



**CROWNED IN NCAA DIVISION III: L-R, front—Guketlov (Montclair St.), Helmuth (Gettysburg), Hawald-Cale (John Carroll), Martellucci (Brockport St.), Becks (John Carroll); back—Ashley (Wilkes), Weisenfluh (Wilkes), Bowman (John Carroll), Wissenback (Humboldt St.), Bertolone (John Carroll).**

## NATIONAL DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Familiarity Breeds Content For Host John Carroll In Title-Winning Drive

By **CHUCK DAY**

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Maybe to win a National Collegiate Division III wrestling championship, one needs not only an agile, talented corps of combatants, but also his own mat. Perhaps a familiar, rubbery pad gives a wrestler a confident air, much like the home floor tickles the fancy of a basketball player's feet.

After John Carroll dethroned Wilkes to become the second straight host school to win the Division III crown, it makes you wonder.

Of course, the Blue Streaks of coach Tony DeCarlo didn't just stroll onto the mat and sit. They fought off Montclair State, which finished second, and turned back the fellows from Wilkes, who wound up third.

**DeCARLO HAD FIGURED 100-OR SO** team points would win the title. He wasn't far off. JCU finished with 111, Montclair State 96 and Wilkes 92.

Carroll lugged home four individual championships as well. Mark Hawald-Cale reigned at 134, Charles Becks at 150, Brad Bowman at 177 and 340-pound Joe Bertolone won his second straight heavyweight crown. Big Joe was one of only two defending champs to repeat. Six were on hand.

Montclair's incomparable Nabil Guketlov won his team's only title at 118. Wilkes bagged a pair with Gene Ashley (158) and Jim Weisenfluh (167).

The championship, waged in the Cleveland suburb of University Heights, quickly became a three-horse race. After Friday's preliminaries, Carroll, Wilkes and Montclair already were pulling away.

The drama was building, and Friday night the coaches of the contenders all pointed to the semifinal round as being downright "krooshial."

"Carroll has five in the semifinals and so do we. Wilkes has four. Yeah, the semis are where it's at," said Montclair's Larry Schiacchetano.

"We're just about where I'd hoped we'd be. But now we start all over," DeCarlo remarked.

"The semifinals are where the big points come. They should decide everything," stated Wilkes' coach John Reese.

**REESE WAS ONLY** partially right. The points **DID** come in bundles, as they always do, but they did not provide the keys with which to unlock the collegiate kingdom.

Ironically for Reese and Wilkes, the afternoon

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*Cleveland hosted four national collegiate championships during the 1974-75 season and Chuck covered them all.*

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## DIVISION III INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS AND PLACE WINNERS

Weight	Champion	Runner-up	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth
118-LB. ....	GUKETLOV Montclair St.	Mulhall John Carroll	Preefer Wilkes	Miller Humboldt St.	Daschbach Wash. & Jeff.	Aquilo Mt. Union
126-LB. ....	HELMUTH Gettysburg	Borshoff Binghamton	Zook Millersville	Numa Montclair St.	Rossetti Trenton St.	Rotell Thiel
134-LB. ....	HAWALD-CALE John Carroll	Tundo Montclair St.	Lang Brookport St.	Chakmakas Wilkes	Smith Gettysburg	McDonald Mt. Union
142-LB. ....	MARTELLUCCI Brookport St.	Hobbs Coe	Mims Albany St.	Fiamingo Mansfield St.	Welter Montclair St.	Zinck Millersville
150-LB. ....	BECKS John Carroll	Peraza Potsdam St.	DiGoacchino Montclair St.	Weller Binghamton	Friedrich Oberlin	Gardner Mansfield St.
158-LB. ....	ASHLEY Wilkes	Pucci Oswego St.	Brown St. Lawrence	Clemons Ashland	Reilly Binghamton	Garber Mansfield St.
167-LB. ....	WEISENFLUH Wilkes	Galea Potsdam St.	Barnard Ashland	Bailey Elizabethtown	Van Boxel Ripon	True RPI
177-LB. ....	BOWMAN John Carroll	McCue Potsdam St.	Borsa York, Pa.	Polakoff Binghamton	Grinde Luther	King Ithaca
190-LB. ....	WISSENBACK Humboldt St.	Fair Ashland	Dunnam Mass. Maritime	Penrod Augustana, Ill.	Sanko Leb. Valley	Guyll Millersville
HVYWT. ....	BERTOLONE John Carroll	Caldwell Montclair St.	Murray Coast Guard	Scharer Wilkes	Bartlebaugh Dela. Valley	de Jeude MIT

