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### **Two Bulldogs advance to day two of 2019 NCAA Wrestling Championships**

*3/21/2019 | Wrestling*

**PITTSBURGH** - Fresno State Wrestling student-athletes [Gary Joint](#) and [Josh Hokit](#) advanced to day two of the 2019 NCAA Wrestling Championships on Friday as each Bulldog tallied one victory apiece on Thursday at PPG Paints Arena.

"There should be some fire behind these guys tomorrow because it is end of the road if you don't win these matches and even if you can't get first, you can still fight to get as high of a place as you can," said head coach [Troy Steiner](#).

Getting the action started on Thursday morning with Session I, the Bulldogs were only able to pick up one win in the session as 16th-seeded Hokit defeated No. 17 seed Stephen Loiseau of Drexel with a pair of takedowns and an escape for a 5-1 win at 197 pounds.

The four other Bulldogs competing at the NCAA Championship suffered opening round losses as redshirt freshman [Gary Joint](#) fell 4-2 to No. 4 seed Mickey Phillippi at 133 pounds.

Redshirt junior and returning NCAA Championships participant [Khristian Olivas](#) dropped a 6-3 decision to No. 12 seed Brady Berge of Penn State at 149 pounds while redshirt freshman [Jackson Hemauer](#) suffered a 8-2 defeat to 10th-seeded Samuel Colbray of Iowa State. Finally, sophomore heavyweight [AJ Nevills](#), the 'Dogs highest-seeded wrestler at No. 14, fell 9-2 to No. 19 seed Brian Andrews of Wyoming.

With only Hokit qualifying for the second round of Thursday's evening session, the junior from Clovis matched up against top-seeded and two-time national champion Bo Nickal of Penn State. Looking to hang with the tough Nittany Lion wrestler, Hokit battled tough, but Nickal was able to turn him for a fall in 2:28.

The Fresno State two-sport athlete will move down to the consolation bracket on Friday morning where he will face No. 31 seed Brett Perry of Buffalo, an opponent he pinned at the Midlands Championships in December.

With the four 'Dogs who lost in Session I down in the consolation bracket, Joint was the lone 'Dog to join Hokit in staying alive for Friday as he knocked off No. 20 seed Brandon Paetzell of Lehigh, 7-4. The Lemoore native built up a 5-0 lead after two periods with a pair of takedowns and an escape and held on for the win and will face No. 14 seed Korbin Myers of Virginia Tech.

Olivas, Hemauer and Nevills were not as fortunate as each saw their tournament and subsequently their seasons come to an end as Olivas fell 3-2 to No. 28 seed Michael Sprague of American, Hemauer was pinned by seventh-seed Nick Rennan of North Carolina State and Nevills bowed out with a 9-5 loss to No. 33 seed Jacob Aven of Purdue.

The Bulldogs will get Session III underway on Friday at 8 a.m. PT with Joint and Hokit looking to stay alive in the consolation bracket.

### **Fresno State 2019 NCAA Wrestling Championship Results**

**133 lbs. - No. 29 seed [Gary Joint, R.Jr. \(18-14 overall\)](#)**  
First Round: No. 4 seed Mickey Phillippi (Pittsburgh) dec. Joint (FS), 4-2  
Consolation: Joint (FS) dec. No. 20 seed Brandon Paetzell (Lehigh), 7-4

**Consolation on Friday in Session III at 8 a.m. PT vs. No. 14 seed [Korbin Myers \(Virginia Tech\)](#)**

**149 lbs. - No. 21 seed [Khristian Olivas, R.Jr. \(finishes season 21-13 overall\)](#)**

First Round: No. 12 seed Brady Berge (Penn State) dec. Olivas (FS), 6-3

Consolation: No. 28 seed Michael Sprague (American) dec. Olivas (FS), 3-2

**184 lbs. - No. 23 seed [Jackson Hemauer, RFr. \(finishes season 23-13 overall\)](#)**

First Round: No. 10 seed Samuel Colbray (Iowa State) dec. Hemauer (FS), 8-2

Consolation: No. 7 seed Nick Rennan (North Carolina State) won by fall over Hemauer (FS), 1:06

**197 lbs. - No. 16 seed [Josh Hokit, Jr. \(22-7 overall record\)](#)**

First Round: Hokit (FS) dec. No. 17 seed Stephen Loiseau (Drexel), 5-1

Second Round: No. 1 seed Bo Nickal (Penn State) won by fall over Hokit (FS), 2:28

***Consolation on Friday in Session III at 8 a.m. PT vs. No. 31 seed Brett Perry (Buffalo)***

**285 lbs. - No. 14 seed [AJ Nevills, So. \(finishes season 24-9 overall\)](#)**

First Round: No. 19 seed Brian Andrews (Wyoming) dec. Nevills (FS), 9-2

Consolation: No. 33 seed Jacob Aven (Purdue) dec. Nevills (FS), 9-5

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