



UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA WRESTLING

8-1 Overall, 0-1 Big 12

IN THE POLLS
18 USA/NWCA
24 W.I.N.

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SOONERS RETURN HOME FOR DOUBLE-DUAL VERSUS MICHIGAN STATE AND PITTSBURGH

2007-2008 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	SCORE
11/4	Missouri Valley/OCU/ Neosho CC	ALL DAY	W, 47-0, 44-0, 50-3
11/10	at SUNY-Brockport Classic	ALL DAY	1st Place
11/15	North Carolina State	7 p.m.	W, 30-9
11/24	Oklahoma Open#	ALL DAY	
12/2 12/7	at Oklahoma State at Central Oklahoma	2 p.m. 7 p.m.	L, 9-21 W, 27-6
1/5	at Lone Star Duals (Navy/Cal-State/N. Carolina)	ALL DAY	W, 28-6, 27-6, 27-6
1/12	MICHIGAN STATE/PITTSBURGH	2 p.m.	
1/18	TENN. CHATTANOOGA	7 p.m.	
1/20	WISCONSIN \$	TBA	
1/25	IOWA STATE	7 p.m.	
2/1	ARIZONA STATE	7 p.m.	
2/8	at Missouri	7 p.m.	
2/10	at Nebraska	2 p.m.	
2/15	CAL POLY**	7 p.m.	
2/21	OKLAHOMA STATE	7 p.m.	
3/8	Big 12 Championships (Stillwater, Okla.)	ALL DAY	
3/20-22	NCAA Championships (St. Louis, Mo.)	ALL DAY	

KEY

All CAPS indicate home matches

Lloyd Noble Center

* Ford Center-Oklahoma City

** Lloyd Noble Center, Beauty and the Beast

\$ Ford Center, Oklahoma City



OKLAHOMA
SOONERS
(8-1 Overall)

PROBABLE STARTERS

125 - Joey Fio
133 - Brian Shelton
141 - Zack Bailey
149 - Will Rowe
157 - Chad Terry
165 - Max Dean
174 - Jeff James
184 - Joshua Weitzel
197 - Joel Flaggert
Hwt. - Nathan Fernandez



MICHIGAN STATE
SPARTANS
(3-3 Overall)

PROBABLE STARTERS

125- Joel Trombly
133- Franklin Gomez
141- Micah Carter
149- Tim Hammer
157- John Fulger
165- Rex Kendle
174- John Murphy
184- Nick Palmieri
197- Joe Williams
Hwt.- Alan O'Donnell



PITTSBURGH
PANTHERS
(7-1 Overall)

PROBABLE STARTERS

125- Brad Gentzle
or Ryan Bosso
133- Jimmy Conroy
141- Drew Headlee
149- Joe Ciampoli
157- Matt Kocher
or Adam Counterman
165- Ethan Headlee
174- Keith Gavin
184- David Sullivan
197- David Crowell
Hwt.- Zach Sheaffer

SETTING THE SCENE

Date: Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008**Location:** Norman, Okla.**Venue:** Howard McCasland
Field House (3,341)**TV:** None**Webcast:** SoonerSports.com**Promotions:** First 500 fans
receive an OU Rally Towel

TODAY'S MATCHES

2 p.m. Michigan State vs.
Pittsburgh**4 p.m.** Michigan State vs.
Oklahoma**6 p.m.** Pittsburgh vs.
Oklahoma

PINNING IT DOWN

NORMAN, Okla. --No. 18 Oklahoma looks to post another 10-win season under head coach Jack Spates with two victories this weekend in a double-dual versus Michigan State and No. 20 Pittsburgh.

The Sooners (8-1), Spartans (3-3) and Panthers (7-1) will collide at the Howard McCasland Field House in Norman beginning at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2008.

A 10-win season would mark the 13th straight year under Spates in which the team has reached the double-digit total.

In the latest rankings, Oklahoma boasts six wrestlers in the Top 20. Sophomore Brian Shelton enters the rankings for the first week in the 133-pound weight class at No. 18. Zack Bailey is ranked No. 12 at 141 pounds, Will Rowe is No. 8 at 149 pounds, Max Dean is ranked No. 14 at 165 pounds, Joshua Weitzel is No. 7 at 184 pounds and two-time All-American Joel Flaggert is ranked No. 5 at 197 pounds.

