

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY **MONARCH WRESTLING**

The Citadel Dual



Down With the Dogs

The Monarchs travels to South Carolina this Saturday to face The Citadel. The Bulldogs top wrestler is easily Travis Piccard, ranked as high as 9th in the nation at 157. With ODU's Chris Brown nationally ranked as well, the 157-lb. bout puts a lot on the line for each individual.

ODU has tested themselves early with a series of difficult tournaments, a near miss against the Big Ten's Purdue and a dominating performance over George Mason. Coach Steve Martin's young team is proving it's ready to make a run at the CAA title.

Nationally Ranked

Adam Koballa (133) earned his first collegiate national ranking by jumping into the wrestlingreport.com rankings this week at 29th in the nation. Chris Brown (157) has maintained his position at 17th in the Amateur Wrestling News rankings and Ryan Williams is listed as the 27th best 141-pounder by WrestlingReport.com. David Mendoza also makes an appearance at 26th for the 197 lb. weight class.

The coaching staff has ushered in back-to-back nationally ranked top eight recruiting classes.

Rockin' Rookies

Coach Steve Martin has called upon his inexperienced grapplers early and many are answering to that call. The Monarchs continue to test themselves early with one of the toughest schedules in collegiate wrestling. The Monarchs continue to throw a very young team on the mat and continue to get significant results.

True freshmen Adam Koballa and Jesse Strawn both placed in three tournaments so far this season. Two other true freshmen have placed in James Nicholson (una.) and Kyle Hutter at 125. ODU also has a bevy of redshirt freshmen wrestling well this season. Chris Brown is making a big name for himself this season. Brown has also placed in all three tournaments this season including a 2nd place finish at the MSU Open. Cam Watkins and Kaylen Baxter are the other redshirts that have placed.

Finally, the sophomores. Ryan Williams continues right where he left off last season as an NCAA Qualifier by winning three places and crushing opponents while at the Mat Town Open, sophomore David Mendoza took first in his weight class. Most recently, Mendoza took down nationally ranked Harry Zander of George Mason.

Probable Starters:

<u>Weight</u>	<u>ODU</u>	<u>The Citadel</u>
125	Kyle Hutter	Tyler Sim
133	Adam Koballa (29 th – WrestlingReport.com)	Thomas Knapp
141	Ryan Williams (24 th – WrestlingReport.com)	Michael Arias
149	Kaylen Baxter/Joey Metzler	Levi Duyn
157	Chris Brown (17 th – AWN)	Travis Piccard (9 th NWCA)
165	Nick Pullano	Zachary Filter
174	Derek Coffey/Bryan Koz	Darius Caldwell
184	Jesse Strawn	John Dickerson
197	David Mendoza (27 th – WrestlingReport.com)	Mark Thompson
Hwt.		John Buck

2006-07 ODU Schedule/Results

Nov. 10	at Purdue	17-18 L	A
Nov. 12	MSU Open	5 placed	A
Nov. 18	Cornell Body Bar	4 placed	A
Nov. 25	Mat Town	12 placed	A
Dec. 3	Penn State Open	2 placed	A
Dec. 8	vs. George Mason	38-12 W	H
Dec. 16	The Citadel	TBA	A
Dec. 29	Southern Scuffle	All Day	A
Dec. 30	Southern Scuffle	All Day	A
Jan. 6	Virginia States	All Day	H
Jan. 12	Virginia Duals	TBA	A
Jan. 13	Virginia Duals	TBA	A
Jan. 19	CAA Duals	TBA	A
Jan. 20	CAA Duals	TBA	A
Feb. 4	N. Iowa, N. Illinois	2:00pm	A
Feb. 8	vs. Virginia Tech	7:00pm	H
Feb. 11	vs. American	5:00pm	H
Feb. 14	at Missouri	TBA	A
Mar. 2	CAA Tournament	TBA	A
Mar. 3	CAA Tournament	TBA	A
Mar. 15	NCAA Tournament	TBA	A
Mar. 16	NCAA Tournament	TBA	A
Mar. 17	NCAA Tournament	TBA	A

Champions Developing the Future

Head Coach Steve Martin has led the Monarchs to a 23-12-1 mark as he enters his third year at the helm. In the CAA the Monarchs have dominated with a 12-3-1 mark. Martin comes from a powerhouse of high school wrestling in Great Bridge High School in Chesapeake. In 14 years as head coach, the Great Bridge Wildcats won 13 state championships.

