

# Hawkeyes lead, but numbers favor Cowboys

■ Iowa sends five through championship bracket, OSU advances six.

By KEVIN EVANS  
Courier Sports Editor

## CLEVELAND

If the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships come down to a numbers game, Iowa's chances of repeating took a hit during the opening day of competition Thursday.

The Hawkeyes lost two of their 10 wrestlers while top-ranked Oklahoma State still had all 10 of its wrestlers alive entering today's action.

Iowa held a two-point lead after day one, but with two fewer wrestlers alive to score points, the remaining eight have less margin for error.

Five Hawks and six Oklahoma State wrestlers advanced in the championship bracket, but four of Iowa's winners have national championships in their background.

Iowa scored 34.5 points to 32.5 for Oklahoma State and 32 for Minnesota. Penn State was third with 25 and Oklahoma had 24.

"I feel a little bit better (Thursday night), even though we should have won some of those close matches that we didn't," said Iowa coach Jim Zalesky.

The evening session was a big improvement for Iowa over the opening round, when half the Hawks fell from title contention.

Thursday night, two of the four Iowa wrestlers in the consolation matches were eliminated while the fifth — heavyweight Wes Hand — got a bye.

Oklahoma State coach John Smith seemed almost relieved to get through the first day with all 10 wrestlers still alive.

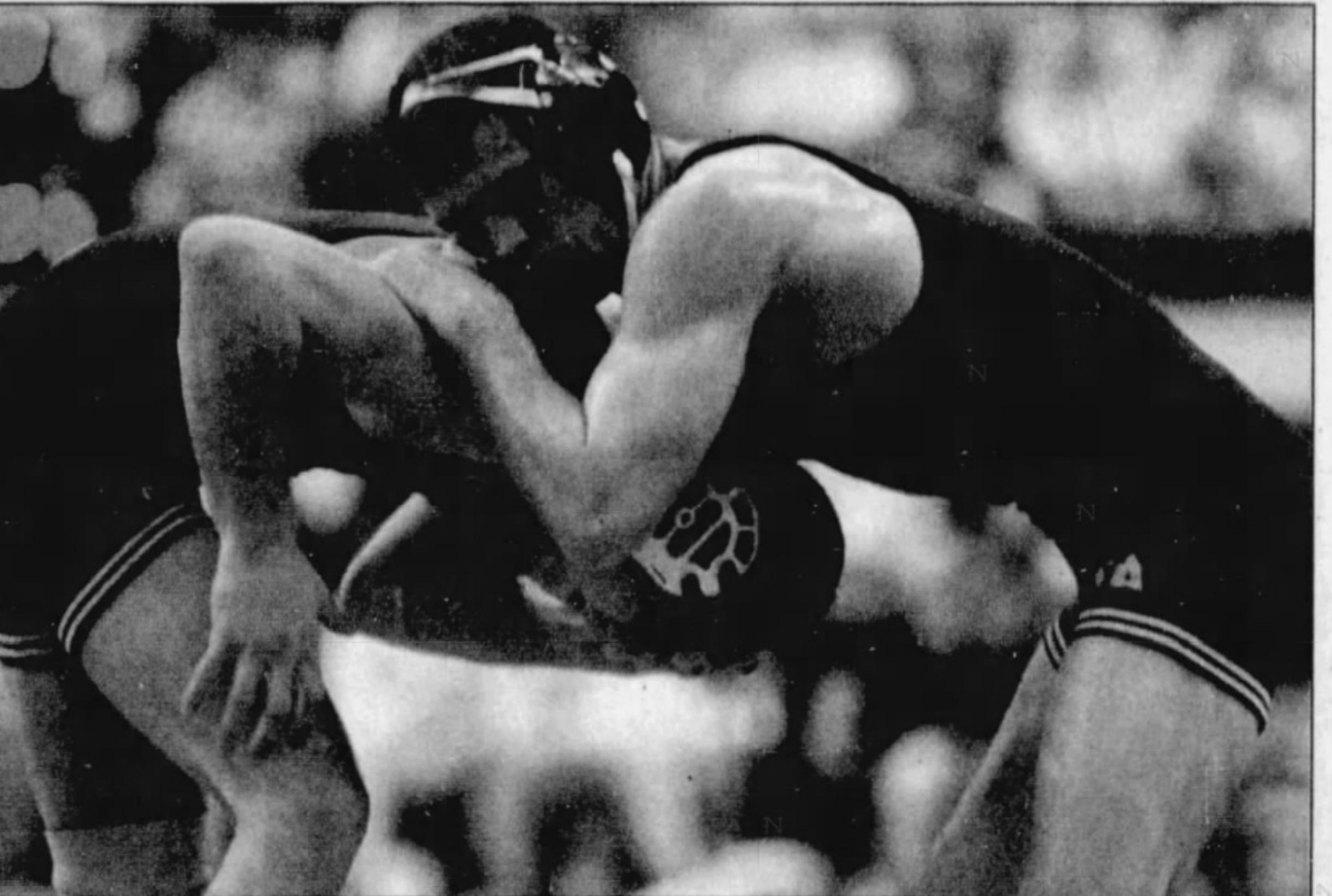
"There's no question bringing in 10 athletes, there are a lot of things that can go wrong," said Smith.

"It's a tight race, pretty much what I thought. But we gave ourselves a chance to win this championship."

Hawkeyes Eric Juergens, Mark Ironside, Jeff McGinness, Joe Williams and Lee Fullhart were all in the championship bracket after Thursday.

Juergens, a redshirt freshman, is Iowa's only quarterfinalist who has not won a national championship.

