

LVAC AT WORLD TEAM TRIALS JUNE 9-11 – OKLAHOMA CITY

For the first time in its history, the Lehigh Valley Athletic Club landed two members on a U.S. World Team, after its top two athletes placed Top Three at the World Team Trials in Oklahoma City. Steve Mocco opened up 2-0 and again beat former World Team member, Tommy Rowlands, raising his unofficial career mark in college/freestyle to 12-8 in Steve's favor during their long rivalry which began in the 2002 NCAA finals.

In the Trials Finals against 2009 World Bronze medalist, Tervel Dlagnev – in a re-match of their U.S. National Open final -- Steve lost another 3-bout battle.



264 lb/120kg - *STEVE MOCCO, LVAC (7 entries)

W 1-1,2-0 Dom Bradley (SunkistKids)

W 1-0,2-0 Tommy Rowlands (Sunkist/OhioRTC)
(Challenge Final)

Trials Final with Tervel Dlagnev

Mocco won Rd.1: 1-0,0-1,1-0 (all clinches)

Dlagnev won Rd.2: 1-0,3-0 (Td/tilt)

Rd.3: 1-0,1-0 (Td in Pd.1; Clinch Pd.2)

In his first bout at 185, National Open runner-up, Keith Gavin, was pinned by NCAA champ, Quentin Wright, after Keith had decked the Lion at the 2010 National Open. While Wright didn't place, Keith rattled off five straight wins, including beating 2011 NCAA 1st, Jon Reader, for the true 3rd berth and a spot on the U.S. National Team (Top 3 qualify; results below).

Both Gavin and 2009 World Silver medalist, Jake Herbert were upstaged by Cael Sanderson's first serious competition in eight years after winning Olympic Gold in 2004. In a weight class with seven former NCAA champions, Cael won the Challenge, then both bouts with Herbert: 4-1,2-0 and 5-2,2-0.

As an item of intrigue, none of last year's U.S. World Team qualified this year.

185 lb/84kg - KEITH GAVIN, LVAC (14 entries) -

LBF 0:56 Quentin Wright (NittanyLionWC)

W 2-1,4-2 Tyrel Todd (NYAC/OTC)

W 6-1,6-0 elim. Mack Lewnes (NYAC/FingerLakes)

W 2-0,3-0 elim. Chris Pendleton (GatorWC)

W 7-0,3-1 elim. Bryce Hassenman (NYAC/Cowboy)

W 2-1,2-0 Jon Reader for True 3rd

(Reader beat Wright in semis,1-0,2-1)



At 132 lbs, the LVAC's Matt Valenti won another re-match with Drew Headlee via scores of 0-1, 5-1, 2-1, before losing 0-1,0-1 to Shawn Bunch, a 2009 World Team member and champion at the Alexander Medved Prizes in Bulgaria this March. Matt was eliminated by Logan Stieber (NYAC/OhioRTC), who placed 3rd ahead of 2008 Olympian, Mike Zadick).

(See next page for balance of World Team)

REMAINING 2011 U.S. WORLD TEAM FINALS (Incl. All True 3rds)

121 lb/55kg - NICK SIMMONS (SunkistKids) in wild battle with Sam Hazewinkel(SunkistKids WC)

Sam won Bout #1: 0-1,3-1,1-0; Simmons won 0-4,3-3,5-3 and 2-6,8-1,6-1

3rd place: Obe Blanc, Stillwater, OK(Gator WC) dec. Dan Mitcheff, Kent, OH(GoldenFlash WC), 1-0,1-0,1-1

132 lb/60 kg - REESE HUMPHREY (NYAC/OhioRTC) over Shawn Bunch (Gator WC)

Humphrey lost 0-5,1-4; won 2-0,1-0 and 3-0,3-0

3rd place: Coleman Scott, Stillwater, OK(Gator WC) dec. Logan Stieber, Monroeville, OH (NYAC),1-1,4-1

145.5 lb/74kg - TEYON WARE (NittanyLionWC) over Brent Metcalf (NYAC/Hawkeye WC)

Ware won 1-0,0-1,1-1; Metcalf won 2-1,0-6,2-0; Ware won 1-0,0-1,1-1(last TD)

3rd place: Josh Churella, Ann Arbor, MI (NYAC) dec Philip Simpson, Colo Sprngs, CO (US Army), 2-0,1-2,1-0

163 lb/84kg - JORDAN BURROUGHS (SunkistKids) over Andrew Howe (NYAC/Badger WC)

Beat the 2010 National Open champ in two bouts: 1-0,1-2,3-2 and 3-1,1-0

3rd place - Trent Paulson, Ames, IA (Sunkist Kids) dec. Kirk White, Boise, ID (Bronco WC), 4-0,1-0

185 lb/84kg True 3rd

Keith Gavin, Bethlehem, PA (Lehigh Valley AC) dec. Jon Reader, Ames, IA (Sunkist Kids), 2-1,2-0

211 lb/96kg - JAKE VARNER (NittanyLionWC) over Chad Henke (NWRRegTC)

Won both bouts: 3-0,2-0 and 3-0,2-0

3rd place: Dustin Kilgore, Berea, OH(Golden Pride WC) Jack Jensen, Graham, NC (Gator WC), 1-2,2-0,4-2

264 lb/120 True 3rd:

Dom Bradley, Blue Springs, MO (Sunkist Kids) dec Rowlands, Hilliard, OH (Sunkist Kids,OhioRTC), 1-0,1-0