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Nov. 16, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbia, No. 17 UNC Up Next for No. 4 Buckeyes

Ohio State takes on Lions at home Friday, travel to face Tar Heels Sunday

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No. 4 Ohio State vs. Columbia, at No. 17 North Carolina

Dates: Nov. 18/20, 2022

Times: 7 p.m./Noon

Tickets: [1-800-Go-Bucks](#)

Venues: Covelli Center, Columbus Ohio (4,177) / Carmichael Arena (6,822)

Watch: [B1G+\(\\$\)](#) | [ESPN+](#)

Live Updates: [@wrestlingbucks](#)

Match Notes: [Ohio State](#) | [Columbia](#) | [North Carolina](#)

COLUMBUS, Ohio – No. 4 Ohio State (1-0) returns to the Covelli Center Friday for a 7 p.m. match vs. Columbia (0-0) before traveling to Chapel Hill to take on No. 17 North Carolina (1-1) at noon Sunday. The home match vs. the Lions will be streamed by B1G+. Fans can watch the Buckeyes and Tar Heels clash on ESPN+.

- No. 4 Ohio State defeated No. 14 Virginia Tech 18-13 Nov. 11 in Columbus to open the 2022-23 dual season. Eight of the 10 bouts were decided by three points or less. Nine of the matchups were won by decision. Redshirt freshman Paddy Gallagher earned his first dual victory in the 157 match. Tate Orndorff earned career win No. 75 at heavyweight. It was career win No. 295 for Tom Ryan, head coach of the Buckeyes.
- Tom Ryan and the Ohio State wrestling staff signed a class of three during the early NCAA signing period. Vinny Kilkeary, a 125-pounder from Latrobe (Pa.) High School, Rocco Welsh (174/184) of Waynesburg Central (Pa.) High School and Brock Herman (145) of Brecksville (Ohio) High School, all signed national letters of intent to wrestle for Ryan and the Buckeyes next year.
- Six Buckeyes won titles at the Bob Del Rosa Intercollegiate Open Nov. 13 in Cleveland. Brady (125) and Dylan (133) Koontz, Isaac Wilcox (157) all won their brackets in the open division. Brenden McCrone (125), Bryer Hall (174) and Mike Misita (HWT) all won in the freshman/sophomore division.
- Ohio State faces Columbia/North Carolina with wrestlers among the Top 25 in all 10 weight classes. Sammy Sasso enters as the No. 4 at 149 with Kaleb Romero at No. 4 at 184. Dylan D’Emilio (No. 7/141), Paddy Gallagher (No. 21/157), Carson Kharchla (No. 6/165), Ethan Smith (No. 6/174) and Tate Orndorff (No. 7/HWT) also are in the Top 10 in their respective weight classes.
- Ohio State won eight titles at the 2022 Michigan State Open (Nov. 5) with five coming in the Open Division and three in the Freshman/Sophomore Division. Malik Heinselman (125), Jesse Mendez (133), Sammy Sasso (149), Ethan Smith (174) and Kaleb Romero (184) were undefeated in their Open brackets. Brendan McCrone (125), Nic Bouzakis (133)

and Luke Geog (197) won in the Freshman/Sophomore Division.

