

Other honors accorded wrestlers

Two Trojansearn national championships

By LES BROWN Free Press Contributor

The Colby Community College Trojan wrestling team made an exceptional showing at last weekend's NJCAA national wrestling tournament in Rochester, Minn. Colby's five national tournament qualifiers combined to score 78.5 team points, which landed them with fifth place honors in the NJCAA Division I standings. Northwest Wyoming won the championship, while Lassen, Iowa Central and North Idaho earned second, third and fourth place finishes, respectively. Four Colby athletes were able to earn All-American honors this season and two earned national championships.



Luedke



Abdurakhmanov

Joshua Medina in the championship final round. In doing so Luedke advanced his overall season record to 34-5, with only two losses coming to junior college competition. Luedke now has the opportunity to compete for a second national title next season. Muzaffar Abdurakhmanov (sophomore, Tashkent Uzbekistan) became just the second Trojan and one of only 49 people in history to have earned two NJCAA national championships in wrestling. Abdurakhmanov was dominant throughout the tournament, but it was his convincing margin of victory over Nassau Community College's returning national champion, Mike Patrick, in the 165 pound finals that raised the eyebrows of many in attendance. His four victories on the weekend ran his season record to 25-1 and his career record to 56-4. More remarkably, Abdurakhmanov ended his career with a perfect record against junior college opponents.

Defending national champion C.B. Dollaway (sophomore, Mt. Gilead, Ohio) came up a bit short in his bid to repeat as a national champion. Dollaway advanced to the semifinal round of the tournament and appeared to be on his way to the championship finals. But in the process of turning his opponent, John Koons of Ridgewater College, in a pinning combination, Koons was able to roll through the move and

catch Dollaway in a pinning combination of his own to score a fall. The unexpected loss deprived Dollaway of an opportunity to compete for another title, but it did provide those in attendance an opportunity to see an incredible display of sportsmanship. Following the loss, Dollaway picked himself up off the mat, smiled, shook his head in disbelief, and shook the hands of his opponent, the referee and opposing coach before calmly exiting the gym. Dollaway then came back in a fine fashion to score two convincing victories and earn a third place to finish in the 184 pound weight division.

Zach Luedke (freshman, Colby) continued his winning ways into the late rounds of the tournament, as he too advanced to the championship semifinal round in the 174 pound weight division. In the semifinals, Luedke lost a bout to the eventual national champion, Anthony Johnson of Lassen, and fell into the tournament's consolation bracket. He then lost two tightly contested bouts and finished in sixth place.

While the Trojans' final national tournament qualifier was not able to secure All-American honors, Kyle Patton (freshman, Wellsville) was able to acquire valuable experience by competing in the national tournament.

Patton exited the tournament prior to reaching the medal rounds in the 125 pound weight division,

but the national tournament experience he obtained this year will only improve the likelihood of him earning a spot on the medal stand at next season's finale.

The success experienced at the national tournament carried over to the post tournament awards ceremony. Abdurakhmanov was awarded the Ernest B. Gould Outstanding Award. Dollaway's sportsmanship following his loss earned him the Joseph A. Rockenback Sportsmanship Award. Other awards presented to Colby during the course of the meet included NJCAA recognition for having been last season's top academic wrestling team, as based upon aggregate GPA. And former Trojan great Peter Yee became the third Trojan to be inducted to the NJCAA National Hall of Fame.

Other tournament highlights included Luedke and Abdurakhmanov's accomplishment of becoming the 14th and 15th Trojans to earn national championship honors.

Abdurakhmanov joined Daniel Cormier as the only other two-time NJCAA national champion in school history. Abdurakhmanov and Dollaway became the 19th and 20th two-time NJCAA All-Americans in school history.

And the team's fifth place finish was the 11th top-ten finish during the past 13 years and the 10th top-six finish in school history.

College's basketball women advance

Send off scheduled Friday

The Colby Community College Lady Trojan basketball team made it look easy during Wednesday night's victory over Allen County Community College. With the 88-57 win, Colby advances in the Region VI Tournament to play Cowley County Community College on Saturday at the Bicentennial Center in Salina. Tip-off is set for 3 p.m. The public is invited to a send-off ceremony for the Lady Trojans on Friday, beginning at 1 p.m. in the parking lot north of the college gymnasium.

The Cowley County women finished the season with a 22-8 record in the Jayhawk East. They defeated Hutchinson on Wednesday night 58-56.

The Trojan Lady's finished the season tied for first in the Jayhawk West with an overall record of 27-3. Jelena Spiric led Colby with 32 points. Bojana Samardziska

added 17, followed by Louise McLean with 15.

