

**COACH OF THE YEAR**—OU's injury-plagued wrestling team persevered through a challenging season to perform well at the Big 12 tournament and finish third at the NCAA national championships. The team's head man, Jack Spates, never expected to be considered for Coach of the Year in a non-championship season, but his colleagues in the National Wrestling Coaches Association had other ideas, giving the popular Spates his first national honor after earning two Big 12 Coach of the Year designations, along with conference titles in 1999 and 2002.