Martin is assisted by Lee Pritts, Mike Dixon, and Jon Sioredas. Pritts left a solid position at Missouri to come to the building ODU program and has been with Martin since his inception. Pritts, an All-American wrestler, has coached six NCAA All-Americans and two finalists.

Dixon brings great recruiting skills and knowledge of the CAA coming from James Madison. He has experience coaching championship contenders while at the University of Indianapolis.

Sioredas is a first-year coach with a wealth of knowledge about the sport. Named an All-American and ranked as high as 2nd nationally, Sioredas is now using his skills to teach.

All four coaches are wrestling champions in their own right and are building a championship future.

By Weight Class

125: True freshman Kyle Hutter will be the full-time starter. He was a 2005 and 2006 Junior National Champion and Fila Cadet All-American. James Nicholson, a 2006 national qualifier at the high school level could see time at 125 as well.

133: Adam Koballa has started the season on fire with a third, fourth, and fifth place finish at the three tournaments this season. B.J. Compton is sure to factor into this weight class throughout the season as well ranked 2nd in the conference at 133.

141: Ryan Williams earned a ranking in his new weight class within the first week. He has since been ranked as high as 20th and currently 27th by wrestlingreport.com. Williams led the team in pins last season and has the best record at 13-3 early this season.

149: Kaylen Baxter and Joey Metzler will fight for the spot at 149. Baxter red-shirted last season and Metzler is a high school state champ and should make an immediate impact.

157: Chris Brown is currently ranked 17th and looks to make a run at the national spotlight this season as a red-shirt freshman. Brown wrestled for Martin at Great Bridge High School and continues learning under the coach at ODU. Brown has already placed three times this season and was named the CAA Rookie of the Week on Dec. 4th.

165: Nick Pullano has become a mainstay in the ODU lineup and will be Martin's go-to at 165. He finished 6th at Mat Town USA this season. Pullano also wrestled under Martin in high school.

174: Red-shirt freshman Bryan Koz and true freshman Derek Coffey will battle for this spot. Both were state finalists in high school and Coach Martin expects this to be a very highly competitive weight class.

184: Jesse Strawn, a high school All-American, will immediately join the starting lineup for Martin. Strawn was a two-time state champion and was selected to the CAA's pre-season All-Rookie team. Strawn has already placed three times this season.

197: David Mendoza earned a trip to the NCAA tournament last season and will look to build on that success this season. He slides up a weight class and fills the void Adam Wright left. Mendoza won his weight class at Mat Town.

Hwt: The Monarchs will not wrestle a heavyweight in the fall semester. In dual competition Mendoza could bump up to the 285 weight class.

Colonial Athletic Association

CAA Rankings And Records (12-13-2006)

	Conference	Overall	CAA Ranked Wrestlers
1. Hofstra University	1-0-0	7-0-0	8
2. Rider University	0-0-0	1-2-0	10
3. Drexel University	2-0-0	4-2-0	9
4. George Mason University	1-1-0	4-2-0	9
5. Old Dominion University	1-0-0	1-1-0	8
6. Sacred Heart University	0-0-0	0-0-0	5
7. Boston University	0-0-0	0-0-0	5
8. Binghamton University	0-1-0	3-5-0	2
9. Campbell University	0-0-0	1-2-0	1
10. Wagner College	0-1-0	0-6-0	2
11. James Madison University	1-2-0	3-13-0	1

Toppling The Top Tier

In the last two ODU appearances, four nationally ranked opponents have fallen at the hands of Monarch grapplers. At the Penn State Open James Nicholson (unattached) toppled Lehigh's nationally ranked Matt Fisk 3-2. Fisk was ranked 15th. At the same tournament Kaylen Baxter tallied 10 points in a decision against the number seven 149 pounder in the nation, John Cox (Navy).

