

# (22) OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

## MONARCH WRESTLING

### ST. EDWARD'S DUALS



#### On To Ohio

The Old Dominion Monarchs will face three opponents at the St. Edward's Duals this Saturday, including the third ranked team in the nation, Iowa, on a neutral mat in Cleveland, Ohio. The Monarchs will wrestle the 16th ranked Division II Findlay program at 11:30 am, then No. 4 Iowa at 2:30, and will finish with a dual against back-to-back JuCo National Champs, Iowa Central at 4:00 pm.

Iowa boasts nationally ranked individuals in seven weight classes, including the number one ranked grappler at 165 lbs, Mark Perry. ODU's Chris Brown will be across the mat from the Hawkeye. Brown is nationally ranked and has gone 9-3 through the first two weekends.

The Monarchs will return to the mat next Friday, November 30 for the Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational. It is one of the most respected tournaments in the nation and is a two-day event in Las Vegas.

#### Top 25 Team

ODU earned its first national ranking since the 1990-91 season this week as W.I.N. Magazine has the Monarchs ranked 22nd in the nation.

The Monarchs jumped into the rankings ahead of No. 23 Boise State, No. 24 Arizona State and No. 25 Kent State.

W.I.N. also has two Monarchs ranked individually. Chris Brown is ranked 20th at 165 lbs and David Mendoza is listed as the 19th best 197-pounder.

ODU has been receiving votes in the USA Today/InterMat/NWCA National Rankings all season, and are still currently just outside the top 25 in that poll. InterMat has ranked Ryan Williams at #17 in the nation at 141 lbs and David Mendoza is still ranked #19 at 197 lbs.

## PROBABLE STARTERS

(RV) ODU:

125 - (22) JAMES NICHOLSON

OR BILLY CHAMBERLAIN

133 - (23) KYLE HUTTER

141 - (16) RYAN WILLIAMS

149 - (23) KAYLEN BAXTER

157 - DAN RIVERA

165 - (18) CHRIS BROWN

174 - NICK PULLANO

184 - (20) JESSE STRAWN

197 - (16) DAVID MENDOZA

285 - ROY DRAGON III

(16 - DII) FINDLAY:

JAN ULINSKI

JEREMY ESPINOZA

JOSH FALK

ANDREW VASQUEZ

(1) ANTONIO GUERRA

JUSTIN SHANNON

JEFF HAVELKA

HIRAM SMITH

ANDY ZALASKALNS

(2) TRAVIS CLARK

(3) IOWA:

(5) CHARLIE FALCK

DANIEL DENNIS/(12) JOE SLATON (2) TONY VALDEZ

(7) ALEX TSIRTSIS

(4) BRENT METCALF

(10) RYAN MORNINGSTAR

(1) MARK PERRY

(14) JAY BORSCHERL

(17) PHILLIP KEDDY/RICK LOERA (1) NATE WILLARD

(6) MATT FIELDS

(1 - NJCAA) IOWA CENTRAL:

(1) TERRENCE YOUNG

HIGHEST CURRENT RANKINGS NOTED

## 2007-08 ODU Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Results
11/9	Michigan State	20-16 W
11/11	MSU Open	1 Champ; 7 Placed
11/18	Missouri Open	1 Champ; 9 Placed
11/24	St. Edward's Duals: Findlay Iowa Iowa Central	11:30 am 2:30 pm 4:00 pm
11/30-12/1	Las Vegas Invitational	All Day
12/1	Penn State Open	All Day
12/29-12/30	Southern Scuffle	All Day
1/5	Virginia States	All Day
<b>1/8</b>	<b>Delaware State</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>
1/11-1/12	Virginia Duals	All Day
1/18-1/19	CAA Duals	All Day
<b>1/27</b>	<b>Bucknell</b>	<b>1:00 pm</b>
2/3	George Mason American	12:00 pm TBA
<b>2/10</b>	<b>Rider</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
2/24	Virginia Tech	2:00 pm
3/7-3/8	CAA Tournament	All Day
3/20-3/22	NCAA Tournament	All Day

Home dates bold

### **Champions Developing the Future**

Head Coach Steve Martin has led the Monarchs to a 36-19-2 mark through his third year at the helm. In the CAA the Monarchs have dominated with a 16-4-1 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 Mike Dixon, Jon Sioredas and Matt Storniolo. 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 second-year coach with a wealth of knowledge about the sport. Named an All-American and ranked as high as 2nd nationally at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, Sioredas is now using his skills to teach.

