



Pre-Season 200 Top College Wrestlers

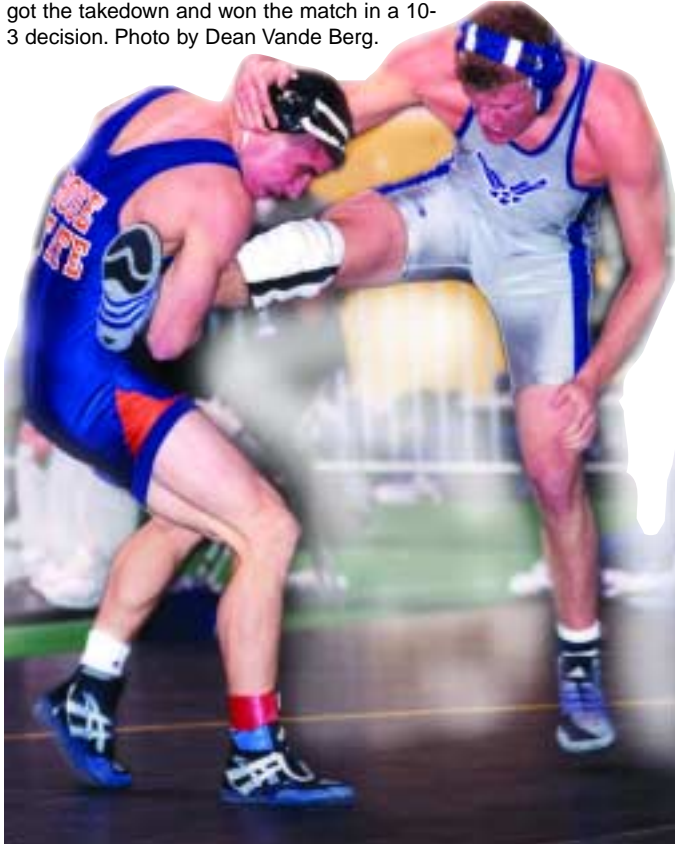
By Dan Fickel
National Editor

Wrestling USA Magazine's eighteenth annual Pre-Season 200 Top College Wrestlers appear in this issue. The wrestlers chosen are the elite of college wrestling regardless of division or classification.

The selection criteria takes the following into account: (1) NCAA Division I placement (2) NCAA Division II champions and top placers (3) NCAA Division III champions and runners-up (4) NAIA champions and top placers (5) National Junior College champions (6) performances at the NCAA Division I qualifying tournaments (7) transfers and redshirt freshmen with impact potential. This process excludes the unknown possibility of weight class changes, redshirt decisions, transfers that were not reported, and injuries.

The top picks comprise an exceptional group of five defending NCAA Division I champions, two 2002 NCAA Division I champions, one NCAA Division I runner-up, and two NCAA Division I third-place finishers. The ten picks compiled a 299-43 overall win-loss record for the 2002-03 season. They are led by two-time NCAA champion Johnny Thompson (133) of Oklahoma State. Another defending NCAA champi-

