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Subject: WRE: Kerkvliet, Singletary Crowned U23 Nationals Champions
Date: June 3, 2019 at 8:25 AM
To: Undisclosed recipients;



June 3, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AKRON, Ohio – Incoming freshman Greg Kerkvliet and rising redshirt sophomore Chase Singletary both went undefeated at U23 Nationals, winning the 125- and 97-kg divisions, respectively, and taking a huge step towards competing for Team USA at the U23 World Championships (Oct. 28-Nov. 3) in Budapest, Hungary.

As U23 National Champions, the Buckeye duo now awaits Final X results to determine if they are already on Team USA or need to win one more bout. The champions at U23 Nationals can still be challenged by U23-eligible wrestlers that are competing for a Senior World Team spot in Final X (June 8 and June 15).

The wrestlers eligible to challenge include Daton Fix, Yianni Diakomihalis, Ryan Deakin, Bo Nickal, and Gable Steveson. While the aforementioned wrestlers are penciled in for Final X at, 57 kg, 65 kg, 70 kg, 92 kg, and 125 kg respectively, they have the ability to challenge whichever U23 weight they are inclined to.

Both Buckeye champions swept their best-of-3 finals series. Singletary defeated former North Carolina State Wolfpack member Michael Boykin by scores of 8-5 and 10-10 on criteria. Kerkvliet, meanwhile, took out this past season's fourth-place heavyweight at the NCAA Championships, Jordan Wood of Lehigh. The final tallies were 6-5 and 6-3.

Luke Pletcher advanced to the 65-kg finals series and pushed three-time All-American Jaydin Eierman (placed third at 141 pounds in 2019 as a redshirt junior) to a decisive third bout. Eierman took the first bout, 8-5, before Pletcher forced a rubber match thanks to a 12-11 triumph in Bout 2. The third and final scuffle went in favor of Eierman, 9-6.

Elijah Cleary (74 kg) and Kaleb Romeo (79 kg) found their way to the podium as well, each placing fourth.

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