Storniolo is mirroring Sioredas' career, jumping right into coaching after graduation. He was a two-time All-American at the University of Oklahoma, as well as the Big East Rookie of the Year at Penn State.

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

### **Last Weekend**

ODU had more finalists than all teams at the Missouri Open other than Missouri, including more than Illinois and Northwestern, two nationally ranked teams. Roy Dragon III won the 285 weight class and five Monarchs finished as runner-up in their weight class. In all, ODU placed nine wrestlers at the tournament.

Five Monarchs have won eight or more bouts in the first weekend. Chris Brown leads the pack with nine wins. Jesse Strawn has eight wins with a team-leading four major decisions.

### **Next on the Schedule**

The Monarchs continue to test themselves with a difficult schedule next weekend as they travel to one of the most respected tournaments in the nation, the Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational. The field for the two-day event will consist of wrestlers from nearly 15 nationally ranked programs. It will be the third tournament of the season for ODU.

### **Nationally Ranked**

ODU is ranked as a team for the first time since the 1990-91 season. W.I.N. Magazine has ODU ranked as the 22nd best team in the country. In the InterMat.com National Rankings, ODU is receiving more votes than any team not in the Top 25. They could potentially break into the Top 25 as soon as this week, with a good showing at the St. Edward's Duals.

Seven Monarchs are nationally ranked by at least one poll. Sophomore Jesse Strawn made his first appearance this week, ranked 20th by Amateur Wrestling News. Also ranked 20th by AWN are David Mendoza (197) and Chris Brown (165). Brown and Mendoza are also ranked by W.I.N., while junior Ryan Williams and Mendoza are ranked by InterMat.

Rankings:

#### **InterMat.com - 11/21**

141 - Ryan Williams (#17)  
197 - David Mendoza (#19)

#### **Amateur Wrestling News - (11/20)**

165 - Chris Brown (#20)  
184 - Jesse Strawn (#20)  
197 - David Mendoza (#20)

#### **W.I.N. Magazine - (11/20) Team Rank - 22nd**

165 - Chris Brown (#20)  
197 - David Mendoza (#19)

#### **WrestlingReport.com - (11/20)**

125 - James Nicholson (#22)  
133 - Kyle Hutter (#23)  
141 - Ryan Williams (#16)  
149 - Kaylen Baxter (#23)  
165 - Chris Brown (#21)  
184 - Jesse Strawn (#22)  
197 - David Mendoza (#21)

#### **TheWrestlingMall.com - (Preseason)**

165 - Chris Brown (#18)  
197 - David Mendoza (#17)

## **A Will To Win**

Ryan Williams has been the most consistent wrestler under head coach Steve Martin since he took over the starting job midway through his freshman year. He's the go-to at 141 lbs and was an NCAA Qualifier in 2006, just missing his second trip a year ago as he dropped a decision to CAA Champion and NCAA All-American Charles Griffin.

He has a career .716 winning percentage with 63 wins very early in his junior season. If he finishes his career with the same consistency, he has the potential to become the Monarchs 8th wrestler with 100 wins in a career.

## **Baxter's Beginning**

Kaylen Baxter has started the season with a 8-1 record, including a win of the 149-lb. weight class at the Michigan State Open and a second place effort at the Missouri Open. His only loss came to a grappler from the 6th ranked Northwestern squad. He also sealed ODU's first victory over a Big Ten team since 1990 with a decision over MSU's Eddie Skowneski.

## **First Year Bookends**

The Monarchs have been using youth to win for several years and 2007-08 is no exception. True freshman Roy Dragon III and redshirt freshman James Nicholson will see the most mat time at the 285 and 125 weights respectively.

Dragon has already won a collegiate tournament, with his victory at the Missouri Open last weekend. He was a finalist the week before, finishing second at the MSU Open. He has started his career with an 8-2 record with two pins and one major decision.

At the other end of the scale, James Nicholson has started the season with a 5-3 record and a second place showing at the Missouri Open. He nearly won the event, but fell to the 11th ranked grappler in the country in a tight 2-4 decision.

## **Hometown Brown**

Redshirt sophomore Chris Brown, from nearby Chesapeake, Virginia, has also gotten off to a quick start. He is 9-3 with three major decisions and one pin, and a team-leading total of wins. With one more victory, he'll have 50 for his career just over a year into his career. He slid up to the 165-lb weight class this season and has started this year much like he did a year ago, when he was named CAA Rookie of the Week three times.



