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Division III Championship Home Page

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Event Schedule

All times Central Standard Time

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

6 a.m. Mat Set Up

9 a.m. Set Up (video, tables, etc.)

2 p.m. Set Up Complete

5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Wrestling facilities open at the La Crosse Center

5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Registration and Verification at the La Crosse Center

5 p.m. – 8 p.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale: La Crosse Center

4 p.m. – 5 p.m. NWCA Executive Committee Meeting

5 p.m. Facility Walk Through with NCAA Committee

7 p.m. Wrestling Committee Meeting/Dinner

Thursday, March 10, 2011

9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Wrestling facilities open at the La Crosse Center

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Registration and Verification at the La Crosse Center

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale: La Crosse Center

2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Mandatory NCAA coaches meeting

3 p.m. – 4 p.m. NWCA coaches meeting (TBD)

6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Wrestling scales open (mats closed)

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. NWCA Coaches Social:

9 p.m. Officials meeting with the NCAA Wrestling Committee

Friday, March 11, 2011

7 a.m. La Crosse Center open for practice/weight check

7 a.m. Hospitality Room Opens for Coaches, Volunteers and Media

8:40 a.m. Assembly of wrestlers in the La Crosse Center

8:50 a.m. Medical/skin checks in the warm-up area of the La Crosse Center

9 a.m. Weigh-Ins in the warm-up area of the La Crosse Center

9:30 a.m. Table workers Orientation with NCAA Wrestling Committee and Head Official

9:30 a.m. Doors open for Spectators

9:30 a.m. Merchandise Sales opens

SESSION I

11 a.m. Championships Preliminary Rounds One and Two (six mats)

Consolation First (six mats)

2 p.m. Future Championships host meeting –

3 p.m. Hospitality room closes

FW World Cup in Liévin

After having hosted the Greco-Roman World Cup in 2009, France will host this prestigious event again and welcome the female teams in Liévin for the 2011 Female Wrestling World Cup. The 7 best ranked countries at the 2010 World Championship and the host country will meet on 05 and 06 March to determine the new ranking of the discipline. The French wrestlers will compete in front of their public with the Japanese, Russian, Canadian, American, Kazakh, Chinese, and Mongolian wrestlers. The nominative entries can be consulted at the [following link](#).

The draw for positions in the two groups will take place on 04 March and will be available on the [website dedicated to the competition](#) as soon as completed. The two groups will be seeded by Japan and Russia, first and second at the 2010 World Championship. All eyes will be on the Chinese team, winner of the 2010 and 2009 World Cups.

FILA encourages all wrestling fans to go to Liévin to cheer their favourite team and take part in one of the most important events of the year.

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

Fourteen Win Titles at Inaugural CIF State Girls Wrestling Invitational

LEMOORE – Fourteen girls made history Saturday, winning championships during the inaugural CIF State Girls Wrestling State Invitational Tournament Presented by Farmers at Lemoore High School.

A total of 338 female athletes representing 10 CIF sections statewide participated in the two-day event before a crowd of 977 on Friday and 1,032 on Saturday. The invitational is part of the CIF Regional and State Championship master plan to balance the number of postseason athletic experiences for boys and girls. It also comes 38 years after the first boys state tournament was held at Cal State Hayward in 1973.

"I was truly pleased with the attendance and crowd that came to the event," CIF State Executive Director Marie M. Ishida said. "I was particularly pleased with the staff at Lemoore High School and the Central Section, which helped to put on a great event. Together, we established a fine foundation for the future and we hope the girls championships will grow into an event that will mirror the boys' championships."

The female athletes engaged in several competitive matches that generated roars from the crowd and illustrated the progress of the sport. "The quality and athleticism displayed by the athletes showed tremendous improvement from where we were six years ago," Ishida said. "It was absolutely amazing."

Among those who earned individual state titles included freshman Regina Doi of Kingsburg, Alexia Moreno of Turlock, and junior Juliana Triplett of Ripon. Bob Contreras of Kingsburg became the first to win a boys state title (98 pounds) in 1973 and Doi did the same in the girls' event representing the same school. She defeated junior Nhi Doan of San Jose-Andrew Hill by major decision (11-1) in a 98-pound match.

"I made history," said Doi, who wrestled 20 pounds under weight. "And I feel really honored to join Bob Contreras as first-ever winners."

Moreno muscled her way to a 118-pound state title, pinning Tamara Tillman of Santa Fe late in the third period. Triplett captured the 165-pound title, defeating senior Heather O'Connor of Vintage 1-0 in four sudden-death overtime periods.

West Covina won the team championship with 156.5 points, followed by Bethel (111.5) and Northview (77).

Nationwide, nearly 8,150 high school girls wrestled last year, according to the National Federation of State School Associations, nearly three times as many 10 years earlier. Statewide the numbers have nearly doubled within the decade going from 752 in 2001 to currently 1,493.

While those numbers pale in comparison to the nearly quarter-million boys who wrestle nationwide, there are other

NAIA released brackets for this weekend's National Championships

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa - Official brackets for the 2011 NAIA Wrestling National Championships have been released. Action in the U.S. Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, will get underway Thursday at 11 a.m. CST. The 54th annual event will consist of six sessions, concluding on Saturday with the championship finals.

There will be 318 wrestlers representing 39 teams taking to the mat, including 32 All-Americans, five defending national champions and a pair of grapplers that took top-honors in 2009.

Real-time results from all mats during all six sessions of action will be available through the NWCA Live Scorebook by [clicking here](#).

NeuLion will stream live all 10 individual weight class championship bouts on March 5 and will be available to view starting at approximately 7 p.m. A fee of \$7.95 is set to view the finals. [Click here for more information.](#)

<http://www.themat.com/>

NAIA Championships kick off Thursday in Cedar Rapids

The 2011 NAIA Wrestling National Championships will get underway Thursday at 11 a.m. CST at the U.S. Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The 54th annual event runs through Saturday and features six sessions of action, capped off with the championship finals. Brackets for each weight class will be posted Wednesday by 9 p.m. CST.

Cedar Rapids will welcome 324 individuals representing 39 teams descending upon the U.S. Cellular Center and of those qualifiers, 86 are freshmen, 82 are sophomores, 95 are juniors and 61 are seniors. Thirty-two of the qualifiers have previously earned All-America accolades by placing in the top-six of their respective weight class (a seventh- or eighth-place finisher was named honorable mention). Each weight class will have at least one returning All-American in action, with both 141 and 165 pounds featuring five All-Americans.

Among the returning All-Americans, seven have twice earned the distinction. McKendree's (Ill.) Andrew Sanchez is the only three-time All-American among the field, earning all of his honors at 197 pounds. Sanchez, who is in his senior campaign, was the 2009 national champion at 197.

Sanchez is one of seven grapplers that have previously taken home top-honors in their respective weight class that will be eyeing a second title in Cedar Rapids. Vying for a repeat performance will be Campbellsville's (Ky.) Tommy Pretty, Glenn Rhees of Grand View (Iowa) at 174 pounds and the Notre Dame (Ohio) trio of Jeffrey Pelton (149), Thomas Straugh (157) and Derek Foore (197). Pretty captured the 133-pound national championship a season ago, but has bumped up to 141 pounds in his junior season. Grand View's Matt Burns finished first at 149 pounds as a sophomore in 2009.

Six of 2010's All-Americans have shifted weight class, including Myles Mazurkiewicz of Great Falls (Mont.) moving from 133 to 141 and Cumberland's (Tenn.) James Casadaban bumping up from 157 to 165. Both Chris Chionuma of Lindenwood (Mo.) and Hastings' (Neb.) Jameon Rush climbed to 174 after spending last season at 165.

In the event's 53 years, 107 programs have had an individual finish on top of the podium. Simon Fraser (B.C.) has had the most wrestlers finish first in their respective weight class, with 40 national champions. Montana State-Northern is a distant second with 29.

Shifting to the team race, reigning team champion Notre Dame has qualified 12 individuals and is looking to become the ninth team to win back-to-back national titles. The Falcons won their first national championship in 2010, denying Lindenwood a record-tying fourth-straight national championship. In the history of the event, a team has won consecutive national titles 15 times.

There have been 18 programs that have previously taken home the team title. Adams State (Colo.) and Central State (Okla.) each took home eight, the most in 53 years. Of the current NAIA programs, Montana State-Northern leads the way with six national championships, with the last coming in 2004.

The largest margin of victory in 53 years came in 1981 with Central State taking top honors with an 85.75 point cushion on runner-up Adams State's (Colo.) 69.5 points. On the flip side, Lock Haven State (Pa.) edged Bloomsburg State (Pa.) by one point in 1963, 61-60, for the closest team finish. In 1994, Southern Oregon and Western Montana tied for top-honors with 94.5 points. It is the only time the title has been shared.

There have been 14 programs that have finished second, but have not taken home a banner, four of which will take to the mat in Cedar Rapids. These teams include: Embry-Riddle (Ariz.), Jamestown (N.D.), McKendree and Menlo

Women's World Cup 2011 – Team CANADA

Team Canada's delegation is departing this week for Lievin, France for the **2011 Women's World Cup**. Wrestling starts on March 5th and will conclude on March 6th, 2011.

Team Delegation

48 kg – Lindsay Prickett (Guelph, ON)
51 kg – Jessica MacDONALD (St. Catharines, ON)
55 kg – Samantha STEWART (Fredericton, NB)
59 kg – Amanda GERHART (Vancouver, BC)
63 kg – Justine BOUCHARD (Calgary, AB)
67 kg – Megan BUYDENS (Saskatoon, SK)
72 kg – Leah CALLAHAN (Calgary, AB)

Coach – Leigh VIERLING
Medical – Nadine PLOTNIKOFF
Referee – Jim MITCHELL

<http://www.wrestling.ca/>

Updated Canadian Anti-Doping Rules Now in Effect

(Ottawa, Ontario – March 1, 2011) – An updated version of the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) came into effect today. These rules govern how anti-doping is conducted in Canada and are administered by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) on behalf of the Canadian sport community.

<http://www.cces.ca/en/advisories-35-updated-canadian-anti-doping-rules-now-in>

<http://www.wrestling.ca/>

Oklahoma State favored to capture title at Big 12 Championships

Oklahoma coach Jack Spates is retiring.

Nebraska coach Mark Manning's team is leaving for the Big Ten Conference next season.

But those will be the last things on those coach's minds when the Big 12 Championships are contested on Saturday at Iowa State's Hilton Coliseum in Ames, Iowa.

Their focus is on turning in a strong performance at what remains one of the toughest qualifiers for the NCAA Championships. Perennial power Oklahoma State is favored to repeat as league champions. The Cowboys have won nine Big 12 titles.

The Big 12 will drop to a four-team qualifier next year with the departure of Nebraska, leaving Oklahoma State, Oklahoma, Iowa State and Missouri as the remaining schools.

