



**For Immediate Release**

**Georgia selected for first appearance in the Pittsburgh Wrestling Classic  
on Saturday, March 25, 2017**

**Pittsburgh, PA** – The National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) will host the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pittsburgh Wrestling Classic on Saturday, March 25, 2017, at the University of Pittsburgh Fitzgerald Field House.

The Wrestling Classic – known as “*The Rose Bowl of Wrestling*” – is the most prestigious high school all-star wrestling meet in the United States. It attracts the best high school seniors in the country, Pennsylvania and another guest state all-star team in the two dual meet format. The preliminary meet pits the best wrestlers from Western Pennsylvania, or WPIAL, against the Georgia All-Stars at 4:00 PM. The feature match showcases the best-of-the-best high school wrestlers from across the United States challenging the reigning Pennsylvania state champs follows at 6:00 PM.

This will be the first time Georgia is competing in the Wrestling Classic as a team. The Wrestling Classic fans have been entertained by many great wrestlers hailing from the Peach state including **Sean Hage** who was voted Team USA Outstanding Wrestler Award in 1995 helping the USA Team to a 25-16 win. Prior to Sean, his older brother **Scott Hage** was the first Georgian in The Classic in 1991.

**Witt Durden**, from Dublin in 1998, **Chris Rodrigues**, from Marietta in 2000 and **Drake McCoy**, from Fayette County in 2005, lost to their PA All-Star opponents. Most recently, **Chip Ness**, from Buford, helped the USA All-Star Team win his victory at 195 lbs. in 2014.

**Robert Horton**, State Chairman of Georgia Amateur Wrestling Association is organizing the GA All-Star Team. “*The Georgia wrestling community is very excited and honored to compete in this prestigious event showcasing America’s best high school seniors. We have a very strong senior class with several nationally ranked wrestlers. I’m confident our kids will be ready to challenge the best wrestlers from the WPIAL.*”

More information on the plans to assemble the Georgia all-star team will be communicated at [www.teamgeorgiawrestling.com](http://www.teamgeorgiawrestling.com).



Each year, 3,000 enthusiastic spectators watch the country's future NCAA, World and Olympic champions compete head-to-head while thousands watch remotely via FLOWrestling's live broadcast.

Proceeds from the Pittsburgh Wrestling Classic benefit a youth wrestling program at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania through the Dapper Dan Youth Sports Leagues.

More information can found at [www.wrestlingclassic.com](http://www.wrestlingclassic.com).

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