

NEW YORK WRESTLING NEWS



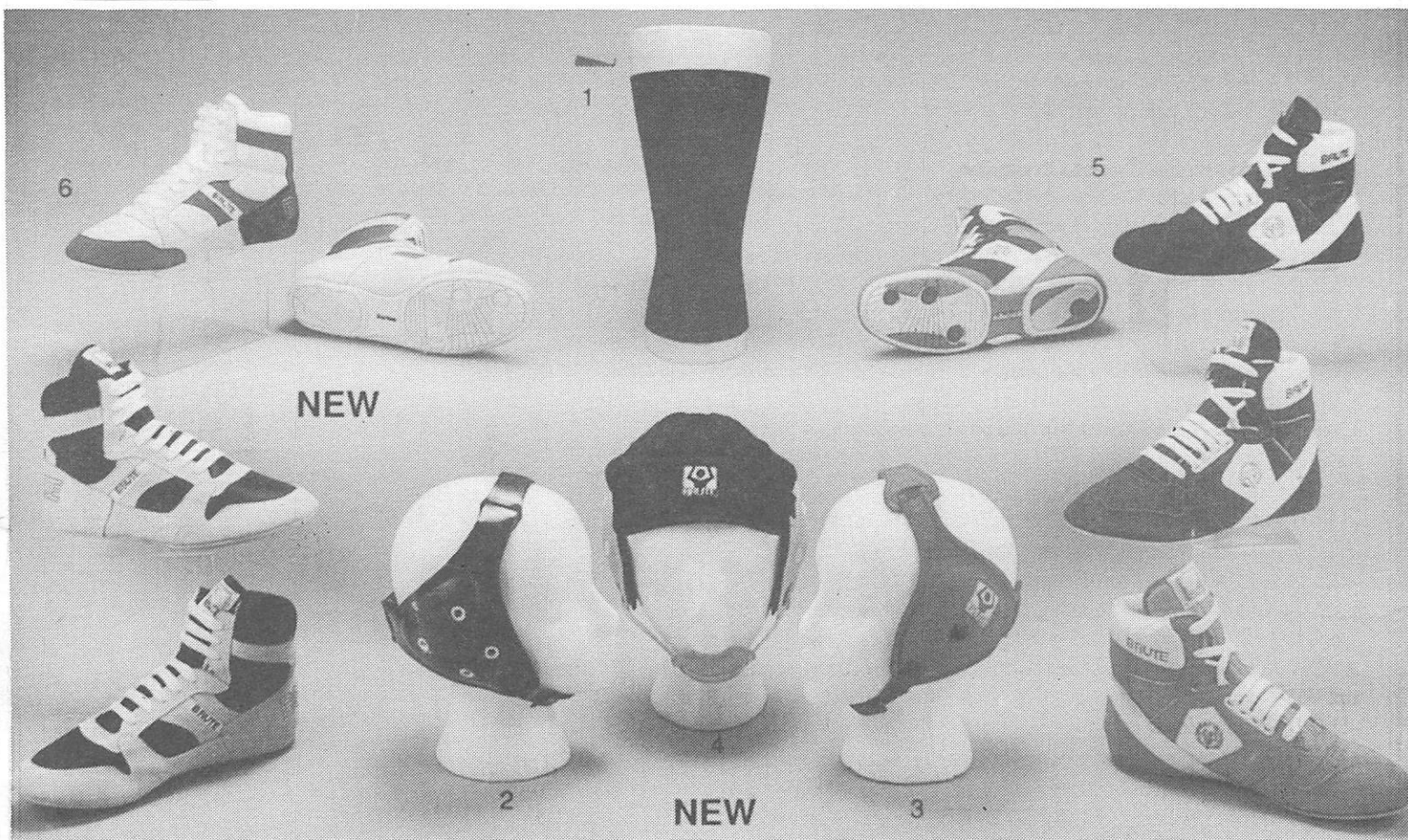
**Prescott, Kerr, Quick
Win NCAA Titles!!!**

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After 12-4 NCAA Finals Win**

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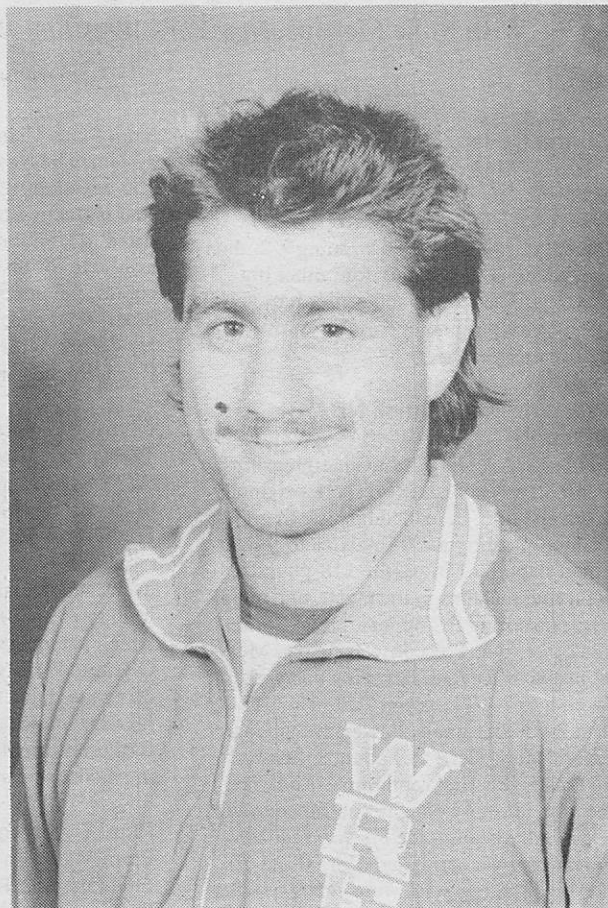
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Mat Chat!

With Mike Morone, *New York Wrestling News* Editor

On the Cover

Powerful Mark Kerr of Syracuse exults after romping to a 12-4 finals in Division I NCAA Championships. Kerr, seeded fourth, started slowly in winning 7-2, then looked super in winning four other big matches. The 190-pound senior has never gone beyond round one in the tournament before this year!

Prescott, Kerr, Quick NCAA Champs

In the NCAA Division I Championships, Penn State senior Jeff Prescott, originally from Olean-6, defended his title in grand fashion. Posting a 2-0 finals victory over Chad Zaputit of Iowa, the 118-pounder won five matches in the event, one by fall and outscoring the opposition 44-10 in the other four. Prescott was named MOW at last year's event. His wins this year were by 17-1 TF, pin in 2:51, 12-3, 13-6, and 2-0 in the finals. Powerful Syracuse senior Mark Kerr, 190 pounds, finally overcame his first round jinx. And once he won in round one, he continued to win, eventually beating the top two seeded wrestlers by a combined score of 22-10 for his title. His wins were 7-2, 9-2, 5-1, 10-6, and 12-4 in the finals. Another 190-pounder, Brian Quick of Brockport, also won a national title. Competing in the NCAA Division III Championships, Quick powered his way to four wins and his second NCAA title. Quick won the title in 1990 and was second in 1991. He is the school's only three-time NCAA finalist. Under Don Murray, Brockport won the team title this year as well.

