

North Iowa Mat Future Bright

HOW THEY FINISHED			
North Iowa	72½	Harper (Ill.)	19
North Idaho	44½	Central Ariz.	18½
Farmingdale (NY)	41	Alfred State (NY)	18
Grand Rapids, Mich.	41	Schoolcraft (Mich.)	17
Middlesex (NJ)	37½	Wilbur Wright (Ill.)	17
Northern Okla.	35½	Willmar State (Minn.)	17
Keystone (Pa.)	31	Clackamas (Ore.)	15½
Bismarck (ND)	30	Glendale (Ariz.)	15
Joliet (Ill.)	27	Rose (Okla.)	14
Corning (NY)	25½	Forest Park (Mo.)	12
Gloucester (NJ)	23	McHenry (Ill.)	12
Muskegon (Mich.)	24½		
Nassau (NY)	19½		
Lake County (Ill.)	19½		

WHEN NORTH IOWA of Mason City won the national junior college wrestling tournament in Worthington, Minn., over the weekend, the Trojans' winning margin of 28 points was the biggest since the tournament went to a controlled entry format.

Four years ago Muskegon, Mich., won the tournament by



BOB FOUTS
... national champ

Kevin Evans' Column



28 points, but there was no qualifying for that meet and points, at least for the better wrestlers, were easier to come by.

But what makes the future look even brighter for the Trojans is the fact that it is possible they could have won the tournament without the aid of a single sophomore.

The four freshmen that North Iowa took to the meet accounted for 43 team points, just one and a half short of North Idaho's second place total of 44½.

But the Trojans left one freshman home in favor of a sophomore. Cedar Rapids sophomore Dedric Doolin and Perry Freshman Stuart Newman split the duty throughout the year at 126 pounds, but Doolin got the nod for the tournaments and finished second.

Newman almost certainly would have scored enough points had he been in the meet to secure the title for the Trojans. Also the Trojans have another freshman regular who failed to qualify for the meet. Decorah freshman Dave Zidlicky was

the regular 158 pounder for the Trojans.

Three of the freshman who did get on the scoreboard for the Trojans were place winners in the high school state meet for West Waterloo a year ago.

Heavyweight champion Bob Fouts scored the most points for his team with 18, while 177 pound runnerup Ed Herman of Johnston collected 14. Fourth at 150, Bruce Wilson tallied 9½ while Bob Pratt scored one point at 134 pounds.

Injuries Hurt

North Iowa Coach Kaye Young credited much of the Trojans' success for physical conditioning.

"We were in tremendous shape," he explained, "We have been working out two or three times a day for the last month, much of it on their own. We were in great shape."

Another factor that probably cost the Trojans some team points was the injury factor.

Three wrestlers, two who failed to place, suffered in-

juries during the long, three-day affair.

Dan Peterson suffered a rib injury, one which has plagued him off and on throughout the year, and failed to place at 167 pounds. Steve Eidness, a former Osage prep, had what Young called a real bad forced extension of his elbow which really slowed him down in a consolation defeat. He placed sixth at 190 pounds a year ago.

Wilson was the third Trojan to be hit with an injury. He suffered a back injury in the semifinal round and went on to lose the match and finally finish fourth.

Along with the performance of the freshmen, Young was pleased with all his wrestlers.

"We wrestled real well," he continued. "All nine of the wrestlers that we brought here scored and that's real pleasing. It's been a long time since anyone has successfully defended the title as a team," he smiled, obviously already looking forward to next year.

Tired at End

For Fouts the title was his second straight. He won the state high school meet a year ago and went on to tie Iowa State Olympian Chris

Taylor in a pre-Olympic tournament last summer.

The 260-pounder needed a takedown with just 17 seconds to go in the championship match to win the title. Earlier in the period he had given up four points on three stalling calls.

"I was a little worried there at the end," he admitted, "I guess maybe I wasn't in the best of shape. I tired out."

Much of Fouts' success can be traced to the 20 pounds he shed between his junior and senior seasons in high school. Since losing the weight, winning has become a way of life.

"Losing that weight gave me more speed," explained Fouts, "And I have better wind too."

