

The 2003 Virginia Duals

By Skip Parker

The 23rd Virginia Duals promised to deliver "action-packed action" (the Duals theme) and it did just that in all 5 of its individual tournament competitions (2 college and 3 high school). There were a lot of teams with excellent credentials in this tournament. There were a number of surprises in both team upsets and individual bout upsets. This article will cover those competitions and discuss the outcomes of key matches.

In the high school tournaments, Virginia sent its AAA, AA and A champions (Great Bridge, Christiansburg and Brentsville) and its AA runner-up, Grundy. Maryland sent its AA champion,

Chesapeake High School. Florida was represented by its 2002 champion, Cardinal Gibbons. Louisiana sent Jesuit, one of its strongest teams, coached by former 2x State Champion from Great Bridge, Mark Strickland. Delaware followed suit by sending St. Mark's. Pennsylvania sent their 2002 state AAA runner-up, State College. Parkersburg South was the 2002 champion in West Virginia. Bradley Central is one of the finest teams in Tennessee (may be the finest). Johnson City, NY, is having a banner year and could very well be the team to beat in the New York state tournament this year. Nazareth and Liberty, PA, also competed in the National Division. They are

ranked 3rd and 4th in PA's powerful District 11 behind Easton and Northampton. There were a number of excellent wrestlers with impressive records. Competing in this tournament were 81 state place winners, 24 state champions and 40 nationally ranked wrestlers. There is no doubt that the quality of competition in this tournament was superb.

High School National Division

This is considered the strongest grouping of high school teams at the Duals. Great Bridge, Virginia, AAA state champions, was the favorite to win it and they did. However, the path to the championship was packed with excellent teams and inspired wrestlers. In the first round, Great Bridge (the top seed) defeated Liberty, PA, 44-9. The 2nd seed, State College, PA, (State AAA runners-up), defeated Herndon, VA 52-11. Parkersburg South, West Virginia (State AAA champions) upset 3rd seeded Nazareth, PA. St. Marks, DE, (Delaware state champions) upset 4th seed Cardinal Gibbons, (Florida state champions) 48-9. In this match 2x Delaware state champion, Pat Atkinson defeated 3x Florida state champion, Jon Taylor, 8-6 in overtime in the marquis match-up of this round. Number 5 Trinity, PA, rolled over a rebuilding Grundy, VA, team 47-19. Virginia state AA champion, Christiansburg (6th seed) overwhelmed Louisiana state champion, Jesuit, 40-6. Camden Catholic, NJ, (7th seed) defeated Maryland state champion, Chesapeake, 53-15. In the closest match of the round, 8th seed, Kingsway, NJ, edged Archbishop Moeller of Cincinnati, OH, 34-33. In the quarterfinals, there is always great action and some superb match-ups. Unseeded St. Marks continued their march to the semifinals with a 40-26 upset victory over Trinity, PA. Great Bridge shifted into high gear defeating Kingsway, NJ, 61-2 (Kingsway lost a team point). A pin by Josiah Dorton at heavyweight enabled Parkersburg South to score their 2nd victory in a row over a seeded opponent. This time it was a strong Christiansburg squad, 31-27. State College, PA, defeated Camden



2003 Virginia Duals. 135 pound Donnie Ooton, Great Bridge, Virginia, (red ankle band), vs. Patrick Atkinson, St. Mark's, Delaware, in the semi finals of team championships. Photo by Ken Correll.

Catholic 41-18. In the semifinals, a very close game St. Marks squad traded victories with Great Bridge, winning at both 103 and 125. However, Great Bridge didn't lose a bout from 130 to 275 en route to scoring a 54-9 victory. Parkersburg South and State College fought a close match right through 171. However, State College swept the last 3 weight classes (2 falls and a decision) and ended Parkersburg South's run for the title, 35-19.

For the 5th time in 6 years, Great Bridge achieved the finals of the National Division. It was State College's first trip to the Duals. Both of the teams in the finals had dominated their opponents. Both had solid wrestlers from the lower weights to the heavies. Great Bridge had 9 wrestlers who had won all of their bouts going into the finals. State College had 7. Five of them met in the championship match. Great Bridge won 3 of those 5 bouts (119, 130, 189). State College won 2 (140 and 215). In the finals, State College won 2 bouts on the light end and two on the heavy end of the order. Great Bridge won 7 out of 8 from 130 to 189 to win the title 37-18. State College had 4 wrestlers who were undefeated in the tournament. They were Kyle Fluke, Mike DePellagrini, Kevin Suhey and Nick Stumpf. Great Bridge had 7 wrestlers who were undefeated: Justin Staylor, Daniel Frishkorn, Donnie Ooton, Nick Pullano, Mike Belew, and Patrick Bond. Daniel accomplished something very noteworthy in this tournament. He not only pinned all of his opponents, but he pinned them all in the first period.