190 Our Best Weight

In national collegiate competition, 190 pounds turned out to be NYS's most successful weight class. Mark Kerr and Brian Quick won NCAA titles (Divisions I and III). In addition, Jon Welch, Jason Bovenzi, and Dan Uhteg placed second, third and fourth in the Division III NCAA's. Next year, Bovenzi and Uhteg will be back and are expected to battle in the national finals.

New York 100 Finished!

Just completed - the 1992 New York 100 State Rankings!! Twenty-eight pages filled with interesting information on the top-ranked high school wrestlers in New

York State. Using a computer ranking system, The New York 100 ranks over 150 wrestlers, regardless of weight. It also includes a couple hundred more listed in Honorable Mention. Copies are available for \$5.00. If you order five copies, the price is just \$3.00 each. To order, send check to Mike Morone at New York Wrestling News, 684 Calkins Road, Rochester, NY 14623-4335.

Olympic Trials on TV

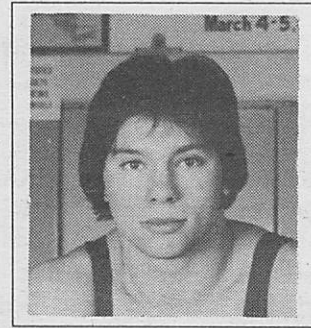
The Turner Broadcasting System (WTBS) has announced that it will broadcast the 1992 Final Olympic Freestyle Wrestle-off on its "US Olympic Gold Show" on Saturday, June 20th. This event will actually take place on June 6th in Pittsburgh, PA., and it determines which ten athletes will make the US Olympic Freestyle Team. It will be aired on a tape-delay basis. Check local listings for time and channel in your area. For further information on attending the event in person, see article below.

Final Olympic Wrestle-offs

From May 13th through June 6th, the final Olympic Team Wrestle-offs will have concluded a process that started last year and culminates with one Olympic team member and an alternate per weight class. Lots of native and transplanted New Yorkers have made the series of the trials. Those that have made it as far as the Olympic Trials Mini-Tournament include:

Freestyle: Lew Rosselli, 114.5 pounds; Brad Penrith 125.5; Nick Garone and Rob Koll 163; Dan Mayo, Mark Kerr, and Chris Campbell 198; Craig Pittman, Mike Fusilli, and Andy Schwab at 286

Greco Roman: Isaac Ramaswamy 105.5; Jeff Cervone and Shawn Sheldon 114.5; Wade Genova and Frank Famiano 125.5; Van Fronhofer and Ike Anderson 136.5; Gene Nighman and Andy Seras 149.5; Joe Sabol 163; Seann Henry 180.5; Chris Tironi 220; Craig Pittman, Phil Lanzatella, and Dave Koplovitz 286. By the time you read this, hopefully lots of New Yorkers will have made the Olympic team and we'll have details to follow.



Exciting 1992 USA Wrestling Yearbook on Sale!

The 1992 USA Wrestling Yearbook, a 64-page collector's item covering the stare US athletes in the Olympic Trials, is now available to the general public. This attractive magazine profiles all Team USA Members and previews each US weight class for the Olympic Trials. Dozens of New Yorkers are listed and profiled.

A look at US Olympic wrestling history and other feature stories are included. Profiles of star athletes such as John Smith, Kenny Monday, Bruce Baumgartner, Dennis Koslowski, Zeke Jones, and Kevin Jackson are included. Information on the Olympic coaches, the Trials process, USA Wrestling, and the top foreign challengers are also included.

The cost is just \$3.50 plus 1.50 shipping. Send check of money order to USA Wrestling Yearbook, 225 South Academy Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80910. For information, contact Gary Abbott, USA Wrestling, 719 597-8333. My copy was read cover-to-cover the day after I got it!

Pittman Double Winner in Armed Forces Championships

Craig Pittman, originally of Freeport-8 and now in the Marine Corps, recently won double titles at the 1992 Armed Forces Championships, held at Fort Benning on March 19-21. This event is open to wrestlers in the US military. The champion in each weight in both Greco Roman and freestyle qualifies to advance to the next stage of the Olympic Trials - the Mini-Tournament of the Olympic Team Trials.

Pittman, who has been ranked as one of the top Greco wrestlers in the country for nearly ten years, has now won 13 Armed Forces Championships, placing him in a tie for fourth on the all-time win list. He won his titles in both styles by beating James Demos of the Army, 2-0 (GR) and 2-1 (FS). He competes at 286 pounds. He

was alternate to the 1988 Olympic team and has placed seventh in the World GR Championships. He was the US Nationals champion in 1989 and 1991, and was runnerup four other times. He also placed third twice. In addition, he has dozens of other national placefinishes and championships to his credit.

Pittman, nearly 33 years old, did well in high school and collegiate wrestling, but not great. However, once he became involved in Greco, he achieved phenomenal success and is now ranked second in the US at 286 pounds behind Matt Ghaffari.

1992 All-Ivy League Team

Several New Yorkers made this year's All-Ivy honors. Those who were on the *First Team* include Jim Meckley, Cornell (Herndon, PA); David Hirsch, Cornell (Clarkstown South-1); Mark Ferguson, Cornell (Tulsa, OK); Sepp Dobler, Brown (Half Hollow Hills-11); Jason Roach, Cornell (Midwest City, OK); Mike New, Cornell (Canastota-3); Kyle Rackley, Cornell (Nicoma Park, OK); Bruce Morgan, Cornell (Emporium, PA). *All-Ivy Second Team* included Mike Friedman, Penn (Centerport-11); Frank Fronhofer, Harvard (Salem-2); Steve Cumbe, Columbia (Lake Mary, FL). *Honorable Mention* honors went to Todd Gilmore, Columbia (Atascadero, CA); Mike Klinglesmith, Cornell (Midwest City, OK); Corey McCaslin, Columbia (Woolrich, PA); Brian Marcinek, Cornell (Webster-5). Mike Klinglesmith, Cornell, was named *Ivy Rookie of the Year*.

Mike Quaglio National Champ!

State champ Mike Quaglio of John Jay-East Fishkill-1 recently took first place in the nation's toughest high school style tournament. The third annual National High School Wrestling Championships were held in Pittsburgh, PA on April 4-5. The entrants in this historic event have to be seniors who have either won or placed second in their state championships. This year 424 seniors waged war, with the top eight in each class declared All Americans. Quaglio, competing at 171 pounds, took top honors by beating Illinois' Al Strobl 10-8 in the finals. No other New Yorker has ever done this well in this tournament.