## **By Weight Class:**

For the first time in Steve Martin's coaching tenure, there will be a former NCAA Qualifier, HS All-American, or FILA Cadet All-American starting at EVERY weight.

**125:** RS freshmen James Nicholson and Billy Chamberlain will platoon at 125. Nicholson was an alternate on the FILA Jr. World Team this summer and compiled a 23-8 record unattached a year ago. Chamberlain will also see time, as he was ranked as high as 4th in the nation in high school.

**133:** Kyle Hutter will bump up a weight class and be the go-to starter at 133 lbs. He was ranked second in the conference for much of the 06-07 campaign and finished 3rd at the CAA Tournament. Hutter knocked off nationally ranked Chad Sportelli (Kent State) at the Southern Scuffle. He'll be backed by Justin Belanger, the Rhode Island Wrestler of the Year in 2006-07, and Zeke Donahay, a Florida state finalist.

**141:** Ryan Williams has been the most dependable starter in the lineup since taking over the job at 141 as a freshman. He was an NCAA Qualifier in 2006 and is already ranked in the Top 20 this season. It is one of the deepest weight classes for the Monarchs, as returners Adam Koballa and Cam Watkins both have sufficient collegiate experience to step in and relieve Williams at any point during the season.

**149:** Kaylen Baxter has already sealed one championship this season, at the MSU Open, and has a history of knocking off top competition. He has wins against four nationally ranked wrestlers and seven NCAA qualifiers. He's started the season with a 5-0 mark to lead the team. In the wings will be returner Joey Metzler and newcomer Buffy Okigbo.

**157:** In a void left by Chris Brown bumping up to 165, this weight class is still open for the taking. Redshirt freshman Dan Rivera and true freshman Tel Todd are the frontrunners as Lester France will also press for mat time. Rivera was a FILA Cadet world team member in high school and wrestled at 149 lbs unattached last season. Todd was ranked as high as 8th in the nation in high school as a Montana state champion, while France coupled an enormous 217 wins with just 13 losses in his prep career.

**165:** Chris Brown, the team leader in wins and major decisions in 2006, will wrestle at this slot. He is nationally ranked in the preseason and has already tallied 40 wins in his young career. Newcomer Derek Peperas will back up Brown

**174:** 2007 NCAA Qualifier and ODU's lone senior, Nick Pullano, will bump up to the 174-lb. weight. He'll look to return to the tournament after a very successful junior campaign, leading the team in technical falls with seven. T.C. Pendleton and Sam Hunt will vie for mat time at this weight as well.

**184:** Jesse Strawn is one of just three Monarchs to get five wins in the opening weekend. He had 11 pins as a true freshman and finished 3rd at the CAA Tournament. Scott Cust will provide depth at 184, and will push Strawn to maintain success throughout the season.

**197:** Junior David Mendoza will strive to make the NCAA Tournament for a second consecutive season, as he went 32-12 last season, including leading the team in pins. He's currently nationally ranked in all the major polls and will face stiff competition early in the year.

**HWT:** True freshmen Roy Dragon III and Andy Totusek will battle for the starting job at 285. Dragon went 148-12 with 111 pins in high school while Totusek was 132-31 in high school.

Colonial Athletic Association

CAA Wrestling Preseason Rankings  
(October 2007)

	Conference	Overall	CAA Ranked Wrestlers
1. Hofstra University	0-0-0	0-0-0	9
2. Rider University	0-0-0	0-0-0	9
2. Old Dominion University	0-0-0	0-0-0	9
4. Drexel University	0-0-0	0-0-0	7
5. Binghamton University	0-0-0	0-0-0	5
6. Boston University	0-0-0	0-0-0	7
7. George Mason University	0-0-0	0-0-0	8
8. Sacred Heart University	0-0-0	0-0-0	4
9. Campbell University	0-0-0	0-0-0	2

**125:**

1. Dave Tomasette, Hofstra
2. Steve Mytych, Drexel
- 3. James Nicholson, ODU**
4. Brian Wright, GMU
5. Fred Santaite, Boston Univ.
6. Mitch Fenton, Rider