Pittsburgh landed three in this week's rankings. Matt Kocher is No. 4 at 157 pounds, Keith Gavin is No. 1 at 174 pounds and Zach Sheaffer is No. 11 in the heavyweight division. Michigan State has 133-pound Franklin Gomez ranked No. 3, as well as Joe Williams ranked No. 18 at 197 pounds.

Doors will open at 1 p.m. and admission is free to the public. The first 500 fans arriving to the match will receive an OU wrestling rally towel.

OKLAHOMA WRESTLING -- HOME OF SEVEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

OKLAHOMA QUICK FACTS

LOCATION: Norman, Okla.**FOUNDED:** 1890**ENROLLMENT:** 30,000**NICKNAME:** Sooners**COLORS:** Crimson and Cream**VENUE:** Howard McCasland Field House**CAPACITY:** 3,341**CONFERENCE:** Big 12**PRESIDENT:** David L. Boren**ATHLETIC DIRECTOR:** Joe Castiglione

SOONERSPORTS.COM

NWCA/InterMat Coaches Poll

Team

1. Penn State
2. Iowa
3. Oklahoma State*
4. Iowa State*
5. Central Michigan
6. Minnesota
7. Michigan
8. Missouri*
9. Northwestern
10. Nebraska*
11. Ohio State
12. Hofstra
12. Wisconsin*
14. Edinboro
15. Indiana
16. UT-Chattanooga*
17. Illinois
- 18. Oklahoma**
19. Cornell
20. Pittsburgh*
21. Maryland
22. Navy*
23. Old Dominion
24. Northern Iowa
25. Boise State

NOTE: * Indicates 2007-08 OU opponents

W.I.N Magazine Poll

Team

1. Minnesota
2. Iowa
3. Iowa State
4. Penn State
5. Oklahoma State
6. Nebraska
7. Central Michigan
8. Missouri
9. Michigan
10. Ohio State
11. Northwestern
12. Cornell
13. Illinois
14. Indiana
15. Wisconsin
16. Hofstra
17. Edinboro
18. UT-Chattanooga
19. Old Dominion
20. Maryland
21. Boise State
22. Pittsburgh
23. Kent State
- 24. Oklahoma**
25. Virginia

SOONERS SHINE AT LONESTAR

OU is coming off an impressive showing at the Lonestar Duals in Arlington, Texas last weekend. The Sooners defeated No. 22 Navy (28-6), Cal-State Fullerton (27-6) and North Carolina (27-6) on the afternoon.

Oklahoma outscored the three opponents 82-18 en route to winning 24 of the 30 total matches. OU junior Will Rowe gave his hometown fans an impressive showing in Arlington, going 3-0 and recording a fall versus Vincent Ramirez of North Carolina.

"Our team has improved over the break and it shows," head coach Jack Spates said. "The success we experienced Saturday is something we can build off of heading into our tough upcoming schedule."

SERIES RECORDS

Oklahoma owns a 36-7 series advantage over the Michigan State Spartans. Last season the two teams met in East Lansing, Mich., with the Sooners prevailing 24-15 on Feb. 23, 2007. The last time the Panthers and Sooners met was in 1980, with the Sooners dominating Pitt by a final of 36-10 under head coach Stan Abel. Oklahoma has a 2-0 series record against the Panthers.

WELCOME BACK HOME

Today's matches mark the first time Oklahoma has returned to Norman to wrestle a match since Nov. 15 versus North Carolina State. The Sooners defeated the Wolfpack, 30-9. Among the highlights, Junior Will Rowe, now ranked No. 8, recorded a fall versus Darrion Caldwell. Caldwell is currently ranked No. 9 in the country.

UNDEFEATED

Two Sooners on the roster boast undefeated records heading into today's matches. Seniors Joshua Weitzel (8-0 dual record, 15-0 overall) and Joel Flaggert (8-0 dual record, 14-0 overall) look to keep the streak alive against the Panthers and Spartans.

