

Bear Can't Scare Big Jim

Bout With Victor Not for Mom; Colonials Win 15th Over Oswego

Jim Hauptfleisch's mother didn't mind watching her son wrestle one of SUNY Binghamton's "horses" yesterday, but if he takes on a 688-pound bear next month she wants out.

Hauptfleisch, an Oswego State junior from Maine-Endwell, pinned standout Colonial sophomore Dean Schlosberg too late to prevent his team's 20-15 defeat, part of a double dual in which both teams crushed Oneonta State.

That completes the Binghamton team's dual season with 15-3, a school-record win total, but just as it's man-bites-dog which makes headlines, everything on the mat was eclipsed by the man-covets-bear news.

The bear in question is not of the Dick Butkus variety, but a brown bruin named Victor who has taken bows on the Tonight show and been profiled in Sports Illustrated.

The bear will appear at the Northeastern Sports Show March 6-9 at the State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, which is where Hauptfleisch steps in if the NCAAs don't interfere.

How do you wrestle a bear?

"Carefully," says Hauptfleisch, who will be giving away 421 pounds. (Up till now the biggest opponent he's put away is a 377-pound human, Dutch Erland of MIT.)

"Don't shoot takedowns. You can't pin him, and you've got to avoid his hug. When you get top position, use leverage. I think I've got a good game-plan. I know a couple college guys who outpointed him last fall up in Maine." (Indoors, of course.)

Jim has never even seen a bear, up close, which may explain his enthusiasm.

What does Jim Howard, Oswego's Vestal-native coach think of it? "Better him than me!" shrugs Howard, who defaulted after being inveigled onstage under a pretext last year at Syracuse, only to discover the "prize" he'd won was Victor.

And what does Mom think?

"I just told her after the match today," said Jim, who stayed in town to watch brother Ed in the STAC finals. "She ain't going to watch me! Said not to even give her any more details."

Hauptfleisch, Delhi Tech transfer whom Howard calls the best heavy he's had in his years at Oswego ("amazing balance for a big man with so much weight in the upper torso"), has a 15-3-1 record after his 6:55 pin of Schlosberg, and 0:16 disposal of Oneontan Bill Mahoney, the losses to Clarion, Lock Haven and Wilkes. Despite 18 academic hours and a bouncer's job at Oswego-landmark Buckland's tavern, he tries to train three hours daily and has a dream of the Olympic Trials next year.

Schlosberg, who could meet Hauptfleisch again in next weekend's SUNYAC Meet at Oneonta, is 13-4-2 in duals. Top other Colonial records (making them co-favorites with Brockport): Greg Reilly 15-0-1, Tim Borshoff 15-1-1, Walt Weller 14-3-1, Mike Grecco 14-3-1, Rick Wilce 12-3-1, and brother Walt 14-3, getting a school record eight takedowns in his Oswego match and adding six against Oneonta.



JIM HAUPTFLEISCH

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SUNY-BINGHAMTON 20, OSWEGO ST. 15

118-Mike Grecco (B) dec. John Marnell, 8-5; 126-Tim Borshoff (B) dec. Gary Battisone, 10-4; 134-Rick Wilce (B) dec. Dean Pritchard, 16-4; 142-Walt Wilce (B) dec. Dan Ashton, 18-6; 150-Steve Wark (O) dec. Pete Schlick, 8-6; 158-Walter Weller (B) dec. Mark Chacona, 7-1; 167-Greg Reilly (B) dec. Tom MacDonald, 10-2; 177-Paul Westfield (O) dec. Bob Merz, 9-8; Hwt.-Jim Hauptfleisch (O) pinned Dean Schlosberg, 6:55.

SUNY-BINGHAMTON 45, ONEONTA ST. 0

118-Grecco (B) dec. Ray McKay, 19-0; 126-Borshoff (B) dec. Dwight Devlin, 17-4; 134-R. Wilce (B) won by forfeit; 142-W. Wilce (B) dec. Mike West, 25-6; 150-Schlick (B) dec. Don Swatling, 11-5; 158-Weller (B) dec. Bill Brundage, 8-3; 167-Mark Abbott (B) pinned Curt Bell, 7:23; 177-Mike Carra (B) dec. Jim True, 5-1; 190-Merz (B) pinned Rich Strom, 5:43; Hwt.-Schlosberg (B) pinned Bill Mahoney, :27.

OSWEGO ST. 32, ONEONTA ST. 3

118-Marnell (Os) pinned McKay, 2:13; 126-Battisone (Os) dec. Devlin, 10-0; 134-Pritchard (Os) won by forfeit; 142-Ashton (Os) dec. Jay Bernstein, 4-1; 150-Terry Oberst (Os) and John Galan drew, 9-9; 158-Chacona (Os) dec. Brundage, 10-5; 167-MacDonald (Os) dec. Eric Sawyer, 3-2; 177-Westfield (Os) dec. True, 3-0; 190-Miller (Os) and Bob Sahler drew, 4-4; Hwt.-Hauptfleisch (Os) pinned Mahoney, :16.

Celtics' Late Charge

Knicks' Last Stand