

“GRAPPLER REPORT”

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE BUCKNELL WRESTLING PROGRAM



SEPTEMBER 2014 • VOL. 7, NO. 1

• LEWISBURG, PA 17837

A NOTE FROM HEAD COACH DAN WIRNSBERGER



Greetings from Lewisburg!

As we approach the mid-way point of the fall semester, we wanted to update you on our progress through the early fall and summer months in preparation for the 2014-15 season. Our student-athletes have been working rigorously, both athletically and academically.

During the offseason a number of incoming freshmen were on campus making great strides by taking summer classes and participating in voluntary summer workouts. In May, Paul Petrov finished seventh at 57 kg in the ASICS University Freestyle Championships held in Akron, Ohio. Bucknell wrestlers also assisted in our annual summer camp and the Bison Legend duals; a one-day event that hosted 59 teams made up of over 900 wrestlers from elementary to high school age groups. To round out summer training, nine of our student-athletes made a trip to Blacksburg, Virginia to partake in a two-day mini-camp hosted by Virginia Tech.

Bucknell Wrestling is continuing to take steps in the right direction to make a name for itself on the national scene. We hope this finds you and your loved ones well and we look forward to seeing you this upcoming season!

My Best,

Dan Wirnsberger
Head Wrestling Coach

Bison Wrestling Contact Information

Head Coach: Dan Wirnsberger Phone: 570-577-1035
E-Mail: djw020@bucknell.edu
Assistant Coach: James Gibson Phone: 570-577-1755
E-Mail: jmg059@bucknell.edu
Assistant Coach: TBA Phone: 570-577-3980
E-Mail: TBA
Volunteer Coach: Derek Caldwell
E-Mail: dmc055@bucknell.edu
Fax: 570-577-1660

BISON COMPETE AT ASICS UNIVERSITY NATIONALS

A dozen Bucknell wrestlers competed at the ASICS University Nationals in Akron, Ohio, this past May with Paul Petrov headlining the group by placing seventh in the 57kg weight class. The junior-to-be was 7-2 in the event that featured very strong competition as he earned Freestyle All-America recognition.

Overall, 12 Bison were in action across seven weight classes representing Bison Legend Wrestling Club.

Petrov was especially strong in his wins, posting his first six victories by a combined 46-0 score. He then defeated Ben Willeford 12-3 in the seventh-place match.

Wrestling in the 97kg bracket, Tyler Lyster posted Bucknell's next most impressive performance, coming one win shy of All-American honors. Overall, Lyster had three wins, including a fall and a pair of decisions by a combined 12-1 score.

Also in action at the national event were Connor Lapresi (65kg), Logan Kerin, Brenan McAllister and Victor Lopez (70kg), Joey Krulock and Robert Schlitt (74kg), Rory Bonner and Tyler Greene (86kg) and Joe Stolfi (125kg).



Paul Petrov placed 7th in the 57kg weight class

2014-15 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Oct. 23	Intrasquad	Lewisburg, Pa.	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 8	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pa.	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 22	Navy Classic	Annapolis, Md.	TBA
Dec. 5-6	Cliff Keen Invit.	Las Vegas, Nev.	All Day
Dec. 20	Virginia	Lewisburg, Pa.	2:00 p.m.
Grapple at the Garden			
Dec. 21	Davidson	New York, N.Y.	10:00 a.m.
Dec. 21	Hofstra	New York, N.Y.	12:00 p.m.
Jan. 4	Michigan State	East Lansing, Mich.	2:00 p.m.
Jan. 9-10	Virginia Duals	Hampton, Va.	All Day
Jan. 17	George Mason	Lewisburg, Pa.	11:00 a.m.
Jan. 17	Sacred Heart*	Lewisburg, Pa.	3:00 p.m.
Jan. 23	Columbia*	Lewisburg, Pa.	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 25	Harvard*	Cambridge, Mass.	12:00 p.m.
Jan. 25	Brown*	Providence, RI	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 1	Bloomsburg	Bloomsburg, Pa.	2:00 p.m.
Feb. 7	American*	Washington D.C.	TBA
Feb. 13	F & M*	Lewisburg, Pa.	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 14	Army*	Lewisburg, Pa.	2:00 p.m.
Feb. 20	Binghamton*	Lewisburg, Pa.	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 22	VMI	Lexington, Va.	2:00 p.m.
Mar. 6	EIWA's	Bethlehem, Pa.	All Day
Mar. 7	EIWA's	Bethlehem, Pa.	All Day
Mar. 19-21	NCAA's	St. Louis, Missouri	All Day

* Conference Match

Home Matches in Bold

BUCKNELL WRESTLING HOLDS ANNUAL BISON LEGEND DUALS

Bucknell Wrestling held the Bison Legend Duals this past July at Gerhard Fieldhouse and Sojka Pavilion on the campus of Bucknell University. The event was spanned across 18 mats in the two facilities and saw 59 teams with over 900 wrestlers participating in the one day event. Bison Legend Wrestling Club's middle school team finished second overall in their division. This event is just one way Bucknell Wrestling is helping to put itself on the national map as teams from various states filtered on to campus.



GoBISON!

NINE BISON TAKE PART IN SUMMER TRAINING AT VIRGINIA TECH

Members of the Bucknell Bison Wrestling team took part in a two day training camp on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va. The training camp included live competition with members of other various Division I wrestling programs including: Virginia Tech, American, Ohio University, and Campbell. Joe Stolfi and Grim Gonzalez both had solid outings at the mini camp with Stolfi going 5-1 and Gonzalez finishing 4-1-1. Other notable performances included incoming freshman Zach Valley and Tyler Smith going 2-1-1 and 3-3 respectively, and Senior Tyler Lyster posting a 3-3 record. Bucknell wrestlers concluded their summer training with this camp and will resume preparations for the 2014-15 season with preseason workouts in early September.

