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Bulldogs Finish Third at All-Academy Championships, Place Seven Wrestlers

Annapolis, Md. – The Citadel wrestling team finished third at the 16th annual All-Academy Championships on Saturday in front of a limited crowd that braved the more than 20 inches of snow that blasted the Eastern seaboard.

Navy hosted the annual event that featured all of the regular military schools with the exception of Army, who opted out of competing at any athletic events in the Annapolis area over the weekend. The Bulldogs featured seven placers, including a champion, on their way to a third place team finish. Air Force narrowly beat out The Citadel for second place, while the host Midshipmen ran away with the tournament.

Odie Delaney earned the heavyweight crown after he pulled the upset of VMI's Josh Wine in the semifinals. Wine beat Delaney earlier this year in the two teams' dual meet in Charleston. The Keydets heavyweight is the two-time defending SoCon champion and NCAA qualifier and was undefeated this year at 16-0 and ranked nationally before Delaney earned a 3-0 decision behind a takedown in the second period. Delaney earned the crown when Navy's top-seeded Scott Steele forfeited the final due to injury.

Other notable performances for the Bulldogs included second place finishes by Derek Royster at 149 and J.C. Oddo at 174 pounds, who both went 2-1 on the day. Third place champions included Jordan Dix at 133, Turtoqtokh Luvsandorj at 157 and Kelby Smith at 184. All three Cadets went 3-1 on the day's action. Nick LaFevre took fourth place at 141 after going 2-2. Richard Alarcon and Justin Sparrow also participated in this year's event.

The Bulldogs had a strong showing overall as they used seven pins, two each by Luvsandorj and Smith, to take an overall team lead after the opening round. Navy came on strong in the semifinals as all 10 weight classes featured a Midshipman wrestler and Air Force used a strong final round to narrowly slip past the Bulldogs to take second place.

The Citadel Results by Weight Class

125: Sam Sheppard (AFA) dec. Richard Alarcon (CIT), 9-5
125: Johnathan Pope (VMI) dec. Richard Alarcon (CIT), 5-4

133: Jordan Dix (CIT) pinned Ian Nisely (MMA), 2:24
133: Derek Gillespie (AFA) maj. dec. Jordan Dix (CIT), 14-4
133: Jordan Dix (CIT) tech. fall. Luke Todd (VMI), 17-0
133: Jordan Dix (CIT) dec. Andrew Armstrong (CGA), 9-2
Dix places third

141: Nick LaFevre (CIT) BYE
141: Matt Pagan (NAV) dec. Nick LaFevre (CIT), 4-1
141: Nick LaFevre (CIT) pinned Garrick Skubon (MMA), 4:26
141: David Yost (VMI) dec. Nick LaFevre, 4-2
LaFevre places fourth

149: Derek Royster (CIT) tech. fall Curtis Hayes (CGA), 16-0; 2:31
149: Derek Royster (CIT) dec. Martin Bell (MMA), 9-3
149: Glen Shober (NAV) dec. Derek Royster (CIT), 8 -3
Royster places second

157: Turtogtokh Luvsandorj (CIT) pinned Darren Stowe (AFA), 4:24
157: Bryce Saddoris (NAV) dec. Turtogtokh Luvsandorj (CIT), 4-1
157: Turtogtokh Luvsandorj (CIT) pinned Adam Edgerton (NOR), 4:44
157: Turtogtokh Luvsandorj (CIT) dec. Joseph Munno (VMI), 14-8
Luvsandorj places third

174: J.C. Oddo (CIT) pinned Will Stark (CGA), 1:25
174: Justin Diesel (MMA) dec. J.C. Oddo (CIT), 5-2
174: Mike Billings (NAV) dec. J.C. Oddo (CIT), 6-4
Oddo places second

184: Kelby Smith (CIT) pinned Vincent Gallo (VMI), 2:48
184: Andrew Buck (NAV) dec. Kelby Smith (CIT), 7-6
184: Kelby Smith (CIT) pinned Dan Pereira (CGA), 4:04
184: Kelby Smith (CIT) dec. Erik Schott (MMA). 10-6
Smith places third

197: Neil Delaney (AFA) dec. Justin Sparrow (CIT), 6-1
197: Ronnie Ellsworth (VMI) dec. Justin Sparrow (CIT), 3-2

HWT: Odie Delaney (CIT) med. forefit Raistlin Delisle (NOR)
HWT: Odie Delaney (CIT) dec. Josh Wine (VMI), 3-0
HWT: Odie Delaney (CIT) forefit win Scott Steele (NAV)
Delaney places first

Team Results

Navy (123.5)
Air Force (74.5)
The Citadel (70)
Merchant Marine (51)
VMI (47.5)
Coast Guard (10)
Norwich (0.5)

The Citadel returns to action on Sunday, Feb. 14 when they return home to McAlister Field House to take on Duke at 2 p.m. For more information on Bulldog Wrestling, go to the official website of The Citadel Athletics, www.CitadelSports.com.