Jason Kraft of Sachem-11, also a state champ (and MOW winner) this year, placed third at 160 pounds. More details and a feature article will appear in our next issue...

Reflections from a Father

I recently received a great article concerning "nutrition and fighting

weight" from Frank Trigg, Sr. Frank, from Rochester, has two sons that have had lots of success in wrestling. His younger son, Bill, a sophomore at Edison-5, was runner-up to go to the states this year at 145 pounds. Trigg's article is a summary of the strategy he and his son employed for deciding on a weight class to compete in. Basically, his son's energy level and performance was closely monitored and recorded as he approached competition weight. When it got to a point where he was dehydrating and losing effectiveness, father and son mutually agreed to compete at the next weight higher. The result was an impressive showing in the Section 5 Championships, where Bill beat four seniors and lost in the finals by one point to a top ten ranked wrestler.

I was unable to print the entire article due to space limitations, but if you would like a copy, send me a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and I'll mail you a copy. As an aside, Frank's older son, Frank Jr., recently placed third in the Espoir Freestyle Nationals.

Division III Scholar All Americans

With most sports, you endure a hard practice, then eat dinner and study. With wrestling, you die in practice, think about eating, and study. So when a wrestler becomes successful in the classroom, it's even more difficult than it is for most other students. Several New York collegiate wrestlers have earned Division III Scholar All American status in the last two years. To do so, a person has to have at least a 3.2 (out of 4.0) GPA and have a high moral character. Also, he has to have a 67% winning record and have been a conference or regional placewinner. The following athletes made this team:

Brian Colao, Binghamton, 126 pounds
Andrew Blank, Binghamton, 142 pounds
Joe Schultz, Binghamton, 150 pounds
Dave Ciocca, RIT, 167 pounds (twice)
Rich Walker, Cortland, 167 pounds
Chris Buhner, Oswego, 190 pounds

Jim Howard makes Hall of Fame

Former SUNY Oswego coach Jim Howard was recently inducted into the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Hall of Fame for achievements as a wrestler, coach, and organizer. He coached the Laker program from 1963 to 1990, when his son Mike took over. During that time, he led the team to three NCAA titles, numerous SUNY titles, and coached 28 All Americans.

As a competitor, he placed second, third, and fourth in the NCAA Championships while at Ithaca College - when there were no distinctions between divisions.

Currently, Coach Howard works as an assistant coach (in between hunting and fishing seasons), and is involved in several wrestling organizations. He's also an accomplished marathoner.

Bouzakis, Shifflet, Hall make AWN Freshman All Star Team

In *Amateur Wrestling News*' April 27th issue, three New Yorkers have been named to the 1992 Freshman All Star Team. Tom Shifflet, 142 pounds, a redshirt freshman from Sweet Home-6 and Edinboro, made second team with a 30-13-1 record. He also placed seventh in the Division I NCAA's, upsetting the number three seed in round one. Troy Bouzakis, 126, a redshirt freshman at Clemson, also made the second team. His season was cut short by a knee injury. At the time, he was 25-1 with the one loss a 7-6 decision to freshman first teamer Jody Staylor. Nick Hall, heavyweight at Old Dominion, is a true freshman this year. He also made second team honors with an 18-5-3 record, placing third in the Colonial Conference. In addition, Cornell's Mike Klinglesmith, originally from Oklahoma, made freshman first team at 150 pounds. He went 22-6, winning the NYS title. Others whose names were mentioned by *Amateur Wrestling News* included Chris Matteotti, Ithaca; Matt McLennan, Brockport; Joe Hogan, Army; Marcus Hutchins, Buffalo; and Fred Fabbrini, Syracuse.

New York Wrestling News

New York Wrestling News is an award-winning, independent publication devoted to comprehensive coverage of all levels of amateur wrestling in New York State. It is published eight (8) times per year, in September, November, December, January, February, March, May, and July.

Subscription price is \$16.00 per year for eight big issues. Back issues are often available for \$3.50 each.

Team Subscriptions are available for teams or clubs. Price is \$100.00 per team for 20 copies per team.

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Advertisements are most welcome! Please call Mike after 6:00 pm Eastern time for rates and circulation figures.

Contributions are welcome! We need articles, photos, ranking forms, tournament results, etc. If you need photos sent back, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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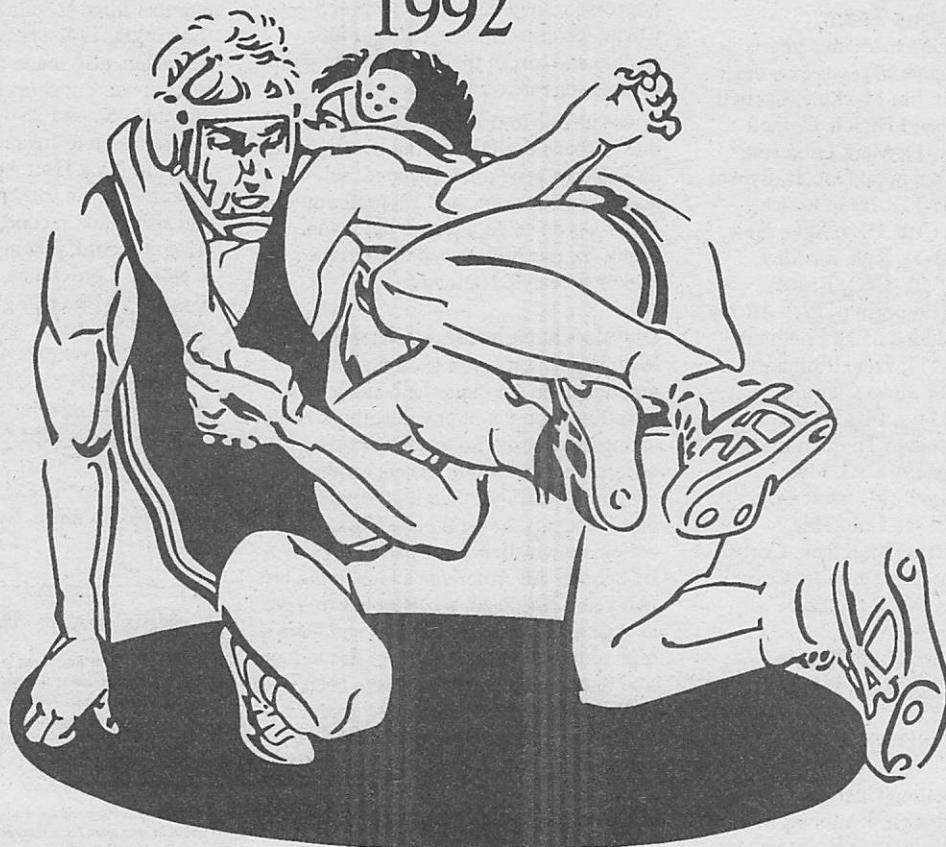
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Business Manager Kris Morone
Assistant Editors include William Hein, and Doug Irving. Plus much help from contributors, especially Pete Venier, Tom Shiel, Dennis Dranchak, Jack McDuff, Scott Justice, Ken Colao, Jon Blanchard, Mike Hogan, Jim Hoops, Bob Myers, Nancy Kise, Old Man Gary Glark, Buddy Holly Augsbury, Officer Ricky Augsbury, Anthony Augsbury, David Papke, and others.

