

Braves have new challenger,

mat title

still win

By CHARLES HAYES

For a change, someone other than Geneva and Mynderse were able to give the Canandaigua Braves a run for their money in the Wayne-Finger Lakes Wrestling League's Eastern Division Tournament.

Saturday night, for the third straight year, Coach Weldon Canough's Braves came out ahead of the other eight teams in the league. But, for the first time in at least a decade, neither Geneva nor Mynderse were in a stiff battle with Canandaigua for the tourney championship.

This time, it was the Wayne Central Eagles who chased the Braves.

Canandaigua compiled 87 points, while Wayne finished with 71½, followed by Penn Yan (51), Waterloo (49), Newark (40½), Mynderse (34), Geneva (33½), Midlakes (31½) and Palmyra-Macedon (22½).

Both Canandaigua and Wayne had six wrestlers reach the finals. Four of the Wayne wrestlers came out as champions while Canandaigua came up with two.

Canandaigua compiled most of its points in early rounds, as it sent 10 boys into the semi-finals. Wayne put six wrestlers in the semi-finals and all six reached the finals.

After Friday night's pre-quarter and quarterfinal round action, Canandaigua led the pack with 37½ points while Penn Yan, with seven wrestlers reaching the semi-finals, was second with 26 points. Wayne was third with 20½.

The Eagles replaced Penn Yan as runner-up after the semi-finals. While Wayne's six wrestlers all won semi-final rounds, only two of the Mustang's semi-finalists managed to survive.

Probably the best match of the entire tourney came in the 112 pound semi-finals where Wayne's third seeded Ted fararther nipped Canandaigua's second seeded Gene Gigliotti, 8-7. In a dual meet during the regular season, Gigliotti had edged Hargarther.

Hargarther went on to decision first seeded Tom Pedersen of Midlakes in the inals and was later, earned the tour-

naments outstanding wrestler.

The 155 pound class appeared to be wide open at the start of the tourney, with Geneva's defending champion Walt Russ, unbeaten in the league, given the best chance to come out on top.

As things turned out, it was seventh seeded Rick Helfer of Palmyra-Macedon, who captured the title, beating Russ in the finals, 4-3, on a third period take down. Helfer reached the finals by beating Tom Heathcoat of Penn Yan, 3-0, in the semi-finals. Russ got past Mynderse's Tim Bentley, 8-3, to reach the finals.

A couple of other low seeded wrestlers battled their way into the finals but lost. Waterloo's Pete Sperlazza, ranked fifth at 119 pounds, upset Penn Yan's top seed, Jim Swarthout, in the semi-finals but lost to Canandaigua's Jim White, ranked third, in the finals, being pinned in 2:18 minutes.

At 167 pounds, Penn Yan's John Brewster, sixth seeded, decisioned Mynderse's second ranked Dave Coville, 9-5, to reach the finals, only to lose to top seeded Pat Catalano of Wayne, 11-6.

In the remaining eight matches, four of the top seeded wrestlers came out on top.

Geneva's John Zello decisioned Wayne's Ron Fisher at 98 pounds. Fisher, third seeded, beat second seeded Jeff Gellines, 5-0, in the semi-finals, while Zello edged fourth ranked Ralph Day of Midlakes, 3-2, in the semi-finals.

Jim Vanaman, last year's runner up at 105 pounds, captured that weight class this year when he decisioned Wayne's Larry Bamford, 3-0, in the finals. Vanaman had missed most of the season and was seeded ninth with his 1-1 league record, while Bamford was third seeded.

Canandaigua's 126 pounder, Dennis Jones upped his career record to 76-15-1 with an 11-2 decision over Newark's Brian Willemson in the finals. It marked the second straight year in which Jones has won the 126 pound title. Two years ago he reached the finals, but lost to Geneva's Bill Welsh at 119 pounds.

Jones' career record is the best mark ever posted by a Canandaigua wrestler.

The 132-pound title went to Newark's Harry Allerton, who beat Mark Hylwa of Mynderse in the finals, 5-1.

Wayne's Rick Lang posted his 25th straight win of the season against no losses and upped his career mark to 53-10 with a pin over Dan Allerton of Newark in the finals of the 138 pound bout.

Roy Lang, Rick's brother wasn't about to be outdone and at 145 pounds he captured the championship with a referees' decision over top ranked Ralph Burgess of Canandaigua.

