

No. 7 Ohio State Comes From Behind To Beat No. 11 Michigan



Nick Feldman put Ohio State on his back again on Friday, finishing the dual against No. 11 Michigan with a 4-2 win over the No. 4 heavyweight wrestler in the country Lucas Davison in a match he went into as the underdog.

The Buckeyes trailed the entire dual until Feldman finished his third period giving them a 20-19 win, their eighth ranked win of the season so far, and fourth Big Ten win in as many tries.

Despite losing three All-Americans to season-ending injuries, Ohio State has won eight straight duals since its loss to then-No. 18 Pittsburgh.

Here's how it went at each weight class:

125 pounds: Michigan started the dual off with a big win when No. 14 Michael DeAugustino beat No. 24 Brendan McCrone 16-1, earning five team points for the Wolverines early in the third period. McCrone's only point was an escape in the second period.

133 pounds: No. 12 Nic Bouzakis has been great for the Buckeyes lately, but couldn't keep the streak going against No. 4 Dylan Ragusin, who started the match early with a takedown. Bouzakis got the reversal and Ragusin escaped and had another takedown followed by another Bouzakis reversal for a 7-4 score after the first period. Bouzakis only added two more points from escapes and lost the bout 15-6 to make the team score 9-0 in favor of the Wolverines.

141 pounds: No. 3 Jesse Mendez won by forfeit, giving the Buckeyes six team points which would end up being their only points of the first half.

149 pounds: No. 9 Dylan D'Emilio was down 9-3 early after three takedowns and three escapes, and in the third period No. 6 Austin Gomez got a stalling point and two takedowns to win the bout 17-6 and put Michigan up 13-6.

157 pounds: There was no scoring in the first period and No. 10 Will Lewan opened the second with an escape. Wilcox tied it back up with an escape in the third period and the match went to a sudden victory period, where there was no scoring again. In the tiebreaker period, Wilcox escaped but Lewan had a takedown and an escape in the second tiebreaker period to win the bout 5-2.

165 pounds: No. 21 Bryce Hepner struggled early when Beau Mantanona had a takedown and a four-

point nearfall, but Hepner came back with an escape and a takedown to make it 7-4 after three minutes. Mantanona started on the bottom in the second and scored a reversal before Hepner escaped. Hepner had a reversal of his own in the third period and after Mantanona escaped, Hepner had a takedown and a two-point nearfall for a 12-10 win to make it 16-9.

174 pounds: True freshman No. 11 Rocco Welsh has proven he can hang with some of the best in the country, and he did that again against No. 4 Shane Griffith. The match went into the third period tied 1-1, but with a point for riding time, Griffith won the bout 2-1 and Michigan led 19-9.

184 pounds: Ryder Rogotzke got the call for the Buckeyes at 184 pounds against No. 15 Jaden Bullock, and he did exactly what was needed. Bullock didn't score a single point in the bout with Rogotzke taking a 12-0 lead into the second period and turning that into a 21-0 technical fall win to make the dual score 19-14 and keeping Ohio State in it.

197 pounds: No. 22 Luke Geog came into the match as the favorite over Rylan Rogers and was able to leave it with a 9-4 win, which is all he needed to do to give Feldman the chance to win the dual for Ohio State.

Heavyweight: Feldman was able to keep Davison from scoring in the first period even though he came close to getting a takedown. Feldman earned a stalling point in the second period and held a 1-0 lead going into the third period. Davison escaped to make it a 1-1 tie and Feldman had a takedown, which Davison escaped from. Feldman took home a 4-2 victory over the No. 4 wrestler in the country and won the dual for Ohio State 20-19.

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By GREG WILSON

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