

**2017 NCAA Division I  
Wrestling Championships**

**Scottrade Center**

**St. Louis, Missouri**

**March 16-18, 2017**

**Facts and Stats**

**Compiled by:  
Mike Johnson  
Haymarket, VA**

2017 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships

**TEAM SCORES**

1. Penn State	146.5	37. Pennsylvania	8
2. Ohio State	110	38. Campbell	6.5
3. Oklahoma State	103	39. Buffalo	5.5
4. Iowa	97	40. Bucknell	5
5. Missouri	86.5	41. American	4.5
6. Virginia Tech	63.5	41. Michigan State	4.5
7. Minnesota	62.5	41. North Carolina	4.5
8. Cornell	60.5	44. Cleveland State	4
9. Nebraska	59.5	44. Lock Haven	4
10. Michigan	47.5	46. Northwestern	3.5
11. Illinois	43.5	47. Gardner-Webb	3
12. Lehigh	40	47. North Dakota State	3
13. Wisconsin	39.5	47. Northern Colorado	3
14. Arizona State	39	50. Purdue	2.5
15. Virginia	29.5	51. Eastern Michigan	2
16. South Dakota State	28.5	51. Ohio	2
17. North Carolina State	26	53. Army	1.5
18. Northern Iowa	25.5	53. CS-Bakersfield	1.5
19. Rutgers	24.5	53. Drexel	1.5
20. Edinboro	20.5	53. Utah Valley	1.5
21. Rider	20	57. Binghamton	1
21. Wyoming	20	57. Clarion	1
23. Central Michigan	19.5	57. Columbia	1
24. Stanford	16	57. Iowa State	1
25. Princeton	15.5	57. West Virginia	1
26. Appalachian State	13.5	62. Cal Poly-SLO	0.5
26. Old Dominion	13.5	62. George Mason	0.5
28. Oregon State	12.5	62. Harvard	0.5
29. Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	12	62. Kent State	0.5
30. Northern Illinois	11.5	66. Boise State	0
31. Navy	10	66. Brown	0
32. Duke	9.5	66. The Citadel	0
32. Oklahoma	9.5	69. Chattanooga	-0.5
32. Pittsburgh	9.5		
35. Indiana	8.5		
35. Maryland	8.5		

(69 of the 76 Division I schools were represented this year. Seven schools did not have a qualifier: Air Force, Bloomsburg, Davidson, Franklin & Marshall, Hofstra, Sacred Heart and VMI)

## 2017 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships

### All American Matches

- 125** 1st – Darian Cruz, Lehigh dec. Ethan Lizak, Minnesota, 6-3  
3rd – Thomas Gilman, Iowa dec. Nick Piccininni, Oklahoma State, 13-6  
5th – Joey Dance, Virginia Tech by med. forfeit Jack Mueller, Virginia  
7th – Sean Russell, Edinboro dec. Nathan Kraisser, Campbell, 10-4
- 133** 1st – Cory Clark, Iowa dec. Seth Gross, South Dakota State, 4-3  
3rd – Nathan Tomasello, Ohio State dec. Stevan Micic, Michigan, 5-2  
5th – Kaid Brock, Oklahoma State dec. Eric Montoya, Nebraska, 5-3  
7th – Zane Richards, Illinois maj. dec. Scotty Parker, Lehigh, 14-4
- 141** 1st – Dean Heil, Oklahoma State dec. George DiCamillo, Virginia, 6-3  
3rd – Kevin Jack, North Carolina State pinned Bryce Meredith, Wyoming, 6:20  
5th – Jaydin Eierman, Missouri dec. Anthony Ashnault, Rutgers, 4-2  
7th – Matthew Kolodzik, Princeton dec. Tommy Thorn, Minnesota, 3-1
- 149** 1st – Zain Retherford, Penn State tech. fall Lavion Mayes, Missouri, 18-2  
3rd – Brandon Sorensen, Iowa dec. Micah Jordan, Ohio State, 4-0  
5th – Max Thomsen, Northern Iowa dec. Solomon Chishko, Virginia Tech, 10-4  
7th – Kenny Theobald, Rutgers pinned Alex Kocer, South Dakota State, 1:37
- 157** 1st – Jason Nolf, Penn State maj. dec. Joey LaVallee, Missouri, 14-6  
3rd – Michael Kemerer, Iowa dec. Joseph Smith, Oklahoma State, 7-1 SV  
5th – Tyler Berger, Nebraska dec. Dylan Palacio, Cornell, 6-3  
7th – Paul Fox, Stanford pinned Sal Mastriani, Virginia Tech, 5:00
- 165** 1st – Vincenzo Joseph, Penn State pinned Isaiah Martinez, Illinois, 5:25  
3rd – Logan Massa, Michigan maj. dec. Isaac Jordan, Wisconsin, 11-2  
5th – Chandler Rogers, Oklahoma State dec. Daniel Lewis, Missouri, 9-6  
7th – Chad Walsh, Rider dec. Brandon Womack, Cornell, 8-5
- 174** 1st – Mark Hall, Penn State dec. Bo Jordan, Ohio State, 5-2  
3rd – Zahid Valencia, Arizona State maj. dec. Myles Amine, Michigan, 15-5  
5th – Brain Realbuto, Cornell pinned Zac Brunson, Illinois, 1:15  
7th – Kyle Crutchmer, Oklahoma State dec. Jake Residori, SIU-Edwardsville, 9-4
- 184** 1st – Bo Nickal, Penn State dec. Gabe Dean, Cornell, 4-3  
3rd – TJ Dudley, Nebraska pinned Sammy Brooks, Iowa, 2:28  
5th – Myles Martin, Ohio State dec. Nolan Boyd, Oklahoma State, 10-6  
7th – Drew Foster, Northern Iowa dec. Nathan Jackson, Indiana, 11-7
- 197** 1st – J'den Cox, Missouri dec. Brett Pfarr, Minnesota, 8-2  
3rd – Kollin Moore, Ohio State pinned Jared Haught, Virginia Tech, 2:27  
5th – Aaron Studebaker, Nebraska maj. dec. Preston Weigel, Oklahoma State, 9-0  
7th – Ryan Wolfe, Rider dec. Kevin Beazley, Old Dominion, 2-1
- 285** 1st – Kyle Snyder, Ohio State dec. Connor Medbery, Wisconsin, 6-3  
3rd – Tanner Hall, Arizona State dec. Ty Walz, Virginia Tech, 5-4 SV  
5th – Nick Nevills, Penn State dec. Jacob Kasper, Duke, 4-3 SV  
7th – Michael Kroells, Minnesota tech. fall Denzel Dejournette, Appalachian State, 17-2

