

# Sokolofsky's pin nets win for NCCC matmen

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Dave Sokolofsky had only three words to say to the press last night, "I feel great."

He also sent everyone home from the Niagara County Community College campus feeling great, after his pin over Jamestown's Rich Pavlok turned an apparent victory for the Hayhawks into a thriller for Frontiersmen fans, as NCCC posted a 22-21 in its only home wrestling match of the season.

Sokolofsky has been hampered by asthma all year long, and was not favored in the final heavyweight bout. In fact, Dave was somewhat of the goat in the last few meets. He has been pinned in four straight matches, some of them at crucial spots for NCCC, simply because he couldn't make it through the match.

The narrow victory almost stunned the usual enthusiastic NCCC wrestling coach Eric Knuutila. "I had told my team to expect to lose tonight. We didn't plan on winning, especially the way we did."

Considering Dave's

breathing problems, Knuutila had a talk with him earlier this week. "I told him that he'd lose every match if he tried to complete it. He had to go out as hard as he could in the first period, and then take the pin in the second for a loss. We didn't want him hurt."

Dave surprised the fans and Knuutila, by coming out charging in the first period. Within the first 15 seconds, Dave threw Paylok on his back. He needed only 33 seconds to halt the match, giving NCCC its fifth victory against four losses.

NCCC has been forced to forfeit the 118 and 126-pound weight classes since the start of the second semester. Last night was no different, except Jamestown had no one to put in the 118 class either, so the Frontiersmen lost six points instead of the usual 12. Without this break, they never would have had a chance to win.

The feature of the night was at 134, where Willie Moore faced the Jayhawk's All-American, Eric Filler. In the first period, Willie was charging and led 2-0 by way of a take-down.

Filler got a point in the second through an escape, and trailed 2-1. The final three minutes were all Moore's as he scored seven points due to an escape, a take-down, a near-fall, and finally a point for riding time. This gave him a 9-1 major decision, which tallied four team points for the host squad.

Norm Simon (NCCC) won by forfeit at 142 to give his team the lead, 10-6.

In the Greg Grimmer vs. Gary Milligan match, the former won quite handily, 7-1. After taking a 2-1 second period advantage, Greg threw his opponent on his back twice, the last time with just 55 seconds left to get a three-point near-fall.

At 150, Phil Roblee, ranked third last year in the nation, pinned Niagara's Al Grimes in 1:28. Al tried to shoot out at Roblee, and got caught.

Chris Ness did the same thing in his 190 bout against Jeff Anderson. Chris led through the better part of the match, and held a 6-5 advantage in the second period. Chris got pinned at 4:34 of the period because he

shot out at Anderson and got caught.

In what had promised to be an exciting contest, the match between Tonawanda High School graduate Steve Marone and Mike Baldensperger, fulfilled that billing. Steve trailed every bit of the way, and was down 5-3 with just 55 seconds left when he tied it up with a two-point takedown. With the fans cheering the local favorite, Steve put a "cradle" on the goalie-masked Baldensperger and received three points with 10 seconds left by way of a near-fall.

Knuutila has taught his wrestlers the enthusiasm and basic fundamentals that he, as a former mat star, learned. He said, "I told my wrestlers that, no matter if they win or lose, if they go all out until the final buzzer, I'll be pleased."

Knuutila was very pleased last night.

118 — Double forfeit. 126 — Ernest Fullwood (J) won by forfeit. 134 — Willie Moore (NC) dec. Eric Filler (J), 9-1. 140 — Norm Simon (NC) won by forfeit. 150 — Greg Grimmer (NC) dec. Gary Milligan (J), 7-1. 150 — Phil Roblee (J) pinned Al Grimes (NC), 1:28. 167 — Steve Marone (NC) dec. M. Baldensperger (J), 8-5. 177 — Roger King (J) dec. Tony DiStefano (NC), 2-0. 190 — Jeff Anderson (J) pin. Chris Ness (NC), 4:34. **News** — Dave Sokolofsky (NC) pinned Rich Pavlok (J), 9:31.