SOONER CAPTAINS

Serving as captains for the Sooners this season are senior Joshua Weitzel and junior Will Rowe. The captains are voted on and selected by their teammates prior to the season.

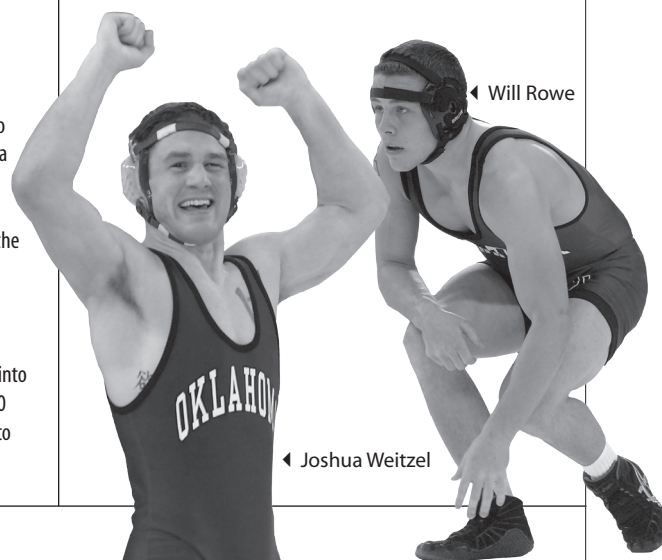
SEEING DOUBLE

The Sooners (8-1) look to reach 10 wins on the season this afternoon. It would mark the 13th straight season under head coach Jack Spates the Sooners have posted a double-digit win total.

SPATES MILESTONE

Head coach Jack Spates, now in his 15th season at OU, is 8 wins away from his 200th victory at Oklahoma. His career win total currently sits at 192-84-11.

While at Oklahoma, he has won two Big 12 titles and helped guide his wrestlers to six individual national championships and 25 individual conference championships. Under his watch, Oklahoma has crowned 49 All-Americans and has finished in the top three at the NCAA Championships in four of the past six seasons.



◀ Will Rowe

◀ Joshua Weitzel

PROBABLE OKLAHOMA STARTERS

WT.	NAME	YR.	HOMETOWN	HIGHSCHOOL	RECORD
125	Joey Fio	Fr.	Sandpoint, Idaho	Sandpoint HS	12-4
133	Brian Shelton (No. 18)	So.	El Reno, Okla.	El Reno HS	6-1
141	Zack Bailey (No. 12)	RFr.	Kansas City, Mo.	Oak Park HS	23-3
149	Will Rowe (No. 8)	Jr.	Arlington, Texas	Lamar HS	15-2
157	Chad Terry	So.	Midwest City, Okla.	Carl Albert HS	14-1
165	Max Dean (No. 14)	Sr.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Lakota West HS	14-2
174	Jeff James	RFr.	El Reno, Okla.	El Reno HS	14-2
184	Joshua Weitzel (No. 7)	Sr.	Lincoln University, Pa.	Oxford HS	15-0
197	Joel Flaggert (No. 5)	Sr.	Choctaw, Okla.	Choctaw HS	14-0
HWT.	Nathan Fernandez	RFr.	Lawton, Okla.	MacArthur HS	10-5

Head Coach: Jack Spates (15th Season, 192-84-11)

Assistant Coaches: Robbie Waller and Jeremy Spates

MICHIGAN STATE PROBABLE STARTERS

WT.	NAME	YR.	HOMETOWN	RECORD
125	Joel Trombly	RFr.	New Baltimore, Mich.	7-3
133	Franklin Gomez (No.3)	So.	Brandon, Fla.	14-1
141	Micah Carter	So	Cedar Springs, Mich.	3-3
149	Tim Hammer	Jr.	Wayne, Mich.	11-11
157	John Fulger	RFr.	Burt, Mich.	11-10
165	Rex Kendle	Jr.	Edwardsburg, Mich.	13-11
174	John Murphy	Jr.	Evergreen Park, Ill.	18-9
184	Nick Palmieri	So.	Highland Hights, Ohio	12-10
197	Joe Williams (No. 18)	Sr.	Orange, Calif.	18-7
HWT.	Alan O'Donnell	So.	Lakewood, Mich.	6-4

