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Meramec Wrestlers Win 2nd Place As Team; 3 National Titles; 7 All-Americans

A trio of St. Louis Comm. College - Meramec wrestlers became the school's first individual national champions since 1993, capturing titles Saturday at the NJCAA Tournament in Rochester, Minn. The Magic earned a second place team finish with 117.5 points. Coach Ron Mirikitani was named National Coach of the Year.

Freshmen Aaron Senzee (Kearney, MO) at 141, Deron Winn (Liberty, MO) at 184, and Jamelle Jones (Dover, DE) at 197, won their weight class championships, winning all four matches over the two day tourney.

For Senzee, it would not come easy in the title match. His opponent, David Greenwald of Iowa Central, established a 5-0 lead in the first period, nearly pinning Senzee. In January at the National Duals, Greenwald pinned Senzee in just 22 seconds. However, the Meramec grappler battled back, scoring seven unanswered points and held on for a 7-6 championship.

Jamelle Jones had to take a 4-4 deadlock into sudden death overtime against Chad Friend of Muskegon College before scoring a takedown for a 6-4 national title win. Winn had to battle hometown hero Nathan Clements of Rochester College. The home crowd advantage was non-existent against the relentless Winn, who scored a 22-7 tech fall victory.

The three also earn All-American status along with teammates Bobby Conn at 157 (Marquette), Miles Bolin at 125 (Ft. Zumwalt W.), Donald Woods (McCluer N.) at 165, and Dirk Hurrin (St. Agnes, VA) at 174. Hurrin won a fifth place medal, while Conn and Bolin placed sixth, and Woods came in seventh.

The second place team finish, three individual champions, and seven All-Americans are all school records for one season.