

Way-Co claims county crown

Taylor defeats McIntosh 5-1 in headline match

By Eric Mack
Livingston County News

NUNDA - Saturday, the Wayland-Cohocton Golden Eagles won one of the most competitive LCAA wrestling tournaments in years. The Golden Eagles scored 149.5 team points in edging out the Warsaw Tigers (143 points) and the LeRoy Oatkan Knights (135). Seven wrestlers from Way-Co placed in the 13 team county tournament.

In preparation for the tournament, Way-Co head coach John Pangia was informing his wrestlers that it could come down to every weight class.

"Winning was all part of a team effort," he said. "It was nice, that's for sure. The kids now know they do have the ability."

Pangia was also awarded the LCAA Coach of the Year sponsored by Buzzo Music. Pangia was modest in saying that his assistant coach Paul Welytok really deserved the award.

"He does most the coaching," Pangia said. "It was unexpected. I didn't think I'd win it."

Pangia's Golden Eagles were officially crowned Division I dual meet champions. After winning the division and the county tournament, Pangia is still looking to improve in sectionals, and hopefully placing a number of wrestler in the state qualifier.

The Perry Yellowjackets were also officially crowned Division II champions. Livonia's Adam DeVincentis, who placed third in this year's tournament at 132 pounds, was awarded the \$500 LCAA Wrestling Coaches' Senior Scholarship.

In the most anticipated match of the tournament, Dansville's Bobby Taylor and Way-Co's Geoff McIntosh squared off in a dual that not only meant a championship, but the winner could also claim the Samuel Cappadonia Outstanding Wrestler Award.

Last year, McIntosh was the runnerup in the LCAA tournament at 155 pounds to Section V

champion Steve Swingle from Livonia. The slim 8-7 loss made McIntosh hungry for a title in this year's championships.

Dansville head coach Ed Bartolotta saw the fire in Bobby Taylor's eyes all week. "He came in on Friday ready to wrestle (McIntosh)," he said. "He wanted to make a statement, and stake his claim to a title."

Taylor, the defending champion at 167 pounds, had been anticipating a matchup between him and McIntosh. Taylor, carrying a 74-12 career record, found it very easy to get excited about the match.

"I was pumped up, I really wanted it," said Taylor.

The long awaited match started out slowly in the first period with the wrestlers taking a defensive approach. Taylor tried a couple of single leg maneuvers early that were thwarted by McIntosh.

After a scoreless first period, Taylor choose bottom in the referee's position. The Dansville wrestler eventually reversed McIntosh, scoring the first points of the match. Near the end of the period the Wayland wrestler undefeated in dual meets, escaped Taylor's grasp with a standup. The second period ended with the score narrowly in Taylor's favor 2-1.