CHAMPIONSHIP

GREAT BRIDGE 37- STATE COLLEGE 18

103- Fluke (SC) dec. Rosen 7-4. 112- J. Frishkorn (GB) dec. Homan 5-2. 119-J. Staylor (GB) pin Blaschak :43. 125- Behrer (SC) dec. Walker 5-0. 130- D. Frishkorn (GB) pin Lower 1:01. 135- Ooton (GB) dec. Wright 11-8. 140-M. DePellagrini (SC) dec. Brown 7-3. 145- Davenport (GB) dec. Kocher 10-3. 152-Pullano (GB) maj. dec. Brooks 15-7. 160-Foreman (GB) dec. Warner 11-5. 171-Belew (GB) pin A. DePellagrini :37. 189- Bond (GB) dec. Decker 4-0. 215-Suhey (SC) dec. Stallings 1-0. Stumpf (SC) pin Rogers.

After their first round loss, Nazareth coach Rex Lutz called a team meeting and told his wrestlers that they were still in it and were going to come back. Nazareth won 4 consecutive matches in the consolation finals, including a rematch against Parkersburg South, who had beaten them in the first round to land in the consolation finals. St. Marks stopped Liberty's 3 match winning streak, 34-22, to wrestle their way to the consolation finals on the other side of the bracket. In this match Nazareth got strong wins in the lower weights and

critical wins from Bernaski and Abel at 160 and 171 that turned out to spell the difference in this one. St. Marks was behind 30-14 after 171, made a furious run in the upper weights, but came up 1 point short. Nazareth won it, 30-29. It was an epic comeback by a determined Nazareth team. The wrestlers on the team said that it inspired them to see their old teammates, Travis Frick (Lehigh) and Steve Itterly (Lock Haven) wrestling on the adjacent mat.

THIRD PLACE

NAZARETH 30-ST. MARKS 29

103 - Flegler (N) maj. dec. Shaw 12-4. 112 - Frick (N) tech fall Riley 19-4. 119 - Quinn (SM) tech fall Kardelis 15-0. 125 - Bradley (SM) dec. Cormanical 8-2. 130 - Provini (N) tech fall Rubini 16-0. 135 - Deutsch (N) dec. Collins 7-0. 140 - Gentile (N) maj. dec. Glessner 12-4. 145 - Kelly (SM) dec. Marositz 7-2. 152 - Skinner (SM) dec. Janisch 3-2. 160 - Bernaski (N) dec. Bastianelli 9-4. 171 - Abel (N) pin Jordan :17. 189 - Axe (SM) dec. Savarese 7-0. 215 - Willis (SM) pin Frey 2:54. 275 - Sullivan (SM) Forfeit.

The outstanding wrestler award went to Liberty's Mickey Pena.

American High School Division

This year was a departure from the norm. Usually, one doesn't find teams the

caliber of Bradley Central, TN, and Johnson City, NY, in the American Division. This year, however, they were there along with some of Virginia's top AAA teams. This was a very competitive field of teams. There were great competitions throughout this tournament. When the competition was completed, Johnson City, NY emerged as champions in this tournament. There were very few upsets in this one, but there were a lot of close calls. In the first round top seed, Johnson City got behind Lafayette, VA, 22-12, but the powerful center and heavy end of their order netted Johnson City a 45-28 victory. Last year's champion, Kellam, VA advanced on a 47-19 win over Woodside, VA. Freedom, PA, the 5th seed, defeated Deep Creek, VA 52-24. In the most exciting match of the first round, Cox, the 4th seed, got pins from 215, John George, and heavy-weight, Joe Morrison, to narrowly defeat an inspired Western Branch team 32-30. Kempsville, the #3 seed, defeated Peru Central, NY, 43-26. Tabb, VA defeated 6th seed, Currituck, NC, 46-22. Lee Davis, 7th seed, defeated Taliwood, VA, 46-23 and 2nd seeded, Bradley Central, TN, hammered Denbigh, VA, 63-6. In the quarterfinals the top 4 seeds all advanced by large margins. The semifinals always offers some of the best wrestling in the tournament.