After the Penn State Open came the George Mason Dual with two nationally ranked wrestlers appearing against the Monarchs. Nick Pullano won 7-3 over Tyler Tisdell, the 17th ranked 165-pounder and David Mendoza pinned Harry Zander, the 15th ranked 197-lb. individual.

Conference Rookie of the Week

Chris Brown was named the Colonial Athletic Association's Rookie of the Week for all competition up to the 4th of December. Brown's efforts to place in the top four of all three tournaments he competed and his 12-4 record gave him the award. Brown has only lost to nationally ranked opponents this season and only by a combined 7 points overall.

Brown was joined by Hofstra's Lou Ruggirello as Co-Rookie of the Week.

The Last Time ODU...

Won a dual meet at home:

Dec. 8, 2006 – 38-12 vs. George Mason

Lost a dual meet at home:

Feb. 3, 2006 – 17-19 vs. UVA

Won a dual meet on the road:

Feb. 11, 2006 – 34-14 vs. Campbell

Lost a dual meet on the road:

Nov. 10, 2006 – 17-18 vs. Purdue

Tied a dual meet:

Jan. 22, 2006 – 18-18 vs. Rider

Shut-out an opponent in a dual meet:

Jan. 22, 2005 – 55-0 vs. Wagner

Was shut-out in a dual meet:

Jan. 14, 2005 – 0-44 vs. UT-Chattanooga

Scored 50 points or more in a dual meet:

Jan. 22, 2005 – 55-0 vs. Wagner

Went undefeated for a season:

1963-64: 9-0-1 under Coach Pete Robinson

Had a losing season:

2003-04: 7-12 under Coach Gray Simons



OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY WRESTLING 2006

So Far This Season:

ODU at Purdue Dual 11/10/06

17-18 Loss

Final Results

Hwt. - Kasten (Purdue) def. Mendoza (ODU)	6-4
125 - Staylor (ODU) def. Tucker (Purdue)	4-1
133 - Doggett (Purdue) def. Koballa (ODU)	13-6
141 - Williams (ODU) def. Cook (Purdue)	11-6
149 - Patascil (Purdue) def. Baxter (ODU)	7-6
157 - Brown (ODU) def. Howe (Purdue)	7-5 (OT)
165 - Pullano (ODU) def. Martin (Purdue)	t.fall-20-5
174 - Corpe (Purdue) def. Koz (ODU)	6-5
184 - Coffey (ODU) def. Goebel (Purdue)	5-4
197 - Moore (Purdue) def. Strawn (ODU)	fall-2:44

The Monarchs held a lead only a pin could beat going into the final match of the day when senior and hometown wrestler Nathan Moore of Purdue subdued Jesse Strawn. It was a back and forth dual featuring several fantastic bouts. Red shirt freshman Chris Brown won 7-5 in overtime, sophomore Ryan Williams dispatched his opponent 11-6 and junior Nick Pullano earned a technical fall winning 20-5.

ODU at MSU Open 11/12/06

5 Wrestlers Placed

Final Results

2 nd - Chris Brown (157)
3 rd - Ryan Williams (141)
6 th - David Mendoza (197)
8 th - Adam Koballa (133)
8 th - Jesse Strawn (184)

ODU had a strong showing at the MSU Open against over 360 wrestlers from 21 different schools. Chris Brown finished a great weekend going 4-1 at the Open defeating three seeded opponents. Also continuing early season success was Ryan Williams with a 3rd place effort. Williams went 5-1 with his only loss coming in a 6-5 squeaker against No. 2 nationally ranked and number one seed at the MSU Open Andy Simmons. David Mendoza, Adam Koballa and Jesse Strawn all placed for the Monarchs on the first weekend of competition in 2006.

