

# OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY **MONARCH WRESTLING**

## Southern Scuffle



### Southern Scuffle Tournament

The Monarchs travel to Greensboro, North Carolina the final weekend of 2006 for more tournament action. The challenging tournament is a two-day affair boasting some of the toughest competition the Monarchs have faced all season. Seven ranked teams will be in attendance including both the number one (Missouri) and number two (Minnesota) teams in the country.

The bracket will include 67 ranked individuals including seven sitting in the top two spots of their weight class.

### Nationally Ranked

There were no changes in the national rankings this week for the Monarchs as four ODU grapplers are among the tops in the nation. Adam Koballa (133) earned his first collegiate national ranking by jumping into the WrestlingReport.com rankings at 29<sup>th</sup> in the nation. Chris Brown (157) has maintained his position at 17<sup>th</sup> in the Amateur Wrestling News rankings and Ryan Williams is listed as the 26<sup>th</sup> best 141-pounder by WrestlingReport.com. David Mendoza bumps up to 22<sup>nd</sup> for the 197 lb. weight class.

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## Tournament Records So Far

<u>Weight</u>	<u>ODU</u>	<u>Record</u>
125	Kyle Hutter	4-4
133	Adam Koballa (29 <sup>th</sup> – WrestlingReport.com)	12-6
141	Ryan Williams (24 <sup>th</sup> – WrestlingReport.com)	11-3
149	Kaylen Baxter/Joey Metzler	13-7 / 3-6
157	Chris Brown (17 <sup>th</sup> – AWN)	11-4
165	Nick Pullano	4-5
174	Derek Coffey/Bryan Koz	3-8 / 5-6
184	Jesse Strawn	9-8
197	David Mendoza (27 <sup>th</sup> – WrestlingReport.com)	7-1
Hwt.	Matt Pellar	9-0

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> and currently 27<sup>th</sup> by [wrestlingreport.com](http://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 17<sup>th</sup> by Amateur Wrestling News. 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. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**165:** Nick Pullano has become a mainstay in the ODU lineup and will be Martin's go-to at 165. He has a 3-0 dual record and leads the team with 3 technical falls. 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 slides up a weight class and fills the void Adam Wright left from a season ago. He is already ranked in his new weight class after winning his weight class at Mat Town and pinning nationally ranked Harry Zander (GMU).

**Hwt:** Matt Pellar should solidify the lineup for Martin at the 285 slot. He has gone a perfect 9-0 in tournament competition as an unattached wrestler this season with a victory at Mat Town.

## Colonial Athletic Association

### CAA Rankings And Records (12-18-2006)

	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	5-4-0	9
4. George Mason University	1-1-0	4-2-0	9
<b>5. Old Dominion University</b>	<b>1-0-0</b>	<b>2-1-0</b>	<b>8</b>
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	1-3-0	1
10. Wagner College	0-1-0	0-3-0	2
11. James Madison University	0-2-0	3-13-0	1

#### Toppling The Top Tier

At the Penn State Open and against George Mason 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 15<sup>th</sup>. 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 17<sup>th</sup> ranked 165-pounder and David Mendoza pinned Harry Zander, the 15<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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:**

Dec. 16, 2006 – 30-12 vs. The Citadel

##### **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 <sup>nd</sup> - Chris Brown (157)
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Ryan Williams (141)
6 <sup>th</sup> - David Mendoza (197)
8 <sup>th</sup> - Adam Koballa (133)
8 <sup>th</sup> - 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> - Adam Koballa (133)
4 <sup>th</sup> - Ryan Williams (141)
4 <sup>th</sup> - Chris Brown (157)
6 <sup>th</sup> - 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> - Matt Pellar (una Hwt.)	1 <sup>st</sup> - David Mendoza (197)
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Ryan Williams (141)	2 <sup>nd</sup> - BJ Compton (una 133)
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Cam Watkins (141)	3 <sup>rd</sup> - Chris Brown (157)
4 <sup>th</sup> - Kyle Hutter (125)	4 <sup>th</sup> - Kaylen Baxter (149)
4 <sup>th</sup> - Adam Koballa (133)	5 <sup>th</sup> - Josh Tyler (149)
5 <sup>th</sup> - Jesse Strawn (184)	6 <sup>th</sup> - 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**4<sup>th</sup> – James Nicholson (125)5<sup>th</sup> – 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 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Open. The 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

**ODU at The Citadel Dual 12/16/06****30-12 Win****Final Results**

125 - Hutter (ODU) def. Sim (CIT)	7-5
133 - Koballa (ODU) def. Easter (CIT)	19-6
141 - Williams (ODU) def. Araias (CIT)	7-5
149 - Duyn (CIT) def. Baxter (ODU)	9-4
157 - Brown (ODU) def. -- (CIT)	forfeit
165 - Pullano (ODU) def. Filter (CIT)	t.fall-15-0
174 - Caldwell (CIT) def. Coffey (ODU)	4-2
184 - Strawn (ODU) def. Dickerson (CIT)	6-1
197 - Mendoza (ODU) def. -- (CIT)	forfeit
Hwt. - Buck (CIT) def. -- (ODU)	forfeit

ODU won another dual in impressive fashion taking seven of the 10 weight classes. Nick Pullano notched his team-leading third technical fall without surrendering a point and Adam Koballa grabbed another major decision. All four of the ranked Monarchs earned victories and are unbeaten in dual competition on the season. The team takes a break for the holidays and returns to action at the Southern Scuffle during the final weekend of the year.

**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 (ODU)	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.

**ODU at Southern Scuffle 12/29-12/30/06****Preview**

The Monarchs will be facing some of the toughest competition they have seen all season. Seven ranked teams and more than 65 ranked individuals will be in attendance including the number one and number two teams in the country. ODU has tested itself early against top competition, but this will be the first event where every weight class will face a significant challenge.

Seven of the ten weight classes will boast either the number one or number two best wrestler in that division:

- 125 – Troy Nickerson (Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> - Cornell)
- 133 – Matt Keller (Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> – UT-Chattanooga)
- 149 – Dustin Schlatter (Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> – Minnesota)
- 174 – Ben Askren (Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> – Minnesota)
- 184 – Roger Kish (Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> – Minnesota)
- 197 – Max Askren (Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> – Missouri)
- Hwt. – Cole Konrad (Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> – Minnesota)

### **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**

### **Dual Records for 2006-07:**

**Overall Team Record: 20-10**

**at Purdue: 5-5**

**vs George Mason: 8-2**

**at The Citadel: 7-3**

**125: 3-0**

**133: 2-1**

**141: 3-0**

**149: 1-2**

**157: 3-0**

**165: 3-0**

**174: 0-3**

**184: 3-0**

**197: 2-1**

**Hwt.: 0-3**

Stat Leaders for 2006-07:  
(Not including Unattached results)

Win %: Ryan Williams (14-3, 82.4%)

Wins: Four tied with 14

Pins: Jesse Strawn (5)

Major Decisions: Adam Koballa (4)

Technical Falls: Nick Pullano (3)

Decisions: Ryan Williams (10)



**ODU Sports Information  
Athletic Administration Building  
Norfolk, VA 23529**

**Assistant SID: Rob Silsbee – Wrestling Contact  
Office Phone: (757) 683-3374  
E-mail: [rsilsbee@odu.edu](mailto:rsilsbee@odu.edu)  
Website: [odusports.cstv.com](http://odusports.cstv.com)**