

GOLDEN EAGLES Sports

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The Stylus

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Wrestling team captures Empire title

by PAUL WAGER
SPORTS EDITOR

After dominating the Empire Collegiate Championships last season, the SUNY Brockport wrestling team looked for a repeat performance in 1997.

The Golden Eagles got what they were looking for as they qualified seven out of 10 wrestlers for the NCAA Championships to be held at Ohio Northern University in Berea, Ohio in two weeks.

In addition to their individual success, the Golden Eagles walked away with the team title for the second straight year, winning by nine points over second-place SUNY Cortland and 25 points over third place finisher, SUNY Oswego.

"We wrestled well, but not outstanding. We still have a little ways to go yet," Head Coach Don Murray said.

In all, nine Brockport grapplers placed in the top six, with eight of those nine finishing in the top three. In addition, Head Coach Don Murray was named coach of the year.

"Getting coach of the year was made possible by an excellent coaching staff of Chris Stevens, John Aebly,



Ron Vosburg earned a trip to the NCAA Division III National Championships, along with six of his teammates, as Brockport won the Empire Qualifier team title.

John Leone and Art Connorton. I wouldn't have won the award without them and they deserve a lot of credit," Murray said.

Six Golden Eagles advanced to the finals and two wrestlers earned individual titles.

At 142 pounds, Ron Vosburg scored a 10-3 win over John Ashcraft of Oswego and an 8-2 decision over Ithaca's Matt Wagner in the

finals to earn his trip back to nationals.

Tom Murphy captured the 190-pound crown with technical fall victories over Matt Soboloski of Oswego and Dewey Stewart of Oneonta, before downing Shayne Bogardus of Cortland, 5-0, in the finals.

Placing second for the Golden Eagles were Mike Ferris, Chris VanGorden, Lorenzo Moore and Jason

Spector. Ferris, a freshman, dropped a tough 9-8 decision to number one seed, Dom Spaulding of Oswego, in the 134-pound finals. In his first two matches, Ferris pinned Binghamton's Sanders Watson in 2:25 and crushed Cortland's Scott Ferris, 15-2.

"Mike Ferris did an outstanding job for us at 134, he was beaten by a fifth year senior in the finals and he

was right in the match to the end," Murray said.

VanGorden (167) won his first match by pinfall over Ben Chamberlain of Oneonta and in his second match, he defeated Oswego's Keith Smith 4-1. In the finals, VanGorden was beaten, 15-7, by number one seed Mark Hamill of RIT, who remained unbeaten at 29-0.

At 177 pounds, Moore pinned Mark Schermerhorn of Binghamton in 4:30 before being beaten by pinfall in the finals by the number one seed, Mark Winters of Cortland.

In the heavyweight finals, Spector lost a 6-1 decision to Cortland's Mike Bucci. Spector's first two matches ended in pinfall, as he beat Aaron Cutler of Oneonta in 1:08 and Oswego's Jason Turner in 2:41.

Also placing for Brockport were Travis Smith and Andrew Corbett, who were both third and Golden Eagle Kris West who finished sixth.

Mike Awad also competed for the Golden Eagles and dropped both of his matches.

Those going to nationals include Vosburg and Murphy, who earned trips with their victories. Also traveling to Ohio Northern in two weeks will be Corbett, Ferris, Smith, Van Gorden and Spector, who all earned wild card spots.

Golden Eagles fall short against Blue Knights, 72-69

Division title also slips by for Brockport

by STEPHEN LENOX
STAFF WRITER

The SUNY Brockport women's basketball team needed a win over Geneseo,

Saturday, to force a coin toss for the right to host the SUNYAC Championships, this weekend.

However, the bounces on the court did not allow the Golden Eagles the opportunity to win or lose the coin toss, as they fell to the Lady Knights, 72-69.

In the final home game of

"We are a good basketball team, but we did not play with confidence tonight."

— Michele Carron, head coach on her team's loss to Geneseo

the season for seniors Kristin Bruzdinski, Karen Burge, Lisa Nowhitney, Missy Chandler, Elaine Hogan and Kelly Meehan, the Golden Eagles had their 11-game SUNYAC winning streak snapped.

The Lady Knights took an 11-point advantage with 4:55 remaining, but Roseti scored nine of her game-high 25 points during Brockport's late 14-4 run, to pull within one point with 48 seconds left.

Burge, who scored 16 points in the game, went to the free throw line with 28 seconds remaining and an opportunity to put Brockport ahead.

However, Burge missed the front end of a one-and-one, and the Golden Eagles were forced to foul.

Geneseo's Shannon DeGregory hit both free throws, and Brockport's last chance effort fell short at the buzzer.

Brockport freshman Jen Feneli scored 11 points, as Brockport fell to Geneseo for the second time this season.

"We are a good basketball team, but we did not play with confidence tonight," Head Coach Michelle Carron said.

The week began for Brockport at home against Oswego, where the Golden



Lisa Nowhitney (33) puts up a shot against Geneseo, Saturday. The 72-69 loss dropped Brockport to 16-8.

Eagles scorched the Lakers, 66-45.

Feneli and Burge each contributed 18 points in the victory, while Burge established a new career high with 18

points on nine of 13 shooting from the field.

Roseti and Chandler came off the bench to score in double figures.

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