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AP PHOTO

Iowa's Mark Ironside (top) puts a hold on Pittsburgh's Chad Jesko during a first-round match at 134 pounds Thursday in Cleveland. Ironside won, 23-6, and was one of five Hawkeyes to reach today's NCAA quarterfinals.

## Team standings

(Through Thursday)

1. Iowa	34.5
2. Oklahoma St.	32.5
3. Minnesota	32.0
4. Penn St. <sup>N</sup>	25.0
5. Oklahoma	24.0
6. Illinois	19.5
7. W. Virginia	19.0
8. (tie) Edinboro	18.0
8. (tie) Purdue	18.0
10. Iowa State <sup>N</sup>	17.5
11. (tie) Mich. St., Oregon St. 17;	
13. Arizona St 16; 14. (tie) Cent. Michigan, Northwestern 15.5; 16. (tie) Cal St. Bakersfield, Pittsburgh, Wisconsin 15; 19. (tie) Michigan, Nebraska 14; 21. (tie) Lehigh, Oregon 13.5; 23. Clarion 13; 24. Fresno 12; 25. Ohio 11.5; 26. Lock Haven 10; 27. N. Iowa 9; 28. N. Carolina 8; 29. (tie) Cal Poly SLO, Harvard, Virginia 7.5; 32. (tie) Cal St. Fullerton, Penn 7; 34. (tie) Ohio St., Rider 6; 36. (tie) Air Force, Boise St., Hofstra, N. Illinois 5; 40. (tie) Army, BYU, E. Stroudsburg, Maryland, Old Dominion, Virginia Tech, Wyoming 4; 47. Bloomsburg 3.5; 48. (tie) Brown, Stanford, Syracuse 3; 51. (tie) Boston U., Cleve. St., Indiana, N.C. St. 2.5; 55. (tie) Drexel, G. Mason, Kent, Missouri, Navy, Rutgers, UC-Davis, Tenn-Chattanooga 2; 63. (tie) E. Illinois, Georgia St., Miami of Ohio, Slippery Rock 1.5; 67. (tie) American, Bucknell, Cornell, VMI 1.	

# WRESTLING

## Hawkeyes tally bonus points in 12 matches Thursday

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Fullhart, seeded just third despite winning the 190-pound title last year, said he thinks the three Iowa seniors and himself are motivated by the Outstanding Wrestler Award that's given annually to the top individual in the meet.

"I think those are more important on an individual basis, because we've got three seniors going for OW," said the junior from Decorah. "I'd like to be considered, too, but I'm trailing a little bit in pins and tech falls."

Iowa scored bonus points in 12 matches. McGinness led the way with a pair of falls and a decision.

"I think everybody is out there trying to show the other guy up," said Fullhart. "That's the way we're looking at it as a team, and that's what will pull the team out on top. That's the motivation for me, and I'm sure it is for the other guys."

Fullhart opened with a pair of majors, 12-4 and 13-4, and is now 28-3 for the year.

Ironside, who ran his win streak to 64, won a technical fall and a pin. His fall was over Northern Iowa freshman Nick Flach, who stayed with the defending national champion in the early going.

"Those were a couple of tough guys to wrestle — not as far as credentials, but tough to wrestle," said Ironside. "The first guy (Chad Jesko of Pittsburgh), I think I had the wrong shoes on. I should have had my running shoes on.

"The last one (Flach), I don't think I've ever wrestled anybody as flexible. I had his leg way up in the air — if it was me and I had my leg half that high I'd fall over. I couldn't reach any higher.

"He was hard to wrestle, but it was his fault. He should have been in shape. He got tired and he got caught hanging his head."

Ironside, who has not lost since the semifinals of this tournament two years ago, had a different slant on the bonus points than Fullhart.

"I wasn't thinking about it going

into my match," Ironside said. "I've got to take care of myself. It's all individuals.

"But if I take care of business like I should, the falls and tech falls will come."

Williams, who was seventh in this event as a freshman and a champ the past two years, said he's thinking about bonus points when he's planning his strategy. He scored 18-6 and 13-4 majors in his two bouts Thursday.

"You have to think about them," said the Iowa senior. "Every match, when I'm sitting in the stands making a game plan for my next match, I think about it, how I'm going to get extra points for the team."

"The coaches emphasize it a little bit, but I think the team takes it on its own initiative to go out there, and that's what we're looking for."

Iowa's two wrestlers who were eliminated were All-American Kasey Gilliss at 150 and 158-pounder Gabe McMahan.

Doug Schwab and Paul Jenn came back with consolation wins to stay alive.

Iowa State stood in 10th place with

17.5 points and all eight wrestlers still alive. Dwight Hinson and Trent Hynek were in the winners bracket.

"I don't recall ever not losing someone the first day," said Cyclone coach Bobby Douglas. "I don't know if that has happened before, but now we need to score some points."

The Cyclones' performance pleased the veteran coach.

"We wrestled well," Douglas said. "I didn't see anyone quit, and I thought we had a lot of intensity. Our guys gave everything they had; I just wish they had more."

Iowa State finished the day with a 10-6 record. Iowa was 14-7 and Northern Iowa was 5-6.

The Panthers do not have anyone still in championship contention, but four of their five qualifiers were still in the hunt to place.

Only senior Chris Bahr at 150 was eliminated the first day. Flach, Ken Bigley and Ben Barton won first-round matches before losing in the second round.

Eric Keller lost a tough 3-2 decision to former ISU teammate Cody Sanderson in the first round, but came back with a fall in the consolations.