Team & Group Discounts Available For All Camps & Merchandise



2003 SUMMER TRAINING CAMPS

WHEN AND WHERE

June 1-6	- Denver, CO - Colorado Christian U.
New June 8-13	- West Lafayette, IN - University Inn
June 14-27	- Cincinnati, OH - Holiday Inn
June 27-28	- Norfolk, VA - Special Day Camp
New July 11-15	- Pella, IA - Central College
New July 13-17	- Charleston, WV - Civic Center
July 18-Aug 1	- State College, PA - Ramada Inn
August 10-23	- Allentown, PA - Days Inn

Gold Medal Camp System

Order Online Today!

www.wearandgear.com



Call today for your FREE Catalog!

I have personally designed the Gold Medal Camp System so that you will learn and retain as much as possible. While college sponsored camps are often thrown together, Gold Medal Camp is very organized. Through a carefully planned sequence of instruction, unique drills, and review sessions, you will learn the techniques necessary to become a champion!

World Class Clinicians

Detailed Camp information can be found online at

814-466-3466 | www.kenchertow.com

Cox, which is very strong from 103 to 125 and from 171 to 275, did not survive Johnson City's assault in the middle weights. Six consecutive pins (130-160) assured the New York team's advancement to the finals with a 45-29 victory. On the other side of the bracket, Kempsville was in a war with Bradley Central, TN. Bradley Central fought back from a 28-7 deficit to take a 35-31 victory with falls in 4 of the last 6 weight classes. In the finals, Johnson City got huge wins from the Joe Sacco, Josh Glen, Ryan Kuzel, Nolan Robinson and Jon Colgan to edge a tough Bradley Central team, 34-30 for the title. It was Johnson City's first trip to the Virginia Duals. The team coach, Peter Capone, said that it was worth the trip from New York and his team members agreed. "We had to forfeit 2 weight classes, because we can't wrestle with 8th graders in this tournament, like we can in New York. I wanted to get everyone matches and they all wrestled." They had to wrestle very well to win this title. In the consolations, Cox got big wins (a major decision and 2 pins) from the heavy end of their order (Mike George, John George, and Joe Morrison) to edge Kempsville, 33-31 for 3rd place. However, all through the tournament, Cox's Bubba Jenkins had delivered impressive victories at 125 and for his effort was awarded outstanding wrestler honors.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH
JOHNSON CITY 34- BRADLEY CENTRAL 30
 103 - McCormick (JC) maj. dec. Tinsely 13-4. 112 - Ballard (BC) won by forfeit. 119 - Wiktorek (JC) dec. Cordell 8-2. 125 - Galindo (JC) dec. Fuller 13-6. 130 - West (BC) pin Witbeck :21. 135 - Baker (BC) dec. Goyette 4-2. 140 - Creagan (BC) dec. Felton 4-2. 145 - Sacco (JC) pin Spain :51. 152 - Glenn (JC) pin Catlett 4:26. 160 - Gibson (BC) pin Vail 1:54. 171 - Kuzel (JC) dec. Blackman 6-0. 189 - Robinson (JC) dec. Cooper 3-1. 215 - Colgan (JC) pin Bailey :34. 275 - Grady (BC) won by forfeit.

Black and Blue

This 12 team competition is an 8-team bracket structure with a single elimination first round. It is made up primarily of Virginia teams from South Hampton Roads' peninsula. The first round had a couple of barn-burners. Menchville defeated Grafton 42-37 and York was awarded a 42-42 win on criteria over Bethel. In the quarterfinals, top seed, Brentsville (Virginia State "A" Champions) defeated Menchville 55-7. Mathews, the 4th seed, narrowly defeated a talented Granby team 36-33. Poquoson upset the 3rd seed, Gloucester, 43-30 and the #2 seed, Hampton, defeated York 60-24. In the semifinals, Brentsville continued to roll with a 41-26 victory over a very feisty Mathews team. Poquoson scored its 2nd consecutive upset with a close 37-35 win over

Hampton. In the finals, Brentsville was hitting on all 14 cylinders as it dominated Poquoson 50-12. Brentsville coach, Mark Smaltz remarked, "I didn't think we'd come out like that. We're a small single "A" school with 5 freshmen in the line-up. I'm surprised we got to the finals. We wrestled single A, AA, and AAA teams in this tournament. We got our share of bumps and bruises, but I'm happy with the performance of these kids." Apparently his wrestlers' performance caught the notice of tournament officials. Brentsville's Ben Truschel was announced the tournament's outstanding wrestler.