"We are just kind of living in the moment right now and looking at what's right in front of us," said Manning, whose team won a share of the Big 12 title in 2009. "Moving to the Big Ten will be a great change for us and our university, but for now we are just focused on this weekend."

Oklahoma State is ranked fourth in the nation with Oklahoma 10th, Iowa State 11th, Nebraska 13th and Missouri 19th.

"Our focus is just on performing and performing well," Spates said. "The nostalgia probably isn't going to hit until several months after I'm done when I'm sitting on my couch and reflecting back on it."

The Big 12 has earned 33 of 281 automatic qualifying spots for the NCAAs, set for March 17-19 in Philadelphia. An additional 49 at-large berths will be awarded on March 9.

SUMMARY: Blair leads from opening whistle to win 31st straight National Prep title

Evan Silver scores a takedown on the way to winning his fourth National Prep title.

As soon as the referees' whistles sounded to start the first matches at the 78th National Prep Championship Tournament on Friday morning, February 25, 2011, Blair's Joe McKenna, the #1 seed at 103 lbs, had his opponent on his back and pinned - well, officially, Joe took 15 seconds.

With those 2 super-quick team points for the pin and 2 more for the win, Blair leaped to the lead, which it quickly built upon, thanks especially to its dominant five lower weight wrestlers, who had 13 pins and a tech fall in their 15 bouts the first day. (All told, Blair's 14 wrestlers had 26 pins, 2 tech falls and 2 major decisions the first day.)

At the end of that first day, Blair had 173 team points, 49.5 more than USA No. 9 Wyoming Seminary (PA) and 88 more than then 3rd place Germantown (PA). Perhaps even more critical, Blair had 13 wrestlers assured of placing and nine in the semi-finals.

The next day saw more of the same, as Blair amassed a total of 300 team points via five National Prep Champs, two seconds, a third, a fourth, a fifth, a seventh and two eighths. Second-place Wyoming Seminary was well back with 194 points and one champ, while third-place Archbishop Spalding (MD) had 129.5 points and one champ.

Blair's 2011 National Prep champs were freshman Joe McKenna at 103 lbs, senior Evan Silver at 112 lbs, junior Mark Grey at 125 lbs, junior Todd Preston at 130 lbs and sophomore Brooks Black at 285 lbs.

For Evan Silver, it was his fourth National Prep championship, making him just the fifth wrestler to accomplish that feat while at Blair. (In chronological order, the others have been John Giacche, Cory Cooperman, Travis Blasco and Chris Villalonga.)

For junior Mark Grey, it was the third National Prep title, and for fellow junior Todd Preston it was the second National Prep crown.

By virtue of winning all their bouts by fall and placing first, Joe McKenna and Mark Grey won the Major Ray Mendoza Award for earning the most team points. Established in the 2009-2010 season, this prestigious award is named after Blair wrestler Ray Mendoza, Class of 1987, who was killed in action in Iraq in 2005, and is given only by Ironman, Beast of the East and National Preps. Mark Grey became the first wrestler in America to win the Mendoza Award twice, having captured it at the 2010 Beast of the East in December.

Blair's 2nd place finishers at the 2011 National Preps were senior Caleb Richardson at 119 lbs and freshman Dylan Milonas at 145 lbs.

Sophomore Frank Mattiache placed 3rd at 189 lbs, while fellow sophomore Addison Kneppshield placed 4th at 171 lbs.

Freshman Pat Coover placed 5th at 152 lbs, losing only to two seniors who placed 3rd and 4th at his weight.

Senior Willie Wilson placed 7th at 215 lbs, finishing with a bang as he pinned in his final Blair bout. Juniors Abe Ayala and Mike Mocco placed eighth at 135 lbs and 160 lbs, respectively, Mike having to default his final matches because of a knee re-injury.

Blair's consecutive run as the National Prep ultimate team champion began in 1981, making the 2011 title its 31st in a row. As an aside, Blair's other National Prep team title came in 1974.

To put Blair's 31-year National Prep championship streak in perspective, we note that in "The Standard of Excellence," the encyclopedic hard-cover book published in January concerning the Blair wrestling program, the next longest streak in the USA in end-of-season tournaments, meaning state or National Prep championships, is currently 22 consecutive years by Mt Anthony Union in Vermont.

Among the better-known programs in larger wrestling states, the 13-year streak by St Edward (OH) from 1997 through 2009 and the 12-year streak by Granby (VA) from 1960 through 1971, when it was coached by Wrestling Hall of Fame legend Billy Martin, are often viewed as meaningful standards.

As Blair looks to upcoming seasons, it can take great comfort in knowing that next year alone, it returns four 2011 National Prep Champs, ten 2011 place winners and two others who placed in 2010, including one wrestler who was 2nd in 2010 and did not wrestle in the 2011 tournament. In addition to these 12 returning place winners are other national-caliber talents in the Blair wrestling room, waiting for their turns at the dance.

Editor's Note: Dave Ritterpusch wrote the excellent book "The Standard of Excellence," a chronicle of the history of Blair Academy wrestling.

USA goes 2-1 to win its pool and reach Women's World Cup finals against China

2008 World champion Clarissa Chun of the USA defeats Lindsay Rushton of Canada at 48 kg in the 2010 Women's World Cup. Photo by Ikuo Higuchi

LIEVIN, France – The United States went 2-1 in pool competition on Saturday, and has advanced to the championship match at the Women's World Cup. The Women's World Cup is the annual international dual meet championship featuring the top wrestling nations in the world.

The United States defeated Canada 5-2, lost to Russia, 4-3 and dominated Kazakhstan, 6-1 in Pool B competition.

The USA, Canada and Russia all finished the pool competition with 2-1 records. In the tiebreaking procedures, the USA took first, Canada took second and Russia took third. Kazakhstan was 0-3 to place fourth in the pool.

"We had a tough day. We did not wrestle our best but I give the girls credit; they found a way to get the job done. That is the key to success that even on your bad days you have to be better than the rest," said National Women's Coach Terry Steiner.

Medal matches will be held on Sunday. In the championship dual meet, the United States will face Pool A winner China. It is a rematch of the 2010 Women's World Cup finals, won by China.

"We will face a tough China team tomorrow," said Steiner. "We will need to step it up a couple notches. We are capable of it. Let's see what we are made of tomorrow."

The third place match will feature Canada against Japan. The fifth place match will include Russia and Mongolia. Seventh place will be contested between Kazakhstan and France.

The USA opened with a strong 5-2 win over Canada. The team got off to a strong start at 48 kg/105.5 lbs. when 2008 World champion Clarissa Chun (Colorado Springs, Colo./Sunkist Kids) defeated Lindsay Rushton. After a loss at 51 kg/112.25 pounds, the United States reeled off four straight wins to put the dual away.

Earning wins over Canada were Helen Maroulis (Rockville, Md./New York AC) at 55 kg/121 lbs., Kelsey Campbell (Colorado Springs, Colo./Sunkist Kids) at 59 kg/130 lbs., Elena Pirozhkova (Colorado Springs, Colo./Gator WC) at 63 kg/138.75 lbs. and Kristie Davis (Oklahoma City, Okla./Gator WC/OCU) at 67 kg/147.5 lbs.

Pirozhkova, a 2010 World silver medalist, beat a longtime rival, 2009 World bronze medalist Justine Bouchard. Davis, a two-time World champion and nine-time World medalist, stopped Megan Buydens.

The U.S. fell 4-3 to Russia in the second dual. It went down to the final match, where Russia's Ekatarina Bukina edged 2008 U.S. Olympian Ali Bernard (New Ulm, Minn./Gator WC).

Scoring victories for the USA were Pirozhkova and Davis, with a forfeit win at 48 kg/105.5 lbs. by 2010 U.S. World Team member Alyssa Lampe (Colorado Springs, Colo./Sunkist Kids).

In the closing dual meet against Kazakhstan, the U.S. dominated for a 6-1 victory. Kazakhstan won the opening bout, but the USA ran off six straight wins to close out the win.

Winning for the USA against Kazakhstan were Campbell, Pirozhkova, Davis and Bernard, plus two-time World bronze medalist Tatiana Padilla (Colorado Springs, Colo./Sunkist Kids) at 55 kg/121 lbs. and two-time U.S. World Team member Jessica Medina (Colorado Springs, Colo./Sunkist Kids) at 51 kg/112.25 lbs.

Pirozhkova and Davis had perfect 3-0 records on Saturday. Campbell finished the day unbeaten with a 2-0 record.

"I love this team. They are a great group of athletes and they deserve everything they get. They work very hard and are very focused in their efforts," said Steiner.

The last time the USA won the Women's World Cup team title was in 2003 in Tokyo, Japan, when the United States had a perfect 6-0 record in their dual meets, and defeated host Japan in the championship finals, 14-13.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP At Lievin, France, March 5

USA 5, Canada 2

48 kg/105.5 lbs. – Clarissa Chun (USA) dec. Lindsay Rushton (Canada)
51 kg/112.25 lbs. – Jessica MacDonald (Canada) dec. Jessica Medina (USA)
55 kg/121 lbs. – Helen Maroulis (USA) dec. Samantha Stewart (Canada)
59 kg/130 lbs. – Kelsey Campbell (USA) dec. Amanda Gerhardt (Canada)

Burkert wins bronze medal at Klippan Lady Open in Sweden

KLIPPAN, Sweden – Jenna Burkert (Rocky Point, N.Y./USOEC) won two matches in the repechage rounds on Sunday to capture a bronze medal at 59 kg/130 lbs. at the Klippan Lady Open on Sunday.

She finished the competition with a 3-1 record, competing against a number of experienced international opponents.

She opened the day by pinning 2007 European bronze medalist Emese Barka of Hungary, in 1:24 in the repechage round. In the bronze-medal bout, she defeated two-time World medalist Agata Pietrzyk of Poland, 1-0, 1-0.

"Jenna pinned two opponents with a hip toss and an arm throw on her way to winning a bronze medal at the Klippan Lady Open. She bounced back mentally after her loss with brilliance and showed a lot of courage by sticking to her game plans. Jenna has learned a lot about how Europeans wrestle and has learned a lot about how to wrestle Europeans," said Shannyn Gillespie, USOEC head women's coach.

Burkert is a senior at Marquette High School in Michigan, where she trains with the USOEC program at Northern Michigan University. She was the 2010 ASICS High School Girls Wrestler of the Year. Burkert competed at the 2010 Youth Olympic Games, where he placed fifth.

Two of her USOEC teammates were defeated in their first match and placed 10th in their divisions: Erin Golston (Lake of the Hills, Ill./USOEC) at 48 kg/105.5 lbs. and Schuyler Brown (Montpelier, Va./USOEC) at 55 kg/121 lbs.

"Over all, the trip was a success because Jenna, Erin, and Schuyler saw top Europeans and Asians train, compete, and get ready for competitions," said Gillespie

KLIPPAN LADY OPEN At Klippan, Sweden, March 5-6

48 kg/105.5 lbs.

