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**To:** lanny@wrestlingusa.com

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Bears Fans, Friends, and Alumni,

This past Saturday, we finished our home dual slate with a victory over Big 12 opponent Utah Valley. Overall, I feel like we wrestled well. Thank you to all who were in attendance on Saturday and throughout the season. Your support is very important to us. Saturday night, we also honored our seniors, Hudson Cropp and Xavier Vasquez. While we are very young and that is a good thing for the future of the program, these two guys will be hard to replace as they exemplify what we want out of our student-athletes.

<https://uncbears.com/news/2024/2/10/wrestling-bears-defeat-wolverines-in-home-finale.aspx>

125lbs- Stevo made quick work of his opponent. As of late, Stevo has been looking great and I believe he is primed for the post season. It is nice to see the things we are working on in practice translating into competition. He is getting very good on top which will pay dividends in March.

133lbs- Dominick Serrano won his match via major decision. While the result was positive, I was not particularly happy with how he won. Consistency in his preparation lately has not allowed him to always be at his best. We are working on changing a few things to make sure he is ready to make a run this postseason.

141lbs- Rudy Lopez lost a tight match to his ranked opponent. I do believe Rudy is getting better each time out and his preparation going into Big 12s will be critical towards his success.

149lbs- Like Rudy, Benji lost a close match to a former NCAA qualifier. Benji continues to struggle in the same areas he has all season. We are trying to work on his tenacity and effort for a full 7 minutes.

157lbs- Vinnv Zerhan made his return in dominant fashion getting the pin over his opponent. Vinnv is in a great spot

161lbs- Vinny Zerbani made his return in dominant fashion getting the pin over his opponent. Vinny is in a great spot physically and mentally right now and we are expecting big things from him in March. Right now, no one is a bigger critic than him so I like where he is at.

165lbs- Derek Matthews was able to get back to getting his hand raised in a tough, slow paced match (blood time). I like what I am seeing from Derek right now and if he can continue to attack his strengths, he can make a solid run down the home stretch.

174lbs- Travis Mastrogiovanni won another close match after an early takedown. Like Dom, we are working on Travis separating himself from his competition. He has all the tools and continues to improve each time out.

184lbs- Andrew Donahue got the nod on Saturday and lost a 1 takedown match to his ranked opponent. Our woes at 184 continue and we look for someone to solidify this spot for the post season.

197lbs- Xavier Vasquez had a near perfect ending to his senior night as he lost on riding time in double overtime to a very tough opponent. Xavier is in a great position right now to be able to put himself in a spot to steal a spot to the NCAA Championships at the conference tournament.

285lbs- Xavier Doolin wrestled great for about 4 minutes, getting out to a 6-0 lead. Unfortunately, he forgot to wrestle the last 3 minutes and ended up dropping an overtime loss.

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We will finish the regular season at Air Force on Sunday for our final dual of the season. I hope to see plenty of Blue and Gold in enemy territory.

**GO BEARS!**



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