For Immediate Release \\ Monday, March 4, 2019 **Contact** \ Dave Hirsch (dhirsch@pac-12.org)

ARIZONA STATE HOSTS 2019 PAC-12 WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 57th-annual Pac-12 Wrestling Championships will be held on Saturday, March 9 at Wells Fargo Arena, hosted by Arizona State University. All five teams bring a wealth of tough competition to the table, led by defending Pac-12 Champion ARIZONA STATE. Depending on which ranking service you cite, three Pac-12 teams are among the nation's Top 25. The National Wrestling Coaches Assocation poll puts STANFORD at No. 24, while InterMat includes No. 17 Arizona State and No. 18 OREGON STATE. At least one Pac-12 wrestler is ranked in the InterMat's Top 20 for all but two weight classes. The Pac-12 features four wrestlers ranked among the top five in their respective weight classes: No. 4 Ronnie Bresser (125), Oregon State; No. 4 Josh Shields (165), Arizona State; No. 3 Zahid Valenica (174), Arizona State; No. 4 Amar Dhesi (HWT), Oregon State. The first and second rounds, plus the consolation semifinals, will be streamed live on Pac-12.com. The championship rounds, which begin at 6 p.m. PT, will be televised live on Pac-12 Networks.

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	0	verall			Pa	ac-12		
	W	L	Т	PCT.	W	L	Τ	PCT.
Stanford	9	4	0	.692	3	1	0	.750
Arizona State	6	10	0	.375	3	1	0	.750
CSU Bakersfield	7	9	0	.438	2	2	0	.500
Oregon State	5	8	0	.385	2	2	0	.500
Cal Poly	0	9	0	.000	0	4	0	.000

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, March 9

Session I of Pac-12 Wrestling Championships

First and Second Rounds

10:00 a.m. Doors Open 11:00 a.m. Round 1 11:50 a.m. Round 2

Break - Arena cleared 2 p.m.

Session II of Pac-12 Wrestling Championships

Consolation semifinals, Championship Round

4:00 p.m. Doors Reopen 5:00 p.m. Round 3 6:45 p.m. Grand March

7:05 p.m. Championship Round (live on P12N)

(awards given shortly after each event)

Estimated start of team awards presentation 9:07 p.m.

TOURNAMENT FIELD

There will be five institutions competing for the Conference Championship: Arizona State, Cal Poly, CSU Bakersfield, Oregon State, and Stanford.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the 2019 Pac-12 Wrestling Championships are available through the Arizona State Ticket Office at 480-727-0000.

TYPE	Price
All-session Adult	\$30
All-session Student/Youth/Senior	\$20
Single-session Adult	\$20
Single-session Student/Youth/Senior	\$15
Group General Admission	\$10
Students General Admission	\$5

COVERAGE

The first and second rounds, plus the consolation semifinals, will be streamed live on Pac-12.com. The finals will be televised live on Pac-12 Networks with the broadcast beginning at 7 p.m. MT. Live results will be available after each match on the 2019 Pac-12 Wrestling Championships website: pac-12.com/ wrestlingchamps

NATIONAL RANKINGS

NWCA/USA TODAY DIVISION I TOP-25

Feb. 26, 2019

Rank	School	W-L	Points
1	Penn State (12)	14-0	400
2	Oklahoma State	15-0	384
3	Iowa	14-1	357
4	Michigan	13-1	357
5	Missouri	16-1	337
6	Ohio State	12-2	325
7	Nebraska	12-5	298
8	Minnesota	14-3	283
9	Cornell	13-3	274
10	NC State	16-3	260
11	Wyoming	16-4	236
12	North Carolina	12-7	203
13	Virginia Tech	9-5	202
14	Northern Iowa	7-5	195
15	Iowa State	10-4	178
16	Pittsburgh	13-3	174
17	Wisconsin	9-6	149
18	Rutgers	12-6	133
19	Princeton	9-6	112
20	Lehigh	9-9	94
21	Lock Haven	10-3	81
22	Virginia	12-10	54
23	Army West Point	8-3	51
24	STANFORD	9-4	20
25	Purdue	7-10	18

