THE INSIDE TRIP
FOR FRIENDS OF
WESLEYAN WRESTLING

April 2005 • Freeman Athletic Center • Wesleyan University • Middletown, CT 06459

Highlights of the 2004-05 Season

- A 59-36 record over the past four seasons. This season the team finished 10-5 in dual matches, our fourth winning season in five years.
- Top team tournament finishes - Doug Parker Invitational at Springfield, fifth of 21 teams; R.I.T. Invitational - sixth of 16 teams.
- Four all-New England Wrestlers - Don Torrenti ’08, sixth place at 125; Camilo Rincon-Camacho ’05, fourth place at 149; Adam Jonas ’04, third place at 157; Dave Bartlett ’06, sixth place at 174.
- Three scholar All-Americans - Jonas, 4.0 GPA (29-4 record), Rincon-Camacho (3.28 GPA, 25-8 record), Bartlett (3.42 GPA, 26-10 record)
- Jonas was nationally ranked most of the season including a fifth-place ranking in late February.
- Jonas was awarded the Maynard Memorial Award as Wesleyan’s top male student-athlete (second wrestler in five years to receive this award along with Nick Bazos in 2002).
- Once again, in addition to a very fine year on the mat, our team excelled in the classroom. The team GPA was a 3.38 which put us in third place in the nation for scholar All-American wrestling team and first place for the NECCWA team GPA award.
- Four wrestlers on NESCAC all-academic team - Bartlett, Dan Case ’05, Kevin Egolf ’05 and Jonas.
- One of only two teams in our conference to defeat 11th-ranked Johnson & Wales this season, winning 23-20. Johnson & Wales finished its dual season at 17-3.
- Defeated Williams, 29-7, for our sixth consecutive victory over the Ephs. Defeated Trinity for the first time in three years, 26-14
- Voted by the school paper, The Argus, as the 2004-05 winter men’s team of the year (second time in four years).

Meet The Top Recruits of the Cardinal Wrestling Family - Class of 2008 (and a transfer)

We added a very talented group of young men to our program this past season. This group worked very hard and is committed to excellence. Like any freshman athlete, each of them needed to make the transition from high school to college athletics. Each of them learned to be intense, finish those takedowns, hold tight, maintain a base and escape, and learn how to win those close matches. It is always a learning experience, but this group had a lot of fun doing it. Let’s meet these new members to our Cardinal wrestling family up close.

Don Torrenti - Orange, Conn. Don is a Conn. all-state wrestler from Amity Regional High School who had an immediate impact on our team and program. We have desperately needed a strong lightweight and Don definitely made us a better team. Don placed in all three tournaments at 125 lbs. and finished as an all-New England wrestler, placing sixth at the Championships. Look for many more great things from this youngster. Don received our “Newcomer of the Year Award” for his impact as a competitor and becoming an all-New England wrestler.

Max Rose - Brooklyn, N.Y. Max is another strong lightweight at 125 lbs. He hails from Poly Prep in NYC where he was a standout competitor. Unfortunately, Max had to undergo some shoulder surgery in January and take the year off as a competitor. The bright spot is that Max will still have another four years to be a strong competitor and leader for Wesleyan wrestling.

Josh Wildes - Dayville, Conn. Wesleyan alumnus Art Horst ’86 coached Josh at the Pomfret School where Josh was a four-time national prep All-American. Josh competed at 133 lbs. for us where he finished the season 18-13. Josh went 10-1 in his last 11 regular-season matches and his only losses at the New England Championships came against the two finalists. Josh will be a great wrestler for Wesleyan. Look for him to have a big impact in our program over the next three years. Josh received our “Most Improved Wrestler Award” this season.

Tomi Uyehara - South Hadley, Mass. Tomi dedicated himself this past summer to the weight room and showed up at Wesleyan as a strong, focused competitor. He showed the team that he will certainly be a big factor in the future success of our program. Tomi graduated from Williston-Northampton where he was a one-time national prep All-American. Tomi also competed at 133 lbs. and bumped up to become our 141 lb. starter for the New England Championships.

Dan Ziegarnik - Newton, Mass. Dan is a transfer student from Umass Amherst. Coming out of Newton South High School, Dan was a Mass. all-state semi-finalist before he was injured and could not move on to the New England Championships. His first time applying to Wes did not work out, but persistence paid off and we are fortunate to have Dan in our program. He is showing great athleticism and takedowns in the early portion of his career. Look for Dan to be a much more dedicated and prepared competitor at 149 lbs. next season.

Drew Marvin-Smith - Madison, Conn. A big Conn. recruiting year for the Cardinals. Drew attended Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford where he, too, was a national prep All-American. Drew is a great athlete who is a very fast learner. Drew is learning how to go “toe-to-toe” with the tough competitors at 165 lbs. Consistency is the key. Drew brings his work ethic each day so expect to hear more about Drew as his Wesleyan wrestling tenure unfolds. He received our “Turnaround Wrestler of the Year Award” after finishing 11-9, taking second place at the JV New England Championships and winning some key duals vs. Trinity & Southern Maine.