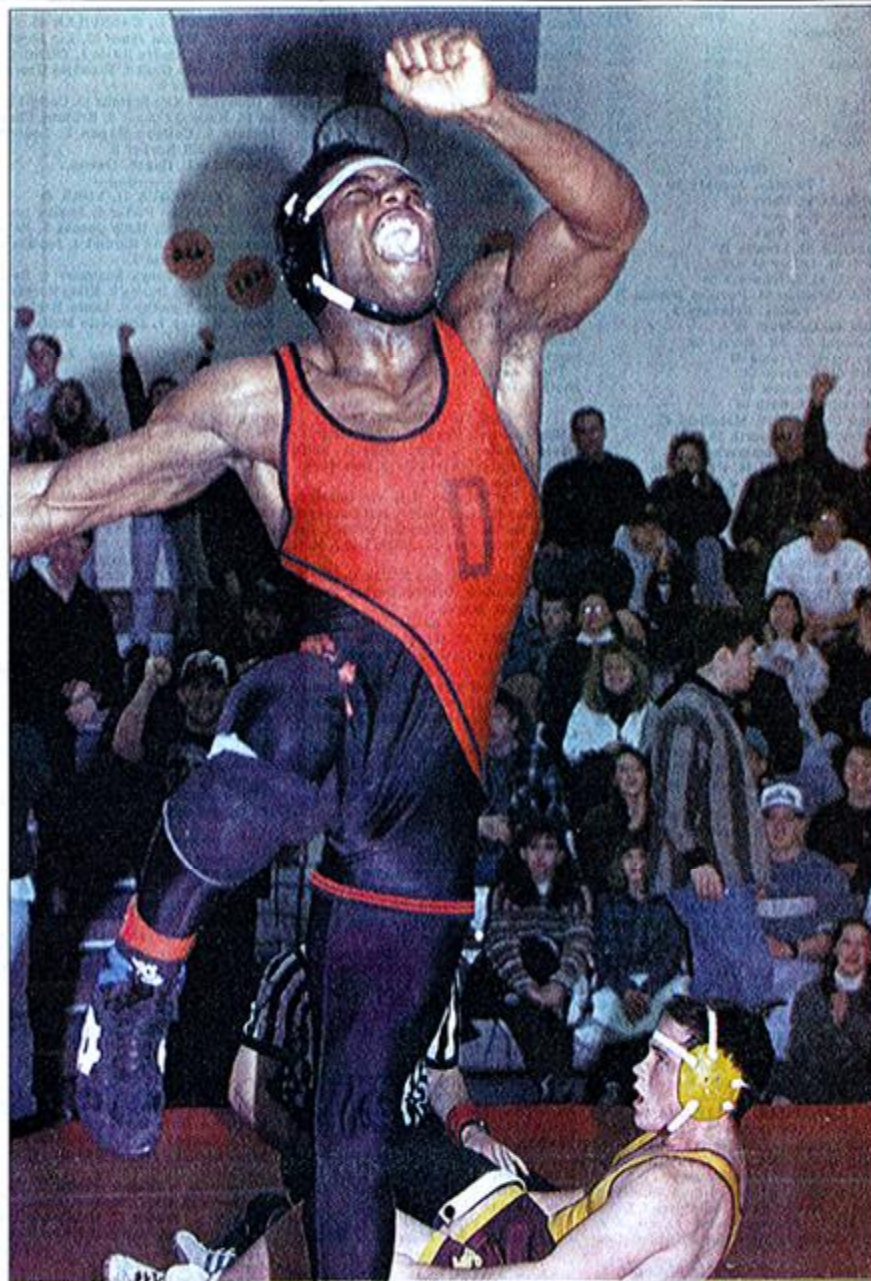
McIntosh then choose bottom to start the last period. A couple of tries at escaping and reversing proved to be ineffective against Taylor, who was riding his opponent. With nine seconds remaining in the match, Taylor rolled the Way-Co sophomore over onto his back, registering three back-points at the buzzer.

The final score ended in Taylor's favor 5-1.

The win gave Taylor his second consecutive county championship after winning the Spectator and Webster Classics this season. His season record improved to a stunning 24-2.

