

University of Wyoming

Wrestling



2023-24 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time (MT)/Result
11/5	vs. Western Wyoming	W, 31-10
11/10	at CSU Bakersfield	W, 40-3
11/11	at Cal Baptist*	W, 28-12
11/17	vs. Campbell #	5 p.m.
12/1-2	at Cliff Keen Invite	All Day
12/8	at Missouri*	6 p.m.
12/17	at RTOC	All Day
12/19	vs. Oklahoma State*	6 p.m.
12/29-30	at Soldier Salute Tourney	All Day
1/6	at Nebraska	TBA
1/6	vs. Northern Iowa*	TBA
1/12	vs. Air Force*	6 p.m.
1/20	at Utah Valley*	6 p.m.
1/26	at Northern Colorado*	6 p.m.
2/1	vs. South Dakota State*	6 p.m.
2/4	vs. North Dakota State*	1 p.m.
2/10	vs. Oregon State	TBD
2/17	Cowboy Shootout	All Day
3/10-11	at Big 12 Championships	All Day
3/21-24	at NCAA Championships	All Day

* - Denotes Big 12 Match

- Deerwood Ranch (Centennial, Wyoming)

Big 12 Standings

School	Big 12	Overall
Wyoming	1-0	3-0
Air Force	0-0	2-0
Iowa State	0-0	2-0
North Dakota State	0-0	0-1
Northern Colorado	0-0	2-0
Northern Iowa	0-0	0-0
Missouri	0-0	0-0
Oklahoma State	0-0	1-0
Oklahoma	0-0	1-0
South Dakota State	0-0	0-0
Utah Valley	0-0	0-0
West Virginia	0-0	3-0
California Baptist	0-1	0-2

RANKED POKES

	FLO	IM	WIN	OM
Jore Volk (125)	15th	13th	17th	16th
Gabe Willochell (149)	NR	NR	NR	NR

Pokes, Camels Set for Battle in the Barn



WYOMING
COWBOYS

Wyoming (3-0, 1-0 Big 12)

vs. Campbell (1-1, 0-0 SoCon)

Friday | November 17, 2023 | Centennial, Wyoming |
Deerwood Ranch | 5 p.m. | Live Scoring: Track Wrestling

Video: UFC Fightpass



CAMPBELL
FIGHTING CAMELS

Highest of Flo/Intermat/WIN/OpenMat rankings listed below

No. 13 Jore Volk (1-0) -OR-	125	Anthony Molton (0-0)
Garrett Ricks (1-1)		
Cooper Birdwell (1-2)	133	No. 10 Dom Zaccone (1-0)
Cole Brooks (2-0)	141	Chris Rivera (3-3)
Gabe Willochell (2-0) -OR-	149	Justin Rivera (2-4)
Aidan Noonan (2-0)		
Cooper Voorhees (0-2) -OR-	157	No. 30 Chris Earnest (5-2)
Paolo Salminen (1-0)		
Brett McIntosh (2-1)	165	Dom Baker (4-2)
Riley Davis (2-0)	174	No. 23 Austin Murphy (4-1)
Ethan Ducca (3-0)	184	No. 23 Caleb Hopkins (3-3)
Joey Novak (2-0)	197	No. 19 Levi Hopkins (4-2)
Kevin Zimmer (3-0)	HWT	No. 9 Taye Ghadiali (6-0)

Preview

LARAMIE, Wyo. (11/15/23) – The University of Wyoming wrestling team is set to host a one-of-a-kind dual Friday at 5 p.m. The Cowboys compete against Campbell at Deerwood Ranch in Centennial in what's being deemed The Battle in the Barn.

Wyoming is enjoying a strong start to its season. The Pokes – who sit at 3-0 overall and 1-0 in the Big 12 – are off to their best dual-meet record since 2008-09.

It's a team that's accomplished that feat with almost an entirely new roster. When looking at the lineup during this past weekend's 2-0 road trip to southern California, only two Cowboys who started on last year's team were starting this season.

The remaining eight are a combination of freshmen, returnees that broke into the lineup and a few Division I transfers that have made an impact. It's an eclectic and unproven collection of talent that head coach Mark Branch has enjoyed seeing improve during the early stages of the year.

"It's pretty fun to feel like you're a part of something that's doing some good things," Branch said. "The guys are relaxed and excited. It's cool to see the bonding in the locker room, in the hotel room and all of that."

