



SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Nov.			
8	Sun.	RIDER (Grace)	2:00
13	Fri.	PENN STATE (Stabler)	7:00
15	Sun.	PITTSBURGH (Grace)	2:00
20	Fri.	at Ohio State	7:00
22	Sun.	at Michigan	2:00
28	Sat.	vs. North Carolina@	9:15
28	Sat.	vs. Nebraska@	1:15
28	Sat.	vs. Maryland@	3:15
Dec.			
29-30	Tu.-We.	at Midlands Championships	all day
Jan.			
8-9	Fri.-Sat.	at Virginia Duals	all day
15	Fri.	WEST VIRGINIA (Grace)	7:00
16	Sat.	NAVY* (Grace)	3:00
22	Fri.	at Cornell*	7:00
Feb.			
5	Fri.	VIRGINIA TECH (Grace)	7:00
6	Sat.	RUTGERS* (Stabler)	1:00
13	Sat.	at Brown*	2:00
14	Sun.	at Harvard*	1:00
21	Sun.	at Penn*	1:00
Mar.			
6-7	Sat.-Sun.	EIWA CHAMPIONSHIPS (Stabler)	
18-20	Thu.-Sat.	NCAA Championships (at Omaha, Neb.)	

* - EIWA Opponent
@ - Northeast Duals (Troy, N.Y.)

MEDIA INFORMATION

Contact

Steve Lomangino
Office:..... (610) 758-3174
Cell..... (917) 579-0976
E-mail:sjl304@lehigh.edu

Broadcast Coverage:

Internet Video: Live and on-demand online at Lehighsports.com, with streaming powered by **Yahoo! Sports**.

Radio: **WLVR-FM (91.3)** beginning at 1:45 with Steve Lomangino and Gary Brownell.

Television: None

LEHIGH

WRESTLING

No. 19 LEHIGH VS. RIDER

RIDER (0-0, 0-0 CAA) AT LEHIGH (0-0, 0-0 EIWA)
LEEMAN-TURNER ARENA AT GRACE HALL (2,130) • BETHLEHEM, PA.
NOVEMBER 8, 2009 • 2:00 PM

SETTING THE SCENE

The 101st season of Lehigh wrestling officially gets underway this afternoon as the 19th-ranked Mountain Hawks host the Rider Broncs. The Mountain Hawks are coming off a school single-season record 23-1 dual season last year and will be looking to improve on a second place EIWA finish and 28th place NCAA Championships finish. Lehigh will send eight returning starters to the mat today, including five nationally ranked grapplers. The Mountain Hawks will open things up against a Rider squad that went 8-7 in duals last year. Head coach Gary Taylor ranks second among Division I active coaches in career dual wins (346) and his Broncs team features a pair of nationally ranked wrestlers.

FAST FACTS

- Lehigh has won at least 12 duals in each of the last ten seasons.
- The Mountain Hawks set a school single-season record for dual victories with a 23-1 mark in the 2008-09 season.
- After 100 seasons, Lehigh's all-time dual meet record stands at 808-380-22, which ranks sixth among all Division I wrestling programs.

PROBABLE MATCHUPS

<u>LEHIGH</u>	<u>RIDER</u>
125 John McDonald (So., Rehoboth, Del.)	vs. Tommy Lorenzo (Sr., West Orange, N.J.)
133 No. 12 Matt Fisk (Sr., Wyalusing, Pa.)	vs. Jimmy Kirchner (So., Somerville, N.J.)
141 No. 18 Seth Ciasulli (Sr., Easton, Pa.)	vs. Fred Rodgers (Jr., Perkiomenville, Pa.) OR Matt Bradley (Jr., Jackson, N.J.)
149 Brian Tanen (So., Harleysville, Pa.)	vs. No. 18 Michael Kessler (Sr., Randallstown, Md.)
157 Sean Bilodeau (So., Harvard, Mass.)	vs. Zac Cibula (Fr., Luxemburg, Wis.)
165 No. 12 Mike Galante (Sr., Ocean City, N.J.)	vs. Rob Morrison (Jr., Mechanicsburg, Pa.)
174 Robert Hamlin (Fr., Jonesville, Vt.)	vs. Mike Ward (Sr., Mayfield, Ohio)
184 No. 12 David Craig (Sr., Brandon, Fla.)	vs. Mike Miller (Sr., Wilmington, Del.)
197 Joe Kennedy (So., Milford, Pa.)	vs. Tyler Smith (So., Philipsburg, N.J.)
285 No. 6 Zach Rey (So., Hopatcong, N.J.)	vs. No. 19 Ed Bordas (Sr., Montgomery, N.Y.)