INTERMAT DIVISION I TOP-25 TOURNAMENT RANKINGS

Feb. 26, 2019

Rank	School	Points
1	Penn State (12)	151
2	Ohio State	107.5
3	Oklahoma State	97
4	lowa	89.5
5	Michigan	84.5
6	Minnesota	56.5
7	Nebraska	55.5
8	Cornell	55
9	Missouri	53
10	NC State	48
11	Northwestern	43
12	Lehigh	40.5
13	Rutgers	39.5
14	Virginia Tech	37.5
15	Princeton	35.5
16	Wisconsin	35
17	ARIZONA STATE	34
18	OREGON STATE	28
19	Illinois	24.5
20	Northern Iowa	22.5
21	Iowa State	22
22	Lock Haven	21
23	Pittsburgh	20.5
24	Virginia	16.5
25	North Carolina	16

PAC-12 WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS PREVIEW

ARIZONA STATE

The Sun Devils will look to defend their Pac-12 title and make it three straight Conference titles for the first time since winning seven in a row from 1985-91. The Sun Devils had six individuals finish atop the podium at last year's Pac-12 Championship. Arizona State's squad is anchored by redshirt junior **Zahid Valencia**, All-American and the defending NCAA champion at 174. Valencia is 24-2 this season and 94-3 in three seasons. Redshirt junior, and defending Pac-12 champion, **Josh Shields** (157) paces the Sun Devils with a 25-3 record this season and nine major decisions. Shields, currently ranked No. 4, has won 14 straight bouts. The Sun Devils were and still remain the only team west of the Rockies to win a NCAA title in wrestling.

CAL POLY

Cal Poly is seeking its first-ever Pac-12 championship. Gone is Colton Schilling, who won last year's title at 141 to become the first Mustang to claim in individual title in five years. The Mustangs will look to **Tom Lane** to lead them at this year's Championships. Lane, a junior, has posted a record of 18-10 this season and has won five of his last seven bouts. The two setbacks came against ranked foes (No. 13 Josh Hokit of Fresno State and No. 12 Nathan Traxler of Stanford).

CSU BAKERSFIELD

The Roadrunners enter the Pac-12 Championship behind a pair of 20-win wrestlers in redshirt senior **Sean Nickell** (133) and redshirt sophomore **Dominic Ducharme** (184). Nickell, ranked No. 16, is 23-8 this season and has won eight of his last nine bouts. His lone setback a 10-9 decision to No. 12 Montorie Bridges of Wyoming. Ducharme is 22-11, and like Nickell has won eight of his last night bouts, dropping a 4-0 decision to No. 19 Tate Samuelson of Wyoming. CSUB owns two Conference titles (1996, 1999).

OREGON STATE

The Beavers pace the Pac-12 with 23 league crowns. Leading the way for Oregon State are a pair of ranked redshirt seniors in **Ronnie Bresser** (125) and **Amarveer Dhesi** (HWT), who are both currently ranked No. 4 in the country in their respective weight class. Bresser has won his last 13 bouts and is 21-1 this season, with a career record of 111-23. Dhesi, who claimed All-America status with a third-place finish at last year's NCAA Championships, has won eight in a row. He represented Canada at the World Championships in October.

STANFORD

The Cardinal roster finds six wrestlers who have posted 20 wins this season, led by redshirt sophomore **Nathan Traxler** (197) with a 26-5 record. Three Cardinal find themselves nationally-ranked in their weight class - No. 20 **Gabe Townsell** (133), No. 15 **Require van der Merwe** (149), and No. 12 Traxler (197). Redshirt senior **Paul Fox** (157) took top honors at the Reno Tournament of Championships this season on the way to a 20-8 record, and is 94-40 in his career.

2019 NCAA WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The NCAA Championships will take place March 21-23 at PPG Paints Arena - Pittsburgh, Pa. A total of 330 of the nation's best wrestlers will compete at the NCAA Championships. Of those 330, 290 will be determined via automatic qualification. The remaining 40 spots will be selected at-large by the NCAA Division I Wrestling Committee. Additional at-large selections will be announced on Wednesday, March 13 at 6 p.m. ET (NCAA. com). The Championship will be carried on either ESPNU or ESPN.