Head Coach: Tom Minkel (142-160-3)

Assistant Coaches: Roger Chandler & Chris Williams

PITTSBURGH PROBABLE STARTERS

WT.	NAME	YR.	HOMETOWN	RECORD
125	Brad Gentzle	Jr.	Easton, Pa.	8-4
	or Ryan Bosso	So.	Pequea, Pa.	16-10
133	Jimmy Conroy	So.	South Plainfield, N.J.	12-9
141	Drew Headlee	Sr.	Waynesburg, Pa.	13-6
149	Joe Ciampoli	Jr.	Altoona, Pa.	5-2
157	Matt Kocher (No. 4)	Sr.	State College, Pa.	14-4
	Adam Counterman	Fr.	Nazareth, Pa.	5-3
165	Ethan Headlee	Fr.	Waynesburg, Pa.	14-12
174	Kevin Gavin (No. 1)	Sr.	Factoryville, Pa.	17-0
184	David Sullivan	So.	Dingsman Ferry, Pa.	17-10
197	David Crowell	Fr.	Easton, Pa.	7-12
HWT.	Zach Sheaffer (No. 11)	Jr.	Carlisle, Pa.	25-7

Head Coach: Rande Stottlemeyer (241-205-10)

Assistant Coaches: Jason Peters & Ron Tarquinio

MICHIGAN STATE vs. PITTSBURGH

THE MATCHUPS		1	2	3	OT/FINAL
125	JOEL TROMBLY (MSU, 7-3) vs. BRAD GENTZLE (PITT, 8-4) or RYAN BOSSO (PITT, 16-10)				
133	FRANKLIN GOMEZ (MSU, 14-1) vs. JIMMY CONROY (PITT, 12-9)				
141	MICAH CARTER (MSU, 3-3) vs. DREW HEADLEE (PITT, 13-6)				
149	TIM HAMMER (MSU, 11-11) vs. JOE CIAMPOLI (PITT, 5-2)				
157	JOHN FULGER (MSU, 11-10) vs. MATT KOCHER (PITT, 14-4) or ADAM COUNTERMAN (PITT, 5-3)				
165	REX KENDLE (MSU, 13-11) vs. ETHAN HEADLEE (PITT, 14-12)				
174	JOHN MURPHY (MSU, 18-9) vs. KEVIN GAVIN (PITT, 17-0)				
184	NICK PALMIERI (MSU, 12-10) vs. DAVID SULLIVAN (PITT, 17-10)				
197	JOE WILLIAMS (MSU, 18-7) vs. DAVID CROWELL (PITT, 7-12)				
HWT.	ALAN O'DONNELL (MSU, 6-4) vs. ZACH SHEAFFER (PITT, 25-7)				

