

Lehigh wins with 4 champs; ESSC has 1

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SYRACUSE — Lehigh entered the 73rd EIWA tournament this weekend with some lofty expectations.

If it didn't live up to those hopes by placing every member of its' squad, qualifying eight men for the NCAA tournament and coming away with four individual titles and the team championship, than what more can be expected of a team?

East Stroudsburg State didn't really know what to expect when it entered its first Eastern tournament. But it got one champ, one runnerup and one third-place finisher. And how could it hope to do much better than a seventh-place finish in its first tournament appearance?

Don McCorkel, Mark Lieberman, Lance Leonhardt and Mike Brown all had about as much trouble winning EIWA individual titles as their team

had winning its third straight.

And Gary Kessel, East Stroudsburg's outstanding middleweight, had more trouble with his own locking knee than he did with any of his four opponents.

But with all the elation on both teams, there was disappointment.

It came in the form of Lehigh's top-seeded Bob Sloand losing a semifinal bout to Syracuse's George Medina and Pat Sculley dropping a decision in the finals to Yale's Steve Traylor — both bouts being reversals of the dual meet battles between the same pairs of wrestlers.

Disappointment also had to be felt by East Stroudsburg's Greg Shoemaker, who wrestled well but lost 8-6 to Leonhardt in the finals.

But both teams' Saturday disappointments were more than balanced out by their successes.

Lehigh's winning total of 155 points

was slightly higher than last year and its 60-point margin over runnerup Navy was 10 points better.

Lehigh's 21st EIWA team title was wrapped up almost before Saturday's action began. The four individual titles were icing on the cake and the 10 place winners justified the faith that the rest of the Eastern coaches had in the Engineers by seeding all of them before the tourney began. The four champs were all top-seeds as was ESSC's Kessel.

McCorkel became Lehigh's seventh three-time eastern champ and won the Fletcher Award for scoring the most points for his team in Eastern competition during his career.

He pinned Penn's Bob Baumgartner in the semifinals in four minutes flat and pounded Navy's Greg Cooper 10-0 in the finals, getting all of his points in the third period on the strength of two near falls and a takedown after riding out the second round.

Lieberman, a sophomore with a chance at becoming Lehigh's first four-time champ, broke a string of seven straight pins in EIWA competition when he drubbed Navy's Roger Fleischer 9-2 in the finals with a takedown in each period.

The 167-pounder from Allentown, who pinned four opponents in winning an EIWA title two years ago, made it seven in a row when he decked Wilkes' Gene Clemons in the semis.

Leonhardt, who won two years ago at 118, picked up his second Eastern title at 126. He coasted to a 5-1 decision over Princeton's Kirk Dabney in the semis, then used his excellent single-leg move to pickup three takedowns in an 8-6 win over Shoemaker in the finals.

Shoemaker, a former Easton standout, got to the finals by nipping Syracuse's Guy Dugas 10-8. He reversed Leonhardt late in their final

bout, but couldn't turn him for the necessary back points.

Brown, a freshman who was a PIAA champion at Bethlehem Catholic last year, had no trouble with any of his four opponents. He hammered Temple's Carmel Morina 17-2 in the semis and had a takedown, reversal and four stalling points in a 9-1 win over Princeton's Keith Ely in the finals.

Ely was the winner of the Sheridan Award for the most pins (three) in the least time (3:38).

Kessel, who was almost as happy when his knee finally unlocked after he won his final bout as he was that he took the 150-pound championship, didn't have a close bout until he met Princeton's Steve Grubman in the finals.

Kessel had a second-round takedown and third period escape, but had

Please See Page C-3, Column 3



WRESTLING

Continued From Page C-1

to fight off a late takedown attempt himself to get by 3-1.

Sloand beat Medina 20-5 in this year's dual meet, but lost by a lopsided 15-7 decision to the Orangeman in the semis. Medina went on to pin Wilkes' Lon Balum in the finals at 134 and was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler.

Sloand came back to get third place and qualify for the NCAA tournament at Oklahoma two weeks from now.

ECC tourney

LAWRENCEVILLE, N.J. — Lafayette heavyweight Dave Pletcher racked up four takedowns en route to a 10-4 decision over Delaware's Joe Booth to become the Leopards' first East Coast Conference tournament champion ever and lead Coach John Piper's club to its best finish in several years during the ECC Wrestling Cham-

pionships Saturday night at Rider College.

Lafayette placed fourth in the eight-team tourney with 42 points behind winner Hofstra (80 $\frac{1}{4}$), runnerup West Chester (68 $\frac{3}{4}$) and Rider, which finished third at 49.

