeds are Art Jacobsen, Ward Wheeler, Charles Cappalino and Jim O'Rourke.

IN THE Division 8 test at Pine Valley, Cattaraugus — something of a big surprise in the Southern Tier action this season — emerged with five No. One seeds and two others as No. Two seeds (Randy Miller and

Brian Miller). Franklinville's unbeaten Skip Lord (21-0 and all by pins) as well as Joe Smith (19-1) and Dana Linderman (19-1-1) are considered solid choices to advance to the Mar. 1-2 section 6 finals.

The Section 6 lineup:

DIV. 1 (AT KENMORE EAST)
Kenmore West Maryvale
Kenmore East Seneca West
No. Tonawanda Lancaster
Jamestown Sweethome

DIV. 2 (AT WILLIAM. NORTH)
Niag. Falls Will'ville N.
Frontier Lockport
Seneca East LaSalle
Amherst Hamburg

DIV. 3 (AT LAKE SHORE)
Orchard Park Will'ville S.
Tonawanda Lackawanna
Niag. Wheatf'd Lew-Porter
Clarence Lake Shore

DIV. 4 (AT IROQUOIS)
Olean Iroquois
Cheektowaga Dunkirk
Grand Island Depew
East Aurora Cleve. Hill

The No. One Seeds
88 — Jim Diehl (Olean, 14-1-1)
101 — Dave Rathi (Depew, 14-3-2)
108 — Bob Mahoney (East Aur., 17-1)
115 — Bruce Meyers (Olean, 15-6)
122 — Mike Burke (Grand Is., 16-5)
129 — Dan Shembada (Olean, 22-1)
135 — Al Grimes (Grand Is., 18-3)
141 — Kirk Anderson (Olean, 23-0)
148 — Mike Clark (Iroquois, 19-2)
158 — Dennis Long (Dunkirk, 17-1)
170 — Cole Hatley (Iroquois, 9-5-2)
180 — Jim Krentz (Cheek., 10-2-2)
Heavy — Mike Carzelli (Depew, 13-5-1)

DIV. 5 (AT PIONEER)
Pioneer Southwestern
Trott Medina
Alden Eden
Starpoint Albion

DIV. 6 (AT NEWFANE)
Salamanca Gowanda
Fredonia Falconer
Newfane Akron
Roy Hart Wilson

The No. One Seeds
101 — Mike Ognibene (Falconer)
108 — Mike Newark (Salamanca)
115 — John Fitzgerald (Salamanca)
122 — Bryce Walker (Newfane)
129 — Terry Taylor (Newfane)
135 — Tim Richir (Falconer)
141 — Gary Kelkenburg (Roy Hart)
148 — Ron Jolis (Gowanda)
158 — Paul Perkins (Newfane)
170 — Allan Jones (Akron)
180 — Dick Garnatt (Gowanda)
218 — Mark Sartori (Salamanca)
Unlimited — Mike Mentley (Gow.)

DIV. 7 (AT MAPLE GROVE)
Cassadaga Val. Portville
Allegany Westfield
Silv. Creek Map. Grove
Holland Randolph

DIV. 8 (AT PINE VALLEY)
Freysburg Sherman
Pine Valley Franklinville
Cattaraugus Ripley
Panama

The No. One Seeds
88 — Steve Card (Sherman)
101 — Keith Miller (Catt.)
108 — Scott Lamson (Pine Val.)
115 — Joe Smith (Franklinville)
122 — Dan Ottaway (Sherman)
129 — Gerry Reynolds (Pine Val.)
135 — Bob Stone (Cattaraugus)
141 — Dan Steinbar (Cattaraugus)
148 — Duane Smith (Cattaraugus)
158 — Marty Rowe (Ripley)
170 — George Swan (Cattar.)
188 — Skip Lord (Franklinville)
Heavy — Dana Linderman (Frank.)
Unlimited — Don Swoger (Ripley)



OLEAN High School wrestling coach, Mike Foster (right), talks to his two star wrestlers, unbeaten Kirk Anderson (left) and once-beaten Danny Shembada. Olean

is one of the entries in the Section 6 championship action which is set for Saturday at eight sites in Western New York.

(Times Herald Photo)