

NATIONAL WRESTLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

NWCA Release

Oklahoma State, Penn State remain atop USA Today/NWCA Coaches Poll as final regular-season weekend approaches

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Manheim, Pennsylvania -- As the last of the Division I unbeatens, Oklahoma State and Penn State remained No. 1 and No. 2 in the most recent USA Today/NWCA Division I Wrestling Coaches Poll released on Monday.

No. 1 Oklahoma State (14-0) will host No. 2 Penn State (13-0) on Sunday, February 19 at Gallagher-Iba Arena in Stillwater, Oklahoma to determine the NWCA National Dual Series Championship. Oklahoma State finished its Big 12 conference season with a 6-0 record, while Penn State won the regular-season championship in the Big Ten, going 9-0 in conference duals.

Iowa (12-2), Ohio State (11-2), Virginia Tech (17-1) and Nebraska (12-3) maintained their positions in the poll from 3-6.

Iowa finished its Big Ten season with wins over Indiana and Nebraska, while Ohio State finished up with road victories over Nebraska and Minnesota. Virginia Tech, which led Division I in dual victories this season, topped NC State to win the ACC regular-season championship and followed it with a win over then-No. 16 South Dakota State.

The biggest upset of the week came in the Mid-American Conference where then-No. 19 Northern

Iowa (11-3) stunned then-No. 7 Missouri 25-10. The win gave the regular-season championship in the MAC to coach Doug Schwab and his Panthers. The loss dropped Missouri (10-4) to No. 10, while NC State (12-2), Cornell (12-2) and Illinois (9-3) each moved up one spot this week.

Next week's poll will be the last of the regular season and will be released on its usual Tuesday morning schedule.

Rank	Team (First)	Record	Points	Conference	Previous
1	Oklahoma State (10)	14-0	394	Big 12	1
2	Penn State (6)	13-0	390	Big Ten	2
3	Iowa	12-2	368	Big Ten	3
4	Ohio State	11-2	352	Big Ten	4
5	Virginia Tech	17-1	335	ACC	5
6	Nebraska	12-3	320	Big Ten	6
7	NC State	12-2	298	ACC	8
8	Cornell	12-2	288	EIWA	9
9	Illinois	9-3	264	Big Ten	10
10	Missouri	10-4	234	MAC	7
11	Lehigh	9-4	233	EIWA	11
12	Rutgers	12-4	221	Big Ten	13
13	Minnesota	6-5	214	Big Ten	12
14	Central Michigan	9-2	179	MAC	15
15	Northern Iowa	11-3	176	MAC	19
16	Michigan	8-6	152	Big Ten	14
17	South Dakota State	13-4	147	Big 12	16
18	Wisconsin	5-5	144	Big Ten	18
19	Oklahoma	10-6	133	Big 12	17
20	Appalachian State	13-2	98	SoCon	20
21	Arizona State	10-4	73	Pac-12	21
22	Stanford	10-3	72	Pac-12	22
23	Edinboro	8-5	46	EWL	23
24	Pittsburgh	8-5	42	ACC	24
25	North Dakota State	14-4	16	Big 12	25

Others Receiving Votes: Bucknell 2, Buffalo 2, Rider 2, **Utah Valley 2**, North Carolina 1

Dropped out: None

The NWCA brings the wrestling coaching community together to advance the sport and ensure that current and future generations have the opportunity to engage in a safe and educationally based wrestling experience. This is primarily done by strengthening existing programs, creating new programs, and providing coaches with progressive educational opportunities.



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