"What a great year for Colby Community College fall sports," said athletic director Carl Adams. "The wrestling team had four All-Americans and two national champions. Steve Lampe and assistant Todd Voss did a great job. Coach Brian Ostermann and his assistants are also to be commended for the men's basketball team's 24-7 record and third-place finish in the Jayhawk West." The Colby women's team is coached by Tom Stephens. He is assisted by Dawn Stephens and Maggie Eck.

"Tom did a great job this year," said Adams. "We all wish the team the best of luck in Salina. I'm encouraging our fans to travel to the game and cheer for the Lady Trojans as they continue their quest to win the region and go on to nationals!"

Colby activities

- Today — Colby Eagle basketball ladies vs. Hugoton at Ulysses, semifinals of 4A Sub-State Tournament, 7:30 p.m.
• Friday — Eagle basketball boys

- vs. Larned at Ulysses in the semifinals of the 4A Sub-State Tournament, 6 p.m.
• Saturday — Girls and boys 4A Sub-State championship games at Ulysses, girls at 6 p.m., boys 7:30.

Colby Kids take wrestling talents to five area communities

• Feb. 7 at Jetmore Dustin Reed, 8 & Under, 49 lbs., 1st; Zell Bieberle, 8&U, 95+ lbs., 1st; Nathan Reed, 12&U, 68 lbs., 1st; Bob Schroeder, 12&U, 84 lbs., 2nd; and Adam Weber, 12&U, 84 lbs., 2nd.

• At Oberlin 6 & Under Tate Carney, 40 lbs., 1st; Brady Holzmeister, 49 lbs., 1st; Connor Edmundson, 52 lbs., 1st; Bryce Arnberger, 55 lbs., 1st; Bowen

Black, 58 lbs., 3rd; Casey Quagliano, 58 lbs., 4th; and Kegan Morgan, 70 lbs., 4th.

8 & Under Kyle Finley, 52 lbs., 1st; Austin Cobb, 58 lbs., 2nd; Jay Ziegelmeier, 61 lbs., 3rd; Travis Finley, 4th; Andrew Taylor, 76 lbs., 3rd; and Trek Keck, 76 lbs., 1st.

10 & Under Konner Kriss, 61 lbs., 1st; Taylor Moeder, 67 lbs., 1st; Houston Gourley, 72 lbs., 3rd; Kale Arnberger, 76 lbs., 2nd; and Nathan

Quagliano, 110 lbs., 3rd. 12 & Under Sam Kendrick, 88 lbs., 2nd; Andrew Flanagan, 88 lbs., 1st; Jordan Voss, 96 lbs., 1st; and Ethan Stickel, 96 lbs., 2nd.

• Feb. 14 at Oakley tourney 6 & Under Tate Carney, 40 lbs., 1st; Cole Ziegelmeier, 49 lbs., 2nd; Brady Holzmeister, 49 lbs., 1st; Connor Edmundson, 52 lbs., 1st; Andrew Voss, 55 lbs., 3rd; Bowen Black, 58

lbs., 2nd; and Kegan Morgan, 70 lbs., 2nd.

8 & Under Dustin Reed, 49 lbs., 1st; Josh Barnhart, 49 lbs., 3rd; Kyle Finley, 52 lbs., 4th; Devin Langdon, 58 lbs., 3rd; Austin Cobb, 58 lbs., 4th; Jay Ziegelmeier, 61 lbs., 2nd; Quade Woofert, 64 lbs., 1st; Ian Koepcher, 67 lbs., 3rd; Hunter Butts, 67 lbs., 4th; Travis Finley, 2nd; Andrew Taylor, 76 lbs., 3rd; and Trek Keck, 76 lbs., 1st.

10 & Under

Konner Kriss, 61 lbs., 1st; Kegan Strange, 64 lbs., 3rd; Taylor Moeder, 67 lbs., 1st; Chase Harlow, 70 lbs., 2nd; Christian Wilson, 76 lbs., 2nd; and Dalton Snyder, 85 lbs., 1st.

12 & Under Nathan Reed, 68 lbs., 2nd; Torey Taylor, 84 lbs., 2nd; Zach Harlow, 84 lbs., 3rd; Alex Wagoner, 88 lbs., 3rd; Ethan Stickel, 96 lbs., 1st; Jordan Voss, 96 lbs., 1st; Kalen Rasmussen, 100 lbs., 2nd; and Jarrett Marker, 100 lbs., 3rd.

• Feb. 14 at Russell tourney Zell Bieberle, 8 & Under, 95+ lbs., 2nd and Adam Weber, 12 & Under, 130 lbs., 2nd.

College College activities

- Saturday — Trojan baseball hosts Seward County, 1 p.m.; Trojan softball hosts Pratt here, 2 p.m.
• Sunday — Trojan softball hosts Otero Junior College, 1 p.m.

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