

# **Rutgers Wrestling Announces 2018-19 Home Matchup with Oklahoma State**

## **Scarlet Knights to host Cowboys at RAC next season**

**PISCATAWAY, N.J. (May 7, 2018)** – Rutgers wrestling continues to piece together next season's schedule, announcing it will host Oklahoma State at the RAC in 2018-19. This will be the first meeting all-time between the two programs in a dual setting, as both finished within the Top 15 at the 2018 NCAA Championships and the Top 20 in the final USA Today/NWCA Coaches' Poll in 2017-18.

The addition of the Cowboys – who have won a nation-best 34 NCAA team titles and have crowned 142 individual champions in their history – adds to an already electric home slate for 2018-19, as Michigan, Michigan State, Nebraska and Wisconsin will all visit Piscataway next season. The Wolverines, Cornhuskers and Badgers all finished ranked in the final 2017-18 coaches poll.

Additional out-of-conference opponents along with dates and times for all of RU's 2018-19 matches will be announced at a later date. Season tickets for the upcoming 2018-19 season will go on sale later this month, with fans who purchase season tickets eligible to secure up to eight additional single match tickets before the public.

Oklahoma State produced four All-Americans and a Top 15 team finish at nationals last March, also securing a Big 12 team title along with four individual conference champions in 2017-18. The Cowboys – who finished last year with a 13-2 dual record and a No. 5 ranking in the final USA Today/NWCA coaches' poll – are set to return all All-Americans Kaid Brock (133 Pounds), Boo Lewallen (149 Pounds), Chandler Rogers (165 Pounds) and Jacobe Smith (174 Pounds) to their lineup.

The Scarlet Knights averaged 4,680 fans for their seven matches in 2017-18 and averaged 5,070 for their six home duals at the RAC. In total, 32,764 fans watched Rutgers wrestle in Piscataway, a program record. RU finished within the Top 5 in home attendance for the third-straight season, with only Iowa (8,996), Penn State (7,693) and Ohio State (6,681) drawing more.

Rutgers returns three national qualifiers from this past season after the Scarlet Knights produced its

best team finish at the NCAA Championships in 2018, finishing 11th with 42.5 points. The historic result also included the program's first national finalist in **Nick Suriano** as well as a sixth-place finisher in **Scott DelVecchio**, as the Scarlet Knights earned multiple All-Americans for the third consecutive year under head coach **Scott Goodale**.

Three-time All-American **Anthony Ashnault** also returns to the lineup in 2018-19 after he was granted a sixth year of eligibility by the NCAA last month. In total, six wrestlers with NCAA Championships experience will be available for Goodale next season.

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