

Bethalto Native Caleb Tyus Earns Spot At NCAA Championships For SIUE

by Eric Hess

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KENT, Ohio - [Caleb Tyus](#) battled back from an opening-round Mid-American Conference Championships loss and has earned a position at the 2024 NCAA Division I Championships.

Tyus placed third Saturday at 149 pounds by defeating Northern Illinois' Jaivon Jones 3-2 in a tiebreaker. Tyus also bested George Mason's Kaden Cassidy 9-6 in the consolation semifinals, avenging his first-round loss from Friday. The third-place finish gives Tyus an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships, which will be held March 21-23 in Kansas City, Missouri.

"He did a really great job of coming through the back side of the bracket," said SIUE Head Coach [Jeremy Spates](#). "He wrestled well to come back and secure his spot."

SIUE placed eighth as a team with 69 points, the best team finish for the Cougars since taking seventh in 2019.

Six SIUE wrestlers finished in the top eight. The Cougars' top finishers were [Davian Guanajuato](#) (125/5th), [Marcel Lopez](#) (133/3rd), [Eric Almarinez](#) (141/4th), [Dominic Lopez](#) (174/7th) and [Deron Pulliam](#) (184/5th).

"A couple of guys will have a chance at a wild card for NCAAs," said Spates. "All six of the guys did a great job today. It seemed like we got stronger as the tournament went on."

Final Team Scores

- 1 Central Michigan 131.0
- 2 Rider 114.5
- 3 George Mason 112.5
- 4 Lock Haven 93.0
- 5 Buffalo 85.5
- 6 Ohio 82.0
- 7 Northern Illinois 74.5
- 8 SIUE 69.0
- 9 Clarion 68.0
- 10 Cleveland State 64.5
- 11 Kent State 43.0
- 12 Edinboro 17.0
- 13 Bloomsburg 16.5

125

[Davian Guanajuato](#) placed 5th

Champ. Round 1 - [Davian Guanajuato](#) (SIUE) won by major decision over Bronson Garber (Bloomsburg) (MD 16-4)

Quarterfinal - Blake West (Northern Illinois) won by decision over [Davian Guanajuato](#) (SIUE) (Dec 7-3)

Cons. Round 2 - [Davian Guanajuato](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Max Elton (Buffalo) (Dec 7-5)

Cons. Round 3 - [Davian Guanajuato](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Ben Aranda (Cleveland State) (Dec 8-3)

Cons. Semi - Sean Spidle (Central Michigan) won by decision over [Davian Guanajuato](#) (SIUE) (Dec 1-0)

5th Place Match - [Davian Guanajuato](#) (SIUE) won by medical forfeit over Joey Fischer (Clarion)

133

[Marcel Lopez](#) placed 3rd

Champ. Round 1 - [Marcel Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by major decision over Brandon Wittenberg (George Mason) (MD 8-0)

Quarterfinal - Tommy Maddox (Buffalo) won by fall over [Marcel Lopez](#) (SIUE) (Fall 6:54)

Cons. Round 2 - [Marcel Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by major decision over TJ England (Clarion) (MD 8-0)

Cons. Round 3 - [Marcel Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Vincent Perez (Central Michigan) (Dec 6-2)

Cons. Semi - [Marcel Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Pablo Castro (Kent State) (Dec 5-1)

3rd Place Match - [Marcel Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Tommy Maddox (Buffalo) (Dec 6-4)

141

[Eric Almarinez](#) placed 4th

Champ. Round 1 - [Eric Almarinez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Will Betancourt (Rider) (Dec 4-2)

Quarterfinal - [Eric Almarinez](#) (SIUE) won by major decision over Dylan Layton (Cleveland State) (MD 16-5)

Semifinal - Wyatt Henson (Lock Haven) won by fall over [Eric Almarinez](#) (SIUE) (Fall 6:23)

Cons. Semi - [Eric Almarinez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Ryan Sullivan (Clarion) (Dec 7-5)

