

# Wrestlers lose to Rutgers in season finale

By DAVID RENTSCHLER

The Colgate University wrestling team concluded its 1978-1979 dual meet season at New Brunswick, New Jersey last Saturday. The team lost a hard fought match to the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers, 22-18.

The Red Raiders jumped to a quick 10-0 lead with successive victories at the 118 lb. and 126 lb. weight classes. Sophomore Jim Abbot landed a superior decision with a 13-2 thrashing of Rutgers' Pat Gleason. Classmate Paul Deehan did that one better with the lone pin of the afternoon, 3 minutes and 30 seconds into his 126 lb. bout with the Scarlet Knights' Mark Bergman.

Unfortunately for Colgate, the 10-0 lead was followed by four straight Red Raider losses and a resulting 16-10 deficit. At 134 Colgate's Brian Roberts was decisioned 12-3, followed by a 20-5 trouncing of Red Raider freshman Al Aletzhauer. Freshman Jimmy Oliver, wrestling in only his first dual meet match this season, did a good job against Rutgers' Eastern Champion Brian Surage losing a 13-3 decision. The Scarlet Knights continued to roll. At the 150 lb. weight class, where Doug Oliver handed Colgate senior co-captain Joe Belluci only his third loss in 20 matches, decisioning him 9-6.

Down 16-10 Lloyd Woodruff brought Colgate back to within two points of Rutgers, 16-14, with an 18-9 shellacking of Rutgers' Dean Oliver. Lloyd finishes his senior year at Colgate with a 5-6-1 dual meet record and a chance at a State Championship in Cotterell Court Saturday. Colgate's Bob Dunlap dropped his 177 lb. match to Craig Belumes of Rutgers and Mike Morrell rebounded with an 8-0 shutout of Bob Pavlowsky at

190. Mike finishes his senior year at 8-10 and also looks ahead to tomorrow's State Championship.

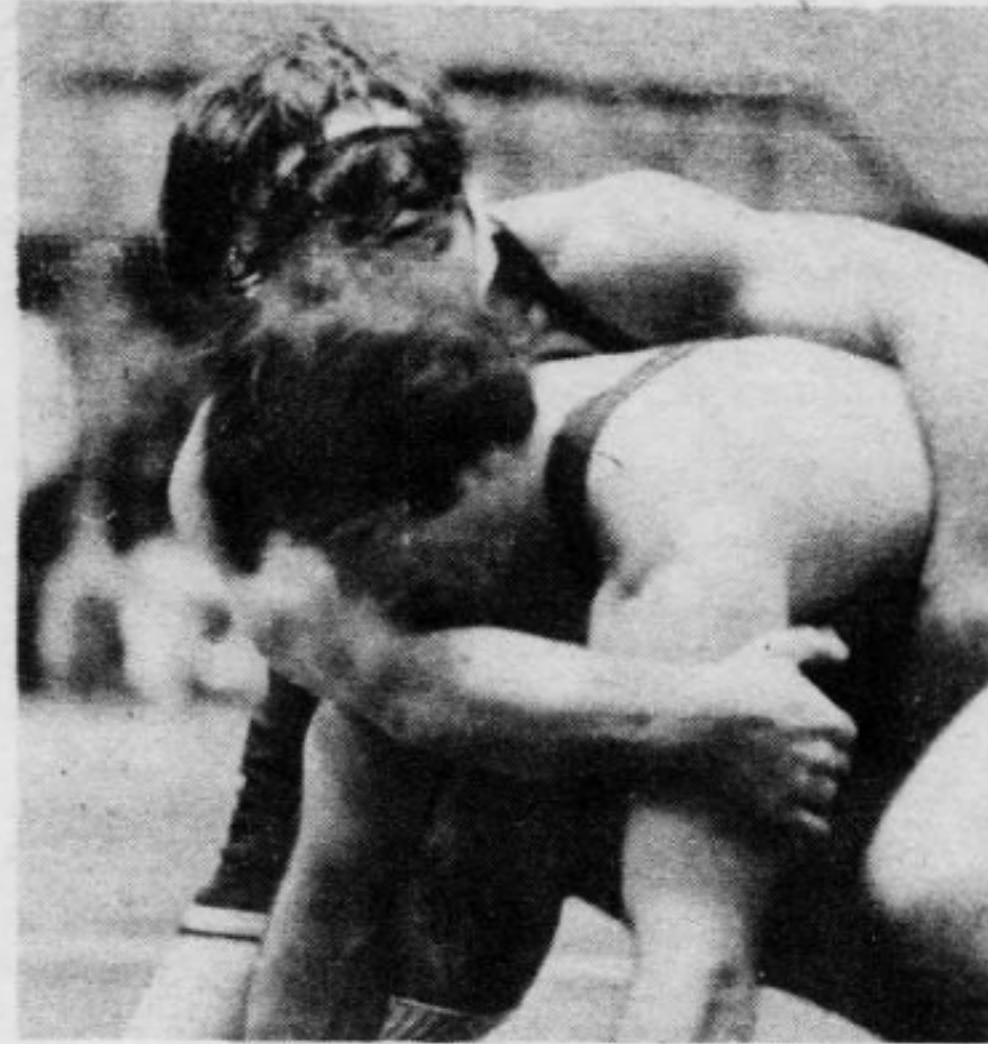
Trailing by only one point 19-18, the meet's final match pitted heavyweight Dave Jevic against Colgate Red Raider Jeff Brewer. In a tough battle it was Jevic who came out the victor 7-4 enabling Rutgers to win the meet 22-18. With that loss, the Colgate grapplers close out their 1978-1979 dual meet season with a 6-13-1 record and an eye on the New York State Intercollegiate Invitational Wrestling Championships.

