

'Washed Up' Nittany Lions Advance 7 to Nationals

By DOUG McDONALD
Executive Sports Editor

For a team that was called washed up by some of its critics, Penn State didn't wrestle too badly in its final Rec Hall appearance of the season.

"I didn't know what to expect," Coach Bill Koll of the Nittany Lions said yesterday as he reviewed the NCAA Eastern Regional tourney qualifier which attracted 137 wrestlers from 26 schools. "I figured the maximum number of qualifiers we

could get was five. The minimum was three.

"We have had a funny season. We finished 7-4-1 which is a good record at some schools, but mediocre to some people around here.

"I've never been prouder of a team. We've had better teams but this group earned everything it got. The kids hustled for everything."

Penn State will send seven wrestlers to the NCAA tourney at Princeton March 13-15.

In two days the Lions won 32 bouts (16 each day) and lost nine.

John Fritz, Dave Becker, Jerry Villecco and Jerry White won titles for the Lions. Doug Weaver placed second, Wayne Packer and Denny St. Clair earned thirds, Brad Benson finished fourth and Denny Sciabica wound up fifth. The Lions didn't place at 142.

The Lions also won the unofficial team title, outscoring Slippery Rock State by a 139½-112 margin. Clarion State (88½), Indiana State (70) and

Cleveland State (67½) rounded out the top five.

"I was hoping Benson would be selected as a wildcard," said Koll. "He's making progress. Fritz sure bowed out in a blaze of glory. Becker did a fine job. The guy Villecco wrestled made a mistake and tried to outhorse him. And White did pretty well when you consider he hasn't been in the room for about 10 days. We're going to get him ready the next 10 days."

Koll also singled out Packer,

Sciabica, Weaver and St. Clair.

"St. Clair has worked hard for three years," said Koll, "and hasn't had much of an opportunity with guys like White and Danny Brenneman around. His placing third is quite a story. He just did it with desire and guts.

"I think our schedule helped us this year. At the seeding meetings I think some of the coaches overlooked our kids.

"Becker, Weaver and St. Clair beat quite a few seeded wrestlers. I'll grant that 190 wasn't one of the toughest weight classes but St. Clair beat kids who had pretty good wrestlers."

Koll said 118, 126, 134, 167 and 177 were probably the toughest weights in the two-day tourney which drew 2,500 fans to the finals.

Koll also admitted that he wasn't as mentally drained as he was following some of the most recent EIWA tournaments.

"It wasn't nearly as vicious," he said. "There wasn't the harassment. We did all the seeding in about two hours and there wasn't any bickering."

Coach Gray Simons of Indiana State said he thought there was more balance in the tourney than the 1974 event which was staged at Cincinnati.

Bob Bubb, Claion State's coach, rated the 1974 Eastern Regional over this year's in terms of balance, but said the 1975 event was superior with regard to officiating and organization.

Koll, Bubb and Simons figure the 35 qualifiers will represent the Eastern Regional tourney quite well at Princeton later this month.

Slippery Rock State also advanced seven wrestlers, two more than Clarion State. Indiana State has four qualifiers, Buffalo, Lock Haven State, Illinois State and Cleveland State two apiece and one each from Tampa, Morehead State, Notre Dame and Southern Illinois.

Simons was discussing the 167-pound final between Villecco and Jim Ledbetter of Illinois State.

"Joe Carr of Kentucky beat Ledbetter," Simons said. "Ledbetter leads with that one leg, but Carr beat him by picking up the back leg."

Then somebody remarked that Ledbetter was a horse.

"Villecco doesn't do bad when it comes to horsing, either," grinned Simons.

The press named Villecco the Outstanding Wrestler in the tourney.

College Mat Tourney Results

EIWA TOURNAMENT At Annapolis, Md.

118 Pounds
Semifinals: Costello, Navy, dec. Waters, Penn, 8-3; Leonhardt, Lehigh, dec. Roesch, Princeton, 9-5.
Finals: Leonhardt dec. Costello, 11-9.

126 Pounds
Semifinals: Lynn, Lehigh, dec. Beck, Navy, 3-2; Bryant, Pitt, dec. J. Nisivocchia, Rutgers, 12-3.
Finals: Bryant dec. Lynn, 15-8.

134 Pounds
Semifinals: Stottliemyer, Pitt, pinned Bauer, Navy, 7:01; Frick, Lehigh, dec. Schoonover, Army, 10-2.
Finals: Frick dec. Stottliemyer, 16-8.

