MatStats Episode 32
Wednesday May 15th, 2024, 3PM EDT

Meet the New Boss
Same as the Old Boss

Episode
32-1

The gang at MatStats uses data and stats to determine who had the best collegiate wrestling team since 1974. The battle comes down to the old Iowa teams and the 2024 Penn State team. If you want to have an educated opinion on the best team since 1974, MatStats provides a stats and analytics education for the viewers.

I Feel Like A Number

To the fans I'm just a drone
To my wireless service I'm just another phone
I'm just a statistic on a bout sheet
To the teachers I'm just another child
To the IRS I'm just another file
I'm just a correlation on the stat sheet

I feel like a number
I feel like a number
I'm not a number, I'm not a number

Jenny, Jenny had perhaps the most famous phone number in American history.

867-5309

MatStats, MatStats, who can I turn to?

You give me something I could hold on to

I know you think I'm like the others before

Who saw your name and number on the wall.

…………….

867-5309

Mat-Stats

Mat-Stats

Are there any disclaimers MatStats needs to let everyone know about their shows?

The Opinions Expressed on this show do not necessarily reflect any policies or opinions of the NWCA. Also, the MatStats guys do not always agree on all things discussed on their shows.

- MatStats is a subsidiary of the NWCA but is a separate entity that voices its own opinions on its statistical analysis.

- MatStats three hosts, Gormley, Bryant, and Hazard are all equally responsible for all the good outcomes. Gormley for the bad feedback.

- Gormley writes the Power Points and selects the topics. Gormley uses the term MatStats often, but many times it is Gormley's opinion alone.

- Gormley does the stats work and then the three hosts & occasionally guests brainstorm about Gormley's findings and ideas.

- MatStats is designed to have educated thoughts and opinions to help the world's oldest and greatest sport.

- Wrestling is all about settling disagreements. The hosts are too old to settle these disagreements on the mat.

- Sometimes we agree, sometimes we disagree. It makes the world go round.

MatStats is based on numbers, stats, and analyzing them. It starts with facts not opinions.

Episode 32-5

- MatStats is a numbers show.
- Thus, the name MatStats. Not MatOpinions.
- Gorms was remiss not explaining this from the get-go. Gorms lives in a numbers world and is starting to get the feeling not everyone does lol.
- Feedback from the Tribe alumni during this show has made Gorms realize he needs to address this and try to educate people with numbers. Thank you, Dr. Powell, for one of your texts.

MatStats is a show that revolves around stats, but there is a reason we have balance on the show. Not all answers have a numeric quantifiable component.

Episode 32-6

- Let's have the two on the show that know wrestling weigh in on based their decades around the sport (Jason & Kevin – and at times guests).

- To paraphrase the Ramones – Gormley needs to be sedated.

- Much to the chagrin of Gorms (The Sultan of Stat), not everything can be quantified with a number(s). You can't put a number on why Babe Ruth (The Sultan of Swat) hit 714 HRs, but we can put a number on how many he hit.

- We will provide answers before the conclusion of this show. If it is not in the numbers, we will do our best to provide answers. One thing you learn in MBA school is find an answer. A consultant's answer can not be hiring a blue-ribbon panel. You went to MBA school to be the blue-ribbon panel.

Can MatStats provide the viewers with a monthly update on the number of men & women's NCAA & NAIA teams?

As of 5/13/24, there are **504** men & women's wrestling teams in the NCAA & NAIA.

Category	Men	Women	Total	Most ever Men's Teams	Year	Most Ever Total Teams	Years
NCAA D1	81	4	85	146	1982	146	1982
NCAA D2	74	32	106	74	2024	106	2024
NCAA D3	129	64	193	149	1982	193	2024
NCAA	284	100	384	363*	1982	384	2023
NAIA	73	47	120			120	2024
4 Year	357	147	504			504	2024

- - Note the NCAA reports 393 men's teams in 1972, but they do not know how many were "non-varsity/sub-varsity" teams.

If all goes well, the first NCAA Women's Wrestling Championship will be in the winter of 2026.

Episode 32-8

- Following the committee's recommendation, the projected timeline to add a women's wrestling championship is:

- Each division is expected to review the recommendation and sponsor a proposal by its respective 2024-25 legislative cycle deadline.

- The recommendation also includes establishing a Women's Wrestling Committee, which would begin its work in January 2025, to allow time to prepare for a championship in winter 2026.

- If sponsored, the divisions are expected to vote on the proposals during the 2025 NCAA Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, Jan. 15-18.

- If adopted on that timeline, the first women's wrestling championship would be held in winter 2026.

