

# WHEELCHAIR 'A Chance

The teams have names like the California Spokebenders, the Chicago Sidewinders and the Detroit Sparks. The local organization, Rochester Wheels, has many Olympic award winners, including the fastest wheeler in the world.

Ray Lewandowski hasn't been beaten in seven years. Lewandowski, who suffered an injury at birth, is a member of Rochester Wheels, the local chapter of the National Wheelchair Athletic Association, which takes part in special Olympic games held all over the world. He set a world record by racing his wheelchair through the 100 yard dash in approximately 21 seconds.

This year 12 of the 20 team members traveled to Spokane, Wash., and each came back with a gold medal from the national games. To qualify for national competition, a participant must place first, second or third in five events on the regional level. A year of rigorous training is required for competition on the regional level.

The medalists work year around at keeping in shape, and they accept invitations to demonstrate their proficiency. Last Wednesday night at Brockport, some of them downed a group of college basketball players, male and female, by a score of 36-13.

JoAnn Keyser, a spina bifida victim, has been competing for nine years. This year because of



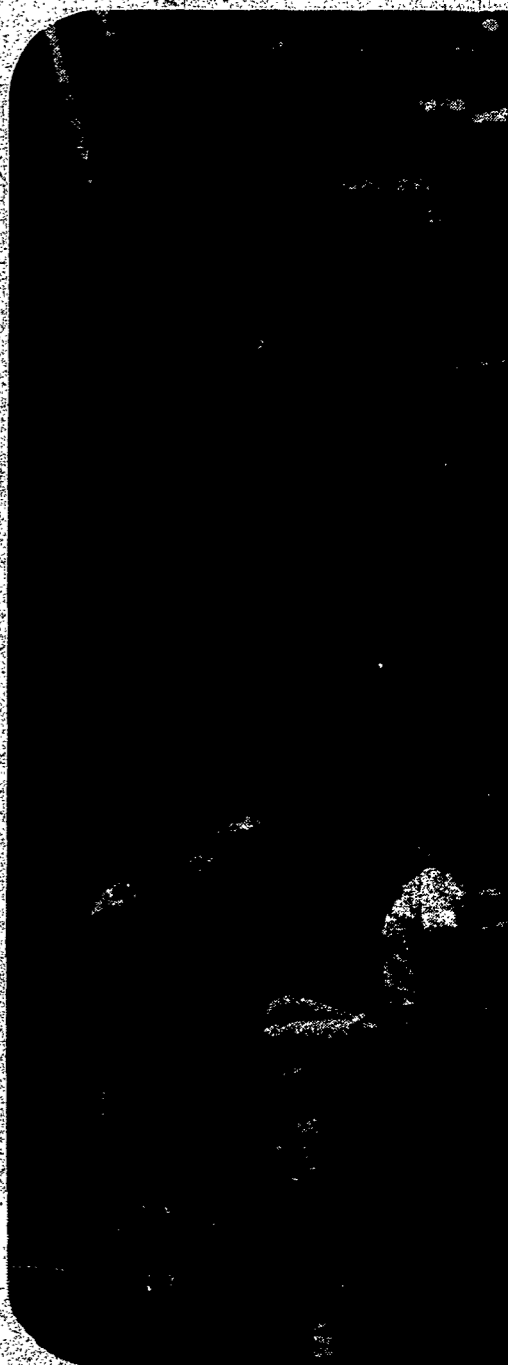
Andy Robinson of the Rochester Wheels faces some stiff competition as he takes a "jump ball" against Alvin Hughes, left, a member of the Brockport State varsity basketball team.



Bill Dingwell hopes to add another basket.



Julius Duval quenches his thirst during time out from the basketball game.



Andy Robinson takes aim at the basket.