**133:**

1. Lou Ruggirello, Hofstra
2. Zac Cunliffe, Rider
3. Billy Martin, Drexel
- 4. Kyle Hutter, ODU**
5. Paul Galipeau, Sacred Heart
6. Will Powars/Joe Coughlin, GMU

**141:**

1. Charles Griffin, Hofstra
2. Don Fisch, Rider
- 3. Ryan Williams, ODU**
4. Joey Whitaker, Boston Univ.
5. Cory Dunn, Sacred Heart
6. Dave Gilio, Drexel

**149:**

1. Mike Roberts, Boston Univ.
2. Kyle Fried, Binghamton
- 3. Kaylen Baxter, ODU**
4. Mitch Smith, Hofstra
5. Chris Davis, Sacred Heart
6. Aaron Nestor, Rider

**157:**

1. Ryan Hluschak, Drexel
2. Jon Bonilla-Bowman, Hofstra
3. Rob Morrison, Rider
4. Nate Patterson, Binghamton
5. Mike Cubillos, Boston Univ.
6. Frankie McLaughlin, GMU

**165:**

- 1. Chris Brown, ODU**
2. Billy Haydt, Drexel
3. Jason Lapham, Rider
4. Ryan Patrovich, Hofstra
5. Tyler Tisdell, GMU
6. A.J. Detwiler, Boston Univ.

**174:**

1. Josh Patterson, Binghamton
2. Alton Lucas, Hofstra
- 3. Nick Pullano, ODU**
4. Randy Oates, GMU
5. Alex Brown, Boston Univ.
6. Dillon Landi, Campbell

**184:**

1. Joe Rovelli, Hofstra
2. Doug Umbehauer, Rider
- 3. Jesse Strawn, ODU**
4. Ryan Malo, Boston Univ.
5. Justin Wieller, Drexel
6. Bill Widener, GMU

**197:**

- 1. David Mendoza, ODU**
2. T.J. Morrison, Rider
3. Kevin Fox, Sacred Heart
4. Corey Waite, Binghamton
5. Cayle Byers, GMU
6. Jeff Siciliano, Hofstra

**285:**

1. Eddie Bordas, Rider
2. Harry Zander, GMU
3. Mike Patterson, Binghamton
4. Jeremiah Fennell, Campbell
5. Bryant Deinhardt, Drexel
- 6. Roy Dragon III, ODU**

## Dual Records for 2007-08

**Overall Team Bout Record: 6-4  
at Michigan State: 6-4 (W 20-16)**

**125: 1-0  
133: 0-1  
141: 1-0  
149: 1-0  
157: 0-1  
165: 1-0  
174: 1-0  
184: 1-0  
197: 0-1  
Hwt: 0-1**

## Tournament Records for 2007-08

**Overall Team Bout Record: 61-38  
at MSU Open: 30-22  
at Missouri Open: 31-16**

**125: 3-3  
133: 3-3  
141: 4-1  
149: 3-1  
157: 0-2  
165: 4-1  
174: 4-2  
184: 3-1  
197: 2-2  
Hwt: 5-0**

Stat Leaders for 2007-08:  
(Not including unattached results)

Win %: Kaylen Baxter (8-1, .888)

Wins: Chris Brown (9)

Pins: Ryan Williams & Roy Dragon III (2)

Major Decisions: Jesse Strawn (4)

Technical Falls: Nick Pullano, David Mendoza & James  
Nicholson (1)

Decisions: Kaylen Baxter (8)

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# 2007-08 Old Dominion Wrestling Statistics

(Including Tournament Results)