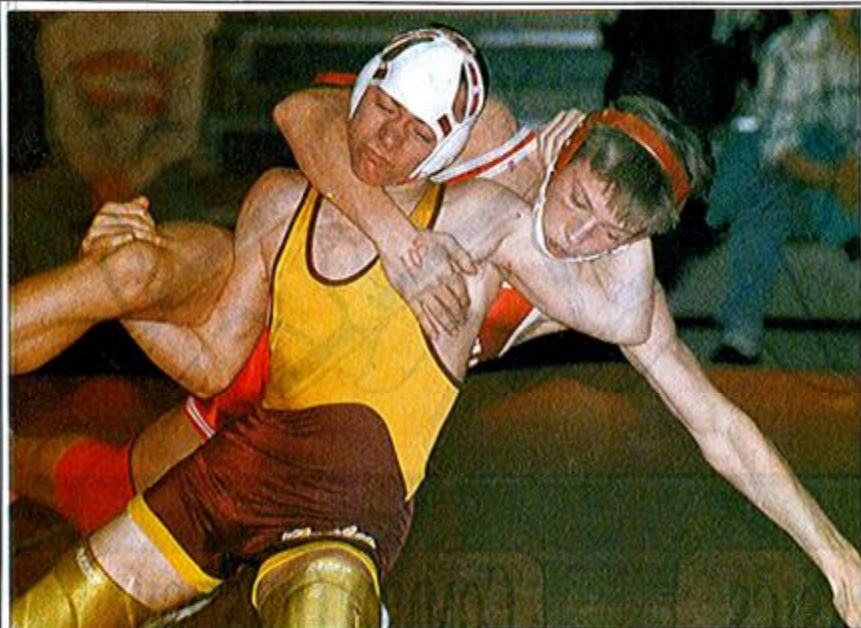
The Dansville senior also

See LCAA — Page 15



A jubilant Bobby Taylor celebrates his 5-1 victory of Wayland-Cohocton's Geoff McIntosh on Saturday during the LCAA Wrestling Championships. Taylor successfully defended his title in the 167 pound weight class.

Sharon Castillon/Livingston County News



Sharon Castillon/for Livingston County News

Anthony Ellis of Wayland-Cohocton tries to pull Letchworth's Shane Scott over him during their finals match at 105 pounds. Ellis won the individual crown as he pinned Scott in 2:53 and helped the Golden Eagles win the team title.

— From Page 11

claimed the prestigious outstanding wrestler award. Coach Bartolotta knew that the award winner would come from the tough 167 pounds weight class, saying "Whoever won that match, would win the award."

The Dansville coach had mixed feelings after the match. "I think it is too bad that someone had to lose," he admitted. "It came down to one mistake. I wish they could have given the award to both wrestlers."

McIntosh's coach, John Pangia, thought both kids wrestled a good match. "Taylor wanted it," he said. "He deserved it."

One of the most outstanding stories of the tournament was seventh grader Tim Page from Way-Co. The first year 98 pounder battled Warsaw's Chad Flint in the finals, the defending county champion at 91 pounds. Page quickly pinned Flint in 1:48 in the first period.

Another first year wrestler came away with a title. LeRoy eighth grader, Kristian Alexander, won the 91 pound weight

Way-Co junior Anthony Ellis, coming off a second place finish last year, took the 105 pound weight class with a technical fall in 4:53 over Letchworth's Shane Scott.

At 112 pounds, Warsaw's sophomore Charlie Voorhees was defending his two-time county championships. An 11-0 decision over Dansville's Andy Miner, gave Voorhees his third title in three years. Defending champion, Livonia's Jason Ball, failed to repeat, placing fourth.

LeRoy junior, Brian Davis, won the 119 pound title with a first period pin over York's Jeff Caraher. Cal-Mum's Chris Buckley, another defending champion failed to repeat because he was unable to wrestle due to an injury.