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Brockport Wins Fifth NCAA Div III Title!!!

For the fifth time since 1977, Don Murray's SUNY College at Brockport wrestling team won the NCAA Division III Championships, this year held on March 6-7 at Trenton State College in Ewing Township, NJ.

Said Murray, "It's a great feeling. All of the matches were so close. This was probably the toughest one, but also one of the most satisfying. The talent was very even. We had to scratch and claw for everything we got."

Senior **Brian Quick**, 190 pounds, scratched his way to another title by posting a 5-3 win over Jon Welch of Cortland State. Quick was NCAA Champ as a sophomore in 1990, then was upset in the finals last year by Scott Vega of Montclair, whom Quick had beaten easily the previous year in the finals. Anyway, Quick made up for it this year, winning four solid matches: pin in 6:51, 10-3, 9-3, and 5-3 over Welch. His semifinals win was over Tom Jackson of Heidelberg, who was 40-0 at the time.

Quick finishes his career as an all-time Brockport great. He's the only one who ever appeared in three NCAA finals. He won four conference titles and posted a 77-20-1 record with 22 pins and just one loss to a Division III wrestler in the last three years. He's only the third two-time NCAA champ, joining Frank Famiano (1982 and 1983) and Ron Winnie (1982 and 1983). All this from a guy who never even

went to the states in high school!

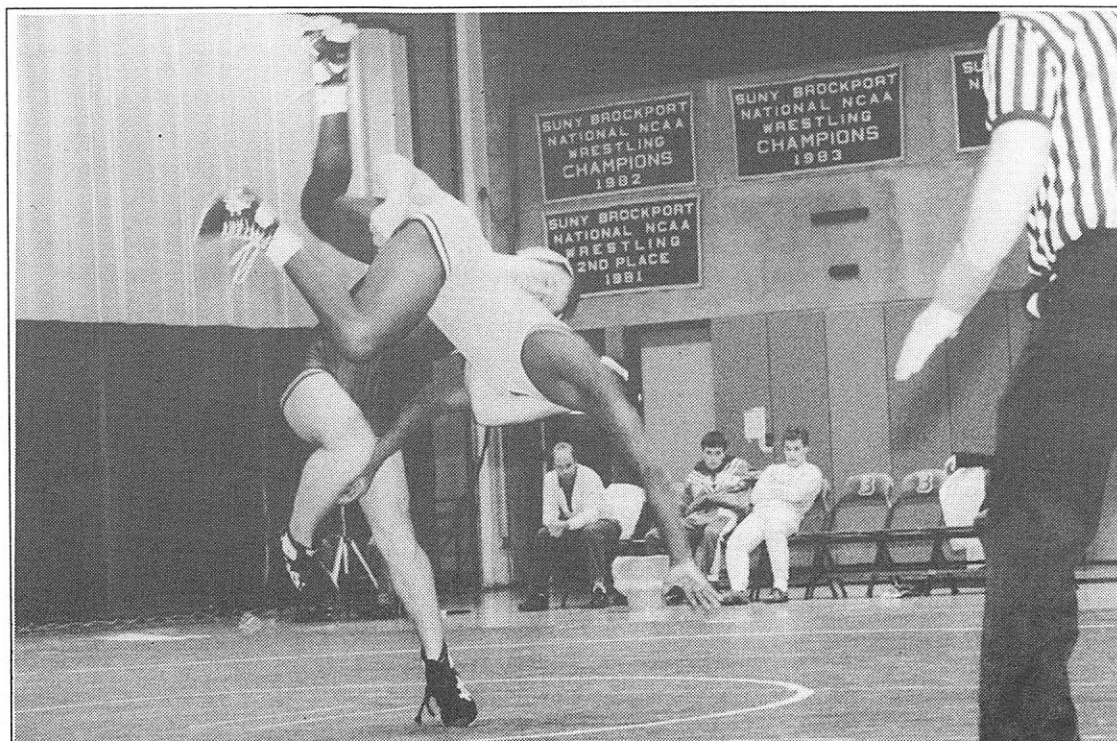
New York actually owned the 190-pound class this year. In addition to Quick and Welch in the top two places, Jason Bovenzi of St Lawrence placed third, with Ithaca's Dan Uhteg taking fourth. These two guys return next year and could very well meet in the finals. In this tournament, Bovenzi won two close matches, 8-5 and 4-3.

Brockport took the title based on 76.5 points, beating last year's champ, Augsburg by 14 points (62.5). Third place went to host Trenton State with 54 points. New York schools that placed include Ithaca, 8th (38.5 points); Cortland, 11th (35); St Lawrence, 14th (28.5); Oneonta, 26th (12.75); Oswego, 29th (10); Binghamton 33rd (5.5); RIT and Albany 40th (3).

In addition to Quick winning his second title, five other Brockport wrestlers placed in the top eight, earning All American status.

Chris Stevens, 134 pounds, senior from Longwood-11, second place. Seeded first, he won four high-scoring matches in gaining the finals against Raphael Wilson of Augustana. There, he dropped an exciting 11-7 decision to Wilson, who was later named co-MOW of the tournament. Stevens finishes as a four-time conference champ, two-time All American (fourth last year), and holder of a 74-31 record.

DJ Simonton, 150, junior from Longwood-11, fourth place. Seeded fourth, he started by winning two high-scoring matches, 15-3 and 13-6. In the semifinals, he lost a close 5-3 decision to the top seed and eventual champ, Travis



DJ Simonton, Brockport, 150 pounds, uses perfect form in scoring takedown against Stan Barber of Upper Iowa University. Simonton, a senior, placed fourth in the Division III NCAA's Photo by Jim Dusen.

Young of Simpson. In wrestlebacks, Simonton went 1-1 for fourth place, and his only two Division III losses were at this tournament. He's back next year and should be favored for a title.

Nelson Colley, 158, senior from Middleport-6, fourth place. Unseeded at the start, Colley lost in round one to the third seed, 4-2. In wrestlebacks, he came to life, beating Ithaca's Matt Sorochinsky, 7-5 in overtime and then edging three seeded wrestlers before finally bowing, 6-0, in the consolation finals. Colley is now pursuing a Greco Roman career, with hopes of eventually making the Olympic team.

