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UNIVERSITY GOLD FOR ABELEV & ST-LAURENT

ABELEV CAPS UNIVERSITY CAREER WITH 5TH STRAIGHT TITLE & MVP



U SPORT

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As the 2017 U Sport Wrestling Championships concluded this past weekend, three wrestlers from the University of New Brunswick - Fredericton found themselves in the Canadian University finals. Ilya Abelev (M72kg) and Grayson St-Laurent (M90kg) both earned gold at the championships, as both of them went undefeated at the event, while Alex Brown-Therault (M82kg) finished in second place.

Abelev kicked off the championships with a win over Marcus Peterson of the University of Alberta (10-0). He continued the event with dominant performances over Geraldo Fox of the University of Regina (11-0) and Ben Zahra of McMaster University (10-0), before defeating Cruz Manning of Brock University (3-0) to capture his fifth straight Canadian University title in four different weight classes. Abelev, who has been undefeated in university competition, was then named MVP for the event.

St-Laurent picked up his second title, and the second gold of the championships for UNB. Starting the event with a win over Eric Jacobson of Western University (10-0), St-Laurent went on to defeat Calvin Daum of the University of Winnipeg (17-6), and Joban Phulka of McMaster University (4-0), before earning his second title with a win over Clayton Pye of Brock University (4-3).

UNB's third medal came from Brown-Therault second place finish. Brown-Therault defeated Bradley MaGarrey of McMaster University (11-4), Andrew Johnson of University of Saskatchewan (8-7), and Amtoj Dhaliwal of Fraser Valley University by fall to advance to the finals. He then dropped his final match to Jevon Balfour of Brock University (0-5) to finish in the second position on the U Sport podium.

Both David Gillis (M61kg) and Matt Short (M120kg) also competed for the University of New Brunswick. Gillis finished in seventh place, while Short ended in eighth. These results contributed to the University of New Brunswick seventh place finish in the men's team title race with 31 points.