Gold - Yuki Irie (Japan)
Silver - Iwona Matkowska (Poland)
Bronze - Julita Omilusik (Poland)
Bronze - Paamat Bagomedova (Azerbaijan)
5th - Chigusa Ito (Japan)
5th - Jessica Blaszka (Netherlands)

51 kg/112.25 lbs.

Gold - Anzhela Dorogan (Azerbaijan)
Silver - Honoka Saito (Japan)
Bronze - Yuka Sakurai (Japan)
Bronze - Iona Omilusik (Poland)
5th - Natalia Ochal (Poland)
5th - Francesca Mori (Italy)

55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold - Ida-Theres Nerell (Sweden)
Silver - Kanako Murata (Japan)
Bronze - Emese Szabó (Hungary)
Bronze - Katarzyna Krawczyk (Poland)
5th - Tiina Ylisen (Finland)
5th - Nadine Tokar (Switzerland)

59 kg/130 lbs.

Gold - Yuliya Ratkevich (Azerbaijan)
Silver - Gabriella Steisz (Hungary)
Bronze - Jenna Burkert (USA)
Bronze - Anastasija Grigorjeva (Latvia)
5th - Agata Pietrzyk (Poland)
5th - Simona Corbani (Italy)

63 kg/138.75 lbs.

Gold - Monika Michalik (Poland)
Silver - Hanna Johansson (Sweden)
Bronze - Luz Vazquez (Argentina)
Bronze - Marianna Sastin (Hungary)
5th - Sara Storgård (Sweden)
5th - Olesya Zamula (Azerbaijan)

Referee Vince Zuaro passed away

It is with great emotion that FILA was informed of the death of Dr. Vince Zuaro, American referee who dedicated a big part of his life to wrestling. In 1970, he founded the U.S. Wrestling Officials Association with the aim to offer proper training to the national referees and supply wrestlers and officials with rule books to better understand the intricacies of the international rules. Dr. Zuaro refereed 5 Olympic Games, 34 World Championships, 6 Pan-American Championships and 30 years of national tournaments in addition to a long career as collegiate referee. He was awarded with the FILA golden star and golden whistle to salute his exceptional contribution as international referee. In 2010, he became the first American referee to be inducted in the FILA Hall of Fame. He accepted the award with great emotion and declared: "The induction is like the "PhD of wrestling. There is no way to go higher".

FILA conveys its deepest sympathy to Dr. Zuaro's family and to USA Wrestling who lost a man of great value.

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

Stu Hart 2011 - Results

Please click [HERE](#) for all the details.

<http://www.wrestling.ca/>

USA Wrestling Weekly's March 4 broadcast posted for viewing

The USA Wrestling Weekly broadcast for Friday, March 4 has been posted for fans to enjoy.

USA Wrestling Weekly is a new half-hour news broadcast which will be produced on a weekly basis. Presented in a news format, it provides updated information on USA Wrestling activities, as well as a variety of feature segments.

To see this week's episode, visit the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCRdrhOUzk>

This week's show included the following feature segments:

- Coverage of Grand Prix of Tourcoing in France
 - Coverage of the Dan Kolov and Nikola Petrov Internationals in Bulgaria
 - Coverage of the Takhti Cup in Iran
 - Interview with Egypt's World Greco-Roman champion Mohammad Abdel Fatah who will compete in the All-Star Dual during the NCAA Championships
 - USA Wrestling's Facebook Page goes over 100,000 fans
 - NJCAA Junior College Nationals coverage
 - California's State Girls Wrestling Invitational
 - New drug testing program in Grappling
 - College Wrestling Post-Season Schedule
- And much more.

The Wrestling Greats segment features Dennis Koslowski, 1992 Olympic silver medalist and 1988 Olympic bronze medalist in Greco-Roman. Koslowski was America's first two-time Olympic medalist in Greco-Roman and also boasts a World silver medal.

The Technique segment features the high crotch, and is taught by USA Wrestling National Freestyle Developmental Coach Bill Zadick, USA Wrestling Manager of Coaches Education Cody Bickley and retired National Freestyle Developmental Coach Dave Bennett.

The USA Wrestling Weekly Photo of the Week contest winner was Ceara Poulin, with a picture of New York youth

FS World Cup in Makhachkala

Russia, top-ranked nation in freestyle wrestling, will be the host of the FS World Cup for the second consecutive year. After Moscow in 2010, the creme of the discipline will be invited to Makhachkala, capital of the Republic of Dagestan. The 10 best ranked teams at the 2010 World Championship will confront one another on 19-20 March 2011 in front of a public of wrestling fanatics.

The two groups will be seeded by Russia and Azerbaijan. The draw that will be held on 18 March 2011 will determine the position of Iran, Cuba, Georgia, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Hungary (reinforced by Kazakhstan) in one of the groups. The participant list can be consulted at the [following link](#). The teams from Iran and Azerbaijan will fight hard to improve their respective second and third places at last year's World Cup.

The competition website will provide live results and keep all fans informed of the progress of the competition.

FILA wishes plenty of success to all teams taking part in this most prestigious event!

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

NCAA to stream Selection Show for 2011 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships on NCAA.com

The NCAA will announce the 330 student-athletes set participate in the 2011 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships via a Web stream selection show on NCAA.com on Wednesday, March 9 at 6 p.m. ET.

Shane Sparks will serve as the host as he unveils each of the 10 brackets in the championships field.

Fans wishing to view the show can do so at the link below:

<http://www.ncaa.com/sports/wrestling/d1>

Complete printable brackets will be available on NCAA.com at 6:30 p.m. ET on Wednesday, March 9.

Following the selection announcement fans are encouraged to tune into Takedown Wrestling's annual NCAA Division I Championships Preview Show from 8 – 11 p.m. (ET).

Host Scott Casber will be joined in studio by co-hosts Steve Foster, Jeff Murphy, Ryan Freeman and Geoff Murtha as they breakdown the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships bracket by bracket.

The three-hour broadcast will feature several distinguished guests, including NCAA Division I Wrestling committee chair, Derek Van Der Merwe, and NCAA champion and National Wrestling Hall of Famer, Wade Schalles.

Fans are encouraged to interact with on-air hosts through Facebook at facebook.com/ncaawrestling. Questions submitted through Facebook will be answered by the studio hosts throughout the show.

Takedown Wrestling to host annual NCAA Championships Preview Show. Division I Brackets to be broken down March 9

DES MOINES, Iowa - Takedown Wrestling and Des Moines Sports Station KXNO will again play host to the annual NCAA Championships Preview Show on Wednesday, March 9 from 7 – 10 p.m. (CST). Wrestling fans are encouraged to listen in for the fun, opinions and more during the three-hour Bracket Buster special.

"Takedown Wrestling and KXNO are very excited to broadcast this show again for the fans of college wrestling. It's a way for us to bring the family of wrestling media together for 1 night to offer opinions and insight", said Scott Casber.

Host and Takedown Wrestling founder, Scott Casber, will be joined by in studio co-hosts Steve Foster, Jeff Murphy, Ryan Freeman, Bob Selby and Geoff Murtha as they breakdown the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships brackets.

Special guests include former NCAA champion and Hall of Famer Wade Schalles a two-time NCAA National Champion who holds multiple records in the sport including holding the Guinness Book of World Records title for most amateur wrestling wins and pins, and is the creator of several of wrestling's most notorious moves - including the *Spladle* and the *Cement Mixer*. Master statistician Britt Malinski will help with the subtle nuances of all the numbers.

NCAA Division I Wrestling committee chair, Derek Van Der Merwe will also participate.

In addition the following distinguished panel of guests from the top wrestling websites and broadcasts around the country will take part in the three-hour broadcast:

Website Guests

Chad Wiltsey, theWrestlingTalk.com (in studio)
Andrew Hipps, IntermatWrestle.com
Jason Bryant, TheMat.com
Eric Betterman, TheOpenMat.com
Bill Miller, LightHouseWrestling.com
Earl Smith, D1CollegeWrestling.net

Broadcasters

Tim Johnson, IPTV, Big 10, NCAA Broadcasters
Jim Gibbons, IPTV, Big 10, NCAA Broadcasters
Jeff Byers, Penn State
Mark Ironside, University of Iowa
Roger Moore, Oklahoma State/NCAA.com
Steve Lomangino, Lehigh University
GT Taylor, Arizona State

Fan Interaction

Fans are encouraged to interact with ON AIR hosts through Facebook at facebook.com/ncaawrestling. Chad Wiltsey from theWrestlingTalk.com will be manning the facebook pages. Questions submitted through Facebook will be answered by the studio hosts throughout the show.

3 Ways to Listen

KXNO.com
NCAA.com

I Heart Radio app on your Smart phone, select Sports Radio/KXNO

Takedown Wrestling Studio Lines

866-333-5966
515-284-5966

Takedown Wrestling and Des Moines Sports Station KXNO will again play host to the annual NCAA Championships Preview Show on Wednesday, March 9 from 7 – 10 p.m. (CST) on KXNO.com, NCAA.com or through the I Heart Radio app on your Smart phone (select sports radio/KXNO)

Tann, Stahl and Frost to go 'On the Mat' – special Monday edition

NCAA wrestling officials Kevin Tann, Rick Stahl and Curt Frost will be the radio show guests on March 14.

"On the Mat" is a presentation of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Dan Gable Museum and can be heard live on the Internet at www.konzam.com or locally in Northeast Iowa each Wednesday (Monday only this week) from 5:00 - 6:00 PM Central time on AM 1650, The Fan. Feel free to e-mail radio@wrestlingmuseum.org with any questions or comments about the show.

Iowans Kevin Tann (Cedar Rapids), Rick Stahl (Marion), and Curt Frost (Gilbertville) will be officiating at the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships March 17 – 19 in Philadelphia. This trio also is officiating at the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships March 11 – 12 at University of Wisconsin La Crosse.

<http://www.themat.com/>

U.S. FILA Junior Greco-Roman and freestyle teams compete against Bulgaria in duals

Two U.S. teams consisting of FILA Junior wrestlers competed in dual meets against the Bulgarian FILA Junior National Team this week in Bulgaria. FILA Juniors are wrestlers who are 17-20 years old.

A U.S. freestyle team had a 3-3 tie against the Bulgarian FILA Junior freestyle team.

Scoring wins for the United States in freestyle were Carson Kuhn of Sandy, Utah at 55 kg/121 lbs., Greg Isley of Toledo, Ohio at 84 kg/185 lbs. and Tanner Hall of Meridian, Idaho at 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Kuhn and Hall were 2010 Junior National freestyle champions in Fargo, N.D. Kuhn is currently a U.S. Olympic Training Center resident athlete. Hall has made a commitment to be a U.S. Olympic Training Center resident athlete after he graduates from high school this year.

Hall's victory was over 2010 European Cadet silver medalist Zaid Dilliver, 6-2, 5-1.