Rankings: InterMat Preseason

34-TIME EIWA CHAMPIONS
26 INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

IN THE POLLS

NWCA/INTERMAT RANKINGS
Top 25 (Preseason)

1. Iowa
2. Iowa State
3. Ohio State
4. Cornell
5. Minnesota
6. Oklahoma State
7. Nebraska
8. Missouri
9. Boise State
10. Maryland
11. Wisconsin
12. Edinboro
13. Central Michigan
14. Penn State
15. Indiana
16. American
17. Arizona State
18. Oklahoma
- 19. Lehigh**
20. Virginia
21. Michigan State
22. Harvard
23. Cal Poly
24. Penn
25. Duke

W.I.N. Magazine
Top 15 (Preseason)

1. Iowa
2. Iowa State
3. Cornell
4. Ohio State
5. Minnesota
6. Maryland
7. Central Michigan
8. Nebraska
9. Boise State
10. Missouri
- t11. Arizona State
- t11. Wisconsin
13. Penn State
14. Indiana
- t15. Edinboro
- t15. Harvard

LAST TIME THEY MET
DECEMBER 20, 2008 - LAWRENCEVILLE, N.J.
LEHIGH 25 - RIDER 9

No. 9 Lehigh completed a Saturday sweep of New Jersey duals with a 25-9 win over Rider at Alumni Gymnasium. After downing Rutgers 27-6 earlier in the day, the Mountain Hawks moved to 10-0 for the first time in 41 years with the win over Rider. The Mountain Hawks won eight bouts to match the program's best dual start since the 1966-67 season. Wins from Matt Fisk, Seth Ciasulli and Trevor Chinn put Lehigh up 10-9 at the halfway point of the dual, before the Mountain Hawks captured the final five bouts, highlighted by David Craig's tiebreaker win over Doug Umbehauer at 184.

125	Filiberto Colon (RU)	Fall	Mitch Berger (LU)	6:29
133	Matt Fisk (LU)	maj. dec.	Matt Bradley (RU)	11-3
141	Seth Ciasulli (LU)	dec.	Fred Rodgers (RU)	3-2
149	Trevor Chinn (LU)	dec.	Nick Weaver (RU)	6-2
157	Mike Kessler (RU)	dec.	Sean Bilodeau (LU)	7-1
165	Mike Galante (LU)	dec.	Jason Lapham (RU)	3-2
174	Alex Caruso (LU)	dec.	Mike Ward (RU)	4-2
184	David Craig (LU)	dec.	Doug Umbehauer (RU)	8-6, t.b.
197	Joe Kennedy (LU)	dec.	Tyler Smith (RU)	12-5
285	Zach Rey (LU)	dec.	Ed Bordas (RU)	8-4

LEHIGH HEAD COACH PAT SANTORO

Coach Santoro enters his second season as the Lawrence White '64 Head Coach of Wrestling at Lehigh. In his first season, Santoro was named EIWA Coach of the Year after guiding the Mountain Hawks to a school-record 23-1 dual record and second place at the EIWA Championships. He spent the previous five years resurrecting the Maryland program, as he went 48-41-1 in duals and guided the Terrapins to an ACC title in 2008. Prior to his stint at Maryland, Santoro spent nine seasons as an assistant coach at Lehigh, including eight as Greg Strobel's top assistant. He was named NWCA Assistant Coach of the Year in 2003 after helping guide the Brown and White to its third EIWA title in four years, and a fourth place finish at the NCAA Championships. A 1992 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Santoro won a pair of NCAA titles and is the Panthers only four-time All-American.