- The board approved $1.7 million in Association-wide funding — $200,000 in fiscal year 2025 and $1.5 million in fiscal year 2026 — for establishing a National Collegiate women's wrestling championship, with the first championship occurring in the 2025-26 academic year.

Where does the 2024 PSU team rank among the greatest teams ever?

- On Episode #21 (6/21/23), MatStats did an evaluation of the greatest teams ever.

- Where does this 2024 We Are Penn State rank among the greatest teams ever?

Other than watching wrestling, talking about wrestling is the best way to spend time. MatStats just trying to make wrestling a 365 day/year sport for the fans.

Episode 32-10

- We now have a debate on the greatest wrestling team ever.
- MatStats is here to educate the fans and help them with their debates on this subject.
- MatStats is trying to remove school loyalty from the debate in our show.
- MatStats does not think they can remove this from all our viewers.
- School loyalty makes college sports great.
- There is nothing like a Saturday Down South. #ItJustMeansMore

MatStats uses the following 7 categories to help determine the greatest team since 1974.

- 1) Number of champions.
- 2) Number of All-Americans.
- 3) Number of team points.
- 4) Margin of points 1st place vs 2nd place team.
- 5) Percentage of total team points for the champion vs all team points in the tournament.
- 6) Comparing the "real" 2023 team points from 1974-2023. A wrestling statistician way of adjusting for "inflation.
- 7) Points above Replacement – a take from WAR (Wins Above Replacement) for Baseball Stats junkies.
- 8) Team Win Loss Records at NCAAs.

Note – #5 & #6 will be highly correlated. Very close to +1.0. They are essentially drawn from the same urn.

Teams with most Champions

- **One of the most common factors in Bar Room debates for deciding on the best ever is the number of rings.**

- **Where does 2024 PSU rank in this category?**

There have been 5 times that a team has had 5 individual champions.

School	Year	Champs	AA	Team Points	% of all points	Margin over 2nd
Iowa	1997	5	8	170.00	12.27%	56.50
Iowa	1986	5	8	158.00	13.07%	73.75
OK State	2005	5	7	153.00	9.70%	70.00
PSU	2022	5	6	131.50	9.63%	36.50
PSU	2017	5	6	146.50	10.17%	36.50

The number of champions is nice place to start when determining the greatest team ever, but by no means is the best method.

- In 2022, PSU had 5 champions, 6 AAs, 131.5 team points, and a 36.5-point margin over the runner up team.

- In 2024, PSU had 4 Champions, 2 runner ups, 8 AAs, 172.5 team points, and a 100-point margin over the second-place team.

- To claim the 2022 PSU team was better than the 2024 PSU team is what is known as a statistical bias. In other words, poor data collection.

- With this logic some fool would claim Big Shot Robert Horry (7 NBA rings) was better than Wilt Chamberlain (2 NBA rings). Wilt was known as "The Record Book" for a reason.

Teams with most All Americans

- Where does the 2024 PSU team rank among the teams with the most AA's?
- Is this a best metric to determine the greatest team ever?

What teams have had the most All-Americans in one year?

9 teams have had at least 9 AA's.
2 of these are pre-1974.

School	Year	AA	Champ	Team Pts	% Pts	Margin
Minn	2001	10	0	138.50	9.08%	13.00
Iowa	1983	9	4	155.00	15.02%	53.00
Iowa	1992	9	3	149.00	13.27%	48.50
Iowa State	1969*	9	3	104.00	11.33%	35.00
Iowa	1991	9	2	157.00	13.22%	48.25
Iowa	1985	9	2	145.25	12.67%	46.75
Iowa	1981	9	2	129.75	13.06%	28.50
Iowa State	1965*	9	2	87.00	14.65%	1.00
Iowa	1995	9	1	134.00	10.83%	56.50

8 AAs per weight class did not start until 1979.

The number of AAs on a team is a great stat to measure the team's depth, but not the best way to determine the greatest team ever.

- In 2024, PSU had 8 AA's.
- There were 9 teams with 9+ before 2024.
- There have been at least 14 teams now with 8 AA's.
- If we use the number of AAs as a judgement point, that will mean there were 9 teams better than PSU 2024 and they would just be a top 25 team.
- That conclusion is absurd.
- The only post 1974 team with 9+ AA's that is in the same conversation with the 2024 PSU team is the 1983 Iowa team.
- The number of AA's is a great way to determine a team's depth, but not the end all to be all way to determine the greatest team ever.

In 2024, PSU set the NCAA record with the most team points (172.5).

