



## WRESTLING MATCH NOTES

### #17 Pitt Panthers (2-1, 0-0 ACC) at Illinois Fighting Illini (1-1, 0-0 B1G)

Saturday, December 3, 2022 • 4 p.m. ET  
State Farm Center • Champaign, Ill.  
Watch on B1G+ (Live Stream)

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#### 2022-23 SCHEDULE

11/6	Clarion Open	Completed
11/11	at Cleveland State	W, 36-0
11/18	<b>MARYLAND (ACCNX)</b>	<b>L, 16-18</b>
11/19	<b>#13 LEHIGH (ACCNX)</b>	<b>W, 22-12</b>
12/3	at Illinois (B1G+)	4 p.m.
12/9	at Brown	6:30 p.m.
12/11	at Columbia (ESPN+)	12 p.m.
12/29-30	Midlands Championships	All Day
1/8	<b>WEST VIRGINIA (ACCNX)</b>	<b>2 P.M.</b>
1/13	<b>BUFFALO (ACCNX)</b>	<b>7 P.M.</b>
1/20	at Virginia*	7 p.m.
1/27	at Virginia Tech*	7 p.m.
2/3	<b>NORTH CAROLINA* (ACCN)+</b>	<b>7 P.M.</b>
2/4	<b>IOWA STATE (ACCNX)</b>	<b>7 P.M.</b>
2/10	at NC State*	7 p.m.
2/18	<b>DUKE* (ACCNX)</b>	<b>12 P.M.</b>
3/5	ACC Championship^	All Day
3/16-18	NCAA Championships&	All Day

#### HOME DUALS IN BOLD

\* Denotes ACC dual

+ Petersen Events Center (Pittsburgh, Pa.)

^ Raleigh, N.C. (hosted by NC State)

& Tulsa, Okla. (Bank of Oklahoma Center)

All times are Eastern Time Zone



#### #17 Pitt Panthers

2022-23 Record (ACC).....2-1 (0-0)  
2022 NCAA Championships .....24th, 20.5  
2022 ACC Championships .....3rd, 51.0

Head Coach..... Keith Gavin (Pitt, '08)  
Pitt Record .....40-29 (Sixth Season)  
Career Record..... same as Pitt

#### PITT PROBABLES

Wt.	Rk.	Name	Yr.	22-23 Career
125	-	Colton Camacho	RS-Jr.	6-2 35-18
133	11	Micky Phillippi	RS-Sr.+	2-1 118-28
141	1	Cole Matthews	RS-Sr.	3-0 72-24
149	-	Tyler Badgett	RS-So.	5-3 18-14
157	21	Dazjon Casto	Sr.+	1-2 83-46
165	14	Holden Heller	RS-Jr.	3-0 48-32
174	33	Luca Augustine	RS-Fr.	2-1 14-6
184	21	Reece Heller	RS-So.	6-1 39-19
197	8	Nino Bonaccorsi	RS-Sr.+	3-0 101-25
285	-	Jake Slinger	Sr.	3-3 34-41

Rankings from InterMat (11/29)

RS indicates Redshirt

+ indicates extra year of eligibility provided by NCAA (COVID)



#### Illinois Fighting Illini

2022-23 Record (B1G).....1-1 (0-0)  
2022 NCAA Championships .....25th, 17.5  
2022 B1G Championships .....11th, 34.5

Head Coach..... Mike Poeta (Illinois, '09)  
Illinois Record .....4-8 (Second Season)  
Career Record..... same as Illinois

#### ILLINOIS PROBABLES

Wt.	Rk.	Name	Yr.	22-23 Career
125	-	Maximo Renteria	So.	2-2 7-8
133	6	Lucas Byrd	RS-So.	7-1 62-14
141	-	Danny Pucino	So.	3-2 19-5
149	-	Kevon Davenport	RS-So.	6-5 28-11
157	-	Luke Odom	So.	4-5 7-10
165	19	Danny Braunagel	RS-Jr.	8-2 60-27
174	10	Edmond Ruth	RS-So.	11-1 36-8
184	-	Dylan Connell	RS-Fr.	5-6 30-12
197	15	Zac Braunagel	RS-Jr.	8-2 65-34
285	-	Matt Wroblewski	RS-Sr.	8-4 50-49

Rankings from InterMat (11/29)

RS indicates Redshirt

+ indicates extra year of eligibility provided by NCAA (COVID)

#### THE SERIES

All-Time Series .....Pitt leads 4-1  
At Illinois .....Pitt leads 1-0  
Last Meeting..... 11/22/09, N, Pitt won 18-15  
Current Streak .....Pitt has won 1

# HEAD COACH KEITH GAVIN

Sixth Season | Career Record: 40-29 | Pitt, '08



Nobody knows what it takes to win in wrestling at the University of Pittsburgh better than **Keith Gavin**.

