

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY **MONARCH WRESTLING**

Penn State Open



Pit Stop at Penn State

The Monarchs of Old Dominion continue its grueling schedule with a stop at another tough tournament in 2006-07. They head back to Pennsylvania to face off at the Penn State Open. Expected at the open are nationally ranked opponents Penn State-7th, Edinboro-13th, Pennsylvania-14th, Michigan State-14th, Lehigh-20th, Rider-27th, and Navy-30th.

It should also be a useful scouting tool as CAA foes Rider, Boston, Drexel, and Binghamton will all be in attendance. Rider has five nationally ranked wrestlers including 7th in the nation at 141, Don Fisch.

Nationally Ranked

Christian Staylor was ranked 18th in the pre-season polls for the 125-pound weight class. Chris Brown has moved up to 17th and Ryan Williams stays at 20th in the national rankings by Amateur Wrestling News. ODU has an immensely growing program including back-to-back top eight (W.I.N. Magazine) 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 as ODU has faced off against a number of ranked teams and individuals already this season. The Monarchs continue to throw a roster full of freshman at the field and continue to get significant results.

True freshmen Adam Koballa and Jesse Strawn both placed in all three tournaments so far this season. At the Mat Town Open, red-shirt freshman Matt Pellar and sophomore David Mendoza took first in their weight classes. Another red-shirt freshman making a name for himself this season is Chris Brown. Brown has also placed in all three tournaments this season including a second place finish at the MSU Open.

Cam Watkins and Kaylen Baxter round out the red-shirts that have placed and Kyle Hutter, a true freshman, took 4th in his second collegiate opportunity at the Mat Town Open last weekend.

2005-06 Review

A senior led the way and a freshman followed suit. Senior Adam Wright went 34-7 to complete an excellent career at ODU including the conference title and undefeated CAA senior year at 6-0. Wright had eight falls, six technical falls, and five major decisions.

Newcomer Ryan Williams in the 133-pound weight class came on very strong and went 29-15. He led the team in pins with ten and added three major decisions. Being named to the All-CAA Rookie squad, coming in second at the CAA Tournament and an NCAA appearance capped an impressive rookie year for Williams.

The Monarchs went 11-7-1 overall and took just one loss in the conference in 2005-06. Every one of the Monarch starters had at least one fall and eight Monarchs placed in various tournaments last year.

Probable Starters:

<u>Weight</u>	<u>ODU</u>
125	Christian Staylor/Kyle Hutter
133	Adam Koballa/B.J. Compton
141	Ryan Williams
149	Kaylen Baxter/Joey Metzler
157	Chris Brown
165	Nick Pullano
174	Derek Coffey/Bryan Koz
184	Jesse Strawn
197	David Mendoza
Hwt.	Matt Pellar

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	All Day	A
Dec. 8	vs. George Mason	6:00pm	H
Dec. 16	Citadel, N.C. State	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

About the Coaches

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, also with Martin all three years, 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.

By Weight Class

125: Christian Staylor returns to the tune of pre-season rank number 18. After taking a year off to focus on academics, Staylor will try to reinstate his dominance at the 125-pound group. He won the CAA two years ago in this class. True freshman Kyle Hutter will see time as well at 125. He was a 2005 and 2006 Junior National Champion and Fila Cadet All-American.

133: Adam Koballa has started the season on fire with a third and fourth place finish at the two tournaments this season. B.J. Compton is sure to factor into this weight class throughout the season as well.

141: Ryan Williams is already ranked in his new weight class. Amateur Wrestling News ranked Williams 20th this week. As a rookie, Williams led the team in pins and was CAA runner-up in the 133-pound weight class. Williams has already placed twice 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 twice this season.

165: Nick Pullano has become a mainstay in the ODU lineup and will be Martin's go-to at 165. He finished 3rd at Mat Town USA last 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 twice 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.

Hwt: Matt Pellar, a red shirt freshman, finishes out Martin's lineup. A two-time all-state competitor.

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)	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.

Tournament Records for 2006-07:

Overall Team Record: 92-70

at MSU Open: 29-23

at Cornell Body Bar: 19-21

at Mat Town Open: 44-26

125: 8-8

133: 14-7

141: 18-6

149: 13-16

157: 11-6

165: 4-5

174: 6-12

184: 9-7

197: 7-3

Hwt.: 4-0

The Last Time ODU...

Won a dual meet at home:

Feb. 16, 2006 – 28-12 vs. VMI

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



**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
Website: odusports.cstv.com

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