## Home States

The 329\* wrestlers who competed at the 2017 NCAA Division I Championships come from 42 states and one *foreign country*.

1. Pennsylvania	49	22. Kansas	3
2. Ohio	32	22. Kentucky	3
3. Illinois	29	22. North Carolina	3
3. New Jersey	29	22. West Virginia	3
5. California	20	28. Alabama	2
6. Michigan	18	28. Arizona	2
7. Iowa	14	28. Idaho	2
8. Minnesota	13	28. Massachusetts	2
9. New York	11	28. New Mexico	2
10. Oklahoma	9	28. Utah	2
11. Georgia	8	28. <i>Finland</i>	2
11. Virginia	8	35. Connecticut	1
13. Florida	7	35. Hawaii	1
13. Missouri	7	35. Montana	1
15. Maryland	6	35. Nebraska	1
16. Indiana	5	35. Nevada	1
16. Oregon	5	35. South Carolina	1
16. Texas	5	35. Tennessee	1
16. Washington	5	35. Vermont	1
20. South Dakota	4	35. Wyoming	1
20. Wisconsin	4		
22. Colorado	3		
22. Delaware	3		

(\*There was one last minute withdrawal due to injury)

**ALL-AMERICANS (By Conference)**

<u>Conference</u>	<u>All Americans</u>
1. Big 10	36
2. Big 12	11
3. ACC	9
4. MAC	8
4. EIWA	7
6. EWL	3
6. PAC 12	3
6. SoCon	3

**ALL-AMERICANS (By home state)**

<u>Home State</u>	<u>All-Americans</u>
1. Ohio	10
2. Pennsylvania	8
3. Oklahoma	6
4. Illinois	5
4. Iowa	5
4. Minnesota	5
4. New Jersey	5
8. California	4
8. Michigan	4
10. Missouri	3
10. New York	3
12. Maryland	2
12. Texas	2

14. (Tie – 18 States with 1 each: Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming)

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**ALL AMERICANS (By Team)**

<b>TEAM</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Oklahoma State	1	0	0	2	2	2	1	0	8
Ohio State	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	6
Penn State	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Iowa	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	5
Missouri	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	5
Virginia Tech	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	5
Cornell	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	4
Minnesota	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
Nebraska	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	4
Illinois	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
Michigan	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Arizona State	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Lehigh	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Northern Iowa	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Rider	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Rutgers	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
South Dakota State	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Virginia	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Wisconsin	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Appalachian State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Campbell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Duke	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Edinboro	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Indiana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
North Carolina State	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Old Dominion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Princeton	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
SIU-Edwardsville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Stanford	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Wyoming	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

(Of the 69 schools represented, 30 produced at least one All-American)

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**Qualifiers (By Conference)**

Conference	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285	Total
<b>Big 10</b>	8	9	10	8	9	9	10	10	9	7	89
<b>EIWA</b>	2	5	6	4	5	5	6	9	6	4	52
<b>MAC</b>	7	6	3	6	3	4	3	3	5	5	45
<b>Big 12</b>	4	5	4	4	4	7	4	2	5	4	43
<b>ACC</b>	3	2	3	4	5	2	4	2	3	5	33
<b>PAC 12</b>	2	2	4	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	27
<b>EWL</b>	3	2	2	3	2	2	1	3	1	2	21
<b>SC</b>	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	3	19
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>329</b>

**Qualifiers (By Class)**

Weight	FR	SO	JR	SR	Total
<b>125</b>	8	9	5	10	32
<b>133</b>	9	10	5	9	33
<b>141</b>	9	5	11	8	33
<b>149</b>	5	10	4	14	33
<b>157</b>	4	7	9	13	33
<b>165</b>	8	10	11	4	33
<b>174</b>	5	4	12	12	33
<b>184</b>	4	7	11	11	33
<b>197</b>	5	6	10	12	33
<b>285</b>	1	10	10	12	33
<b>Totals</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>329</b>

(Note: Over the years I have found the class of numerous qualifiers to be questionable on the official list of qualifiers posted by the NCAA and various internet site rankings. In addition, on some of the team home pages, it is difficult to determine the class of the wrestler due to confusion over whether or not he has used a red shirt (or medical RS) year. Therefore, some of the figures listed above may not be 100% accurate. Additionally, there were two grad students this year. I counted them as seniors.)

