



Sports



MSU wrestlers John Koons (left) and Ben Janike picked up victories in Saturday's loss to Omaha-Nebraska.

MSU falls short in 1 vs. 2 matchup

Top-ranked UNO wrestlers win 22-12

Free Press staff

OMAHA, NEB. — The University of Nebraska-Omaha wrestling team widened the gap between itself and the rest of the Division II field on Friday, downing second-ranked Minnesota State 22-12 at Sapp Fieldhouse.

It was the second win this season for No. 1-ranked UNO over Minnesota State. The host team improved to 9-0 while MSU dropped to 11-2.

Eighth-ranked Nick Smith put MSU on the board first, as he picked up a win by injury default over Jimmy Ball at 125 pounds. Nebraska-Omaha then reeled off six straight victories, the biggest coming at 174 pounds where No. 2-rated J.D. Naig decisioned No. 1-ranked Travis Krinkie 9-6.

The rally gave UNO a commanding 18-6 lead with three matches left. MSU answered at 184 pounds when top-ranked John Koons shut out Nate Oviatt 6-0.

Minnesota State's Ben Janike marked his return to the lineup with a 2-1 overtime win over Nick Edmonds at 197 pounds. That proved to be MSU's final win of the evening.

At heavyweight, Nebraska-Omaha's Les Sigman won his 66th consecutive match with a 14-1 major decision over eighth-ranked Tim Kraemer. Sigman is a two-time defending national champion and has not lost a match to a Division II wrestler in three seasons.

Minnesota State returns to action tonight with a 7 p.m. nonconference meet at Southwest Minnesota State.