Cowboy Quick Facts

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Laramie, Wyoming
 Founded: 1886
 Enrollment: 13,100
 Nickname: Cowboys
 Colors: Brown & Gold
 President: Neil Theobald
 Athletics Director: Tom Burman (Wyoming, '88)
 Conference: Big 12
 Home Venue: UniWyo Sports Complex (1,200)

WRESTLING STAFF

Head Coach: Mark Branch (Oklahoma State, '97)
 Career Record/Years: 127-62, 15 years
 Record at Wyoming: Same
 Assistant Coach: McCade Ford, 10th year
 Assistant Coach: Branson Ashworth, 6th year
 Assistant Coach: Devin Schroder, 1st year

TEAM INFORMATION

2022-23 Overall Record: 1-10
 2022-23 Big 12 Record: 1-9
 2022-23 Home Record: 1-3
 2022-23 Away Record: 0-7
 2022-23 Neutral Site Record: 0-0
 NCAA Qualifiers Returning/Lost: 1/2
 Starters Returning/Lost: 2/8
 Newcomers: 15

WRESTLING HISTORY

First Year of Wrestling: 1931-32
 All-Time Record/Years: 603-430-18
 Big 12 Member: 2015-Present

ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS

Media Relations Contact: Bud Denega
 Email: jdenega@uwyo.edu
 Cell Phone: 440-223-8892

SOCIAL MEDIA

Hashtags #LCT #OneWyoming #GoWyo
Twitter @WyoWrestle
Instagram @wyo.wrestle
Facebook /wyowrestling
Website gowyo.com

CREDENTIAL REQUESTS

Requests for the media area and photo credentials should be directed to Communications Coordinator Cobe Wastler or the University of Wyoming Media Relations Office. Press-pass requests should be made at least 24 hours prior to match time. Credentials will either be mailed, or will be held at Will Call, located at the south entrance of the UniWyo Federal Credit Union Sports Complex.

POST MATCH PROCEDURES

Members of the Media Relations staff ask media representatives to make their way to the 7220

Room in the Arena-Auditorium when matches are complete. Media Relations staff will escort head coach Mark Branch and requested Cowboy wrestlers to the room. Opponent coaches and players will be interviewed outside their locker room.

BRANCH AND WRESTLER INTERVIEWS

All interview requests for head coach Mark Branch or any wrestlers should be made through the UW Athletics Media and Public Relations Office, 307-766-2256, at least 24 hours in advance. Wrestlers are available as their class schedules, practices and meetings permit. Coaches and wrestlers will

Roster

Name	Year	Weight	Hometown (Last School)
Kevin Anderson	R-Jr.	165	Casper, Wyo. (Kelly Walsh HS)
Cooper Birdwell	Gr.	133	Lewistown, Mont. (Oklahoma State)
Jack Braman	Fr.	133	Lookout Mountain, Ga. (The McCallie School)
Ridge Briggs	R-Jr.	149	Riverton, Wyo. (Riverton HS)
Cole Brooks	Fr.	141	Owasso, Okla. (Collinsville HS)
Warren Carr	R-Jr.	157	Gillette, Wyo. (Thunder Basin HS)
Seamus Casey	So.	165	Gillette, Wyo. (Air Force)
Dylan Catlin	Fr.	133	Gillette, Wyo. (Thunder Basin HS)
Lane Catlin	Fr.	285	Gillette, Wyo. (Thunder Basin HS)
Hudson Davis	Fr.	184	Sherwood, Ore. (Newberg HS)
Riley Davis	Fr.	174	Amarillo, Texas (Randall HS)
Mason Ding	R-So.	285	The Colony, Texas (Creekview HS)
Ethan Ducca	R-So.	184	Chardon, Ohio (Edinboro)
Colby Huynh	R-Sr.	174	Brea, Calif. (Brea Olinda HS)
Josh Kyle	Sr.	125/133	St. Charles, Mo. (Francis Howell HS)
Winston McBride	Fr.	285	Highlands Ranch, Colo. (Valor Christian HS)
Brett McIntosh	R-Jr.	165/174	Harrison, Ohio (William Henry Harrison HS)
Bradley Moore	R-So.	HWT	Brea, Calif. (Brea Olinda HS)
Aidan Noonan	R-So.	133	Bernard, Iowa (Cascade HS)
Joey Novak	Fr.	197	New Prague, Minn. (New Prague HS)
Stockton O'Brien	R-So.	141/149	Woodland, Utah (Utah Valley)
Logan Ours	So.	157/165	Wellsille, Ohio (Beaver Local HS)
Tyce Raddon	Sr.	184	Beaver, Utah (Western Wyoming)
Garrett Ricks	Sr.	125	Perry, Utah (Western Wyoming)
David Saenz	Jr.	133	Corona, Calif. (Mt. San Antonio College)
Paolo Salminen	Fr.	165/174	Billings, Mont. (Skyview HS)
Quayin Short	R-So.	174	Inver Grove Heights, Minn. (Simley HS)
Brayden Sonnentag	Fr.	133	Boyd, Wisc. (Cadott HS)
Sloan Swan	Fr.	165	Clovis, Calif. (Buchanan HS)
Jore Volk	So.	125	Lakeville, Minn. (Lakeville North HS)
Cooper Voorhees	R-Jr.	157	Rapid City, S.D. (Stevens HS)
Gabe Willochell	R-So.	141	Greensburg, Penn. (Edinboro)
Kevin Zimmer	So.	HWT	Orland Park, Ill. (Carl Sandburg HS)

