

WRESTLING

Schleicher gains 158 championship finals

By Mike Preston
Sun Staff Correspondent

COLLEGE PARK — The Naval Academy's Scott Schleicher advanced to the championship finals in the 158-pound class of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I finals last night by decisioning Iowa State's Steve Hamilton, 3-2, in overtime in his semifinal.

It was the second overtime match of the day for Schleicher, who with the victory became an All-American for the second straight year. Morgan State's Chauncy Wynn (158) and Navy heavyweight Brett Bourne also became All-Americans last night.

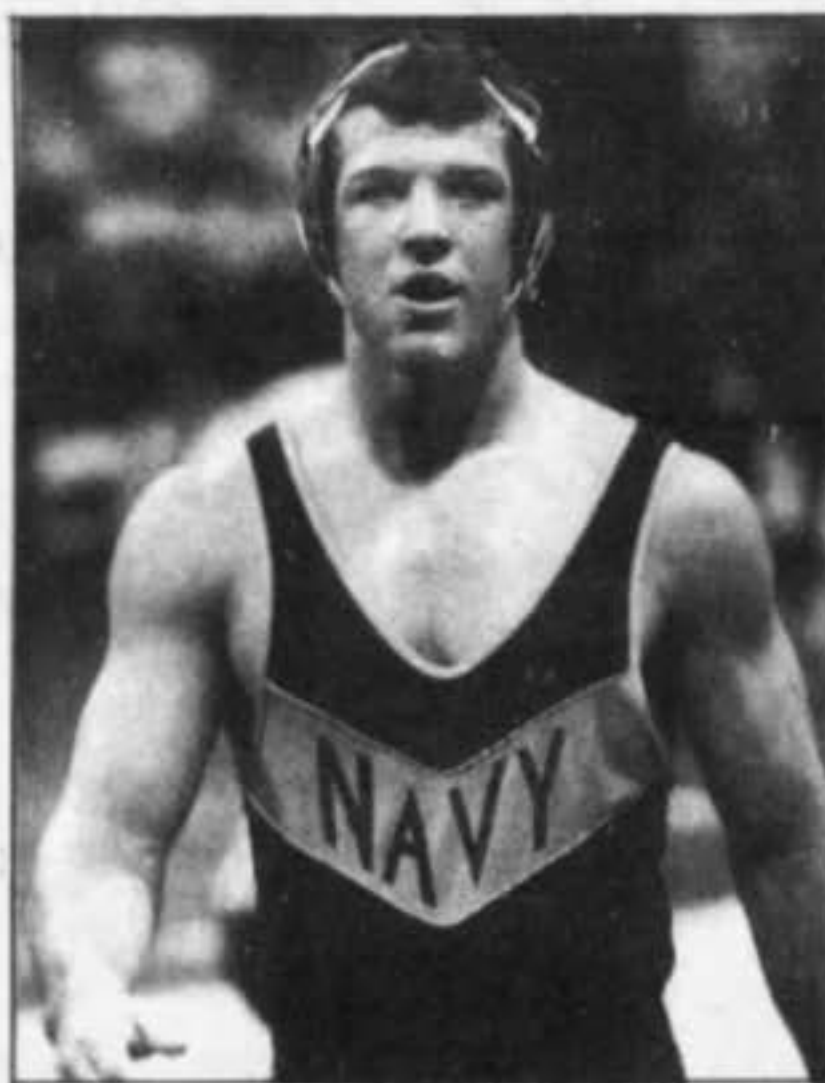
Bourne became an All-American last night by decisioning fourth-seeded John Oostendorp of Iowa, 10-5, in the consolation round. Bourne scored eight points in the third period. He then edged Ohio State's Eric Schultz, 2-0.

Wynn decisioned Maryland's Scott Buckiso, 4-3, and then pinned Cal-State Bakersfield's Jeff McAllister in the first period to ensure himself of at least a fourth-place finish.

Arizona State and defending champion Oklahoma State were tied for first place after the semifinal round last night, both with 87.75 points. Arizona State will have three wrestlers in the finals, and Oklahoma State has two. The Cowboys have six in the consolation rounds compared with five for Arizona State.