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**Conference Statistics (Ranked by Team Points)**

Conference Name	Team Points Scored	Wres. Entered	Matches Wrestled	Matches Won	Matches Lost	Matches Won By Maj Dec	Matches Won By Tech Fall	Matches Won By Fall	Bonus Pt Avg.	Avg. Team Pts / Wres.	Overall Win Avg.
Big 10	658	89*	390	233	157	52	20	26	.421	7.4	.597
Big 12	170.5	43	165	79	86	12	3	5	.253	4.0	.479
MAC	166.5	45	171	80	91	12	3	11	.325	3.6	.468
EIWA	149	52	182	79	103	15	2	10	.342	2.9	.434
ACC	142.5	33	132	64	68	10	4	4	.281	4.3	.485
Pac 12	70.5	27	94	42	52	6	0	8	.333	2.6	.447
EWL	50	21	76	34	42	5	2	3	.294	2.4	.447
SoCon	35.5	19	66	25	41	2	1	2	.200	1.9	.379

<b>Ranked by:</b> Sum of Team Points scored by Conference Teams
<b>Bonus Pt. Avg.</b> defined as (Bonus Points Achieved in Matches Won) / (Matches Won), depicted similar to a "batting average" (i.e., 0.421 indicates that Big 10 conference wrestlers scored Bonus Points in 42% of the matches they won)
<b>Avg. Team Points / Wrestler</b> defined as (# of Wrestlers Entered from each conference) / (Team Points Scored by each conference)
<b>Overall Win Avg.</b> defined as (Matches Won) / (Matches Wrestled), depicted similar to a "batting average" (i.e., 0.597 indicates Big 10 conference wrestlers won 59.7% of their matches)

(\*One Big 10 qualifier withdrew prior to the tournament due to injury)

**Round of 12 Stats (Ranked by Wrestlers Entered)**

Conference	R-12 In Consolation Bracket	R-12 Winners	Quarter-Final Winners	Total All Americans	R-12 Losers	Total AA's Plus R-12 Losers	Wrestlers Entered	Percentage In R-12
Big 10	31	15	21	36	16	52	89	.584
EIWA	9	3	4	7	6	13	52	.250
MAC	11	4	4	8	7	15	45	.333
Big 12	7	6	5	11	1	12	43	.279
ACC	9	4	5	9	5	14	33	.424
PAC 12	5	2	1	3	3	6	27	.222
EWL	4	3	0	3	1	4	21	.190
SoCon	4	3	0	3	1	4	19	.211
<b>Totals</b>	80	40	40	80	40	120	329	

(Round of 12 in the Consolation Bracket Winners added to the Quarter-Final Winners equal All-Americans; the Total A-A's Plus R-12 Losers number is divided by Wrestlers Entered to arrive at the Percentage in the R-12 column, i.e. 52 (or 58%) of the 89 Big 10 wrestlers made it to the Round of 12)



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**TEAM STATISTICS**

School	Wres.	Matches	W	L	MD	TF	Pins
American	3	8	2	6	1	0	1
Appalachian State	4	17	8	9	2	0	0
Arizona State	5	24	16	8	5	0	3
Army	4	10	2	8	0	0	0
Binghamton	2	5	1	4	0	0	0
Boise State	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Brown	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Bucknell	4	12	4	8	0	0	1
Buffalo	3	10	4	6	0	0	0
Cal St.-Bakersfield	5	14	4	10	0	0	0
Cal Poly (SLO)	2	5	1	4	0	0	0
Campbell	5	17	6	11	0	0	0
Central Michigan	9	29	11	18	4	0	4
Chattanooga (UT)	3	8	2	6	0	0	0
The Citadel	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Clarion	2	6	2	4	0	0	0
Cleveland State	1	4	2	2	1	0	1
Columbia	2	5	1	4	0	0	0
Cornell	6	30	18	12	7	2	4
Drexel	4	9	1	8	0	0	0
Duke	3	11	4	7	0	0	0
Eastern Michigan	3	7	1	6	1	0	0
Edinboro	8	31	15	16	2	2	0
Gardner-Webb	3	8	2	6	0	0	1
George Mason	2	5	1	4	0	0	0
Harvard	3	7	1	6	0	0	0
Illinois	7	31	17	14	6	0	0
Indiana	4	13	4	9	1	0	1
Iowa	9	47	34	13	8	1	4
Iowa State	3	7	1	6	0	0	0
Kent State	2	5	1	4	0	0	0
Lehigh	7	35	22	13	2	0	1
Lock Haven	4	11	3	8	0	0	1
Maryland	4	14	6	8	1	0	1
Michigan	6	26	15	11	4	2	1