CHAMPIONSHIP

BRENTSVILLE DISTRICT 50-POQUOSON 12
 103- Duncan (P) dec. Martin 11-8. 112- Hastings (BD) pin Spikes 2:53. 119-Rudder (BD) won by forfeit. 125- Burke (P) pin Gehlsen 4:55. 130- Brimmer (BD) dec. Huskey 15-13. 135- Truschel (BD) maj. dec. Goodson 18-6. 140- Stone (P) dec. Suer 4-0. 145- Donovan (BD) maj. dec. Henley 14-1. 152- Orr (BD) dec. Sheridan 4-2. 160- Germain (BD) pin Jones 1:42. 171- Basham (BD) pin Bulles :44. 189- Easley (BD) pin Barkeman 3:43. 215- Yanchuk (BD) pin Richards 1:14. 275- Double forfeit.

National College Tournament

This was a hard group of teams to seed. The quality of wrestlers is so good on

CHAMPIONSHIP



WRESTLING

WORLD'S #1 PRODUCER OF INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS!

CALL 1-800-873-2730 or ORDER ONLINE at www.ChampOnline.com

CHAMPIONSHIP



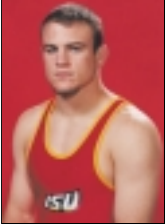
BOOKS & VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

CAEL SANDERSON:
PORTRAIT OF A CHAMPION
 WRV-1865A-WUSA01 \$29.95

CAEL SANDERSON:
FIVE FEATURE MATCHES!
 WRV-1865B-WUSA01 \$29.95

TERRY BRANDS' BRUTAL BAR ARM SERIES
with Terry Brands,
Head Coach Montana State-Northern,
Bronze Medalist 2000 Olympic Games,
2X NCAA Champion
 WRV-1646A-WUSA01
43 minutes \$29.95

TOM BRANDS' CROSS WRIST SERIES
with Tom Brands, Assistant Coach University of Iowa,
1996 Olympic Gold Medalist,
3X NCAA and Big Ten Champ
 WRV-1646B-WUSA01
40 minutes \$29.95



TECHNIQUE FROM THE FEET FOR HEAVYWEIGHTS
with Kerry McCoy, Lehigh University Assistant Coach
2000 Olympian, 2X NCAA Heavyweight Champion
 WRV-1899C-WUSA01 \$29.95

BOTTOM POSITION:
EXPLODE OFF THE WHISTLE!
with Kerry McCoy,
Lehigh University Assistant Coach
2000 Olympian,
2X NCAA Heavyweight Champ
 WRV-1899D-WUSA01 \$29.95

TOP POSITION:
CONTROLLING YOUR OPPONENT
with Kerry McCoy, Lehigh University Assistant Coach
2000 Olympian, 2X NCAA Heavyweight Champion
 WRV-1899C-WUSA01 \$29.95

MATCH PREPARATION: READY TO COMPETE!
with Mark Branch, Oklahoma State University Assistant
Coach 2X NCAA Champion, 4X All-American
 WRV-1903-WUSA01 \$29.95

We feature the best instructional videos available anywhere; Dan Gable videos, Iowa State Drill Series, Barry Davis, Dennis Hall, Kendall Cross "Cross of Gold" Series, Lincoln McIlravy Series, John & Ben Peterson.

each team that it was nearly impossible to get it right. The top seed in this field was Illinois, but they did not win it, nor did the 2nd seed, Penn State. Instead, it was the 3rd seed, Lehigh that really did dominate the field to take the title in this tournament. This is how it went. All 8 of the top seeded teams won in the first round. In the quarterfinals, the top 4 seeds advanced. Illinois defeated Lock Haven 32-3. Nebraska (seeded 4th) defeated Hofstra with Nebraska's heavyweight, Mitch Manstedt scoring a key 1-1 double overtime rideout win over Dan Garay to spell the difference in this match. Lehigh scored a 24-9 victory over Lehigh and Penn State winning a 38-3 victory over Rider. In the semifinals, Nebraska upset top seed Illinois. In this one, 2 high school national champions (Joey Malia and Mark Jayne) squared off and it was Joey Malia who prevailed in a barn-burner, 8-7 to help his team win this one 20-17. Lehigh upset #2 seed, Penn State, 22-12. Both teams were loaded with superb high school wrestlers from Pennsylvania. Lehigh won three 1-point bouts (from Tristan Boyd, Derek Zinck, and Jon Trence) that enabled them to advance to the finals against Nebraska. Lehigh was incredibly dominant in the championship match winning 8 of the 10 individual bouts to take the title 34-7.

