

STATE'S STARS MAKING WEIGHT

★ Three Spartan Wrestlers Are 'Coming Down' for National Tourney Here This Week

These are the days of light diet for members of the Michigan State college wrestling squad. With three members of the Spartan team peeling off pounds to get into a lower weight division for the National Collegiate Athletic association tournament here Friday and Saturday, the steaks are being passed up.

The three Spartan grapplers who are "coming down" for the nationals are the Jennings twins, Merle and Burl, national champions, and Bill Maxwell. Merle is coming back to the 121-pound class where he holds his championship and Burl is approaching the 128-pound division where he, too, is the title holder. They have wrestled at 128 and 136 pounds, respectively, during the regular season. They brought their weight down on one other occasion this winter, that when they met Oklahoma A. & M. in the dual meet.

Maxwell, who has wrestled at 145 pounds in dual meet bouts for two years, is no stranger in the 136-pound class. He wrestled there last year in the Nationals and won a second place. Today he expected to hit the 140 mark and plans to take off the other four pounds between now and weighing-in time Friday morning.

Capt. Leland Merrill, the wirey 155-pounder, is not worrying about his weight just now. A year ago the Parkersburg, W. Va., senior, had a little trouble staying down to 136 pounds, but Coach Fendley Collins

gave him the green light this year and he quickly rose to the 155-pound division. Last summer he actually weighed as much as 162 pounds.

State has two more entries in Johnny Marrs at 145 pounds and John Spalink at 175 pounds. Marrs has jumped all around the squad filling in this year. An Oklahoman, he has been unable to reach the peak of form because of an operation that limited his training last fall. Spalink is inexperienced, but the Spartan matmen remember that the long-legged Grand Rapids boy pinned an Oklahoma man in the dual meet and he's entirely capable of doing it again.

Coach Collins revealed today that there were no late entries. Minnesota submitted an entry Monday, but cancelled it by wire an hour later. He was still hopeful that Navy would have two or three men entered today. The first arrivals were due today for training. The Oklahoma squad was expected hourly, and the San Jose State entries from San Jose, Cal., were also overdue.