

Potsdam State Wins Wrestling Tourney

Eighty-four wrestlers from 10 colleges met Saturday, February 17, in Maxcy Hall at State University College at Potsdam for the 13th annual State University of New York Athletic Conference wrestling tournament.

The host team, the Bears of Potsdam State, posted a stunning upset, winning the team title over heavily favored Brockport State.

The tournament saw 103 matches wrestled during nine and one-half hours of competition.

Potsdam jumped off to a seven-point lead in the elimination round, and stretched that advantage throughout the day to gain its first conference wrestling crown.

The team scoring showed Potsdam with 82.5 points, followed by defending champion Brockport with 68.5. Oswego finished with 66 points in third place, while Albany State showed surprising strength with 52 points in fourth place.

The remaining places in order went to Cortland State, Oneonta State, Geneseo State, Buffalo State, Plattsburgh State, and New Paltz State.

Potsdam and Brockport each had three individual titlists, while Oswego wrestlers copped a pair of crowns. Albany and Cortland each had one champion.

Cortland State's captain, Bob DaRin of East Syracuse, was selected by the coaches and team captains as the outstanding wrestler of the tournament. The 150-pound king won his title by decisioning Keith Lyndaker of Potsdam 9-3 in the finals.

In the 118-pound class, Brockport's Bruce Biondi captured his second consecutive SUNYAC title, decisioning Al Solomon of Geneseo 6-1. Biondi is the defending NCAA College Division champion at that weight.

Potsdam's three champions are all from Long Island.

Freshman Tony Peraza displayed great poise and skill as he captured the 142-pound crown, defeating Larry Mims of Albany State 6-2 in the title match. Peraza is from Ridge, and is undefeated in his last 16 bouts.

Bear co-captains Joe Galea of Brentwood and Rich Molbury of Franklin Square both lived up to their number-one seedings, taking the 167 and 177-pound crowns, respectively.

Galea defeated Brockport's Dave Cook 4-3 in the finals to secure the team title for Potsdam while Molbury successfully defended his SUNYAC title, and avenged the only loss he has suffered in a dual meet when he decisioned Paul Bruns of Brockport 5-2. Bruns had beaten Molbury earlier in the season by a disputed 2-1 margin.

Brockport captain Mike Parente defended his 190-pound crown, posting a 10-3 decision over Oswego State's Dennis Luzon. Brockport's other win came at 134-pounds, where Dave Foxen scored an 8-4 decision over Geneseo State's Ed Gerace, last year's SUNYAC 142-pound champion.

Ernie Williams of Oswego State won his third straight SUNYAC title, decisioning Sal Terrana of Oneonta 10-4, in the 158-pound final.

He was joined by teammate Bob Albrecht, who scored three one-point decisions, including a 6-5 win over Oneonta's Octavius Jones to win the 126-pound mantle.

Albany's Rudy Vido, the biggest man in the tournament at 255-pounds, captured the Unlimited division title, decisioning 182-pound Tom McCue of Potsdam by an 11-7 margin, picking up four points in the last 50 seconds after McCue had tied the match.

In winning the team title, Potsdam wrestlers won 22 of 30 matches, scoring 13 falls and a lone superior decision in

those victories.

Under the tournament scoring system, a wrestler who won by fall gained one additional team point, while a superior (more than 10-point) decision added one-half point to the team total.

A flurry of early round falls, coupled with three champions, two runners-up, and two third place finishers, provided Potsdam with its tremendous upset.

Brockport, the defending champion and favorite, was ranked 12th nationally among college-division teams by the Amateur Wrestling News prior to the match, and had handed Potsdam its lone dual meet loss of the year three weeks earlier, 28-6 at Brockport.

When three wrestlers lost first-round matches, the Eagles knew they were going to have a fight on their hands. Brockport managed only five falls in winning 17 to 26 individual bouts, giving Potsdam a big edge.

When two Brockport finalists dropped head-to-head encounters with Potsdam, the Eagles were doomed to second-place, with Parente's win at 190 clinching that position.

Oswego was the surprise of the field, placing a wrestler in the top four in each of the eight weight classes from 126-pounds to 190-pounds. The Lakers picked up wins in 22 of their 32 matches during the tournament.

Albany showed the greatest improvement, placing eight wrestlers in top four positions, and moving up three places over last year's effort.

Potsdam had every wrestler they entered, nine in all, score for the team. The victorious Bears are coached by Neil Johnson, assisted by Ron Lewis.

Officers of Salmon Club

Despite the extreme cold, members of the Little Salmon Fish and Game Club turned out in force to hold an annual meeting and elect officers for another year.

Although a good attempt was made to have new officers this year, President Richard Barber, Bangor, and Secretary Joan Whipple, Brushton, accepted re-election for the time being. Elected for the first time for treasurer is Walter Danville, Brushton, and for Vicepresident, Kenneth Kelly, Fort Covington.

A lively discussion was held and pros and cons brought up about the Adirondack Park Agency and many members attended the open meeting at the Brushton School.

Sportsmen were also advised to write to their Representatives to oppose legislation being brought up by the Friends to Animals group which would abolish the use of live steel traps.

They are also urged to write to Albany and oppose the legislation by Governor Rockefeller which would have pistol permit holders renew their permits every three years at a cost of \$30.00!

Two movies were shown, "Wheelin' Easy" and "Gentle Giants". Refreshments were served.

Members are urged to send their dues in as soon as possible, using the envelope enclosed for their convenience. Please retain the half of the card as directed. Dues this year are \$1.00 and anyone who would like to support the club may do so by con-