Thursday, March 21	Session 1	12 noon ET/ESPNU
Thursday, March 21	Session 2	7 p.m. ET/ESPN
Friday, March 22	Session 3	11 a.m. ET/ESPNU
Friday, March 22	Session 4	8 p.m. ET/ESPN
Saturday, March 23	Session 5	11 a.m. ET/ESPNU
Saturday, March 23	Session 6	7 p.m. ET/ESPN



WRESTLING RANKINGS

PAC-12 COACHES RANKINGS

The Pac-12 coaches' panel ranks the top-six wrestlers in each weight class on a weekly basis. The rankings from Feb. 22, 2019 are listed below.

125 POUNDS

- 1. Ronnie Bresser, Oregon State
- 2. Gabe Townsell, Stanford
- 3. Brandon Courtney, Arizona State
- 4. Ben Martinez, Cal Poly
- 5. Eddie Flores, CSUB

133 POUNDS

- 1. Sean Nickell, CSUB
- 2. Mason Pengilly, Stanford
- 3. Josiah Kline, Arizona State
- 4. Kegan Calkins, Oregon State
- 5. Yoshito Funakoshi, Cal Poly

141 POUNDS

- 1. Grant Willits, Oregon State
- 2. Cory Crooks, Arizona State
- 3. Carlos Herrera, CSUB
- 4. Brandon Keir, Stanford
- 5. Wyatt Cornelison, Cal Poly

149 POUNDS

- 1. Require Van Der Mewre, Stanford
- 2. Josh Maruca, Arizona State
- 3. Russell Rohlfing, CSUB
- 4. Jose Reyes, Oregon State
- 5. Ty Schilling, Cal Poly

157 POUNDS

- 1. Christian Pagdilao, Arizona State
- 2. Hunter Willits, Oregon State
- 3. Paul Fox, Stanford
- 4. Brawley Lamar, Cal Poly
- 5. Wyatt Gerl, CSUB

165 POUNDS

- 1. Josh Shields, Arizona State
- 2. Dominick Mandarino, Stanford
- 3. Aaron Olmos, Oregon State
- 4. Jacob Thalin, CSUB
- 5. Dylan Miracle, Cal Poly

174 POUNDS

- 1. Zahid Valenica, Arizona State
- 2. Bryan Battisto, CSUB
- 3. Rico Stormer, Stanford
- 4. Colt Doyle, Oregon State
- 5. Nathan Tausch, Cal Poly

184 POUNDS

- 1. Dominic Ducharme, CSUB
- 2. Jacen Petersen, Arizona State
- 3. Bob Coleman, Oregon State
- 4. Colbey Harlan, Stanford
- 5. Willem DeBoer, Cal Poly

197 POUNDS

- 1. Nathan Traxler, Stanford
- 2. Tom Lane. Cal Poly
- 3. Mark Penyacsek, CSUB
- 4. Jamarcus Grant, Oregon State
- 5. Austyn Harris, Arizona State

HEAVYWEIGHT

- 1. Amarveer Deshi, Oregon State
- 4. Jarrod Snyder, CSUB
- 2. Haydn Maley, Stanford
- 3. Brady Daniel. Arizona State
- 5. Samuel Aguilar, Cal Poly

PAC-12 IN THE **INTERMAT TOP-20**

(as of Feb. 26, 2019)

125 POUNDS

- Sebastian Rivera, Northwestern
- Ronnie Bresser, Oregon State
- 20. Gabe Townsell, Stanford

