

NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS

EDMOND, Okla. -- Defending champion Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) is the pre-season pick to win the NCAA Division II national wrestling championship in 1996-97, according to the first NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll of the season.

The Mountain Cats earned their first-ever NCAA II wrestling title last year, snapping Central Oklahoma's four-year reign as national champions by five points. Pittsburgh-Johnstown's No. 1 ranking ends UCO's long hold on the top spot as the Bronchos had been rated No. 1 in every NCAA II poll since Jan. 27, 1993.

UPJ received nine first-place votes and finished with 197 points, while Central Oklahoma earned the remaining first-place ballot and is second with 188 points. Northern Colorado is third, with Nebraska-Omaha fourth and South Dakota State fifth.

Rounding out the top 10 is West Liberty (W. Va.), San Francisco State, Western State (Colo.), Ashland (Ohio) and Mankato State (Minn.)

The Mountain Cats have six All-Americans back from last year's championship team and have two individuals ranked No. 1 in the pre-season -- 118-pounder John Strittmatter and 142-pounder Tony Albertelli, both national runners-up last year.

UCO returns four All-Americans, with returning national champions Shawn Bateman (150) and Mark Cunningham (167) both ranked No. 1.

West Liberty is the only other team with two top-ranked individuals as 177-pounder Scott Shipman and 190-pounder Branden Hinkle are both No. 1.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their 1996 national tournament finish:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>'96</i>	<i>National</i>	<i>Finish</i>
1.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) (9)	197		1st	
2.	Central Oklahoma (1)	188		2nd	
3.	Northern Colorado	169		5th	
4.	Nebraska-Omaha	168		3rd	
5.	South Dakota State	162		4th	
6.	West Liberty (W. Va.)	157		6th	
7.	San Francisco State	129		9th	
8.	Western State (Colo.)	113		10th	
9.	Ashland (Ohio)	109		12th	
10.	Mankato State (Minn.)	103		8th	
11.	Adams State (Colo.)	99		11th	
12.	North Dakota State	97		13th	
13.	Wisconsin-Parkside	94		14th	
14.	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	61		15th	
15.	North Dakota	52		18th	
16.	Colorado School of Mines	51		7th	
17.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	44		16th	
18.	Augustana (S.D.)	35		17th	
19.	Southern Connecticut	17		19th	
20.	Central Missouri State	16		23rd	

Others Receiving Votes: Chadron State (Neb.), Fort Hays State (Kan.), Massachusetts-Lowell, Moorhead State (Minn.), Nebraska-Kearney, Southern Colorado.

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS -- Here are the pre-season rankings for the top eight individuals in each weight for NCAA Division II wrestling:

118 Pounds

1. John Strittmatter, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Johnny Vigil, Western State (Colo.)
3. Travis Phippen, San Francisco State
4. Manual Guzman, Southern Colorado
5. Aaron Gonzalez, Northern Colorado
6. Chad Short, Nebraska-Omaha
7. Lamont Tucker, West Liberty (W. Va.)
8. Karega Scott, Truman State (Mo.)

126 Pounds

1. Mike Barreras, Adams State (Colo.)
2. Matt Goodson, Central Oklahoma
3. Marc Schulze, Mankato State (Minn.)
4. Jessie Shaffer, Colorado School of Mines
5. Carlos Sumulong, San Francisco State
6. Brian Anderson, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
7. Jeff Kapusta, North Dakota State
8. Adam Feldman, South Dakota State

134 Pounds

1. Corey Kline, Ashland (Ohio)
2. Tony Benallo, Northern Colorado
3. Jason Reitmeier, Augustana (S.D.)
4. George Thompson, North Dakota State
5. Francis Aquino, San Francisco State
6. Braumon Creighton, Nebraska-Omaha
7. Chris Heckadon, Central Missouri State
8. Kip Platts, Western State (Colo.)

142 Pounds

1. Tony Albertelli, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Steve Hilas, San Francisco State
3. Travis King, South Dakota State
4. Scott Hewit, Northern Colorado
5. Dmitriy Shlemanov, Southern Connecticut
6. Ryan Vratil, Central Oklahoma
7. Troy Brown, Western State (Colo.)
8. Nate Pellegrini, Shippensburg (Pa.)

150 Pounds

1. Shawn Bateman, Central Oklahoma
2. Andy Reigstad, St. Cloud State (Minn.)
3. James Branch, West Liberty (W. Va.)
4. Chris Blair, Nebraska-Omaha
5. Troy Barbush, Pittsburgh-Johnston (Pa.)
6. Jay Stephan, Northern State (S.D.)
7. Eddie Woody, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
8. Justin Hoopman, Chadron State (Neb.)

