Subject: Utah Valley tops No. 23 Oregon State, 20-14

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To: lanny@wrestlingusa.com







<u>Utah Valley tops No. 23 Oregon State, 20-14</u> 12/20/2024 | Wrestling

OREM, Utah - Utah Valley wrestling defeated No. 23 Oregon State, 20-14, on Friday night inside Lockhart Arena. The Wolverines (4-4) won six of the ten bouts, including major decisions by No. 18 <u>Haiden Drury</u> and <u>Smokey McClure</u> in his UVU debut.

"We embodied grit tonight to take down a top 25, nationally ranked team! It was definitely not the prettiest dual. Both teams had guys out, made mistakes, and had hard-fought wins, but we came out on top. I'm excited for our guys to get some well-deserved rest after this weekend and to get ready for some important matchups in January. Go Wolverines!"

Oregon State got out to a 3-0 lead in the team scores when former Wolverine Kekana Fouret picked up an 11-5 decision over <u>Kaden Bennie</u> in his UVU Debut. Bennie trailed going into the third period but scored on a key takedown and added an escape to make it 10-5 before Fouret held on for the win.

The Wolverines won the next three bouts first with 174-pounder <u>Mark Takara</u> upsetting No. 32 Sean Harman. Takara scored five points in the final minute of the opening period on a takedown and a two-point near fall. He would not score again until an escape to open the third period and hold on for the upset. It is the first-ranked win for the redshirt sophomore from Temecula, Calif.

<u>Caleb Uhlenhopp</u> kept the momentum going in UVU's favor, going up 3-0 in the first period against TJ McDonnell at 184. The lead was pushed out to 6-0 in the second. McDonnell fought back and cut the lead to 6-3 after a takedown, but it was too late to come back.

<u>Kael Bennie</u> gave the Wolverines a 9-3 lead with a 14-7 decision over Riverton native and Bingham alum Mason Christiansen. The high scoring affair favored Bennie, 5-4, before he extended the lead out to 10-7 after two. In the final period, he sealed the match for his seventh win of the season with a takedown.

Leading 9-3, the Beavers found some life with their ranked wrestlers at heavyweight, with No. 21 Brett Mower earning his second win of the season over <u>Jack Forbes</u> and No. 11 Maximo Renteria picking up a 2-0 decision over <u>Talen Eck</u> in his UVU debut. The difference in the match was a second-period escape and riding time to put the Illinois transfer over the top.

The dual swung back to UVU, with <u>Kase Mauger</u> winning at 133 by a 5-1 decision with an escape at 1:34 in the first period. He extended his lead to 4-1 in the second when he escaped to the hold of Chase DeBlaere. Drury moved to 14-3 in the year with a major decision over No. 29 Nash Singleton. It was the second time this month that he had beaten Singleton after picking up a win in Vegas.

The bonus points continued to come for the Wolverines, with freshman McClure debuting inside Lockhart Arena with a major decision to secure the dual. He defeated Oregon State's Victor Cajinto by a 15-4 final score. He built a 7-2 lead in the second period on his takedown of the match before pulling away in the third period with a third takedown and a four-point near fall.

The Wolverines will take a holiday break before hosting California Baptist on Saturday, Jan. 4, at 6:00 p.m. MT inside Lockhart Arena. UVU will then become road warriors for the month of January, making trips to Missouri, Wyoming, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

165 - Kekana Fouret (OSU) over Kaden Bennie (UVU), DEC 11-5 3-0 OSU

174 - Mark Takara (UVU) over #32 Sean Harman (OSU), DEC 6-3 3-3 Tied

184 - Caleb Uhlenhopp (UVU) over TJ McDonnell (OSU), DEC 8-3 6-3 UVU

197 - Kael Bennie (UVU) over Mason Christiansen (OSU), DEC 14-7 9-3 UVU

285 - #21 Brett Mower (OSU) over <u>Jack Forbes</u> (UVU), DEC 11-8 9-6 UVU

125 - #11 Maximo Renteria (OSU) over Talen Eck (UVU), DEC 2-0 9-9 Tied

133 - Kase Mauger (UVU) over Chase DeBlaere (OSU), DEC 5-1 12-9 UVU

141 - #18 Haiden Drury (UVU) over #29 Nash Singleton (OSU), MD 11-2 16-9 UVU

149 - Smokey McClure (UVU) over Victor Cajinto (OSU), MD 15-4 20-9 UVU

157 - CJ Hamblin (OSU) over <u>Ryker Fullmer</u> (UVU), TF 19-4 (6:29) 20-14 UVU

Attendance: 1,262

Officials: Josh Briscoe and Evan Burchette

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