Howard ;'I'm definitely pleased'

DAVE PARISI

by Terry Melia

"It was a tough tournament. There were tough weight classes all around, so I'm definitely pleased with the end result," stated an enthusiastic Jim Howard, head wrestling coach here at Oswego. "I only wish we would have gotten some help from other teams in our bid to knock off Brockport for the team championship."

That "end result", that Coach Howard was referring to, was an impressive second-place finish for Oswego in the SUNYAC Wrestling Tournament, held on Feb. 12-13 at Oneonta State. Oswego scored 113.25 team points, which was good enough for the runner-up position, but fell shy of tournament team champion Brockport, with 149. Of the other six teams competing, Buffalo placed third with 94 points, Albany fourth with 85.5, Binghamton fifth with 76.5, Potsdam with 46.5, Oneonta with 43 and Cortland with 42 to round out the team scoring.

Oswego crowned two individual champions in the competition, 118 pound senior co-captain Dave Parisi and 190 pound sophomore Doug Morse. Parisi, the first seed at 118, was never threatened in his quest for the title. After scoring an opening round superior, 17-0, decision over Scott Hughes of Buffalo, Parisi recorded a quick 2:30 pin over Mike Cippolone of Potsdam in the semi's. In the finals, Parisi pinned Eddie Morales of Brockport to take the crown. Morse, also the first seed at his weight, looked quite impressive throughout the tournamnent. After an opening round win by default, Morse proceeded to defeat Bill McAdou of Oneonta, 7-3, advancing himself to the finals. In the championship round, Doug Morse overwhelmed Bob Lucas of Buffalo, 14-4, to take the 190 pound title.

Second place performances for Oswego were turned in by 126 pound Lou Chartrand, Mark Bowman at 150 and Tom Stanbro at 177. All three were seeded second at their respective weight classes. Chartrand wrestled well, downing Bill Reddy of Buffalo in the opening round, 7-2, and then outlasting Mike Wray of Albany, 10-4, in the semi's. In the championship round, Chartrand was pinned by the tournament's most outstanding wrestler, Frank Famiano of Brockport.

Bowman, meanwhile, lost a heartbreaker in the finals to top seeded Doug Winnie of Brockport, 3-2. In the opening round, Bowman had decisioned Mike Rao of Buffalo,8-1. He then proceeded to out slick Sal DeSantis of Binghamton, 7-3, in the semi's, advancing him to the finals.

Stanbro put on one of the most memorable performances of the entire tournament.

After winning a tight, 6-3, bout against Rob DiScuillo of Binghamton in the opening round, Stanbro was pitted against Mike Pittman of Buffalo. These two hard-nosed grapplers fought to a 3-3 tie at the end of regulation time, forcing the bout into overtime. Stanbro went ahead 2-0 in overtime, and as time was running out, he was bounced harshly on his neck by Pittman. Bowman finshed out the match, but was forced to default to top seeded Rob Connetta of Brockport in the finals, due to his neck injury. Luckily, Stanbro will be able to compete this weekend in the NCAA Division II tournament.

The Great Lakers were dealt a surprising blow at 134 pounds. Top seeded Laker Bob Carbo was upset in his bid for the 134 pound title. After an opening round victory over Tom Murphy of Cortland,8-3, Carbo was stunned in the semi's by Albany's Ted Theofilatos. Theofilatos defeated Carbo, 12-10, in a wild match. In the wrestlebacks, Carbo battled back to the consolation round, but was defeated by Pat Abigail of Brockport, 4-2 in overtime, for third place. Carbo placed fourth at the weight, but will look to do some of his own upsetting this weekend. "Bob had an off tournament in the SUNY—AC's," claimed Coach Howard, "but I'll look for him to take the NCAA's this weekend. I know he can do it."

Heavyweight Tom Dougherty put on a fine show by placing fourth at his weight. In the opening round, Dougherty decisioned Marty Schlansker of Potsdam, 9-1. In the semi's, however, Dougherty dropped a 14-4 decision to top seeded Don Haley of Brockport. Dougherty then defeated Jim Cosgrove of Cortland, 8-4, in the wrestlebacks, putting him into the consolation round.

158 pound Tony LoCascio and 167 pound Pat Parietti each wrestled well in their respective weight classes, but both fell just shy of qualifying for the NCAA Division II Tournament. LoCascio was caught in his first match by Ron VanNoy of Oneonta and pinned in a quick 1:11. In the wrestlebacks, LoCascio beat Bill Papazian of Albany, 7-1, but was then edged by Steve Caveyero of Binghamton, 5-4. In the battle for fifth and sixth places, LoCascio again met up with VanNoy, but this time he just lost a close, 6-3, decision to finish sixth at 158.

Parietti, meanwhile, dropped a close, 9-5, first round bout to second seeded Mike Pillari of Binghamton. In the wrestlebacks, however, Parietti caught fire and decisioned Ron Clerkin of Potsdam and Wayne Dunau of Cortland, 4-1, to finish in fifth place at 167.

Mike Letcher ran into some bad luck at 142 pounds. "142 was the toughest weight in the whole tournament," said Howard. In the opening round, Letcher outlasted Bob Leone of Cortland, 9-7. In the semi's, however, Letcher ran into top seeded Tom Seras and came out on the short end of a 15-7 decision. In the wrestlebacks, Letcher had an off round and was eliminated.

The top four place winners in every weight class qualify for the NCAA Division II Tournament to be held this weekend at Cortland. The Lakers, therefore will be represented in seven weights. Oswego qualifiers are, Dave Parisi, Lou Chartrand, Bob Carbo, Mark Bowman, Tom Stanbro, Doug Morse and Tom Dougherty. Coach Howard feels confident that Oswego can win at three weights and place at each. "We have a good shot at winning this whole thing if everyone comes through."

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