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Two-Time Wrestling All-American Evan Wick to Transfer to Cal Poly for Senior Season
-- Cal Poly Wrestling --

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. -- Two-time NCAA All-American and three-time national qualifier Evan Wick of Wisconsin has signed a Financial Aid Agreement and will transfer to Cal Poly for his final season of wrestling this fall, joining his younger brother, Luka, a National Letter of Intent signee in April.

Evan Wick, who placed third in the nationals as a freshman at 165 pounds in 2018 and fourth as a sophomore in 2019, also qualified for the nationals in 2020 as a junior despite battling through some injuries. A 2016 graduate of San Marino High School, Wick was a redshirt during the 2016-17 season at Wisconsin and took advantage of the NCAA's rule which granted all student-athletes another year of eligibility by utilizing the Olympic redshirt year during the 2020-21 season.

Wick brings an 85-17 overall record into his final season of competition next winter at Cal Poly, which includes a 30-7 mark as a freshman, 32-6 as a sophomore and 23-4 as a junior. He also was 25-4 during his initial redshirt season for a 110-21 collegiate mark, including 18 falls

collegiate mark, including 10 falls.

"Evan will bring a wealth of experience from a competitive standpoint and will make an immediate and significant impact on our program," said Mustang head coach Jon Sioredas. "However, what we are most impressed with is his character and work ethic. He encompasses everything we look for in a student-athlete and will be an outstanding representative of our program.

"We cannot wait to get to work when he arrives on campus in August," Sioredas added.

Wick will be a sixth-year senior at Cal Poly for the 2021-22 season. He did not enroll in any classes at Wisconsin during his Olympic redshirt last year in order to preserve his remaining year of eligibility. He is entering Cal Poly through the Psychology Department and will transfer to Interdisciplinary Studies after his first quarter in San Luis Obispo.

A rehabilitation psychology major at Wisconsin, Wick twice has placed fourth in the Big Ten Championship and he also has earned a pair of Big Ten Conference All-Academic honors. Wick has placed top-four at the Midlands on three occasions and, as a freshman, he made the Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational finals.

On the freestyle circuit, Wick placed fourth at the 74 kg Olympic Trials in April.

"As many of you may already know, I have decided to leave the University of Wisconsin and explore other options for my final year of eligibility," Wick wrote on Instagram in early May. "I am going to miss Madison and all of the incredible people here. Madison has been home for me over the past five years and it is one of the best places in the country (in the summer).

"Thank you to all of my teammates through the years and coaches through the years," Wick added. "I have battled with making this decision for a long time, but I know in my heart that it is time for a change."

For the first time since the 2006-07 season, Cal Poly will have a pair of returning All-Americans in the starting lineup. As a sophomore, Bernie Truax placed fourth at 174 pounds last March in St. Louis, becoming Cal Poly's first All-American since 2012. Fourteen years ago, All-Americans Darrell Vasquez (fourth in 2004) and Vic Moreno (sixth in both 2004 and 2005) were on the Mustang roster.

Luka Wick, who plans to major in kinesiology at Cal Poly, has a pair of fifth-place finishes in the California State High School Championships to his credit. He missed the 2020 state finals due to a knee injury suffered in the 2020 CIF-Southern Section Masters Meet and the 2021 state finals were not contested due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Before earning his third straight Rio Hondo League crown, Luka Wick claimed titles in the Doc Buchanan (Clovis) and Battle for the Belt (Temecula) tournaments.

Earlier in the 2019-20 season, he won the Carter Classic and finished second in the Reno Tournament of Champions.

A third son of Bill and Milena Wick, Zander, wrestled for three seasons at Wisconsin before stepping away from the sport due to multiple injuries, including hip labrum and microfracture surgeries. Evan and Zander are twins.

Cole Jackson of Ridgeview High School in Redmond, Oregon, signed a National Letter of Intent last month.

Jackson placed second in Division 5A at the Oregon state finals at 182 pounds in 2019 and placed third as a junior at 220 pounds in 2020. A Carey Larson Memorial Tournament champion, Jackson also won the 195-pound freestyle cadet title and was second in Greco at the 2019 Oregon Wrestling Association meet.

Last November, two-time state meet qualifier Jed Campos of Del Oro High School in Loomis and state place winner Tiger Ortiz of Calvary Chapel High School in Santa Ana signed a National Letter of Intent along with Abe Hinrichsen, a three-time state placer from Washington Community High School in Washington, Ill.

In February, Cal Poly announced the signings of Joey Cape, a three-time Illinois state wrestling placewinner, including a championship as a sophomore, and Frontier (Bakersfield) High School senior Christian Landin to the National Letter of Intent.

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