Matt McLennan, 142, freshman from Coming-4, fifth place. McLennan entered the event based on a wild-card berth after placing only fourth in the conference. Unseeded, he first won a close 8-6 decision, then faced the top seed. Losing just 4-2 seemed to fuel McLennan, and in wrestlebacks, he went 4-1 for fifth place. All matches were very close, including a 7-6 match that knocked him out of contention for third place. Included in his

wins are two over guys who had previously beaten him - Aaron Frazier of Oneonta and Ken Kaufman of Binghamton. Look for even more great things from McLennan as he has three more years to go!

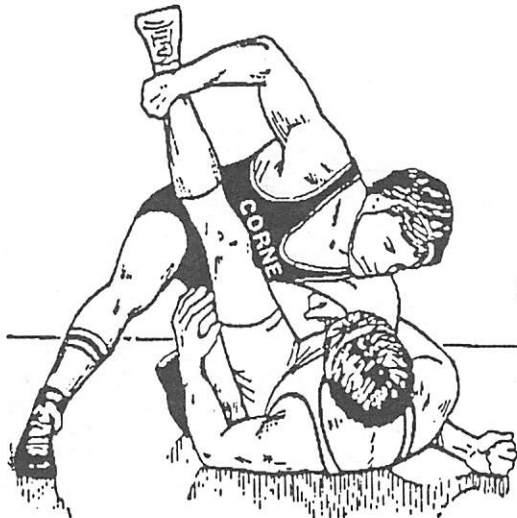
PJ Wendel, hwt, senior from Southwest-6, fifth place. Wendel entered the tournament as the eighth seed, having won the conference tournament. In round one, he lost a 5-4 decision and was thrown immediately into the world of wrestlebacks, the place where countless, nameless opponents battle on far-corner mats to emerge as All Americans. There, Wendel went 5-1 in taking an impressive fifth place. His only loss was a 5-2 decision to the bronze medalist.

In summarizing his team's achievements, Murray stated, "These guys worked so hard and didn't give up. They could have given in on Friday (when four were knocked out of title contention), but they didn't. They won every match they had to. We won this tournament through the wrestlebacks." Indeed, 15 of the team's

34 matches were decided by two points or less. Only one match was won by fall, and there were no technical falls.

For his achievements this year, Don Murray was named Division III "Coach of the Year." His four other NCAA titles have come in 1977, 1980, 1982, and 1983. Brockport has had 85 All Americans; 83 have been coached by Murray. In his tenure, 20 wrestlers have become national champions. And in addition to his five NCAA titles, Murray's teams have been national runners-up four times and have been in the top ten seven other times. They have also won sixteen SUNY Conference titles.

Don't look for Brockport to fall too far away from their finish this year. Returnees on the team include Shawn Bauer, Jesse Beers, Jeff Bowman, Andy Brown, Steve Gurslin, Regan Johnson, Craig Caper, Matt McLennan, Joe McVige, Bryant Ranger, David Rotoli, DJ Simonton, Curt Snyder, Don Spaulding, Mike Van Buren, Joe Telesky, and Scott Wendel. Add to this a new crop of talent the hard-working Murray is sure to attract, and you've got another NCAA-potential team.



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New Yorkers Soar in Div III NCAA Championships

Division III Collegiate Wrestling is a sport where thousands of kids compete for just one reason - the sport itself. There are no sports scholarships and very few fans. An average Division III program consists of an overworked, underpaid coach, a volunteer or two, a few thousand dollars for McDonalds and Holiday Inns, a van with no heat, a practice room in some far-flung corner of the gym, and about 15 die-hards who look like World War II POW's most of the season. This year nearly 70 schools from all over the country qualified wrestlers for the 19th Annual NCAA Division III Championships, held at Trenton State College in New Jersey on March 6-7.

And when it comes to Division III Wrestling, there's no place like home. New York State has been extremely successful, each year placing several All Americans. NYS teams (Brockport, Ithaca, St. Lawrence, and Buffalo) have won the team title nine times.

This year's event was dominated by a very tenacious Brockport team, which virtually won its title in the losers brackets. There, four members placed in the top eight, rounding off a champion (Brian Quick, 190) and runner-up (Chris Stevens, 134) in earning 76.5 points, 14 ahead of second place Augsburg University.

The following is a summary of the top teams and weight-by-weight results.

Top Teams

1. Brockport State	76.5 points
2. Augsburg, MN	62.5
3. Trenton State, NJ	54
4. Augustana, IL	52.5
5. John Carroll, OH	46.5
6. Central, IA	44.5
7. Loras, IA	43.75
8. Ithaca	38.5
8. Wartburg, IA	38.5
8. Wisc-Stevens Pt	38.5

118 pounds NYS had three seeded wrestlers in this class - Matt McLenehan, NYU; Chris Matteotti, Ithaca; and Marat Lempert, Oneonta. Of these, McLenehan took third, Lempert fourth, and Matteotti seventh. McLenehan lost his very first match, 7-5 overtime, then looked like superman in winning five close matches in a row, outscoring the competition 29-20. The highlight of this was an 8-5 revenge win over Thiel's Sal Jafarace,

who put him in the consolations to start with. Lempert's only losses were by two points to the champ and one point to McLenehan. Matteotti has three more chances for a title, and he just might grab one.

126 pounds After round one, all four NYS kids (Rich O'Lena, Oswego; Tom Wilder, Hunter; Vinnie DiGiacomo, Ithaca; and Rob Appel, Albany) were out of title contention. After two wrestleback rounds, only Wilder remained in medal contention. He finished in seventh place, going 3-2.

134 pounds Brockport's Chris Stevens, seeded first, looked great in gaining the finals. Once there, he dropped a high-scoring decision to the eventual co-MOW, Raphael Wilson of Augustana. Unseeded Rick Pawlewicz of St Lawrence, lost only to Wilson, 9-4, then came back for third. Ithaca's Lenny Bruehwiler placed fifth, going 3-3.

142 pounds NY had five entrants here and three placed. Matt McLennan of Brockport, a freshman wildcard entry, surprised the field and took fifth. He lost to the defending champ and the eventual bronze medalist by a total of three points. Kent Maslin of Ithaca took sixth, while Binghamton's Ken Kaufman wound up in seventh. Aaron Frazier of Oneonta and Bryan Mirabella of Hunter did not place.

150 pounds NY had three entrants here. Alan Teran of Ithaca caught the defending champ (who won again) in round one and lost 9-3. John Hill of Oswego caught the eventual fifth placer, and lost 11-8. Both failed to place. DJ Simonton of Brockport fared better. He won his first two matches, then lost to the champ 5-3 in the semifinals. Another win and close loss brought him to fourth place.

158 pounds Roger Howard of St Lawrence won his preliminary match, but in round one, he, Matt Sorochinsky of Ithaca, and Nelson Colley of Brockport all lost close decisions. In wrestlebacks, only Colley survived, beating Sorochinsky 7-5 in the first round and eventually going 4-2 for an impressive fourth place finish.