Pronunciation Guide

Seamus Casey.....	Shay mus
Colby Huynh.....	Win (like, you win)
Logan Ours.....	Ours (like, it's ours)
David Saenz.....	Signs
Paolo Salminen.....	Saul min en
Quayin Short.....	K in
Gabe Willochell.....	Will o Shell

not be available until post-match on match days. Media members are also required to check with the Wyoming Media Relations Office prior to attending any Cowboy practice session.

TICKET INFORMATION

Admission for Wyoming wrestling matches: Season tickets are available for \$110 Matside Reserved, \$65 for the general public, \$60 for Faculty/Staff or \$35 for youth (ages 3-12). For more ticket information, call the Wyoming athletics ticket office at (307) 766-4850 or (800) 996-3261.

Rankings

NWCA COACHES POLL

	School	Record	Points	Previous
1.	Penn State (14)	0-0	350	1
2.	NC State	4-0	314	3
3.	Iowa	1-0	309	2
4.	Missouri	0-0	304	4
8.	Ohio State	2-0	285	8
6.	Michigan	0-0	282	6
7.	Cornell	0-0	270	7
8.	Virginia Tech	1-1	255	5
9.	Nebraska	2-0	252	9
10.	Iowa State	2-0	237	10
11.	Oklahoma State	1-0	217	11
12.	South Dakota St.	0-0	188	12
13.	Rutgers	2-0	178	14
14.	Minnesota	0-0	161	15
15.	Northern Iowa	0-0	140	17
16.	Oregon State	3-0	127	18
17.	Lehigh	0-0	102	20
18.	Wisconsin	1-0	88	19
19.	Navy	4-0	87	NR
20.	Oklahoma	1-0	84	21
21.	Arizona State	1-1	72	13
22.	North Carolina	4-1	56	NR
23.	Pittsburgh	2-1	55	16
24.	West Virginia	3-0	26	NR
25.	Penn	0-0	24	22

Others Receiving votes: Maryland 19, Northwestern 13, Indiana 11, Campbell 10, Stanford 9, Purdue 8, Northern Colorado 5, Cal Poly 2, Army 2, Lock Haven 1, Columbia 1.

WIN MAGAZINE DUAL TEAM RANKINGS

	School	22-23 W-L	Previous
1.	Iowa	5-0	1st
2.	Penn State	6-0	2nd
3.	Michigan	5-1	3rd
4.	Oklahoma State	10-0	4th
5.	Missouri	10-0	5th
6.	Nebraska	7-1	6th
7.	Virginia Tech	9-0	7th
8.	NC State	6-1	8th
9.	Arizona State	6-0	9th
10.	Minnesota	7-2	10th
11.	Illinois	5-3	11th
12.	Ohio State	5-4	12th
13.	Iowa State	9-3	13th
14.	North Carolina	5-2	14th
15.	Navy	5-1	15th
16.	Pitt	3-4	16th
17.	Wisconsin	1-6	17th
18.	Purdue	4-5	18th
19.	Northern Iowa	4-4	19th
20.	Oklahoma	5-5	20th
21.	Rutgers	0-4	21st
22.	Northwestern	2-6	22nd
23.	Virginia	3-3	23rd
24.	Michigan State	2-5	24th
25.	Binghamton	3-1	25th

Game Notes

Transfer Portal World: Head coach Mark Branch bolstered his roster with transfers this past offseason. Two newbies, Gabe Willochell and Ethan Ducca, started a season ago for Edinboro and now are in the starting rotation for the brown and gold. Cooper Birdwell is also a starter that transferred in after a reserve role at Oklahoma State.