Jeremy Stuart - Santa Monica, Calif. Jeremy attended Harvard-Westlake. He had an outstanding senior year and qualified for the tough Calif. state championships. Jeremy is someone who will pin you. I am looking forward to seeing what he can accomplish in the next three seasons. Jeremy is going to really help our program at 184 lbs.

COACHES INSIDE TRIP

Dear Wesleyan Wrestling Alumnus, Parents, Wrestlers, and Wesleyan Supporters:

A lot has been going on since our last newsletter. First, for those of you who may not know or heard, I am a dad for the second time. My wife Jennifer and I had a baby girl named Leah Kristine on June 28, 2004. She is adorable and is now 10 months old. Leah spends most of her day smiling, dribbling, and she is now becoming mobile, crawling all over the house. It is awesome to come home and see her smiling face each evening. Our son Sean started his academic tenure this September as a kindergarten. He loves school and cannot wait for the next school day to see his friends and learn something new. Lastly, we are now proud owners of our first home. We were fortunate to win a housing lottery through Wesleyan University. We still reside very close to the campus as we moved onto High Street in March.

For those of you who competed in the “Cage,” Friday, December 10, 2004 was a day to reflect on the “Glory Days” of wrestling, competing, winning,
and learning life lessons. All in all I’m sure you have many fond memories of your time at Wesleyan. Wesleyan will now begin a new era, new memories and triumphs. The new athletic facilities are up and running as of January, 2005. I have been like a kid in a candy store laying out the new fitness center with state-of-the-art equipment. You have to see what Wesleyan has put together. The new arena, squash center and fitness center are tremendous. We have the best facilities in New England and one of the best in the country. These tremendous facilities are sure to help our athletes train and compete at another level as well as attract more of the nation’s best and brightest student-athletes. The new additions certainly reflect the University’s commitment to both academics and athletics. Please do come back to “Wes Tech” to catch a match and tour the new facilities. Our wrestlers are taking great advantage of all the new equipment and superb layout for training.

As you can see, the team came together for another quality season. We had a great combination of youth, talent, and leadership and we addressed our lightweight issues by adding some key young wrestlers. I am so proud of the way the team came together, kept working hard, and developed great confidence to finish out the dual season on a 5-1 stretch to finish at 10-5 for the year. The team did not finish the way we anticipated at the New England Championships, but in the end, we can all reflect upon the journey of a Wesleyan wrestling season and the Wesleyan wrestling commitment as a success due to the trials, tribulations, triumphs, adversities, and successes that were faced and overcome. In my book, each member of this team has grown, matured, and learned more about themselves as a person and a competitor in life. Thank you to all who have contributed to the success of Wesleyan wrestling.

Senior Send Off - Class of 2005 (and 2004) THANK YOU!

Each one of the following gentlemen was instrumental to the successes of the Wesleyan wrestling program the past four (and in one case, five) years. It was their passion to succeed and tireless work ethic which enabled them to do so much at Wesleyan and now in their future endeavors. This class composed of these role model student-athletes has left us with a solid foundation to build future champions and future leaders.

Dan Case ’05 .... will be residing in Oak Creek, Colo., where he will work as a park ranger for Stagecoach State Park. He will continue his work in wilderness survival training as well as Arabic Language studies abroad. This could lead into some type of CIA work down the road or he may go to medical school. His options are wide open.

Camilo Rincon-Camacho ’05 .... or “Milo” to his pals will take a one-year position at his alma mater, Montgomery Blair High School to teach English as a second language and coach its wrestling team. Following this experience, he plans to work at the United Nations focusing on programs to prevent human rights violations in South America and Columbia.

Kevin Egolf ’05 .... will be an investment banking analyst for Bank of America Securities located in Manhattan. He will begin his duties in late June.

Adam Jonas ’04 ... has a question for all you Red Sox fans or Red Sox haters out there. Ever hear of Theo Epstein? Adam is looking into pursuing a career in athletics. He would like to combine his love for sport with a business angle. After graduating with a degree in psychology last year and finishing up his M.A. in the subject this spring, Adam is currently working with the New Britain Rock Cats baseball organization and has done some work with the NHL as well.

Chris Robichaud ’05 .... will attend graduate school here at Wesleyan where he will finish out his remaining year of wrestling eligibility as the captain of the team. One more year of mat action for this great competitor.

2004-05 Wesleyan Wrestling Results

11/20/04: Doug Parker Invitational Tournament at Springfield - 5th of 21 teams

12/4/04: R.I.T. Invitational Tournament - 6th of 16 teams

1/5/05: Bridgewater St., 20-17 W.; R.I.C., 10-31 L.


1/12/05: at Trinity, 26-14 W.

1/15/05: Ursinus Invitational Tournament - 4th of 9 teams

1/19/05: at Roger Williams, 13-23 L.

1/23/05: NECCWA Duals at Bridgewater St., cancelled

1/26/05: Coast Guard, 24-23 W.

1/30/05: Johnson & Wales (at USM), 23-20 W.; at Southern Maine, 33-12 W.

