



Deathball, the new fad, is the topic in this week's Wide World of Weird Sports.

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## ★ Wrestlers take 5th; Send four to Nationals

by Jackie Negri

**BUFFALO** — The Oswego Great Laker Matmen traveled to Buffalo this past weekend to compete in the annual State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC).

The Great Lakers finished fifth in the tournament placing seven out of their ten wrestlers. Four of these outstanding wrestlers will represent Oswego State in the Division III NCAA Championships, to be held at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

The Brockport Eagles defended their championship title for the third year in a row, accumulating 112 1/2 points. Buffalo took second with 108 1/2 and Albany followed with a close third place finish of 107 1/2 points.

"The conference is extremely tough and competitive," said Coach Jim Howard. "Sometimes the determining factor of a bout depends on who gets the breaks. This year the officiating was incredibly poor which may have affected the outcome of certain matches."

All-American Pat Wittekind, at the 134 pound weight class, will have the opportunity for the second year in a row to compete in the NCAA Championships. In the quarter-final round, Wittekind wrestled Tim Snyder of Potsdam. After continuously bringing his opponent to his back and accumulating nearfall points, Wittekind won by technical fall, 16-1. The Great Laker advanced to the semi-final round to wrestle Oneonta's Bill McHugh. Wittekind countered McHugh's initial takedown in the first period and took control of the bout. McHugh was warned for stalling which aided Wittekind in gaining penalty points. After keeping McHugh on his back for the following periods, Wittekind defeated his contender, 10-5.

It was the championship finals where Laker Pat Wittekind went up against Brockport's first seeded Scott Detore, a Division I transfer from Slippery Rock



They made it...

Qualifiers Mike Coddington (left) and Joe Darling participating along with Mark Glickman (not pictured) in the NCAA's in Illinois. (photos courtesy of athletic department)



So did he...

Pat Wittekind also qualified and will wrestle at the 134 lb. weight class. (photo courtesy of athletic department)

State University of Pennsylvania. The Laker wrestled tough, escaping a reversal by Detore in the second period, but then was taken down to the mat. Wittekind reversed his opponent in the third but Detore countered his moves, defeating Wittekind 9-4. The Great Laker placed second in the tournament and qualified for the NCAA Championships.

At the 142 pound weight class, Laker Joe Darling wrestled a tough bout against Jim Fox of Albany, defeating his contender 5-4. Darling advanced to the semi-final round to wrestle defending SUNYAC Champion and NCAA runner-up Dave Recor of Brockport. Darling, continuously bringing the defending champion to the mat and accumulating nearfall points, upset Recor with an impressive decision of 14-8.

"Darling wrestled with great intensity," said Coach Howard. "He continuously took Recor to his back — it was quite an upset."

In the championship round, Darling lost to Andy Komarek, three-time national qualifier, of Buffalo but ended the tournament as a national qualifier.

In the quarter-final rounds, Senior Mike Coddington, at the 126 pound weight class, won 9-2 over Pat Vogt of Oneonta. After losing to second-seeded Pat Hart of Binghamton (8-0), the Great Laker wrestled back in the consolation rounds to defeat Nick Conner of Buffalo, 4-3. Coddington prevailed to move ahead for a chance to become a national qualifier against Jose Munoz of Brockport.

Munoz accumulated points in the second period but a reversal by Coddington, gaining him nearfall points, paved the way for a 10-7 win in the Laker's favor. Coddington placed an impressive third in the tournament, qualifying for the NCAA Championships.

Junior Mark Glickman, at the unlimited weight class, defeated Mark Hinman of Oneonta with an impressive pin of 4:20. Glickman went on to wrestle second-seeded Scott Freischlag of Cortland in the semi-final rounds. Both of the contenders accumulated penalty points for stalling but an escape by Freischlag ended the bout with a 3-2 win in Cortland's favor. The second time he beat Glickman by one point, Glickman wrestled back copping a 9-1 decision over Gene Faughan of Albany. Glickman then advanced to the mat to wrestle arch-rival Chris Mackin of Binghamton, who had defeated the Great Laker in the New York State Tournament and a dual meet this season.

Glickman reversed Mackin, bringing him to his back in the second period. Mackin was warned for stalling in the third period which aided the Laker in gaining points for a 7-0 win. Glickman, now a two-time national qualifier, placed third in the tournament.

Oswego's outstanding rookie, T.J. Mincer, at the 150 pound weight class, started the tourney with an 11-4 win over Jerry Clark of Albany. Mincer suffered a tough loss to defending champion M.L. Truncala of Binghamton (11-4) but wrestled back in the consolation rounds. After continuously bringing Rex Brown (Potsdam) to his back, the Laker overpowered his contender, 19-1. Mincer

lost against third-seeded Dave Hickson of Buffalo but ended the day with a fourth place finish.

At the 177 pound weight class, Oswego's Kirk McDermith lost against defending SUNYAC and National Champion Tom Pillari of Binghamton. McDermith was then granted a bye advancing him to the semi-final consolation rounds. It was a battle of strength between the Great Laker and Todd McCardell of Cortland, but McDermith earned backpoints which pulled the Laker ahead for a 6-5 win. McDermith lost to Sandy Adelstein of Albany but ended the tournament with a fourth place finish.

Laker Darryl Wood, at the 167 pound weight class, lost in the quarter final round to Martin Pidel of Albany (16-9) but wrestled back to defeat Don King of Cortland with an impressive pin of 3:55. Wood lost to second-seeded Steve Klein of Buffalo and Marty Pidel of Albany but left the tourney with a sixth place finish.

At 118 pounds, Domingo Valentin lost to first-seeded Shawn Sheldon of Albany by technical fall and lost by default, due to a shoulder injury, to Greg Wright of Brockport.

Junior Miek Howard, at the 158 pound weight class, lost to third time defending champion Andy Seras of Albany by technical fall. Howard went on to wrestle a tough bout against John Devendorf of Binghamton.

Devendorf escaped Howard's initial takedown and reversed him in the second period, but an escape by the Laker ended the bout with a tie score of 3-3. In overtime, Howard was defeated, 2-1.

Rookie Brenden Rogers lost to first-seeded Jim Hunter of Cortland and Matt Ryan of Albany.

Great Laker's Mike Coddington, Pat Wittekind, Joe Darling, and Mark Glickman will represent Oswego State at the NCAA Championships, February 28-March 2, at Augustana College, Illinois.

**TEAM SCORES** — Brockport 112 1/2, Buffalo 108 1/2, Albany 107 1/2, Binghamton 101 1/2, Oswego 70, Potsdam 55, Cortland 48, Oneonta 40.

### Oswego Great Laker's schedule for upcoming week

#### Men's Hockey

#### SUNYACs

Sat., Feb 22 — 23

#### Women's Hockey

Thurs., Feb. 21 vs CLARKSON

— 7:00pm

Sat. Feb. 23 vs SKIDMORE —

2:00

#### Men's Basketball

#### Season over

#### Women's Basketball

#### SUNYACs

Fri. — Sat., Feb. 22-23

#### Men's Swimming

#### Season over

#### Women's Swimming

Thurs. — Sat., Feb. 21 — 23

SUNYACs-LAKER HALL —

times to be announced

#### Wrestling

Fri., Sat., Feb. 15, 16

SUNYACs at SUNY — Buffalo

Home games in CAPS.

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