"When wrestling the Bulgarians, we had some very good performances and some were not what we wanted," said National Freestyle Developmental Coach Bill Zadick. "When we relaxed mentally or were lazy in our positions, it put us in situations that we didn't want to be in. However, when we stay focused and offensive we are pretty tough! I'm very encouraged by the willingness of everyone on our team to step on the mat in the frame of mind to wrestle an aggressive, exciting style! Wrestling with that type of attitude, these young men will quickly improve as they move forward in their competitive careers."

In a Greco-Roman dual meet featuring FILA Junior athletes, Bulgaria defeated the United States, 7-3.

Earning wins for Team USA were Jesse Thielke (Germantown, Wis./Ringiers) at 55 kg/121 lbs., Ellis Coleman (Colorado Springs, Colo./New York AC) at 66 kg/145.5 lbs. and Dillon Cowan (Harvard, Ill./USOEC) at 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Coleman was a 2010 Junior World bronze medalist, and Thielke was a member of the 2010 Junior World Team.

"The U.S. Junior Team did not wrestle as well as they are capable," said National Greco-Roman Developmental Coach Ike Anderson. "We only won three matches out of 10 in the dual."

Both U.S. teams will compete at the Petko Sirakov/Ivan Iliev Junior International in Varna, Bulgaria, March 11-13.

MEN'S FREESTYLE DUAL

USA 3, BULGARIA 3

50 kg/110 lbs. – Georgi Vangelov (Bulgaria) dec. Dalton Brady (USA), 2-5, 3-0, 2-0
55 kg/121 lbs. – Carson Kuhn (USA) dec. Ahmed Ali (Bulgaria), 6-0, 3-0
74 kg/163 lbs. – Miroslav Kirov (Bulgaria) dec. Derek Garcia (USA), 6-0, 3-0
84 kg/185 lbs. – Greg Isley (USA) dec. Nikola Dimitrov (Bulgaria), 4-3, 2-0
96 kg/211.5 lbs. – Kaldian Koleav (Bulgaria) pin Tyler Lehmann (USA), 1:01
96 kg/211.5 lbs. – Tanner Hall (USA) dec. Zaid Dilliver (Bulgaria), 6-2, 5-1

GRECO-ROMAN DUAL

BULGARIA 7, UNITED STATES 3

World bronze medalist Tervel Dlagnev ready to make run at big goals this season

KEARNEY, Neb. – World bronze medalist Tervel Dlagnev is back in the place where he won his first national championship.

Dlagnev won his first of two NCAA Division II titles for the University of Nebraska at Kearney in his home arena in 2007.

He has gone on to excel internationally, placing third in the World in freestyle wrestling in 2009. He finished second behind Les Sigman at the 2010 U.S. World Team Trials. Sigman won four NCAA Division II titles for Nebraska-Omaha.

Dlagnev has wrestled well internationally this season and will compete in the U.S. Open next month in Cleveland.

Dlagnev is back cheering on wrestlers from his alma mater and will serve as an awards presenter on Saturday night.

Dlagnev talked about his return before the first session on Friday morning:

[Interview with Tervel Dlagnev](#)

<http://www.themat.com/>

No. 1 Nebraska-Omaha grabs early lead, No. 4 Augustana goes 7-0 as NCAA Division II Championships kick off

Upper Iowa's Winston Robbins scores the winning points against top-ranked George Ivanov of Nebraska-Omaha. Photo by Matt Pfiffner, The Predicament.

KEARNEY, Neb. – The top-ranked Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks went 8-2 and grabbed the early lead at the NCAA Division II Championships.

But the Mavericks, seeking their third straight title, also suffered the biggest loss of the opening session on Friday at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Top-ranked George Ivanov, second in this tournament last year, dropped an 11-9 first-round match to unranked Winston Robbins of Upper Iowa at 157 pounds.

Ivanov led 9-8 late in the match, but Robbins tilted Ivanov to his back in the closing seconds to win. He added a riding-time point for the final margin.

"My coach said there were 12 seconds left, so I was going for the tilt," Robbins said. "I didn't want to go into overtime because he's pretty good on his feet. This builds my confidence. My goal is to be in the finals and win it."

Seventh-ranked Western State is in second place with 10 points and five wrestlers in the quarterfinals. Fourth-ranked Augustana and No. 2 St. Cloud State are tied for third with nine points each. Augustana went 7-0 in the first round and St. Cloud State 5-3.

Third-ranked Newberry is in fifth with eight points and five in the quarters. Upper Iowa and Grand Canyon are tied for sixth with seven points apiece. Upper Iowa went 6-1 in the first session and Grand Canyon was 5-2.

The quarterfinals are set for 6 p.m. Thursday.

A key quarterfinal match will see NCAA runner-up Esai Dominguez of Nebraska-Omaha battling Augustana All-American Nate Herda at 149. The top-ranked Dominguez lost to the No. 4 Herda at the National Duals before Dominguez beat Herda in a dual meet.

Returning national champions Jay Sherer of Augustana (141), Bryant Blanton of Newberry (184) and Donovan McMahon of Western State (197) each won their first-round matches.

Team scoring after Session I

Nebraska-Omaha 12, Western State 10, Augustana 9, St. Cloud State 9, Newberry 8, Grand Canyon 7, Upper Iowa 7, Pitt-Johnstown 5, Wisconsin-Parkside 4.5.

Austrian Championship

Austrian Championship on freestyle. Results:

[Ergebnisse](#)

<http://www.ringkampf.at/>

Croatian Championship

Croatian Championship on greco-roman wrestling/ Results:

[20110312_Razultati-Prv.ZG_zup_kadeti_seniori-GR.pdf](#)

<http://www.cro-wrestling.hr/>

Lithuanian Championship

Lithuanian Championship

Freestyle wrestling:

50 kg – 4 sportininkai

I	T.BARACEVI?IUS	(Vilkavi?kis)
II	A.?EKAS	(Raseiniai)
III	D. PAURAS	(Kaunas)

55 kg.- 7 sportininkai

I	G.MILKINTAS	(Raseiniai)
II	J.PETRAVI?IUS	(Taurag?)
III	R.VALANTINAS	(Kelm?)
III	A. SAMOILOVAS	(Klaip?da)

60 kg.- 11 sportinink?

I	T.GRI?IUS	(Raseiniai)
II	M. ?ADAUSKAS	(Raseiniai)
III	L.MOCKUS	(Raseiniai)
III	B. BUTKUS	(Kelm?)

66 kg – 12 sportinink?

I	P. VISAGORSKIS	(Klaip?da)
II	T.VAL?IUKAS	(?iauliai)
III	L. VALANTINAS	(Kelm?)
III	P. ZAICEV	(Klaip?da)

74 kg – 22 sportininkai

Petko Sirakov/Ivan Iliev Junior International

Results: **TK**

<http://www.bul-wrestling.org/>

Cup Kék Duna

Cup Kék Duna on greco-roman wrestling. Hungary. Results

24			kg (3)		induló)
1.	Vitek	Amadeusz	(Dorogi	Nehéztlétkai	Club)
2.		Romeo		Lustarinen	(finn)
3.		Orosz		Paul	(román)
32					kg (19)
1.		Putnoki	Zsolt	(Dorogi	NC)
2.	Kecskeméti		Krisztián	(Abonyi	BC-Nyársapát)
3.		Juso		Hava	(finn)
3.	Váncza		István	(Érdi	Spartacus)
35					kg (12)
1.		Jorgensen		Havard	(norvég)
2.		Pek		Peter	(román)
3.	Nagy	József	(Vác	Városi	Sportegyesület)
3.	Szenttamási		Tamás	(Erzsébeti	SMTK)
38					kg (12)
1.		Lévai	Tamás	(Dorogi	NC)
2.		Mester		Milán	(ESMTK)
3.	Sipos		Benjamin	(Abonyi	BC-Nyársapát)
3.		<i>Ivan</i>		<i>Vinogradov</i>	<i>(Украина)</i>
42					kg (13)
1.		Losonczi		Dávid	(ESMTK)
2.	Vitek		Dáriusz	(Dorogi	NC)
3.	Triffákosi		Sándor	(Tatabánya	SC)
3.		Takács		István	(BVSC)

Kadet kötöttfogású rangsorverseny, Kék Duna Kupa, Esztergom, 190 induló

NCAA Div. I Wrestling Championships expected to generate \$15 million

PHILADELPHIA - Even before the first wrestler steps onto the mat at the Wells Fargo Center, the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships are already a success. The three-day event, March 17-19, is already completely sold out, as thousands of wrestling fans from across North America are expected to descend on Philadelphia.

Nearly 15,000 visitors from 45 states and Canada are expected to generate 10,000 hotel room nights and \$15M in economic impact for the region. Philadelphia is attempting to break the event attendance record of 97,336 (for six sessions) established at the 2009 championships in St. Louis.

Hosted by the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) and Rider University, in conjunction with Comcast-Spectacor, the event will feature 330 student-athletes and 144 coaches from 72 institutions. More than one million viewers are expected to watch the event on the ESPN family of networks.

"This is truly one of the NCAA's premier events, and we are delighted to be hosting wrestling fans from around the country in Philadelphia," said David Montgomery, chairman, Philadelphia Sports Congress, a division of the Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau. "All of the event partners have worked diligently for two years to ensure a wonderful week for our visitors."

Philadelphia and the surrounding region bring a foundation of a very strong wrestling community. Pennsylvania leads the nation as the state with the most 4-year collegiate wrestling programs (33), and is one of the top five states in terms of high school participation levels.

"Philadelphia's wrestling community is tremendously excited to welcome the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships here for the first time," said Roger Reina, chairman of Local Organizing Committee. "The entire region has a deep and rich wrestling history. We are both thrilled and proud to showcase Philadelphia to the wrestling community from around the country."

"The Wells Fargo Center is a truly spectacular facility that was designed to host prestigious events like the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships," said Peter Luukko, president, Comcast-Spectacor. "These are the type of events that not only puts the Wells Fargo Center into the national spotlight, but the entire region. We look forward to making this year's NCAA Wrestling Championships at the Wells Fargo Center the best experience ever for the student-athletes, the coaches and their fans."

Over the next four years, Philadelphia will host six NCAA championships, encompassing five sports, which are expected to result in an estimated economic impact of \$75 million for the region. Joining wrestling in 2011 is the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Regional, March 27 & 29 at Temple University's Liacouras Center.

Future years will include the 2012 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Quarterfinals at PPL Park (hosted by Drexel University), the 2013 NCAA Men's Lacrosse Championships at Lincoln Financial Field (also hosted by Drexel University), the 2013 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball 2nd & 3rd Rounds at the Wells Fargo Center (Temple University) and the 2014 NCAA Men's Frozen Four (Ice Hockey Championship) at the Wells Fargo Center (Eastern College Athletic Conference).

During this week's event, the NCAA Fan Festival (free to fans), will be held March 17-19 at Lincoln Financial Field. For more information, and a full schedule of events, visit <http://www.ncaa.com/championships/wrestling/d1>.

