

## Gavette, Helfer, Capacci give Geneva a hand —

# ★ Panthers win W-FL mat title with "a little help"

By NORM JOLLOW

If they throw a party to celebrate their Wayne-Finger Lakes Eastern Division wrestling tournament championship, the Geneva Panthers really ought to invite Barry Gavette of Penn Yan, Brad Helfer of Palmyra-Macedon and George Capacci of Mynderse Academy.

It isn't that the Panthers didn't do pretty well on their own, winning five individual championships, but before the final round started, Coach Bill Brooks admitted that "we could use a little help."

That's what they got from these three wrestlers plus four of their own in the tournament finals Saturday night in the Geneva High gym.

To add the tournament title to the league championship, Geneva had to overcome a five point deficit to Canandaigua and to overcome Canandaigua's edge in numbers. The Braves had seven survivors going into the finals while Geneva had six.

The Welsh brothers, 98 pounder Jim and 112 pounder Bill, posted victories as did John Szkolnik at 105. The powerful Geneva lightweights did what was expected with dispatch, Jim winning 22-0 while John and Bill each scored crucial pins.

That moved Geneva from a 69-74 deficit to an 80-74 lead, but Canandaigua still had five wrestlers to go while Geneva had only three.

Gerry Case got four points for the Braves with a pin at 119 pounds while both Geneva and Canandaigua failed to gain any ground when Penn Yan took a hand with Barry Gavette beating Canandaigua's Bruce Hadsell at 126 and Farrell Simmons beating Geneva's Steve Bero.

A critical match came up at 138. The last confrontation between the two contenders and Jim Hartwell kept Canandaigua's hopes alive with a 9-0 decision over Ernie Ash, who was hampered with a bad nose bleed most of the match.

Now Canandaigua led, 81-80 and the Braves still had two wrestlers left while Geneva had only one.

Helfer, Palmyra-Macedon's 145 pounder turned back Steve Schrader of Canandaigua, 6-1, and Geneva's Ted Manslank put the Panthers on top, 83-81, with a 3-2 decision over Newark's Gerry Graf.

It was all up to Dave Colf of Canandaigua and George Capacci of Mynderse. If Colf wins, as he is favored, the tournament title goes to Canandaigua. If Capacci, third seeded in the tournament, wins, Geneva grabs the title.

Colf scored a reversal in the second period and held that 2-0 lead until late in the period when Capacci escaped and later scored a take down for a 3-2 lead.

In the third period, Colf deliberately let Capacci escape for a 4-2 lead, hoping to score a takedown and win with riding time. But Capacci spoiled the strategy by gaining the late takedown and with that, Canandaigua's bid for the tournament title went by the boards, 6-2.

The Panthers wound up with five champions with unlimited wrestler Dave Canfield coping the unlimited class title. The unlimited class, however, does not count in team scoring.

Penn Yan surprised some with three champions as Steve Horrigan won the heavyweight crown to join teammates Gavette and Simmons in the winners circle. Canandaigua finished with just two winners, the same as Mynderse, which had Rick Hannan as 177 pound champion and the tournament's most valuable wrestler.

The Panthers thus finished on top with 83 points to nip Canandaigua, which had 81. Penn Yan took third with 64 points, followed by Mynderse with 50, Wayne with 37, Palmyra-Macedon with 24, Waterloo with 16, Newark with 14 and Midlakes with 13.

Winners and losers alike advance to the quarterfinal round of the Section 5 Class A tournament which is slated for Geneseo State College at 6 p. m., Friday.

In the quarterfinals, the W-FL winners will face the Monroe County third place team while the W-FL runners-up will go against the Southern Tier champions.

Winners of those matches plus three other match-ups will go on to the semifinals and finals at Monroe Community College where the Class A and Class B champions will climax the Section 5 season with their wrestle off for the right to compete in the Interstate event.

Bill Boyle of Canandaigua presented the team championship trophy to the Panthers while special individual trophies went to Hannan as the most valuable wrestler and to Jim Welsh of Geneva who had the fastest pin of the tournament, winning one bout in 12 seconds.

Jim Welsh did everything but pin Ron Langdon of Canandaigua at 98 pounds. Welsh scored five near falls in posting a 22-0 victory.

