

# OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY **MONARCH WRESTLING**

## Virginia Intercollegiate State Tourn.



### VA States

Old Dominion University is hosting the 2007 Virginia Intercollegiate State Tournament this Saturday at Granby High School. Seven Virginia schools will compete beginning at 10:00am with the finals starting around 5:30pm.

The bracket will include VMI, UVA, The Apprentice School, Liberty University, George Mason, James Madison, and the Monarchs. ODU placed nine wrestlers in this tournament last season including Adam Wright taking home Outstanding Wrestler honors.

### Directions to Granby H.S.

Granby High School is located on Granby St. in Norfolk, Virginia. Address is 7101 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA.

#### **From 64-East:**

Take Exit 268 and stay left of the fork toward Granby St. School will be on your right just over a mile off the exit.

#### **From ODU:**

South on Hampton Blvd. Left onto W 38<sup>th</sup> St. Left onto Granby St. School will be on your left just under two miles away.

### Post-Tourney Social

The coaching staff of the Monarchs would like to invite all fans, friends, and family to a post-tournament social at A.J. Gators on Granby Street immediately following the championship bouts. The venue is at 7515 Granby Street at Wards Corner, about a mile north on Granby St.

### Nationally Ranked

ODU continues to open eyes around the country with five starters nationally ranked in the new year. The team finished higher than nationally ranked Pittsburgh at the Southern Scuffle and two Monarchs broke into the InterMat Top 20. Sophomore David Mendoza, already ranked in the WrestlingReport.com polls, is now 20<sup>th</sup> in InterMat's with a 5<sup>th</sup> place effort at the Scuffle. True freshman Jesse Strawn joined the four other nationally ranked Monarchs at 20<sup>th</sup> in the InterMat poll after going 7-2 at the Scuffle on his way to fourth place. Adam Koballa (133) remains in 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.

## Tournament Records So Far

<u>Weight</u>	<u>ODU</u>	<u>Record</u>
125	Kyle Hutter	7-6
133	Adam Koballa (29 <sup>th</sup> – WrestlingReport.com)	12-7
141	Ryan Williams (24 <sup>th</sup> – WrestlingReport.com)	11-3
149	Kaylen Baxter/Joey Metzler	16-9 / 3-6
157	Chris Brown (17 <sup>th</sup> – AWN)	14-6
165	Nick Pullano	4-7
174	Derek Coffey/Bryan Koz	4-10 / 5-6
184	Jesse Strawn (20 <sup>th</sup> – W.I.N. Magazine/InterMat)	16-10
197	David Mendoza (20 <sup>th</sup> – W.I.N. Magazine/InterMat)	13-3
Hwt.	Matt Pellar	5-2

## 2006-07 ODU Schedule/Results

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

### 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.

### 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 freshman Jesse Strawn has placed in all four tournaments he has participated with a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish at the tough Southern Scuffle tournament. Adam Koballa has placed in three tournaments so far this season while 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 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. Meanwhile, sophomore David Mendoza wants some of the spotlight as well as he took first in his weight class at Mat Town and most recently, Mendoza finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Southern Scuffle. Mendoza has disposed of two nationally ranked foes this season.



## **Toppling The Top Tier**

Old Dominion has made it a habit to rise against top competition this season. Before the Southern Scuffle four nationally ranked opponents had fallen at the hands of Monarch grapplers. After the Scuffle, ODU can add four more names to the hit list.

Kyle Hutter (125) knocked Kent State's Chad Sportelli (ranked as high as 14<sup>th</sup>) out of the tournament with an 8-2 decision in the wrestlebacks. Kaylen Baxter (149) then did the same to Lehigh's top ranked grappler Trevor Chinn (ranked in the top ten) in an 11-4 decision.

Another Kent State wrestler fell to Jesse Strawn when Eric Chine (24<sup>th</sup> nationally) in an 11-6 decision. Finally, David Mendoza earned a victory by default over Cornell's Jerry Rinaldi, ranked second in the nation.

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.

## **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. He recently knocked 14-ranked Chad Sportelli out of the national rankings.

**133:** Adam Koballa started the season on fire with a third, fourth, and fifth place finish in 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 knocked off nationally ranked Trevor Chinn 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 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, has turned heads already in this weight class. He leads the team with seven pins and has most recently knocked off nationally ranked Kent State grappler Eric Chine while inserting himself into the national rankings. Strawn was a two-time state champion and was selected to the CAA's pre-season All-Rookie team.