167 pounds Last year, RIT's Dave Ciocca placed eighth. This year, he went 2-1 without placing. His last match was

an 8-6 decision; had he won, he would have made All American honors. Regan Johnson of Brockport and Charlie Morris of Hunter also failed to place. Oswego's Steve Amyot, a senior, did place. He went 3-3 in earning sixth place.

177 pounds RIT's Mike Licata and Oswego's Sean O'Sullivan came one match away from placing. Mike Murtha of Ithaca, the only other NY entrant, did place. He first won an overtime criteria decision, then lost by injury default to the eventual champ (and last year's champ), Peter Wang of Chicago. Wang earned the co-MOW award. In wrestlebacks, Murtha edged O'Sullivan by a point, then lost by a point before winning his last one to take seventh place.

190 pounds Great weight for us. New Yorkers hogged up the first four places, with champ Brian Quick of Brockport, followed by runner-up Jon Welch of Cortland, bronze medalist Jason Bovenzi of St Lawrence, and fourth placer Dan Uhteg of Ithaca. Seeded first, Quick blew away the field until his 5-3 come-from-behind finals win over Welch, who was seeded only seventh. Welch looked sharp in gaining the finals. Both are graduating seniors. Bovenzi's only loss of the event was to Welch, 3-1. He beat Uhteg in two close matches for third, with those being Uhteg's only losses of the meet. Both are back next year and are favored to meet in the finals.

HWT Shawn Cavanaugh of Cortland had a super tournament. Seeded fourth, he won two matches by fall, then knocked off the top seed, Brett Sharp of Augsburg, 5-3 in overtime. In the finals, he fell to undefeated Dan Bobish of Mount Union in a close 7-5 match. PJ Wendel of Brockport lost in round one, but battled back to fifth. In the medal round, he reversed an earlier season loss to Ithaca's Steve Farr, winning 3-2. Farr and Matt Ladka were just one close match away from placing.

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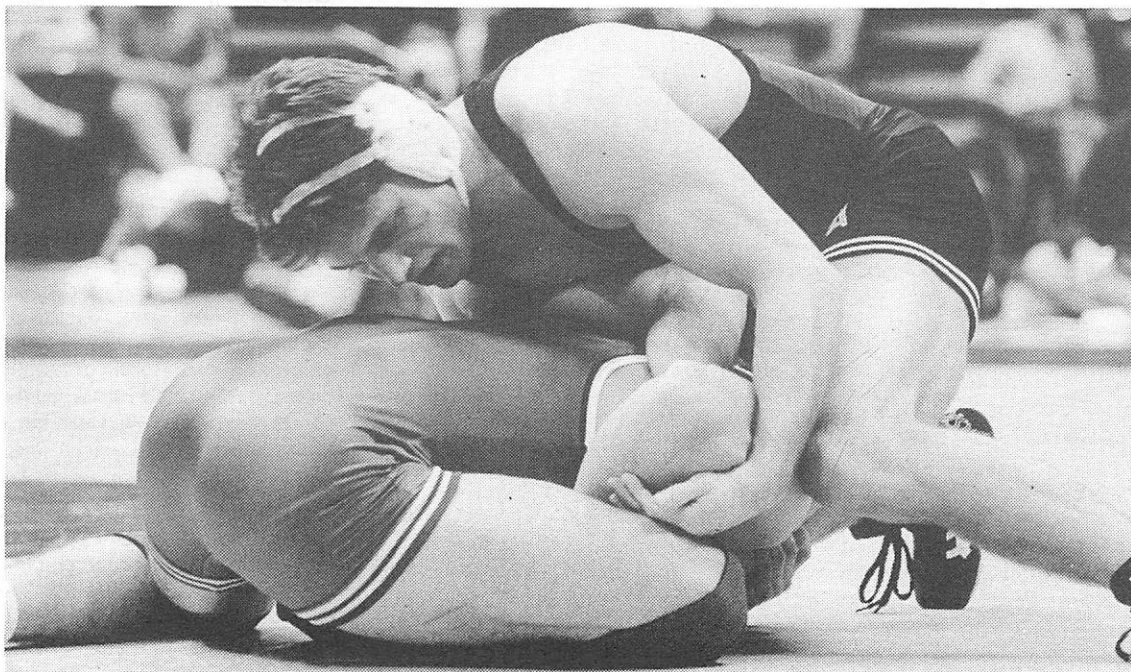
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Tom Ryan, Iowa 158 pounder, lost a one-point match in the semifinals of the NCAA Division I Championships. He then came back to take a very strong third place. He was runner-up last year.

Prescott and Kerr Win Division I NCAA Titles

Punctuated by the stellar performances of three individuals, New York State fared well in this year's NCAA Division I Championships, held on March 19-21 in Oklahoma City.

Jeff Prescott, a senior from Penn State (Olean-6) won his second consecutive title at 118 pounds. **Mark Kerr**, Syracuse senior (originally from Toledo, Ohio) upset the top two seeded wrestlers on the way to his title at 190 pounds.

Tom Ryan, a senior at Iowa (Wantaugh-8), battled his way to a solid third place at 158 pounds.

Their common trademark is sheer power and durability. Of course, conditioning, technique, and determination played a big role. But the most noticeable characteristic was their musculature. Kerr has the perfect fighter's body - tall, heavily-muscled, lean, and powerful. Ryan is just a scaled-down version of that, with a big dose of nastiness. And pound-for-pound, Prescott has to be this year's biggest little man.

Teamwise, Syracuse was NY's top team, placing 14th with 20.5 points. Cornell was right behind in 15th place, with 18 points. Army took a distant 54th, scoring 2 points. Winner of the event was Dan Gable's Iowa team, piling up 149 points and placing nine of ten wrestlers entered. The only one not to place was Mark Reiland, last year's NCAA champ who never fully recovered from an injury. With six placefinishers, Oklahoma State came within 20 points, scoring 96.5 points. Rounding out the top ten were Penn State 70.25; Arizona 51; Iowa State 47.25; Ohio State 44; North Carolina 32.25; Nebraska 28; Clarion 27.5; and Wisconsin 27.25. In addition to Cornell and Syracuse's 13th place, Army placed 54th with 2 points.

Tom Brands of Iowa, 134 pounds, was named the meet's Most Outstanding Wrestler. Sylvester Terkay of NC State, heavyweight, won the Most Falls in Least Amount of Time award, decking four in just 6:31. Following is a summary of how New Yorkers did in the tournament.

Jeff Prescott won last year's event as well, without a close match. His

explosiveness and nonstop aggression earned him the MOW award, hands down. This year, he spent most of the year at 126 pounds. When he sucked down to 118, he duplicated his NCAA feat. In the tournament, he won by scores of 17-1 technical fall, pin in 2:51, 12-3 major decision, and 13-6 to earn his finals appearance. His opponent there - again - was Iowa's Chad Zaputil, who was just as dominant in his trek to the finals. Once there, it was a first period stalling point and third period escape that won it for Prescott, 2-0. Not quite as dominating as last year's decision over Zaputil, but just as exciting. It was the perfect match between two super competitors who were miles ahead of everyone else. Prescott finishes his career as a two-time NCAA champ, three-time All American. His potential from here is limitless. He already has vast freestyle exposure and could be a threat to an Olympic berth at 125.5 pounds this year and in years to come.