MICHIGAN STATE vs. OKLAHOMA					
THE MATCHUPS		1	2	3	OT/FINAL
HWT. 125 133 141 149 157 165 174 184 197	JOEL TROMBLY (MSU, 7-3) vs. JOEY FIO (OU, 12-4)				
	FRANKLIN GOMEZ (MSU, 14-1) vs. BRIAN SHELTON (OU, 6-1)				
	MICAH CARTER (MSU, 3-3) vs. ZACK BAILEY (OU, 23-3)				
	TIM HAMMER (MSU, 11-11) vs. WILL ROWE (OU, 15-2)				
	JOHN FULGER (MSU, 11-10) vs. CHAD TERRY (OU, 14-1)				
	REX KENDLE (MSU, 13-11) vs. MAX DEAN (OU, 14-2)				
	JOHN MURPHY (MSU, 18-9) vs. JEFF JAMES (OU, 14-2)				
	NICK PALMIERI (MSU, 12-10) vs. JOSHUA WEITZEL (OU, 15-0)				
	JOE WILLIAMS (MSU, 18-7) vs. JOEL FLAGGERT (OU, 14-0)				
	ALAN O'DONNELL (MSU, 6-4) vs. NATHAN FERNANDEZ (OU, 10-5)				
Scoring Key: Takedown- 2 pts., Escape- 1 pt., Reversal- 2 pts., Nearfall- 2-4 seconds 2 pts.; 5 seconds 3 pts., Penalty - 1 pt., Two stalling calls - 1 pt. SCOUTING MICHIGAN STATE Michigan State defeated Ohio Jan. 4, tallying its first home dual victory of the season in the 39-0 win in Jenison Field House. Two Spartans, Micah Carter and Anthony Jones, Jr., earned their first career starts and dual wins en route to MSU's first shutout since defeating Eastern Michigan 39-0 on Feb. 1, 1998. With the win, Michigan State evens its record to 3-3-0, while Ohio dropped to 4-3-0. Michigan State is led by a pair of ranked wrestlers, No. 3 Franklin Gomez and No. 18 Joe Williams. Boasting an MSU tournament title, Gomez leads the Spartans with a strong 14-1 overall record and perfect 6-0 dual mark so far this fall as the 133-pound starter. His impressive season includes two technical falls, four major decisions and four wins over ranked opponents. Senior starter Joe Williams ranks as high as 18th in the 197-pound class. Williams has earned an 18-7 overall record and 4-1 dual mark this year, including three wins over ranked opponents, as well as seven pins and four major decisions. Additionally, all but one of Williams' losses have come against ranked opponents. Williams is also the only Spartan to record medal finishes in all four tournaments this year, with second-place finishes at the Eastern Michigan Open, MSU Open and Nittany Lion Open, and an eighth-place finish at the Midlands Championships.					
OKLAHOMA WRESTLING -- HOME OF SEVEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS					

PITTSBURGH vs. OKLAHOMA

THE MATCHUPS		1	2	3	OT/FINAL
HWT. 125 133 141 149 157 165 174 184 197	BRAD GENTZLE (PITT) or RYAN BOSSO (PITT) vs. JOEY FIO (OU)				
	JIMMY CONROY (PITT) vs. BRIAN SHELTON (OU)				
	DREW HEADLEE (PITT) vs. ZACK BAILEY (OU)				
	JOE CIAMPOLI (PITT) vs. WILL ROWE (OU)				
	MATT KOCHER (PITT) or ADAM COUNTERMAN (PITT) vs. CHAD TERRY (OU)				
	ETHAN HEADLEE (PITT) vs. MAX DEAN (OU)				
	KEVIN GAVIN (PITT) vs. JEFF JAMES (OU)				
	DAVID SULLIVAN (PITT) vs. JOSHUA WEITZEL (OU)				
	DAVID CROWELL (PITT) vs. JOEL FLAGGERT (OU)				
	ZACH SHEAFFER (PITT) vs. NATHAN FERNANDEZ (OU)				

Scoring Key: Takedown- 2 pts., Escape- 1 pt., Reversal- 2 pts., Nearfall- 2-4 seconds 2 pts.; 5 seconds 3 pts., Penalty - 1 pt., Two stalling calls - 1 pt.

SCOUTING PITTSBURGH

The No. 20-ranked Panthers are off to their best start in 20 years, as they enter this weekend with a 7-1 mark in dual match competition.

Led by three returning All-Americans – Keith Gavin, Drew Headlee and Matt Kocher – and No. 11-ranked heavyweight Zach Sheaffer, Pitt has outscored its opponents 259-79 in those eight matches. Gavin, the No. 1 grappler at 174-pounds, boasts a perfect 17-0 record this season, including two prestigious tournament wins at the Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational and the Midlands Championships.

Kocher ranks fourth among the nation's 157-pounders and became the first Panther in the program's history to record 100 tournament victories. He currently stands alone in second on Pitt's all-time wins list with 138. Sheaffer leads the team in victories this season with 25, with three of those coming against heavyweights ranked in the top 15 nationally.

WRESTLING RULES AND DEFINITIONS

WRESTLING POSITIONS

•**Starting Positions-** There are four starting positions in wrestling. Here are the four and their definitions:

1. Neutral Position- The match will start with both contestants standing opposite each other with their lead foot on the green or red area of the starting lines and their other foot even with or behind the lead foot. This is the neutral position in which neither wrestler has control.

