

ANTHONY ABIDIN IS CROWNED THE 2012 NJCAA NATIONAL CHAMPION AT 133lbs

Anthony Abidin led the Nassau Lions to their fifth Div 3 (non scholarship division) championship. Nassau had a total of 6 All Americans: 125lbs Joe DeAngelo, 133lbs Anthony Abidin, 149lbs Mac Maldarelli, 165lbs Ryan Fox, 197lbs Kyle Folk-Freund, 285lbs Yaseen Mudassar. Coach Vougar Oroudjov was named NJCAA (non scholarship) Coach of the Year. Nassau sent eight wrestlers to the NJCAA National Championships which was held in Rochester , Minnesota. After a disappointing second place finish at the District Championship the Nassau Lions rebounded in a big way.

125lbs Joe DeAngelo finished seventh by going 4-2 in the tournament. He lost to Jacob Colon (Iowa Central) 5-4 in the quarterfinals at the buzzer. Joe would major Marco Tomayo (Colby) 10-2 for seventh place.

133lbs Anthony Abidin is Nassau's 10th National Champion in the colleges fifty year history. Anthony beats Brandon Wright (Iowa Central) 7-4. Anthony was ranked 12th in the final NJCAA poll, he would go 5-0 at the tournament. In the quarterfinal round he beat former All American Eric Hughes (Labette CC) 16-1. Anthony would win a very controversial match in the semi finals against Martin Gonzalez (Clackamas CC) 8-7 in the last second before upsetting Brandon Wright of Iowa Central in the finals.

149lbs Mac Maldarelli capped off a great season by finishing second at the NJCAA National Tournament. Mac lost to Edwin Cooper (Iowa Central) 11-8 in the finals. Mac had very tough matches throughout the tournament, in his first match he beat Tyler Peete (Alfred CC) 6-2 before beating Nick Brenden (South West Oregon) 2-1. In the semi finals he would beat Mark Marionovic (Lincoln CC) 5-4, Marionovic was cruising thru the tournament before meeting Mac. Mac would finish the season winning over 40 matches and is currently being recruited by many Division 1 programs.

165lbs Ryan Fox capped off a stellar year by finishing 3rd in the national tournament. Ryan would lose to Ethan Orr the NJCAA National Champion 8-4 in the quarterfinal round but dominated his final four matches and finish his Nassau career by beating Bryce Lewis 14-2 for third place. Ryan has committed to Binghamton University for the 2012-2013 season.

174lbs Frank Merente would go 2-2 at the tournament. He finished the season with a very respectful record of 16-11, hopefully this national experience will help him next year.

184lbs Dan Sutherland came out of redshirt at the end of the season to help this team, Dan finished 3rd at the District Championship which qualified him for the national tournament. He finished the tournament going 1-2.

197lbs Kyle Folk-Freund finishes seventh by beating Charles Argeu (Harper CC) 11-5. Kyle went 4-2 for the tournament he is being recruited by many Div 3 programs.

285lbs Yaseen Mudassar places sixth. After a great first day, Yaseen would lose to Trey Page (Labette CC) in the semi finals 3-1. Yaseen will be one of the favorites to win a National Championship at the NJCAA next year.

Coach of the Year- Vougar Orounjov a former world champion was recognized by his peers for his outstanding coaching skills. He is very instrumental in the success of the wrestling program and preparing the Nassau wrestlers for the national stage.