In addition to MAAC, Rider and Comcast-Spectacor, the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships are a collaborative effort which includes the City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia Sports Congress, a division of the Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the area wrestling community.

<http://www.themat.com/>

Post-season championship scores and schedules

Post Season Tournaments & Results

Division I Conference & Regional Qualifying Tournaments

[ACC Championships](#)

[Big 12 Championships](#)

[Big Ten Championships | Team Scores](#)

[Colonial Athletic Association](#)

[East Regional](#)

[Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association](#)

LES SIGMAN BLOG: Help save UNO Wrestling!!!

Editor's note: Les Sigman, a four-time Div. II national champion for the Univ. of Nebraska-Omaha and a member of the 2010 U.S. Freestyle World Team, commented in his blog about the decision announced last night that UNO planned to drop its football and wrestling teams. He makes a call to action from the wrestling community. TheMat.com posts this with Sigman's permission

The University of Nebraska at Omaha won their third team title in a row last night. You would think that a National Championship team loading the bus to head back home to Omaha would be nothing but smiles, but not much of that today. Instead many are concerned with the program's future and how something like this could happen so suddenly and just take the wind out of their sails.

I watched my alma mater win its eighth National Championship in wrestling last night via webcast where they crowned three individual National Champions and had seven All-Americans. It was another great year for the Mavericks and Coach Mike Denney. Just after UNO was wrapping up their National Championship celebration, Coach Denney received a phone call from Athletic Director Trev Alberts notifying him that UNO will be dropping the sport of wrestling and shocking the wrestling community.

What kind of man would do this over the phone, let alone a couple hours after they had won the National Tournament??? A gutless one that is not man enough to do it face to face and one that doesn't care about the most successful sport at UNO.

On the other side of the spectrum is Coach Denney, a man who stands up and will fight for what he believes in and is a man of his word. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to wrestle for and remain close friends with Coach Denney. The UNO wrestling program instilled values in me that I will have with me forever. I can't imagine going anywhere else and it would be a shame for future student-athletes not to have the same opportunity that I was blessed with. I was on three National Championship teams in my four varsity years at UNO from 2003-06. UNO is the team that everyone is gunning to be like.

Coach Denney has been the head coach at UNO for 32 years and has won 314 duals, 7 National Team Titles, and placed in the top three 22 of those 32 years. Although these stats are incredible, I feel that is second to what he has passed on to his athletes. His mission statement is "To teach and build good people, and to get them from good to great." He has great values and leads by example. He has great faith, which is his foundation. Denney grew up a farm boy in Nebraska and has a great work ethic, which shows in results year after year.

Coach Denney has always told us that "if you want to be great, surround yourself with great people." He has done that with his Assistant Coach Ron Higdon who has been on staff with him for 19 years. Higdon has a great work ethic and among many tasks with the team, has been vital in all of the tournaments and fundraising events that UNO had to put on to raise 4x their budget from the University, which is the same as it was in 1980!

I find it hard to believe UNO's Wrestling Room, aka "The Dojo," ceasing to exist. It has shaped so many lives by teaching how to fight through adversity. It is a special place in there. Coach Denney has worked hard to give his athletes the tools they need to be successful.

A big surprise to me is that the Chancellor of the University is behind this decision also. Dr. Christensen has attended many tournaments but has turned against the wrestling program and thinks that dropping the wrestling team is necessary for the school to be able to make the move to Division I and the Summit League. It is a little contradicting when they say that they are dropping football and wrestling to be able to align with the teams within the Summit League, when there are schools with wrestling programs that are a part of the conference.

AD Trev Alberts, who grew up in Cedar Falls, Iowa, has had a big ego since entering the position two years ago. After playing football for the University of Nebraska, he was drafted to the NFL where he was one of the top 20 Biggest Busts in the NFL Draft (MC3 Sports Medic.) Now, he is my #1 biggest bust in Athletic Directors. Prior to UNO, he was fired by ESPN Game-day for not showing up because "he felt he was playing second fiddle." (SI.com) Sounds like the same ego to me.

The UNO wrestling team is one of the most successful teams in the Division and is way too valuable to just be "dropped." Teaching and building good people here needs to continue as well as bringing National Titles back to Omaha, Nebraska as the team did this year and in years to come if given the opportunity.

With the UNO Wrestling team's future at stake, I ask for your help.

You can send emails to:

Trev Alberts
trevalberts@unomaha.edu
402-554-2305

John Christensen

FS World Cup in Makhachkala

Russia, top-ranked nation in freestyle wrestling, will be the host of the FS World Cup for the second consecutive year. After Moscow in 2010, the creme of the discipline will be invited to Makhachkala, capital of the Republic of Dagestan. The 10 best ranked teams at the 2010 World Championship will confront one another on 19-20 March 2011 in front of a public of wrestling fanatics.

The two groups will be seeded by Russia and Azerbaijan. The draw that will be held on 18 March 2011 will determine the position of Iran, Cuba, Georgia, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Hungary (reinforced by Kazakhstan) in one of the groups. The participant list can be consulted at the [following link](#). The teams from Iran and Azerbaijan will fight hard to improve their respective second and third places at last year's World Cup.

The [competition website](#) will provide live results and keep all fans informed of the progress of the competition.

FILA wishes plenty of success to all teams taking part in this most prestigious event!

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

Letter from St. Cloud State coach Steve Costanzo regarding proposed dropping of UNO wrestling program

Editor's Note: This is a letter that St. Cloud State coach Steve Costanzo sent to Nebraska-Omaha athletic director Trev Alberts and chancellor John Christensen regarding the proposed dropping of the UNO wrestling program.

March 16, 2011

Dear Mr. Christensen and Mr. Alberts,

It is with great sadness and disappointment that I am writing this letter on behalf of the entire wrestling community. The events surrounding the elimination of the University of Nebraska at Omaha wrestling program will undoubtedly affect future leaders who would have benefited from the discipline, education and structure the sport of wrestling provides.

The real victims of this decision are your student-athletes. As a former University of Nebraska at Omaha student-athlete, I have experienced first-hand over the years the many opportunities the sport of wrestling has created for our young people. Without the sport of wrestling, many young men will not have the opportunity to obtain a college degree and make a difference at your school and in our society.

Let me state emphatically, I understand the concerns universities have with growing expenses and flat revenues. In addition, I am also aware the university has made millions of other budgetary cuts to academic and other programs across campus. However, eliminating the wrestling program is confusing to me in terms of saving money considering

ATHLETE REP NOMINATIONS 2011 - 2013

Please note that both Male and Female Athlete Representatives are re-open for nomination for the 2011 – 2013 cycle. The relevant job description and nomination form is attached. Please forward to anyone who may be interested and qualified.

[CLICK HERE FOR JOB DESCRIPTION & NOMINATION FORM](#)

<http://www.wrestling.ca/>

COACHES' REP NOMINATIONS 2011 – 2013

Please note that the Coaches' Representative is re-open for nomination for the 2011 – 2013 cycle. The relevant job description and nomination form is attached. Please forward to anyone who may be interested and qualified.

[CLICK HERE FOR JOB DESCRIPTION & NOMINATION FORM](#)

<http://www.wrestling.ca/>

Sport Exhibition in Marrakech

A big sport exhibition is held in Marrakech from 15 to 20 March 2011. 47 Olympic and non-Olympic sports are presented in addition to the 50 sport firms that participate in the event. The wrestling stand is getting great media attention. It is placed under the responsibility of the African Council (CALA) and its President, Mr. Mohamed Ibnou Zahir.

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

No. 1 Cornell grabs narrow lead over No. 2 Penn State entering semifinals at NCAA Championships

Cornell's Kyle Dake (in red) battles Oklahoma State's Jamal Parks in the quarterfinals. Larry Slater photo.

PHILADELPHIA – Most of the buzz over the first two days of the NCAA Wrestling Championships has been about second-ranked Penn State.

The Nittany Lions, competing in their home state, are seeking their first national team title since 1953 and have the most exciting young wrestler in the tournament in unbeaten freshman David Taylor.

Penn State led after the first two sessions on Thursday, but top-ranked Cornell turned in a superb first session on Friday to grab a narrow lead before 17,289 fans at the Wells Fargo Center.

Cornell is in first place with 61 points and four wrestlers in the semifinals. Penn State is in second with 60.5 points and four in the semis. Third-ranked Iowa is third with 52 points and three in the semis. Ninth-ranked American is fourth with 49 points and three in the semis.

Cornell is seeking its first national team title in wrestling. The Big Red finished second in this event last year.

"We had some good and some bad in that round," Cornell coach Rob Koll said. "We put four guys in the semifinals, but we had some setbacks in the wrestlebacks. We have five guys still going and we need great performances from all of them to be able to win this tournament."

The Hawkeyes have won this tournament the past three seasons.

The semifinals are set for 7 p.m. Friday at the Wells Fargo Center. They will be televised live on ESPNU.

Penn State advanced four wrestlers to the semifinals, but Nittany Lions Ed Ruth (174) and Cameron Wade (285) had to injury default their matches in the quarterfinals.

"Cam is worse than Ruth. If these guys can wrestle tonight, they will go out and scrap," Penn State coach Cael Sanderson. "All of our guys just have to wrestle, that's what it comes down to. We still have a shot to win this tournament. We just have to keep wrestling hard."

Penn State sophomore Andrew Long has emerged as the sparkplug at the beginning of the team's power-packed lineup.

The third-seeded Long surrendered the opening takedown, but responded in dramatic fashion by rebounding to pin No. 11 Scotti Sentes of Central Michigan in the 133-pound quarterfinals.

Long was an NCAA runner-up for Iowa State at 125 last year. He will face No. 2 Andrew Hochstrasser of Boise State in the semifinals.

"I try to keep it entertaining, and I'm always working out there," Long said. "I was losing that match, but I kept my focus. I felt him relax for a second and I clamped down on him. We are trying to seal the team title in this quarterfinal round. If we keep wrestling like we are, we hope to keep stretching the lead out in the team race. Hopefully, our team can walk away with the gold."

Unbeaten Penn State freshman and No. 3 seed David Taylor (157) heard the cheers when Long recorded his fall and Taylor followed suit with a 6-3 win over No. 6 Derek St. John of Iowa. It was Taylor's closest match of the year after he beat St. John 8-3 in the Big Ten finals.

"That was huge, what Long did. The intensity is everywhere and we are definitely feeding off of our crowd," Taylor said. "It's a close team race and every match counts. It's exciting to have an opportunity to see our team have an opportunity to win this."

The Nittany Lions received another huge win when No. 9 seed Quentin Wright downed top seed Chris Honeycutt of Edinboro 7-3 in the 184 quarters.

Penn State did suffer an upset loss at 174 when the second-seeded Ruth lost to Stanford's seventh-seeded Nick Amuchastegui in the quarters. Wade suffered a leg injury in the quarters and had to injury default his match with top-ranked heavyweight Zach Rey of Lehigh.

