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Brunner Avenges Loss, No. 20 Purdue Beats No. 25 Stanford



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Results / Highlights

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – No. 20 Purdue was strong from start to finish, taking seven weights in a 22-9 win over No. 25 Stanford at Holloway Gymnasium on Friday. Highlighting the Boilermakers' victory were bonus points from No. 11 *Dylan Lydy* (174), a top-10 upset from No. 12 *Christian Brunner* (197) and an electrifying win by *Jacob Aven* (285). Purdue took its dual record to 6-7, while dealing the 7-2 Cardinal just their second loss.

Lydy was the first in a string of four straight Boilermaker victories. A third period explosion by Lydy broke open a 4-3 match with Rico Stormer en route to a 14-5 major decision. The 11th-ranked 174-pounder blitzed his opponent with three takedowns and turned for a two-point nearfall in the closing frame.

Max Lyon went about his business in the ensuing match at 184 pounds, beating Colbey Harlan 7-2. The sophomore hailing from Dyersville, Iowa, won a career-best seventh straight match, pushing his record to 19-7.

A monster double-leg takedown and rideout in the third period ignited the home crowd as Brunner knocked off ninth-ranked Nathan Traxler 4-3.

"At the end there, I was up by one and I couldn't build riding time," the Purdue 197-pounder said. "I felt him break; he was not going to try to get to his feet. I felt that I was able to ride it out and win and that is what happened."

The win avenges an early season loss to Traxler at the Princeton Open. Growing up 14 miles apart, the history between the East Dundee and St. Charles, Illinois, natives extends beyond the 2018-19 season however.

"The match was good, he [Traxler] was actually my wrestling partner growing up," Brunner said. "We have a lot of history; he beat me earlier in the year so it was a big match to go out there and wrestle. I was excited, the crowd definitely helped at the end for the final rideout. It was a fun match and I hope the fans liked it."

Aven capped off the Boilermakers' run of four straight by edging Haydn Maley 3-2. The redshirt senior thwarted a late attempt by Maley and his first period takedown held. With the decision, Purdue took a 19-6 lead and Aven received credit for securing the dual victory with two bouts remaining.

"It's always good to get a win," Aven said. "We had a non-conference team [in Stanford] coming in here who was 7-1 in dual meets, so it's good to show them what Big Ten Conference wrestling is all about. You have to wrestle through all positions, come out every match and be ready to wrestle. If you don't show up or you're not ready to go, it's going to be tough to win. Good team win tonight."

The Boilermakers are back in action on Sunday when they play host to No. 18 Rutgers at 1 p.m. ET. The Scarlet Knights (10-5, 3-3 B1G) captured seven weights from Indiana in a 24-11 win in Bloomington on Friday.

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