BISON SYSTEMS WRESTLING CAMP FEATURES WORLD CLASS CLINICIANS

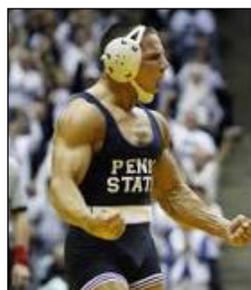
The Bison Systems Wrestling Camp was a success once again for Bucknell University Wrestling as a number of top notch technicians were present in Lewisburg from July 6-9. Clinicians included former Bucknell University Assistant Coach and four-time NCAA All-American for Cornell, Dustin Manotti, three-time NCAA Champion from Bloomsburg, Ricky Bonomo, two-time NCAA Champion from Penn State, Quentin Wright, and NCAA Champion and World Team hopeful, Frank Molinaro. The camp consisted of teams from 14 different schools with over 190 wrestlers participating. We continue to work towards fundraising efforts to give our student-athletes better opportunities during the competition season.



Dustin Manotti



Quentin Wright



Frank Molinaro



Ricky Bonomo

BILL GRAHAM'S '62 MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR GIFT LEADS TO NEW WRESTLING AND HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

The following article on former Bison wrestling captain Bill Graham '62 first appeared on www.bucknell.edu and was written by Interim VP of Communications, Andy Hirsch.

More than 50 years after graduating from Bucknell, Trustee Emeritus Bill Graham '62 is still inspired by his undergraduate experience, a big part of which was being co-captain of the undefeated 1961-62 wrestling team.

"Wrestling taught me a lot about myself," Graham said. "It helped build my self-esteem, my confidence, my tenacity and determination — a lot of the things that have really helped me to achieve whatever success I have had in my life."

That success has allowed Graham to give back to Bucknell in a myriad of ways. In addition to his nine years of service on the Board of Trustees, it was Graham's gift of approximately \$8 million that led to the installation of Graham Field for field hockey and women's lacrosse, the creation of an endowment to support women's varsity sports — primarily women's rowing — and allowed the wrestling program to regain varsity status in 2006-07.

Even then, Graham knew he wanted to do more — and now he has. Graham recently pledged another gift in excess of \$7 million for a new facility that will serve as both a wrestling center and a campus health and wellness center. The donation includes funding for an operation and maintenance endowment for the building, only the second endowment of its kind at Bucknell.

"Once again we are extremely thankful for Bill Graham's leadership and generosity in support of our men's and women's varsity athletics program," said John Hardt, Bucknell's director of Athletics & Recreation. "Thanks to Bill, the student-athletes in our wrestling program will soon have the opportunity to train in one of the finest facilities in the nation, a facility that we are confident will propel our program to new heights."

Preliminary plans for the Graham Building, which is expected to open in spring 2016, call for a 36,000-square-foot facility to the east of Sojka Pavilion. The Graham Wrestling Center will sit on the second floor and include new locker rooms, practice areas and additional student-centered spaces, including for academic support and athletic training.

The new campus Health and Wellness Center will be located on the Graham Building's first floor, housing services such as Bucknell Student Health, Psychological Services and a campus-wide wellness initiative. It was important for Graham that the facility be one from which the entire campus can benefit.

"This will serve as a resource for the whole Bucknell community," Graham said. "And not just while they're at Bucknell. This can help people develop healthy habits that will stay with them for a lifetime."

With this latest gift, Graham is now Bucknell's second most generous active donor, and plans to continue giving back to Bucknell.

"Bucknell is a great university. The faculty and staff here are phenomenal and we have the most spectacular campus in the world," Graham said. "All of those factors really make you want to give back."

"Bill Graham is among our most passionate and dedicated supporters, and Bucknell owes him a great debt of gratitude," Bucknell President John Bravman said. "These types of transformational gifts benefit not just Bucknellians today, or tomorrow, but for generations to come."





Bucknell University
Wrestling Office
Lewisburg, PA 17837

WRESTLING PROGRAM NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT IN 2014-2015!!



Dear Friend of Bison Wrestling:

Energy, passion, and togetherness have been the hallmarks of the Bucknell Wrestling Program for many years. This has been true not only for the wrestlers on the mat, but for the group of supporters who have helped our program each year. As most of you know, the University budget covers only a fraction of the operating expenses to run a competitive Division I wrestling program.

Thanks to your support and the additional fundraising efforts from our team, last year we finished with \$103,000 in much needed support of the program. This year, we have been given a fundraising goal of \$110,000 to meet our program's budgetary needs. This money is spent in the three main areas of student-athlete recruitment, purchasing equipment to help train our team members, and covering the travel, lodging, and food costs for our team's travel. As you know, student-athlete recruitment is a year-round and highly competitive and intensive process that is of essential importance in fielding successful teams. In addition, we feel it is important to be able to travel safely, stay in quality hotels, and feed our wrestlers appropriately when we travel.

Our program needs your financial support to continue in our quest for excellence. Your earmarked contribution for wrestling to the Bison Club will help make this a reality. We hope we can count on 100% participation from everyone on our support team. Thanks in advance for your assistance!

Dan Wirnsberger --- Head Wrestling Coach