- Mendez earned the first Big Ten Wrestler of the Week for 2022-23 Nov. 9 after his performance in his first collegiate event. He went 4-0 with wins over two Top 20 opponents, including No. 5 Lucas Byrd of Illinois, a two-time All-America. The Buckeyes will be featured in four Big Ten Network televised matches in 2023, two on the road and twice at home. Ohio State travels to Indiana to open the conference season Jan. 6 before facing rival Michigan in Ann Arbor Jan. 27 on BTN. Home matches vs. Penn State (Feb. 3) and in the season finale vs. Nebraska Feb. 10.
- Freshmen Nic Bouzakis and Nick Feldman represented Team USA at the U20 World Championships in August. Feldman fell in the bronze medal match and finished fifth overall at 125kg. Bouzakis was a match away from the bronze medal match when he fell in the 61kg bracket.
- Logan Stieber, an assistant coach with the Buckeyes, was inducted into the Ohio State Athletics Hall of Fame Sept. 9. The four-time NCAA Champion finished his Ohio State career with a 119-3 record and four Big Ten individual champions. He won the Dan Hodge Trophy as a senior in 2015, the same year he helped the Buckeyes win the NCAA team title.
- Nick Boykin (197) competed at the U23 World Championships in Spain in mid-October for Team USA in the 97kg Greco Roman bracket. He fell in the repechage round to finish 0-2 at the event.
- The Buckeyes qualified eight wrestlers for the 2022 NCAA Championships. Six made return trips with Carson Kharchla (165) and Gavin Hoffman (197) earning spots for the first time. All six return for the 2022-23 season. Malik Heinselman (125), Dylan D’Emilio (141), Sammy Sasso (149), Ethan Smith (174), Kaleb Romero (184) and Tate Orndorff (HWT) are all back this year.
- Hoffman earned Ohio State elite “Black Shirt” status (see page 18) last season (March 14). There are eight current Buckeyes who have been recognized as Black Shirts, all 2022 NCAA Championship qualifiers.

Probable Lineups

No. 4 Ohio State Buckeyes..... Columbia

(InterMat Wrestling individual rankings used)

No. 11 Mailk Heinselman (Sr.).....	125.....	Nick Babin (Jr.)
No. 13 Jesse Mendez (Fr.).....	133	Angelo Rini (Jr.) or Boris Whitmer (So.)
Jordan Decatur (Sr.).....	141.....	Matt Kazimir (Sr.) or Kai Owen (Fr.)
Klay Reeves (r-Jr.).....	149.....	Danny Fongaro (Sr.) or Richard Fedalen (Fr.)
No. 21 Paddy Gallagher (r-Fr.).....	157	Andy Garr (Jr.)
No. 6 Carson Kharchla (r-Jr.).....	165.....	Josh Ogunsanya (Jr.) or Chim Tasie-Amadi (Sr.)
No. 6 Ethan Smith (r-Sr.).....	174.....	Lennox Wolak (Jr.) or Aaron Ayzerov (So.)
No. 4 Kaleb Romero (r-Sr.).....	184.....	Jack Wehmeyer (Fr.)
No. 15 Gavin Hoffman (r-Sr.).....	197..	Javen Jovero (So.) or Mike Baker (Jr.)
No. 7 Tate Orndorff (r-Sr.).....	HWT.....	Dan Conley (Sr.)

No. 4 Ohio State Buckeyes..... No. 17 North Carolina

(InterMat Wrestling individual rankings used)

No. 11 Mailk Heinselman (Sr.).....	125.....	Jack Wagner (Gr.)
No. 13 Jesse Mendez (Fr.).....	133.....	Joel Melendez (r-Sr.) or Jamie Hernandez (Gr.)
No. 7 Dylan D’Emilio (r-Jr.).....	141.....	No. 25 Lachlan McNeil (r-Fr.)
No. 4 Sammy Sasso (r-Sr.).....	149....	Jayden Scott (Fr.) or Danny Nini (Fr.)
No. 21 Paddy Gallagher (r-Fr.).....	157	Sincere Bailey (r-Fr.) or Wil Guida (r-Fr.)
No. 6 Carson Kharchla (r-Jr.).....	165.....	Nicholas Fea (Fr.)

No. 6 Ethan Smith (r-Sr.)..... 174..... or Joey Mazzara (r-Sr.)
No. 4 Kaleb Romero (r-Sr.)..... 184..... No. 5 Clay Lutt (Gr.)
No. 15 Gavin Hoffman (r-Sr.)..... 197..... No. 13 Gavin Kane (So.)
No. 7 Tate Orndorff (r-Sr.)..... HWT..... Max Shaw (r-So.)
Brandon Whitman (Sr.)

#GoBucks



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