Mark Kerr just wanted to get past round one. For two years now, he's entered the tournament with high medal hopes, only to lose close matches in round one. This year, he carried a number four seeding and indeed started slowly. Facing unseeded freshman Jeff Walter of Wisconsin, he looked questionable until late in the second period when he took control and eventually won 7-2. From there, it was all Kerr as he won 9-2, 5-1, and 10-6 over top seeded Rex Holman of Ohio State in the semifinals. His opponent in the finals was second-seeded Randy Couture of Oklahoma State.

An early first period cradle gave Kerr a 5-0 lead in the finals match. After two periods, a Kerr takedown, and two Couture escapes, the score was 7-2. From the bottom, Kerr escaped to widen it to 9-2. Couture escaped but Kerr almost immediately took him down again. An escape and riding time point gave Kerr a 12-4 major decision and the NCAA title.

Said Kerr, "I didn't think until now that I was capable of a national title. I have to thank the Lord for pulling me through. My training has all paid off. Getting a five point lead on someone as good as Couture doesn't mean the match is sewn

up, but I did feel I could be more aggressive with the lead. My only goal was to make it past the first round - now look at me."

Mark Kerr finishes his career with a 91-21-2 mark. He won the EIWA Championships three times and the New York State Title twice. For the season, he was 31-3-1, many of which were at heavy-weight. This was the first NCAA title for Syracuse since Assistant Coach Gene Mills plowed through the competition at 118 pounds in 1981, earning the MOW award.

Kerr seems to have benefited from working out with attorney Chris Campbell, the US's number one ranked 198 freestyle wrestler. After winning two national titles, a world title, and many other honors, Campbell retired, then got back into competition with fantastic results. He now lives in Syracuse and trains with Kerr and the SU team.

Tom Ryan, 158, is originally from Wantaugh-8. He placed in the state tournament three times, but never won. He attended Syracuse University with his older brother Frank and was doing very well. But when Ryan saw Dan Gable's Iowa team at a tournament, that style appealed to him - aggressive, rough, and intent on winning. So he transferred, redshirted for a year, then exploded onto the national scene. In his first season as a Hawkeye (last year) he posted over 30 wins and was 30 seconds away from a national title. Wrestling Okie State's Pat Smith in the finals, he was up by a point, when Smith somehow managed to score on an amazing single leg takedown, winning 7-6. Ryan had beaten him earlier in the year.

Ranked number two or three all this year, Ryan again put in a fantastic season - winning over 30 matches, including a win over the defending 150 pound NCAA Champ, Matt Damaray. Tom entered the nationals seeded second behind Smith. He won his first three matches 5-3, 20-5, and 6-2. In the semifinals, though, he lost to his old nemesis, Ray Miller of Arizona State, 6-5. Earlier, Ryan had beaten him also.

Miller went on to lose a close one to Smith, 3-1 (giving Pat Smith his third Division I NCAA title with one more year to go...), while Ryan dropped into wrestlebacks. Always the competitor, he won two more, 7-4 and 12-3 for a strong third place finish. Overall, over 100 career wins and two NCAA All American placefinishes for Ryan.

Mark Ferguson, Cornell junior from Oklahoma, had a great tournament in taking fifth place. He was seeded sixth and started with a 10-1 win in round one. Then he manhandled Army's 11th-seeded Dave Warnick, 14-1. In the quarters, he pulled off a big upset win over Joey Gilbert of Michigan, winning 5-3 in overtime. In the semifinals, he came put up a great effort in losing a close 11-7 match to two-time runner-up Alan Fried of Oklahoma State. Ferguson then lost a

3-3, 0-0 overtime criteria decision to 7th seeded Marco Sanchez of Minnesota before beating Gilbert again, 5-3, for fifth place.

Tom Shifflet, just a sophomore, surprised the field at 142 pounds and illustrated his championship potential by taking seventh place. Originally from Sweet Home-6 and now at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania, Shifflet entered the NCAA's unseeded. His first match was against junior Ryan Sugai of Oregon State, the third seed. Shifflet won 6-5 on a last second takedown. In round two, he edged Scott Kemp of Drexel, 8-6. He then faced rugged John Hughes of Penn State, who beat him two weeks earlier. Shifflet reversed that, winning 4-2. Next up was a 4-3 loss to the eventual fifth place

finisher. He won twice more and lost once in taking seventh place, going 5-2.

Lots of other New Yorkers looked great despite not placing in the top eight. Some of them include Jacob Garcia, David Warnick, and TJ Wright of Army; Kyle Rackley, Jason Roach, Mike New, David Hirsch, and David Sims of Cornell; Todd Hammerle and Marcus Hutchins of Buffalo; Mike Friedman, U of Penn; Sepp Dobler, Brown; Shane Camera, North Carolina; Dean Morrison, West Virginia, Adam Mariano, Penn St; and Dave Bell, Boston University.

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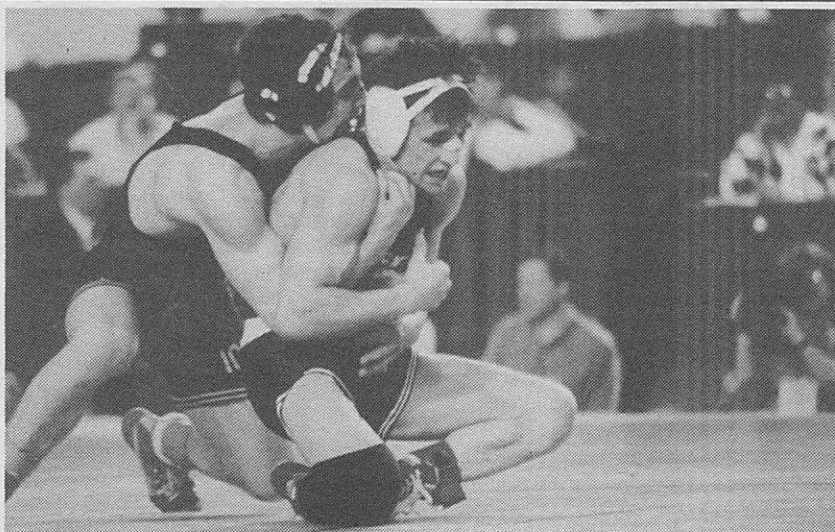
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Jeff Prescott, Penn State, 118 pounds, winning 2-0 finals match over Iowa's Chad Zaputil. Prescott impressively defended his title with five super wins. He was MOW last year. Photo by Sonja Stanbro.