158 Pounds

1. Danny Giammo, Carson-Newman (Tenn.)
2. Matt Lucas, Northern Colorado
3. Nate Hendrickson, Moorhead State (Minn.)
4. Rich Fosten, West Liberty (W. Va.)
5. Mark Blaschdo, Nebraska-Kearney
6. Myron Ellegood, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
7. Howard Fullhart, South Dakota State
8. Titus Taylor, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville

167 Pounds

1. Mark Cunningham, Central Oklahoma
2. Jason Wagner, North Dakota
3. T.J. Deaguero, Northern Colorado
4. Kevin O'Neil, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
5. Jeron Quincy, Central Missouri State
6. Deon Brimmage, Indianapolis (Ind.)
7. Corey Arndt, Chadron State (Neb.)
8. Steve Friedrichs, Mankato State (Minn.)

177 Pounds

1. Scott Shipman, West Liberty (W. Va.)
2. Jeremie Ott, Wisconsin-Parkside
3. Jeremy Pascoe, South Dakota State
4. Corry Royal, Nebraska-Omaha
5. Irwin Brambley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
6. Ed Hermson, Chadron State (Neb.)
7. Link Stefen, Southwest State (Minn.)
8. Mike Shadwinkel, Adams State (Colo.)

190 Pounds

1. Pat Kelley III, Nebraska-Omaha
2. Ryan Wolters, North Dakota State
3. Ross Johnson, Mankato State (Minn.)
4. Lee Lofton, San Francisco State
5. Sean Hadwiger, Northern Colorado
6. Jason Carter, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
7. Mike Lozaro, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
8. Tyler Trieglaff, Moorhead State (Minn.)

Heavyweight

1. Shane Carwin, Western State (Colo.)
2. Ryan Resel, South Dakota State
3. Josh Gooch, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
4. Buddy Baston, Pembroke State (N.C.)
5. Don Jones, Adams State (Colo.)
6. Mark Rose, Ashland (Ohio)
7. Miles Weaver, Wisconsin-Parkside
8. Greg O'Neill, Southern Connecticut

NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS

EDMOND, Okla. -- Defending champion Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) held onto the No. 1 ranking in the NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll that was released Wednesday.

The Mountain Cats, the pre-season pick for the top spot after earning their first-ever NCAA II wrestling title last year, received nine first-place votes and finished with 197 points.

Central Oklahoma, which had its four-year reign as national champions ended by UPJ last year, earned the remaining first-place ballot and is second with 190 points. Northern Colorado edged out Nebraska-Omaha by one point for third, while South Dakota State is fifth.

Rounding out the top 10 is West Liberty State (W. Va.), San Francisco State, Western State (Colo.), Ashland (Ohio) and North Dakota State.

Pittsburgh-Johnstown and Central Oklahoma each have two top-ranked individuals. The Mountain Cats have both 118-pounder John Strittmatter and 142-pounder Tony Albertelli ranked No. 1, while the Bronchos have returning national champions Shawn Bateman (150) and Mark Cunningham (167) each listed No. 1.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their 1996 national tournament finish:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Last Ranking</i>
1.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) (9)	197	1
2.	Central Oklahoma (1)	190	2
3.	Northern Colorado	169	3
4.	Nebraska-Omaha	168	4
5.	South Dakota State	156	5
6.	West Liberty State (W. Va.)	154	6
7.	San Francisco State	146	7
8.	Western State (Colo.)	124	8
T9.	Ashland (Ohio)	105	9
T9.	North Dakota State	105	12
11.	Mankato State (Minn.)	99	10
12.	Adams State (Colo.)	96	11
13.	Wisconsin-Parkside	69	13
14.	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	65	14
15.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	47	17
16.	North Dakota	40	15
17.	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	36	NR
18.	Colorado School of Mines	27	16
T19.	Augustana (S.D.)	21	18
T19.	Chadron State (Neb.)	21	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Central Missouri State, Fort Hays State (Kan.), Moorhead State (Minn.), Nebraska-Kearney, Southern Colorado, Southern Connecticut, Truman State.