- **The 2024 Nittany Lions set the NCAA Men's D1 record with 172.5 team points. Does this stat alone make them the greatest team ever?**

- **Have all team scores from past NCAA Championships been "drawn from the same urn"?**

Based on team points, who is the best team ever?

We Are Penn State set the new team points record (172.5) in 2024.

Rank	Year 1974-2024	Team	Team Points
1	2024	Penn State	172.50
2	1997	Iowa	170.00
3	1986	Iowa	158.00
4	1991	Iowa	157.00
5	1983	Iowa	155.00
6	1992	Iowa	149.00
7	2017	PSU	146.50
8	1985	Iowa	142.25
9	2018	PSU	141.50
10	2001	Minn	138.50
11	2019	PSU	137.50
12	2023	PSU	137.50
13	2010	Iowa	134.50
14	1995	Iowa	134.00
15	1987	Iowa State	133.00

There have been numerous rule changes and increase in the number of matches in the NCAA Men's D1 Championships since 1974 that not all team points are the same.

- Team points are a great way to narrow down the greatest team ever.

- However, it is not a stat that puts this debate to bed.

- Not all team points have been "drawn from the same urn" since 1974.

- Drawn from the same urn is a stats term. In our team points study, not all team points are determined the same way since 1974, nor are there the same number of matches in each NCAA Championships since 1974.

Here is a brief synopsis on how NCAA D1 team scoring has changed through the years and major reasons for the increased scoring.

Episode 32-21

Years	Ave. Pts/Year	Change	% Up/Down
1929-54	124		
1955-62	465	More wrestlers/rule change scoring	275%
1963-71	746	6 AA	60%
1972-78	965	Start Follow Semi (thru 1985)	29%
1979-85	1022	Start 8 AA (Thru Current)	6%
1986-95	1178	Start Follow Quarter	15%
1996-2018	1478	Modified Double Elimination	25%
2019-23	1389	Seed 33	-6%
2024	1428	3 Pt TD and 2,3,4 NF	3%

After 2001, the NCAA changed the placement points for college wrestling. There are now more points awarded for placing 3rd to 8th.

Years	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
1979-2001	16	12	9	7	5	3	2	1
2002-2024	16	12	10	9	7	6	4	3
Change in Placement points after 2001	0	0	+1	+2	+2	+3	+2	+2

MatStats would like to thank the Gimp (Wrestling statistician emeritus) for the data here.

If the 2024 Placement Point values were used in 1997, Iowa would have had 175 team points and still hold the team scoring record.

Episode 32-23

Year	School	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Place Points	Place Points 2024	Team Points 2024
2024	PSU	4	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	105	105	172.5
1997	Iowa	5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	100	105	175

61*

- One of the most famous numbers in baseball history is 61*.

- In 1961 when Roger Maris broke Babe Ruth's single season record for home runs, the then baseball commissioner (Ford Frick) put an asterisk on the number of home runs Maris hit that year.

- The Sultan of Swat hit 60 HRs in 1927 in a 154-game season.

- Maris hit his 61 in 1961 the first-year baseball adopted a 162-game season.

- Gorms thinks this was not a good trend to set.

- Maris set the record for most HRs in a year.

- Was Maris' 1961 season better than Ruth's 1927 season being another debate.

- McGwire, Sosa, and Bonds threw more gas on this fire in the late 90's and early 2000's.

The 2024 PSU team holds the record for most team points. That does not prove they were the best team ever. Nor do any rule changes prove they were not the best team ever.

Episode 32-25

- Baseball is a stats guys dream sport. No other sport has the numbers to debate and analyze like baseball.

- Even with all this data at our disposal, baseball debates rage in bars across America constantly. Most of these debates are never settled.

- Stats, expansion, PEDs, integration, and more people around the world playing baseball seems to be a part of all of this in baseball debate.

- Let's not forget the biggest part of many of these arguments is uneducated opinions.

- For the record, Gorms thinks Ruth's 1927 season was better than 1961 Maris, 1998 McGwire & Sosa, and 2001 Bonds.

The 2024 PSU team has the most points in history, however that does not throw a period on the conversation and end this debate.

- To sum up the total team points metric for determining the greatest team ever -

- It is a very useful metric and needs to be included in any meaningful debate.

- However, the change in placement points, bonus points, the number of wrestlers, & the number of matches make it impossible to say the team with the most ever team points is definitively the greatest team ever.

- Increasing the TD to 3 points in 2024 makes getting a major or tech easier, this affects team point totals.

