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For Immediate Release

NCWA contact: Scott Farrell, 214-893-0344 or ncwasid@yahoo.com

NAIA ALL-STARS WIN AMERICAN AIRLINES ALL-STAR CHALLENGE OVER NCWA

GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas - The team of all-stars from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) opened the match with two falls, then posted four pins overall in winning its dual match, 39-3, over an all-star team from the National Collegiate Wrestling Association (NCWA) in the inaugural American Airlines All-Star Challenge at Warrior Coliseum. The event, held in conjunction with the 10th annual Lone Star Duals, was a first-of-its kind event pairing both associations' defending national champions or highest-ranked wrestlers in a dual-match format.

Aaron Wilcox of Dana College opened the event with a second-period pin of Aso Palani of Douglas College in the 125-pound bout. Wade Lowe of McKendree University added another fall at 133 pounds over Marcus Chevres of The Apprentice School for a 12-0 lead. Adam Manz of Dana scored a takedown in overtime to beat Mario Giordano of Northampton Community College in the 141-pound bout, and the NAIA All-Stars were on their way.

In one of the highlight bouts of the dual, Aaron Winning of McKendree pinned Will Harcum of Apprentice in 3:50 in the 165-pound match following an 8-7 first period with Winning in the lead. Both wrestlers were ranked first in their respective associations, and Winning was the defending national champion. In the next bout, Jameon Rush of Hastings University scored a takedown in the third overtime to come from behind and edge Kevin Bacci of West Chester University, 4-3.

Andrew Sanchez, the defending NAIA champion and top-ranked wrestler at 197 pounds, won a 3-0 decision from Joseph Silverman of MIT. Silverman is ranked second in the NCWA.

The NCWA earned its points from a 7-3 win by Peter Rose of Southern Virginia over Brandon Roehrich of Jamestown. Rose is the NCWA's two-time defending national champion and a three-time NCWA All-American.

Complete results are below:

125 lbs. – Aaron Wilcox, Dana College (NAIA) def. Aso Palani, Douglas College (NCWA), by fall, 3:18

133 lbs. – Wade Lowe, McKendree Univ. (NAIA) def. Marcus Chevres, The Apprentice School (NCWA), by fall 2:53

141 lbs. – Adam Manz, Dana College (NAIA) def. Mario Giordano, Northampton CC (NCWA), 5-3

149 lbs. – Sam Schmitz, Lindenwood Univ. (NAIA) def. Dillon Evans, West Chester Univ. (NCWA), 4-3

157 lbs. – Peter Rose, Southern Virginia (NCWA) def. Brandon Roehrich, Jamestown Univ. (NAIA), 7-3

165 lbs. – Aaron Winning, McKendree Univ. (NAIA) def. Will Harcum, The Apprentice School (NCWA), by fall 3:50

174 lbs. – Jameon Rush, Hastings Univ. (NAIA) def. Kevin Bacci, West Chester Univ. (NCWA), 4-3 (3OT)

184 lbs. – Mark Peiffer, Dana College (NAIA) def. Richard Rippy, Central Florida (NCWA), by fall 5:38

197 lbs. – Andrew Sanchez, McKendree Univ. (NAIA) def. Joseph Silverman, MIT (NCWA), 3-0

285 lbs. – Willie Hernandez, Jamestown Univ. (NAIA) def. Corey Melinn, Grand Valley State (NCWA), 3-0

In an exhibition match following the All-Star Challenge, Central Oklahoma defeated the NCWA All-Stars, 28-6.

A telecast of the American Airlines All-Star Challenge can be found at www.ncwa.net.