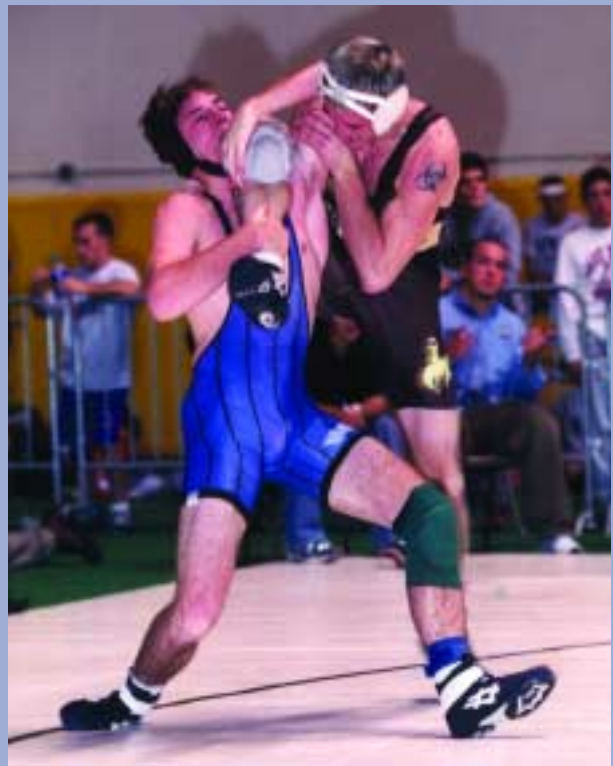
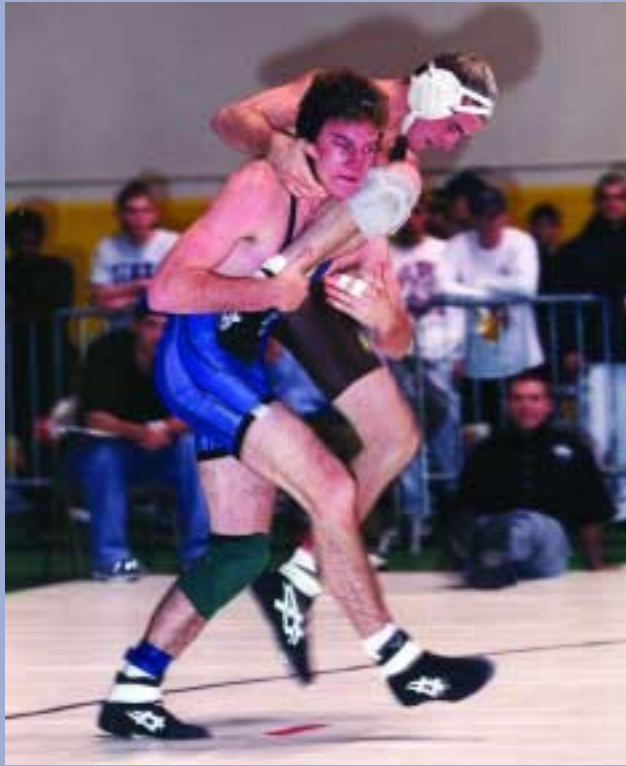
Cowboy Open 157 pound Division I Ben Charrington, Boise State, set-up a takedown against Tanner Bestinger, Air Force. Cherrington got the takedown and won the match in a 10-3 decision. Photo by Dean Vande Berg.



PRE-SEASON SPECIAL MENTION TEAM

Note: The following list of athletes who comprise the "Special Mention" team are wrestlers from all divisions. They have met the selection criteria in some way and were strong candidates for the Top-200.

Mitch Marcks	125	King's
Ryan McClester	125	The Citadel
Chris Saferite	125	Central Oklahoma
Jordan Sianni	125	Pittsburgh
Rene Hernandez	133	Purdue
David Hoffman	133	Virginia Tech
Seth Lisa	133	West Virginia
Jared Opfer	133	Kent State
Matt Sanchez	133	Bakersfield
Jesse Brock	141	Boise State
Donnie DeFilippis	141	Rutgers
James Guizar	141	Menlo
Tommy Owen	141	Minnesota
Josh Wooten	141	Northern Illinois
Cole Wunnicke	141	Wisconsin
Brian Baglio	149	North Carolina
Cal Ferry	149	Illinois
Dustin Manotti	149	Cornell
Bart Mehlert	149	Wartburg
Keri Stanley	149	Minnesota
Chris Bitetto	157	Northern Iowa
Justin Nestor	157	Pittsburgh
Max Odom	157	Harvard
Kenny Taylor	157	Bacone
Mike Tolar	157	Kent State
Matt Ellis	165	Oregon State
Luke Larwin	165	Oregon
Mark Mueller	165	Iowa
Wes Roberts	165	Oklahoma
Keith Clifton	174	The Citadel
Matt Kallai	174	Cleveland State
Josh McLay	174	Minnesota
Nick Roy	174	Michigan
E.K. Waldhaus	174	Oklahoma
Nick Catone	184	Rider
Jeff Clemens	184	Michigan State
Niko Koliastasis	184	Bacone
Brad Marten	184	WI-Stevens Point
Brady Reinke	184	Wisconsin
Matt Delguyd	197	Northwestern
Matt Greenberg	197	Cornell
Lee Kraemer	197	Wisconsin
Landon Seefeldt	197	Fullerton
Ryan Adams	285	North Carolina
Jeremiah Beltran	285	Ohio
Dan Howe	285	Cal Poly