Margin of Victory over the runner-up team

- **Where does the 2024 PSU team stand in margin of victory of the runner-up team?**

Penn State shattered the victory margin record in 2024. We are was 100 points above runner up Cornell. PSU scored 2.4X as many team points as Cornell.

Episode 32-28

Rank	Year	Team Champion	Team Points	Runner Up	Margin of Victory	% above Runner up	% all team points
1	2024	Penn State	172.50	Cornell	100.00	138%	12.08%
2	1986	Iowa	158.00	Oklahoma	73.75	88%	13.09%
3	2005	OK State	153.00	Michigan	70.00	84%	9.70%
4	1997	Iowa	170.00	OK State	56.50	50%	12.27%
5	1995	Iowa	134.00	Oregon State	56.50	73%	10.83%
6	1983	Iowa	155.00	OK State	53.00	52%	15.02%
7	1992	Iowa	149.00	OK State	48.50	48%	13.27%
8	1991	Iowa	157.00	OK State	48.25	44%	13.22%
9	1985	Iowa	145.25	Oklahoma	46.75	47%	12.67%
10	2010	Iowa	134.50	Cornell	44.50	49%	8.69%
11	1996	Iowa	122.50	Iowa State	44.00	56%	9.31%

The 2024 PSU team was so dominant it takes some time to grasp it.

- The 2024 PSU team was so dominant over the runner-up Cornell that if PSU Carter Starocci (the eventual 4X Champ) injury proved disabling in the first match, they would have had an 80-point margin over Cornell and still set the margin of victory record.

- Let that sink in for a minute.

- PSU could have had all 4 of their eventual national champions points erased, they still would have won the team title.

- You might need more than a minute to let that sink in.

- Would the 1927 Yankees have won the World Series without Ruth & Gehrig?

The margin of victory is a good way to measure how great a team is, but not the only way.

Episode 32-30

- With the margin of victory metric, there is a strong argument that the 2024 PSU team was the greatest ever.

- They stand all by themselves in this metric.

Margin of Victory and parity after the team champion.

- Is it possible that the margin of victory can be deceiving?

- If you control for PSU, was there any parity in the other teams in the top 10?

MOV is a vital stat in PSU corner, however it needs to be looked at with a deeper dive.

Episode 32-32

- The MOV can be deceiving if there is parity from teams 2 to 10 or parity in general.

- If two other NCAA champs had decided to go to Cornell instead of the school they went to, that would make the margin much smaller, but not effect the talent on the 2024 PSU team.

- If Rogers Hornsby (NYG) & Hack Wilson (Cubs) were on the 1927 Philadelphia A's team, they would not have been 18 GB the Yankees, it would have been closer. But that would not change how good "Murder's Row" was.

If you control for PSU, there was team parity in the 2024 Men's NCAA D1 Championships.

Episode 31-33

- While watching Penn State dominate the tournament and listening to Jason & Bryan announce the tourney, Gorms noticed the parity between teams 2 and 10.

- Gorms could not remember teams 2 to 10 being this close in the past. He even joked if we divide PSU into 2 teams we would have a great team race.

- So MatStats did some research on it. That is one reason we have MatStats.

The top 10 team standings from the 2024 Men's NCAA D1 Championships.

Episode 32-34

2024	NCAA D1	Men's
Rank	School	Team Points
1	PSU	172.50
2	Cornell	72.50
3	Michigan	71.00
4	Iowa State	68.50
5	Iowa	67.00
6	Arizona State	64.50
7	VA Tech	64.00
8	The Ohio State	62.00
9	Nebraska	60.50
10	OK State	56.00

We are Penn State set the tournament record with 172.5 points and set the margin of victory record over the 2nd place team (+100.0).

Episode 32-35

2024	NCAA D1	Men's
Rank	School	Team Points
1	PSU	172.50
2	Cornell	72.50
	Margin of Victory	+100.00

In the last 45 years (1980-2024), the closest teams 2 and 10 (16.5) have ever been is in 2024.

Episode 31-36

Year	Points Spread Teams 2 to 10	Year	Points Spread Teams 2 to 10	Year	Points Spread Teams 2 to 10
2024	16.50	2009	44.50	1994	43.75
2023	34.50	2008	17.50	1993	52.50
2022	46.00	2007	34.00	1992	71.75
2021	68.50	2006	30.50	1991	70.75
2020	N/A	2005	26.00	1990	62.50
2019	45.50	2004	21.50	1989	30.75
2018	90.50	2003	52.50	1988	46.50
2017	62.50	2002	56.50	1987	75.75
2016	47.00	2001	78.50	1986	52.75
2015	28.00	2000	65.50	1985	67.50
2014	59.00	1999	52.00	1984	69.00
2013	76.00	1998	58.50	1983	74.00
2012	77.00	1997	73.50	1982	85.00
2011	39.00	1996	33.50	1981	75.00
2010	42.00	1995	26.00	1980	62.75

With the increase in team points through the years for different reasons, how does the percentage spread for teams 2 to 10 compare with the total team points that year?