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS -- Here are the rankings for the top eight individuals in each weight for NCAA Division II wrestling:

118 Pounds

1. John Strittmatter, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Johnny Vigil, Western State (Colo.)
3. Travis Phippen, San Francisco State
4. Aaron Gonzalez, Northern Colorado
5. Chad Short, Nebraska-Omaha
6. Karega Scott, Truman State (Mo.)
7. Cody Bickley, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
8. Brock Moore, Central Oklahoma

126 Pounds

1. Mike Barreras, Adams State (Colo.)
2. Matt Goodson, Central Oklahoma
3. Marc Schulze, Mankato State (Minn.)
4. Jessie Shaffer, Colorado School of Mines
5. Carlos Sumulong, San Francisco State
6. Brian Anderson, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
7. Jeff Kapusta, North Dakota State
8. Adam Feldman, South Dakota State

134 Pounds

1. Corey Kline, Ashland (Ohio)
2. Tony Benallo, Northern Colorado
3. Jason Reitmeier, Augustana (S.D.)
4. Francis Aquino, San Francisco State
5. Josh Sammons, South Dakota State
6. George Thompson, North Dakota State
7. Braumon Creighton, Nebraska-Omaha
8. Kip Platts, Western State (Colo.)

142 Pounds

1. Tony Albertelli, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Steve Hilas, San Francisco State
3. Travis King, South Dakota State
4. Scott Hewit, Northern Colorado
5. Dmitriy Shlemanov, Southern Connecticut
6. Ryan Vratil, Central Oklahoma
7. Troy Brown, Western State (Colo.)
8. Brad Shefchik, Wisconsin-Parkside

150 Pounds

1. Shawn Bateman, Central Oklahoma
2. Andy Reigstad, St. Cloud State (Minn.)
3. James Branch, West Liberty (W. Va.)
4. Chris Blair, Nebraska-Omaha
5. Troy Barbush, Pittsburgh-Johnston (Pa.)
6. Eddie Woody, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
7. Joe Cartwright, Adams State (Colo.)
8. Justin Hoopman, Chadron State (Neb.)

158 Pounds

1. Matt Lucas, Northern Colorado
2. Nate Hendrickson, Moorhead State (Minn.)
3. Rich Fosten, West Liberty (W. Va.)
4. Mark Blaschdo, Nebraska-Kearney
5. Myron Ellegood, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
6. Titus Taylor, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
7. Greg Johnson, San Francisco State
8. M. Winchester, Shippensburg (Pa.)

167 Pounds

1. Mark Cunningham, Central Oklahoma
2. Jason Wagner, North Dakota
3. T.J. Deaguero, Northern Colorado
4. Kevin O'Neil, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
5. Corey Arndt, Chadron State (Neb.)
6. Jeron Quincy, Central Missouri State
7. Deon Brimmage, Indianapolis (Ind.)
8. Steve Friedrichs, Mankato State (Minn.)

177 Pounds

1. Scott Shipman, West Liberty (W. Va.)
2. Jeremie Ott, Wisconsin-Parkside
3. Jeremy Pascoe, South Dakota State
4. Corry Royal, Nebraska-Omaha
5. Irwin Brambley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
6. Ed Hermson, Chadron State (Neb.)
7. Mike Shadwinkel, Adams State (Colo.)
8. Tim Pomfret, Ashland (Ohio)

190 Pounds

1. Pat Kelley III, Nebraska-Omaha
2. Ryan Wolters, North Dakota State
3. Ross Johnson, Mankato State (Minn.)
4. Lee Lofton, San Francisco State
5. Sean Hadwiger, Northern Colorado
6. Jason Carter, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
7. Mike Lozaro, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
8. Tyler Trieglaff, Moorhead State (Minn.)

Heavyweight

1. Shane Carwin, Western State (Colo.)
2. Jerry Corner, Nebraska-Omaha
3. Ryan Resel, South Dakota State
4. Josh Gooch, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
5. Buddy Baston, Pembroke State (N.C.)
6. Dan Jones, Adams State (Colo.)
7. Miles Weaver, Wisconsin-Parkside
8. Greg O'Neill, Southern Connecticut

NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING RANKINGS

EDMOND, Okla. -- Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) once again held onto the No. 1 ranking in the NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll that was released Tuesday.

The Mountain Cats, the defending national champions who were atop the first two polls this season, received eight first-place votes and finished with 197 points.

Central Oklahoma, which had its four-year reign as national champions ended by UPJ last year, earned one first-place ballot and is second with 191 points. Nebraska-Omaha received the final first-place vote and is third with 169 points, while South Dakota State edged West Liberty State (W. Va.) for fourth, 157-155.

Rounding out the top 10 is Northern Colorado, San Francisco State, Western State (Colo.), North Dakota State and Adams State (Colo.).

