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Subject: MEN'S WRESTLING - Augsburg wins regional title, sends all 10 wrestlers to nationals
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MEN'S WRESTLING - Augsburg wins NCAA D-III Upper Midwest Regional title, sends all 10 wrestlers to nationals

<https://athletics.augsburg.edu/news/2024/3/2/mwr030224.aspx>

STEVENS POINT, Wis. -- Qualifying individuals in all 10 weight classes to the upcoming national championships, the Augsburg University men's wrestling team won its 21st straight regional championship, claiming top honors at the NCAA Division III Upper Midwest Regional, held Friday and Saturday at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

THE BASICS

TEAM SCORES: Augsburg 1st/19 (216.5)

LOCATION: University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, Wis.

HOW IT HAPPENED

- For the fifth time since the 2002-03 season, Augsburg qualified wrestlers in all 10 weight classes to the NCAA Division III National Championships, which will be held March 15-16 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, Wis. Augsburg has had seven or more national tournament qualifiers in 20 of the last 21 seasons. The last three times Augsburg has had 10 national qualifiers, it has won the team national title (2004-05, 2006-07 and 2014-15). Augsburg also had 10 qualifiers in 2002-03, where it finished second nationally. Defending national champion Augsburg entered the weekend ranked No. 2 behind perennial rival Wartburg (Iowa) in the latest National Wrestling Coaches Association Division III national rankings. Wartburg earned seven national tournament qualifiers in winning the Lower Midwest Regional title, held Thursday and Friday.
- Augsburg won the 19-team Upper Midwest Regional with 216.5 points, ahead of second-place Wisconsin-La Crosse's 188.5 points. Augsburg has won the team title in its NCAA regional every year since starting regional competition in the 2002-03 season.
- Auggie wrestlers went 42-7 in the two-day tournament, claiming 17 pins, nine technical falls and five major decisions.
- Three Auggies -- 141-pound defending national champion Sam Stuhl (SR, Ellsworth, Wis./Ellsworth HS), 184-pounder Bentley Schwanebeck-Ostermann (SR, Loyal, Wis./Marshfield HS) and 285-pounder Tyler Kim (SR, Burnsville, Minn./Apple Valley HS) -- won regional titles, while three more Auggies earned regional runner-up honors and four Auggies claimed third-place finishes. The top three finishers in each weight class qualify for the national championship field.
- Schwanebeck-Ostermann was named the regional's Most Outstanding Wrestler, and head coach Tony Valek was named Upper Midwest Region Co-Coach of the Year, sharing the honor with Wisconsin-La Crosse coach Dave Malacek. Valek earned the coaching honor for the third time in his five seasons as head coach.
- The top-ranked 197-pounder in the NWCA Division III national rankings, Schwanebeck-Ostermann qualified for his fourth national tournament with five bonus-point victories to win the first regional title of his career, extending his winning streak to 26 straight matches. Now 29-1 on the year, he opened the tournament with two pins, then scored three shutout technical falls, including a 16-0, 5:07 win over No. 8-ranked Marcus Orlandoni of Wisconsin-La Crosse in the finals. Schwanebeck-Ostermann, who finished sixth nationally at 197 pounds in both 2021 (NWCA) and 2022 (NCAA) and fourth at 184 in 2023 (NCAA), now has 26 bonus-point triumphs (eight pins, 11 technical falls, seven major decisions) among his 29 victories this season, and is now 111-29 in his college career.
- Kim, ranked No. 4 nationally at 285 pounds, claimed his third straight NCAA regional title, going 4-0 with two pins to improve to 26-2 on the season. In the regional title match, Kim avenged an earlier 6-2 loss to No. 2-ranked Michael Douglas of Wisconsin-La Crosse with a 5-1 victory. A three-time All-American who finished second in 2021 (NWCA), fourth in 2022 (NCAA) and third in 2023 (NCAA), Kim is now 26-2 on the season with 15 pins, a technical fall and three major decisions, and is now 130-24 in his college career with 67 pins, six technical falls and 14 major decisions.