In taking the fourth spot, Lafayette avenged season losses to Bucknell and Delaware, the Bisons nailing down fifth place with 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ and the Blue Hens copping sixth at 34.

In the heavyweight bout, Pletcher, who raised his record to 18-3-1 and became Lafayette's first tournament champion since the early 1960s, opened with a takedown to lead 2-1 after one period, followed with another takedown and escape for a 5-1 cushion after two periods and won convincingly with two more takedowns and riding time in the final period.

Pletcher, a junior, now advances to the national tournament March 17-19 in Norman, Okla.

Lafayette's Kevin Carlisle at 142 dropped a tough 3-2 decision in overtime to West Chester's Nelson Stratten. In the bout, which ended 0-0 after

regulation, Carlisle was on top before Stratten escaped and picked up a takedown to go up 3-0 in the overtime.

Junior George Hahn was one of five Leopard wrestlers to win in the consolation round and placed third. Hahn at 158 decisioned Bob Greenley of Bucknell 13-8 to conclude the season with a 16-2-2 record.

George Macasevich of Lafayette lost a 12-4 decision to Bucknell's Greg Morris; Dave Miller of West Chester edged Leopard Kim Fellenz 2-1; Joe Severini of Delaware decisioned Dean Helm 7-2 at 167, and Lafayette's John Vakiener lost 6-1 to West Chester's Eric Swanson at 190.

Don Meyer, one of three West Chester individual champions, was voted the tournament's outstanding wrestler.

Reese, Morris win

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Lehigh Valley natives Terry Reese and Lynn Morris, along with North Carolina State teammate, Joe Lodowski, are on top of the world, or at least on top of

the Atlantic Coast Conference wrestling world that is.

Reese and Morris, both of Nazareth, have more than a hometown in common — they'll both be traveling to the National Collegiate Athletic Association mat tournament March 17-19.

Reese got to the final by pinning Jack Richardson in the first round and defeating John Lamprinakae of Duke in the semifinals. His bout with Virginia's Pat Bacharach in the final was probably the closest of the night.

Reese and Bacharach were practically tied in the third period, with Bacharach leading 3-2, but Reese having riding time. Reese broke the stalemate when he turned Bacharach to his back after a takedown to score a fall with only two seconds left in the match, winning 8-3.

Morris had an easier time in the tournament, setting a tourney fall record of 59 seconds by pinning Alan Appleby of Clemson. He decisioned Kevin Benson in the semifinals 7-3 and beat Frank Destefano of Duke 6-3 for the title.

Collegiate

EIWA

FINAL TEAM SCORES

Lehigh 155, Navy 95, Princeton 86, Wilkes 85, Syracuse 73 $\frac{1}{2}$, Temple 62 $\frac{1}{2}$, East Stroudsburg 54 $\frac{1}{2}$, Army 37 $\frac{3}{4}$, Rutgers 33 $\frac{1}{4}$, Colgate 31, Yale 30, Cornell 18 $\frac{1}{4}$, Columbia 14 $\frac{1}{2}$, Pennsylvania 14, Harvard 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, Franklin & Marshall 4 $\frac{1}{4}$.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

118—Gene Mills (Syracuse) dec. Ron Keene (Cornell) 23-7

126—Lance Leonhardt (Lehigh) dec. Greg Shoemaker (East Stroudsburg) 8-6

134—George Medina (Syracuse) pinned Lon Balum (Wilkes) in 5:27

142—Steve Traylor (Yale) dec. Pat Sculley (Lehigh) 5-3

150—Gary Kessel (East Stroudsburg) dec. Steve Grubman (Princeton) 3-1

158—John Althans (Navy) dec. Chris Moffa (Rutgers) 9-1

167—Mark Lieberman (Lehigh) dec. Roger Fleischer (Navy) 9-2

177—Mike Brown (Lehigh) dec. Keith Ely (Princeton) 8-1

190—Don McCorkel (Lehigh) dec. Greg Cooper (Navy) 10-0

Hwt.—John Sester (Princeton) pinned Bob Matzelle (Army) in 3:27.

ECC

118 — Bob Katz (WC) dec. Greg Ely (H) 4-1

126 — Nick Gallo (H) dec. George Leon (WC) 6-2

134 — Tom Scotton (B) dec. Joe Delucca (H) 8-5

142 — Nelson Stratten (WC) dec. Kevin Carlisle (L) 3-2, overtime.

150 — Scott Brambani (R) dec. Zelik Ziegelbaum 6-6, 1-0 overtime.

158 — Don Meyer (WC) dec. Jim McDuffie (H) 7-2

Hwt — Dave Pletcher (L) dec. Joe Booth (D) 10-4.