NORTHFIELD, MINN. – Both of SUNY Cortland's competitors at the 2005 NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships – sophomore Stef Sair (Huntington) and freshman Matt Sganga (Shirley/Longwood) are guaranteed All-America honors after posting 2-1 records during the first day of competition. The competition is being held at St. Olaf College.

Sair, unseeded at 174 pounds, suffered his first loss of the season with a 5-3 setback to seventh-seeded Josh Chelf of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Sair came back in the consolation bracket to knock out second-seeded Mark Sturm of Wartburg College with a pin in 2:28, then defeated Jeff Harrington of The College of New Jersey, 12-8. Sair will face fourth-seeded Cody Koenig of Wisconsin-Stevens Point on Saturday. Sair is now 19-1 this season.

Sganga, who also entered the tournament unseeded at 133 pounds, lost his opening match, 14-5, versus top seed Mark Matzek of Augsburg College. He rebounded in the consolation bracket, however, to post a 7-3 decision over Anthony Montes of Johnson and Wales College and an 8-4 victory versus Tim Bohlman of York College. Sganga, who is now 21-12 on the season, will face third seed Tyler Hubbard of Wartburg on Saturday.

Both Sair and Sganga will finish between third and eighth place on Saturday. The top eight finishers in each weight class are designated as All-Americans.

Cortland is currently tied for 20th out of 60 schools at the tournament with 10 points. Augsburg leads with 80.5 points, followed by Wartburg at 59.5. Cortland has now had at least one wrestling All-American in 18 of the last 20 years. Of the 19 national qualifiers from the Empire Collegiate Wrestling Conference, 10 will finish as All-Americans.

Team Scores After Day 1 (top 20 – 60 teams total)

1) Augsburg (MN) ........ 80.5
2) Wartburg (IA) ........ 59.5
3) Luther (IA) .......... 57.5
4) Wis.-La Crosse .... 47.5
5) Brockport ............ 30.5
6) Simpson (IA) ........ 27
7) Delaware Valley (PA) .. 26
8) Elmhurst (IL) ........ 21
9) Wis.-Stevens Point .... 20
10) College of N.J. ....... 19.5
11) Williams (MA) .... 16
12) York (PA) .......... 13
tie 13) Ithaca .......... 12.5
    Lycoming (PA) .... 12.5
15) Oneonta ............ 12
tie 16) Oswego .......... 11.5
    Ursinus (PA) .... 11.5
18) Thiel (PA) .......... 11
19) McDaniel (MD) .... 10.5
tie 20) Cortland ........ 10
    John Carroll (OH) .. 10

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