

# **Lehigh Wrestlers Keep Eastern Title**

**By GORDON S. WHITE Jr.**

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**UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa.,**  
March 10 — Lehigh University  
wrestlers won six individual  
championships as the Explorers  
retained the team title in the  
fifty-eighth annual Eastern In-  
tercollegiate Wrestling Associa-  
tion tournament tonight.

The Engineers from Beth'e-  
hem, Pa., established three team  
records in defending the crown  
they won at their own gym last  
year.

Amazing a crowd of 5,000  
wrestling-wise fans at Penn  
State's Recreation Hall, Lehigh  
swept to the title as two-thirds  
of its team of nine men ran  
off with individual laurels, dis-  
playing some of the fanciest  
wrestling the Engineers have  
ever shown.

Coach Jerry Leeman's Lehigh

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# LEHIGH RETAINS WRESTLING TITLE

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squad thus brought to an end the most successful season in the fifty-two-year history of wrestling at the engineering college where wrestling is the No. 1 intercollegiate sport and where many a great team has been born.

Each of the six Lehigh athletes who reached the finals today won a title, tying the high for an Eastern tournament set by Penn State in 1918. In winning, Lehigh scored 96 team points, breaking its own mark of 88 set a year ago, raised the school's Eastern team titles to fifteen, a record, and set a mark of eighty-one individual titles for E. I. W. A. competition.

In addition Lehigh had a third-place finisher, so that the Engineers gained seven placings to dominate a tournament that was supposed to have been a close battle between Lehigh and Pittsburgh and possibly Penn State.

Pittsburgh finished runner-up for the second year in a row with 69 points and Navy was third at 49. There was considerable noise during the night's nine title bouts, made in part by 600 fans from Bethlehem. But even those enthusiasts were surprised that Lehigh could win all its final matches.

At the outset of the finals, Bill Merriam of Lehigh turned in the major upset of the two-day tournament by gaining a 7-6 decision over Dick Martin of Pitt in the 123-pound bout. Martin, the defending champion and seeded first in that class, had gone undefeated during the dual-meet season.

## Merriam Clinches Team Title

Merriam's victory clinched the team crown and set the pattern that brought Lehigh title after title.

Jim (Pat) Smartt continued the trend in the 130-pound class, beating Bethel Greenhalgh of Syracuse. Kirk Pendleton, voted the outstanding wrestler in the tourney, won Lehigh's third individual crown in successfully defending his 157-pound laurels.

He whipped Mike Natvig of Army, 11-4. This was the first of Pendleton's four E. I. W. A. bouts in which he didn't gain a pin. But he continued his undefeated string by winning his fourteenth bout. He hasn't been beaten since the final of the National Collegiate tournament last year, when he suffered the only loss in his thirty-six bouts as a Lehigh varsity wrestler.

Then Dave Angell whipped Al Rushatz of Army with a split referees' decision in overtime. Rushatz, Army's first-string football fullback, and Angell staged a struggle that could have gone either way.

Jim Detrixhe won Lehigh's fifth crown beating Ken Barr of Pitt, 5-0, at 177. Detrixhe has given only 1 point this season, a penalty point to Don Cory of Rutgers in a dual meet. Charles Moore completed the sweep with a forfeit victory over Ray Nickla of Army.

Nickla, who suffered a separated shoulder, was forced to default with two minutes to go in the match.

The other individual titles went to Mike Harman of Navy, 137 pounds; Daryl Kelvington of Pitt, 147 pounds, and Ed Scharer of Rutgers, heavyweight. Scharer's victory was a mild upset as he beat Army's Dale Kuhns in overtime.

Lehigh began dominating this tournament from the start when each of its nine wrestlers won first-round matches for an unusual move at the outset. There

were sixteen teams, each with nine men entered in the tourney.

From the second, or quarter-final, round on Lehigh lost but three men. And yet, Curt Alexander managed a third for Lehigh in the 137-pound group.

The Engineers, who compete against many of their E. I. W. A. opponents in dual meets during the season, went undefeated in twelve meets this winter for a school record. Though they've been undefeated before, they've never won a dozen in a season.

About 400 persons were here from Lehigh and Bethlehem yesterday and another 200 came today in a three-bus caravan from the city some 175 miles away.

A year ago Lehigh won three individual titles in gaining the team crown. Pendleton and Detrixhe were the only successful defenders.

Martin and Ron Pifer, 147, of Penn State lost in the final.

Lehigh moved past Penn State in the lead for individual titles. The Nittany Lions went into tonight's finals with seventy-eight and finished with 78. Pifer was their only finalist.

## 123-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Dick Martin, Pittsburgh, pinned Bob Hogan, Rutgers, 5:02 (half-nelson and body press); Bill Merriam, Lehigh, defeated Larry Nealon, Syracuse (overtime), 1-1, referees' decision.  
Final—Merriam defeated Martin, 7-6.

## 130-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Jim Smartt, Lehigh, defeated Bethel Greenhalgh, Syracuse, 5-4; Dennis Farrar, Navy, defeated Dick Janish, Rutgers, 2-0.  
Final—Smartt defeated Farrar, 6-4.

## 137-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—John Zolikoff, Pittsburgh, defeated Mike Lefa, Rutgers, 5-2; Mike Harman, Navy, defeated Curt Alexander, Lehigh (overtime), 3-1.  
Final—Harman defeated Zolikoff, 3-2 (overtime).

## 147-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Ron Pifer, Penn State, defeated Mike McGrath, Navy, 6-2; Daryl Kelvington, Pittsburgh, defeated Henry Mazzone, Rutgers, 6-3.  
Final—Kelvington defeated Pifer, 3-1.

## 157-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Kirk Pendleton, Lehigh, pinned Pete Cummings, Cornell, 1:45 (reverse cradle); Mike Natvig, Army, defeated August Arrigone, 7-6.  
Final—Pendleton defeated Natvig, 11-4.

## 167-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Al Rushatz, Army, defeated Gary Sirota, Syracuse, 5-2; Dave Angell, Lehigh, defeated Jim Harrison, Pittsburgh (overtime), 5-2.  
Final—Angell defeated Rushatz, referees' decision after 1-1 (overtime).

## 177-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Jim Detrixhe, Lehigh, defeated Arthur Mann, Yale, 5-0; Ken Barr, Pittsburgh, defeated Tom Uber, Navy, 5-0.  
Final—Detrixhe defeated Barr, 4-0.

## 191-POUND CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Ray Nickla, Army, defeated Dennis Foote, Rutgers (overtime), 2-1; Charles Moore, Lehigh, defeated Tom Jeffries, Pittsburgh (overtime), 2-1.  
Moore won from Nickla by forfeit.

## HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS

Semi-Final Round—Dale Kuhns, Army, defeated Bill Wood, Brown, 9-1; Ed Scharer, Rutgers, defeated Bob Asack, Columbia, 7-4.  
Final—Scharer defeated Kuhns, 7-3 (overtime).

## FINAL TEAM STANDING

	Pts.		Pts.
Lehigh	96	Cornell	7
Pitt.	69	Brown	7
Navy	49	F. and M.	6
Army	43	Harvard	4
Penn State	48	Penn	4
Rutgers	37	Columbia	3
Syracuse	16	Temple	2
Yale	9	Princeton	1