At the end of three periods, the two were tied at 1-1. After three one minute overtime periods, the two were still deadlocked. Lang was awarded the decision mainly because Burgess was warned twice about stalling.

Mynderse's Eric Rosenkrans who decisioned Penn Yan's Dan Beardsley in the semi-finals, won the 177 pound title when top ranked Bill Bartosch forfeited. Bartosch, the defending champion, hurt his knee in the semi-finals when he pinned Pal-Mac's Rick VanHoute in 3:32. Instead of risking further injury, which perhaps could hurt his chances in the Section 5 Tournament next week, Canough decided to have Bartosch forfeit.

At 215 pounds, Waterloo's John Marino upped his record to 24-0 when he pinned Ken Hillfiker of Midlakes in the finals.

Chris Shaffer of Waterloo pinned Canandaigua's Dave Zimmerman to cop the unlimited title.

Marino posted three pins during the tourney and received a trophy for having the most pins in the least amount of time. It took him just 20 seconds to dispose of Pal-Mac's Chuck DeGroat in the quarter-finals. He then pinned Bill Dils of Canandaigua in 3:43 in the semi-finals, before polishing off Hillfiker in 2:45 in the finals.

The summary:

Semi-Finals

98 — John Zello (G) decisioned Ralph Day (ML), 3-2. Ron Fisher (Way) decisioned Jeff Gellines, (C), 5-0.

105 — Jim Vanaman (PY) decisioned Scott Laise (G), 10-0. Larry Bamford (Way) decisioned Doug Lynn.

112 — Tom Pedersen (ML) decisioned Bob Jensen (PY), 6-0. Ted Hargarther (Way) decisioned Gene Gigliotti (C), 8-7.

119 — Pete Sperlazza (Wat) decisioned Jim Swarthout (PY), 4-0. Jim White (C) decisioned Gerry Buckert (N), 6-4.

126 — Dennis Jones (C) pinned Barry Ketchum, 3-29. Brian Willemson (N) decisioned Gary Reynolds (Wat), 4-3.

132 — Harry Allerton (N) pinned Ben Rozelle (G), 3-30. Mark Hylwa (My) decisioned Tom Burgess (C), 4-2.

138 — Rick Lang (Way) pinned Dave Fax (PY), 4-54. Dan Allerton (N) decisioned Mark Buonanno (C), 19-4.

145 — Ralph Burgess (C) decisioned Dan Williams (PY), 6-3. Roy Lang (Way) decisioned Fred Salone (W), 17-8.

155 — Walt Russ (G) decisioned Tim Bentley (My), 7-5. Rick Helfer (PM) decisioned Tom Heathcoat (N), 3-0.

167 — Pat Catalano (Wa) pinned Rick Amidon (W), 5-40. John Brewster (PY) decisioned Dave Coville (My), 9-5.

177 — Bill Bartosch (C) pinned Rick VanHoute (P-M), 3-22. Eric Rosenkrans (My) decisioned Dan Beardsley (PY), 11-6.

215 — John Marino (Wat) pinned Bill Dils (C), 3-43. Ken Hillfiker (ML) decisioned Dan Morocco (G), 12-5.

Unl. — Dave Zimmerman (C) bye. Chris Shaffer (Wat) pinned Dave Burchim (ML), 3-18.

Conclusion

98 — Gellines (C) decisioned Day (ML), 9-6.
105 — Lynn (C) decisioned Laise (G), 9-2. 112 — Gigliotti (C) decisioned Jensen (PY), 11-9.
119 — Swarthout (PY) decisioned Buckert (N), 6-1.
126 — Ketchum (PM) decisioned Reynolds (Wat), 4-2. 132 — T. Burgess (C) decisioned Rozelle (G), 7-1.

138 — Fox (PY) decisioned Buonanno (C), 7-2. 145 — Williams (PY) decisioned Salone (Wat), 12-2. 155 — Bentley (My) pinned Heathcoat (N), 1-58. 167 — Amidon (Wat) decisioned Coville (My), 4-2. 177 — Beardsley (PY) decisioned VanHoute (P-M), 21-5.
Moracco (G) decisioned Dils (C), 3-2. 250 — Burchim (ML) decisioned Fossier (PM).

FINALS

(Season records in parenthesis)
98 — Zello (19-4), Geneva) decisioned Fisher (Wayne), 9-4.

105 — Vanaman (6-2, Penn Yan) decisioned Bamford (14-7, Wayne), 3-0.

112 — Hargarther (20-4, Wayne) decisioned