

Wrestling Edges Out Drexel, 22-17

Courtesy: Tim Flynn, Associate Director of Athletic Communications

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PHILADELPHIA – In a battle of University City rivals between No. 14 Penn and Drexel, it all came down to the final match at 174 pounds. Fortunately for the Quakers, All-America and ninth-ranked Matt Herrington scored a 5-3 decision over Nick Kozar to secure a 22-17 win at The Palestra.

The Quakers (5-5) evened up their dual-meet record with wins over Brown and the Dragons (14-9). Penn's meet Friday with Delaware State was contested as a junior varsity event.

The Quakers trailed, 17-15, with two matches to go after No. 20 Ryan Hluschak teched No. 14 Matt Dragon at 157. It was No. 17 Zack Shanaman who injected life back into his team, scoring a key major decision to put Penn up 19-17.

Courtesy: University of Pennsylvania



"It was nice to see Shanaman come back and give us the momentum back," said Head Coach Zeke Jones.

Herrington finished off the win with his 5-3 decision, getting most of his scoring on two first-period takedowns.

The meet started at 184 with Lior Zamir majoring Brian Stouffer, 14-4, but Drexel pulled right back with Jon Oplinger's quick pin of Jack Sullivan in 1:32. Chris Cowen was a 4-0 winner over Ben Reiter at heavyweight, and suddenly the Dragons were out to a 9-4 lead.

The lead wouldn't last long, though, as Penn won at the three lower weights.

Rollie Peterkin won an entertaining overtime bout with Steve Mytych, 4-1, in the first tiebreak. After ending regulation tied at a point apiece, the two went scoreless in sudden victory. Mytych chose up for the first tiebreak and rode out, but Peterkin managed to turn Mytych in the second period and get a near-fall three to win.

Matt Valenti retook the lead for Penn with his major decision over Billy Martin, 13-5, and Brett McCurdy also got a major with his 11-2 win over Morgan Remillard at 141.

Mark Cartella of Drexel beat Brian Spangler at 149 in a tightly contested, 6-4 decision, to pull his team within three before Hluschak's tech fall gave Drexel the lead after 157 pounds.

Penn will return to action Saturday afternoon when it hosts Ivy and EIWA rival Harvard at 1 p.m. at The Palestra.

No. 14 Penn 22, Drexel 17

184 – Lior Zamir (P) def. Brian Stouffer; MD, 14-4

197 – Jon Oplinger (D) def. Jack Sullivan; F, 1:32

285 – Chris Cowen (D) def. Ben Reiter; D, 4-0

125 – Rollie Peterkin (P) def. Steve Mytych; D-TB1, 4-1

133 – Matt Valenti (P) def. Billy Martin; MD, 13-5

141 – Brett McCurdy (P) def. Morgan Remillard; MD, 11-2

149 – Mark Cartella (D) def. Brian Spangler; D, 6-4

157 - #20 Ryan Hluschak (D) def. #14 Matt Dragon; TFall, 5:08

165 - #17 Zack Shanaman (P) def. Billy Haydt; MD, 15-4

174 – #9 Matt Herrington (P) def. Nick Kozar; D, 5-3