Early Success: Both Ducca and Willochell are unbeaten on the season. Ducca has claimed wins in all three duals, while Willochell has a pair of wins, one at 141 and the other at 149.

Youthful Success: Wyoming's roster is comprised of a plethora of young wrestlers, many of which are in the starting lineup. Cole Brooks, Joey Novak, Paolo Salminen and Riley Davis are all in their first year with the program and they're a combined 7-0 on the season.

Racking Up the Points: The 40 points scored against CSU Bakersfield were the most by Wyoming since tallying 42 against SIU Edwardsville during the 2018-19 season.

Drubbing the Roadrunners: The 40-3 victory over CSU Bakersfield marked the largest margin of victory since defeating Buffalo, 39-0, during the 2014-15 season.

New Weight, New Me: Brett McIntosh dropped down from 174 to 165 before the start of this season. The Harrison, Ohio, native is 2-1 in his new designation.

Cowboys Far and Wide: Wyoming has an eclectic roster from all over the country. 17 different states are present. The home state is also well represented with a half a dozen hailing from the Equality State.

Big 12 Roundup

2023 BIG 12 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

1.	Missouri	148.0
2.	Oklahoma State	134.0
3.	Iowa State	131.0
4.	Oklahoma	97.5
5.	North Dakota State	89.0
6.	South Dakota State	86.5
7.	Northern Iowa	73.0
8.	Air Force	64.5
9.	Northern Colorado	50.0
10.	Wyoming	41.0
11.	Utah Valley	37.5
12.	West Virginia	34.5
13.	California Baptist	1.0

WRESTLERS OF THE WEEK

Nov. 6 Gaven Sax (NDSU) + Jett Strickenberger (WVU)

Nov. 13 Max Petersen (NDSU)

GAME NOTES

Accounted for in the Polls: The Big 12 only has two teams ranked in the top 10, however, from 11-20, four teams are present.



MARK BRANCH

HEAD COACH - 16TH YEAR

Alma Mater: Oklahoma State, '97

BRANCH CAREER TRACK

2001-08	Oklahoma State	Associate Head Coach
2008-Pres.	Wyoming	Head Coach

COACHING ACCOLADES

- 2018 Big 12 Coach of the Year
- 58 NCAA Championship Qualifiers
- 14 All-Americans
- Six Team Conference Titles
- 28 Individual Conference Titles

BRANCH ERA STANDOUTS

NCAA FINALISTS

2016	Bryce Meredith	141
2018	Bryce Meredith	141

NCAA ALL-AMERICANS

2009	Joe LeBlanc	184
2010	Joe LeBlanc	184
2011	Shane Onufer	165
	Joe LeBlanc	184
2012	Joe LeBlanc	184
	Alfonso Hernandez	197
2013	Tyler Cox	125
	Alfonso Hernandez	197
2016	Bryce Meredith	141
2017	Bryce Meredith	141
2018	Montorie Bridges	133
	Bryce Meredith	141
2021	Stephen Buchanan	197
2022	Stephen Buchanan	197

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

2009	Michael Martinez	125
	Cory VomBaur	133
	Shane Onufer	174
	Joe LeBlanc	184
2010	Michael Martinez	125
	Shane Onufer	165
	Joe LeBlanc	184
2011	Michael Martinez	125
	Cole Dallaserra	149
	Shane Onufer	165
	Patrick Martinez	174
	L.J. Helbig	197
2012	Shane Onufer	165
	Patrick Martinez	174
	Joe LeBlanc	184
	Alfonso Hernandez	197
2013	McCade Ford	141
	L.J. Helbig	174
	Shane Woods	184
	Alfonso Hernandez	197
2014	Tyler Cox	125
	Benjamin Stroh	184
	Shane Woods	197
2015*	Shane Woods	197
2018	Bryce Meredith	141
	Archie Colgan	157
2020	Brian Andrews	HWT
2022	Stephen Buchanan	197

* Wyoming was in the Western Wrestling Conference until the 2015-16 season



WYOMING UNDER BRANCH

• In his 16 seasons, UW head man Mark Branch has raised the expectations of Cowboy Wrestling to new heights. He's upped the profile of Wyoming Wrestling and brought the program notoriety and name recognition with levels of success rarely seen in the program's history.

• With 132 dual wins and a 62 percent win rate within the conference ranks, Branch has established the Cowboys as the team to beat year in and year out. Branch has compiled a 60-28 mark against conference record foes with four regular-season dual titles.