CHAMPIONSHIP LEHIGH 34- NEBRASKA 7

125- Powell (N) dec. Stuart 2-0. 133- Cooperman (L) dec. Malia 5-0. 141- Boyd (L) dec. Spalding 3-1. 149- Shufelt (N) maj. dec. Rohn 15-6. 157- Zinck (L) pin McMillin 2:05. 165- Troy Letters (L) pin Klein 3:45. 174- Dillon (L) maj. dec. Pascoe 14-5. 184- Frick (L) dec. Padden 5-2. 197- Trence (L) won by forfeit. 285- Sahi (L) dec. Manstedt 7-3.

Illinois advanced to the consolation finals with a 26-6 victory over 6th seeded Edinboro and Penn State defeated 5th seeded Hofstra 29-16. Pins from both the Moore brothers, Josh and Scott of Franklin, PA, sealed the victory for the Nittany Lions. In the finals, Illinois, however, would not be denied. This was a hard fought, low-scoring match. Illinois won four 1-point decisions to narrowly defeat Penn State, 19-12.

THIRD PLACE

ILLINOIS 19- PENN STATE 12

125- Ott (I) maj. dec. Smith 16-5. 133- J. Moore (PSU) dec. Jayne 7-3. 141-S. Moore (PSU) dec. Ferry 8-2. 149- Pedrosa (I) dec. Galloway 1-0. 157-Tirapelle (I) dec. Wachter 7-2. 165- Lackey (I) dec. Vecchio 10-9. 174- Glynn (I) dec. Waters 4-3. 184- Becks (PSU) dec. Potter 11-7. 197- Byrd (I) dec. R. Cummins 2-1. 285- P. Cummins (PSU) dec. Little 9-2.

American College Division

This is an 8 team tournament, composed primarily of smaller schools than the

National College Division. Like the National Division, however, this tournament was won by the #3 seed. In this case, it was SUNY Brockport who surprised the field by defeating both the #2 and #1 seeds to cop the title. This is how the rounds unfolded. In the first round, top seed, Maryland defeated Anderson College, SC, 37-6. Montclair State, NJ, (#4 seed) defeated Cumberland College, KY, 28-15. SUNY Brockport scored a 33-9 victory over Grand Valley, MI. Old Dominion University, VA, defeated Newport News Apprentice, 35-7. In the semifinals Maryland came from behind to defeat Montclair, 28-17. Former Pennsylvania State Champion, Jake Stork led the rally in the last 3 weight classes by scoring a first period fall over Chris Falto to give the Terps an 18-17 lead, one they never relinquished. On the other side of the bracket, Brockport and ODU split the number of individual wins, but pins by Artie Weidler and Robert Cuffie at 165 and 184 tipped the match in favor of SUNY Brockport. In the finals, SUNY Brockport had nearly eliminated Maryland after 165 going out to a 19-10 lead on the strength of victories by Rob Power, Artie Weidler, and Don Favro (157-174). However, as he had done earlier, Jake Stork rallied the heavy end of the order. He and Sal Aquia scored decisions to close the score to 19-16. It came down to the heavies. SUNY Brockport's

Jim Pennise stepped up to the task with a first period pin that delivered the championship for his team, 25-16. In the consolation finals it was a rematch of the first round match between Cumberland and Montclair State. Bill Deniz and Eduard Aliakseyenka each scored major decisions to lift Montclair State to a 22-19 victory.

CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNY BROCKPORT 25- MARYLAND 16

125 - Cruz (SB) pin Pandulo 4:19. 133 - Gribshaw (M) won by forfeit. 141 - Harrington (SB) dec. Zarzycki 3-2. 149 - James (M) maj. dec. McCoy 20-6. 157 - Power (SB) dec. Kiesling 7-5. 165 - Weidler (SB) maj. dec. Mullaney 13-4. 174 - Favro - (SB) dec. Cissne 7-3. 184 - Stork (M) dec. Fordyce 4-2. 197 - Aquia (M) dec. Cuffie 7-2. HWT - Pennise (SB) pin Fennel 1:36.

This tournament is one of the most talked about and enjoyed tournaments in the state. With all of the action and the talent that it brings year after year, it's easy to understand why that is the case. Frank Lipoli and the Peninsula Wrestling Association work hard to make this tournament provide the quality of wrestling competition that the coaches, wrestlers, and fans enjoy. As in prior years, this year's competition certainly delivered excellent wrestling in both the high school and college tournaments. 🏆

RG WRESTLING
1-800-755-6770

GREAT PRICES FOR ALL YOUR
WRESTLING NEEDS

WWW.RGWRESTLING.COM