## TEAM SCORING

John Carroll 111, Montclair St. 96, Wilkes 92, Potsdam St. 57, Binghamton St. 51½, Ashland 51, Millersville 45½, Brookport St. 45, Humboldt St. 36½, Gettysburg 28½, Oswego St. 24½, Mansfield St. 21½, Coe 19½, Trenton St. 17½, St. Lawrence 16½, Elizabethtown 16½, Coast Guard 15, Mass. Maritime 15, Mount Union 14½, York (Pa.) 14½, Albany St. (N.Y.) 13½, Augustana (Ill.) 13, Ripon 12, Delaware Valley 10½, Luther 10, MIT 9½, Lebanon Valley 9, Wash. & Jeff. 9, Oberlin 9, RPI 7½, Cortland St. 7, Baldwin-Wallace 6½, Ithaca 6, Rochester Tech 5½, MacMurray 5½, Olivet 5½, Ohio Northern 5, Thiel 5, Chico St. 4½, Lycoming 4, Amherst 3½, Kalamazoo 3½, Plymouth St. 3, Washington & Lee 3, Kutztown St. 2½, Geneseo St. 2½, Adrian 2, Allegheny 2, Maryville 1½, Hiram 1½, Alma 1, Calvin 1, Case Western 1, Glassboro St. 1, Rochester 1, Grove City 1, Heidelberg 1, Moravian 1, Muskingham 1, Neb. Wesleyan ½, Williams ½, Union ½.

round decided one thing—that the Pennsylvania school would not repeat as Division III champion. Wilkes and Montclair met head-on in two matches, with Guketlov pinning Roy Preefer at 4:23 and Vince Tundo defeating champ John Chamakas of Wilkes at 134 pounds. Wilkes had but two chapplers left, and that wasn't enough.

As for John Carroll and Montclair, the drama picked up tempo. The Cleveland fans roared as all five Carroll semifinalists advanced to the finals. Montclair sent three of its number into the big one, and all three would face John Carroll wrestlers in the championships.

The three head-to-head matches would likely decide the national title, a fact no one overlooked as the wrestlers marched in to their last hurrah.

**GUKETLOV AND JCU'S JACK MULHALL** were first to battle, but it was no contest. Guketlov, the 126-pound titlist in 1974, took a solid 6-0 decision after being in command the entire eight minutes. Nabil was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler.

Guketlov's victory put pressure on Carroll, for its formula for victory was a minimum of two championships—with one of them over a Montclair wrestler. The opening battle had been lost.

After Craig Helmuth of Gettysburg decisioned Tim Borshoff of Binghamton, 4-2, at 126 pounds, the team-title drama returned to center stage.

Carroll's Hawald-Cale tangled with Montclair's Tundo and the classic battle had the fans on their feet much of the time. Hawald-Cale won it 3-2 with a takedown with 1.04 left.

"Call it a reflex action," Mark grinned when asked about the winning maneuver. "I knew I had to win. Nobody said so beforehand, but we all felt my match was one we couldn't lose."

**ONE OF THE MOST ENTERTAINING AFFAIRS** of the night was next, as Brockport State's John Martellucci beat Coe's Nick Hobbs 11-6.

Then, with the team trophy staring him in the face, PCU's Charlie Becks met Tony Peraza of Potsdam State in the 150-pound championship. Becks won it, 5-2, but the bout was not without controversy.

Late in the final period, Peraza was awarded a takedown by the referee, giving Tony a 3-2 lead. Yet as the points were awarded, both mat judges stood in disagreement. The bout was halted and the takedown disallowed.

It was as if Becks had been given a fresh breath of life. In the last 22 seconds he wrestled like a man possessed, first ripping away from Peraza for an escape, then scoring a lightning-quick takedown to settle the affair.

John Carroll's title was in the bag, and DeCarlo, who built his team from scratch 10 years ago—"We had to pull kids out of the dorms," he recalled—jumped so high he nearly brought rain back down to earth with him.

**WHILE THE TUMULT AND SHOUTING CONTINUED**, Wilkes claimed what glory was left. First Gene Ashley, runner-up in '74, whipped Ed Pucci of Oswego for the 158-pound title. Next came Jim Weisenfluh, who shut out Joe Galea of Potsdam, 8-0, for the 167-pound laurels.

Carroll wasn't finished, though. Brad Bowman had little trouble disposing of another Potsdam warrior, Tom McHue, 7-4 and Bertolone retained his heavyweight title by beating Montclair's Cardwell, 5-2.

Sandwiched in between was Brent Wissenbach's victory over Ashland's Skip Fair. Wissenbach, from Humboldt State, won 10-6.

John Carroll no doubt will be a team to be reckoned with in 1976. But maybe the team to watch is Coe College. For Coe is the host team and the winds of precedence blow in its favor.