Season Dual Record: 1-0

CAA Record: 0-0

CAA Finish: TBD

Name	Cl.	Wt.	Overall W-L	Dual W-L	CAA W-L	Tourn. W-L	Maj. Dec.	Tech. Fall	Pins
Kaylen Baxter	RS So	149	8-1	1-0	0-0	7-1	0	0	0
Justin Belanger	Fr	133	1-4	0-0	0-0	1-4	1	0	0
Chris Brown	RS So	165	9-3	1-0	0-0	8-3	3	0	1
Billy Chamberlin	So	125	3-5	0-0	0-0	3-5	0	0	0
Derek Coffey	So	174	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scott Cust	Fr	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zeke Donahay	Fr	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Roy Dragon III	Fr	285	8-2	0-1	0-0	8-1	1	0	2
Lester France	Fr	149	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sam Hunt	Fr	174	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kyle Hutter	So	133	4-4	0-1	0-0	4-3	1	0	0
Adam Koballa	So	133	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
David Mendoza	Jr	184	5-5	0-1	0-0	5-4	0	1	0
Joey Metzler	RS Fr	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
James Nicholson	RS Fr	125	5-3	1-0	0-0	4-3	1	1	0
Buffy Okigbo	Fr	149	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T.C. Pendleton	Fr	165	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nick Pullano	RS Sr	174	7-4	1-0	0-0	6-4	1	1	0
Dan Rivera	RS Fr	165	1-5	0-1	0-0	1-4	0	0	0
Jesse Strawn	So	184	8-2	1-0	0-0	7-2	4	0	0
Tel Todd	Fr	157	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andy Totusek	Fr	285	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cam Watkins	RS So	141	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	0	0
Ryan Williams	Jr	141	8-2	1-0	0-0	7-2	2	0	2

## Tournament Highlights:

Michigan State Open (Nov. 11, 2007)    Missouri Open (Nov. 18, 2007)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 125 lbs: 6 <sup>th</sup> - Billy Chamberlain | 125 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - James Nicholson |
| 141 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Ryan Williams     | 133 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Kyle Hutter     |
| 149 lbs: 1 <sup>st</sup> - Kaylen Baxter     | 141 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Ryan Williams   |
| 165 lbs: 5 <sup>th</sup> - Chris Brown       | 149 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Kaylen Baxter   |
| 184 lbs: 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Jesse Strawn      | 165 lbs: 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Chris Brown     |
| 197 lbs: 5 <sup>th</sup> - David Mendoza     | 174 lbs: 5 <sup>th</sup> - Nick Pullano    |
| 285 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Roy Dragon III    | 184 lbs: 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Jesse Strawn    |
|  | 197 lbs: 4 <sup>th</sup> - David Mendoza   |
|  | 285 lbs: 1 <sup>st</sup> - Roy Dragon III  |

**Dual Results:**

Nov. 9 at Michigan State W 20-16  
 Nov. 24 St. Edward Duals  
     vs. Findlay  
     vs. Iowa  
     vs. Iowa Central

**Jan. 8 vs. Delaware State**

Jan. 11 Virginia Duals  
 Jan. 12 Virginia Duals  
 Jan. 18 CAA Duals\*  
 Jan. 19 CAA Duals\*

**Jan. 27 vs. Bucknell**

Feb. 3 at George Mason\*  
 Feb. 3 at American

**Feb. 10 vs. Rider\***

Feb. 24 at Virginia Tech

\*Conference Matches

**ODU Starters Career Records:**

125: James Nicholson 5-3  
     Billy Chamberlain 3-5  
 133: Kyle Hutter 28-19  
 141: Ryan Williams 63-25  
 149: Kaylen Baxter 42-24  
 157: Dan Rivera 1-5  
 165: Chris Brown 49-20  
 174: Nick Pullano 73-62  
 184: Jesse Strawn 36-25  
 197: David Mendoza 52-29  
 Hwt: Roy Dragon III 8-2

**2006-07 Statistical Leaders:**

**Wins:** Chris Brown (9)  
**Pins:** Ryan Williams & Roy Dragon (2)  
**Major Decisions:** Jesse Strawn (4)  
**Technical Falls:** Three tied with 1  
**Decisions:** Kaylen Baxter (8)

**ODU Starter 2006-07 Statistical Breakdown:**

<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Maj. Dec.</u>	<u>Tech. Fall</u>	<u>Pins</u>	<u>Decisions</u>
		<u>By/Against</u>	<u>By/Against</u>	<u>By/Against</u>	<u>By/Against</u>
125	James Nicholson	1/0	1/0	0/0	3/3
	Billy Chamberlain	0/0	0/0	0/1	3/4
133	Kyle Hutter	1/0	0/0	0/1	3/3
141	Ryan Williams	2/0	0/0	2/1	4/1
149	Kaylen Baxter	0/0	0/0	0/1	8/0
157	Dan Rivera	0/1	0/1	0/1	1/2
165	Chris Brown	3/0	0/0	1/1	5/2
174	Nick Pullano	1/0	1/1	0/1	5/2
184	Jesse Strawn	4/0	0/0	0/0	4/2
197	David Mendoza	0/1	1/0	0/0	4/4
285	Roy Dragon III	0/0	0/0	1/1	2/1