## State tourney

The eyes of New York State will be focused upon Colgate's Cotterell Court this weekend as Colgate plays host to the New York State Intercollegiate Invitational Wrestling Championships.

Originally conceived in 1970, this year's tournament marks the end of the championship's first decade of play. The Tournament was first named the Binghamton Invitational and it featured competition among eight teams. Now the 18th annual NYWC highlights competition between 19 NCAA teams, and some of the best individual wrestlers in the East.

For Colgate, this tournament comes during its golden anniversary season of wrestling. The Red Raiders at 6-13-1, have had a disappointing season under Coach Curt Blake, but Blake feels the Red Raiders have the type of personnel that is conducive to winning the state title. Standouts Joe Belluci 16-3-1, 1978 champion Paul Deehan 11-7-1, and 1977 champion Steve Leslie 11-5 have the potential to become 1979 State Champions in their



Seniors Lloyd Woodruff (right) and Joe Belluci figure to place high in this weekend's State Tournament held in Cotterell Court.

respective weight classes and thereby tallying many team points for Colgate.

Trying to thwart Colgate's bid for a team championship are frontrunners Cortland State and the University of Buffalo. Cortland State is probably the tournament favorite as it features two 1978 runners up, and two 1977 champions who did not compete in last year's state tournament. The University of Buffalo, on the other hand, has won the past five tournaments and seven out of the last nine. They are the team to beat.

The NYWC provides Colgate

grapplers with the chance of making up for the team's poor won-lost record. Their 6-13-1 record is not indicative of the team's talent; Friday and Saturday the team should display their talent colorfully. Captains Joe Belluci and Steve Leslie, along with last year's 126 pound state champion Paul Deehan will try to improve on last year's fifth place finish. Colgate is privileged to host a tournament that possesses the strong calibre of talent that this year's New York State Intercollegiate Invitational Championships feature. Whether a fan or a participant, the 10th

annual NYWC should be of great interest and fun for all.

## Wrestling Roundup

\*This year's wrestling injuries include Dave Vendetti, Steve Leslie, Rick Balmaseda, George Swan and Chris Stevens.

\*The only returning 1978 state title holders are Colgate's 126 pound Paul Deehan and St. Lawrence's 190 pound Dave Hudson.

\*Co-captain Steve Leslie, who won a 1977 title, may be sitting out of the 1979 championships due to a foot injury.