



GOLDEN

EAGLES

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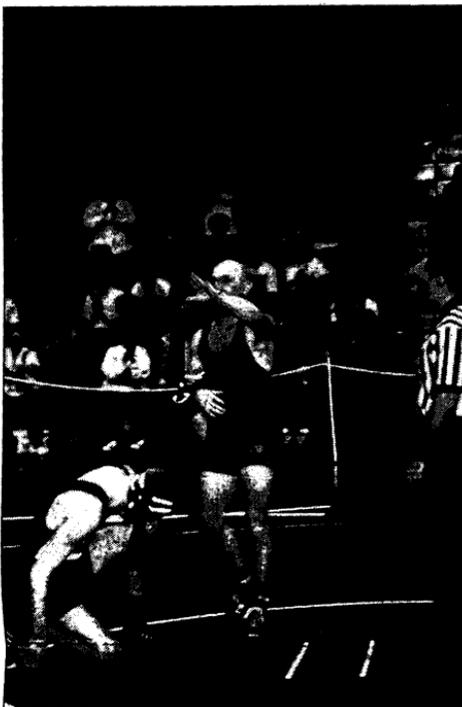


Photo by GREG RABENBER

Ron Vosburg celebrates after his come-from-behind title victory against Jesse Armbruster of Augsburg.

Vosburg captures first-place honors

by PAUL WAGER
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

On a weekend which found SUNY Brockport in 14th place after Friday, two wrestlers carried the team to a seventh-place finish, Saturday.

"Ron Vosburg and John Aebly carried the team and did an outstanding job of handling the pressure," Head Coach Don Murray said.

Aebly and Vosburg combined for a 7-0 record on Saturday and gave Murray his 92nd and 93rd All-Americans.

Vosburg put on a performance at the Division III nationals which earned him a national title and most outstanding wrestler. Vosburg is the first Golden Eagle to earn a national title since Brian Quick in 1992.

In the finals, Vosburg

defeated Jesse Armbruster of Augsburg, Minn., 10-9 in the most exciting match in the finals.

During the match Vosburg found himself down 6-2 at the end of the first period. He would not be denied as he rallied and took the title.

"I had a goal of winning the nationals, but to win the most outstanding wrestler award is just crazy, I had no idea it would happen this way," Vosburg said.

After moving to 134 pounds from 142 pounds earlier this season, Vosburg won 15 of 16 matches to close the year with a 20-5 record.

Aebly, a senior, saw his dream of a national title dashed in the opening rounds as he was pinned by York's Jason Goodman.

Instead of giving up, Aebly took out his disappointment on his opponents as he won his next four matches by a

combined score of 37-7.

Aebly ended his career in dominating fashion as he pinned Charlie Clarke of RIT in 3:29, to finish third.

"John (Aebly) showed a great deal of courage coming back after losing in the first round," Murray said.

At 150, Joe Telesky was bounced from the winner's bracket by a 12-10 sudden death loss to Mark Farmer of Cornell, Iowa.

In the first round of the consolation bracket, Telesky was eliminated after a 9-5 loss to Ricky Cesarez of Loras, Iowa, who went on to finish seventh.

Travis Smith fared a bit better at 158 as he scored a 6-4 sudden death win over Augustana's Tyson Park.

In the next round Smith would lose by pinfall to eventual fourth-place finisher

Wade Pehrson of Augsburg.

Smith rebounded to gain a 12-7 win over Kevin Knaus of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Smith's season would come to an end in the following round as he dropped a 7-1 decision to Ohio Northern's Dave Wellmeier.

Jack Harbold lost in the opening round of the 167-pound weight class to John Carroll's Andy Worst.

In the consolation bracket, Harbold lost a heartbreaker to Trenton State's Anthony

Vitola, 3-1 in sudden death.

In the 177-pound class, Tom Murphy would open the tournament with a pin over Jeff Combs of Chicago.

In the next round he dropped a 7-5 sudden death decision to eventual national champion Wheaton's Paul Elsen. Hugh Smith of Wesleyan ended Murphy's season with a 3-2 win.

Heavyweight Jason Spector opened the tournament with a 5-1 victory over Lyle Wesneski of Lycoming

before falling in the next round to eventual champion Derek Messmer, 9-4.

In the wrestle back round, Spector dropped a tough 6-4 sudden death decision to Derrick LeVake of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

"I was somewhat disappointed in some performances this weekend, but it was not the student athletes fault because ultimately I am the coach and I am responsible for getting them ready," Murray said.



Photo by GREG RABENER

Ron Vosburg (center) receives his trophy, Saturday, after winning the Division III national wrestling title.