

## Wrestlers win second straight title

### Send eight members to national tourney

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Sports Copy Editor

Eight SUNY Brockport wrestlers qualified for the NCAA Division III National Championships as the Golden Eagles won their second consecutive and 15th SUNYAC Championship overall at SUNY Oswego on Saturday.

Junior Brian Quick pinned SUNY Oswego's Chris Buhner in 1:23 to win the 190-pound competition.

"Quick is just in a class by himself," Murray said. "He just destroys. He takes no prisoners. He's just good."

"It was hard to get up for it," Quick said. The nationals is what I want. The SUNYACs are just another step along the way.

"Right off the whistle I shot in and took him down. We wrestled a little bit and went out of bounds and got back in the center. He tried to stand up but I took him down to the mat and locked my arms around his neck."

In 167-pound action, junior Adam Marciniaik edged SUNY Cortland's Rob Walker 2-1 in overtime to take the title.

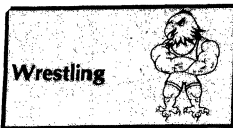
"Adam didn't wrestle that well but he won," Murray said. "He looked off, but when he had to take the person down to win, he did it. And this is always the sign of a champion."

Sophomore Fritz Zagorski edged SUNY Cortland's J.P. Epifanio 3-2 to win the 126-pound competition.

"[Fritz] did a very good job," Murray said. "It was a close match but I felt that he had it under control the whole time."

"Both matches were close, I didn't wrestle well at all," Zagorski said. "I wasn't aggressive. I was just being more cautious than anything. I was just trying to secure my spot in the national tournament."

In the final match "I was real cautious because he was real anxious on his feet. I got a quick takedown and rode him for a minute and let him up twice and it was 3-2 after the riding time. The last period we just were on our feet trying to shoot and nothing really happened," Zagorski said.



In the 134-pound weightclass sophomore Chris Stevens defeated SUNY Binghamton's Andy Cirilincione 2-1 to win the title.

"Stevens won but he didn't wrestle all that well," Murray said. "But he still won and this is the sign of a good wrestler. The person was in on his leg five or six times which normally he should of been taken down, but he fought it off."

Freshman Doug Simonton beat freshman Don Duell of SUNY Potsdam 12-5 to win the 150-pound final.

"[Simonton] did outstanding," Murray said. "He came back and beat two kids that had beat him before."

"I felt that I was in a lot better shape than the other kid and I knew what I had to do," Simonton said. "He beat me earlier in the season by one point so I knew what to expect. He is a very physical wrestler, so I didn't back off, I just met him head-on and worked my moves."

"In the second period, I put him to his back and from there on I think he kind of got a little down on himself. So from here I just turned everything else on."

Freshman P.J. Wendel scored a 5-2 win over SUNY Potsdam's Steve Miles to capture the heavyweight title.

"[P.J.'s] matches were probably the best three that I have seen here in my 20 years here at Brockport," Murray said. "Under the conditions of having lost decisively to two of those people earlier in the year and losing a close match to one of them. He came back to beat all three and I was very proud of that."

"I knew that I could have taken him down, it was just a matter of waiting for the right time," Wendel said. "We

went back and forth and I finally shot in and got a good shot. I think that this was pretty much the match. I took him down and I just rode him out and got a lot of riding time."

"The last 20 seconds things, started kicking in and I realized that I was going to win. It was a good feeling."

The tournament coaches selected nine wrestlers to fill wildcard positions for the NCAA Division III National Championships which were determined on their performances during the season and in the SUNYACs.

In the 158-pound final, SUNY Cortland's Sean Yengo defeated junior Ken Copella 5-4. Copella qualified for the nationals as a wildcard.

"I had a poor performance in the conference, but hopefully my performance throughout the season will

carry over into the nationals," Copella said.

"In the second period, the kid reversed me and the score was 3-2 going into the third. So I reversed him with about 40 seconds left in the match and I threw my legs in on the kid. He called a injury timeout, which was a strategy move because I had him tied up. The kid got an escape to tie the match and he won on riding time."

SUNY Brockport sophomore Bill Barker was shut out 12-0 in the 177-pound final by SUNY Cortland's Mike Yanosik. Barker earned a wildcard berth in the nationals.

"I had never wrestled the guy before," Barker said. "If I wrestled him again I would know things to do and things not to do better. He kind of beat me pretty bad because I didn't wrestle the smartest match."

Sophomore Nelson Colley was

pinned at 2:44 in the 142-pound final by SUNY Oneonta's Bob Pine.

"It was disappointing for him because he just missed out," Murray said. "He got taken down in the last two seconds. He did a good job and he'll be champion again."

Golden Eagle freshman Jon Raines scored a 15-7 major decision over SUNY Binghamton's Mark Tennant in his second consolation match to take fourth place in the 118-pound weight class.

"I think that we should be in the top four of the nationals. I'm never going to predict any more than that, because anything they want to do they have to earn it."

The eight SUNY Brockport national qualifiers will compete in the NCAA Division III National Championships at Ithaca College on Friday and Saturday, March 2-3.

## Cagers miss SUNYACs despite Geneseo upset