After years of competing as a professional on the international stage while building his reputation as a coach, Gavin returned to his alma mater in 2017 with the goal of helping young men at Pitt achieve what he did in 2008: win a national title at the NCAA Championships.

Since being named the 11th head coach of the Pitt wrestling program by Director of Athletics **Heather Lyke**, Gavin's leadership has seen the Panthers return to the upper echelon of wrestling

in the Atlantic Coast Conference – and nationally.

Pitt's progress on the mat has been on full display for all of college wrestling to see during recent postseasons.

In 2022, three Pitt wrestlers – **Cole Matthews** (141), **Jake Wentzel** (165) and **Nino Bonaccorsi** (197) – won ACC titles, giving Gavin 10 conference champions coached during his time at the helm of his alma mater. Wentzel became Pitt's first three-time ACC champion in wrestling. Those three Panthers, along with **Micky Phillippi** (133), then produced top-12 finishes at the 2022 NCAA Championships in Detroit, with Matthews earning All-America status after he advanced to the semifinals and eventually finished fifth at 141 pounds. Pitt posted another top-25 team finish and received three All-ACC Academic Team and two NWCA Scholar All-America honors.

Following the season, Lyke rewarded Gavin's consecutive top-25 NCAA finishes, great team culture and impressive recruiting by giving him a five-year contract extension that ensures his leadership of Pitt's wrestling program through at least the 2026-27 season.

At the 2021 NCAA Championships in St. Louis, Wentzel and Bonaccorsi followed up their ACC titles by advancing to the national finals and securing NCAA All-America status at nationals in St. Louis. All five Panthers that qualified for NCAAs won at least one match and scored valuable team points. The result was Pitt finishing 11th in the nation – its best team finish at NCAAs since 1970 – largely thanks to the program placing two Panthers into national finals in the same year for the first time since 1963.

On the international scene, Bonaccorsi and Matthews have been developed as freestyle wrestlers and represented Team USA at Under-23 World Championships in 2021 and 2022, respectively, adding more credentials to Pitt's coaching staff and wrestling room.

For his role in leading the Panthers to historic success at nationals in 2021, Gavin was named the **ACC Co-Coach of the Year**. The awards continued to roll in after the season, with four Pitt wrestlers being named to the All-ACC Academic Team and three Panthers honored as Scholar All-Americans by the NWCA.

The 2019-20 campaign saw Pitt continue to take improve dramatically as a program. While hosting the conference tournament at the Petersen Events Center, the Panthers crowned three ACC champions – Phillippi (133), Wentzel (165) and **Demetrius Thomas** (285) – and challenged NC State to the wire for the conference title before earning second place with 77 team points. Pitt qualified seven athletes for the 2020 NCAA Championships, which were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Pitt's trio of ACC champions and Bonaccorsi (184) were all named All-Americans by the NWCA.

In Gavin's second season as head coach, Pitt earned a fourth-place finish in the ACC Championship, with two Panthers earning ACC titles in Phillippi (133) and Thomas (285). Five Panthers punched their tickets to the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championship, which was held in Pittsburgh for the first time since 1957. Pitt placed 34th in the nation, with three Panthers competing in the Round of 12.

During the regular season, Gavin helped the Panthers flip their record from 4-11 overall, 2-3 ACC to 13-3 overall with a 3-2 mark in conference play in just one season. This record marked the fifth time in program history and the first time since the 2013-14 season where the Panthers were able to finish with 13 wins on the year. Likewise, Gavin led four Panthers to earn a spot on the All-ACC Wrestling Team that season.

During his first season at the helm of his alma mater, Gavin saw three Panthers earn a third-place finish at the ACC Championships while four competed in Cleveland at the NCAA Championships. At the end of the year, he was awarded the **Amateur Wrestling News Rookie Coach of the Year** for his efforts in the improvements the Panthers made throughout the season.

Gavin stepped into his first head coaching role and returned to his alma mater after spending a year with Oklahoma as an assistant as well as three years on staff at Virginia.

Gavin, a 2008 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, brings valuable coaching experiences as well as a notable competition background to the Panthers. He was a member of the U.S. national team for over six years, placing third at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials before capturing the U.S. National Championship in 2013 and 2014.

During his career at Pitt, Gavin won the 174-pound national title at the 2008 NCAA Championships and was a two-time All-American. He now leads a historic Pitt wrestling program that has produced 83 All-Americans and 16 national champions.