RIDER HEAD COACH GARY TAYLOR

Coach Taylor is in his 32nd season at the helm for the Broncs. After succeeding program founder Barry Burtnett in 1978 he has brought both eastern and national recognition to the Rider program. He has amassed a 346-193-4 record in dual meets and currently has the second most victories of any active coach in Division I wrestling. Taylor has coached 93 conference champions and has taken 136 Broncs to the NCAA Championships. Thirteen of Taylor's wrestlers have earned All-American honors, most recently Doug Umbehauer, who placed third at 184 last season.

LEHIGH HEAD COACHING LEGACY

Coach	Seasons	Record
Frank Lynch	1910-11	2-4-1
Billy Sheridan	1912-52	222-86-8
Gerry Leeman	1953-70	161-38-4
Thad Turner	1971-88	171-104-5
Tom Hutchinson	1989-94	29-62-3
Bob Latessa	1994-95	11-2-0
Greg Strobel	1996-08	189-84-1
Pat Santoro	2008-present	23-1-0

SERIES HISTORY

Lehigh leads the all-time series against Rider, having won 13 of the previous 18 meetings. Rider's most recent victory came in the 2006-07 season opener. Lehigh owns a 7-3 record versus the Broncos in duals wrestled in Bethlehem, with Rider not having won at Lehigh since 1994.

	<u>Meets</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Most recent</u>
Lehigh vs. Rider	18	13-5	1992	2008 (Dec.)

Lehigh-Rider series continued...

Last Lehigh win: 12/20/08 - Lehigh 25 Rider 9 (at Rider)

Last Rider win: 11/10/06 - Rider 24 Lehigh 14 (at Rider)

Last meeting at Lehigh: 2/14/08 - Lehigh 24 Rider 16

LET'S GET IT STARTED

Today's dual marks the season opener for the Mountain Hawks. Lehigh defeated Maryland to win its season opener last season, snapping a two-opener losing streak. The Mountain Hawks have opened their dual season against Rider twice, defeating the Broncos at Leeman-Turner Arena at Grace Hall in 2005 and losing in New Jersey in 2006.

NCAA CHAMPIONS

Twenty Lehigh Wrestlers have won 26 NCAA championships, ranking fifth nationally. Troy Letters was victorious in 2004 at 165, notching Lehigh's most recent title.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Championships</u>
1.	Oklahoma State	133
2.	Iowa	75
3.	Oklahoma	65
	Iowa State	65
5.	Lehigh	26
6.	Michigan State	25
7.	Northern Iowa	21
	Penn State	21
9.	Illinois	20
	Michigan	20
11.	Minnesota	19
12.	Wisconsin	17
13.	Pittsburgh	16
14.	Ohio State	14
15.	Oregon State	12

ALL-AMERICAN HEROES

Only four schools in the last 56 NCAA tournaments have had All-Americans in 50 or more championships, Oklahoma St., Oklahoma, Iowa St. and Lehigh. Lehigh teams have finished in the top five a remarkable 16 times.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>All-Americans</u>
1.	Oklahoma State	418
2.	Iowa	278
3.	Iowa State	277
4.	Oklahoma	255
5.	Michigan	171
6.	Penn State	163
7.	Minnesota	141
8.	Michigan State	134
9.	Lehigh	127
10.	Northern Iowa	113

SCOUTING THE BRONCS

Rider is also opening its dual season this afternoon. The Broncos are coming off an 8-7 dual season where they finished third in the CAA and tied for 32nd at the NCAA Championships. Gary Taylor enters his 32nd season as head coach and holds the second most dual meet wins among Division I coaches. Rider graduated All-American Doug Umbehauer, but returns two ranked wrestlers in Michael Kessler (No. 18 at 149) and Ed Bordas (No. 19 at 285).

WHAT YOU SEE IS (MOSTLY) WHAT YOU GET

The Lehigh lineup that will take the mat today is very similar to the one that started and ended last season. Eight of Lehigh's ten opening day and EIWA tournament starters return with the exceptions being at 149 and 174. There was heavy competition to replace Trevor Chinn at 149 with senior Brian Tanen having earned the first shot at a weight that still has not been decided. Tanen competed at 157 last year, going 12-8 and 2-0 in duals. At 174, deferred freshman Robert Hamlin defeated junior Alex Caruso twice in wrestle-offs to win the opening day nod. Hamlin was Lehigh's Deferred Wrestler of the Year last year, winning 30 bouts and placing in the top three of five open tournaments.

