PRESS DEPUBLICAN THURSDAY. PEBRUARY 24. 19



Sports Two of the seams to best in | State Saturday and the dest

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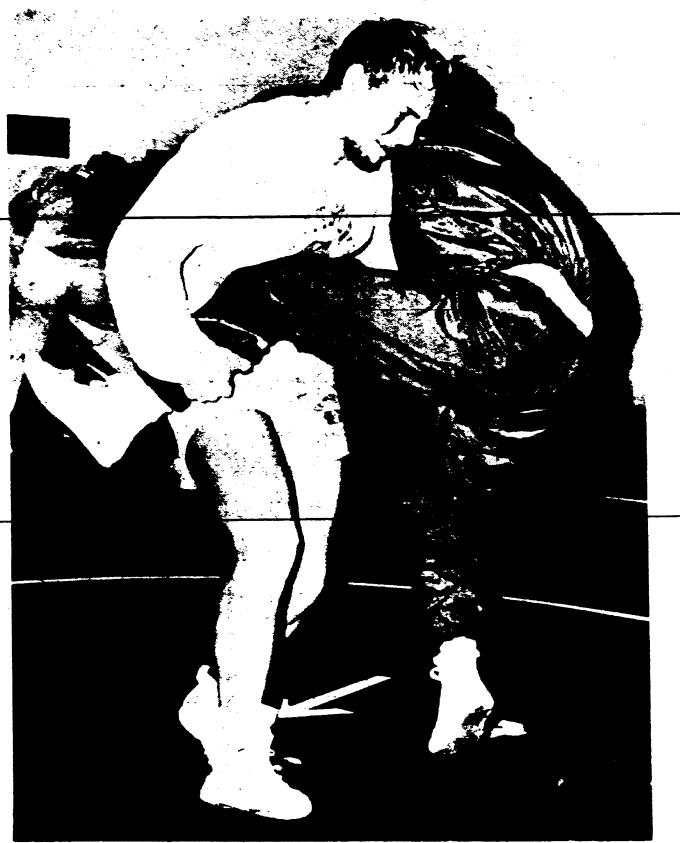
the State University Conference fending champ Oswego State Wrestling championships, which and Brockport State. will be held at Plattsburgh Both squads have been im-

IHROUGH THESE PORTALS PASS THE HARDEST NOSED WRESTLERS IN THE EAST



FAVORED KINGS - Oswego State wrestling coach Jim Howard (right) tells three of his defending SUNY Conference kings he wants the Lakers to be No. 1 again in the SUNY tourney Saturday at Plattsburgh State. Left to right are Frank Frisicano of Rochester, 1965 SUNY 123-pound champ; Terry Ryan of

Brentwood, defending 177-pound SUNY titlist and Tom Gustainis of Windsor. defending 167pound SUNY king. Oswego has won SUNY Conference crowns for the past two seasons, but faces a strong challenge this year from Oneonta. Cortland, Brockport, Potsdam and Plattsburgh.



son and appear healthy for the championship competition, which begins at the PSUC gym

at 1 p.m.

The Golden Eagles of Brockport, coached by Lefty McIn tyre, placed fourth in the conference tourney last year, but should improve this season, since they lost to powerful Os- ney. wego by only a small margin.

Both Oswego and Brockport downed the Plattsburgh State grapplers this past season. The in dual meets. And only three Lakers took the Cards, 44-5; while the Golden Eagles downed champs are back. One of the the Redbirds, 33-8.

Last season, Oswego scored moved up in weight. points in every weight class at the championships, which were held at Brockport. They finished 35 points ahead of second place Cortland to easily take the league title.

According to Plattsburgh coach, Don Lindell, the Lakers probably won't have an easy

Oneonta. The Lakers have some of the finest "leg" wrestlers in the conference.

A year ago, the Lakers rolled up an 11-1 record in dual meets. They topped off the season by winning seven individual conference crowns, the SUNY title and competing in the NCAA college division national tour-

This season, against a somewhat stiffer schedule, the Lakers have slipped to a 6-3 record of last year's conference three, Frank Frisicano, has

Frisicano, a senior from Rochester with a 7-1-1 record this season, is wrestling at 130 pounds. He won the 123-pound title in 1965. Two other Oswego champs will be trying to retain their 1965 weight titles.

Tom Gustainis, a senior from Windsor with a 7-1-1 record, is the reigning 167-pound SUNY time of it this time around, as titleholder. Terry Ryan, a senevidenced by their close meet ior from Brentwood with a 4-2 darkhorse picks.

pound crown.

Other Oswegio hopefuls include Carl Reistrom, senior heavyweight from Syracuse who has a 4-2-3 record. Reistrom was third in the tourney last season in the 191-pound class. Steve Mullady, a senior from West Babyion with a 1-1 record, hopes to improve upon his fourth place finish in the 115-pound class last year. . . .

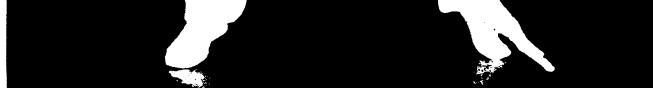
Laker Coach Jim Howard forecasts a wide open battle for the team title.

"Individual championships will probably be evenly distributed," says the former NCAA and AAU wrestling star. "Second and third place depth will determine the team title."

Howard rates Oneonta, which recently beat Oswego 22-17 in a dual meet, as the No. 1 tourney choice. He considers Cortland. Brockport, and Oswego as the next choices in that order. Wrestling newcomers Plattsburgh and Potsdam are his



DARKHORSE - Plattsburgh State's hopes in the heavyweight class ride with John Jacques, caught throwing Randy Jonas to the mat during practice session Wednesday afternoon in preparation for Saturday's State tourney.



ONE OF THE FAVORITES - Ed Gomez, weighing in at 137 pounds, reaches for the mat as Alan Audus flips him and places the undefeated Gomez in a difficult predicament during rugged practice session. Gomez is yet to taste defeat in his division this season and according to his coach, Don Lindell, should be one of the favorites.

(P-R Photos by Matt Kelsh)

Shoe gets Buckpasser home

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) - Buck-1 Stupendous, owned by Mrs. Henry C. Phipps of New York passer whipped his stablemate, Stupendous, in a furious stretch and ridden by Braulio Baeza, drive in the \$30,400 Everglades carried 115 pounds, led nearly Stakes at Hialeah Wednesday. all the way and lost only by a Buckpasser, champion colt of head.

1965, ran the 1¹/₂ miles in a swift Coming down the stretch, 1:47 4-5 under 122 pounds with Buckpasser moved in and Willie Shoemaker aboard and bumped Stupendous lightly, but stamped himself as the big fano foul claim was made. Baeza vorite for the \$100,000-added said the bumping threw Stu-Flamingo Stakes March 3. pendous off stride.

NIT makes 1st selections

NEW YORK (AP) — St. play. DePaul, which won the John's, the defending champion, tournament in 1945, has a 16-5

Abe's Hope closed fast to be third and Blue Skyer finished fourth in the eight horse field. The entry of Buckpasser and Stupendous, both trained by Eddie Nelroy, was the prohibitive favorite at 20 cents on the dollar and returned \$2.40 and \$2.20 to win the place. There was no show betting.

Buckpasser's time was only four-fifths seconds slower than the track record of 1:47 set by Bold Ruler in the 1957 Flamingo. Fractional times on a track labeled fast were :22 4-5, 45 2-5, 1:09 and 1:34 3-5.

Buckpasser earned \$19,760 in the Everglades to add to his