2. Defensive Wrestler- The defensive wrestler takes a stationary position at the center of the mat with both hands and knees on the mat, as directed by the referee.

3. Offensive Wrestler- The offensive wrestler shall be on the right or left side of the opponent with at least one knee on the mat and head on or above the midline of the opponent's back.

4. Optional Offensive Starting Position- The offensive wrestler may choose to take a position on either side or to the rear of the defensive wrestler with both hands on the opponent's back, thumbs touching. The wrestler must indicate his intent to the referee.

•Stalemates

When the contestants are interlocked in a position other than a pinning situation in which neither wrestler can improve position, the referee shall stop the match as soon as possible and wrestling will be resumed.

•Position of Advantage

This is a situation in which a contestant is in control and maintaining restraining power over the opponent. Control is the determining factor. The offensive wrestler is entitled to this advantage until the opponent gains a neutral position or a reversal.

•In Bounds

Contestants are considered to be in bounds if the supporting parts of either wrestler are inside the inside edge of the boundary lines. These supporting parts, such as the knees, the side of the thigh, the buttocks and the hands, bear the wrestler's weight. Wrestling will continue as long as the supporting parts of either wrestler remain in bounds.

•Resumption of Wrestling After Out of Bounds

The contestants at the resumption of a match shall be in the neutral or the starting position on the mat as determined by the position held upon going out of bounds.

SCORING OPPORTUNITIES

•Takedown

A takedown shall be awarded when, from the neutral position, a contestant gains control and places the opponent's supporting points down on the mat beyond reaction time.

•Escape

A defensive wrestler is awarded an escape when the offensive wrestler loses control of the opponent while the supporting points of either wrestler are in bounds.

•Reversal

A reversal occurs when the defensive wrestler comes from underneath and gains control of the opponent, either on the mat or in a rear-standing position.

•Near Fall

A near fall is a position in which the offensive wrestler has the opponent in a controlled pinning situation. When the following criteria are met for two seconds, two points are awarded. When met for five uninterrupted seconds, three points are awarded. The criteria are as follows: 1) the wrestler is held in a high bridge or on both elbows, 2) one shoulder or the head is touching the mat and the other shoulder is held at an angle of 45 degrees or less to the mat, or 3) any part of both shoulders or both scapulae are held within four inches of the mat.

•Time Advantage

The offensive wrestler who has control in an advantage position is gaining time advantage. If the contestant with the greater time advantage has less than one minute of net time advantage, no point is awarded. If a contestant has one minute or more of net time advantage, that wrestler is awarded one point.

END OF MATCH

•Fall

Any part of both shoulders or part of both scapulae of either wrestler held in contact with the mat for one second constitutes a fall. The one-second count (one-thousand-one) shall be a silent count by the referee and shall start only after the referee is in position to observe that a fall is imminent.

•Technical Fall

A technical fall occurs when a wrestler has earned a 15-point advantage and a near fall over the opponent.

•Major Decision

A major decision occurs when the margin of victory after three periods is eight through 14 points.

•Decision

A decision occurs when the margin of victory is fewer than eight points. A decision also is credited to the wrestler who is awarded the first point in an overtime match that does not end with a fall, default or disqualification.

•Default

A default is awarded in a match when one of the wrestlers is unable to continue wrestling for any reason. A default should be included as a win or loss in each wrestler's season record.

•Disqualification

A disqualification is a situation in which a contestant is banned from participation in accordance with a pre-determined penalty table. A disqualification shall be included as a win or loss in each wrestler's season record.

•Forfeit

A forfeit is received by a wrestler when the opponent, for any reason, fails to appear for the match. In order to receive a forfeit or medical forfeit, the nonparticipating wrestler must be dressed in a wrestling uniform and appear on the mat. A forfeit or medical forfeit shall be included as a win in the victor's season record. In the event of injury or illness, a contestant may declare a medical forfeit, which counts as a win but not as a loss on the record.