

# Oswegonian Sports

## 'They're on the way'

★ by Beth Wojciechowski

"This is the best dual meet record any of my teams have had since I came here in 1962," smiles Coach Jim Howard. This is certainly a fact as Tuesday night the Lakers closed their dual meet season at Colgate University with a victorious finale of 29-18 finalizing their 1980-81 dual meet record with 13 wins and 2 losses.

"Besides the finest dual meet record in 18 years," continued Howard, "it's the first time in the history of Oswego State wrestling that two men have gone undefeated in dual meet competition." The two men that Laker mat coach Jim Howard is referring to is 118 pound All American Dave Parisi and 134 pound All American Bob Carbo.

The Lakers two losses were against Brockport, the Division III power, and St. Lawrence University, who upset the Lakers 25-21 last weekend in the last home dual meet of the season.

"Even though we were upset last weekend by SLU," remarked Howard, "we still maintain our sixth place NCAA Division III ranking. We had hoped for a triumph over the Saints, but we lost some of the weight classes we should have won and that's part of the unpredictability of the sport. If you have a bad day psychologically, it can mean the difference between winning and losing."

Jim Howard is not the type of coach that likes to speculate about what will happen when his men compete on the mats. The usually pessimistic Howard truly believes this may be the best wrestling squad Oswego State has ever seen and the finest part is that every man that wrestled this year will be back next year with the exception of senior Jack Poodiack.

"Now that our dual meet season is over our concentration will lie on the all important conference tourney, this weekend. And, in two weeks, the NCAA Division III nationals," Howard said.

This weekend the grappling Lakers will be in Brockport for the SUNYAC's in which eight SUNY conference schools will compete for top honors. Brockport, Oswego, Binghamton, and Cortland are the best schools in the SUNY conference and according to Howard, "Brockport's still the team to beat and the battle for second will be between the three remaining schools."

This SUNY conference tournament is important because it helps to determine who qualifies for the Division III Nationals. Oswego's hopeful place winners for the Division III tournament are Parisi, Carbo, 142 pound All American Mark Bowman,

158 pounder Tom Stanbro and Mike Cooper the fiery 126 pound wrestler.

This year there is even a possibility that Oswego State could bring few of their wrestlers to the "ultimate of championships", the NCAS Division I Nationals. Howard hopes to see Parisi, Carbo, and Stanbro end up in Princeton, the site of the Division I Nationals this year. Mephram High School coach John Walter, 68, was the last man to represent

Oswego at a Division I tourney. Ironically, this is Bob Carbo's high school coach.

"I knew we'd be a better than average team at the start of the season, but I had doubts about coming this far," said Howard. "They're a young team, but they've all got the determination to train hard and practice hard and they want to be the best. Well, I'll tell you...they're on their way."



*THE MATMEN were upset Saturday by St. Lawrence, but won Tuesday at Colgate and are now on their way to the SUNYAC Championship Tournament.*