

From: Jessica Burda jdb@athletics.wisc.edu
Subject: WRST: No. 18 Wisconsin takes down Lindenwood, 41-4
Date: November 5, 2023 at 2:35 PM
To: Jessica Burda jdb@athletics.wisc.edu
Cc: Dylan Vander Sanden dvandersanden@athletics.wisc.edu



No. 18 Wisconsin takes down Lindenwood, 41-4

Barnett, Mechler lead Badgers with pins

On the Web: <https://uwbadgers.com/news/2023/11/5/wrestling-no-18-wisconsin-takes-down-lindenwood.aspx>

MADISON, Wis. — No. 18 Wisconsin kicked off the 2023-24 season with a dominating 41-4 win over Lindenwood on Sunday afternoon in the UW Field House.

Wisconsin won nine straight bouts, taking a commanding 41-0 lead but could not complete the sweep in the last match. New additions including freshman Zan Fugitt and transfers Luke Mechler and Shane Liegel made their Wisconsin debuts, and all secured wins.

Wrestling for the first time since the 2021-22 season, Cale Anderson shared the team's appreciation for the season-opening victory.

"I just went out there with gratitude and took in the moment," Anderson said. "I just wrestled to the best of my ability, focused on my attacks and I felt it went to plan. Just gratitude for sure."

Nine out of ten Wisconsin wrestlers picked up wins. Fifth-ranked Eric Barnett and Mechler both won by fall. Three Badgers won by technical falls including Joseph Zargo, No. 4 Dean Hamiti and Liegel. True freshman Fugitt won by major decision 17-3 and Felix Lettini and Michael Talshahar won by decision.

Wisconsin head coach Chris Bono credited the team for their hard work in earning the victory.

"We've got a good group of guys in our room that have a lot to prove and that's what I'm excited about," Bono said. "That's a dangerous team and we're excited that we're going into every single match as the underdog. None of these guys have anything to lose. Those are dangerous dogs and that's the mentality that we're taking this year."

"We appreciate everybody out there we had a great crowd today. Keep supporting us. These guys are going to wrestle hard, it's going to be a fun year"

Next up: The Badgers will now shift their focus to the Michigan State Open as they are sending the full roster to wrestle on Saturday, November 11 in East Lansing, Mich. The Badgers return to dual competition on the road against Iowa State in Humboldt, Iowa on Nov. 19. The dual match will be held at Humboldt High School and streamed live on UFC Fightpass.

FINAL RESULTS

#18 WISCONSIN 41, LINDENWOOD 4 - NOV. 5, 2023 | MADISON, WIS.

- 125 #5 Eric Barnett (WIS) over Austin Kegley (LIN), Fall 2:14 | 6-0
- 133 Zan Fugitt (WIS) over Caiden Pelc (LIN), Major Dec. 17-3 | 10-0
- 141 Felix Lettini (WIS) over Ben Bohr (LIN), Dec. 9-4 | 13-0
- 149 #16 Joseph Zargo (WIS) over Cruz Lara (LIN), Tech. Fall 17-2 3:00 | 18-0
- 157 Luke Mechler (WIS) over Logan Johnson (LIN), Fall 0:50 | 24-0
- 165 #4 Dean Hamiti (WIS) over Zack Rackers (LIN), Tech. Fall 19-3 3:22 | 29-0
- 174 Cale Anderson (WIS) over Kaden Charboneau (LIN), Major Dec. 17-5 | 33-0
- 184 Shane Liegel (WIS) over Luke Shaver (LIN), Tech. Fall 17-2 5:30 | 38-0
- 197 Michael Talshahar (WIS) over Ryan Golnick (LIN), Dec. 5-1 | 41-0
- 285 David Hernandez (LIN) over Peter Christensen (WIS), Major Dec. 17-2 | 41-4

Team rankings NWCA for Oct. 31, 2023

Individual rankings Intermat for Oct. 31, 2023

Attendance: 1,140



JESSICA BURDA LESLIE | WISCONSIN ATHLETICS
 Digital Content Editor, Brand Communications
 UWBadgers.com & Badgers App | Wrestling, Men's & Women's Golf
 Kellner Hall | 1440 Monroe Street | Madison, WI 53711
 608-444-6588 | UWBadgers.com | @UWBadgers

Dual Score Sheet

<https://www.trackwrestling.com/seasons/DualScoreSheet.jsp?TIM=1699215317859&twSessi...>

Wisconsin vs. Lindenwood

An * denotes an exhibition match.

Weight	Wrestlers	Period 1	Choice 1	Period 2	Choice 2	Period 3	Result	WIS	LU
125	Eric Barnett Austin Kegley	Td3 N4 N4 SW					Fall 2:14	6	0
133	Zan Fugitt	Td3 N4 T40					MEJ 17:3	4	0