**197:** David is already ranked in his new weight class after winning his weight class at Mat Town and pinning nationally ranked Harry Zander. He also finished 5<sup>th</sup> at the Southern Scuffle.

**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

# Probable Competitors

## The Apprentice School

125: Kevin Hill  
133: Micah Amrozowicz  
141: Jeremiah Jones and Josh Flint  
149: Matt Perry  
157: David Thornton  
165: Rudy Leming  
174: Eric Lybarger  
184: Justin Gilliard and Russell Dawson  
197: Tommy Arnold and Kendall Ridenour  
Hwt: Matt Brunscheon and Jimmy Campbell

## George Mason University

125: Joe Coughlin  
133: Will Powars  
141: David Emison  
149: Chris Cartella  
157: Robert Henry  
165: Tyler Tisdell  
174: Randy Oates  
184: Matt Moyer  
197: Harry Zander  
Hwt: Ryan Kittrick

## James Madison University

125: Louis Sweet and Thang Ho  
133: Brandon Luce and Stephen Gunther  
141: Shawn Horst and Jimmy Mitchum  
149: Nick Broccoli and Eric Nadeau  
157: Scott Yorko and Jeff Jacobs  
165: Jon Divello  
174: Ivan Lagares  
184:  
197: John Holloway  
Hwt: Zack Winfrey and Pat Finch

## Liberty University

125: Christian Smith and John Katz  
133: Sam Walters, Zack McCray, and Dustin Hicks  
141: Tim Harner and Ryan McDonnell  
149: Aaron Kelley  
157: Shaun Smith  
165: Chad Porter, Joseph Son, and Taylor Hartsfield  
174: Jonathon Campbell  
184: Chris Daggett  
197: Rory Bosek and Mike Nielson  
Hwt: Patrick Walker and Josh Pelletier

## University of Virginia

125: Ross Gitomer  
133: Eric Albright  
141: Kellon Balum  
149: Drew DiPasquale  
157: Mike Sewell  
165: Damian Johnson  
174: Mike Grogran  
184: Rocco Caponi  
197: Kyle Narkiewicz  
Hwt: Scott Smith and Jack Danilkowicz

## Virginia Military Institute

125: Johnathan Pope and Lance Long  
133: Tyler Anthony  
141: Brandon Franklin  
149: Sam Alvarenga and Randy Phillips  
157: Tommy Cunningham and Vince Cole  
165: John Burton and David Lochart  
174: Dustin McCabe and Cubby Elgart  
184: Corry Murray  
197:  
Hwt: Scott Buhman, Leon Barrow, and Erik Olson



## 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****2 Wrestlers Placed – 13<sup>th</sup> place****Final Results**4<sup>th</sup> – Jesse Strawn (184)5<sup>th</sup> – David Mendoza (197)

ODU earned 57.5 team points good for 13<sup>th</sup> place at one of the toughest tournaments in the country. Among 32 teams and 62 nationally ranked individuals, ODU placed two. Four Monarchs earned victories over nationally ranked opponents during the tournament and Jesse Strawn's fourth place effort earned him a spot in the national rankings. Kyle Hutter, Kaylen Baxter, Strawn, and David Mendoza all put away nationally ranked opponents. Mendoza would work his way to a fifth place showing at the 197-lb. weight class and earned a 20<sup>th</sup> ranking by InterMat. Strawn went 7-2 for the tournament and added two more pins to give him a team-leading seven for the year.

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

**Overall Team Record: 144-107**  
**at MSU Open: 29-21**  
**at Cornell Body Bar: 19-22**  
**at Mat Town Open: 46-26**  
**at Penn State Open: 22-15**  
**at Southern Scuffle: 28-23**  
**125: 17-14**  
**133: 14-8**  
**141: 25-15**  
**149: 25-22**  
**157: 16-10**  
**165: 4-7**  
**174: 9-16**  
**184: 16-10**  
**197: 13-3**  
**Hwt: 5-2**

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

**Overall Team Record: 20-10**  
**at Purdue: 5-5 (L 17-18)**  
**vs George Mason: 8-2 (W 38-12)**  
**at The Citadel: 7-3 (W 30-12)**

**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: Jesse Strawn (18)

Pins: Jesse Strawn (7)

Major Decisions: Koballa and Brown (4)

Technical Falls: Nick Pullano (3)

Decisions: Kaylen Baxter (12)



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