3rd Place Match - Jimmy Nugent (Central Michigan) won by decision over [Eric Almarinez](#) (SIUE) (Dec 6-3)

149

[Caleb Tyus](#) placed 3rd

Champ. Round 1 - Kaden Cassidy (George Mason) won by decision over [Caleb Tyus](#) (SIUE) (Dec 8-2)

Cons. Round 1 - [Caleb Tyus](#) (SIUE) received a bye

Cons. Round 2 - [Caleb Tyus](#) (SIUE) won by injury default over Nick Stonecheck (Lock Haven) (Inj. 2:44)

Cons. Round 3 - [Caleb Tyus](#) (SIUE) won by tech fall over Kyle Schickel (Clarion) (TF-1.5 5:48 (16-0))

Cons. Semi - [Caleb Tyus](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Kaden Cassidy (George Mason) (Dec 9-6)

3rd Place Match - [Caleb Tyus](#) (SIUE) won in tie breaker - 2 over Jaivon Jones (Northern Illinois) (TB-2 2-1)

157

[Brock Woodcock](#)

Champ. Round 1 - [Brock Woodcock](#) (SIUE) received a bye

Quarterfinal - Peyton Kellar (Ohio) won by fall over [Brock Woodcock](#) (SIUE) (Fall 4:17)

Cons. Round 2 - Munktulga Zuunbayan (Northern Illinois) won by major decision over [Brock Woodcock](#) (SIUE) (MD 20-8)

165

[Bradley Gillum](#)

Champ. Round 1 - Garrett Thompson (Ohio) won by tech fall over [Bradley Gillum](#) (SIUE) (TF-1.5 3:00 (15-0))

Cons. Round 1 - [Bradley Gillum](#) (SIUE) received a bye

Cons. Round 2 - Tate Geiser (Cleveland State) won by major decision over [Bradley Gillum](#) (SIUE) (MD 16-7)

174

[Dominic Lopez](#) placed 7th

Champ. Round 1 - [Dominic Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over AJ Burkhart (Kent State) (Dec 6-3)

Quarterfinal - Alex Cramer (Central Michigan) won by tech fall over [Dominic Lopez](#) (SIUE) (TF-1.5 5:37 (15-0))

Cons. Round 2 - [Dominic Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over Ricardo Salinas (Northern Illinois) (Dec 4-3)

Cons. Round 3 - Tyler Stoltzfus (Lock Haven) won by tech fall over [Dominic Lopez](#) (SIUE) (TF-1.5 6:39 (17-1))

7th Place Match - [Dominic Lopez](#) (SIUE) won by decision over AJ Burkhart (Kent State) (Dec 7-5)

184

[Deron Pulliam](#) placed 5th

Champ. Round 1 - [Deron Pulliam](#) (SIUE) received a bye

Quarterfinal - [Deron Pulliam](#) (SIUE) won in sudden victory - 1 over Matt Zuber (Northern Illinois) (SV-1 4-1)

Semifinal - Malachi DuVall (George Mason) won by fall over [Deron Pulliam](#) (SIUE) (Fall 4:15)

Cons. Semi - Colin Fegley (Lock Haven) won by decision over [Deron Pulliam](#) (SIUE) (Dec 2-0)

5th Place Match - [Deron Pulliam](#) (SIUE) won in sudden victory - 1 over Matt Zuber (Northern Illinois) (SV-1 4-1)

197

[Ryan Yarnell](#)

Champ. Round 1 - Sean Carroll (Northern Illinois) won by decision over [Ryan Yarnell](#) (SIUE) (Dec 4-3)

Cons. Round 1 - Cael Black (Lock Haven) won by decision over [Ryan Yarnell](#) (SIUE) (Dec 10-8)

285

[Dan McKiernan](#)

Champ. Round 1 - Bryan Caves (Central Michigan) 14-15 won by major decision over [Dan McKiernan](#) (SIUE) (MD 11-2)

Cons. Round 1 - John Meyers (Clarion) 10-14 won by decision over [Dan McKiernan](#) (SIUE) (Dec 6-3)