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**Subject:** WRES: Fresno State Wrestling finishes fifth at 2019 Big 12 Championship; five 'Dogs headed to NCAA's  
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**Fresno State Wrestling finishes fifth at 2019 Big 12 Championship; five 'Dogs headed to NCAA's**  
*3/10/2019 | Wrestling*

**TULSA, Okla.** - Highlighted by six Bulldogs with top-six place finishes, the Fresno State wrestling team finished fifth as a team at the 2019 Big 12 Championship on Sunday evening at the BOK Center.

In total, five Bulldogs earned automatic qualifications for the 2019 NCAA Championships in the tournament as redshirt freshman [Gary Joint](#) (133 lbs.) and [Jackson Hemauer](#) (184 lbs.) earned their berths on Sunday. The pair will join [Kristian Olivas](#) (149 lbs.), [Josh Hokit](#) (197 lbs.) and [AJ Nevills](#) (Hwt.) in Pittsburgh on March 21-23.

"It is the guys competing in the room and it is not just these ten guys that are here, but it is the rest of the team back in Fresno that pushes them all the time. It is everyone doing the work everyday and it is such a fun group to coach because of the effort they put into it," said head coach [Troy Steiner](#) on the 'Dogs performance over the weekend.

For a second straight season, Nevills advanced to the Big 12 Championship finals where he had a rematch with last year's opponent, top-seeded Derek White of Oklahoma State. After falling 13-6 a year ago, White was able to widen the margin this year defeating the Clovis native by a technical fall, 20-5.

It was only Nevills' seventh loss of the season as he will enter the NCAA Championships with a 21-7 overall record and 49 wins in his career.

Earlier in the day on Sunday morning, Session III kicked off with five 'Dogs in action in the consolation bracket with hopes to advance to the third place match, but only Hokit was able to come up with a victory pinning fourth-seeded Tanner Orndorff of Utah Valley in 2:54 ([watch](#)). It was the second time this season that Hokit has pinned Orndorff as he also did on Jan. 18 when the pair met at Utah Valley and was his third of the season.

Advancing to the third place match, Hokit took fifth-seeded Jake Woodley of Oklahoma. One of only five opponents to hand Hokit a loss in the regular season, Woodley used a first period takedown and second period escape to offset a pair of escapes from Hokit to deal Hokit a 3-2 setback for fourth place.

Four Bulldogs would compete for fifth place as Joint, Olivas, [Jacob Wright](#) at 157 pounds and Hemauer all were in action.

With Olivas already locking up a bid to the NCAA Championships on Saturday, the redshirt junior unfortunately got injured in his opening consolation match on Sunday and had to medically forfeit near the end of the second period against sixth-seed Davion Jeffries of Oklahoma as the Clovis native went on to finish sixth.

The remaining three Bulldogs delivered in their matches as all three were victorious as wins by both Joint and Hemauer sealed up their bids to the NCAA Championships. With the Big 12 only sending five automatic qualifiers at both 133 and 184 pounds a win was mandatory for an automatic bid for the pair.

Joint registered his fourth major decision of the season with a 8-0 win over unseeded Jack Skudlarczyk of Northern Iowa ([watch](#)) while Wright defeated fifth-seeded Luke Weber of North Dakota State, 7-5 in the second overtime tiebreaker ([watch](#)).

Finally, Hemauer avenged an earlier loss in the tournament to fourth-seeded Tate Samuelson of Wyoming coming through with a 4-2 win over the Cowboy ([watch](#)).

The Bulldogs will now await word on Tuesday afternoon of NCAA

Championship wild cards to see if anymore Bulldogs will join the five who qualified in Tulsa. Complete brackets for the 2019 NCAA Championships will be released on Wednesday at 3 p.m. PT on NCAA.com.