ODU at Cornell Body Bar 11/18/06

4 Wrestlers Placed

Final Results

3 rd - Adam Koballa (133)
4 th - Ryan Williams (141)
4 th - Chris Brown (157)
6 th - Jesse Strawn (184)

ODU faced a tough group at the Cornell Body Bar as head coach Steve Martin fielded a roster of nearly all freshmen. Junior Nick Pullano and sophomore Ryan Williams were the only two grapplers with more than two days of official collegiate experience at the Bar. Rookies Adam Koballa, Jesse Strawn and red shirt freshman Chris Brown stepped up to the challenge. Koballa ran the table in the wrestlebacks to steal 3rd from the man who knocked him out of the championship bracket, William Simpson (Army). The four placewinners for the Monarchs also placed at the MSU Open and have garnered national attention for Coach Martin this season.

ODU at Mat Town USA 11/18/06

12 Wrestlers Placed

Final Results

1 st - Matt Pellar (una Hwt.)	1 st - David Mendoza (197)
2 nd - Ryan Williams (141)	2 nd - BJ Compton (una 133)
3 rd - Cam Watkins (141)	3 rd - Chris Brown (157)
4 th - Kyle Hutter (125)	4 th - Kaylen Baxter (149)
4 th - Adam Koballa (133)	5 th - Josh Tyler (149)
5 th - Jesse Strawn (184)	6 th - Nick Pullano (165)

ODU continued its grueling schedule at Mat Town and placed twelve wrestlers. Matt Pellar, wrestling unattached, and David Mendoza came out on top in the heavyweight and 197-pound weight classes. True freshmen Jesse Strawn and Adam Koballa continue to jumpstart their collegiate careers with another tournament placing. Strawn and Koballa, with redshirt freshman Chris Brown and sophomore Ryan Williams are the only Monarchs to place in all three tournaments so far this season. With the tough schedule, the coaches continue to force the young team into high-pressure situations and yet the youth have made an immediate impact for ODU wrestling.

ODU at Penn State Open 12/3/06**2 Wrestlers Placed****Final Results**4th – James Nicholson (125)5th – Kaylen Baxter (149)

ODU sent just nine wrestlers to the intense field at Penn State. Two freshman knocked off nationally ranked opponents on their way to placing for the Monarchs. James Nicholson, wrestling unattached, came home with fourth place in the 125 lb. division after knocking off Lehigh's nationally ranked grappler Matt Fisk 3-2. Nicholson would then lose the Penn State's Matthew McKnight who was named the meet's Outstanding Wrestler. Kaylen Baxter, a possible starter for the Monarchs as a red-shirt freshman this season also knocked off a nationally ranked wrestler en route to 5th place in the Open. The 6th ranked wrestler in the nation John Cox fell to Baxter in the wrestlebacks 10-8. Baxter went 7-1 at the tournament and scored all kinds of points.

George Mason at ODU Dual 12/08/06**38-12 Win****Final Results**

125 - Hutter (ODU) def. Coughlin (GMU)	11-4
133 - Koballa (ODU) def. Powars (GMU)	fall-1:10
141 - Williams (ODU) def. Emison (GMU)	fall-1:56
149 - Baxter (ODU) def. Cartella (GMU)	fall-1:59
157 - Brown (ODU) def. Cook (GMU)	t.fall-18-2
165 - Pullano (ODU) def. Tisdell (GMU)	7-3
174 - Oates (GMU) def. Coffey (GMU)	fall-2:52
184 - Strawn (ODU) def. Moyer (GMU)	6-4
197 - Mendoza (ODU) def. Zander (GMU)	fall-4:59
Hwt. - Kittrick (GMU) def. -- (ODU)	forfeit

ODU hosted their first CAA dual of the year and made a statement to the conference with a 38-12 win over the Patriots. George Mason boasted two nationally ranked wrestlers before David Mendoza and Nick Pullano disposed of each. ODU's tough schedule has put them on the map. Three Monarch starters were ranked nationally coming into the dual and a fourth in Adam Koballa joined his teammates after adding his third pin on the season. ODU tallied four pins and a technical fall in the victory.

Tournament Records for 2006-07:**Overall Team Record: 94-69****at MSU Open: 29-21****at Cornell Body Bar: 19-22****at Mat Town Open: 46-26****at Penn State Open: 22-15****125: 12-10****133: 14-7****141: 23-11****149: 22-20****157: 13-8****165: 4-5****174: 8-14****184: 9-8****197: 7-1****Hwt.: 4-0**

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