WITH THE TEAM title pretty well tucked away Friday night, Young's biggest thrill of the tournament came in the semifinals Friday night.

Herman and Fouts won back-to-back matches to gain the finals, Herman's win coming over the defending champion.

"That had to be the highlight of the meet for us,"

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Mat

(Continued)

said Young, "Those two winning back-to-back like that. That is what really clinched the title."

Herman defeated Steve Bonsall of Middlesex, N.J., in the semifinals. Bonsall was the defending champion, had pinned his three previous opponents, and had a career junior college mark of 66-0. Herman defeated him 6-5 in the biggest upset of the tournament.

But in Saturday night's finals, Herman was winded throughout the entire final period and lost 3-5.

"He is really in great physical shape," explained Young after the match. "He just used up so much emotional energy Friday night and getting ready for the final match that he didn't have any physical energy left. It's really too bad."

The team win capped what has to be one of the most impressive climbs in any sport. Young started the program at the Mason City school six years ago and each year his team has come closer to the title.

In its first year North Iowa finished 13th in the meet and 10th the second year. The next three years the Trojans placed second by margins of 28 points in 1970, nine points in 1971 and finally by just a half point a year ago.

Even more impressive is the Trojans' dual record against junior college competition. In five of the years they have had a perfect year and the overall record is 65-1, losing only to Trinidad, Colo., in 1967.

Freestyle Trials

The season is not over for Fouts and some of his mates. He, Peterson and Joe Corso plan to try out for the United States freestyle team for the World University Games.

Young says they will take a week off before starting their freestyle. Peterson will try out at 163.5 pounds and Corso, a sophomore from Valley of West Des Moines who placed fifth at 118, at either 114.5 or 125.5.

To be eligible to enter the tryout tournament at Anoka, Minn., July 13-14, wrestlers must be fulltime students in college and have a birth date between Jan. 1, 1945 and Dec. 31, 1955.

Coaches of the freestyle tournament for the World Games are Iowa State's Harold Nichols and Wally Johnson of Minnesota.

FIVE OF THE graduating sophomores from Mason City plan to continue their wrestling careers at four year schools.

Only Peterson, brother of Olympians Ben and John, has definitely committed himself. He will follow brother Ben to Iowa State University.

Doolin is undecided but leaning toward Coe and Wartburg. Eidness, who is also a top-notch football player, is settled on either Northern Iowa or Mankato State. Bill Williams, fourth last year at 142, will probably go to either Drake or Arizona while Tracy Funk, another Osage athlete, is considering Coe and Cornell.

THREE AWARDS were given Saturday night after the final and another was voted on.

Ron Ray of Wilbur Wright of Chicago was named the meet's outstanding wrestler after winning his second straight title.

Bonsall was given the sportsmanship award after he came back to place third and heavyweight Ray Miro of Farmingdale won the pinners trophy with four falls in a total time of 9:15.

The coach of the year award was voted on and will be announced later. The only logical choice for that award is Young.

The championship matches:

118 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Dawson (Northern Oklahoma) dec. Gomez (Rose, Okla.) 6-4.

126 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Tunda (Alfred State) dec. Doolin (North Iowa) 7-6.

134 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Wells (Grand Rapids) threw Young (Middlesex), 7:26.

142 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Kamez (Keystone, Pa.) dec. Ahmes (Clackamas, Ore.) 4-0.

150 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Welter (Lake County, Ill.) threw Morris (Harper, Ill.), 1:58.

158 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Hoffman (Bismark, N.D.) dec. Gillespie (Corning, N.Y.) 11-6.

167 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Ray (Wilbur Wright, Ill.) dec. Brink (Muskegon, Mich.) 5-4.

177 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Ankney (Grand Rapids, Mich.) dec. Herman (North Iowa) 8-5.

190 POUNDS

CHAMPIONSHIP — Gadson (Nassau, N.Y.) dec. Krepel (McHenry, Ill.) 12-1.

HEAVYWEIGHT

CHAMPIONSHIP — Fouts (North Iowa) dec. Bryant (Gloucester, N.Y.) 9-7.