TOURNEY GLANCE

Here is a look back and a look ahead at the 70th NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships at the Kiel Center in St. Louis.

UPSETS GALORE

The pig-tail and first-round matches provided plenty of excitement Thursday with several high seeds falling early. Dennis Papadatos of Hofstra got the upsets rolling by beating sixth-seeded Eric Jorgenson of Oregon State in a 157-pound pig-tail. Five seeds fell at 125, including No. 4 Quantres Bates of Oklahoma and No. 5 Pat Cassiday of Indiana. Four more fell at heavyweight, including No. 6 Antonio Garay of Boston College, No. 7 Jason Cooley of Oregon State and No. 8 Marc DeFrancesco of Rider — to UNI's Paul Hynek. The biggest upset was scored by Edinboro's Shaun Shapert, who knocked off No. 3 Bryan Snyder of Nebraska at 157.

TODAY'S MENU

Action begins at 11 a.m. with quarterfinals on the middle four mats and second- and third-round consolation on the outside four. Semifinals start at 6:30 p.m.

UNBEATENS ROLL

Close, late losses sting Northern Iowa

By J.R. Ogden Gazette sports editor T. LOUIS - Northern Iowa had one of those opening days that was OK, but could could have been so much better.

The Panthers, hoping to climb back into the top 10 at the NCAA Wresting Championships for the first time since 1992, pushed Tony Davis and Randy Pugh into today's quarterfinals and are in 19th place with 12 points.

But four first-round losses — all coming late in the bouts — left a sour taste in Coach Mark Manning mouth.

"They just stopped wrestling," Manning said of Nick Flach at 141 pounds, Nate Lawrenz at 165, Kyle Hansen at 184 and Tony Wieland at 197. "You can't relax. We relaxed."

Flach was up 5-0, but lost 8-5 to Oklahoma's Jeremy Spates; Lawrenz fell to Heath of turns. Eslinger of Tennessee-Chattanooga, 4-2, on a takedown with five seconds left; Hansen win, just that you win." was up 7-1 and lost 8-7 to Former Cedar Rapids Prai-Jeremy Wilson of Portland rie standout Paul Hynek State: and Wieland lost to (17-11) upset eighth-seeded Illinois' Pat Quirk, 4-3, on an Marc DeFransesco of Rider. escape five seconds into the 7-2, in the first round, but second overtime period. lost a 5-3 decision to No. 9 Tim Courtad of Ohio in the To make matters worse, only Flach (20-6) won in consosecond.

6 You can't relax. We relaxed. ??

UNI Coach Mark Manning

lations last night.

Not all the news was bad, however.

The top-seeded Davis (24-1) scored a first-round pin at 149 pound, then dominated Ohio State's Brian Roskovich, 12-2, in the second round.

Pugh (23-2), seeded fifth at 174, opened with a 12-4 win over Hofstra's Rob Anspach, then held off Pittsburgh all-American Nick Mengerink, 7-4.

Pugh had to rally after falling behind, 4-0.

"I was worried because the last time I wrestled him, I had trouble scoring points on him," Pugh said. "I was happy I was able to get a couple

"It doesn't matter how you

Six wrestlers entered the tournament undefeated, and five made it through the first two rounds. Eric Juergens (133) and defending champion T.J. Williams (157) of Iowa, Byron Tucker (174) of Oklahoma, Iowa State heavyweight Trent Hynek and Sanderson all won.

INFORMATION PLEASE

All of Iowa's matches will be broadcast live by KXIC (800 AM). The championship finals will be televised by ESPN2 at 1 p.m. March 23. Results are updated all day at www.ncaawrestling.com

QUOTABLE

"I think this location is going to be tremendous and it's so central and easy to fly to, it's easy to

drive to, and I think you'll see it back here again," University of Illinois Coach Mark Johnson about the tournament's first trip to St. Louis.

-Compiled by J.R. Ogden