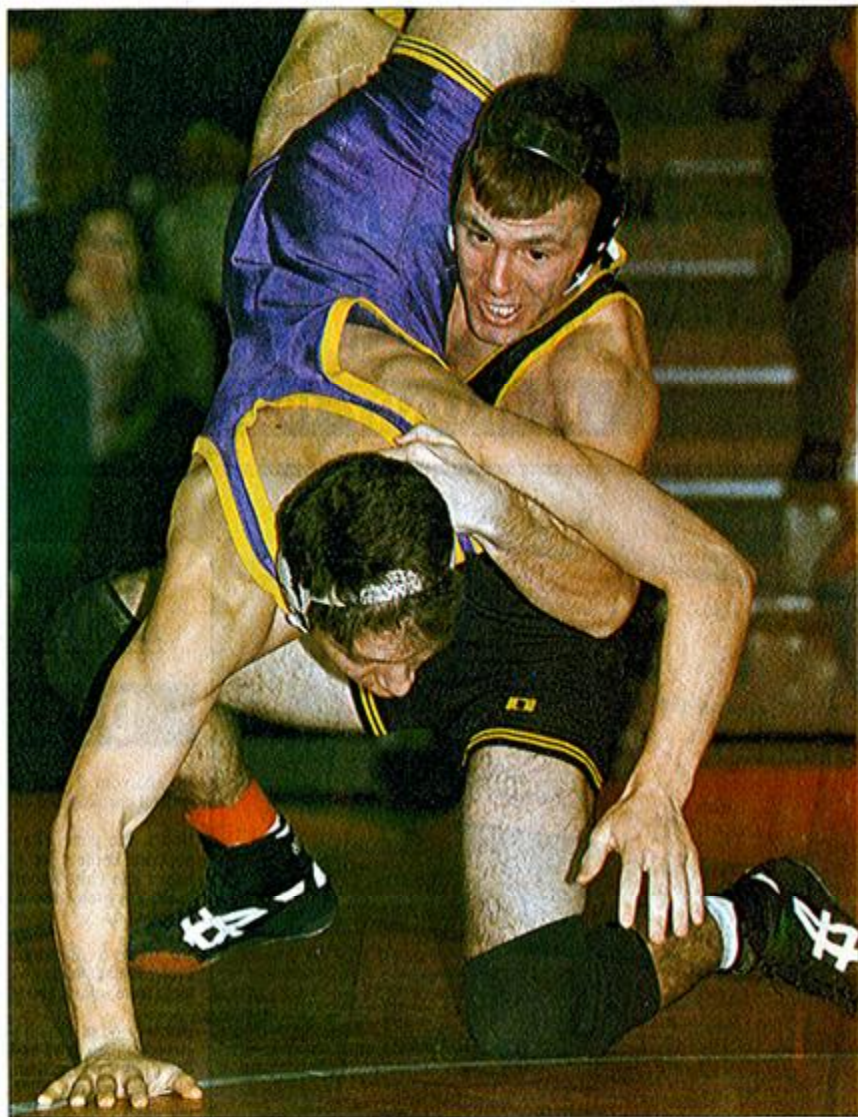
Letchworth's 126 pound junior, Jim Schillaci placed first after a second period pin in 2:54 over LeRoy sophomore Steve Saeve.

Warsaw's Nate Schneckenburger won his second consecutive title this year. An 8-3 decision over one-time champion Ed Wolcott of Perry, gave

match at 132 pitted Cal-Mum's Rick McKeown against scholarship winner Adam DeVincentis. A takedown late in the last period gave DeVincentis a 3-2 victory and a third place finish.

Perry's Brandon Zalewski and Letchworth's Jeremy Helmer locked up in the tightest dual of the night. The 138 pounders went head to head to decide the title. Helmer, a sophomore, tied the score with an escape with 15 seconds remaining in the third period. In sudden death overtime, Zalewski registered a quick takedown giving him a narrow 9-7 victory.

The 145 pound final pitted two former and defending county champions, HF-L's Barry Credeur, and York's Steve Caraher, a three-time county champion and the defending champion at 126 pounds. In a dual meet match between the two wrestlers earlier this season, Credeur prevailed 2-1. The outcome this time provide much of the same result as Credeur defeated Caraher 5-1, winning his second consecutive title.



Sharon Castillon/for the Livingston County News

HF-L's Barry Credeur, the defending champ at 145 pounds, tries to put York's Steve Caraher over on his back during their finals match on Saturday. Credeur retained his title with a 5-1 decision over Caraher.

class with an 8-0 victory over Dansville's Greg Suttin. York's Brian Harvey, coming off a third place finish last year, won the 177 pound weight class with a 4-1 decision over LeRoy sophomore Brandon Shaughnessy.

Perry's Jake Snyers won a ti-

nal. In the consolation match, Way-Co's Jerry Ott recorded a pin over York's Tim Davis in 4:12. The pin sealed the tournament championship for the Golden Eagles.

"Of all the wrestlers on the team, Jerry Ott deserved it the

ly had something to do with it."

The highly successful tournament ended with the 250 pound final. Avon's Jason Munzinger pinned LeRoy's Joel Patterson in 3:15. The pin closed out the exciting tournament that saw every team place a wrestler in