

1986 US Nat'l Collegiate Judo Championships

West Point NY-The magnificent, beautiful West Point campus overlooking the Hudson river was the site of this year's collegiate championships. The Academy hosted the players and spectators and all were grateful for the opportunity to enjoy the facilities, campus, and of course the competition. The tourney employed the repechage system. The most interesting division was the Open. It pitted besides big against big, big against small, strength against technique, and it produced some interesting matches. S.Walker of Cumberland the winner of the heavyweight category, defeated easily Dan Mistichelli of San Jose

to advance to the finals. Bill Worthington (San Jose) defeated Rodney Imamura (Fresno) in an exciting contest with a left seoinage for a half point. In the finals Worthington, a 189 lbs pounder met Walker and the match of the tournament ensued. Worthington playing left seemed no match for Walker but toward the later half obtained his second wind to get Walker to the mat and pinned him. Amongst the other highlights was the 132 lbs category. Asano (San Jose) took Neil Urban by a koka with ippon seoinage to meet Liddie in the finals. Here Asano showed his potential with a beautiful tomoenage for ippon. K.

Tonra (San Jose) downed M. Murakami (Fresno) by a nice deashibarai for a yuko in the 143 lbs class. At 156 lbs, L. Clark (San Jose) took care of Steve Ulmer (Sacret Heart) by harai goshi and following to a choke. In a rather exciting 172 finals, M. Apostalon (U of NM) caught R. Imamura (Frenso) off guard with a right sided kouchi gari for a koka. Chris Meyer edged passed J. Waldvogel for a third on a decision.

The 189 class saw Rod Imamura (Fresno) display excellent technique by downing always tough playing Bill Worthington by right kouchigari and a rarely seen ut-surigoshi both for yukos to win.

The Outstanding woman player was J. Kanokogi who captured the women's heavyweight and Open categories. Outstanding men's player was Asano.