

Iowa Central CC Wins Division I Wrestling Crown Gloucester County College Captures Division III Title

Rochester Community and Technical College and the Rochester Amateur Sports Commission have for the fourth consecutive year co-hosted the NJCAA's biggest wrestling event. A total of 246 wrestlers from 41 colleges qualified for this year's tournament. Heading the field were 21 returning All-Americans including three National Champions and six other finalists. **Bogdan Ciufulescu** (2000 133 lb. Champion – Neosho), **Bart Mehlert** (2001 149 lb. Champion – Ellsworth), and **Josh Birt** (2001 184 lb. Champion – North Idaho) were out to join the exclusive 46 member "Repeat Champion" Group. **Ciufulescu**, moving up a weight, was the only one to successfully meet the challenge. Of the six other returning All-Americans that were past finalists, only two were able to repeat with **Ozzie Saxon**, 133 lb. North Idaho, climbing up to the top step. Eight returning All-Americans were unable to repeat their trip to the award stand.

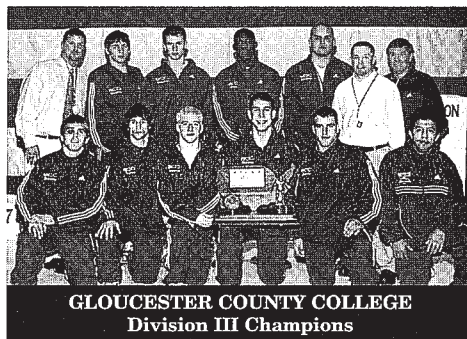
The Division I battle was hot through out the two day event. **Iowa Central** entered the finals with four wrestlers and 128 points. **Neosho**, with 119 points, worked three into the finals including the heavyweight match-up with **Iowa Central**. **North Idaho** sent four into the finals, but were 19 1/2 behind with 108 1/2 points. There were 620 matches wrestled in the two days and it wasn't until the 620th match that a team champion emerged. With the **Ozzie Saxon** victory at 133 lbs., **North Idaho** put the move on **Neosho** closing that gap to 2 1/2 points. But **Neosho's Ciufulescu** at 141 lbs., answered back with a major decision to put **Neosho** at 124 points. **Nassau's Ryan Mauer** cut **North Idaho's** chance to win with his 8-5 victory over **Keri Stanley** at 149 lbs. Next up **Israel Martinez** (157 lbs.) from **North Idaho**, won a close 5-4 match over. **BJ Wright** of **Ricks** to tighten the gap, bringing their score to 116 1/2. **J.J. Holmes** in the 165 lb. finals put **Neosho** out of **North Idaho's** reach with a fall in 5:17 over **David Hillard** of **Lassen**. He also put **Neosho** in the lead over **Iowa Central** 130-128! In the 174 lb. finals **Brian Brittingham**, Gloucester, faced **Iowa Central's Kenyatta Carter**. In a wild and exciting match **Brittingham** won the 174 title with a 15-13 overtime takedown. That match put **Iowa Central** 0-2 in the finals with two wrestlers left and **Neosho** still in the lead 130-128. **Iowa Central's** 184 lb. **Willie Parks** was next in line. Facing **North Idaho's** returning National Champion **Josh Birt**, the odds weren't in his favor. **Parks** put together a solid match though and claimed the weight class with a 9-4 victory. **Iowa Central** took the lead

132-130, with the heavyweight match deciding the National Championship. Everyone would have to wait awhile as the 197 lb. bout pitched **SUNY-Morrisville's Pat Bennett** against Gloucester's **Nick Vinciguerra**. **Bennett** earned his way into the finals by pinning all three of his opponents, but it was **Vinciguerra** that captured the crown with a 6-5 victory. Match 620. The heavyweight finals. **Dean Taylor**, **Neosho's** number two ranked heavyweight, was facing **Iowa Central's** number sixth ranked **Cain Velasquez**. With the National Championship at stake the two big men stalked the mat waiting for their opening. Cautious and deliberate, both knew a mistake would end the night. As time ended with no big moves to be had, **Velasquez** had a 2-1 victory, his individual title, and his part towards **Iowa Central's** second national title. Ironically, Coach **Mark Ostrander** was a member of the **Iowa Central's** other National title team from 1981 placing third for the Tritons.