133 POUNDS

- Stevan Micic, Michigan Sean Nickell, CSU Bakersfield

141 POUNDS

Yianni Diakomihalis. Cornell

149 POUNDS

- Anthony Ashnault, Rutgers
- Requir van der Merwe, Stanford

157 POUNDS

- Jason Nolf, Penn State
- 14. Christian Pagdilao, Arizona State

165 POUNDS

- Vincenzo Joseph, Penn State
- Josh Shields, Arizona State

174 POUNDS

- Mark Hall. Penn State
- Zahid Valencia, Arizona State

184 POUNDS

Myles Martin, Ohio State

197 POUNDS

- Bo Nickal. Penn State
- 12. Nathan Traxler, Stanford

HEAVYWEIGHT

- Gable Steveson, Minnesota
- Amar Dhesi, Oregon State

2019 PAC-12 WRESTLERS OF THE WEEK

- Jan. 9 Nathan Traxler, 195, Stanford
- Jan. 16 Ronnie Bresser, 125 Oregon State
- Jan. 23 Josh Maruca, 149, Arizona State
- Jan. 30 Sean Nickell, 133, CSU Bakersfield Feb. 6 - Gabriel Townsell. 125. Stanford
- Feb. 13 Dominic Ducharme, 184, CSU Bakersfield
- Feb. 20 Rick Stormer, 174, Stanford
- Feb. 27 Nathan Traxler, 195, Stanford

SID CONTACT INFORMATION

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STANFORD (gostanford.com) Regina Verlengiere rverleng@stanford.edu 650-723-0996

2018 PAC-12 CHAMPIONSHIPS RECAP

ARIZONA STATE successfully defended its Pac-12 crown, capturing its 18th Pac-12 title at the 2018 Pac-12 Wrestling Championships. The ninth-ranked Sun Devils posted 96.0 points behind six individual Pac-12 champions - Ali Naser (133), Jason Tsirtis (149), Josh Shields (157), Anthony Valencia (165), Zahid Valencia (174) and Kendall Norfleet (184). CSU BAKERSFIELD's Sergio Mendez (125) was honored with the most falls at the Pac-12 Championships, while OREGON STATE's Amar Dhesi (285) was named the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Championships. OREGON STATE, host of the Championships, finished runner-up with 70.0 points. CSU Bakersfield finished third with 52.5 points, followed by STANFORD with 47.5 points and CAL POLY with 37.0 points.

Pac-12 Wrestler of the Year Zahid Valencia became the first Pac-12 wrestler since 2011 to earn a national title. Valencia avenged a semifinal loss in last year's championships to Penn State's Mark Hall by dominating Hall with a 8-2 decision in this year's championship bout. Behind Valencia and All-Americans Jason Tsirtis (7th at 149) and Josh Shields (7th at 157), the Sun Devils placed 10th at the NCAA Championships. Teammate Kordell Norfleet was tabbed Pac-12 Freshman/Newcomer of the Year. Arizona State's **Zeke Jones** repeated as Coach of the Year. In addition to the three Sun Devils, Oregon State's Amar Dhesi earned All-America recognition with his third-place finish at the NCAA Championships.

2018 PAC-12 CONFERENCE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS (56th Annual)

Feb. 25 - Gill Coliseum, Crovallis, Ore. (Host: Oregon State University)

IEA	M KESULIS	
1.	Arizona State	96.0
2.	Oregon State	70.0
	CSU Bakersfield	
4.	Stanford	47.5
5	Cal Poly	37.0