In 2024 the percentage (1.16%) of the spread for teams 2 to 10 edged out 2008 (1.18%) for the lowest percentage.

Year	Total Team Points	% Spread 2 to 10 of Total Points	Year	Total Team Points	% Spread 2 to 10 of Total Points	Year	Total Team Points	% Spread 2 to 10 of Total Points
2024	1428.00	1.16%	2009	1582.00	2.81%	1994	1137.00	3.85%
2023	1370.50	2.52%	2008	1485.50	1.18%	1993	1151.00	4.56%
2022	1365.50	3.37%	2007	1536.00	2.21%	1992	1122.75	6.39%
2021	1424.50	4.81%	2006	1581.00	1.93%	1991	1187.75	5.96%
2020	N/A	#VALUE!	2005	1578.00	1.65%	1990	1197.25	5.22%
2019	1395.00	3.26%	2004	1529.50	1.41%	1989	1156.00	2.66%
2018	1422.00	6.36%	2003	1522.00	3.45%	1988	1196.75	3.89%
2017	1440.50	4.34%	2002	1530.50	3.69%	1987	1187.50	6.38%
2016	1422.50	3.30%	2001	1525.50	5.15%	1986	1207.00	4.37%
2015	1382.00	2.03%	2000	1399.00	4.68%	1985	1146.75	5.89%
2014	1409.50	4.19%	1999	1440.50	3.61%	1984	994.00	6.94%
2013	1400.50	5.43%	1998	1439.50	4.06%	1983	1032.00	7.17%
2012	1584.00	4.86%	1997	1385.00	5.31%	1982	1017.25	8.36%
2011	1555.50	2.51%	1996	1316.00	2.55%	1981	993.25	7.55%
2010	1547.00	2.71%	1995	1237.50	2.10%	1980	1016.50	6.17%

Top 10 closest point differential for teams 2 to 10 from 1980 to 2024.

Episode 31-38

Rank	Year	Teams 2 to 10 Point Spread
1	2024	16.50
2	2008	17.50
3	2004	21.50
4	1995	26.00
4	2005	26.00
6	2015	28.00
7	2006	30.50
8	1996	33.50
9	2007	34.00
10	2023	34.50

1995 is the only year in the top 10 before the modified double elimination took effect in 1996.

The top 10 in percentage of total team points for closest spread for teams 2 to 10 from 1980 to 2024.

Episode 31-39

Rank	Year	% Spread 2 to 10 and Total Points
1	2024	1.16%
2	2008	1.18%
3	2004	1.41%
4	2005	1.65%
5	2006	1.93%
6	2015	2.03%
7	1995	2.10%
8	2007	2.21%
9	2011	2.51%
10	2023	2.52%

1995 is the only year in the top 10 before the modified double elimination took effect in 1996.

6 of the 8 largest spreads were in the 1980s.

Episode 31-40

Rank	Year	% Spread 2 to 10 and Total Points
35	1997	5.31%
36	2013	5.43%
37	1985	5.89%
38	1991	5.96%
39	1987	6.38%
40	1992	6.39%
41	1984	6.94%
42	1983	7.17%
43	1981	7.55%
44	1982	8.36%

1997 & 2013 are the only years in the bottom 10 after the modified double elimination took effect in 1996.

Since the mean between the team champion and 2nd place team are very close (44.15 & 35.8), one can not say the reason for the parity was due to a huge blowout by the team champion.

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Rank % Spread	Year	Point Spread 1 & 2	Rank % Spread	Year	Point spread 1 & 2
1	2024	100	35	1997	56.5
2	2008	38.5	36	2013	4
3	2004	41.5	37	1985	46.75
4	2005	70	38	1991	48.25
5	2006	38.5	39	1987	25
6	2015	18	40	1992	48.5
7	1995	56.5	41	1984	25.75
8	2007	9.5	42	1983	53
9	2011	14	43	1981	29.5
10	2023	55	44	1982	20.75
Total		441.5			358
Mean		44.15			35.8

Percentage of Team Points & "Real" Points

- In our Episode #21 (6/21/23) when we discussed the greatest teams ever, Gorms explained the percentage of points and "real" points.