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School	Wres.	Matches	W	L	MD	TF	Pins
Michigan State	3	10	4	6	0	0	1
Minnesota	9	42	25	17	6	2	2
Missouri	8	37	24	13	8	0	3
Navy	4	17	9	8	2	0	1
Nebraska	7	41	27	14	5	1	3
North Carolina	5	15	5	10	1	0	0
North Carolina State	10	34	15	19	2	0	2
North Dakota State	5	14	4	10	1	0	0
Northern Colorado	4	11	3	8	0	1	0
Northern Illinois	5	22	12	10	0	0	2
Northern Iowa	7	31	17	14	1	0	1
Northwestern	4	11	3	8	1	0	0
Ohio University	3	9	3	6	0	0	0
Ohio State	9	41	28	13	11	5	2
Oklahoma	8	23	7	16	0	1	2
Oklahoma State	10	58	38	20	5	0	3
Old Dominion	5	16	6	10	0	1	2
Oregon State	5	19	9	10	0	0	3
Pennsylvania	5	18	8	10	2	0	0
Penn State	8	41	35	6	5	9	7
Pittsburgh	4	17	9	8	2	1	0
Princeton	7	24	10	14	1	0	2
Purdue	3	9	3	6	1	0	0
Rider	4	19	11	8	2	0	1
Rutgers	7	30	15	15	1	0	2
South Dakota State	5	21	11	10	3	1	0
SIU-Edwardsville	3	14	7	7	0	1	1
Stanford	9	30	12	18	1	0	2
Utah Valley	2	7	3	4	0	0	0
Virginia	4	15	7	8	1	1	1
Virginia Tech	7	40	24	16	4	2	1
West Virginia	1	3	1	2	0	0	0
Wisconsin	9	34	17	17	2	0	2
Wyoming	5	21	11	10	3	0	0

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## ALL AMERICANS

<u>Weight</u> <u>Place</u>	<u>Name (Seed)</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Home</u> <u>State</u>	<u>Records</u>	
					<u>Season</u>	<u>Career</u>
<b><u>125</u></b>						
1.	Darian Cruz (4)	Jr	Lehigh	PA	31-2	90-18
2.	Ethan Lizak (6)	R-So	Minnesota	PA	30-7	58-22
3.	Thomas Gilman (1)	R-Sr	Iowa	IA	32-1	107-12
4.	Nicholas Piccininni (8)	R-Fr	Oklahoma State	NY	27-8	27-8
5.	Joey Dance (2)	R-Sr	Virginia Tech	VA	30-3	115-20
6.	Jack Mueller (10)	Fr	Virginia	TX	27-5	27-5
7.	Sean Russell (7)	R-So	Edinboro	GA	37-8	65-17
8.	Nathan Kraisser (16)	R-Sr	Campbell	MD	29-10	98-32

### **133**

1.	Cory Clark (4)	R-Sr	Iowa	IA	20-3	98-15
2.	Seth Gross (2)	R-So	South Dakota State	MN	34-2	60-15
3.	Nathan Tomasello (1)	R-Jr	Ohio State	OH	24-1	80-6
4.	Stevan Micic (5)	R-Fr	Michigan	IN	29-7	29-7
5.	Kaid Brock (3)	R-Fr	Oklahoma State	OK	29-4	34-5
6.	Eric Montoya (7)	R-Sr	Nebraska	NM	30-7	113-39
7.	Zane Richards (8)	R-Sr	Illinois	IL	29-6	111-26
8.	Scotty Parker (9)	So	Lehigh	PA	20-5	29-16

### **141**

1.	Dean Heil (1)	R-Jr	Oklahoma State	OH	32-0	91-11
2.	George DiCamillo (6)	R-Sr	Virginia	OH	24-5	114-29
3.	Kevin Jack (2)	Jr	North Carolina State	CT	35-2	85-14
4.	Bryce Meredith (10)	Jr	Wyoming	WY	32-8	76-20
5.	Jaydin Eierman (8)	R-Fr	Missouri	MO	29-7	29-7
6.	Anthony Ashnault (5)	R-Jr	Rutgers	NJ	30-6	91-18
7.	Matthew Kolodzik (4)	Fr	Princeton	OH	30-4	30-4
8.	Thomas Thorn (14)	R-So	Minnesota	MN	20-10	56-21

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**149**

1. Zain Retherford (1)	R-Jr	Penn State	PA	28-0	95-3
2. Levion Mayes (3)	R-Sr	Missouri	IL	23-3	122-24
3. Brandon Sorensen (5)	Jr	Iowa	IA	31-5	100-13
4. Micah Jordan (4)	R-So	Ohio State	OH	33-5	60-9
5. Max Thomsen (7)	R-Fr	Northern Iowa	IA	31-7	31-7
6. Solomon Chishko (6)	R-So	Virginia Tech	PA	25-6	55-13
7. Kenny Theobald (15)	Sr	Rutgers	NJ	26-11	88-47
8. Alex Kocer (US*)	Sr	South Dakota State	SD	30-11	96-44

**157**

1. Jason Nolf (1)	R-So	Penn State	PA	27-0	60-2
2. Joey Lavallee (3)	Jr	Missouri	NV	29-2	83-26
3. Michael Kemerer (2)	R-Fr	Iowa	PA	33-3	33-3
4. Joseph Smith (5)	So	Oklahoma State	OK	16-6	51-11
5. Tyler Berger (4)	R-So	Nebraska	OK	36-6	60-19
6. Dylan Palacio (7)	Sr	Cornell	NY	11-4	83-20
7. Paul Fox (US)	So	Stanford	CA	29-15	51-23
8. Sal Mastriani (14)	R-Sr	Virginia Tech	NJ	20-9	65-48