142 Pounds
Semifinals: Bennett, Yale, pinned Allen, Army, 4:52; Sculley, Lehigh, dec. Muthler, Navy, 8-2.
Finals: Sculley dec. Bennett, 6-4.

150 Pounds
Semifinals: Porter, Cornell, dec. Althans, Navy, 8-3; Wilson, Syracuse, dec. Sarinelli, Penn, 10-2.
Finals: Wilson dec. Porter, 10-7.

158 Pounds
Semifinals: Janiak, Syracuse, dec. Chatman, Pitt, 7-4; Schwartz, Yale, won by ref. dec. over Fleischer, Navy (9-9 reg., 1-1 overtime).
Finals: Janiak dec. Schwartz, 8-3.

167 Pounds
Semifinals: Mark Lieberman, Lehigh, pinned O'Korn, Pitt, 6:42; Peffy, Rutgers, dec. Jenks, Syracuse, 3-2.

Finals: Lieberman dec. Peffy, 12-6.
177 Pounds
Semifinals: Mike Lieberman, Lehigh, dec. Goodrow, Navy, 13-2; Bonsall, Rutgers, dec. Carey, Princeton, 9-4.
Finals: Lieberman won by default over Bonsall, 3:58.

190 Pounds
Semifinals: Simons, Navy, dec. Bailey, Pitt, 12-3; McCorkel, Lehigh, dec. Brendel, Yale, 7-1.
Finals: McCorkel dec. Simons, 7-4.

Heavyweight
Semifinals: DeStito, Lehigh, pinned Stewart, Yale, 1:16; Stephanovich, Navy, dec. Roba, Pitt, 5-1.
Finals: DeStito dec. Stephanovich, 4-2.

CONSOLATIONS
(for 3rd place)
118—Waters, Penn, dec. Roesch, Princeton, 12-1.
126—Beck, Navy, dec. Schutte, Princeton, 4-1.
134—Schoonover, Army, dec. Bauer, Navy, 3-0.
142—Underkoffler, Princeton, dec. Korth, Pitt, 6-3.
150—Sarinelli, Penn, dec. Althans, Navy, 9-6.
158—Deacon, Lehigh, dec. Miron, Princeton, 8-2.
167—Jenks, Syracuse, dec. O'Korn, Pitt, 3-2.
177—Evans, Pitt, dec. Goodrow, Navy, 5-1.
190—Brendel, Yale, dec. Bailey, Pitt, 4-0.
Hwt.—Stewart, Yale, dec. Murburg, Princeton, 7-5.

TEAM SCORING
Lehigh 172½, Navy 110½, Pitt 109½, Princeton, 83, Syracuse 70½, Yale 66½, Rutgers 42, Penn 30, Army 24, Temple, 18½, Cornell, 17½, F&M 14½, Harvard 12, Colgate 4½, Columbia 2.
Outstanding Wrestler: Frick at 134.
Sheridan Award (Most falls in least time) Mark Lieberman—three in 15:28.
Fletcher Award (Most career points in EIWA tourney competition) DeStito—first repeat winner in history.
NCAA qualifiers: Top 4 in each weight class advance.

ACC TOURNAMENT
At Charlottesville, Va.
118—S. Breece, North Carolina, pinned Buttry, N.C. State, 3:16.
126—Wendell, Virginia, dec. Filipos, Maryland, 6-2.
134—McGonigal, Virginia, dec. D. Breece, North Carolina, 8-3.
142—McNutt, N.C. State, dec. Resume, North Carolina, 4-0.
150—Bacharach, Virginia, dec. McDonald, North Carolina, 11-8.
158—Neal, Maryland, dec. Tershal, Virginia, 19-4.
167—Hogg, Maryland, dec. Cianchetti, Virginia, 6-5.
177—Johnson, Maryland, dec. Curzi, Virginia, 9-2.
190—Voliva, Virginia, dec. Train, Maryland, 5-4.
Hwt.—Puleo, Duke, won by default over Higgins, N.C. State, 3:44.

TEAM SCORING

Virginia 75, Maryland 56, North Carolina 50½, N.C. State 37½, Duke 13.

Outstanding Wrestler: Neal at 158 (2nd year in row).
NCAA Qualifiers: 10 champs and wildcards Filipos at 126 and Higgins at heavyweight advance.