RANK AND FILE

In InterMat's preseason rankings, Lehigh has wrestlers ranked in six of ten weight classes. Sophomore Zach Rey leads the way for the Mountain Hawks at No. 6 at 285. A seventh Lehigh wrestler, sophomore Joe Kennedy, is not ranked by InterMat, but is ranked by both W.I.N. Magazine and Amateur Wrestling News.

<u>Weight</u>	<u>Wrestler</u>	<u>IM</u>	<u>W.I.N.</u>	<u>A.W.N.</u>
133	Matt Fisk	12	9	12
141	Seth Ciasulli	18	16	8
165	Mike Galante	12	11	10
174	Alex Caruso	18	12	18
184	David Craig	12	11	10
197	Joe Kennedy	----	20	19
285	Zach Rey	6	7	6

ANYONE, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

Lehigh will once again face one of the nation's toughest dual meet schedules. The Mountain Hawks are scheduled to face five of the top 20 finishers in last year's NCAA tournament, including three of the top five, and seven teams ranked in the preseason top 25:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>'09 NCAA Finish</u>
11/13	Penn State	14	17
11/20	at Ohio State	3	2
11/28	vs. Nebraska	7	4
11/28	vs. Maryland	10	10
1/22	at Cornell	4	5
2/14	at Harvard	22	t41
2/21	at Penn	24	45

Lehigh could also face current No. 6 Oklahoma State, No. 12 Edinboro, No. 18 Oklahoma and No. 20 Virginia, plus Penn State at the Virginia Duals.

THE (CO-)CAPTAINS OF THE SHIP

Seniors Matt Fisk (**Wyalusing, Pa.**) and Seth Ciasulli (**Easton, Pa.**) will serve as co-captains for the 2009-10 season. Both wrestlers enter this season as three-time NCAA qualifiers. Fisk becomes just the sixth Lehigh wrestler to captain the team three straight years.

2009-10 LEHIGH WRESTLING ROSTER

Name	Yr./El.	Wt.	Hometown/High School	Major
Alex Abreu	Fr./Fr.	125	Highlands Ranch, Colo./Rock Canyon	Engineering
Justin Allen	Sr./Sr.	285	Raleigh, N.C./Millbrook	Civil Engineering
Kellen Aura	Jr./Jr.	125	Pleasanton, Calif./Foothill	Psychology
Kevin Bailey	So./Fr.	184	Chagrin Falls, Ohio/Walsh Jesuit	Mechanical Engineering
Mitch Berger	Jr./Jr.	125	Freehold, N.J./Freehold	Business Information Systems
Sean Bilodeau	Jr./So.	157	Harvard, Mass./Brooks School	Earth and Environmental Science
Tim Buirkle	Sr./Jr.	165	Mahwah, N.J./Mahwah	Bioengineering
Alex Caruso	Sr./Jr.	174	Green Brook, N.J./Watchung Hills	Finance
David Chirichello	Sr./Jr.	174	Manalapan, N.J./Christian Bros. Academy	Materials Science & Engineering
Seth Ciasulli	Sr./Sr.	141	Easton, Pa./Easton	Design Arts
David Craig	Sr./Sr.	184	Brandon, Fla./Brandon	Journalism
Matt Croschal	Sr./Jr.	149	Centennial, Colo./Araphoe	Mechanical Engineering
Matt Fisk	Sr./Sr.	133	Wyalusing, Pa./Wyalusing	Biology
Josh Fitch	So./Fr.	149	Baltimore, Md./McDonogh	Arts and Sciences
Mike Galante	Sr./Sr.	165	Ocean City, N.J./Blair Academy	Finance
Robert Hamlin	So./Fr.	174	Jonesville, Vt./Mount Mansfield Union	Materials Science & Engineering
Brandon Hatchett	Jr./So.	165	Winter Springs, Fla./Oviedo	Architecture
Greg Hilbert	Sr./Jr.	157	Akron, Ohio/Revere	Finance
Joe Kennedy	So./So.	197	Milford, Pa./Delaware Valley	Arts and Sciences
Brendan Keys	Jr./So.	141	Massapequa Park, N.Y./Massapequa	Biology
Justin Koren	So./Fr.	141	Cary, N.C./Cary	Arts and Sciences
Michael Margherita	Jr./Jr.	133	Chesterfield, Mo./Lafayette HS	International Relations
John McDonald	Jr./So.	125	Rehoboth, Del./Sussex Central	History
Austin Meys	Fr./Fr.	174	Clifton Park, N.Y./Shenendehowa	Arts and Sciences
Jim Mutch	Jr./So.	184	Nazareth, Pa./Nazareth	International Relations
Mike Mutch	Jr./So.	197	Nazareth, Pa./Nazareth	Political Science
Joey Napoli	Fr./Fr.	149	Boiling Springs, Pa./Cumberland Valley	Engineering
Robert Prigmore	So./Fr.	184	Southlake, Texas/Carroll	Business
Zach Rey	Jr./So.	285	Hopatcong, N.J./Hopatcong	Earth and Environmental Science
Kyle Rosser	Jr./Jr.	149	Durand, Mich./Corunna	Architecture
Kadeem Samuels	Jr./Jr.	184	Bronx, N.Y./Fordham Prep	Mechanical Engineering
Manuel Schubert	Sr./Sr.	174/184	Westland, Mich./Livonia Churchill	Health and Biopharmaceutical Economics
Nate Spangler	Sr./Jr.	149	Concord, Calif./De La Salle	Civil Engineering
Dane Stevens	So./Fr.	149	Scotts Valley, Calif./Scotts Valley	Business
Watson Sweat	Fr./Fr.	197	Nashville, Tenn./Ensworth School	Arts and Sciences
Brian Tanen	Jr./So.	149	Harleysville, Pa./Souderton	Earth and Environmental Science
Shane Welsh	So./Fr.	149	Lower Burrell, Pa./Burrell	Chemical Engineering
Albert Woody	Fr./Fr.	141	Pikesville, Md./McDonogh	Arts and Sciences