- Can you refresh our memory and explain these concepts to the viewers?

MatStats used the team champions percentage of all team points & "real" points as two additional metrics to help determine the best team ever since 1974.

Episode 32-44

- The percentage of points is a way to show how dominant a team was in any given year. This considers the change in total points.

- Since the placement points and bonus points have changed over the years, MatStats created a "real" points metric.

- The "real" points consider the change in values of certain points and have a value of team points that include "inflation". Much like in Economics. Often one number is easier to understand than a percentage.

- They are useful metrics, but not a singular solution to saying who was the best team ever.

The 1983 Iowa team stands alone in the percentage of all team points in a table full of Iowa teams.

Episode 32-45

1997 & 2024 are the only 2 years in the top 16 that were after the modified double elimination to effect in 1996.

Rank	Year 1974-2024	Team	% of all Points
1	1983	Iowa	15.02%
2	1992	Iowa	13.27%
3	1991	Iowa	13.22%
4	1986	Iowa	13.09%
5	1981	Iowa	13.06%
6	1982	Iowa	12.95%
7	1979	Iowa	12.80%
8	1985	Iowa	12.67%
9	1984	Iowa	12.45%
10	1976	Iowa	12.42%
11	1997	Iowa	12.27%
12	2024	Penn State	12.08%
13	1987	Iowa State	11.20%
14	1980	Iowa	10.90%
15	1995	Iowa	10.83%
16	1993	Iowa	10.75%

There are only two teams in the top 16 in percentage of points since 1996.

Episode 32-46

- One thing a stats person needs to do in analytics s ask the question, "does this make sense"?

- The 1997 Iowa & 2024 PSU teams were both better than the 11th & 12th best teams.

- This stat is biased dues to the modified double elimination rule that started in 1996.

- There are a lot of consolation bouts that score points since 1996. Often time great teams have no wrestlers or a small number in the new early consolation bouts.

- This lowers the team champions percentage of points.

- You need to compare apples with apples.

- 1997 Iowa & 2024 PSU are very close here and one can not clearly say that one is better than the other.

"Real" 2023 team points 1974-1990

Year	Total Tourney Points	Team Champion	Champ Team Points	% All Points	Multiplier	Real 2023 Team Points
1974	890.50	Oklahoma	69.50	7.80%	1.539	106.96
1975	981.50	Iowa	102.00	10.39%	1.396	142.43
1976	992.75	Iowa	123.25	12.42%	1.381	170.15
1977	1005.75	Iowa State	95.50	9.50%	1.363	130.13
1978	953.75	Iowa	94.50	9.91%	1.437	135.79
1979	957.00	Iowa	122.50	12.80%	1.432	175.43
1980	1016.5	Iowa	110.75	10.90%	1.348	149.32
1981	993.25	Iowa	129.75	13.06%	1.380	179.03
1982	1017.25	Iowa	131.75	12.95%	1.347	177.50
1983	1032.00	Iowa	155.00	15.02%	1.328	205.84
1984	994.00	Iowa	123.75	12.45%	1.379	170.62
1985	1146.75	Iowa	145.25	12.67%	1.195	173.59
1986	1207.00	Iowa	158.00	13.09%	1.135	179.40
1987	1187.50	Iowa State	133.00	11.20%	1.154	153.50
1988	1196.75	Arizona State	93.00	7.77%	1.145	106.50
1989	1156.00	Oklahoma State	91.25	7.89%	1.186	108.18
1990	1197.25	Oklahoma State	117.75	9.84%	1.145	134.79

Can MatStats list all the team champion "real" 2023 points vs their actual points?

"Real" 2023 Team Points 1991-2007

Year	Total Tourney Points	Team Champion	Champ Team Points	% All Tourney Points	Multiplier	Real 2023 Team Points
1991	1187.75	Iowa	157.00	13.22%	1.154	181.16
1992	1122.75	Iowa	149.00	13.27%	1.221	181.88
1993	1151.00	Iowa	123.75	10.75%	1.191	147.35
1994	1137.00	Oklahoma State	94.75	8.33%	1.205	114.21
1995	1237.50	Iowa	134.00	10.83%	1.107	148.40
1996	1316.00	Iowa	122.50	9.31%	1.041	127.57
1997	1385.00	Iowa	170.00	12.27%	0.990	168.22
1998	1439.50	Iowa	115.00	7.99%	0.952	109.49
1999	1440.50	Iowa	100.50	6.98%	0.951	95.62
2000	1399.00	Iowa	116.00	8.29%	0.980	113.64
2001	1525.50	Minnesota	138.50	9.08%	0.898	124.43
2002	1530.50	Minnesota	126.50	8.27%	0.895	113.28
2003	1522.00	Oklahoma State	143.00	9.40%	0.900	128.77
2004	1529.50	Oklahoma State	123.50	8.07%	0.896	110.66
2005	1578.00	Oklahoma State	153.00	9.70%	0.869	132.88
2006	1581.00	Oklahoma State	122.50	7.75%	0.867	106.19
2007	1536.00	Minnesota	98.00	6.38%	0.892	87.44

Can MatStats list all the team champion "real" 2023 points vs their actual points?

