

## SEVEN BENGALS GO DISTANCE

# ISU Matmen Grab Crown

Four defending champions retained titles and one was toppled from his throne here Saturday night as a well-balanced Idaho State University wrestling squad easily walked off with team honors in the annual Big Sky Conference mat tourney.

The host Bengals garnered 7 of the 11 championship finals to capture their second league wrestling crown in a row before an estimated 1,200 fans.

Coach Tom Jewell's ISU squad finished with 101 points, slightly higher than the 1967 total when it ended Montana State's four-year domination of league tourneys.

For the second straight year the MSU club took second, totaling 80 points. Following in team standings were University of Montana, 60; Weber State, 53; Idaho, 21, and Gonzaga, 4.

Powerful Idaho State sent eight men into the championship finals, and only one lost. Montana

State had six grapplers going for crowns, but only Larry Leonard at 130, Merle Olsen, 145,

and Karl Ohs, 177, could come through for titles.

Bengal champions were Al-

lan Takahashi, 115; Fred Rodriguez, 123; Rick Yeates, 137; Harry Oliphant, 160; Leroy Harris, 167; Carlton Tanaka, 191, and Ray Millward, heavyweight.

The other individual championships went to Larry Dixon of Weber State at 152 pounds.

Successfully defending titles won a year ago were ISU's stellar "little men," Takahashi and Rodriguez, and Montana State's Leonard and Ohs. Leonard won at 137 in 1967, but dropped down a weight this time.

Perhaps the top crowd-thriller among all 11 matches Saturday night came at 160 pounds where the Bengals' Oliphant finally won via a fall over Lowell Springer of MSU.

ISU's Rick Yeates capped an outstanding season by winning the 137-pound title. He had also won a league crown as a freshman three years ago.

### FINALS

Summaries of the championship finals in the Big Sky Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament Saturday night.

115-Alan Takahashi, Idaho State, dec. Allan Clegh, Weber State, 10-3.

123-Fred Rodriguez, Idaho State, dec. Dave Kilpatrick, Montana State, 6-4.

130-Larry Leonard, Montana State, dec. Wayne Sugimoto, Weber State, 8-0.

137-Rick Yeates, Idaho State, dec. Bill Anderson, Montana State, 5-3.

145-Merle Olsen, Montana State, dec. Gary Huff, Idaho State, 9-1.

152-Larry Dixon, Weber State, dec. Bernie Olson, Montana, 7-2.

160-Harry Oliphant, Idaho State, pinned Lowell Springer, Montana State, 29 secs. left OT period.

167-Leroy Harris, Idaho State, dec. Mike Myer, Montana State, 3-2.

177-Karl Ohs, Montana State, dec. Ron Mehrens, Montana, 4-0.

191-Carlton Tanaka, Idaho

State, pinned Ed Claason, Idaho

State, 32 secs. left in third round.

Heavyweight-Ray Millward, Idaho State, pinned Jim Mott, Weber State, 1:42 left in third round.

Results for the consolation championship matches Saturday night in the Big Sky Conference Wrestling Tournament:

155-Clayton, Montana, dec. Steen, MSU, 8-6 (OT).

123-Peterson, Weber State, dec. La Bonty, Montana, 7-4.

130-Cunniff, Montana, dec. Lape, Idaho, 4-1.

137-Harrison, Montana, dec. Andreason, Weber, 4-0.

145-Huckley, Weber, dec. Hamilton, Montana, 2-0.

152-Niswanger, MSU, pinned Riley, Idaho State.

160-Cooper, Montana, dec. Dunson, Gonzaga, 5-4 (OT).

167-Robins, Montana, dec. Garner, Weber, 5-3.

177-Lemons, Idaho, dec. Reedinger, Idaho State, 2-1.

191-Lung, Montana, dec. Kraft, MSU, 3-0.

Heavyweight-Gilboe, Montana, dec. Metheny, Idaho, 5-0.