Iowa's fifth-seeded Montell Marion pulled out one of the most dramatic wins in the tournament when he rallied for an improbable 8-7 win over No. 4 seed Jimmy Kennedy of Illinois in the 141 quarters.

Marion, an NCAA runner-up last year, was down 5-2 in the third period. He picked up a stalling point and

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS! No. 2 Penn State clinches first NCAA title since 1953

PHILADELPHIA – The roar came just 10 minutes into Saturday morning's session.

Penn State's Andrew Long flipped Cornell's Mike Grey onto his back, the referee slapped the mat and the Penn State crowd erupted Saturday morning before 17,289 fans at the Wells Fargo Center.

Long's pin in the consolation semifinals at 133 pounds provided the spark to keep the second-ranked Nittany Lions rolling and a short time later Penn State clinched its second NCAA Championships title. The Nittany Lions won their first title 58 years ago.

Penn State, boosted by Long's third-place finish and Ed Ruth's third-place finish at 174, enter Saturday night's finals with 103.5 points. The Nittany Lions have finalists in Frank Molinaro (149), David Taylor (157) and Quentin Wright (184).

"You definitely have extra motivation for your matches when you are battling for a team title," Long said. "You don't want it to be a distraction. It's really enjoyable when the whole team is having success. I want to thank the coaches at Penn State for giving me this opportunity – they have helped me grow and they have helped me focus on what's really important. Our fans have really been supportive as well. They are some of the best fans I've ever seen."

Long transferred to Penn State after finishing second in this event for Iowa State as a freshman 125-pounder last year. The transfer provided the final piece in the Nittany Lions' championship puzzle.

"Andrew has provided a huge spark for us," Penn State coach Cael Sanderson said. "He brings a lot of intensity to our team with the way he wrestles. He really came back strong today and his performance obviously was a big key in this tournament."

Ruth's third-place win over Cornell's Mack Lewnes officially clinched the team title for the Nittany Lions.

"Ed came back and beat some really tough kids," Sanderson said. "I'm really proud of the way he wrestled. Ed and Andrew made it easier for our guys in the finals. Now they don't have the pressure of the team race to worry about and they can just focus on their match."

Sanderson, a four-time undefeated national champion for Iowa State, was asked about winning his first NCAA team title as a coach. Sanderson is in just his second year at Penn State after three years as head coach at Iowa State.

"We still have work to do," Sanderson said. "We can talk about that after the finals."

Top-ranked Cornell is in second place with 89.5 points. Cornell sophomore Kyle Dake (149) is seeking his second straight national title. Dake won at 141 last year.

Third-ranked Iowa, winners of the last three NCAA titles, is in third place with 86.5 points. Hawkeye 184-pounder Grant Gambrall, the No. 12 seed, capped a strong tournament by placing third. Iowa sophomore Matt McDonough (125) is seeking his second straight national title.

The finals are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. and will be televised live on ESPN.

Wisconsin's Andrew Howe, a returning champion, battled back from a semifinal loss to place third at 165 on Saturday. Howe, a junior, missed nearly two months this season with a hamstring injury. Howe is a three-time All-American after placing second in this event as a freshman.

Howe is a top freestyle prospect who won the U.S. Open last year at 74 kg/163 lbs. before placing second at the U.S. World Team Trials.

Nebraska senior Jordan Burroughs (165) will be seeking his second NCAA title on Saturday night in Philadelphia.

TOP 10 TEAMS

Penn State 103.5, Cornell 89.5, Iowa 86.5, Oklahoma State 66.5, American 65, Minnesota 61, Boise State 57.5, Lehigh 54.5, Wisconsin 54.5, Arizona State 52.5.

FINALS MATCHES

125 POUNDS

No. 1 Anthony Robles (Arizona State) vs. No. 2 Matt McDonough (Iowa)

FS World Cup 2011

- 1 RUSSIE
- 2 IRAN R.I.
- 3 AZERBAIDJAN
- 4 OUZBEKISTAN
- 5 CUBA
- 6 UKRAINE
- 7 HONGRIE (KAZ)
- 8 KIRGIZSTAN
- 9 GEORGIE
- 10 BULGARIE

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

College Wrestling Webcast Schedule

College Wrestling Web Casts

*Always check with each respective outlet to ensure event will be streamed
Some of these listed from live.cbssports.com might just be audio, again, check with your respective school*

Notice anything missing? E-mail [Jason Bryant](mailto:Jason.Bryant@fita.org) with times and links to webcasts not listed here.

All times Eastern

Saturday, March 5

Big 12 Championships, All Day ([Big 12 Sports](http://Big12Sports.com))

EIWA Championships, All Day ([BisonVision](http://BisonVision.com))

Big 12 Finals, TBA (FoxSportsMidwest.com)

ACC Championships, 5 p.m. ([ACC Select](http://ACCSelect.com) - Subscription)

NAIA Championship Finals, 8 p.m. (WatchNAIA.com)

Sunday, March 6

West Region Championships, All Day (GoAirForceFalcons.com - Mat 1)

West Region Championships, All Day (GoAirForceFalcons.com - Mat 2)

Friday, March 11

NCAA Division II Championships, All Day (NCAA.com)

NCAA Division III Championships, All Day (NCAA.com)

Saturday, March 12

NCAA Division II Championships, All Day (NCAA.com)

NCAA Division III Championships, All Day (NCAA.com)

<http://www.themat.com/>

Dake, Rey, Dutton honored by EIWA

Cornell sophomore Kyle Dake and Lehigh junior Zach Rey have been named co-Wrestlers of the Year by the EIWA head coaches.

Dake, wrestling at 149 pounds, won his second NCAA title at the NCAA Championships, after winning at 141 a year ago. The only point scored against him in five bouts was on a technical violation in his finals bout against Frank Molinaro of Penn State, who he defeated 8-1 in the title bout.

Earlier, he was runnerup at the EIWA Championships and champion at the Southern Scuffle. He ends the season with a record of 31-2.

Rey, a heavyweight who placed third a year ago, avenged a defeat to Ryan Flores of American in the title bout, winning 2-1 on a riding time point. He did not give up a takedown all season.

Earlier, he was EIWA runnerup and Midlands champion and finishes the season with a record of 34-1.

Lehigh freshman Stephen Dutton has been named EIWA Freshman of the Year by the EIWA head coaches. Dutton qualified for the NCAA tournament by placing fourth at 141 at the EIWA Championships.

He lost his opening bout against the #5 seed, but won three consecutive bouts in the consolations, including 7-6 over Tyler Nauman of Pittsburgh, the #7 seed. He missed All-American status by one bout.

Earlier, he placed eighth at the Midlands Championships. He finishes the season with a 23-14 record, which includes seven major decisions.

<http://www.themat.com/>

USA Wrestling Weekly's March 17 broadcast posted for viewing

The USA Wrestling Weekly broadcast for Thursday, March 17 has been posted for fans to enjoy.

USA Wrestling Weekly is a new half-hour news broadcast which will be produced on a weekly basis. Presented in a news format, it provides updated information on USA Wrestling activities, as well as a variety of feature segments.

To see this week's episode, visit the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTIM5cRLpJg>

This week's show included the following feature segments:

- Preview of the the USA Wrestling All-Star Dual at the NCAA Championships
- Coverage from the NCAA Div. II National Championships
- Coverage from the Div. III National Championships
- Updates on dropped wrestling programs at UNO and UNC-Greensboro
- Coverage of the NCWA National Championships
- Updates on the FILA Junior Tour to Bulgaria
- Stephen Neal's retirement from professional football

And much more.

There is a new embeddable video player on TheMat.com which allows fans and media to view the most recent episode of USA Wrestling Weekly, and cycle through past episodes. This player can be embedded in websites, blogs and other online media outlets.

The show is moderated by veteran wrestling broadcaster Scott Casber and is scheduled for distribution each Friday on TheMat.com.

Each episode will also be posted on USA Wrestling's YouTube Channel. In addition, USA Wrestling Weekly will be offered to a variety of websites, and will also be available to television networks across the nation.

USA Wrestling staff participates extensively in creating the content for the show. The production of USA Wrestling Weekly is handled by Takedown Wrestling Media, which produces a variety of other wrestling broadcast products. The Lead Producer for the show is Shawn Van Leeuwen of Takedown Wrestling Media. Feedback is encouraged, and should be sent to Gary Abbott of USA Wrestling at gabbott@usawrestling.org.

USA Wrestling Weekly will now be aired by Long Lines Cable, with distribution in Eastern Nebraska, Western Iowa

European Championship in Dortmund

After Baku in 2010, the city of Dortmund will be the host of the upcoming senior European Championship. The 40 participating countries will meet on German soil from 29 March till 03 April 2011 to run for the prestigious European titles and obtain the right to compete in the 2011 World Championship. Last year, 36 countries travelled to Baku and Russia won the three team competitions. Boosted by their recent victory at the freestyle World Cup, the Russian wrestlers will undoubtedly fight hard to confirm their domination in Dortmund. The participant list can be consulted at the [following link](#).

As a reminder, the National Federations from Europe have the obligation to enter the European Championship with at least the same number of participants that they intend to enter in the World Championship, first qualification phase for the 2012 London Olympic Games. To be noted that all Olympic referees must take part in the Championship in order to take one of their annual control courses.

FILA congratulates the German Wrestling Federation and hopes for the competition to reflect the highly professional work undertaken by the organising committee so far. Specific information, programme, and results are available on the [dedicated competition website](#) as well as on the [organising committee's website](#).

<http://www.fila-wrestling.com/>

2011 Atlantic Wrestling Championships Results

Atlantic Wrestling Championships
March 19th, 2011
Exhibition Park, Halifax, N.S.

Team Standings:

Bantam Girls:

1st Avalon Wrestling Academy, NL 12 points
2nd Clinch Wrestling Club, NS 10 points
3rd Oyster Pond Wrestling Club, NS 9 points

Bantam Boys:

1st Avalon Wrestling Academy, NL 20 points
2nd Stephenville Wrestling Club, NL 19 points
3rd Lennox Island, PEI 13 points

Cadet Girls:

1st Oyster Pond Wrestling Club, NS 19 points
2nd Kent Wrestling Club, NB 16 points
3rd Eastern Shore Eagles, NS 16 points

Cadet Boys:

1st Avalon Wrestling Academy, NL 25 points
2nd Highland Wrestling Club, NS 21 points
3rd Black Bear Wrestling Club, NB 17 points

Juvenile Girls:

1st Stephenville Wrestling Club, NL 17 points
2nd East Hants Wrestling Club, NS 5 points

Penn State's Cael Sanderson leads All-Star Lineup of 2011 NCAA Championship Guests on Takedown Wrestling

DES MOINES, Iowa - Join us this Saturday March 26th for our annual NCAA Champions show. Penn State's Cael Sanderson will join the celebration this time. Iowa State's NCAA Champ Jon Reader and teammate Andrew Sorenson joins us in our Brute studios brought to you by Kemin.