• Under Branch's watch, Wyoming has sent 61 wrestlers to the NCAA Championships with 12 returning as All-Americans.

• Branch's Cowboys have set an impressive standard at the Big 12 Championships putting at least one grappler in the finals all but one year since joining the league in 2016-17.

BRANCH YEAR-BY-YEAR

Year	School	Record	Pct.	Conference		NCAA	
				Place	Champs	Place	QualifiersAA's
2008-09	Wyoming	15-3	.833	2nd	4	T32nd	4 1
2009-10	Wyoming	12-3	.800	1st	3	33rd	4 1
2010-11	Wyoming	11-7	.611	1st	5	28th	6 2
2011-12	Wyoming	10-3	.769	1st	4	19th	6 2
2012-13	Wyoming	9-6	.600	1st	4	23rd	7 2
2013-14	Wyoming	6-6	.500	2nd	3	53rd	4 0
2014-15	Wyoming	11-4	.733	2nd	1	39th	6 0
2015-16	Wyoming	6-6	.500	5th	0	18th	3 1
2016-17	Wyoming	7-8	.467	5th	0	T21st	5 1
2017-18	Wyoming	13-3	.813	4th	2	17th	6 2
2018-19	Wyoming	16-4	.800	7th	0	T34th	7 0
2019-20	Wyoming	8-10	.444	7th	1	--	5 N/A
2020-21	Wyoming	3-3	.500	4th	0	T26th	7 1
2021-22	Wyoming	4-5	.444	9th	1	23rd	4 1
2022-23	Wyoming	1-10	.100	10th	0	N/A	3 0
Totals	--	132-80	.622	--	27	--	70 13

2023-24 Results

2023-24 BREAKDOWN

		Probable Starters	Weight	Overall	Dual	Dual	vs. Ranked	Tech			Dual Matches Only				
				Rec.	Rec.	Points	Oppon.	Falls	Falls	MD	Dec.	TD	Esc	Rev	NF
Overall Dual Match Record	23-7	Jore Volk	125	1-0	1-0	5	--	--	1	--	--	3	1	--	2
Dual Match Record vs. Big 12 Opponents	7-3	Cooper Birdwell	133	1-2	1-2	4	--	--	--	1	--	1	1	2	1
Dual Match Record at Home	7-3	Cole Brooks	141	2-0	2-0	9	--	--	1	1	--	10	1	--	1
Dual Match Record on the Road	16-4	Gabe Willochell	149	2-0	2-0	9	--	1	--	--	1	4	3	--	--
Dual Match Record at Neutral Sites	0-0	Cooper Voorhees	157	0-2	0-2	0	--	--	--	--	--	3	1	--	--
Dual Match Record vs. Top 25	1-0	Brett McIntosh	165	2-1	2-1	7	--	--	--	1	1	3	2	1	2
		Riley Davis	174	2-0	2-0	9	--	1	--	--	1	1	1	--	--
		Ethan Ducca	184	3-0	3-0	10	--	--	--	1	2	7	3	1	--
		Joey Novak	197	2-0	2-0	11	--	1	1	--	--	4	1	1	2
		Kevin Zimmer	285	3-0	3-0	9	--	--	--	--	3	5	2	1	--

Reserves (by name)	Weight	Overall	Dual	Dual	vs. Ranked	Tech			Dual Matches Only						
		Record	Record	Points	Opponents	Falls	Falls	MD	Dec.	TD	Esc	Rev	NF		
Ridge Briggs	174	0-1	0-1	0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Garrett Ricks	125	1-1	1-1	6	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	4	2	1	--
Tyce Raddon	197	1-0	1-0	6	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
Aidan Noonan	149	2-0	2-0	7	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	3	3	--	1
Paolo Salminen	157	1-0	1-0	6	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--

2023-24 STARTING LINEUPS

Date	Opponent	125	133	141	149	157	165	174	184	197	285
11/5	Western Wyoming	Volk	Birdwell	Willochell	Noonan	Voorhees	McIntosh	Briggs	Ducca	Raddon	Zimmer
11/10	CSU Bakersfield	Ricks	Birdwell	Brooks	Noonan	Salminen	McIntosh	Davis	Ducca	Novak	Zimmer
11/11	Cal Baptist	Ricks	Birdwell	Brooks	Willochell	Voorhees	McIntosh	Davis	Ducca	Novak	Zimmer
11/17	Campbell										

Bold indicates matches/tournaments won