But this is not a two-team race. Iowa is in third with 86.25 points and three wrestlers in the finals, as well as the consolations. The three teams won't go head-to-head in any championship bouts.

Schleicher (32-3-1), ranked No. 1 in his weight class by *Amateur Wrestling News*, will wrestle Okla-



THE SUN/IRVING H. PHILLIPS JR.

SCOTT SCHLEICHER

Navy wrestler wins at 158 pounds

homa State's Pat Smith (29-6-1) tonight in the final at Cole Field House. Smith decisioned Portland State's Dan Russell, 15-7, in the other semifinal. Russell drew with Schleicher, 3-3, at the All-Star Classic tournament in Portland, Ore., Feb. 4.

"These overtime matches are becoming pretty tough," Schleicher said. "I wouldn't want to go another one. I'm beginning not to like it very much."

Schleicher edged Indiana's Jim Pearson in the quarterfinals yesterday, earning the decision by the 10th criterion — riding time — of which he had three more seconds than Pearson.

Against Pearson, Schleicher was conservative, as he has been most of the year and in this tournament.

Last night, Schleicher became an offensive wrestler. Even though he missed several chances to take

Hamilton down in the overtime periods, it was far different from his previous counterattacking.

He scored on a double-leg take-down with 31 seconds left in regulation for a 3-2 lead, but allowed Hamilton to stand up and escape nine seconds later.

Schleicher scored the only take-down in the first period of overtime, then escaped with 56 seconds left in the second period for a 3-1 lead. Hamilton escaped with 55 seconds left in the third period of overtime to close the gap to 3-2, but that was as close as he came.

"I thought I wrestled fairly well," Schleicher said. "I got in deep a couple of times, but he had that roll. But in overtime, the other guy is just as tired as you are. It becomes a mental game. I'm looking forward to tomorrow."

Which Schleicher will show up, the conservative or aggressive one?

"Tomorrow is for all the marbles. You guess which one," Schleicher said.

Semifinals

118

Jack Griffin, Northwestern, pinned Gary McCall, Oklahoma State, 1:25; Zeke Jones, Arizona State,

dec. Mark Schwab, Northern Iowa, 4-3.

126

Terry Brands, Iowa, won by major dec. over Dan Knight, Iowa State, 12-4; Jason Kelber, Nebraska, dec. Kendall Cross, Oklahoma State, 1-1, 1-1, criteria 10 (OT).

134

Dave Zuniga, Minnesota, dec. Chris Owens, Oklahoma State, 10-3; Tom Brands, Iowa, dec. T.J. Sewell, Oklahoma, 9-4.

142

Joe Reynolds, Oklahoma, dec. Pat Waters, Cornell, 5-2; Thom Ortiz, Arizona State, dec. Jeff Lyons, Indiana, 7-1.

150

Gary Steffensmeier, Northern Iowa, dec. Tim Wittman, Penn State, 5-4; Brian Dolph, Indiana, dec. dec. Rich Bailey, Cal State-Bakersfield, 4-2.

158

Pat Smith, Oklahoma State, won by major dec. over Dan Russell, Portland State, 16-7; Scott Schleicher, Navy, dec. Steve Hamilton, Iowa State, 3-3, 3-2 (OT).

167

Dan St. John, Arizona State, dec. Steve Buddie, Stanford, 9-2; Brad Traviola, Northwestern, dec. Mark Banks, West Virginia, 4-1.

177

Chris Barnes, Oklahoma State, dec. Rob Larmore, William & Mary, 14-8; Marty Morgan, Minnesota, dec. Mike Funk, Northwestern, 6-3.

190

Matt Ruppel, Lehigh, dec. Chris Nelson, Nebraska, 8-2; Brooks Simpson, Iowa, dec. Joe Stafford, Oklahoma, 4-3.

286

Kurt Angle, Clarion, dec. Kirk Mammen, Oklahoma State, 2-1; Greg Haladay, Penn State, dec. David Jones, Cal State-Fullerton, 2-2, 1-1, criteria 10 (OT).

Third round consolations

158

Chauncy Wynn, Morgan State, dec. Scott Buckiso, Maryland, 4-3.

286

Brett Bourne, Navy, dec. John Oostendorp, Iowa, 10-5.

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