Left to Right: **Cain Velasquez**, Iowa Central, HWT; **Nick Vinciguerra**, Gloucester County, 197; **Willie Parks**, Iowa Central, 184; **JJ Holmes**, Neosho County, 165; **Brian Brittingham**, Gloucester County, 174; **Israel Martinez**, North Idaho, 157; **Ryan Mauer**, Nassau, 149; **Bogdan Ciufulescu**, Neosho County, 141; **Ozzie Saxon**, North Idaho, 133; **James Rollins**, Gloucester County, 125.

Division III action saw Gloucester dominate the field with 101 1/2 points bringing ten wrestlers and taking home four All-Americans. Those four All-Americans included National Champion **James Rollins** 125 lbs., fourth place **Manny Aguilera**, National Champion **Brian Brittingham** 174 lbs., and National Champion **Nick Vinciguerra** 197 lbs. A great tournament for Coach **Mike Lamb** and his team. Runner-up **Nassau** was 35 points behind with 65 1/2 claiming four All-Americans including National Champion **Ryan Mauer**.

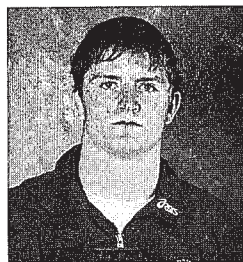


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NJCAA National Wrestling Tournament Results



Ernest B. Gould
Outstanding Wrestler
Willie Parks
IOWA CENTRAL



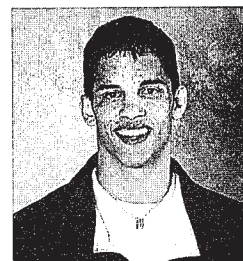
Bruce Traphagen
Most Falls Award
Pat Bennett
SUNY @
MORRISVILLE, NY



Coach of the Year
Joe Solorio
PIMA CC



Man of the Year 2002
Steve Christiansen
WESTERN WYOMING CC



Joseph Rockenbach
Sportsmanship Award
Peter De LaCruz
PIMA CC

125 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place James Rollins, Gloucester County College, Sewell, NJ
- 2nd Place Nick Vogt, St. Louis CC-Meramec, St. Louis, MO
- 3rd Place Kevin Artis, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 4th Place Andrew Bradbury, William Rainey Harper College, Palatine, IL
- 5th Place Justin McClintock, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 6th Place Derek Jones, Colby CC, Colby, KS
- 7th Place Moses Ramos, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ
- 8th Place Kyle Kilgore, Northwest College, Powell, WY

133 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Ozzie Saxon, North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 2nd Place Jafari Vanier, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 3rd Place Pat Garcia, Western Wyoming CC, Rock Springs, WY
- 4th Place Mike Trotta, Nassau CC, Garden City, NY
- 5th Place Bryan Miller, Colby CC, Colby, KS
- 6th Place Johnny Cortez, Labelle CC, Parsons, KS
- 7th Place Leonardo Martinez, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ
- 8th Place Mike Welch, Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades, Media, PA

141 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Bogdan Ciufulescu, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 2nd Place Peter DeLacruz, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ
- 3rd Place Carlos Adami, Highline CC, Des Moines, WA
- 4th Place Manny Aguilera, Gloucester County College, Sewell, NJ
- 5th Place Paul Collum, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 6th Place Matt Murray, Colby CC, Colby, KS
- 7th Place Ben Wilmer, Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster, PA
- 8th Place Ryan Harmon, Western Wyoming CC, Rock Springs, WY

149 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Ryan Mauer, Nassau CC, Garden City, NY
- 2nd Place Keri Stanley, North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 3rd Place Patrick Williams, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 4th Place Bart Mehlert, Ellsworth CC, Iowa Falls, IA
- 5th Place Carey Vanier, Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN
- 6th Place Alex Hernandez, William Rainey Harper College, Palatine, IL
- 7th Place OT Johnson, Colby CC, Colby, KS
- 8th Place Dan Show, Lassen College, Susanville, CA

157 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Israel Martinez, North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 2nd Place BJ Wright, Ricks College, Rexburg, ID
- 3rd Place Tim Springs, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 4th Place Joshua Medina, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ
- 5th Place Joey Bracamonte, Lassen College, Susanville, CA
- 6th Place Nick Rusenberger, Nassau CC, Garden City, NY
- 7th Place Chris Slith, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 8th Place Dan Chase, Alfred State College, Alfred, NY

165 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place JJ Holmes, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 2nd Place Davis Hilliard, Lassen College, Susanville, CA
- 3rd Place Trevor Murray, Northwest College, Powell, WY
- 4th Place Rob Pilcher, Ellsworth CC, Iowa Falls, IA
- 5th Place Joseph Patrovich, Nassau CC, Garden City, NY
- 6th Place Nate Schut, Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN
- 7th Place Bryan Cowdin, Minnesota West CTC, Worthington, MN
- 8th Place Omar Ortiz, Muskegon CC, Muskegon, MI

