

Wrestler wins MVP

By GLEN JOHNSON
Cliff poured off the tired sweat after round after round from all around Texas last Saturday in the Rice open wrestling tournament. One man, Jack Cliff from A&M University, lasted five, winning each one to accumulate the most total points and the title of most valuable wrestler of the tournament.

Cliff gained most of his experience at Glenwood High School in Canton, and decided to join the wrestling club at Texas A&M to get back into the sport and to meet new friends.

While at Glenwood, Cliff qualified to compete in the freestyle nationals; however, he did not win a place in that competition. After coming to Texas A&M, he got off to a rather slow start and progressed to become a strong asset to the club, Coach Jim Giunta said.

"While I wouldn't say he is a team leader, Jack is a reliable member and you can count on him being there and contributing his best," Giunta said.

The Rice tournament was an open tournament which means that challengers may enter without being affiliated with a university. Cliff enters these types of competitions whenever his pocketbook allows

him to travel, as do many other wrestlers; but, Cliff has a particular reason for wanting the experience. He wants to go to the Olympics.

"I took three years off from wrestling, and I was out of shape when I came here," he said. "But I just couldn't let myself quit. There's something inside me that makes me want to be No. 1."

On May 12, if he can convince his dean to excuse him from a final, Cliff plans to go to the World University Games qualifying competition in Chicago where university students from all over the world come to try out for Olympic-style games held in Bulgaria. If he wins there, he stands a good chance of going on to the Olympics.

Cliff became interested in wrestling because he wanted to be in a competitive sport but was never big enough. Weighing in at 149.5 pounds, he has found a home in wrestling because it is divided into weight classes.

"I also like wrestling because there is no politics involved in the coaching," he said.

In wrestling, you have to beat everyone on your team in your weight class in order to make it to the matches.

"It doesn't matter if the coach likes you or not, or whether your dad contributes a lot of money to the school. You compete because you are the best."

Cliff is enthusiastic about other sports, especially outdoor sports. "I go hunting and fishing whenever I can, and I also like to canoe."

Running, lifting weights and wrestling with his teammates for about three hours a day keep him in top shape for competition.

Intramurals

3-Man Volleyball

WOMEN

B Division: FYM vs. Bumpers, 2-0; Doka vs. Jays, 2-1.

MEN

A Division: Limps vs. Ticks, 1-2; Sheep vs. Bombers, 0-2.

B Division: Maulers vs. Hustlers, 0-2; Boys vs. L-1, 1-2; SQ-9 vs. Lufkin, 2-0; K-1 vs. Muckrakers, 1-2; Bumps vs. Please, 2-0; Utay vs. Gang, 2-0; Vaqueros vs. Rebels, 0-2.

CO REC

A Division: Mud Turtles vs. J.P. & B., 2-0; Diggers II vs. Candy A's, 0-2; Placentomes vs. Saints #3, 2-0; Kerrific vs. 3-M.V., 2-0.

INTRAMURAL SOFTBALL

CORPS

A Division: E-1 vs. SQ-7, 11-14; SQ-10 vs. L-2, 8-14; E-2 vs. SQ-2, 0-21; L-1 vs. C-1, 10-4; SQ-11 vs. K-2, 10-0; SQ-8 vs. SQ-1, 10-0; B-1 vs. B Batt., 16-15.

B Division: I-1 vs. SQ-2, 24-4.

FISH

A Division: B-2 vs. A Batt., 22-9; SQ-3 vs. F-2, 5-23; M-2 vs. A Co., 6-4; SQ-7 vs. SQ-11, 11-0; C-1 vs. SQ-15, 0-10.

STAN

Student body president 77

Pol. Ad. Pd. for by Stan Stanfield

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Battalion photo by Pam Murdock

Strength and balance

That's what it took for A&M student and gymnast Tina Martin to hold this position on the balance beam. Even though the season is over for gymnastics this semester, she and other members of the A&M team practice every day in preparation for the coming season.

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