John Szkolnik seemed likely to go through the same process with Canandaigua's Mike Chappelle as he led 5-0, was reversed but then reversed Chappelle into a pinning combination that ended the match at 1:34.

Bill Welsh nailed Dan Molino of Wayne in 4:44 before Gerry Case beat Dave Pealer of Penn Yan with a pin at 1:57 of the 119 pound match.

A reversal and near fall in the second period were all the points Gavette needed to nip Bruce Hadsell of Canandaigua, 5-4 in the 126 pound division, while Farrell Simmons stopped Geneva's Steve Bero, 6-1 at 1:32 pounds.

Jim Hartwell best Geneva's Ernie Ash, 9-0 at 138 pounds while Pal-Mac's Brad Helfer beat Canandaigua's Steve Schrader, 6-1.

Manslank won with a 3-2 decision, scoring a third period takedown against Gerry Graf, who was ahead on riding time until that takedown.

Capacci stopped Colf in the crucial match at 176 pounds, 6-2, and then Hannan wrapped up the most valuable wrestler award with a 13-4 victory over Charlie Catalano of Wayne.

pinned Bruce Cransler (Canandaigua).

### CONSOLATION

98 — Vanaman (Penn Yan) decisioned Converse (Mynderse), 5-3.

105 — Hannan (Mynderse) decisioned Scott (Midlakes), 5-1.

112 — Lorenzetti (Mynderse) decisioned Montag (Waterloo), 9-2.

119 — Hargarther (Wayne) decisioned Pedersen (Midlakes), 4-1.

126 — Lorenz (Mynderse) decisioned Raes (Midlakes), 4-2.

132 — Connelly (Canandaigua) decisioned Harrell (Wayne), 12-3.

138 — Fisher (Wayne) decisioned Rupert (Penn Yan), 4-2 (overtime).

145 — Crissy (Penn Yan) won by default over Ed Barto (Mynderse).

155 — Case (Canandaigua) decisioned Niver (Penn Yan), 5-1.

167 — Catalano (Wayne) defeated Montroy (Pal-Mac), judges' decision.

177 — McConnell (Geneva) pinned Whyte (Midlakes), 4:02.

Hwt. — Atwell (Pal-Mac) decisioned Bullock Geneva), 6-3.

### FINALS

98 — Jim Welsh (Geneva) decisioned Don Langdon (Canandaigua), 22-0.

105 — John Szkolnik (Geneva) pinned Mike Chappelle (Canandaigua), 1:38.

112 — Bill Welsh (Geneva) pinned Dan Molino (Wayne), 4:44.

119 — Gerry Case (Canandaigua) pinned Dave Pealer (Penn Yan), 1:57.

126 — Barry Gavette (Penn Yan) decisioned Bruce Hadsell (Canandaigua), 5-4.

132 — Farrell Simmons (Penn Yan) decisioned Steve Bero (Geneva), 6-1.

138 — Jim Hartwell (Canandaigua) decisioned Ernie Ash (Geneva), 9-0.

145 — Brad Helfer (Palmyra - Macedon) decisioned Steve Schrader (Canandaigua), 6-1.

155 — Ted Manslank (Geneva) decisioned Jerry Graf (Newark), 3-1.

167 — George Capacci (Mynderse) decisioned Dave Colf (Canandaigua), 6-2.

177 — Rick Hannan (Mynderse) decisioned Charlie Catalano (Wayne), 13-4.

Hwt. — Steve Horrigan (Penn Yan) decisioned Greg Verone (Waterloo), 11-1.

Unl. — Dave Canfield (Geneva) decisioned Mike Long (Mynderse), 20-2.



1971 WAYNE-FINGER LAKES EAST TOURNAMENT CHAMPS — left to right, front row: Jim Welsh, Geneva; Brad Helfer, Pal-Mac; Ted Manslank, Geneva; George Capacci, Mynderse; Rich Hannan, Mynderse; Steve Canandaigua; Barry Gavette, Penn Yan; Farrell Simmons, Penn Yan. Back row: Jim Hartwell, Canandaigua; John Szkolnik, Geneva; Bill Welsh, Geneva; Gerry Case, Canandaigua; Barry Gavette, Penn Yan; Farrell Sim-