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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Story on Lehighsports.com:

<https://lehighsports.com/news/2022/3/17/wrestling-humphreys-wood-advance-in-championship-bracket-as-ncaas-begin-in-detroit.aspx>

## **Humphreys, Wood Advance In Championship Bracket As NCAAs Begin In Detroit**

DETROIT – Junior Josh Humphreys and senior Jordan Wood won first round matches to lead the Lehigh wrestling team as the NCAA Championships began Thursday afternoon at Little Caesars Arena. The Mountain Hawks went 2-5 in session one and sit in a tie for 35th place with two points.

Humphreys, the No. 7 seed at 157, defeated Lock Haven's Ben Barton 4-0, behind a second period escape, third period takedown and ensuing ride out. He will next face the No. 10 seed Peyton Robb of Nebraska.

Wood, seeded sixth at 285, won a 1-0 decision over Michael Wolfgram of West Virginia. The only points in the bout came via a second period escape for the Mountain Hawk. Wood will face Oregon State's Gary Traub Thursday night. He has defeated Traub twice this season, with both wins coming in early November.

At 133, Malyke Hines came up on the short end of an 8-5 decision against No. 6 seed Dylan Ragusin of Michigan. Hines picked up takedowns late in the second and third periods, but a first period takedown and riding time for Ragusin were too much to overcome.

True first-year Max Brignola also tried to dig out of an early hole with a big third period, but came up short against No. 11 Bryce Andonian of Virginia Tech at 149. Brignola trailed 5-1 after two and battled back with two third period takedowns but fell 9-7.

Two Mountain Hawks faced top five seeds in round one with both wrestlers dropping major decisions. At 141, Connor McGonagle fell 8-0 to No. 4 Real Woods of Stanford, while at 184, sophomore AJ Burkhart fell 21-7 to returning national champion and No. 2 seed Aaron Brooks of Penn State.

The seventh Lehigh wrestler to compete was sophomore Brian Meyer, who fell 3-0 to Luke Weber of North Dakota State at 165. Meyer had all the offensive attempts in a scoreless first period but could not convert. Weber rode out the second period and then reversed Meyer after Meyer had locked up a cradle for a one count.

The 2022 NCAA Wrestling Championships continue tonight at 7 p.m. with the round of 16 and first round consolations. The session will be televised on ESPN with streaming of every match on ESPN3 and the ESPN App.

The 2021-22 Lehigh wrestling season is presented by the Historic Hotel Bethlehem.

133 – No. 27 Malyke Hines  
Round of 32: L by dec. No. 6 Dylan Ragusin (Michigan) 8-5  
First round consolation: No. 22 Joe Olivieri (Rutgers)

141 – No. 29 Connor McGonagle

Round of 32: L by major dec. No. 4 Real Woods (Stanford) 8-0

First round consolation: No. 13 Ian Parker (Iowa State)

149 – No. 22 Max Brignola

Round of 32: L by dec. No. 11 Bryce Andonian (Virginia Tech) 9-7

First round consolation: No. 27 Cory Crooks (Oregon State)

157 – No. 7 Josh Humphreys

Round of 32: dec. No. 26 Ben Barton (Lock Haven) 4-0

Round of 16: No. 10 Peyton Robb (Nebraska)

165 – No. 17 Brian Meyer

Round of 32: L by dec. No. 16 Luke Weber (NDSU) 3-0

First round consolation: No. 33 Matthew Olguin (Oregon State)

184 – No. 31 AJ Burkhart

Round of 32: L by major dec. No. 2 Aaron Brooks (Penn State) 21-7

First round consolation: No. 18 Abe Assad (Iowa)

285 – No. 6 Jordan Wood

Round of 32: dec. No. 27 Michael Wolfgram (West Virginia) 1-0

Round of 16: No. 11 Gary Traub (Oregon State)

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