Chadron State (Neb.) made the biggest jump, moving from a 19th-place tie to No. 11, while Southern Illinois-Edwardsville advanced from 17th to 13th in the poll. Two teams, No. 17 Central Missouri State and No. 20 Fort Hays State, cracked the top 20 after receiving votes in the last poll.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their 1996 national tournament finish:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Last Ranking</i>
1.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) (8)	197	1
2.	Central Oklahoma (1)	191	2
6.	Northern Colorado	150	3
3.	Nebraska-Omaha (1)	178	4
4.	South Dakota State	157	5
5.	West Liberty State (W. Va.)	155	6
7.	San Francisco State	148	7
8.	Western State (Colo.)	133	8
9.	North Dakota State	111	10
10.	Adams State (Colo.)	95	12
11.	Chadron State (Neb.)	88	19
12.	Mankato State (Minn.)	79	11
13.	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	69	17
14.	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	66	14
15.	Ashland (Ohio)	64	9
16.	Wisconsin-Parkside	60	13
17.	Central Missouri State	36	NR
18.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	31	15
19.	Colorado School of Mines	25	18
20.	Fort Hays State (Kan.)	23	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Augustana, Moorhead State (Minn.), Nebraska-Kearney, North Dakota, Southern Connecticut.

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The Mountain Cats, the defending national champions who have been No. 1 in every poll this season, received eight first-place votes and finished with 197 points.

Central Oklahoma, which had its four-year reign as national champions ended by UPJ last year, earned two first-place votes and is second with 190 points. Nebraska-Omaha received the final first-place vote and is third with 177 points, while South Dakota State is fourth and West Liberty State (W. Va.) and San Francisco State are tied for fifth.

Rounding out the top 10 is Western State (Colo.), North Dakota State, Chadron State (Neb.) and Northern Colorado.

Pittsburgh-Johnstown is led by a pair of top-ranked individuals -- 118-pounder John Strittmatter and 142-pounder Tony Albertelli.

Thirteen of the top 20 teams -- including six from the top 10 -- will be in Edmond this weekend to compete in the NCAA Division II Showdown Duals.

Joining host and No. 2-ranked Central Oklahoma in the 16-team field will be No. 3 Nebraska-Omaha, No. 5 San Francisco State, No. 7 Western State, No. 9 Chadron State, No. 10 Northern Colorado, No. 12 SIU-Edwardsville, No. 14 Ashland, No. 15 Adams State, No. 16 Wisconsin-Parkside, No. 17 Carson-Newman, No. 18 Fort Hays State, No. 19 Central Missouri State and No. 20 Nebraska-Kearney.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their 1996 national tournament finish:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Last Ranking</i>
1.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) (7)	197	1
2.	Central Oklahoma (2)	190	2
3.	Nebraska-Omaha (1)	177	3
4.	South Dakota State	159	4
T5.	West Liberty State (W. Va.)	156	5
T5.	San Francisco State	156	7
7.	Western State (Colo.)	125	8
8.	North Dakota State	122	9
9.	Chadron State (Neb.)	101	11
10.	Northern Colorado	98	6
11.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	79	18
12.	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	67	13
13.	Mankato State (Minn.)	65	12
14.	Ashland (Ohio)	63	15
15.	Adams State (Colo.)	61	10
16.	Wisconsin-Parkside	60	16
17.	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	54	14
18.	Fort Hays State (Kan.)	51	20
19.	Central Missouri State	44	17
20.	Nebraska-Kearney	17	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Augustana, Colorado School of Mines, Gardner-Webb (N.C.), Massachusetts-Lowell, Moorhead State (Minn.), North Dakota, Shippensburg (Pa.), Southern Colorado, Southern Connecticut.

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS -- Here are the rankings for the top eight individuals in each weight for NCAA Division II wrestling:

118 Pounds

1. John Strittmatter, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Johnny Vigil, Western State (Colo.)
3. Keith Kizarr, Central Oklahoma
4. Erin Razo, North Dakota
5. Chad Short, Nebraska-Omaha
6. Cody Bickley, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
7. Naret Viravong, Carson-Newman (Tenn.)
8. Mike Bailey, Central Missouri State

126 Pounds

1. Brian Anderson, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
2. Jeff Kapusta, North Dakota State
3. Craig Otto, Western State (Colo.)
4. Mike Barreras, Adams State (Colo.)
5. Jessie Shaffer, Colorado School of Mines
6. Adam Feldman, South Dakota State
7. Roger Spear, Wisconsin-Parkside
8. Marc Schulze, Mankato State (Minn.)

134 Pounds

1. Corey Kline, Ashland (Ohio)
2. Francis Aquino, San Francisco State
3. Josh Sammons, South Dakota State
4. George Thompson, North Dakota State
5. Matt Goodson, Central Oklahoma
6. Braumon Creighton, Nebraska-Omaha
7. Kip Platts, Western State (Colo.)
8. Calvin Buhler, Truman State (Mo.)