BIG 10 TOURNAMENT At Columbus, Ohio

118—Brown, Michigan, dec. MacArthur, Minnesota, 4-3.
126—Corso, Wisconsin, dec. Mitkovich, Michigan State, 3-2.
134—Komar, Indiana, dec. McCrory, Michigan, 11-7.

143—Allen, Northwestern, dec. Housner, Purdue, in overtime, 5-3 (Reg. 4-4).
150—Yaglia, Iowa, dec. Kemp, Wisconsin, 4-0.
158—Zilverberg, Minnesota, dec. Holm, 3-2.
167—Froelich, Northwestern, dec. Wagemann, Iowa, 7-2.

177—Vatch, Wisconsin, dec. Campbell, Iowa, 3-2.
190—Soucie, Wisconsin, dec. Stevens, Iowa, 4-1.
Hwt.—Avery, Michigan State, dec. Bowsby, Iowa, 10-3.

CONSOLATIONS (for 3rd place)

118—Haines, Wisconsin, won by previous decision over Bissell, Michigan State.
126—Reinwand, Wisconsin, dec. Hutsell, Indiana, 10-9.
134—Hunte, Iowa, dec. Brighton, Michigan State, 9-4.

142—Smith, Iowa, dec. DiSabato, Ohio State, 10-5.
150—Rodriguez, Michigan State, won by previous decision over Dombrowski, Northwestern.
158—Brink, Michigan, won by previous decision over Lawinger, Wisconsin.
167—Johnson, Michigan, dec. Barile, Purdue, 3-2.
177—Kippert, Northwestern, dec. Reinbolt, Ohio State, 3-1.

190—Quigley, Ohio State, dec. Wickerd, Michigan State, in overtime, 4-2 (reg. 3-3).
Hwt.—Pancratz, Illinois, dec. Marsicano, Michigan, in overtime, 3-2 (reg. 4-4).

TEAM SCORING

Iowa 118½, Wisconsin 85½, Michigan State 72½, Michigan 70, Northwestern 56, Purdue 43½, Minnesota 38½, Ohio State 28½, Indiana 28½, Illinois 14.

Outstanding Wrestler: Corso at 126.
NCAA Qualifiers: Top four in each weight class advance.

BIG 8 TOURNAMENT At Stillwater, Okla.

118—B. Martin, Oklahoma State, pinned Garrel, Oklahoma, 3:33.
126—Nelson, Oklahoma, dec. Powell, Oklahoma State, 15-2.
134—Barrett, Oklahoma State, dec. Beafson, Oklahoma, 10-4.

142—Randall, Oklahoma State, dec. Young, Oklahoma, 16-9.
150—Galea, Iowa State, dec. P. Martin, Oklahoma State, 5-2.
158—Holland, Iowa State, dec. Berry, Missouri, 6-1.

167—Ray, Oklahoma State, dec. Callard, Oklahoma, in overtime, 4-2 (reg. 5-5).
177—Gadsen, Iowa State, dec. Neumann, Oklahoma, 13-3.
190—Nacin, Iowa State, dec. Jones, Oklahoma State, 3-0.

Hwt.—Kalkbrenner, Oklahoma, dec. Jimmy Jackson, Oklahoma State, 5-2.

CONSOLATIONS (for 3rd place)

118—Land, Iowa State, pinned Fowler, Missouri, 5:54.
126—Antonacci, Iowa State, dec. Harnisch, Nebraska, 5-3.
134—Jennings, Nebraska, dec. Nielsen, Iowa State, 10-4.

142—Randall, Kansas State, won split ref. dec. over Vogel, Missouri, (reg. 4-4, overtime 2-2).
150—Peck, Oklahoma, dec. Hassig, Nebraska, 8-1.
158—John Jackson, Oklahoma State, won by default over Kilgore, Oklahoma, 11 seconds in overtime—eye injury (reg. 2-2).
167—Peterson, Iowa State, dec. Field, Colorado, 9-1.

Qualifier Summaries

118 Pounds

Semifinals: Spates, Slippery Rock, dec. Reid, Cleveland State, 11-2; Morelli, Clarion State, dec. Packer, Penn State, 3-2.

Finals: Morelli won by default over Spates.

126 Pounds

Semifinals: Fritz, Penn State, dec. Turnbull, Clarion State, 7-5; Honess, Slippery Rock, dec. Lutes, Indiana State, 7-3.

Finals: Fritz dec. Honess, 19-5.

134 Pounds

Semifinals: Rohn, Clarion State, dec. Condon, Slippery Rock, 9-5; Martin, Indiana State, dec. Young, Buffalo, 14-13.

