

Nebraska-Omaha 17, Minnesota State 15



Pat Christman

Minnesota State University's Brady Wilson (left) earned the 100th victory of his career Friday with a 3-1 decision over Nebraska-Omaha's Anthony Lewis. UNO won the dual 17-15.

Locking horns

MSU pushes No. 1-ranked UNO to the limit

By Jim Rueda
Free Press Sports Editor

MANKATO — Minnesota State University heavyweight wrestler Brady Wilson earned his 100th career victory Friday, but it was a bittersweet win.

The second-ranked Wilson decided third-ranked Anthony Lewis of Nebraska-Omaha 3-1 at Bresnan Arena, but the visiting Mavericks slipped past MSU 17-15 to win the nonconference dual. Wilson entered the match with his team trailing by five points, knowing that only a pin would pull out the victory.

"I like it when the match comes down to me, when I'm the one that has to decide who wins," Wilson said afterward. "But I missed a chance to put him on his back in

the first period. It was pretty close after that.

"(Lewis) and I have wrestled seven times in our college careers and they've all been close. It is what it is, I guess."

As for his 100th win, Wilson said he was glad to get it only because now it's behind him.

"I wanted to get it over with. I wanted to forget the hype and concentrate on what I need to do, which is winning a national championship."

Both teams won five matches Friday, the difference was two major decisions by No. 1-ranked UNO. Second-ranked Cody Garcia won a 9-1 major over Tim Haneberg at 133 pounds, and No. 1-rated Todd Meneely played catch-and-release with Travis Elg all match before settling for a 24-13

win at 157.

The most exciting match of the dual came at 197 where UNO's second-rated Brent Pankoke jumped up a weight to take on sixth-ranked Pat Mahan. The two wrestled to a 1-1 tie deep into the third period until Mahan finally got a single-leg takedown with 20 seconds left for a 3-1 win.

"I knew I was going to have enough gas," said Pankoke, who admitted it was the first time in his college career that he wrestled up a weight. "Getting tired or not is all mental. You can't let your body dictate to your brain how you feel."

"He was a good, tough wrestler. The (winning) shot came off his shot. Once I got him down I knew I had to hold on."

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Sports

MSU: Drops to 9-4 with tough loss

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MSU coach Jim Makovsky felt his team could have wrestled a little more aggressively but was not upset with the performance.

"We weren't sure what they were going to do with their lineup but we knew what we had to do," he said. "They bumped up (Pankoke) and he went against one of our better kids and it was a good match. He just got the bet-

ter of us."

The win improves UNO to 10-0 while third-rated MSU drops to 9-4. Minnesota State takes on Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference dual at 4 p.m. today at Bresnan Arena.

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125—Andy Fendler (MSU) dec. Matthew Rein 7-6; 133—Cody Garcia (UNO) maj. dec. Tim Haneberg 9-1; 141—John Padman (MSU) dec. Mario Morgan 5-3; 149—Tommy Abbott (MSU) dec. Esai Dominguez 8-5; 157—Todd Meneely (UNO) maj. dec. Travis Elg 24-13; 165—Aaron Denson (UNO) dec. Tim Matheson 13-7; 174—Ben Becker (MSU) dec. Ryan Pankoke 5-4; 184—Ross Taplin (UNO) dec. Aaron Morgan 7-4; 197—Brent Pankoke (UNO) dec. Pat Mahan 3-1; 285—Brady Wilson (MSU) dec. Anthony Lewis 3-1.