Button, Nolan, and Parillo Place in Rugged NJCAA's

Junior College wrestling is a very tough sport. Across the country, and especially in the Midwest, thousands of rugged high school wrestlers are attracted to junior colleges. In fact, lots of people think the junior college national champs would do real well against the Division III (four year colleges that do not award athletic scholarships) national champs if they ever met.

Anyway, this year's National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Wrestling Championships were held on February 28-29 in Bismarck, North Dakota. This is where they are always held, by the way.

New York State teams produced three individual placefinishers - Cody Button of Morrisville A&T, runner-up at 177; Pat Nolan, Alfred State, third at heavy-

weight; and Dan Parillo, Corning, fifth at 167.

The team title went to powerhouse Garden City, KS, with 106.75 points. Next were teams from Idaho, North Carolina, California, Ohio, Iowa, and Minnesota. Morrisville took tenth place, highest of any NYS team, earning 25.5 points. Alfred gained 15.5 points for 22nd place, followed by Corning 30th; Nassau 33rd; Farmingdale 37th; Hudson Valley 40th; and Suffolk 48th.

Cody Button, 177 pounds, looked super throughout the tournament. He started by pinning his first opponent in 4:00. Then a first period pin followed, and in the semifinals, he pinned once again. In the finals, though, he lost a one-sided 9-0 match to Worthington, MN's Justin Blasius.

Pat Nolan, heavyweight, also looked very tough. He pinned in the first round,

but then lost a 7-4 match to the eventual runner-up. In wrestlebacks, he proved unstoppable, winning four in a row for third place. Included in his wins were two falls and two close decisions. Overall, Nolan was 5-2 in winning the bronze medal.

Dan Parillo, 167 pounds, won two matches impressively in making it to the semifinals - pin in 4:19 and 10-5 decision. In the semi's, he was pinned with just 18 seconds remaining by the eventual champion. In the consolations, he went 1-1 for his fifth place finish. Overall, he was 3-2.

Most of the other New York entrants lost in the first or second rounds. Tim Fera of Morrisville, though, was one match away from the medal round.



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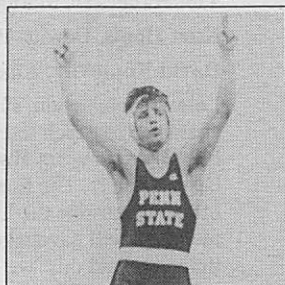


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New Yorkers Dominate Eastern Region Olympic Trials

In freestyle and Greco Roman competition, New Yorkers won 13 of 20 weight classes in the Eastern Regional Olympic Trials held at SUNY Brockport from April 10-12. This event qualifies the winner of each weight to advance to the Olympic Trials Mini-Tournament. The winner there goes on to move up the 4-tier ladder on the way to the number one spot.

New Yorkers won a respectable four of ten weight classes in freestyle, while the Greco team shattered the competition from other states by winning nine of ten weight classes. In addition, New Yorkers padded the top three spots in several weights.

Freestyle:

Lew Roselli, champion at 14.5 pounds, won his title over Doug Harper and John Bove by 6-0 and 4-0 decisions.

Nick Garone, champion at 163 pounds defeated Ken Ramsey and Rick Hepp by close decisions in taking first place.

Mark Kerr, champion at 198 pounds, poses a potentially interesting match-up should he continue to advance. He would have to make it past New Yorker Dan Mayo and if he did advance to the final wrestle-offs, his opponent would be workout partner, Chris Campbell. Campbell has been working out at Syracuse University the past few years, mostly with Kerr.

Andy Schwab of Elmira-4 beat Mike Fusilli 4-1 for first place. Both advance to the mini-tournament because Fusilli had previously qualified by placing sixth at the US Nationals.

Brett Cook, 105.5 pounds, placed second
Bob Panariello and **Keith Ketcham** took second and third to two-time NCAA champ Jack Cuvo at 125.5.

Cory Carter of Ossining-1 took third at the toughest weight class, 149.5. Champion was Olympic bronze medalist Nate Carr, with Terry Steiner of Iowa taking second.

Joe Zito of Syracuse University placed third at 220. His only loss was a 6-2 decision to the champ, and he also beat the runner-up.

Greco Roman

New Yorkers won nine of ten weight classes here, with 11 others placing in the top three. Winning titles were:

Ike Ramaswamy, Albany, 105.5

Jeff Cervone, Syracuse, 114.5

Shawn Sheldon, Albany, 125.5

Van Fronhofer, Albany, 136.5

Gene Nighman, Cortland, 149.5

Joe Sabol, Albany, 163

Seann Henry, Albany, 180.5

Chris Tironi, Albany, 220

Phil Lanzatella, Rochester, 286

Second place medals went to:

Silas Ussery, Rochester, 125.5

Chris Saba, Glenmont, 149.5

Dale Oliver, Stanley, 163

Andy Schwab, Elmira, 286

Bronze medalists included:

Mark Yanigahara, Ballston Spa, 105.5

Chris Mirabella, Albany, 114.5

Paul Walker, Schenectady, 136.5

Andy Seras, Albany, 163

Tim Habecker, Marion, 180.5

Kurt Honis, Dewitt, 198

David Koplovitz, Albany, 286.

Lots of great action, surprises, and upsets characterized each tournament. Seems like Olympic years always bring out the best wrestlers. The final Olympic wrestle-offs to determine the US Olympic Team members will have taken place by the time you read this; we'll have complete results, especially on how New Yorkers fared, in our next issue!

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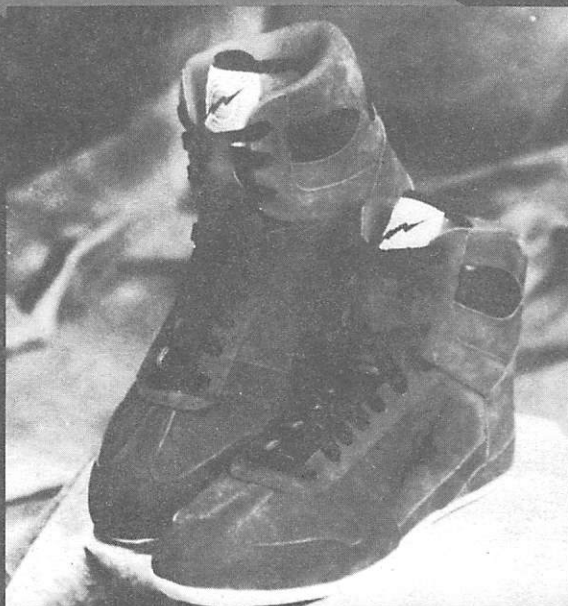
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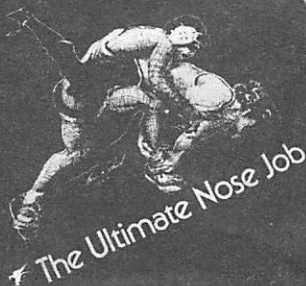
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