**165**

1. Vincenzo Joseph (3)	R-Fr	Penn State	PA	22-4	22-4
2. Isaiah Martinez (1)	R-Jr	Illinois	CA	31-1	98-2
3. Logan Massa (2)	R-Fr	Michigan	MI	32-3	32-3
4. Isaac Jordan (4)	R-Sr	Wisconsin	OH	28-6	114-18
5. Chandler Rogers (9)	R-So	Oklahoma State	OK	25-8	51-11
6. Daniel Lewis (6)	R-So	Missouri	MO	28-6	57-12
7. Chad Walsh (5)	Jr	Rider	NJ	33-4	92-23
8. Brandon Womack (13)	So	Cornell	AI	34-11	47-18

**174**

1. Mark Hall (5)	Fr	Penn State	MN	31-3	31-3
2. Bo Jordan (3)	R-Jr	Ohio State	OH	18-2	61-7
3. Zahid Valencia (1)	R-Fr	Arizona State	CA	38-1	38-1
4. Myles Amine (9)	R-Fr	Michigan	MI	31-7	31-7
5. Brian Realbuto (2)	Sr	Cornell	NY	27-3	119-19
6. Zac Brunson (10)	R-Sr	Illinois	OR	32-11	107-40
7. Kyle Crutchmer (7)	Sr	Oklahoma State	OK	23-7	80-25
8. Jake Residori (US)	R-Sr	SIU-Edwardsville	IL	24-14	93-47

(\*US = Unseeded)

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**184**

1. Bo Nickal (2)	R-So	Penn State	TX	26-1	59-3
2. Gabe Dean (1)	Sr	Cornell	MI	34-1	151-7
3. TJ Dudley (7)	R-Sr	Nebraska	SC	33-5	114-31
4. Sammy Brooks (3)	R-Sr	Iowa	IL	28-4	102-24
5. Myles Martin (6)	So	Ohio State	NJ	32-9	65-15
6. Nolan Boyd (4)	R-Sr	Oklahoma State	OK	24-7	112-37
7. Drew Foster (12)	R-So	Northern Iowa	IA	26-6	41-24
8. Nathan Jackson (9)	R-Sr	Indiana	IL	33-6	101-35

**197**

1. J'den Cox (1)	R-Sr	Missouri	MO	28-0	136-5
2. Brett Pfarr (2)	R-Sr	Minnesota	MN	31-3	120-22
3. Kollin Moore (3)	R-Fr	Ohio State	OH	33-4	33-4
4. Jared Haught (4)	Jr	Virginia Tech	WV	28-4	67-32
5. Aaron Studebaker (7)	R-Sr	Nebraska	NE	33-10	112-38
6. Preston Weigel (6)	R-So	Oklahoma State	KS	22-8	41-19
7. Ryan Wolfe (8)	Sr	Rider	DE	24-6	78-32
8. Kevin Beazley (10)	R-Jr	Old Dominion	MI	25-8	70-39

**285**

1. Kyle Snyder (1)	Jr	Ohio State	MD	17-0	58-4
2. Connor Medbery (2)	R-Sr	Wisconsin	CO	29-2	111-24
3. Tanner Hall (7)	So	Arizona State	ID	35-6	61-18
4. Ty Walz (3)	R-Sr	Virginia Tech	OH	26-4	109-30
5. Nick Nevills (5)	R-So	Penn State	CA	25-5	31-8
6. Jacob Kasper (4)	R-Jr	Duke	OH	30-6	69-34
7. Michael Kroells (8)	R-Sr	Minnesota	MN	31-11	119-44
8. Denzel Dejournette (9)	Sr	Appalachian State	NC	30-9	109-36

## STAT NOTES

### Team Race

With the announcement the day before the tournament began that Penn State's outstanding freshman Nick Suriano, at 125, would not compete due to injury, it was assumed by many fans the team race would be tight between Penn State, Ohio State, and Oklahoma State. However, the Penn State wrestlers exceeded all expectations and removed all doubt by winning 35 of their 41 matches and scoring bonus points in 21 of them (32.5 total bonus points), and were assured of the team championship before the finals. During the finals the Nittany Lions won all five of their championship matches, and pulled away from second place Ohio State 146.5 to 110. Only two other schools have crowned five champions in tournament history: Iowa (1986 and 1997) and Oklahoma State (2005). The Lions are the first to win five with all underclassmen. In winning their sixth team championship in seven years, the Lions also won the 11<sup>th</sup> straight team title for the Big 10 Conference.

### Dynasty at Happy Valley?

It is clear that **Coach Cael Sanderson** has built the Penn State Nittany Lions into a dominant wrestling dynasty comparable with **Coach Dan Gable's** Iowa Hawkeye teams of the 1980's and 1990's. Penn State's seventh team championship ties them with Oklahoma for team titles, with Iowa State's eight titles within striking distance - Iowa (23) and Oklahoma State (34) are far off. The career parallels between the two coaches are obvious: both multiple NCAA Championships at Iowa State; both Olympic Gold medalists; and both coaches of highly successful college programs. Dan Gable won 15 NCAA tournament team titles and coached 45 Champions in his 21 years as coach at Iowa. So far, Cael Sanderson has recorded 6 team titles and coached 18 NCAA Champions (16 at Penn State) in his 11 years as head coach (3 at Iowa State, 8 at Penn State).