Lawrence White '64 Head Coach: Pat Santoro (Pittsburgh '92), second season

Assistant Coach: Brad Dillon (Lehigh '04), second season

Assistant Coach: John Hughes (Penn State '02), second season

Volunteer Coach: Jason Kutz (Lehigh '96), third season

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Lehigh Wrestle-Offs
 October 30, 2009
 Leeman-Turner Arena at Grace Hall

- 125 - John McDonald (Brown) dec. Mitch Berger (White), 6
- 133 - Matt Fisk (White) TF5 Mike Margherita (Brown), 22-7, 2:55
- 149 - Joey Napoli (White) dec. Brian Tanen (Brown) 4-2, t.b.
- 149 Ex. - Kyle Rosser (Brown) dec. Justin Koren (White) 3-1
- 157 - Josh Fitch (White) dec. Sean Bilodeau (Brown) 5-3
- 165 Ex. - Austin Meys (White) dec. Mike Galante (Brown) 4-3
- 174 - Robert Hamlin (White) dec. Alex Caruso (Brown) 4-3
- 184 - David Craig (White) dec. Kadeem Samuels (Brown) 2-1
- 197 - Joe Kennedy (White) dec. Robert Prigmore (Brown) 6-1

TWO MOUNTAIN HAWKS PLACE AT UB OPEN

The Mountain Hawks dual season officially begins today, but five Lehigh wrestlers took part in the UB Open last Sunday in Buffalo, N.Y. Freshman Austin Meys led the way for Lehigh, going 4-1 en route to a fourth place finish at 174. Junior Kadeem Samuels won four of six bouts to place fifth at 184. Also competing were freshman Alex Abreu (0-2 at 125) and juniors Greg Hilbert (3-2 at 157) and Dave Chirichello (3-2 at 174).

ON DECK...

Two more big early season duals await Lehigh next weekend. Friday night Lehigh welcomes new coach Cael Sanderson and No. 14 Penn State to Stabler Arena for the 98th dual between the two rivals. On Sunday, the Mountain Hawks will face Pat Santoro's alma mater as the Pittsburgh Panthers visit Leeman-Turner Arena at Grace Hall.