Cowboy Open 141 pound Division I Kortney Lake works on a high single leg against Blake Gunter of Wyoming. Lake was able to get the points needed in a 3-0 decision. Photo by Dean Vande Berg.

on, Travis Lee of Cornell, is ranked number two at 133-pounds. Lee won the NCAA Division I title at 125-pounds last season.

In addition to the eight NCAA Division I champions, 19 other national winners were awarded spots on the Top-200. Three-time NCAA champion Cole Province (133) of Central Oklahoma heads a solid contingent of six champions and three runners-up from Division II. Undeclared 2003 champions Marcus Levesseur (157) of Augsburg and Cody Koenig (174) of Wisconsin-Stevens Point highlight a group of five champions and two runners-up from Division III. Two-time champion Emmett Wilson (197) of MSU-Northern leads a list of five champions and two runners-up from the NAIA. Four former champions are part of the Top-200 from the National Junior College Athletic Association. They are Bobbe Lowe (125) of Minnesota, Paul Collum (133) of Missouri, Willie Parks (197) of Iowa, and Cain Velasquez (285) of Arizona State.

The special mention team consists of wrestlers from all divisions who met the selection criteria in some way. These athletes were strong candidates for the Top-200. Unfortunately, I never received quali-

ty photos of some of these wrestlers.

Several high-profile wrestlers have decided to take Olympic redshirt years this season and are not part of the Top-200. They are defending NCAA champion Steve Mocco (285) of Iowa, NCAA runner-up Chris Fleeger (125) of Purdue, and All-Americans Nick Simmons (125) of Michigan State and Justin Ruiz (197) of Nebraska.

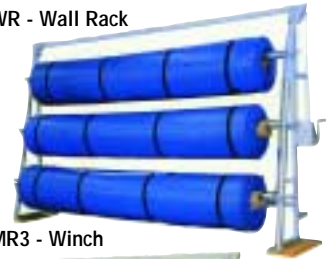
Please mail me mug shot photos of all of your wrestlers, including all transfers and incoming freshmen. If possible, send color mug photos or a CD with all the mugs on it. If color photos are not available, please mail black and white photos so no deserving wrestlers are missed in future issues. Also, please include me on your sports information mailing list and send me your 2003-04 Wrestling Media Guide when it is available.

Correspondence on college wrestling is to be sent to:

Dan Fickel, National Editor
Wrestling USA Magazine
10757 Woodrun Drive
Strongsville, Ohio 44136
Fax: (440) 878-1150
E-Mail: dfickel@msn.com

THE MAT RACK SYSTEM

Model WR - Wall Rack



Model MR3 - Winch



Model MM 1 - Mat Mate



"The Mat Rack System" for all of your wrestling mat storage and transportation needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call - 631-588-4343
Fax - 631-588-6787
e-mail - Neil1015@aol.com
website - MatRack.com

TW PROMOTIONS, INC.
845 Marconi Avenue
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

WUSA PRE-SEASON TOP

125 TOP PICK
NEBRASKA



JASON POWELL
3rd Div I

133 TOP PICK
OKLAHOMA STATE



JOHNNY THOMPSON
1st Div I 2x

141 TOP PICK
OKLAHOMA



TEYON WARE
1st Div I

149 TOP PICK
HARVARD



JESSE JANTZEN
3rd Div I

157 TOP PICK
MICHIGAN



RYAN BERTIN
1st Div I



LUKE EUSTICE
Iowa - 2nd Div I '02

2nd



TRAVIS LEE
Cornell - 1st Div I (125)