Can any team stop Penn State's run next year? The Lions return all five champions and additional All-American Nick Nevills at 285, and graduate only one senior from their starting lineup. Four of the returning Lion champs are freshmen and sophomores. Throw in a healthy Nick Suriano and they appear unbeatable next season – and beyond (with top notch recruits already signed). Ohio State and Oklahoma State will be in the mix as they return six and five All-Americans respectively.

### THE NCAA CHAMPIONS

**125 – Darian Cruz, Junior, Lehigh.** Darian became the 22<sup>nd</sup> National Champion in Mountain Hawk history (28 individual Championships), and **Coach Pat Santoro's** 2<sup>nd</sup> Champion (last **Zach Rey**/2011/285). Darian and his finals opponent, **Ethan Lizak** of Minnesota, both hail from Allentown, in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley and wrestled at PIAA District 11 high school schools: Cruz at Bethlehem Catholic and Lizak at Parkland. They wrestled in youth league, but never in high school. Lizak defeated Cruz earlier this season 8-0 at the Southern Scuffle. This is believed to have been the first ever District 11 final at the NCAA Division I Tournament. In high school, Darian was a 2X AA State Champion and 3X placer (2013/1<sup>st</sup>/120, 2012/1<sup>st</sup>/106, 2011/3<sup>rd</sup>/103). He had a career record of 153-8, was a 2X Beast of the East Champion and 4X placer. He also placed in the top three twice at the Ironman. Darian's older brother, senior Randy, was a qualifier at this tournament and was an All-American last year in New York (2016/8<sup>th</sup>/141).

## 2017 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships

**133 – Cory Clark, Senior, Iowa.** Cory became the 54<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion in school history (82 Championships). After finishing runner-up for the last two years, Cory finally claimed his first title in his last college match. He is the first Iowa Champ since 2014 (**Tony Ramos/133**). Cory also became the 19<sup>th</sup> 4X All-American in Hawkeye history (2016/2<sup>nd</sup>/133, 2015/2<sup>nd</sup>/133, 2014/5<sup>th</sup>/125). He is **Coach Tom Brands** 10<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion (and 55 All-Americans). Cory was a 3X placer at the Midlands Tournament (2015/1<sup>st</sup>, 2014/6<sup>th</sup>, 2013/4<sup>th</sup>). He gutted out this season with two serious injuries: torn wrist ligaments and a separated shoulder and missed a lot of matches. Cory hails from Pleasant Hill, Iowa, where he was a 4X State Champion (2012/126, 2011/119, 2010/112, 2009/103) at Southeast Polk High School, where he set school records for wins and pins.

**141 – Dean Heil, Junior, Oklahoma State.** Dean became the Cowboys 85<sup>th</sup> individual Champion in 2016. By repeating this year he claimed the 142<sup>nd</sup> individual championship in school history. He became a 3X All-American (2015/4<sup>th</sup>), and also won his third straight Big 12 Championship. Dean ends the season with a 41 match win streak and is the 39<sup>th</sup> Cowboy to win multiple titles. With seven teammates also placing at this tournament, the Cowboys have totaled 458 All-Americans in school history. **Coach John Smith** completed his 25<sup>th</sup> season at the helm with impressive numbers of 32 Champions and 125 All-Americans. Dean hails from Brunswick, Ohio where he was a 4X State Champion at St. Edward High School, compiling a career record of 126-7. He was the 2011 Walsh Ironman Champ, a 4X Disney Duals Gold medalist and named the 2013 Ohio High School State MVP. Wrestling is in his genes as his father Michael wrestled for John Carol University.

**149 – Zain Retherford, Junior, Penn State.** Last year Zain became the 25<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion for the Nittany Lions. At this tournament he claimed the Lions 33<sup>rd</sup> Championship. He also became a 3X All-American (2014/3<sup>rd</sup>/141). For the second season in a row Zain received the Most Dominant Wrestler of the Year Award, in addition to being named the Outstanding Wrestler of the 2017 tournament. Zain's 28 team points was the highest of the 329 competitors at this tournament. His record for his two titles is: 4 pins, 5 tech falls and 1 major decision. Last season, he was named the InterMat and Big 10 Wrestler of the Year. Next season he will try to become the second 3X NCAA Champion for the Lions (**Ed Ruth**, 2012/13/14). Zain hails from Benton, PA. He was a State Champ (2010/103) and 3<sup>rd</sup> placer (2011/112) at Line Mountain High School, before transferring to Benton High School and sitting out the 2011/12 season due to transfer rules. He then claimed the 138 title in 2013 for Benton. He completed his three-year high school career with a record of 130-3. In the summer after his senior season he won a World Freestyle Championship.

