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Bulldogs Host Chattanooga in SoCon Opener Thursday

Charleston, S.C. – The Citadel will host Chattanooga on Thursday night at McAlister Field House at 6 p.m. in Southern Conference wrestling action.

The Bulldogs (1-2) enter the dual after breaking for exams. The Citadel participated in the Penn State Open on Dec. 6 in State College, Pa. Odie Delaney took fifth place at 197, while Tyler Sim placed seventh at 125. The Cadets have also participated in The Citadel Open (placing five), the Michigan State Open (placing six with one champion) and the NC State Open (placing eight with one champion). This will mark the fourth dual for the Bulldogs this season. They narrowly fell to NC State on Nov. 7, 21-18. Two weeks ago, they split at the Ohio Duals. The Citadel fell to the host Bobcats, 32-3, but rebounded by defeating Cleveland State, 24-13. The Bulldogs are ranked in the top ten nationally in Division I in pins with 54.

“It was good for the entire roster to compete at the Penn State Open,” said Head Coach Rob Hjerling. “We did okay considering we were a little banged up with some of our starters. I feel like our schedule so far has been good preparation for conference play. The group that we have this season features a bunch of competitors. The only thing we need to focus on is getting better and being consistent. We are looking forward to competing with Chattanooga to open conference action.”

The Mocs (5-5) have won the conference for the last five seasons and their last competition came in the end of November when they participated in the Indiana Duals. They went 3-2 in action there, defeating South Dakota State, Cumberlands and Liberty and falling to Indiana and Northern Illinois. UTC has also participated in the NC State Open and the Hokie Open. They opened the season dropping a pair of duals to Kent State and Virginia Tech before returning home for the first time this season to take down Gardner-Webb and Anderson. They fell in dual action at Central Michigan in mid-November as well.

This dual will mark the 18th meeting between these two squads. Chattanooga leads the all-time series 15-2. Last season, the Mocs downed the Bulldogs 29-15 in Chattanooga, Tenn. The Bulldogs last beat UTC in the 2003-2004 season en route to an undefeated SoCon record and conference championship.

The dual will be streamed live via CitadelSports.com. A recap and full results will be available at the conclusion of the dual. For more information on Bulldog wrestling and all Citadel sports, visit the official website at www.CitadelSports.com.