



# UTAH VALLEY WOLVERINES



## Six Wolverines earn podium finishes at Cowboy Open

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**LARAMIE, Wyo.** - With primarily backups and redshirts in attendance, a total of six Utah Valley University grapplers earned podium finishes on Saturday at the Cowboy Open in Laramie.

In the elite division, sophomore Benjamin Andrew led the way by placing second at heavyweight, while redshirt sophomore Koy Wilkinson finished third at 165 and redshirt freshman Jakob Discher placed fourth at 165. In an amateur division, a pair of unattached freshmen won titles in Cameron Haddock (149 pounds) and Jayden Woodruff (197). Fellow unattached freshman Chase Trussell too had a nice outing by finishing second at heavyweight in the amateur bracket.

Andrew wrestled his way to a 2-1 record on the day on his way to earning a runner-up finish. After picking up wins over Wyoming's Hunter Mullis (3-1) and Chadron State's Wade French (11-7), Andrew then dropped the title bout to Nebraska-Kearney's Jarrod Hinrichs by a score of 4-1.

Wilkinson picked up a third-place finish after going 4-1 at the season-opening event. Wilkinson started his tournament with wins over Chadron State's Tate Allison (4-1) and Providence's Josh Beckler (21-5). After falling to No. 11 Branson Ashworth of Wyoming (16-1), the Wolverine 165-pound sophomore responded with a 2-1 decision over Nebraska-Kearney's Walker Johnson to reach the third-place bout. For third place, Wilkinson then matched up with his teammate Discher. Wilkinson managed to get the best of Discher, winning the third-place bout by major decision (12-3).

Discher finished his opening-season event with a 3-2 outing on his way to placing fourth at 165 pounds. After falling to Montana State-Northern's Andrew Bartel (13-1) in his opening match, Discher responded with three straight wins over Providence's Josh Beckler (15-7), Nebraska-Kearney Talon Seitz (18-4) and Air Force's Adam Peltier (13-2). He then dropped his third-place contest to teammate Wilkinson (12-3).

In the amateur division, unattached freshmen Haddock and Woodruff both won titles by going a perfect 4-0 and 3-0, respectively. Fellow unattached freshman Trussell followed by placing second with a 4-1 clip.

In other action, sophomore Landon Knutzen (149), as well as redshirt freshmen Spencer Heywood (157) and Ashton Seely (197) all recorded 2-2 outings on the day. Junior Max Sultan followed with a 1-2 clip at 157, while redshirt freshman Dante Springsteen went 0-2 at 174.

Seven other unattached Utah Valley freshmen participated in Saturday's Cowboy Open. Josiah Nava (125) fronted the group by going 4-2, while Will Edelblute (125) and Baylor Steward each went 3-2, Josh Tolentino (149) went 2-2, and Kainalu Estrella (133), Jerry Rubio (157) and Jason Gissel (184) all posted 1-2 outings.

The starting group of Wolverines will officially begin their 2018-19 campaign on Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Journeymen Northeast Duals in Troy, New York. There, UVU will wrestle No. 12 Nebraska, No. 16 Rutgers and Niagara County CC. The following day, the Wolverines will then take part in the Journeymen Collegiate Classic open tournament. The Wolverines will enter the weekend currently receiving votes for the NWCA Division I Wrestling Top 25 Coaches Poll with four votes.

To view results from the Cowboy Open, visit [Arena.FloWrestling.org](http://Arena.FloWrestling.org).