## KEITH GAVIN YEAR-BY-YEAR

	Overall		ACC		ACC Championships		NCAA Championships			vs. Non-Conf.		vs. Top 25	
Year	W-L	%	W-L	%	Place	Champs	QF	Place	AA's	W-L	%	W-L	%
2017-18	4-11	.267	2-3	.400	6th, 33.5	-	4	31st, 10.5	-	2-7	.222	1-8	.111
2018-19	13-3	.812	3-2	.600	4th, 41.0	2	5	34th, 9.5	-	10-1	.909	4-3	.571
2019-20	10-4	.714	3-2	.600	2nd, 77.0	3	7	Canceled	4	7-2	.778	2-3	.400
2020-21	3-4	.429	1-4	.200	5th, 45.0	2	5	11th, 40.5	2	2-0	1.000	1-3	.250
2021-22	8-6	.571	2-3	.400	3rd, 51.0	3	6	24th, 20.5	1	6-3	.667	1-5	.167
2022-23	2-1	.667	0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	2-1	.667	1-0	1.000
TOTAL	40-29	.580	11-14	.440	-	10	21	-	7	29-14	.674	10-22	.313



# 2023 WRESTLING INDIVIDUALS

Name	Wt.	Year	Season	for Pitt	Career	Dual	ACC	MD	TF	Pins	Fastest Pin	Streak
Ibrahim Ahmed	133	Fr.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	-
#33 Luca Augustine	174	RS-Fr.	2-1	2-1	14-6	2-1	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	-	W1
Tyler Badgett	149	RS-So.	5-3	4-7	18-14	1-2	0-0	2-0	1-0	0-1	-	L2
#8 Nino Bonaccorsi	197	RS-Sr.+	3-0	78-20	101-25	3-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	W3
Colton Camacho	125	RS-Jr.	6-2	16-10	35-18	2-1	0-0	3-0	1-0	0-1	-	W1
#21 Dazjon Casto	157	Sr.+	1-2	1-2	83-46	1-2	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-1	-	L2
Sean Coughlin	165	Fr.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	-
AJ Crews	125	RS-So.	0-0	0-0	2-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	L1
Ty Cymmerman	149	So.	1-2	0-0	3-10	0-0	0-0	0-1	1-1	0-0	-	L1
Ethan Finch	197	RS-Fr.	0-0	0-0	6-8	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	W1
Killian Foy	149	Fr.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	-
#14 Holden Heller	165	RS-Jr.	3-0	3-0	48-32	3-0	0-0	2-0	0-0	0-0	-	W4
#21 Reece Heller	184	RS-So.	6-1	6-1	39-19	3-0	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-1	-	W3
Jared Keslar	165	Fr.	7-2	0-0	7-2	0-0	0-0	1-0	1-0	2-1	2:13	L1
Kelin Laffey	149	Fr.	5-1	0-0	5-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	1-1	2:40	W5
James Lledo	184	RS-So.	5-2	1-6	24-14	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	3-1	1:33	W4
Geoff Magin	197	RS-So.	5-3	0-2	11-14	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	3:57	L1
Dan Mancini	157	RS-Jr.	0-0	13-13	22-20	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	L2
#1 Cole Matthews	141	RS-Sr.	3-0	46-20	72-24	3-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	W4
Collin McCorkle	157	RS-Fr.	3-2	0-0	11-11	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	4:02	L1
Brock McMillen	149	RS-Fr.	3-4	0-0	9-5	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-1	3:57	L3
Nicholas Meglino	184	RS-Jr.	3-2	2-6	11-24	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2	-	L2
Ryan Michaels	141	RS-So.	3-0	0-2	8-10	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	W4
Carson Miller	157	Fr.	5-4	0-0	5-4	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	1-0	4:22	L1
#11 Micky Phillippi	133	RS-Sr.+	2-1	76-17	118-28	2-1	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	-	L1
Dayton Pitzer	HWT	Fr.	1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	-	W1
Jack Pletcher	157	Fr.	4-4	0-0	4-4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	3:46	L2
Briar Priest	141	Fr.	2-2	0-0	2-2	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-1	0-0	-	L2
Vinnie Santaniello	125	Fr.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	-
Jake Slinger	HWT	Sr.	3-3	19-22	34-41	1-1	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	-	L1
Mac Stout	197	Fr.	4-0	0-0	4-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	1:48	W4
Emory Taylor	141	RS-Fr.	1-2	0-0	5-12	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-1	-	L2
Jordan Villareal	125	Fr.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	-	-
Tye Weathersby	165	RS-So.	2-2	0-0	15-16	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	0-0	-	L1

Note: Career Record includes all collegiate matches wrestled unattached and for other schools.  
For Pitt is all matches representing Pitt. All other records are 2022-23 only.

Updated: 12/1/22

RS indicates that redshirt season has been used.

+ indicates that athlete is currently using an extra season of eligibility provided by the NCAA due to the COVID-19 pandemic.