Join in from 9 to 11 AM this Saturday on Takedown Wrestling (KXNO.com and I Heart Radio on smart phones)

Takedown Wrestling Hosts Scott Casber, Steve Foster, Jeff Murphy, Geoff Murtha and Ryan Freeman welcome the 2011 NCAA champions:

125 Anthony Robles - Arizona State
133 Jordan Oliver - Oklahoma State
141 Kellen Russell - Michigan
149 Kyle Dake - Cornell
157 Bubba Jenkins - Arizona State
Penn State Head Coach Cael Sanderson
165 Jordan Burroughs - Nebraska
174 Jon Reader - Iowa State
184 Quentin Wright - Penn State
197 Dustin Kilgore - Kent State
285 Zach Rey - Lehigh

For incredible pictures of this years NCAA Championships check out Kevin Schlosser's Buckeye Wrestling Web Site photos at <http://www.buckeyewrestling.com/?q=image/tid/1837>

Join us LIVE 9 to 11 AM CST for Takedown Wrestling. Listen on radio, on computer, your Blackberry or iPhone with the I Heart Radio App, KXNO.com, Takedownradio.com, I Heart Radio App

<http://www.themat.com/>

Sundgren, Broghammer, Costanzo honored by Northern Sun

NSIC Wrestler of the Year

John Sundgren (157lbs, R-Sr., Blaine, Minn. / Blaine HS)
St. Cloud State University

St. Cloud State's John Sundgren was voted by the league coaches of the 2010-11 NSIC Wrestler of the Year. Sundgren went 16-3 on the season and won the NCAA Division II National Championship at 157 pounds. He shut out Dillion Bera (28-8) of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in a 4-0 decision in the championship round to claim the first SCSU wrestling national title since Gene Hanemann took the podium in 1995. Before Hanemann, the last Husky wrestler to win a title was Mike Rybak in 1967. Sundgren excelled during the national tournament winning his first match by fall, this second match 9-5 and his semifinal match 5-2. In the national championship match he revenged a loss to Bera from the NCAA Super Region #3 Championship two weeks earlier.

NSIC Rookie of the Year

Carl Broghammer (197lbs, R-Fr., Manchester, Iowa / West Delaware HS)
Upper Iowa University

Upper Iowa's Carl Broghammer was voted by the league coaches as the 2010-11 NSIC Rookie of the Year. Broghammer earned All-American honors by placing third at 197 pounds at the NCAA Championship. After losing his first round match, Broghammer then won 5 straight matches to place third. He finished the season with a 31-11 record.

NSIC Coach of the Year

Steve Costanzo (5th Season)
St. Cloud State University

St. Cloud State Head Coach Steve Costanzo was voted by his peers as the 2010-11 NSIC Wrestling Coach of the Year. St. Cloud State enjoyed one of its best seasons in team history as they placed second in the nation at the 2011 NCAA Division II championships, won the 2011 NCAA Division II Super Region #3 title and set a team record with a 19-2 dual meet record in 2010-11. The second place national finish was the highest national tournament finish for the

Honeycutt named EWL Wrestler of the Year

EDINBORO, Pa. – Edinboro University's Chris Honeycutt (North Ridgeville, OH/St. Edward) has been named the Eastern Wrestling League Wrestler of the Year. It marks the third straight year and fifth time in the last six years that a Fighting Scot wrestler has received the honor.

Bloomsburg's John Stutzman was voted the EWL Coach of the Year and Max Thomusseit of Pittsburgh was recognized as the EWL Freshman of the Year.

Honeycutt finished fifth at 184 lbs. last weekend's NCAA Division I National Championships in Philadelphia. The junior ended the year with a 31-2 record after going into Nationals as the number one seed.

While making his third trip to Nationals, he earned All-American honors for the first time. He won back-to-back matches to reach the quarterfinals before suffering his first loss of the season, 7-3 to eventual national champion Quentin Wright of Penn State.

He came back to defeat tenth-seeded Josh Ihnen of Nebraska 4-3 to assure All-American honors, then handed fourth-seeded Travis Rutt of Wisconsin 6-5 in the consolation quarterfinals. He would lose to Steve Bosak, the third seed, in the consolation semifinals before taking home first place with a medical forfeit over fifth-seeded Joe LeBlanc of Wisconsin.

Earlier in the year Honeycutt won his second EWL championship with a 7-2 decision over Thomusseit, one of two wins he had over the EWL's top frosh. He also captured his PSAC Championship, and won the Southern Scuffle for the second straight year. In the Southern Scuffle he defeated Bosak 7-2 in the title match.

Honeycutt will enter his senior season with a 90-20 career record.

<http://www.themat.com/>

Themat.com NCAA Division I Championship Home Page

Division I Championship Home Page

Live Results

[NCAA Division I Championships Live Updates - NWCA Scorebook](#)

Get the results as they happen

Live Twitter Updates

[Live Twitter Updates](#)

Brackets & Results

[Team Scores](#)

[Final Brackets](#)

[Bout By Bout Results Session 1](#)

[Bout By Bout Results Session 2](#)

[Bout By Bout Results Session 3](#)

[Bout By Bout Results Session 4](#)

[Bout By Bout Results Session 5](#)

[Bout By Bout Results Final](#)

Features & Stories

[Robles, Jenkins earn dramatic wins, Penn State adds to winning total as NCAA Championships conclude](#) (By Craig Sesker)

[NATIONAL CHAMPIONS! No. 2 Penn State clinches first NCAA title since 1953](#) (By Craig Sesker)

[Day 3 Championship Notebook - updated frequently](#) (By Jason Bryant)

[No. 2 Penn State places 3 in finals, closing in on first NCAA title since 1953](#)(By Craig Sesker)

[No. 1 Cornell grabs narrow lead over No. 2 Penn State entering semifinals at NCAA Championships](#) (By Craig Sesker)

[Day 2 Championship Notebook - updated frequently](#) (By Jason Bryant)

[National Wrestling Media Association names National Wrestling Journalism Awards winners](#) (By Gary Abbott)

[Past champion Caldwell knocked out with injury, No. 2 Penn State holds narrow lead at NCAA Championships](#) (By Craig Sesker)

[No. 2 Penn State grabs early lead as field is closely bunched at NCAA Wrestling Championships](#) (By Craig Sesker)

[Day 1 Championship Notebook - updated frequently](#) (By Jason Bryant)

[NCAA champion Jordan Burroughs of Nebraska set to strike gold again](#) (By Craig Sesker)

[NCAA champion Andrew Howe of Wisconsin taking aim at repeat in Philadelphia](#) (By Craig Sesker)

H Factor' pushes Jordan Burroughs to Hodge Trophy

Jordan Burroughs capped an undefeated season with his second NCAA Division I Championship.

NEWTON, Iowa — According to the official University Nebraska athletics website, Jordan Burroughs has developed something called "The H Factor" during his college wrestling career.

"... the H Factor — habits, hunger, humility, honesty and humor — could describe the incredible journey that Jordan Burroughs has taken from Sicklerville, New Jersey, to Lincoln, Nebraska..." wrote Nebraska athletic department official Randy York.

Nebraska's Jordan Burroughs became Nebraska's first two-time NCAA champion last week in Philadelphia, Pa.

Now, Burroughs can add one more H to that list: the Hodge Trophy!

In one of the tightest races in its 17-year existence, the Dan Hodge Trophy for 2011 has been awarded to the Cornhusker star who won the 165-pound NCAA title in Philadelphia.

The trophy was created in 1995 by Mike Chapman, the founder of WIN Magazine, in order to honor the season's outstanding collegiate wrestler. It has grown in popularity and acceptance to the point where it is often referred to as "the Heisman Trophy of wrestling."

Burroughs compiled a 36-0 record this season and captured his second NCAA crown (he won at 157 in 2009) with an 11-3 triumph in the finals over Tyler Caldwell of Oklahoma. The Nebraska senior won all four of his tournament matches by major decision and also received an injury default in the second round.

"The award is based on the entire season, and Jordan has been at the top of his game all year long," said Chapman. "He is superb in all aspects of wrestling: takedowns, the top position and underneath. He has one of the best power doubles I've ever seen in the sport and that takes in a span of 40 years."

With Nebraska facing one of the toughest schedules in the nation, Burroughs only had three matches this season that didn't end by pin, tech fall or a major decision. One of them was a 10-7 victory over Wisconsin's defending NCAA champion Andrew Howe at the Midlands. He also piled up more than two minutes of riding time over Howe.

At the time, Howe was riding a long winning streak and was considered by many to be the nation's best college wrestler. Burroughs' other two regular wins came against Caldwell, but he was able to greatly improve by the time of the NCAA finals, posting an eight-point victory over the tough Sooner.

"It's unprecedented to have a year where there's five legitimate Hodge Trophy candidates. We're extremely excited about Burroughs winning the award because of who he is as a person and for how hard he works to dominate every opponent," said WIN Publisher Bryan Van Kley. "Burroughs has that 'X factor' which makes him stand out as the wrestler who's in a league of his own and his numbers this season back that up."

Jordan Oliver, a sophomore from Oklahoma State who finished 29-0 en route to the 133-pound title, finished as a close runner-up for the award on the strength of his 11 pins. Crowd-favorite Anthony Robles (36-0) of Arizona State finished third by a razor-thin margin after piling up an amazing 24 tech falls and beating last year's NCAA champ Matt McDonough of Iowa by six points in the NCAA finals.

Finishing in fourth place for this year's award was Jon Reader of Iowa State. The Michigan native was 39-0 while capturing the salty 174-pound title. The other finalist was Kellen Russell of Michigan who was 38-0 in the loaded 141-pound class, particularly in his Big Ten Conference.

The award is named in honor of Dan Hodge, who was undefeated during his three-year career at Oklahoma University. Hodge won three NCAA titles at 177 pounds and was voted the Outstanding Wrestler at the tournament in both 1956 and 1957. Hodge is the only wrestler to ever appear on the cover of Sports Illustrated (April 1, 1957).

The criteria considered for the trophy are the wrestler's record, number of pins, dominance on the mat, past credentials, quality of competition, sportsmanship and heart.

"We place a very high priority on pins, since that is what Dan Hodge was all about and what he stood for, but it doesn't trump all the other factors," said Chapman. "Frankly, this wasn't a great year for pinning so we looked hard at the other areas since the finalists' numbers were so comparable."

Oliver led the group with 11 pins, while Burroughs had six, Russell four, Reader three and Robles two.

This season, Burroughs faced a very tough obstacle to make it back to the top. He had won the NCAA 157-pound title as a junior in 2009 with a 35-0 record and was poised for a great senior year when he blew his left knee out. It looked like it could be the end of his career, and he was awarded a medical redshirt. He missed most of the 2010 season but was determined to build the knee back up and also moved up a weight class, to 165.