142 Pounds

1. Tony Albertelli, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Steve Hilas, San Francisco State
3. Tony Benallo, Northern Colorado
4. Travis King, South Dakota State
5. Jason Reitmeier, Augustana (S.D.)
6. Dmitriy Shlemanov, Southern Connecticut
7. Ryan Vratil, Central Oklahoma
8. Troy Brown, Western State (Colo.)

150 Pounds

1. Shawn Bateman, Central Oklahoma
2. Andy Reigstad, St. Cloud State (Minn.)
3. James Branch, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
4. Chris Blair, Nebraska-Omaha
5. Joe Cartwright, Adams State (Colo.)
6. Eddie Woody, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
7. Justin Hoopman, Chadron State (Neb.)
8. Wayne Mooney, North Dakota State

158 Pounds

1. Rich Fosten, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
2. Troy Barbush, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
3. Chris Johnecheck, North Dakota
4. Myron Ellegood, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
5. Mark Blaschko, Nebraska-Kearney
6. Greg Jackson, San Francisco State
7. Matt Surber, Central Oklahoma
8. Dan Lovell, Nebraska-Omaha

167 Pounds

1. Jason Wagner, North Dakota
2. Kevin O'Neil, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
3. Jeron Quincy, Central Missouri State
4. Nate Hendrickson, Moorhead State (Minn.)
5. Mark Cunningham, Central Oklahoma
6. T.J. Deaguero, Northern Colorado
7. Kevin Allison, Chadron State (Neb.)
8. Steve Friedrichs, Mankato State (Minn.)

177 Pounds

1. Scott Shipman, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
2. Jeremie Ott, Wisconsin-Parkside
3. Jeremy Pascoe, South Dakota State
4. Irwin Brambley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
5. Ed Hermson, Chadron State (Neb.)
6. Corry Royal, Nebraska-Omaha
7. Mike Shadwinkel, Adams State (Colo.)
8. Deon Brimmage, Indianapolis (Ind.)

190 Pounds

1. Ryan Wolters, North Dakota State
2. Pat Kelley III, Nebraska-Omaha
3. Ross Johnson, Mankato State (Minn.)
4. Lee Lofton, San Francisco State
5. Sean Hadwiger, Northern Colorado
6. Jason Carter, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
7. Mike Lozaro, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
8. Tyler Trieglaff, Moorhead State (Minn.)

Heavyweight

1. Shane Carwin, Western State (Colo.)
2. Jerry Corner, Nebraska-Omaha
3. Ryan Resel, South Dakota State
4. Josh Gooch, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
5. Buddy Batson, Pembroke State (N.C.)
6. Mitch Schlepp, Southern Colorado
7. Steve Brown, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
8. Levi Hilmer, Moorhead State (Minn.)

NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING RANKINGS

EDMOND, Okla. -- Nebraska-Omaha took over the No. 1 ranking in the NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll that was released Tuesday, moving up from No. 3 to overtake defending national champion and previous No. 1 Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.).

The Mavericks defeated then-No. 2 Central Oklahoma 25-16 in the finals of the NCAA Division II Showdown Duals on Jan. 25 and beat No. 4 South Dakota State 21-16 in a North Central Conference match last week to move into the top spot with four first-place votes and 194 points. UNO and UCO will meet again on Feb. 14 in Omaha, Neb.

The Mountain Cats, who had been No. 1 in every poll this season, received more first-place votes (six) but had 191 points.

Central Oklahoma, which had its four-year reign as national champions ended by UPJ last year, dropped to third with 180 points. South Dakota State is fourth, with West Liberty State (W.Va.) fifth and San Francisco State sixth.

Rounding out the top 10 is Western State (Colo.), North Dakota State, Chadron State (Neb.) and Mankato State (Minn.).

Debuting in the top 20 rankings this week were Southern Colorado at No. 17 and North Dakota at No. 20.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their ranking in the last poll on Jan. 21:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Last Ranking</i>
1.	Nebraska-Omaha (4)	194	3
2.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) (6)	191	1
3.	Central Oklahoma	180	2
4.	South Dakota State	164	4
5.	West Liberty State (W. Va.)	155	T5
6.	San Francisco State	154	T5
7.	Western State (Colo.)	134	7
8.	North Dakota State	133	8
T9.	Chadron State (Neb.)	110	9
T9.	Mankato State (Minn.)	110	13
11.	Northern Colorado	94	10
12.	Fort Hays State (Kan.)	73	17
13.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	66	11
14.	Ashland (Ohio)	62	14
15.	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	56	12
16.	Central Missouri State	55	18
17.	Southern Colorado	36	NR
18.	Wisconsin-Parkside	35	16
19.	Adams State (Colo.)	32	15
20.	North Dakota	13	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Augustana, Carson-Newman (Tenn.), Colorado School of Mines, Moorhead State (Minn.), Nebraska-Kearney, Shippensburg (Pa.), Southern Connecticut.

NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING RANKINGS

EDMOND, Okla. -- Nebraska-Omaha retained the No. 1 ranking in the NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll that was released Tuesday.

The Mavericks, 11-1 in duals, defeated Central Oklahoma 19-16 last Saturday and received all 10 first-place votes in the balloting to keep their top ranking. UNO is seeking its first national title since 1991.

UCO, national champion four times and runner-up three times since joining NCAA Division II in 1990, moved up from third to second following the loss to UNO.

West Liberty State (W. Va.) advanced from fifth to third, its highest-ever NCAA Division II ranking, after a 22-19 dual win over defending national champion Pittsburgh-Johnstown. The Mountain Cats, who had been No. 1 in the first four polls this season, are fourth and South Dakota State is fifth.

Rounding out the top 10 is San Francisco State, Western State (Colo.), North Dakota State, Chadron State (Neb.) and Northern Colorado.

Debuting in the top 20 rankings this week is Truman State (Mo.) at No. 18.

Pittsburgh-Johnstown and West Liberty State each has two top-ranked individuals. The Mountain Cats are led by 118-pounder John Strittmatter and 142-pounder Tony Albertelli, while the Hilltoppers have 158-pounder Rich Foston and 177-pounder Scott Shipman both rated No. 1.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their ranking in the last poll on Feb. 4:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Last Ranking</i>
1.	Nebraska-Omaha (10)	200	1
2.	Central Oklahoma	183	3
3.	West Liberty State (W. Va.)	172	5
4.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)	170	2
5.	South Dakota State	164	4
6.	San Francisco State	153	6
7.	Western State (Colo.)	137	7
8.	North Dakota State	131	8
9.	Chadron State (Neb.)	105	T9
10.	Northern Colorado	103	11
11.	Mankato State (Minn.)	84	T9
12.	Fort Hays State (Kan.)	75	12
13.	Wisconsin-Parkside	74	18
14.	Ashland (Ohio)	70	14
15.	Central Missouri State	52	16
16.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	48	13
17.	Southern Colorado	41	17
18.	Truman State (Mo.)	26	NR
19.	Adams State (Colo.)	24	19
20.	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	20	15

Others Receiving Votes: Augustana, Carson-Newman (Tenn.), Colorado School of Mines, Gannon (Pa.), Gardner-Webb (N.C.), Moorhead State (Minn.), Nebraska-Kearney, North Dakota, Shippensburg (Pa.).

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS -- Here are the rankings for the top eight individuals in each weight for NCAA Division II wrestling:

118 Pounds

1. John Strittmatter, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Karega Scott, Truman State (Mo.)
3. Keith Kizarr, Central Oklahoma
4. Erin Razo, North Dakota
5. Ralph Dasti, Chadron State (Neb.)
6. Johnny Vigil, Western State (Colo.)
7. Mike Bailey, Central Missouri State
8. Cody Bickley, Fort Hays State (Kan.)

126 Pounds

1. Brian Anderson, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
2. Craig Otto, Western State (Colo.)
3. Adam Feldman, South Dakota State
4. Scott Braun, North Dakota
5. Jeff Kapusta, North Dakota State
6. Chad Red, Indianapolis (Ind.)
7. Marc Schulze, Mankato State (Minn.)
8. Lamont Tucker, West Liberty State (W. Va.)

134 Pounds

1. Francis Aquino, San Francisco State
2. Corey Kline, Ashland (Ohio)
3. Josh Sammons, South Dakota State
4. George Thompson, North Dakota State
5. Kip Platts, Western State (Colo.)
6. Braumon Creighton, Nebraska-Omaha
7. Matt Goodson, Central Oklahoma
8. Issac Greeley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)

142 Pounds

1. Tony Albertelli, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Steve Hilas, San Francisco State
3. Tony Benallo, Northern Colorado
4. Jason Reitmeier, Augustana (S.D.)
5. Travis King, South Dakota State
6. Dmitriy Shlemanov, Southern Connecticut
7. Ryan Vratil, Central Oklahoma
8. Troy Brown, Western State (Colo.)

