EWING, N.J. – SUNY Cortland junior Stef Sair (Huntington) and freshman Paul LeBlanc (Morrisville/Morrisville-Eaton) each advanced to the semifinals and guaranteed themselves All-America honors after the first day of competition at the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships, hosted by The College of New Jersey.

Sair, the top seed at 174 pounds, earned a 12-2 major decision over Lycoming’s Derek Crane and an 11-5 victory versus eighth-seeded Josh Rupprecht of Elmhurst College to move into Saturday’s semifinals. Sair, 25-2, will face fifth seed Matthias Keib of Ithaca in their fourth matchup of the season. Sair has won two of their previous three meetings. Sair repeats as an All-American – he finished fourth at 174 pounds last season.

LeBlanc, seeded fourth, won his opening match at 141 pounds with a 17-8 major decision over Niles Mercer of Coe College. He then edged fifth-seeded Danny Song of Merchant Marine Academy, 4-2, and will face top-seeded and defending national champion Dustin Hinschberger of Wartburg in Saturday’s semifinals. LeBlanc is 37-2 this winter.

Cortland’s other qualifier, sophomore Ryan Gadsby (Auburn), fell one short of earning All-America honors. Seeded seventh at 125 pounds, Gadsby started with a pin in 6:49 over Chris Heilman of Cornell College. A 10-6 loss to Felipe Queiroz of Wilkes, however, dropped Gadsby into the consolation bracket, and he was eliminated from the tournament with a 3-2 setback to Oswego’s John Spinner in their fourth meeting of the season. Gadsby finishes the season with a 24-13 record.