**157 – Jason Nolf, Sophomore, Penn State.** Jason is the 26<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion for Penn State (34 Championships). He was the runner-up last season as a freshman. He was named 2016 Big 10 and InterMat Freshman of the Year. Jason is from Yatesboro, PA and wrestled at Kittanning High School where he was a 3X AA State Champion and 4X placer (2014/1<sup>st</sup>/145, 2013/1<sup>st</sup>/132, 2012/3<sup>rd</sup>/113, 2011/1<sup>st</sup>/103), with a career record of 176-1. He also lettered in track and X-Country. While maintaining a 4.5 GPA, he won his school's Physics Award and Principal's Award. At Penn State his Major is Kinesiology.

## 2017 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships

**165 – Vincenzo Joseph, Freshman, Penn State.** Vincenzo became the 27<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion for the Nittany Lions (35 Championships). He pulled off the biggest upset of the tournament by pinning 2X NCAA Champion **Isaiah Martinez** in the third period (after having lost twice to Martinez this season). Vincenzo is the first red-shirt Champion in school history. He hails from Pittsburgh, PA, where he was a 2X AAA State Champion for Pittsburgh Central Catholic (2015/152, 2014/138), and a 4X placer (2013/3<sup>rd</sup>/120, 2012/7<sup>th</sup>/106), with a career record of 136-21. In 2011 he was the Powerade Champ at 106. He was the 2014 Fargo Junior National Freestyle runner-up at 145. Vincenzo also wrestled for the 2015 Dapper Dan and Dream teams. During his red-shirt season he went 11-0, competing in open tournaments.

**174 – Mark Hall, Freshman, Penn State.** The legend of Mark Hall continues, as he became the 28<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion (and first true freshman) for the Nittany Lions (36 Championships). Starting the season as a red-shirt, Mark came out of red-shirt in January and promptly lost his first match (7-5 to Alex Meyer of Iowa). His legendary career began as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade State Champion at Apple Valley High School, MN. He went on to be the first wrestler in state history to win six State Championships, while compiling a career record of 277-4 (189 pins), and finishing with 171 consecutive wins. During his high school career he won just about every tournament he entered including 2X USA UWW Junior National Champ and Outstanding Wrestler Award, 2014 FILA Cadet World Champion, recipient of the 2016 Dave Schultz Excellence Award, and he reached the quarter-finals at the 2016 Olympic team trials.

**184 – Bo Nickal, Sophomore, Penn State.** Bo became the 29<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion for his school (37 Championships). In the marquee match of the 2017 NCAA tournament (as determined by fan votes), Bo defeated 2X Champion Gabe Dean of Cornell, who had a 44 match win streak. With his runner-up finish last season (at 174), he became a 2X All-American. Bo was also named the 2017 Gorriaran Award winner for the most falls in the least amount of time (3 falls in 11:07). Bo is from Allen, TX, where he was a 3X State Champion and 4X finalist, with a career record of 183-7. He wrestled at the Dapper Dan Classic and Dream Team duals and won both matches. Bo has won numerous national and international Freestyle titles. His parents were college athletes. Dad Jason played football at Chadron State, mom Sandy played basketball at San Diego State. Bo's major is Kinesiology.

**197 – J'den Cox, Senior, Missouri.** J'den won his 3<sup>rd</sup> NCAA title (2014/2016, and 2015/5<sup>th</sup>). Two weeks prior to the NCAA's J'den won his 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive MAC Championship. In addition to J'den, Missouri **Coach Brian Smith** has coached three other NCAA Champions for a total of 7 titles. Coach Smith was also awarded the 2017 Coach of the Year trophy. This past summer, J'den won the 2017 Olympic Bronze Medal in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. J'Den hails from Columbia, Missouri, where he attended Hickman High School. He was a 4X State Champion, with a career record of 195-3, the three losses occurring in his freshman season. He also lettered in football. He was the 2012 Fargo Junior National Freestyle Champ at 220, 2011 Fargo Cadet National Greco Roman Champ at 215, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Freestyle. He is majoring in Psychology. J'den is also an accomplished singer, and has sung the National Anthem at football and basketball games. He plans to continue wrestling internationally, and maybe play football.



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**285 – Kyle Snyder, Junior, Ohio State.** Last season Kyle became the 15<sup>th</sup> NCAA Champion in Buckeye history, this year he won their 23<sup>rd</sup> individual Championship. By winning his 2<sup>nd</sup> straight Championship, Kyle became a 3X All-American (2015 runner-up). **Coach Tom Ryan** has coached 6 of those Champions to 10 individual Championships in his 11 years as head coach at OSU. For his 2016 NCAA Championship performance, Kyle received the Outstanding Wrestler Award. Originally from Woodbine, Maryland, where he attended Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, he was an undefeated (179-0) 3X National Prep Champion, 3X Beast of the East Champ, 2X Walsh Ironman Champ, and champion of every tournament he entered, and only gave up one takedown in his high school career. In 2013 he was the FILA Junior World Champion. After foregoing his senior year of high school he trained at the Ohio Regional Training Center, which paid off with his capturing the Gold Medal at the World Championships (97 kg/213 lbs) in September 2015, at age 19, the youngest Champion in U.S. Wrestling history. In 2016, at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics, he again became the youngest American to win an Olympic Gold Medal. Kyle is an Academic All-Big 10 and OSU Scholar-Athlete.