2/3/05: WPI, 28-14 W.

2/5/05: Williams, 29-7 W.; Oneonta St., 6-30 L.; W.N.E.C., 35-13 W.

2/13/05: NECCWA J.V. Championships at Springfield - no team scoring

2/19-20/05: NECCWA Individual Championships - 10th of 15 teams

Weekly Update Throughout the Wrestling Season

I would like to keep the wrestling alumni, parents and friends of Wesleyan wrestling abreast of the weekly events, competitions, news, and happenings with the wrestling program via a weekly email newsletter. This has been very well received and enjoyable for our supporters to be able to get a pulse on the team and where we are heading next. Please send me your email address or a change in your email address to dbblack@wesleyan.edu or call me at 860-685-2907. I look forward to hearing from our wrestling alumni. If you have email addresses of other teammates and/or friends of Wesleyan wrestling, and you think they might want to be included, please send those as well. Thank you.
Fundraising for Wesleyan Wrestling 2005-06 & Beyond

Continued alumni/family support, interaction, and fundraising efforts are essential components for a successful program. We need your support to continue moving in the right direction and put our team in the best possible situation to succeed. In this day of increasing demands and tighter budgets it is extremely difficult to meet all of these imposed demands. Your contribution and donations to our wrestling program are a viable way to help offset the cost of transportation to dual meets and tournaments, hotel accommodations, training meals, equipment purchases, the annual awards banquet, recruiting trips, junior varsity New England Wrestling Championships, team shirts & training apparel, alumni/recruit breakfast (Homecoming Weekend) and many other expenses.

Each year, our wrestling schedule, like last season’s, is very competitive. We will not only compete within our conference, but also against athletes and teams who are perennial top twenty competitors in the country such as John Carroll University (from Ohio), Ithaca College, Cortland State and Oswego State (from N.Y.), Ursinus and York Colleges (from Pa.), and many others. We will continue to compete at a high level. The R.I.T. tournament, Ursinus Tournament, North/South Duals and New England Conference Duals are ideal competitions which expose our athletes to better competition, which in turn prepares the team and each individual for the New England Championships and NCAA National Wrestling Tournament.

In order for our program to improve, I will be looking to attend these tournaments and others of similar competitiveness each year. In order to compete at this level, we will need to travel and have overnight accommodations to put our athletes in the best possible situation to succeed. In addition, I feel strongly about the team concept. This means I want each and every member of our team to be able to travel, compete, and attain individual achievement, success, and to reach his goals. As we all know, wrestling is a unique sport where everyone can compete and reach his highest potential. This is where your donation will help tremendously with the forward and upward direction of our program. In order to accomplish the year’s goals and demands and our future demands, I will need to raise approximately $5,000 for our fundraising campaign each year. Our goals and plans are possible with your donation. We need your continued help in order to have a first-class program. It does not matter what the donation is because everything helps! Our wrestling program is committed to excellence and with your help we will continue to move in that direction.

I want to take this time to say thank you for your support this past year and fall. We are able to do many things with your generous contributions. Each of your contributions and donations enable our team to experience a season of success, improvement, and achievement. For all the alumni who have been contributing to the wrestling team and Wesleyan University I want to thank you. If you have supported us in the past please consider supporting us in the future. If you have any questions or need any information about Wesleyan and the wrestling program please do not hesitate to call me. I hope we can continue our relationship working with our Wesleyan Wrestling Program and family.

I look forward to meeting and hearing from you. If you are ever in town or catch our team at a home or away event, please stop by to say hello.

Thank you for your support!!

Yours in wrestling,

Drew S. Black
Head Wrestling Coach

Most Recent 2004-05 Contributors to the Wesleyan University Wrestling Program

- Henry B. Anderson ’40
- John and Nancy Braithmeyer ’57
- Mike Charlton ’89
- Vincent & AnnMarie delLalla (P ’06)
- Brian Fair ’01
- Gabe Fierro-Fine ’04
- Michael Fingerhood ’99
- Dr. Michael & Marilyn Levine ’60
- USAWCT (Connecticut Wrestling)
- Bill and Janet Robichaud & family (P ’05)
- Vincent & AnnMarie delLalla (P ’06)
- Michael "Coach" Whalen ’83
- Brian Fair ’01
- Dr. Robert White, Jr. ’82 (THE WHIZZER)
- Dr. Allan F. Williams ’61
- David & Susannah Jonas (P ’04) (Aten Corporation)
- Frank Leone ’71

RECRUITING

Please feel free to get in touch with me about any outstanding high school student wrestlers. With so many Wesleyan wrestling alums all about the country, it is an exceptional way to help Wesleyan get the edge in maintaining a competitive, winning wrestling team. One can never have enough help in recruiting. I thank you in advance for your help.
John Smith, two-time Olympic gold medalist and six-time world champion who has coached the Oklahoma State Cowboys to four NCAA Division I titles (including the last three) presented a clinic at Wesleyan University Nov. 27, 2004 during the Thanksgiving weekend. More than 300 school-aged clinicians attended the event.