150 Pounds

1. Shawn Bateman, Central Oklahoma
2. Andy Reigstad, St. Cloud State (Minn.)
3. James Branch, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
4. Chris Blair, Nebraska-Omaha
5. Benny Charles, Southern Colorado
6. Eddie Woody, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
7. Justin Hoopman, Chadron State (Neb.)
8. Joe Cartwright, Adams State (Colo.)

158 Pounds

1. Rich Foston, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
2. Troy Barbush, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
3. Matt Surber, Central Oklahoma
4. Matt Skattum, Northern State (S.D.)
5. Greg Jackson, San Francisco State
6. Myron Ellegood, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
7. Mark Blaschko, Nebraska-Kearney
8. Dan Lovell, Nebraska-Omaha

167 Pounds

1. T.J. Deaguero, Northern Colorado
2. Jason Wagner, North Dakota
3. Kevin O'Neil, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
4. Nate Hendrickson, Moorhead State (Minn.)
5. Jeron Quincy, Central Missouri State
6. Mark Cunningham, Central Oklahoma
7. Steve Friedrichs, Mankato State (Minn.)
8. Tim Pomfret, Ashland (Ohio)

177 Pounds

1. Scott Shipman, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
2. Jeremy Pascoe, South Dakota State
3. Corry Royal, Nebraska-Omaha
4. Jeremie Ott, Wisconsin-Parkside
5. Ed Hermson, Chadron State (Neb.)
6. Irwin Brambley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
7. Tom Wagner, Northern Colorado
8. Charlie Higdon, Carson-Newman (Tenn.)

190 Pounds

1. Ryan Wolters, North Dakota State
2. Ross Johnson, Mankato State (Minn.)
3. Pat Kelley III, Nebraska-Omaha
4. Lee Lofton, San Francisco State
5. Jason Carter, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
6. Corey Arndt, Chadron State (Neb.)
7. Tyler Trieglaff, Moorhead State (Minn.)
8. Todd Schlater, West Liberty State (W. Va.)

Heavyweight

1. Shane Carwin, Western State (Colo.)
2. Ryan Resel, South Dakota State
3. Jerry Corner, Nebraska-Omaha
4. Josh Gooch, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
5. Buddy Batson, Pembroke State (N.C.)
6. Mitch Schlepp, Southern Colorado
7. Levi Hilmer, Moorhead State (Minn.)
8. Greg O'Neil, Southern Connecticut

NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING RANKINGS

EDMOND, Okla. -- South Dakota State's championship in the North Central Conference vaulted the Jackrabbits from fifth to No. 1 in the final NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll Tuesday.

In a close race that saw five teams get at least one No. 1 vote, SDSU received three first-place votes and finished with 187 points to edge Central Oklahoma for the top spot. The Bronchos, who had their four-year reign as national champions ended last year, were listed first on four ballots and finished with 185 points after capturing the Midwest Regional title last week.

Defending champion Pittsburgh-Johnstown, winners of the East Regional, had one first-place vote and 175 points for third, while West Liberty State was fourth with 174 points after winning the South Regional. Nebraska-Omaha fell from No. 1 to No. 5 after finishing second in the NCC, getting one first-place nod and 170 points.

Rounding out the top 10 was San Francisco State, Western State (Colo.), Northern Colorado, North Dakota State and Fort Hays State (Kan.). The Gators, who won the West Regional, received the remaining first-place vote.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships will be held March 14-15 in Fargo, N.D.

Central Oklahoma, Pittsburgh-Johnstown and West Liberty State each qualified eight individuals for the national tournament, while San Francisco State and Western State both have seven. Top-ranked South Dakota State, Nebraska-Omaha, Northern Colorado and North Dakota State all qualified six to Fargo.

The NCAA Division II Wrestling Coaches' Association Top 20 poll with total points (first-place votes in parentheses) and their ranking in the last poll on Feb. 18:

<i>Rank</i>	<i>School (State)</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Last Ranking</i>
1.	South Dakota State (3)	187	5
2.	Central Oklahoma (4)	185	2
3.	Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.) (1)	175	4
4.	West Liberty State (W. Va.)	174	3
5.	Nebraska-Omaha (1)	170	1
6.	San Francisco State (1)	159	6
7.	Western State (Colo.)	133	7
8.	Northern Colorado	129	10
9.	North Dakota State	123	8
10.	Fort Hays State (Kan.)	91	12
11.	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	83	20
12.	Mankato State (Minn.)	78	11
13.	Southern Colorado	72	17
14.	Chadron State (Neb.)	67	9
15.	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	56	NR
16.	Ashland (Ohio)	50	14
17.	Augustana (S.D.)	37	NR
18.	Adams State (Colo.)	26	19
19.	Moorhead State (Minn.)	25	NR
20.	St. Cloud State (Minn.)	19	16

Others Receiving Votes: Central Missouri State, Colorado School of Mines, Gardner-Webb (N.C.), North Dakota, Truman State (Mo.), Shippensburg (Pa.), Southern Connecticut, Wisconsin-Parkside.