Finals: Rohn dec. Martin, 11-6.

142 Pounds

Semifinals: Costello, Slippery Rock, dec. McKillen, Notre Dame, 4-0; T. Campbell, Indiana State, dec. Holloper, Cleveland State, 9-3.

Finals: Costello pinned Campbell, 2:56.

150 Pounds

Semifinals: Way, Lock Haven, dec. Messina, Slippery Rock, 6-3; Weaver, Penn State, dec. Rzymek, Morehead State, 13-4.

Finals: Way dec. Weaver, 4-1.

158 Pounds

Semifinals: Becker, Penn State, dec. Cavanaugh, Cleveland State, 6-3; Hauser, Tampa, dec. Peifer, Slippery Rock, 6-4.

Finals: Becker dec. Hauser, 8-2.

167 Pounds

Semifinals: Villecco, Penn State, dec. McCune, Cleveland State, 11-1; Ledbetter, Illinois State, dec. Wiesen, Southern Illinois, 12-6.

Finals: Villecco pinned Ledbetter, 4:47.

177 Pounds

Semifinals: Shuffstall, Slippery Rock, dec. Steidl, Cleveland State, 7-2; White, Penn State, dec. Gaunt, Indiana State, 5-3.

Finals: White dec. Shuffstall, 5-4.

190 Pounds

Semifinals: Wright, Buffalo, dec. St. Clair, Penn State, 11-2; Czarnecki, Illinois State, pinned Fenstermaker, Indiana State, 7:25.

Finals: Wright pinned Czarnecki, 2:56.

Heavyweight

Semifinals: Coryea, Clarion State, dec. Benson, Penn State, in overtime, 1-0 (reg. 2-2); Schuster, Lock Haven, dec. Ehrhart, Cleveland State, 9-2.

Finals: Coryea dec. Schuster, 8-2.

CONSOLATION FINALS (FOR THIRD PLACE)

118—Packer, Penn State, dec. Burkett, Shippensburg, 8-3.

126—Turnbull, Clarion State dec. Lutes, Indiana State, 12-5.

134—Condon, Slippery Rock, dec. Young, Buffalo, in overtime, 5-3 (reg. 7-7).

142—McKillen, Notre Dame, dec. Holloper, Cleveland State, in overtime 13-1 (reg. 1-1).

150—Messina, Slippery Rock, dec. Davis, Clarion State, 7-6.

158—Peifer, Slippery Rock, dec. Cavanaugh, Cleveland State, 7-4.

167—Wiesen, Southern Illinois, dec. McCune, Cleveland State, 6-3.

177—Gaunt, Indiana State, dec. Steidl, Cleveland State, 2-1.

190—St. Clair, Penn State, dec. Fenstermaker, Indiana State, 7-4.

Hwt.—Anthony, Morehead State, dec. Benson, Penn State, 6-3.

CONSOLATION FINALS (5th Place)

118—Beining, Marquette, won by default over Reid, Cleveland State.

126—Lewis, Southern Illinois, dec. Sams, Buffalo, 14-8.

134—Sciabica, Penn State, dec. Sorace, Cleveland State, 4-0.

142—Hadsell, Buffalo, won a unanimous ref. dec. over Burke, Clarion State, 5-5; 2-2.

150—Graham, Cleveland State, dec. Rzymek, Morehead State, 9-2.

158—Campbell, Indiana State, dec. Williams, Illinois State, 3-2.

167—Loudon, Slippery Rock, dec. Lupinetti, West Virginia, 8-1.

177—Faddoul, Buffalo, dec. Seay, Fairleigh-Dickinson, 3-1.

190—Kleban, Cleveland State, dec. Maday, Southern Illinois, 7-3.

Hwt.—Welsh, Illinois State, dec. Ehrhart, Cleveland State, 6-1.

NCAA qualifiers: Top three in each weight class and wildcards Lutes of Indiana State at 126, Young of Buffalo at 134, Davis of Clarion State at 150, Cavanaugh of Cleveland State at 158 and Steidl of Cleveland State at 177 advance.

Marksmen Win Finale

The Penn State rifle team ended the season on Saturday with a 1347-1175 win over Kutztown. Leading the Lion sharpshooters on the opponents' range were Sherri Landes with a 275 for the afternoon. She was followed by Daniel Eckenlaub with a 275, Joe Tenaglia, 267; Bob Hazel, 265, and Keavin Nelson, 265.

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