- Stuhl, who won the 141-pound national title from an unseeded position last season, qualified for his third Division III national tournament by winning his first regional title, as the No. 6-ranked Auggie scored a pin, two technical falls and a major decision among his 5-0 weekend. He claimed a pair of 15-0 technical falls and a 47-second pin on Friday, then capped his effort on Saturday with an 8-0 major decision over Ethan Pogorzelski of Wisconsin-Whitewater in the finals. Stuhl, who spent his first two-and-a-half seasons at Division I North Dakota State before transferring to Augsburg, is now 25-4 this season with six pins, seven technical falls and five major decisions. He is 82-14 in his Augsburg career and 96-26 in his overall college career.
- Seth Goetzinger (JR, Chatfield, Minn./Chatfield HS) earned his second national tournament berth of his career, finishing second at 174 pounds. Ranked No. 3 nationally, Goetzinger reached the regional finals with three straight pins, but took a medical forfeit to No. 2-ranked Jared Stricker of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in the title match. An All-American last year with a seventh-place national finish, Goetzinger is now 27-5 this season with 10 pins, five technical falls and four major decisions, and is now 69-20 with 35 pins, six technical falls and nine major decisions in his collegiate career.
- Blake Jagodzinske (JR, Sherburn, Minn./Martin County West HS), ranked No. 5 nationally at 157 pounds, claimed his first national tournament berth with a second-place finish. He reached the finals with a 50-second pin, 8-0 major decision and a 10-7 victory, but lost an 8-3 decision to defending national champion Nolan Hertel of Wisconsin-La Crosse in the finals. Jagodzinske is now 16-6 this season with seven pins, a technical fall and four major decisions, and 60-14 in his college career.
- Chance Suddeth (FY, Stoughton, Wis./Stoughton HS) reached the 133-pound finals in dramatic fashion, scoring pins in his first three matches on Friday and a 5-4 win over Jackson Rustad of the University of Chicago (Ill.) in the semifinals on Saturday, clinching his first trip to the national tournament. In the finals, he lost by a 10-6 decision to No. 6-ranked Dominik Mallinder of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Suddeth is now 18-8 in his first collegiate season with eight pins, four technical falls and two major decisions.
- Charlie Stuhl (JR, Ellsworth, Wis./Ellsworth HS) earned his second trip to the national tournament with a third-place finish at 149 pounds. Ranked No. 3 nationally, Stuhl opened his tournament with a 1:21 pin and 14-2 major decision before being edged 5-2 to No. 8-ranked Zach Sato of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in the semifinals. But he rallied back with an 8-3 win over Kellen Schauer of Concordia-Moorhead in the consolation semifinals, and an 11-3 major decision of Jalin Conner of Wisconsin-Whitewater in the third-place match.
- Cooper Willis (SO, Kansasville, Wis./Union Grove HS), ranked No. 3 nationally at 165, earned his second straight trip to the national tournament with a third-place regional finish. Willis went 3-0 with a pin and major decision before being edged 1-0 by No. 8-ranked Noah Leisgang of Wisconsin-La Crosse in the semifinals. He then scored a 5-0 win over Chicago's Darian Estevez in the wrestlebacks, and clinched his national bid with a 2:43 pin of No. 7-ranked Brayden Peet of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Willis, who finished fifth nationally last year, is now 32-2 on the season and 64-11 in his college career.
- Parker Venz (JR, Farmington, Minn./Farmington HS), qualified for the national tournament for the second straight year with a third-place finish at 197 pounds in the regional. The No. 4-ranked 197-pounder, he scored an 18-0 technical fall and 1:21 pin in his opening matches, before dropping an 8-7 decision to No. 1-ranked Gabe Zierden of Concordia-Moorhead in the semifinals. But he put together a pair of big scoring efforts in his two wrestleback matches, an 18-2 technical fall in the consolation semifinals and a 21-11 major decision over Jackson Punzel of Wheaton (Ill.) in the third-place match. Venz is now 20-6 on the season with 12 pins, five technical falls and two major decisions, and is 64-26 in his career.
- Wyatt Kaczrowski (JR, Seymour, Wis./Seymour HS) earned his first trip to the national tournament with a 5-1 performance, rallying from an overtime 6-1 loss to Luca Paladino of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in the quarterfinals with four straight wins. He had two technical falls and a major decision on the weekend, and closed his tournament with an 8-5 triumph over Paladino in the third-place match. Kaczrowski is now 25-15 on the season with six pins, four technical falls and eight major decisions, and is now 69-41 in his college career.