**133 lbs. (5): No. 8 seed [Gary Joint, RFr. \(finishes in fifth place & earns automatic bid to NCAA Championships; 17-13 overall\)](#)**

**Preliminary:** Bye

**Quarterfinals:** No. 1 seed Daton Fix (OSU) dec. Joint (FS), 7-3

**Consolation:** Joint (FS) dec. No. 7 seed John Twomey (AFA), 6-4

**Consolation:** Joint (FS) dec. No. 5 seed Cam Sykora (NDSU), 7-3

**Consolation:** No. 2 seed Austin Gomez (ISU) dec. Joint (FS), 8-1

**Fifth Place:** Joint (FS) maj. dec. Jack Skudlarczyk (UNI), 8-0

**149 (7): No. 5 seed [Khristian Olivas, R Jr. \(finishes in sixth place & earns automatic bid to NCAA Championships; 21-12 overall\)](#)**

**Preliminary:** Olivas (FS) dec. Dante Rodriguez (Northern Colorado), 9-8 TB1

**Quarterfinals:** Olivas (FS) dec. No. 4 seed Christian Monserrat (WVU), 4-2

**Semifinals:** No. 1 seed Kaden Gfeller (OSU) dec. Olivas (FS), 7-2

**Consolation:** No. 6 seed Davion Jeffries (OU) won by medical disqualification over Olivas (FS), 4:46

**Fifth Place:** No. 7 seed Henry Pohlmeier (SDSU) won by medical forfeit over Olivas (FS)

**157 (1): No. 2 seed [Jacob Wright, RFr. \(finishes in fifth place; 23-11 overall\)](#)**

**Preliminary:** Bye

**Quarterfinals:** Wright (FS) dec. No. 7 seed Alex Mossing (AFA), 5-2

**Semifinals:** No. 3 seed Chase Straw (ISU) dec. Wright (FS), 4-0

**Consolation:** No. 4 seed Wyatt Sheets (OSU) dec. Wright (FS), 3-2

**Fifth Place:** Wright (FS) dec. No. 5 seed Luke Weber (NDSU), 7-5 TB2

**184 (5): No. 5 seed [Jackson Hemauer, RFr. \(finishes in fifth place & earns automatic bid to NCAA Championships; 23-11 overall\)](#)**

**Preliminary:** Hemauer (FS) tech. fall over Tucker Nadeau (WVU), 16-1 (3:45)

**Quarterfinals:** No. 4 seed Tate Samuelson (WYO) dec. Hemauer (FS), 5-2

**Consolation:** Hemauer (FS) dec. Dalton Robertson (UNCO), 7-2

**Consolation:** Hemauer (FS) dec. No. 8 seed Kayne MacCallum (OU), 8-4

**Consolation:** No. 3 seed Dakota Greer (OSU) maj. dec. Hemauer (FS), 11-3

**Fifth Place:** Hemauer (FS) dec. No. 4 seed Tate Samuelson (WYO), 4-2

**197 (7): No. 3 seed [Josh Hokit, Jr. \(finishes in fourth place & earns automatic bid to NCAA Championships; 21-6 overall\)](#)**

**Preliminary:** Bye

**Quarterfinals:** Hokit (FS) dec. No. 6 seed Noah Adams (WVU), 9-7

**Semifinals:** No. 2 seed Willie Miklus (ISU) dec. Hokit (FS), 6-0

**Consolation:** Hokit (FS) won by fall over No. 4 Tanner Orndorff (UVU), 2:54

**Third Place:** No. 5 seed Jake Woodley (OU) dec. Hokit (FS), 3-2

**285 (6): No. 2 seed [AJ Nevills, So. \(finishes in first or second place & earns automatic bid to NCAA Championships; 21-7 overall\)](#)**

**Preliminary:** Bye

**Quarterfinals:** Nevills (FS) dec. No. 7 seed Brandon Ngati (WVU), 4-2

**Semifinals:** Nevills (FS) dec. No. 3 seed Gannon Gremmel (ISU), 3-2

**Finals:** No. 1 seed Derek White (OSU) tech. fall Nevills (FS), 20-5 (7:00)

**2019 Big 12 Championship Team Scores**

1. Oklahoma State - 158 points

2. Iowa State - 114.5 points

3. Northern Iowa - 82 points

4. Oklahoma - 78 points

5. Fresno State - 59.5 points

6. Utah Valley - 59 points

7. Wyoming - 58 points

8. North Dakota State - 53.5 points

9. West Virginia - 46 points

10. South Dakota State - 18.5 points

11. Air Force - 18 points

12. Northern Colorado - 17 points

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