

NCAA Meet Opens At 7:30 Thursday

264 Entries Represent 69 Schools

(COURIER NEWS SERVICE)

IOWA CITY — The tournament grind will open for wrestlers from 69 institutions here Thursday evening in the first of five sessions of the National Collegiate tournament.

Never before in the 29-year history of the tournament has such a large number of universities and colleges entered such a total of athletes, 264.

Opening session at 7:30 p. m. in Iowa Fieldhouse will include the preliminaries and first round matches. Seedings are to be made by the rules committee Thursday morning and the pairings are to be set that afternoon.

The meet has drawn teams from 28 states, greatest geographical representation of the tournament series. And champions of at least 15 conferences are sending their best men.

AN OBJECTIVE which has proven extremely difficult—preventing Oklahoma State from winning the team title—will motivate many of the teams. The Cowpokes have won 20 of the previous 28 titles, including four of the last five. A year ago they won 77 points, followed by Iowa State with 62.

Ten of those Oklahoma State points were scored by regular 123-pounder Bobby Herald, who was left home when OSU headed for Iowa City. He suffered a broken foot last week while jacking up a car.

Defense of individual titles will occupy five men.

They are: Les Anderson, Iowa State, 130; Paul Aubrey, Oklahoma, 137; Ron Gray, Iowa State, 147; Dick Beattie, Oklahoma State, 157, and Duane Murty, Oklahoma State, 167. Only Aubrey and Anderson have been beaten this season in dual meets.

Oklahoma State reported Murty and two sophomores, 147-pounder Bob Wilson and 177-pounder Bruce Campbell, favoring injuries going into the tourney.

The sixth defending champion, Paul Powell of Pittsburgh, in the 123-pound class, Tuesday was scratched because of injury. However, Pitt will have a 1957 N.C. champion, Tom Alberts, who did not compete in 1958. He won the Eastern Intercollegiate title at 167 pounds last week.

AMONG THE best challengers of Oklahoma State probably will be Iowa State, Lehigh, Oklahoma, Maryland, Minnesota, and possibly Iowa. Many of the other schools have strong but small delegations and few enter full 10-man teams.

Fifteen of the 40 place-winners of the 1958 meet have been entered again. In addition to the five defending champions, they include runners-up Shelby Wilson, Oklahoma, 137; Dick Ballinger, Wyoming, 167; and Tim Woodin, Michigan State, 171 (now wrestling 191). The first three men in the 137 and 167-pound classes will return.

Biggest session probably will be Thursday evening when all of the preliminary and first

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NCAA Tournament Sidelights— Team Champions of 11 Conferences in Field

Teams which won the championship in 11 conference tournaments around the nation have entered the National Collegiate wrestling tourney at Iowa City starting Thursday. Among them, their wrestlers won 49 individual titles. Here's the roster (title number in parenthesis): Big Ten, Minnesota (1); Big Eight, Oklahoma State (4); Eastern Intercollegiate, Lehigh (3); Mountain States, Wyoming (4); New England, Springfield (5); Rocky Mountain, Colorado State College (Greeley) (5); Midwest, Cornell (Ia.) (6); Atlantic Coast, Maryland (8); Mid-American, Bowling Green (Ohio) (3); Pacific Coast Intercollegiate, Oregon State (4); and Interstate Intercollegiate, Southern Illinois (6).

BECAUSE FIVE mats must be used for three of the five sessions, it was necessary to add about 10 feet to the floor on all four sides of the Iowa fieldhouse basketball court. This continuous action will occur Thursday evening for the prelims and first round, Friday afternoon for the quarterfinals and Saturday afternoon for the consolation bracket. Two mats will be used for the semi-finals Friday evening and the consolation finals Saturday evening (third place matches) but of course only one mat for the championship finals starting Saturday at 8:15 p. m.

Nearest rival of Oklahoma State in number of titles won is state rival University of Oklahoma, which has taken four. One each went to Iowa Teachers (1950), Penn State (1953), Cornell (Ia.) (1947), Indiana and Iowa

State (tie, 1933). Oklahoma State won six straight between 1937 and 1942. Individual titles total 67 to Oklahoma's 24 and Iowa Teachers' 19.

THE FOUR place-winners in each of the 10 weight classes will receive their National Collegiate awards from Miss Sharon McIntosh, Cedar Rapids girl who is Miss SUI. These place-winners will be determined at the championship and consolation finals Saturday evening.

In the 1958 tournament at Laramie, Wyo., there were 50 schools and 181 men with 231 matches. The 1959 meet has 69 schools and 264 athletes, a record, and probably about 275 matches.

A 16-PAGE official program will be sold at the tournament. Fans also will be aided by three program inserts which go with each program purchased: The first one with the drawings for the Thursday evening prelims and first round, the second with results of these matches and the third with results of the championship bracket correct to the Saturday evening finals. This plan enables spectators to keep close track of the tournament's progress.

Iowa State Teachers College's four individual entries were to leave Wednesday for Iowa City. Panther matmen entered in the tournament are 115-pound Larry Guldborg, 130-pound Jerry Lane, 147-pound Chuck Patten, and 157-pound Jerry Ray. Patten, unbeaten this season, is Teachers' top hope in the meet.

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round matches must be completed to clear the way for the quarter-finals Friday afternoon. It is likely that more than 275 matches will be necessary in the entire tournament to decide the winners of the first four places. Five mats will be used for three of the sessions.

THE UNIVERSITY of Iowa never before has been host to the tournament although the first one in 1928 was in the state with Iowa State College entertaining the visitors. Iowa State Teachers College of Cedar Falls staged the 1950 tournament and won the meet under the coaching of Dave McCuskey, the present University of Iowa coach.

Semifinals in the championship bracket are set for Friday evening, with the championship and consolation finals starting Saturday at 7:30 p. m.