

Sports News...

University of New Hampshire News Services

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DURHAM, NH -- Five members of the University of New Hampshire wrestling team will participate in the New England Championships in Kingston, Rhode Island this Saturday.

Senior Pete Johnson (Schenectady, N.Y.), junior Walt Nugent (Melrose, Mass.), and sophomores Scott Wood (Smithtown, N.Y.), Larry DeGaravilla (Wakefield, Mass.), and Nabil Boghos (Wakefield, Mass.) will participate for the Wildcats.

UNH completed its dual meet season with a 5-6 record by dropping a 40-3 decision to powerful Boston University Monday night. The meet was much closer than the score indicates, as many of the ten matches were closely contested.

UNH Coach Irv Hess feels that all five of the Wildcats who will participate in the New Englands will be competitive. "They are all tough competitors," Hess says. "They are more experienced than most of the in-state wrestlers, but New Hampshire high school wrestling is improving."

Hess feels that freshman Bob McNally of Nashua would be a threat to win honors in the New Englands, but a knee injury which will require surgery has sidelined him.

Johnson, at 126 pounds, has the best record on the team at 8-1.

He did not compete during the first semester, and has lost only once since his return, when he was pinned by a Central Connecticut wrestler. Johnson led in the match 7-2, but a mistake cost him an undefeated record.

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wood is an AAU-style lightweight in the 118-pound class. He has proven to be excellent at taking his man down, and gave Yankee Conference Champion Jeff Lambert of Boston University trouble before dropping a decision.

Boghos completes the Wildcats strong group of lightweights which has been responsible for most of UNH's victories this season. Boghos had some good moments as a freshman last year, but he is stronger and much more consistent this year. He has a 10-4-1 record in the 134-pound class.

Hess calls DeGaravilla the most improved member of the 1975-76 Wildcat team. Wrestling in either the 167-pound or 177-pound class, DeGaravilla has a 9-4-1 record.

Nugent is one of the toughest competitors on the team, and although his record is only 6-5, he has been close in every match he has wrestled this year.