"Real" 2023 team points 2008-2023

Year	Total Tourney Points	Team Champion	Champ Team Points	% of all Tourney Points	Multiplier	2023 Real Team Points
2008	1485.50	Iowa	117.50	7.91%	0.923	108.40
2009	1582.00	Iowa	96.50	6.10%	0.866	83.60
2010	1547.00	Iowa	134.50	8.69%	0.886	119.15
2011	1555.50	Penn State	107.50	6.91%	0.881	94.71
2012	1584.00	Penn State	143.00	9.03%	0.865	123.73
2013	1400.50	Penn State	123.50	8.82%	0.979	120.85
2014	1409.50	Penn State	109.50	7.77%	0.972	106.47
2015	1382.00	Ohio State	102.00	7.38%	0.992	101.15
2016	1422.50	Penn State	123.00	8.65%	0.963	118.50
2017	1440.50	Penn State	146.50	10.17%	0.951	139.38
2018	1422.00	Penn State	141.50	9.95%	0.964	136.38
2019	1395.00	Penn State	137.50	9.86%	0.982	135.09
2020	0	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#DIV/0!	#N/A
2021	1424.50	Iowa	129.00	9.06%	0.962	124.11
2022	1365.50	Penn State	131.50	9.63%	1.004	131.98
2023	1370.50	Penn State	137.50	10.03%	1.000	137.50
2024	1428.00	Penn State	172.50	12.08%	0.9597	165.55

The 1983 Hawks have the highest "real" 2023 team points since 1974.

Episode 32-51

Rank	Year	Team	2023 Real Team Points	Coach
1	1983	Iowa	205.84	Gable
2	1992	Iowa	181.88	Gable
3	1991	Iowa	181.16	Gable
4	1986	Iowa	179.40	Gable
5	1981	Iowa	179.03	Gable
6	1982	Iowa	177.50	Gable
7	1979	Iowa	175.43	Gable
8	1985	Iowa	173.59	Gable
9	1984	Iowa	170.62	Gable
10	1976	Iowa	170.15	Kurdelmeier
11	1997	Iowa	168.22	Gable
12	2024	Penn State	165.55	Sanderson
13	1987	Iowa State	153.50	Gibbons
14	1980	Iowa	149.32	Gable
15	1995	Iowa	148.40	Gable
16	1993	Iowa	147.35	Gable

1997 & 2024 are the only 2 years in the top 16 that were after the modified double elimination to effect in 1996.

The "real" point system is useful, but its reliability decreases as the time window grows and the rules change.

- The "real" points metric accounts for the inflation of points over time.

- However, it inflates the 1983 Iowa team due to the modified double elimination format despite that the 1983 Iowa team would not have scored any additional points if there was a modified double elimination format in place in 1983.

- Early teams are seeing their point totals increase and yet might not deserve that.

- The "real" points are a nice system, but one can not firmly say the 1983 team is the best because of this.

Points Above Replacement (PAR)

- **Gorms, I have heard you talk about Wins Above Replacement (WAR) in Baseball.**

- **Is there a similar metric we can use in wrestling to help us determine the greatest wrestling team since 1974?**

In the Points above Replacement (PAR) metric, the 1986 Iowa team leads the field (even when counting 0-4 in weights they did not have qualifiers).

Episode 32-54

Year	School	Team Pts	Matches	Team Points/ Match	Replace Points/ Match	Replacement Team Points	PAR
1983	Iowa	155.0	54	2.870	2.060	111.2	43.8
2024	PSU	172.5	54	3.194	2.238	120.9	51.6
1997	Iowa	170.0	56	3.036	2.198	123.1	46.9
1986	Iowa	158.0	44	3.591	2.070	91.1	66.9
1986	Iowa w/0-4 118&HWT	158.0	48	3.292	2.070	99.4	58.6

MatStats narrows the field to 4 teams.

