MEN’S WRESTLING HOSTS THE HAAC DUALS SATURDAY

Marshall, Mo. (November 3, 2013)- The No. 3 Missouri Valley College men’s wrestling team hosted the Heart of America Athletic Conference Duals at the Burns Athletic Complex Saturday. The Vikings defeated Benedictine College 42-6, knocked off Graceland University 55-0, and defeated No. 14 Baker University 24-12.

In the first dual of the day, the Vikings took on Benedictine College. The Ravens entered the weekend in the “others receiving votes’ category in the NAIA Wrestling Coaches’ Top 20 Poll. The Vikings picked up four team points to start things off in the 125 pound weight class as No. 7 Sophomore Ryan Stearns (Williston, Vt.) defeated Ben Ranolph by a 14-2 score.

In the 133 pound weight class No. 12 Sophomore Todd Brackett (Farmington, Mo.) picked up a second period pin of Clifford Ikenberry to give MVC a 10-0 advantage. The Vikings picked up six more points after Freshman Daniel Rivera (Houston, Texas) pinned Michael Cutherbertson in the first period.

MVC earned a fourth straight victory when Benedictine left the 149 pound match up with No. 2 Sophomore Jake Ekster (Houston, Texas) open. MVC earned a close 7-6 decision as No. 8 Sophomore Dylan King (Hamilton, Mo.) edged Zack McClure in the 157 pound weight class, and the Vikings extended their lead to 25-0.

No. 7 Junior Riley Boomer (Sheridan, Mich.) picked up a first period pin of Johnny Perz in the 174 pound weight class to extend MVC’s lead to 31-0, but Benedictine picked up its only points in the 184 pound weight class as Sophomore Wade Aylett (Irrigon, Ore.) was pinned in the first round by Ethan Jirak.

The Vikings finished the dual with a 13-5 decision in the favor of No. 3 Senior Josh Manu (North Providence, R.I.) in the 197 pound weight class over No. 15 Stephen Loosbrock and No. 11 Sophomore Gabi Mussallam (San Diego, Calif.) won by a 15-
8 decision over Josh Wilson in the 285 pound weight class. The Vikings took the dual by a 42-6 score.

In the second dual of the day, the Vikings took on Graceland University. Starting the dual off at 125 pounds, Stearns picked up a technical fall victory over Garett Owens to put MVC up 5-0.

MVC picked up two forfeit victories in the next weight classes, as Brackett won in the 133 pound weight class and Rivera also won in the 141 pound weight class to move MVC’s advantage to 17-0. Ekster earned a first period pin in the 149 pound weight class over Demond Jennings to give MVC a 23-0 lead.

King won by forfeit in the 157 pound weight class, and Sophomore Taylor Smith (Platte, City, Mo.) won by major decision over Dakota Britt in the 165 pound weight class to move MVC’s lead to 33-0. At 174 pounds, Boomer picked up a first period pin over Bryson Kinyon.

Bader earned a major decision victory over over Meredith Meador at 184 pounds, and Manu pinned William Faircloth in the first round of the 197 pound weight class. No. 9 Junior Dan Mueller (Collinsville, Ill.) picked up a win by forfeit in the 285 pound weight class, and MVC defeated Graceland University 55-0.

IN the final dual of the afternoon the Vikings took on No. 14 Baker University. MVC got out to an early lead thanks to Stearns defeating No. 11 Alan Callahan 4-2 in the 125 pound match to put MVC up 3-0. Baker came back and won the 133 pound match when No. 15 Bryce Shoemaker defeated Brackett by an 8-1 decision to tie the dual at 3-3.

The Vikings picked up two victories in a row when Bitney came away with a 14-5 major decision over Nathan Garcia in the 141 pound weight class, which was followed up with Ekster winning by technical fall over Joel Hood in the 149 pound weight class.

With MVC up 12-3 in points, Baker got a win in the 157 pound weight class as Aaron Seybold pinned Dylan King in the first round to pull the match to 12-9 in favor of MVC. Baker tied the dual in the 165 pound weight class as Cole Price won by a 5-2 decision over Smith.
MVC got some points back in the 174 pound weight class as Boomer defeated Bryant Guillen by a 9-4 decision. Bader followed the win up with a decision victory of his own in the 184 pound weight class, 3-2 over John Hambleton to give MVC an 18-9 win.

Manu put the dual out of reach for Baker, as he defeated No. 12 Robert Shadrach in the 197 pound weight class in a 5-1 decision, and Mueller came away with a 6-2 win in the 285 pound weight class over Beau Bennett as MVC won the dual 24-12.

The Vikings finish the day 3-0 in the HAAC Duals.

MVC has a quick turnaround as they compete in the UCM Open in Warrensburg, Mo., Sunday.

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