2nd



DYLAN LONG
No Iowa - 2nd Div I

2nd



PHILLIP SIMPSON
Army - 3rd Div I

2nd



ALEX TIRAPELLE
Illinois - 2nd Div I



KYLE OTT
Illinois - 3x OH St champ

3rd



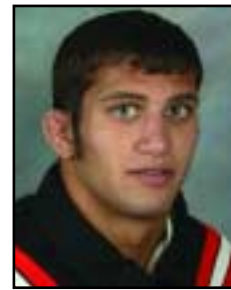
JOSH MOORE
Penn St - 3rd Div I

3rd



SCOTT MOORE
Virginia - 4th Div I

3rd



ZACK ESPOSITO
OK St - 2nd Big 12

3rd



JAKE PERCIVAL
Ohio - 5th Div I



BOBBE LOWE
Minnesota - 8th Div I

4th



ZACH ROBERSON
Iowa State - 4th Div I

4th



JASON MESTER
Cent. Michigan - 5th Div I

4th



JON MASA
Hofstra - 7th Div I

4th



DEREK ZINCK
Lehigh - 8th Div I



TOM NOTO
Hofstra - 1st Colonial '02

5th



CLIFF MOORE
Iowa - 6th Div I

5th



DOUG MCGRAW
Pennsylvania - 3rd EIWA

5th



MIKE MANEY
Lock Haven - 8th Div I (141)

5th



JOHNNY HENDRICKS
OK St - 3x OK St Champ

200 COLLEGE WRESTLERS

165 TOP PICK
LEHIGH



TROY LETTERS
2nd Div I

174 TOP PICK
WEST VIRGINIA



GREG JONES
1st Div I '02

184 TOP PICK
OKLAHOMA STATE



JAKE ROSHALT
1st Div I

197 TOP PICK
MINNESOTA



DAMION HAHN
1st Div I

285 TOP PICK
OHIO STATE



TOMMY ROWLANDS
1st Div I '02



TYRONE LEWIS
Oklahoma State - 3rd Div I '02

2nd



CHRIS PENDLETON
Oklahoma St - 3rd Div I

2nd



SCOTT BARKER
Missouri - 2nd Div I

2nd



JON TRENCE
Lehigh - 2nd Div I

2nd



BOE RUSHTON
Boise State - 3rd Div I



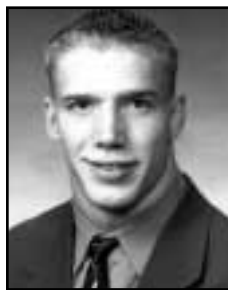
JACOB VOLKMANN
Minnesota - 3rd Div I

3rd



BRAD DILLON
Lehigh - 5th Div I

3rd



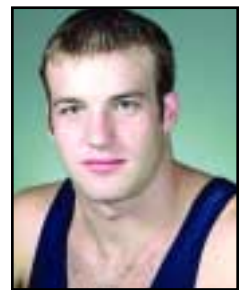
BEN HEIZER
No Illinois - 6th Div I

3rd



SEAN STENDER
No Iowa - 4th Div I

3rd



PAT CUMMINS
Penn State - 4th Div I



MATT KING
Edinboro - 4th Div I

4th



RYAN LANGE
Purdue - 8th Div I

4th



JORDAN HOLM
No Iowa - 1st West Reg.

4th



CHRIS SKRETKOWICZ
Hofstra - 6th Div I

4th



LEONCE CRUMP
Oklahoma - 4th Div I '01



JOHN CLARK
Ohio State - 6th Div I

5th



TYLER NIXT
Iowa - 2nd Big 10

5th



BRIAN GLYNN
Illinois - 4th Big 10 (174)

5th



NIK FEKETE
Michigan State - 8th Div I '01

5th



MATT FEAST
Pennsylvania - 7th Div I