Sanderson among three champions for Nittany Lion WC at Northeast Regionals

Cael Sanderson following his victory in the quarterfinals against Richard Perry. (Photo via Mike Pucillo)

Seven champions were crowned on Saturday at the USA Wrestling Northeast Senior Freestyle Regionals in Brockport, N.Y.

While the event serves as one of the regional qualifiers for the annual World Team Trials, much of the buzz around the event centered around the entry of current Penn State head wrestling coach and 2004 Olympic Champion Cael Sanderson.

Sanderson didn't give up a point in three victories at 96kg/211 pounds beating Richard Perry of the Husky Wrestling Club 8-0, 6-0 and GWWC's Travis Taylor 7-0, 6-0 before beating Jack Jensen of Gator 6-0, 6-0 in the final.

Jensen was a 2008 All-American for Oklahoma State and recently served as an assistant coach at North Carolina.

Sanderson said the tournament was "just for fun." But for other Nittany Lion Wrestling Club members, it was about making a statement in qualifying for the World Team Trials.

Mark McKnight of the NLWC, beat Sean Boylan 3-1, 3-0 to win the championship at 55kg/121 pounds.

Coming off an injury that sidelined him for the majority of the collegiate season, Logan Stieber of the Ohio Regional Training Center and the New York Athletic Club beat Nick Fanthorpe of the NLWC in two periods. Steiber, a true freshman at Ohio State, beat Fanthorpe 3-1, 2-0 to win at 60kg/132 pounds.

In the wake of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents vote to move Nebraska-Omaha to Division I, Maverick's three-time Division II champion Todd Meneely won the 66kg/145 pound bracket with a 4-0, 6-0 victory over David Marble of the Bison Wrestling Club.

One of the tournament's top performances was turned in by Husky Wrestling Club's Matt Moley. The former Bloomsburg All-American beat the Army's Johnny Koepp 3-0, 4-0 in the finals at 74kg/163 pounds.

Earlier in the tournament, Moley beat the New York Athletic Club's J.P. O'Connor en route to the finals.

Max Askren of the New York Athletic Club beat Brandon Sinnott of the Gator Wrestling Club 4-1, 6-0. Sinnott defeated Hudson Taylor of the NYAC in the semifinals. Sinnott was on the coaching staff at Maryland while Taylor, a three-time All-American, competed there.

One of Sanderson's protégés, Jake Varner, captured the championship at 120kg/264.5 pounds, beating Ithaca's Matthew Mahon 6-0, 9-0.

All champions qualified for the 2011 U.S. World Team Trials in Oklahoma City in June. Sanderson and Varner hold qualification standards already, having represented the U.S. on previous world teams.

Bloomsburg University's Husky Wrestling Club also performed well, placing five wrestlers in the top four, including one champion – Moley.

Northeast Senior Freestyle Regional Championship Finals The College at Brockport, Brockport, N.Y.

55kg: Mark McKnight (Nittany Lion WC) DEC Sean Boylan (Husky WC) 3-1, 3-0
60kg: Logan Stieber (NYAC) DEC Nick Fanthorpe (Nittany Lion WC) 3-1, 2-0
66kg: Todd Meneely (Maverick WC) DEC David Marble (Bison WC) 4-0, 6-0
74kg: Matt Moley (Husky WC) DEC Johnny Koepp (Army WCAP) 3-0, 4-0
84kg: Max Askren (NYAC) DEC Brandon Sinnott (Gator WC) 4-1, 6-0
96kg: Cael Sanderson (Nittany Lion WC) TF Jack Jensen (Gator WC) 6-0, 6-0
120kg: Jake Varner (Nittany Lion WC) TF Matthew Mahon (Ithaca) 6-0, 9-0.

Third Place

55kg: Anthony Marino (Husky WC) won by forfeit.
60kg: Jeremiah Biddle (Husky WC) DEC Nick Wilcox (Husky WC) 3-1, 6-3.
66kg: Bryan Smith (Husky WC) FALL Joel Webster (KT Kidz) 1-3, 1:34.
74kg: J.P. O'Connor (NYAC) DEC Bryce Busler (Husky WC) 1-0, 7-0.
84kg: Terry Madden (NYAC) DEC Hudson Taylor (NYAC) 6-0, 4-2.
96kg: Keeno Griffin (Griffin Wrestling) DEC Christian Boley (Maryland WC) 3-0, 1-0.
120kg: Patrick Krenz (Brockport) FOR John Wilkinson (Razor)

Mark Cody pushes American University wrestling into national spotlight

When junior Ryan Flores first met American University's Mark Cody, the wrestling coach took his hand and leaned in close.

"Son, you're the best heavyweight in the country," Cody said. "You just don't know it yet."

Last weekend, Flores stood on the podium of the 2011 NCAA Wrestling Championships in Philadelphia with a second-place trophy in his hand. He became just the second student-athlete in program history to reach the finals and helped American to fifth place in the team standings, the best finish in school history.

"I'm happy because we're moving in the right direction," Cody explained. "The longer I coach the more I realize how hard it is to get someone on the podium, and to have three All-Americans definitely gives us a lot to build on for the future of the program."

Cody considers his three sons, George, Charlie and Henry, to be his greatest accomplishment, but being named 2011 NWCA Coach of the Year is nice too. His team sent a program-record six wrestlers to Nationals after crowning three EIWA champions two weeks before. Three grapplers achieved All-America status as the Eagles won 14 duals this season, both program highs.

"Being named the NWCA Coach of the Year is an incredible honor," Cody commented. "It's definitely something I am very proud of. But what I am most proud of is the work that everyone of our student-athletes puts in each day, not only to be the best wrestler they can be but to be the best student-athlete they can be."

Nine seasons have passed since Cody set up shop in the Marilyn Meltzer Wrestling Room. Since then American has begun a steady climb in the wrestling world and is now one of the elite programs in the nation, boasting 14 All-Americans in the last seven years. While each of these wrestlers has had a unique style and personality, they share one thing in common: the unwavering confidence and support of Coach Cody.

"The progression was really just believing what Cody was telling me," Flores said after defeating Jarod Trice to advance to the championship match. "It's about being the best all the time in every position."

Fellow All-American Steve Fittery is also a testament to Cody's coaching ability. After spending two years at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania, Fittery transferred to American and compiled a career record of 67-5. He placed third at the NCAA Tournament and lost only one match his senior season.

"Mark Cody is the most respected head wrestling coach in the country," Fittery commented. "Ever since I came here two years ago, I've been telling everyone that Mark Cody is the best coach I've ever had. The most impressive thing about coach is that, even though he teaches us how to have success on the mat, he stresses the importance of doing your best in every aspect of life. He's a great coach but even a better person."

This year's team was also built upon the success of juniors Matt Mariacher and Ganbayar Sanjaa. After taking a redshirt year last season, Mariacher returned to the mat and spent most of this year ranked in the Intermat Top 20 at 141 lbs. He was one of three Eagles to win an EIWA Championship and was one win away from earning All-America status at the NCAA Championships. Sanjaa, meanwhile, placed fourth at the national tournament in his first year with the team. Originally from Mongolia, Sanjaa won a junior college national championship at Colby Community College before coming to American.

Fittery, Mariacher and Sanjaa are all examples of Cody's ability to maximize talent by building confidence. Two are All-Americans and the third is a conference champion, yet none of these three student-athletes were heavily recruited coming out of high school; this theme holds true for many of the most successful wrestlers in American history. Daniel Waters '05, the program's first All-American, was an ex-Navy Seal who transferred to American after two years at Penn State. Muzaffar Abdurakhmanov '08 spent two years at Colby Community College but became both an All-American and Academic All-American as a senior. Even 2007 National Champion Josh Glenn '08 was not heavily recruited out of high school.

"Getting to where I want to be has never been a matter of how talented I am," stated Mariacher. "It has always been about how much I've bought into what Coach Cody was telling us and how often I do what he tells me to do."

These successes are the result of a program that asks student-athletes to give 100 percent at whatever they're doing at the time. Whether they're on the mat, in the classroom or having fun with friends, Coach Cody asks that his team give its all in all aspects of life.

"At American, we make good decisions all the time," Flores explained. "We always live like champions, and that's what makes this the best situation for me."

With a fifth place finish at this year's NCAA National Championships, the American University wrestling program has

Matt Ghaffari named Honorary Chairman of 2011 U.S. Open Wrestling Championships in Cleveland

Cleveland, OH (March 25, 2011) – The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission has named Olympic silver medalist Matt Ghaffari as the honorary chairman for the 2011 U.S. Open Wrestling Championships.

Ghaffari is known for his impressive international accomplishments including a silver medal at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. He was also a three-time World Championships medalist, four-time World Cup Champion and a nine-time Pan-American Champion.

"As a Clevelander, I am so proud to support the U.S. Open Wrestling Championships right here in my own city. This is a great tournament that showcases some of the best wrestlers in the nation and I'm looking forward to seeing some great action take place at Public Hall," stated Matt Ghaffari.

Ghaffari is also active in the Cleveland community, serving on the Boards of the Greater Cleveland Council Boy Scouts of America, Greater Cleveland Good Will and is a Member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland. He is also a volunteer coach for the U.S. National Greco-Roman Team, the Sunkist Kids Wrestling Club and Cleveland State University. He currently works for Prestolite Performance as a Brand Manager for Mallory and ACCEL and resides with his wife and three daughters in Avon Lake.

The U.S. Open and FILA Junior National Championships will take place April 7-10 at Cleveland Public Hall where the nation's top wrestlers in the three Olympic styles of men's freestyle, women's freestyle and Greco-Roman will compete. The Men's FILA Junior National Championships will showcase the nation's top athletes who are 17-20 years old, competing in freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling. Up to 850 athletes are expected to participate in both the U.S. Open and the FILA Junior National competitions that weekend, pumping an estimated \$850,000 into the local economy.

For more information on the event, visit <http://www.usopencleveland.com>

The mission of the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission is to measurably enhance the economy, image and quality of life in the Greater Cleveland community by attracting and creating significant sporting events and activities. For more information on the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission, visit clevelandandsports.org.

<http://www.themat.com/>

Club Survey

Help the Sport and Recreation Alliance save you money!!

They need Club Secretaries to complete a survey. A survey will be sent to your club over the next few days. If you cannot wait, do e-mail website@britishwrestling.org for a link to the survey.

The Sport and Recreation Alliance is surveying sports clubs to assess their financial health ([find out more about the Sport and Recreation Alliance](#)).

Completing this survey will allow the Alliance to campaign for reduced rates of VAT for sports clubs, lower utility rates, alcohol licensing costs, music licensing costs, drainage charges, Gift Aid, improvements to the CASC scheme, access to facilities and other important issues for clubs. Only with good data can the Sport and Recreation Alliance make politicians listen.

The more clubs that complete the survey, the louder the voice will be.

As a thank you, completed surveys will be entered into a draw to win one of a number of prizes including a session for your club with an expert who will advise on reducing your bills and provide money-saving tips, and two tickets to the Wimbledon Championships!

<http://www.britishwrestling.org/>