

Olympic Tryouts at Stake In Mat Tourney at SCI

36 Teams Entered in Two-Day NCAA Meet

Third in a Series
(Courier News Bureau)

CEDAR FALLS — The NCAA College Division National Wrestling tournament, to be staged Friday and Saturday at the State College of Iowa, received a new lift of importance Wednesday when tournament manager Bill Koll announced that first and second place winners in some of the weights will be given Olympic tryouts.

"I received word Tuesday," Koll said, "that some of the men who compete here will be invited to the final Olympic team tryouts later this year. The weights to be picked have not been selected as yet. The committee will take those weights that correspond most closely with the weight divisions used in Olympic competition as I understand it."

Koll's startling announcement came on the eve of the arrival of nearly 150 of the finest college division wrestlers in the nation. By Tuesday evening 36 colleges and universities from across the land has filed entries for the two day meet. College division wrestlers cannot qualify for the University Division tournament in Ithaca, N. Y., next week unless they finish among the top four in the College Division meet at Cedar Falls.

"Last year," Koll observed, "we had 17 schools entered in the initial tournament. We felt at that time that many more would have come but had not budgeted ahead for the meet. This seems true now with the count more than doubled."

Starts Friday at 2 P. M.

The tournament opens at 2 p. m., Friday, with first round action. Quarterfinal matches will begin at 7 p. m. Friday, with semifinal matches at 2 p. m. Saturday and consolation and championship matches at 7. Introduction of all the wrestlers competing will be made at 7:30 Saturday evening.

Tickets are priced at \$1.50 for adults and 75c for students for each session. No reserved tickets will be sold.

While Koll had happy news for all the entrants in the meet, he had bad news about his own SCI Panther team. Wayne Cormaney, the lone senior on the team that won the North Central Conference crown last weekend at Brookings, S. D., will

most likely miss the national tournament. Cormaney suffered a head injury, according to Koll, in the 167-pound championship match and has been ruled out of action. Cormaney finished the season with the best record on the squad at 9-4. Also on the sideline during the tournament will be Gary Pollard, 123-pound junior. Pollard was injured on Feb. 22, in the Cornell Quadrangular.

Kool has not decided how to fill the gap caused by the loss of Cormaney, a Hampton product. "Steve Hoemann may go into that weight division," Koll said. "He finished fourth in the national meet last year and is the logical choice at this time. Or we might shift our other men around."

That proposed shift could become wholesale with Koll toying with the possibilities of moving sophomore Rich Engel from 157 to 147, and Dick Austin from 147 to 157 or 167. Another move could find Jim Monroe, now at 177, down at 167. Engel and Monroe won conference titles a week ago, along with 115-pound Mike Wingert and heavyweight Dennis Bahr.

Here's a look at the stars entered in the four lightest weights:

Fix Favored

137-POUNDS: Third-team All-American Dan Fix of Colorado School of Mines heads the list in this division. Gone is SCI's great Bill Dotson, last year's kingpin at 137 in both the College and University meets. Fix will get tough challenges from Bob Hollingshead, Western State; Pete Parlett, West Chester, and Marv Sherrill, South Dakota State. Hollingshead finished second at 130 last year and has met Fix already this year, dropping a close 8-6 decision. Parlett is undefeated in 10 matches. Eldorado Vance of Morgan State brings a 7-0 mark into the meet while Sherrill, the NCC champion, is 11-2. Dark-horse contenders could be Dave Mauseth, Mankato State, and Bob Trautman, SCI's fast improving sophomore.

130-POUNDS: On paper the division appears to be wide open with a wild, exciting scramble for the title. Southern Illinois' Don Schneider will likely be rated at or near the top of the list of men to beat. Ron Knoebel of Lycoming finished fourth in the meet last year and returns with a spotless 8-0 record. Morgan State boasts Dennis Fisher, the only blind

wrestler in the tourney, with a 7-0 mark while Mankato State's Ken Droegemueller and South Dakota State's Wayne Paulsen are highly rated in the mid-west.

123-POUNDS: Van Doughty, the 115-pound champion one year ago, steps up one weight and could be the man to beat. He won't be short of challengers. His prime threats could come from Harry Furrer, Oswego State (N. Y.), with a 9-0 record; John Lambert, Augustana (Ill.), with a 7-0 mark, and Howie Gangestad, Mankato State, 10-2. Clifford Cox, 23-2 for Chicago University, and sophomore Wes Barnett of SCI could also figure in the final results in this lively division.

115-POUNDS: One of the smallest divisions, in numbers entered, the 115-pound class will have no shortage of top-notch talent. It could challenge the heavyweights as the most fiercely contested weight. Southern Illinois' Terry Finn won at 123-pounds a year ago and has moved down to 115, but Finn must face Cornell's Don Brown. Brown was named to the second All-American team this year with Finn on the honorable mention list. And then there is Hiram's Jim Schonauer. Scho-

nauer finished second at 115 last year and is undefeated this time around with a 7-0 mark, as is Northwest Missouri State's Ken Malick at 6-0.

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