

Pataky

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points from takedowns, they're just part of his approach in matches.

"[My strategy] is just going for the points by whatever is there," Pataky said. "Whether it's a takedown, back points or escapes. But when I'm on my feet, I've been trying to focus mainly on getting takedowns."

Pataky credited coach Cody Sanderson for helping him focus during all three periods of his matches. It's Pataky's willingness to follow coaches' instructions that's made him a prime example of how to go about practice.

Standing 5-foot-3, Pataky may be small in stature, but his impact on the team is much larger. Assistant coach Troy Letters said though the junior is a quiet person, he's able to lead by example for the rest of the team.

Lion 133-pounder Tyler Saltsman believes Pataky makes everyone he wrestles in practice better, but his impact is also felt in other areas.

"He continues to do the right

thing on and off the mat," Saltsman said. "He doesn't say much, but when he does everyone listens."

Early on, Pataky's wrestling has spoken for itself. His quick start is representative of how the 125-pounder goes about attacking his opponents. The junior said he likes to make the first contact, and he's been working on getting his hand on his opponent and controlling him from the start.

Letters said Pataky will "throw the kid the sink" right away and goes at competitors the second the whistle blows.

The Lions can expect a lot of points from the 125-pound bouts if Pataky's hard work continues to pay off, and Letters believes the junior could potentially have a special ending to his season.

"I think Pataky is wrestling a lot smarter," Letters said. "He can wrestle with anyone in the country at that weight class. So, I think as long as he keeps focused and continues to work hard, he'll be a contender for the national title this year."

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Loss

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make two or three passes to get the ball over half court."

Because it took the Lions so long to get the ball into the offensive end, it was difficult for the team to get into a steady half-court offense in the first half. After each basket, the Tech defenders stayed up and put pressure on Penn State immediately.

The pressure led to a few turnovers and easy baskets for the Yellow Jackets.

The Lions struggled early in the game, but after the half seemed to find a solution to the press. Off of inbound passes, point guard Alex Bentley wasted no time pushing the ball up the floor, but unlike the first half, she was able to stay under control and distribute the ball.

Senior guard Tyra Grant, who led the Lions with 20 points, admitted that the press gave the Lions some problems early, but by the second half she and her teammates had it figured out.

"[Georgia Tech] played very hard and went after us and trapped us and forced us to turn the ball over, but I felt like we got the hang of it," Grant said. "It was

kinda easy to get the ball up the court."

However, even when the Lions found a way to beat it, the press still found a way to have an effect on the game. Earlier in the game, the Lions had to burn a timeout because they were either trapped or couldn't get the ball inbound.

Using those timeouts early in the game proved costly as the Lions were within two points with 13 seconds remaining in the game and couldn't design a play because they were out of timeouts.

Instead, Washington had to call for a clear-out from the bench and put the ball in the hands of Bentley. The freshman found some space in the lane, but her short jumper clunked off the back of the rim and sealed the win for Georgia Tech.

Washington acknowledged the effect the press had on her team, but thought they responded well in the second half. It was just a little too late.

"It's one of those things you talk about in practice, but you can't truly replicate what they're gonna do," Washington said of the press. "But I thought we were prepared for it. In the first half we just shot too quickly."

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Fouls

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line. While senior Tyra Grant lead all scorers with 20 points and went 10-for-13 from the free-throw line, the team collectively shot just above 63 percent from the stripe.

Washington said she's unsure why many of her players struggle to have success from the line, but thinks maybe the pressure of the game gets to her young team.

"Individually the players are good free-throw shooters," Washington said. "It's not technique things that we need to do. ... But when you have a bunch of people go 0-for-1 or 1-for-2, it adds up."

Equally problematic was the Lady Lions' inability to get their best foul shooter to the line. Julia Trogele, who was shooting 17-for-18 from the stripe entering the game, had only four attempts.

The 6-foot-2 forward committed three fouls in the first half and saw limited action in the second half after picking up her fourth foul with 13 minutes left in the game. Without Trogele's presence in the post the Yellow Jackets had 22 attempts from the charity stripe, but still only made 12 of them.

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By Jacqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009. This year, you might often step back and think, "What should I do?" You feel unusual and sometimes conflicting cross-currents. Intrinsic to making good decisions is knowing your ultimate goals, while remaining open to new types of processing. Your ability to move confidently yet openly through problems while seeking solutions will be the determining factor in your success this year. If you are single, no one can deny your desirability. It is for you to choose who and when. If you are attached, perhaps you open up a new dynamic in your interactions by losing previous judgments, triggering a new closeness. CANCER likes to work closely with you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic, 4-Positive, 3-Average, 2-Soso, 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) *** What an odd path you have experienced in recent days. First you forge straight ahead, only to get caught and nearly lost in the brambles of life. Pressure builds with bosses, and your concerns surround home and family. Do you feel as if you are in a pressure cooker? You are. Tonight: Singing a new tune.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) ** You could be upset about a personal matter and are trying to calm down. Discussions open up in the afternoon, allowing greater publicity and possibilities. Agreement might not be a possibility right now. Tonight: Hanging out might be fun.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) *** Though you might feel like you stumbled out of bed, once you pull yourself together, nearly anything can happen. If you relax and curb a need to be possessive, a lot opens up. Tonight: Know what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) *** You move from slow gear to full speed ahead by the afternoon. Be careful, you could step on someone's feet inadvertently. You might want to fix a problem or move in a new direction. Tonight: Think positively. The world is your oyster.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) *** Use the aim for anything you deem important and necessary. How you proceed and what happens could be interesting, to say the least. Realize you have had enough of hassles with a key friend, but deal with it diplomatically. Tonight: Say "yes."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **** You might not be on top of your game and are going nowhere fast. Instead of spinning your wheels, stop. A child or loved one's power play might feel all-encompassing, until you discover the only way to win is not to play. Tonight: Find your friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** In the morning, you grasp someone's logic, but by the afternoon, there is little that you can do. You could be so tied up with the process that you barely know which way to turn. Tonight: Just do what you must.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **** A key associate or partner gives you direction. You know what is needed to make a situation more workable. Your belief system could open many doors and allow greater flexibility, if you could wipe away judgment. Tonight: Put on some holiday music.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) *** Others continue to want to have things happen as they like. You have the ability to move forward and handle a changeable matter. But you might be better off just letting events happen and letting others see the results of their actions. Tonight: Dinner with a loved one or friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** You meet someone who really pushes your buttons. Resist boxing this person in, knowing full well what could happen. If you relax and understand rather than impose your will, the end results actually might be better. Tonight: Listen to someone else's suggestions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) *** Your humor and creativity could save the day, if others are in the mood to receive your message. Focus on getting done what you must in the afternoon. Someone not understanding could trip you up. Tonight: Do only what you consider relaxing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) **** Your fire and energy easily could be misused. You might wonder what you are doing and who. Listen to news with an eye to greater possibilities and opportunities. Dance to someone else's tune, just for now. Tonight: Get into the Christmas spirit... do some elf work.

BORN TODAY: Director Jean-Luc Godard (1930), actress Daryll Hannah (1960), singer Ozzy Osbourne (1948) ...

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