

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

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Wrestling



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Current record: 0-0 (0-0 Mid-American Conference)

BULLS BEGIN 2004-05 WRESTLING SEASON

Sophomore **Mark McKnight** (*McDonald, PA/South Fayette*) dropped a 6-1 decision to Oklahoma's Sam Hazewinkel, the No. 1-ranked wrestler at 125 pounds in *Intermat's* individual rankings, in the finals as the University at Buffalo finished seventh in a field of 11 teams at the Oklahoma Gold Classic at Brockport State on Saturday.

McKnight finished 3-1, as he knocked off Kent State's Drew Opfer, last year's runner-up to McKnight at the Mid-American Conference championships who is now ranked 13th in *Intermat's* rankings, in the semifinals in an 8-4 decision. McKnight registered two takedowns in his first two matches, beating Bloomsburg's Ivan Ustics and Army's Fernando Martinez.

Buffalo picked up 53 points in the competition to take seventh out of the field of 10 Division I teams and one Division III squad.

Sophomore **Pat Lloyd** (*Middletown, NY/Valley Central*) wrestled his way to a fourth-place finish, as he lost to Oklahoma's Matt Storniolo, ranked sixth at 149, in the semifinals, but rebounded to beat Ohio State's Stephen Wolery in a 4-3 decision to guarantee a fourth-place finish. He lost to Ohio State's Ryan Needle, an honorable mention in *Intermat's* rankings, to finish 3-2 at the tournament.

Redshirt freshman **Dana Gingerich** (*Spring Grove, PA/DeLone Catholic*) opened his year by placing fourth at 141 pounds. Gingerich lost in the quarterfinals to Cleveland State's Mike Hurley, but rebounded with three straight wins in the consolation bracket to earn the place finish at 141 pounds.

Redshirt freshman **Mike Ragusa** (*Foxboro, MA/Foxboro*) finished sixth in the 165-pound weight class, finishing 3-2. Ragusa won three straight matches to place, including a 3-1 overtime win against teammate freshman **Mickey Moran** (*Pittsburgh, PA/Shaler Area*).

UP NEXT FOR BUFFALO

UB kicks off its dual meet season at 7:00 pm this Thursday, hosting Bloomsburg, who finished fourth at the Oklahoma Gold with 84.5 points. Last year, Buffalo beat Bloomsburg, 21-13, on Nov. 22 as six UB wrestlers won their matches, but McKnight and junior **Garrett Hicks** (*Chautauqua, NY/Chautauqua Lake*) are the only returning wrestlers who had wins in last year's dual meet.

2004-05 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

November

Sat., 17	Oklahoma Gold Classic	7 th /11
Thu., 18	BLOOMSBURG	7:00 pm
Sat., 27	Mat Town Tournament (at Lock Haven)	9:00 am

December

Fri.-Sat., 3-4	Las Vegas Invitational	TBA
Sat., 11	Edinboro (at Jamestown, NY)	1:00 pm
Fri., 17	Beast of the East (Newark, DE)	10:00 am
Thu., 30	UB OPEN	10:00 am

January

Sat., 8	<i>Buckeye Duals (at Ohio State)</i> vs. Northern Illinois vs. Tennessee Chatanooga vs. Clarion vs. Northwestern	11:00 am
Fri.-Sat., 14-15	Virginia Duals	TBA
Fri.-Sat., 21-22	New York State Collegiates at Ohio*	12:00 pm 1:00 pm

February

Sat., 5	at Eastern Michigan*	12:00 pm
Sat., 5	at Central Michigan*	7:30 pm
Fri., 11	KENT STATE*	7:00 pm
Thur., 17	SLIPPERY ROCK	7:00 pm

March

Fri.-Sat., 4-5	MAC Championships	11:00 am
Thur.-Sat., 17-19	NCAA Championships	TBA

* = Mid-American Conference matches
Home matches in **BOLD CAPS** held at Alumni Arena