174 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Brian Brittingham, Gloucester County College, Sewell, NJ
- 2nd Place Kenya Carter, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 3rd Place James Terry, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ
- 4th Place Joe Castro, Highline CC, Des Moines, WA
- 5th Place Mike Bundy, North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 6th Place Tal Romero, Itasca CC, Grand Rapids, MN
- 7th Place Cameron Bretz, Western Wyoming CC, Rock Springs, WY
- 8th Place Kyocey Uscola, Southwestern Oregon CC, Coos Bay, OR

184 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Willie Parks, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 2nd Place Josh Birt, North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 3rd Place Adam Sesso, William Rainey Harper College, Palatine, IL
- 4th Place Josh Janousek, Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN
- 5th Place Jason Reicks, Ellsworth CC, Iowa Falls, IA
- 6th Place Hank Jantony, Cuyahoga CC, Highland Hills, OH
- 7th Place Justin Elliot, Clackamas CC, Oregon City, OR
- 8th Place Jacob Ortiz, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ

197 WEIGHT CLASS

- 1st Place Nick Vinciguerra, Gloucester County College, Sewell, NJ
- 2nd Place Pat Bennett, SUNY-Morrisville, NY
- 3rd Place Trevor Smith, Highline CC, Des Moines, WA
- 4th Place Dan Lungu, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 5th Place Mike Walden, Muskegon CC, Muskegon, MI
- 6th Place Brenon Chyma, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 7th Place Robert Roszkiewicz, Northwest College, Powell, WY
- 8th Place Lukas Pohlmeier, Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN

285 Weight Class (HWT)

- 1st Place Cain Velasquez, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
- 2nd Place Dean Taylor, Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS
- 3rd Place Chad Charbonneau, North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID
- 4th Place Erik Jones, Ellsworth CC, Iowa Falls, IA
- 5th Place Karl Knothe, Minnesota West CTC, Worthington, MN
- 6th Place John Webb, Muskegon CC, Muskegon, MI
- 7th Place Dalhan Miller, Lassen College, Susanville, CA
- 8th Place Mark McLean, Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ

TEAM SCORES

Division I

Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA	136
Neosho County CC, Chanute, KS	130
North Idaho College, Coeur d' Alene, ID	116.5
Pima CC, Tucson, AZ	77
Ellsworth CC, Iowa Falls, IA	71
Colby CC, Colby, KS	51.5
Highline CC, Des Moines, WA	51.5
Muskegon CC, Muskegon, MI	45
Northwest College, Powell, WY	43.5
Lassen College, Susanville, CA	42
Western Wyoming CC, Rock Springs, WY	34.5
Ricks College, Rexburg, ID	27
St. Louis CC-Meramec, St. Louis, MO	23.5
Cuyahoga CC, Highland Hills, OH	19.5
Clackamas CC, Oregon City, OR	16.5
Labelle CC, Parsons, KS	16.5
Southwestern Oregon CC, Coos Bay, OR	14.5
Lincoln College, Lincoln, IL	13.5
Waldorf College, Forest City, IA	8
Niagara County CC, Sanborn, NY	5
Kennedy-King College, Chicago, IL	3
Wilber Wright College, Chicago, IL	1.5
Yakima Valley CC, Yakima, WA	.5

Division III

Gloucester County College, Sewell, NJ	101.5
Nassau CC, Garden City, NY	65.5
Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN	55.5
William Rainey Harper College, Palatine, IL	52
Minnesota West CTC, Worthington, MN	26
SUNY-Morrisville, NY	22
Itasca CC, Grand Rapids, MN	16.5
Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster, PA	15
Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ	12
Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades, Media, PA	9
Rochester Comm. & Tech. College, Rochester, MN	7
Triton College, River Grove, IL	6.5
Alfred State College, Alfred, NY	5.5
SUNY-Cobleskill, NY	.5

BRUCE TRAPHAGEN GREATEST NUMBER OF FALLS IN THE LEAST AGGREGATE TIME:

Pat Bennett, SUNY-Morrisville, NY

ERNEST B. GOULD

OUTSTANDING

WRESTLER AWARD:

Willie Parks, Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA

JOSEPH A. ROCKENBACH

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:

Peter DeLaCruz, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ

MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Steve Christiansen, Western Wyoming CC, Rock Springs, WY

COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Joe Solorio, Pima CC, Tucson, AZ