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS -- Here are the rankings for the top eight individuals in each weight for NCAA Division II wrestling:

118 Pounds

1. John Strittmatter, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Keith Kizarr, Central Oklahoma
3. Karega Scott, Truman State (Mo.)
4. Chad Wickman, South Dakota State
5. Johnny Vigil, Western State (Colo.)
6. Damon Broadbent, San Francisco State
7. Erin Razo, North Dakota
8. Cody Bickley, Fort Hays State (Kan.)

126 Pounds

1. Brian Anderson, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
2. Craig Otto, Western State (Colo.)
3. Adam Feldman, South Dakota State
4. Scott Braun, North Dakota
5. Jeff Kapusta, North Dakota State
6. Chad Red, Indianapolis (Ind.)
7. Marc Schulze, Mankato State (Minn.)
8. Jessie Shaffer, Colorado School of Mines

134 Pounds

1. Francis Aquino, San Francisco State
2. Corey Kline, Ashland (Ohio)
3. Braumon Creighton, Nebraska-Omaha
4. Josh Sammons, South Dakota State
5. Mike Barreras, Adams State (Colo.)
6. Matt Goodson, Central Oklahoma
7. George Thompson, North Dakota State
8. Issac Greeley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)

142 Pounds

1. Tony Albertelli, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
2. Travis King, South Dakota State
3. Tony Benallo, Northern Colorado
4. Ryan Vratil, Central Oklahoma
5. Troy Brown, Western State (Colo.)
6. Steve Hilas, San Francisco State
7. Jason Reitmeier, Augustana (S.D.)
8. Dmitriy Shlemanov, Southern Connecticut

150 Pounds

1. Andy Reigstad, St. Cloud State (Minn.)
2. James Branch, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
3. Eddie Woody, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
4. Chance Stoesser, Augustana (S.D.)
5. Scot Hewit, Northern Colorado
6. Chris Blair, Nebraska-Omaha
7. Marc Hogdson, Nebraska-Kearney
8. Benny Charles, Southern Colorado

158 Pounds

1. Rich Foston, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
2. Troy Barbush, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
3. Matt Surber, Central Oklahoma
4. Greg Jackson, San Francisco State
5. Matt Skattum, Northern State (S.D.)
6. Mark Blaschko, Nebraska-Kearney
7. Myron Ellegood, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
8. Mark Pazdernik, North Dakota State

167 Pounds

1. T.J. Deaguero, Northern Colorado
2. Kevin O'Neil, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
3. Jason Wagner, North Dakota
4. Nate Hendrickson, Moorhead State (Minn.)
5. Mark Cunningham, Central Oklahoma
6. Jeron Quincy, Central Missouri State
7. Brent Svendsen, North Dakota State
8. Vinnie Mehovic, Gardner-Webb (N.C.)

177 Pounds

1. Scott Shipman, West Liberty State (W. Va.)
2. Corry Royal, Nebraska-Omaha
3. Jeremy Pascoe, South Dakota State
4. Ed Hermson, Chadron State (Neb.)
5. Irwin Brambley, Pittsburgh-Johnstown (Pa.)
6. Tom Wagner, Northern Colorado
7. Charlie Higdon, Carson-Newman (Tenn.)
8. Link Steffan, Southwest State (Minn.)

190 Pounds

1. Jason Schumacher, Augustana (S.D.)
2. Ross Johnson, Mankato State (Minn.)
3. Pat Kelley III, Nebraska-Omaha
4. Ryan Wolters, North Dakota State
5. Corey Arndt, Chadron State (Neb.)
6. Lee Lofton, San Francisco State
7. Jason Carter, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville
8. James Short, Gardner-Webb (N.C.)

Heavyweight

1. Shane Carwin, Western State (Colo.)
2. Ryan Resel, South Dakota State
3. Josh Gooch, Fort Hays State (Kan.)
4. Chris Villalobos, Northern Colorado
5. Jerry Corner, Nebraska-Omaha
6. Patrick O'Shea, Carson-Newman (Tenn.)
7. Jack Anders, West Liberty (W. Va.)
8. Greg O'Neil, Southern Connecticut