Gomez Claims 133-Pound Championship at MSU Open

Spartans give strong showing at home tournament, earning six medal finishes.

Nov. 11, 2007

Complete Results

EAST LANSING, Mich. - With a bracket champion, Michigan State wrestling claimed six medals within the two divisions at its annual MSU Open Sunday in Jenison Field House. <u>Franklin Gomez</u> captured the Open 133 title, <u>Joe Williams</u> placed second in the 197 Open draw and <u>John Murphy</u> finished fifth in the Open 174 bracket. In the Freshman/Sophomore division, <u>Eric Olanowski</u>, <u>Blake Mesyn</u> and <u>Ian Hinton</u> placed second in the 125, 174 and 184-pound brackets, respectively.

Gomez, a No. 10-ranked sophomore who remains undefeated this season (5-0), picked up six wins in the tournament en route to claiming the title. After picking up a 15-2 major decision in the first round, Gomez faced Kyle Hutter for the second time in three days. Gomez defeated Hutter in Friday night's dual with an 8-3 decision and bested the Old Dominion starter again tonight with a 4-2 victory. In the championship bout, Gomez knocked off Indiana's Andrae Hernandez 5-2. The match started with a Gomez takedown in the first and an escape in the second to go up 3-0. Gomez would tally another takedown while Hernandez managed just two escapes, resulting in a 5-2 Spartan win.

En route to his second-place finish, No. 16 Williams pinned his first two opponents in 2:15 and 3:09 before picking up a 7-6 overtime win to advance to the finals. In the championship match, Williams faced off against Northwestern's No. 3 Mike Tamillow, but was defeated 5-3.

Murphy battled for fifth place against Northwestern's Kevin Owen, after already defeating the Wildcat wrestler in the second round, 6-1. In the medal match, Murphy served Owen another defeat, besting his opponent 2-0 for fifth place.



score but unfortunately in Kent State's Dustin Kilgore's favor.

In freshman/sophomore action, Mesyn routed his first two opponents with a 16-0 technical fall and a 12-2 major decision in his 174-pound duals. In the championship dual, Mesyn battled strong with Northwestern's Mike Benefiel but couldn't outlast the Wildcat, dropping his final bout 7-4.

Olanowski matched his teammates success with a second-place finish; the freshman pinned his first two opponents in 3:01 and 2:11, before tacking on two more wins, including a 9-1 major decision in the semifinals. In the final match, Olanowski faced Mike Robinson, unattached, but dropped the match 5-3.

Hinton advanced through his 184 freshman/sophomore bracket with two 3-1 victories and a 12-2 major decision in preliminary matches. The final was again decided with a 3-1

The Spartans return to the mat Saturday, Nov. 17 at the ACC-Big Ten Challenge in Raleigh, N.C.