INDIVIDUAL SCORERS

- 4 4 B - 6 1 11 T 6

125 Pounds

Championship

Ronnie Bresser (OSU) Def. Ryan Millhof (ASU), D; 3-2

Third Place

Sergio Mendez (CSUB) Def. Gabe Townsell (STAN), F; 2:16

133 Pounds

Championship

Ali Naser (ASU) D Mason Pengilly (STAN), D; 8-3

Third Place

Sean Nickell (CSUB) Def. Devan Turner (OSU), D; 6-3

141 Pounds

Championship

Colt Schilling (CP) Def. Russell Rohlfing (CSUB), MD; 15-6

Third Place

Jack Hathaway (OSU) Def. Nikko Villarreal (ASU), D; 6-0

149 Pounds

Championship

Jason Tsirtis (ASU) Def. Josh Cortez (CP), D; 3-2

Third Place

Josh Reyes (OSU) Def. Jake Barry (STAN), D; 11-5

157 Pounds

Championship

Josh Shields (ASU) Def. Hunter Willits (OSU), D; 10-2

Third Place

Paul Fox (STAN) Def. Coleman Hammond (CSUB), D; 8-5

165 Pounds

Championship

Anthony Valencia (ASU) Def. Lorenzo De La Riva (CSUB), F; 6:11

Third Place

Jared Hill (STAN) Def. Rodney Williams (OSU), D; 10-9

174 Pounds

Championship

Zahid Valencia (ASU) Def. Keaton Subjeck (STAN), MD; 15-7

Third Place

Myles Terry (OSU) Def. Bryan Battisto (CSUB), D; 2-1

184 Pounds

Championship

Kordell Norfleet (ASU) Def. Matt Wilhelm (CP), D; 9-4

Third Place

Dom Ducharme (CSUB) Def. Bob Coleman (OSU), MD; 14-10

197 Pounds

Championship

Corey Griego (OSU) Def. Matt Williams (CSUB), D; 11-5

Third Place

Nathan Traxler (STAN) Def. Tom Lane (CP), D; 9-3

285 Pounds

Championship

Amar Dhesi (OSU) Def. Nathan Butler (STAN), D; 11-2

Third Place

Tanner Hall (ASU) Def. Spencer Empey (CP), F; 4:33

2018 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS (88th Annual) March 15-17 – Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Ohio

TEAM RESULTS (Champion and Pac-12 teams)

1.	Penn State	141.5
10.	ARIZONA STATE	43.0
21.	OREGON STATE	26.0
33.	CSU BAKERSFIELD	9.5
34.	STANFORD	8.5
62.	CAL POLY	0.5

2018 PAC-12 ALL-AMERICANS

Jason Tsirtis, Arizona StateJosh Shields, Arizona State

174 Zahid Valencia, Arizona State

285 Amar Dhesi, Oregon State

2018 PAC-12 WRESTLER OF THE YEAR: Zahid Valencia, Arizona State
2018 PAC-12 FRESHMAN/NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR: Kordell Norfleet, Arizona State
2018 PAC-12 COACH OF THE YEAR: Zeke Jones, Arizona State
2018 PAC-12 SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR: Nathan Butler, Stanford



PAC-12 WRESTLING HISTORY

ALL-TIME PAC-12 CHAMPIONS

		YEAR 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018	TEAM Washington State UCLA Oregon State Washington Oregon State Washington Oregon State Arizona State Oregon State Arizona State CSU Bakersfield Arizona State CSU Bakersfield Arizona State CSU Bakersfield Boise State Arizona State CSU Bakersfield Boise State Arizona State Oregon State
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NCAA Division I Team Champions

1988 Arizona State

NCAA Division II Team Champions

1966	Cal Poly
1968	Cal Poly
1969	Cal Poly
1970	Cal Poly
1971	Cal Poly
1972	Cal Poly
1973	Cal Poly
1974	Cal Poly
1976	CSU Bakersfield
1977	CSU Bakersfield
1979	CSU Bakersfield
1980	CSU Bakersfield
1981	CSU Bakersfield
1982	CSU Bakersfield
1983	CSU Bakersfield

1983	CSU Bakersfield		
NCAA	Division I Individua	I Champions	
Curley C Eddie Ui Dan St Dan St Markus Ray Mille Markus Eric Lark Anthony Bubba J	Mollica, ASU	HWT 150 158 167 158 167 167 149 125 157	1967 1985 1989 1990 1993 1993 2003 2011 2011 2018
Don Con Jess Lew Jess Lew Roger W Greg Stru Greg Stru Larry Bie Dan Hicl Howard Les Guto	vis, OSU leigel, OSU obel, OSU obel, OSU elenberg, OSU ks, OSU	167 HWT HWT 134 190 190 HWT 142 142 HWT 177	1961 1969 1970 1971 1973 1974 1975 1978 1979 1980 1995
Stanford Matt Ger	I (1) ntry, STAN 157 2004		
Joe Gon: John Aze Dan Cue Dan Cue Adam Cu Jesse Re Paul Key Stephen	kersfield (9) zales, CSUB evedo CSUB estas, CSUB uestas, CSUB eyes, CSUB eyes, CSUB Neal, CSUB	118 126 126 126 118 142 190 HWT	1980 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1991 1998
Cal Poly Tom Klin Mark Di		191 118	1969 1976