Pfeffer Qualifies For NCAA Wrestling Meet

Virginia Tech freshman wrestler Bill Pfeffer will wrestle in the heavyweight class in the NCAA wrestling finals March 17-19 at the University of Oklahoma at Norman, Okla.

Pfeffer, who compiled a season record of 17 wins and two losses, pinned Chuck Tursky of Slippery Rock in the NCAA Eastern Regional tournament finals March 4-5 at Slippery Rock, Pa., to qualify for the nationals and will be the only Tech wrestler to participate at that level. Tech finished fourth in the team standings.

Pfeffer's only losses came at the hands of the heavyweight champion wrestlers of both the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Southern Conference.

Pfeffer, who came to Tech on a football scholarship, is the first Gobbler grapper to qualify for the Nationals since Pat Rheam (167 pound class) earned the honor in 1972.

A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Pfeffer finished the regular season with a 17-2 record. His only losses came to ACC Heavyweight Champion Lynn Morris of N.C. State and Southern Conference Heavyweight Champ Ned Stepanovich of VMI.

Five of the seven Hokie wrestlers who made the trip to the regionals placed.

Third place finishes were recorded by Lavern Hovey, 118 lbs.; Dave Gitlin, 142 lbs., and Mark Miller, 190 lbs.

Daryl Kanach placed fourth in the 158 lb. class.

Miller is a freshman as is Kanach. Hovey and Gitlin are sophomores.

The order of finish at Slippery Rock:
1st, Cleveland State Univ., 96 1/4, 5 champions qualified NCAA nationals
2nd, Slippery Rock, 60 1/2, 2 champions qualified NCAA nationals
3rd, Shippensburg State, 44 1/2, 2 champions qualified NCAA nationals
4th, Virginia Tech, 37 1/2, 1 champion qualified NCAA nationals
5th, U. of Cincinnati, 20, Qualifies for Nationals—Freshman heavyweight Bill Pfeffer of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a heavyweight wrestler who also is a scholarship football player, has qualified for the national wrestling finals set for Norman, Okla.

1 wild card, champion qualified NCAA nationals
6th, Indiana Univ. of Pa., 14 1/2
7th, Richmond Univ., 12 1/2
8th, Fairleigh Dickinson, 11
9th, North Carolina AT, 9
10th, Old Dominion Univ., 7 1/2
11th, V.C.U., 3
12th, West Virginia Univ., 0
13th, Dayton Univ., 0
14th, Xavier Univ., 0