### STAT FACTS

- 10 of the 20 number-one and -two seeds made it to the final. Championships were won by five number-one seeds, one number-two seed, one number-three seed, two number-four seeds, and one number-five seed. Just three unseeded wrestlers became All-Americans. Fourteen wrestlers placed exactly as seeded, including the first four places at 197.
- All 10 number-one seeds entered the tournament with unbeaten records, five completed the season as undefeated champions.
- Eight former champions entered the tournament, only four repeated: **Dean Heil**, **Zain Retherford**, **J'den Cox** and **Kyle Snyder**.
- 57 former All-Americans entered the tournament, 38 repeated, 19 did not.
- Average record of the Champions: 26-1. Average record of all 80 All-Americans 28-5.
- 16 qualifiers entered the tournament with 30 or more wins, just 6 became All-Americans.
- Four 3X All-Americans entered the tournament, all became 4X All-Americans: **Cory Clark**/125/Iowa; **Isaac Jordan**/165/Wisconsin; **Gabe Dean**/184/Cornell; and **J'den Cox**/197/Missouri.
- For the first time in Division I history, two Olympic Medalists competed in the same tournament: **J'den Cox**/Olympic Bronze and **Kyle Snyder**/Olympic Gold.
- The 2018 NCAA tournament will likely have ten NCAA Champions competing. In addition to the eight returning from this tournament, Nathan Tomasello, Ohio State (2015/1<sup>st</sup>/125) and Jason Tsirtsis, Arizona State (2014/1<sup>st</sup>/149 – while at Northwestern) will probably compete.

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- The amazing streak of St. Edward High School, of Lakewood, Ohio continues. For 36 years (since 1982) they have had at least one All-American at the Division I tournament. This year there were two: **Dean Heil**/Oklahoma State/1<sup>st</sup> and **Ty Walz**/Virginia Tech/5<sup>th</sup>. There were three additional St. Ed qualifiers entered. Since 1980, St. Ed has had 63 All-Americans.

It is notable every year that most of the young men who become NCAA Champions and All-Americans come from a background of extremely successful High School careers. Multiple State Championships are the norm. However, at this tournament there were seven competitors who never achieved State Champion or National Prep Champion status, but became All-Americans. Their accomplishment should be encouraging to all high school and college wrestlers. The following list shows the All-American, his placement at this tournament, school, highest State finish/s, high school (HS) and state.

133/**Scotty Parker**, 8<sup>th</sup>/Lehigh. 3X State placer (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>), Pennridge HS, PA.  
149/**Kenneth Theobald**, 7<sup>th</sup>/Rutgers. 2X State placer (2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>), Toms River HS, NJ.  
149/**Alex Kocer**, 8<sup>th</sup>/South Dakota State. 1X State placer (4<sup>th</sup>), Wagner HS, SD.  
157/**Chad Walsh**, 7<sup>th</sup>/Rider. 4X State placer (2<sup>nd</sup> as Senior), Cherry Hill HS, NJ.  
184/**Drew Foster**, 7<sup>th</sup>/Northern Iowa. 3X State placer (2<sup>nd</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>), Mediapolis HS, IA.  
285/**Jacob Kasper**, 6<sup>th</sup>/Duke. 2X State placer (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>), Lexington HS, OH.  
285/**Denzel Dejournette**, 8<sup>th</sup>/Appalachian State. 2X State placer (2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>), Reynolds HS, NC.

### NEXT YEAR

50 All-Americans, from this tournament, will be back next season. Placers by class:  
30 Seniors, 16 Juniors, 20 Sophomores, and 14 Freshmen.

Eight schools return four or more point scorers from this tournament next season, listed with points scored at this tournament:

8 each – Ohio State (110)  
7 each – Penn State (142)  
6 each – Oklahoma State (85), Minnesota (38.5)  
5 each – Arizona State (39)  
4 each – Iowa (38.5), Missouri (46.5), Virginia Tech (27.5)

## **NCAA Division I Wrestling Conferences and Schools**

**(8 Conferences, 76 Schools)**

**ACC** (Atlantic Coast Conference): Duke, North Carolina, North Carolina State, Pittsburgh, Virginia, Virginia Tech (6 Schools)

**BIG 10**: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue, Rutgers, Wisconsin (14 Schools)

**BIG 12**: Air Force, Iowa State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, North Dakota State, Northern Colorado, South Dakota State, Utah Valley, West Virginia, Wyoming (10 Schools)

**EIWA** (Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association): American, Army, Binghamton, Brown, Bucknell, Columbia, Cornell, Drexel, Franklin & Marshall, Harvard, Hofstra, Lehigh, Navy, Penn, Princeton, Sacred Heart (16 Schools)

**EWL** (Eastern Wrestling League): Bloomsburg, Clarion, Cleveland State, Edinboro, George Mason, Lock Haven, Rider (7 Schools)

**MAC** (Mid-American Conference): Buffalo, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Kent State, Missouri, Northern Illinois, Northern Iowa, Ohio University, Old Dominion (9 Schools)

**PAC 12** (Pacific Athletic Conference): Arizona State, Boise State, Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo, Cal State-Bakersfield, Oregon State, Stanford (6 Schools)

**SC** (Southern Conference): Appalachian State, Campbell, Tenn-Chattanooga, Davidson, Gardner-Webb, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, The Citadel, Virginia Military Institute (8 Schools)