MVC WOMEN’S WRESTLING CONTINUE ACTION AT CAN/AM OPEN

Marshall, Mo. (November 2, 2013)- The No. 5 Missouri Valley College women’s wrestling team continued action at the Can/Am Open Saturday in Jamestown, N.D. After finishing with a 1-1 record in duals Friday, the Vikings competed in an open tournament Saturday.

In the 109 pound weight class Sophomore Sonia Smith (Pittsburg, Calif.) advanced to the championship match thanks to a first round bye, a quarterfinal victory over Geminette Palencia of University of Jamestown by a second period pin and a semifinal technical fall win over Kaitlin Kucharski of University of Winnipeg. In the championship match Smith was pinned in the second round by No. 4 Taylor Zboras of Midland University.

Also in the 109 pound weight class Sophomore Daisy Cisneros (Corpus Christi, Texas) finished in fifth place. Cisneros lost her first round match and received a first round bye in the consolation bracket. Cisneros then defeated Kimberly Straub of Lindenwood-Belleville by an 8-6 decision. Cisneros then pinned Palencia in the third consolation round, but was defeated by Sam Rebentisch of Lindenwood-Belleville by a 6-3 decision in the consolation semifinals. Cisneros took fifth thanks to an 8-5 victory over Kucharski.

In the 116 pound weight class Sophomore Samantha Higa (Aiea, Hawai’i) took third place. Higa notched a quarterfinal technical fall win over Rachel Alder of University of Winnipeg but lost to Jessica Fresh of Waldorf College by a technical fall in the semifinals. In the consolation seminal Higa defeated teammate Samantha Lovelace by a technical fall, and in the third place match Higa won by technical fall over Alder to place third. Also, Senior Samantha Lovelace (South Prairie, Texas) placed sixth in the 116 pound weight class. Lovelace lost her quarterfinal match, but defeated Cindy Charles of Lindenwood University in a second period pin then lost to Higa in the consolation semifinals. In the fifth place match Lovelace lost to Masrine Edwards of University of Winnipeg by a technical fall.
Freshman Christy Powell (Atlanta, Ga.) to fourth for MVC in the 123 pound weight class. Powell was defeated in the quarterfinals, but came back to defeat Jill Amaya of Midland University in an 8-4 decision and she defeated Mollee Pond of Midland University in a 6-1 decision in the consolation third round. In the consolation semifinals Powell edged out Dana Karkar of Waldorf College by a 4-3 decision, but lost to Dajan Treder of University of Jamestown in a first period pin in the third place match.

Also at 123 pounds Freshman Charice Schnell (Waterloo, Iowa) took fifth place for MVC. Schnell lost her quarterfinal match, but defeated Yulianna Cantu of Lindenwood-Belleville by a first period pin in the consolation second round. Schnell then won by a technical fall over Michaila Fischer of Lindenwood-Belleville before losing to Treder in the consolation semifinals by a first period pin. In the fifth place match Schnell defeated Karkar by a first period pin.

In the 143 pound weight class No. 7 Senior Frances Efiong (Arlington, Texas) placed fourth for MVC. She picked up a first round pin of Monique Fitzgerald-Parsons of University of Winnipeg then pinned Summer Werner of Northwest Kansas Technical College in the first period of the quarterfinals. Efiong lost to Brittany David of Lindenwood University in the semifinals by technical fall, but defeated Anna McAleavey of Lindenwood University by a 7-3 decision in the consolation semifinals. In the third place match Efiong was pinned by Cristta Hartinger of Midland University for fourth place.

At 155 pounds Freshman Ku’uleilani Lankford (Ewa Beach, Hawai’i) was defeated in her quarterfinal match and her first consolation bracket match to be eliminated from the tournament.

No. 6 Senior Brittany Jones (Grapevine, Texas) took fourth place in the 170 pound weight class and picked up a quarterfinal victory by technical fall over Renee Carter of Lindenwood-Belleville. Jones was defeated in the semifinals by Ruth Leger of Lindenwood University in a 3-2 decision then won her consolation semifinal match with Melina Tong of Midland University by technical fall. In the third place match Jones was defeated by Gabriela Guzman of Lindenwood University in a first period pin. Also in the 170 pound weight class Anissa Abrego was defeated in her two matches in the tournament.
In the 191 pound weight class Sophomore Jessica Ulloa (Concord, Calif.) placed third, but dropped her first round match to Jasmine Brown of Midland University by a close 11-10 decision. In her second match Ulloa picked up a first period pin of No. 10 Brionna Buenavista of Midland University, and then defeated No. 8 Meghan Freeman of Lindenwood University for third place thanks to a 6-0 decision.

The Vikings will next be in action Friday Nov. 8 in a dual with McKendree University in Lebanon, Ill., beginning at 4:00 p.m.

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Known for its dynamic, richly diverse, and friendly educational environment, Missouri Valley College offers many opportunities to grow in mind, body, and spirit. Grounded in the liberal arts, undergraduate studies empower students to master interdisciplinary skills needed to succeed in a knowledge-based global society. MVC offers over 40 academic programs, study abroad program, honors program, extracurricular activities, and 13 sports. The most popular majors include education and business, and some new majors are ag-business, nursing, graphic design, and health information systems (associate degree). Above all, Valley is committed to student success. For more information, call (660) 831-4000 or visit www.moval.edu.