

WRESTLING USA MAGAZINE

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

United States Wins Three Overall Medals

By Cody Bryant, Managing Editor

The 2009 World Wrestling Championships were held in Herning, Denmark on September 21-27 for Freestyle, Greco-Roman and Women's Freestyle. The United States won two medals in the men's Freestyle with a silver medal at 185 lbs. by Jake Herbert and a bronze medal at 264.5 lbs. by Tervel Dlagnev. The third medal, a silver, was won by Dremiel Byers in Greco-Roman at 264.5 lbs. Other top ten places for the USA Team included Jake Verner (9th-Freestyle) at 211.5 lbs. and Spenser Mango (9th-Greco-Roman) at 121 lbs. On the women's side, defending World Champion, Clarissa Chun placed 9th at 105.5 lbs., Tatiana Padilla (5th) at 121 lbs., Deanna Rix (5th) at 130 lbs., Elena Pirozhkova (7th) at 138.75 lbs. and Adeline Gray (5th) at 147.5 lbs.

Jake Herbert a former 2x NCAA Champion, while wrestling for Northwestern University, dropped a close 1-0, 1-0 decision to Zaurbek Sokhiev of Uzbekistan. Sokhiev, a two-time World bronze medalist, won the first period on his only attack of the match with a one point pushout. After a scoreless second period, Sokhiev had the red ball drawn and he finished with Herbert's leg in the clinch to win the match.

Tervel Dlagnev at 264.5 lbs. capped off his tournament with a 2-0, 2-0 decision over Alex Mobedadze of Georgia in their bronze medal match. Dlagnev scored his points on a succession of single leg attacks that resulted in takedowns for the win. Dlagnev was a 2x NCAA Division II Champion while wrestling for the University of Nebraska-Kearney in 2007 and 2008.

In Greco-Roman, Dremiel Byers takes home his third world medal which includes the gold in 2002 and the bronze in 2007. In this gold medal match against Cuban Mijain Lopez, Byers was reversed in the first period for a 1-0 loss. Dremiel scored in the second period with a one point pushout for the lead but was body locked to his back for the pin in 47 seconds. This was Lopez's third World title (2005 and 2007) to go with his Olympic gold in the Beijing Games last year.

In men's Freestyle, Russia dominated the team race with 63 points and four gold medals, one silver and one bronze. Their fifth place finish at 185 lbs. was the only weight in which they did not medal. The United States placed 7th overall with 19 points behind Azerbaijan (48), Iran (40), Turkey (27), Ukraine (23) and Belarus (21). In Greco-Roman, Turkey won the team race with 44 points and the USA team finished fifteenth with 11 points. The USA women freestyle placed 6th overall with 24 points, 18 points behind team champion Azerbaijan.

For the second straight year, USA Wrestling's World Team Trials will be hosted at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa on June 11-12, 2010. USA Wrestling has hosted this popular event in the state of Iowa in the past. In addition to Council Bluffs, the World Team Trials were held in Sioux City in 2006, in Ames in 2005 and in Waterloo in 1998. The 2010 event will determine the athletes who will represent the United States at the 2010 World Wrestling Championships in Moscow, Russia.

As Always, "Let's Be On The Go Together,"

Cody Bryant

Trivia - Can you name the last USA World Champion (excluding Olympics) in men's freestyle, Greco-Roman and women's freestyle? The first person to email me (cody@wrestlingusa.com) with the correct answer will win a *Wrestling USA Magazine* t-shirt.

Cover Photo

2009 Tim Brown Memorial Tournament, California - 171 lbs. Nathan Poteete (Buchanan) attempting a Front Granby Roll on Charlie McDonald (Escalon) in their championship quarter-finals match. Photo by John Sachs / Tech-Fall.com.



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