- **Can MatStats narrow the field down for the viewers to teams that MatStats thinks are worthy of consideration for the greatest team since 1974?**

  - In no order –
  - 1983 Iowa
  - 2024 PSU
  - 1997 Iowa
  - 1986 Iowa

Here are the top 4 teams in this debate and all the metrics previously discussed.

Episode 32-56

Year	School	Total Team Points	Champ Team Points	% Team Points	MOV	Total Matches	Pts/ Match	Wrestlers	Champs	AAs	PAR
1983	Iowa	1032.00	155.00	15.02%	53.00	501	2.06	354	4	9	43.8
2024	PSU	1428.00	172.50	12.08%	100.00	638	2.24	329	4	8	51.6
1997	Iowa	1385.00	170.00	12.27%	56.50	630	2.20	325	5	8	46.9
1986	Iowa	1207.00	158.00	13.09%	73.75	583	2.07	350	5	8	58.6*

* - The 1986 Iowa PAR includes the assumption that the weights they did not have qualifiers go 0-4.

The placement of the top 4 teams in this debate.

Episode 32-57

Year	School	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	BR	BR Result	Wrestlers
1983	Iowa	4	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	Pin	10
2024	PSU	4	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	SV, 11-4	10
1997	Iowa	5	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	SV, 4-1	10
1986	Iowa	5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	N/A	8

The 2024 PSU capitalized on the modified double elimination format. It had no effect on the 1983 & 1986 Iowa teams.

Episode 32-58

- 2024 PSU

- 133 Nagao lost in BR; he would not have had a 2nd bout. Scored 1 point that he would not have had in 1983.

- 149 Kasak would have been out after 1st round loss. Then placed 3rd and scored 19 points (4 MD & 1 Fall). Starocci scored only 1 more team point than Kasak.

- 1997 Iowa

- 177 Ersland lost to a semifinalist. Then lost in BR.

- 285 Hand lost 1st round then in BR. Scored 5.5 points he would not have had in 1983.

- * 1983 Iowa & 1986 Iowa

- Would not have scored anymore points with the new modified double elimination format.

Team Win-Loss Percentage of the top 4 teams since 1974.

- What are the total win-loss records at the respective tourneys for the top 4 teams?

The 1986 Iowa team had the best total winning percentage at **.886**, but only having 8 qualifiers potentially makes this number troubling.

Episode 32-60

Year	School	W-L	Win %
1983	Iowa	44-10	0.815
2024	PSU	45-9	0.833
1997	Iowa	46-10	0.821
1986	Iowa	39-5	0.886
1986*	Iowa	39-9	0.813*
1986**	Iowa	39-7	0.848**

* - Iowa's 118 & Hwt went 0-4   ** - Iowa's 118 & Hwt went 0-2

Who in our opinion is the best team since 1974?

It's time for Hazard & Gorms to weigh-in on who they think is the best team since 1974.

Hazard wasn't in college since 1974, so he has no conflict of interest.

Since Gorms is the Sultan of Stats, we need to hear his opinion.

Hazard & Gorms weigh-in on their opinion on who is the best collegiate wrestling team since 1974.

Episode 32-62

- **Hazard – 1986 Iowa**

- **Gorms – 1983 Iowa**

Episode 32 Kev's Notes #1

- 1) First Women's NCAA Championships could be as early as Winter of 2026.

- 2) PSU 2024 had 4 Champions. 5 other teams had 5 Champions. They are tied for 6th.

- 3) PSU 2024 had 8 AAs. 9 other teams had 9+. They are tied for 10th. 2001 Minnesota #1.

- 4) PSU 2024 Team Points 172.5 ranks #1.

- 5) 2024 PSU set the record for Margin of Victory in team points. They rank #1.

Episode 32 Kev's Notes #2

- 6) 7) 2024 PSU ranks 12th in percentage of team points. 1983 Iowa significantly higher.

- 7) 2024 PSU ranks 12th in comparison of "real" points. 1983 Iowa significantly higher.

- 8) 2024 PSU ranks #2 in Points Above Replacements. 1986 Iowa #1.

- 9) Of the top 4 teams, the 1986 Iowa had the best winning percentage. PSU was #2 on this list.

- 10) The debate on who was the greatest team since 1974 is a perfect bar room argument. There is NO definitive statistically correct answer.

The Growth of Collegiate Wrestling.

- **Tune In Next Month**
- **Same Mat Time**
- **Same Mat Channel**

- Lost in the lights-out dominant performance by Penn State in the NCAA Men's D1 Championships & The Olympic trials is the growth of collegiate wrestling.

- MatStats takes this opportunity to let the viewers know where the World's Oldest & Greatest Sport stands in collegiate growth.