



Athletic Media Relations

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AIR FORCE WRESTLING

at NCAA West Regional
March 3, 2007
Cedar Falls, Iowa

THIS WEEK...

The Air Force wrestling team heads to the NCAA West Regional this week, March 3, as the Falcons battle for a chance to compete at the NCAA Championships to wrap up the season. This year's regional qualifier is being held in Cedar Falls, Iowa, hosted by Northern Iowa. The action starts out at 10:00 a.m. with the quarterfinals, while finals are slated to begin at 5:00 p.m.

LAST TIME OUT...

The Falcons wrapped up the 2006-07 dual slate with a 25-20 victory over WWC foe Northern Colorado. Captains **Bridger** and **Zach Lord** picked up victories on Senior Night, while also posting wins for the Falcons were juniors **Jake Kriegbaum** and **Jacob Devlin** and sophomore **Jordan Tribble**.

SCOUTING THE FALCONS...

Air Force finished the regular season with a 6-10 dual mark and 3-1 record in the Western Wrestling Conference.

Bridger Lord and **Jake Kriegbaum**, who each have 10 dual victories on the season, are among the leaders for the Falcons.

THE FIELD...

This year's West Regional features WWC teams Air Force, Northern Colorado, Northern Iowa, North Dakota State, South Dakota State and Wyoming, along with Eastern Illinois.

THE LINEUP...

The Falcons' probable lineup for this week's West Regional follows:

125 Zach Valdez
133 Stephen Makuka
141 Jake Kriegbaum

149 Bridger Lord
157 Zach Lord
165 Tony Dorward
174 Stephen Crozier
184 Jacob Devlin
197 Jordan Tribble
HWT Anthony Stegeman

LAST YEAR AT THE WEST REGIONAL...

Air Force finished just a half-point out of third place at the 2006 West Regional, taking fourth place with a team score of 60.5 points. Three Falcons finished as runner-ups in their respective weight classes—**Brandon Strong** (133), **Jake Kriegbaum** (141) and **Brenden McLean** (197)—with all three earning at-large bids to the NCAA Championships. In addition, four other Air Force wrestlers finished third, with senior **Beau Tresemer** (165) getting an at-large nod to the national meet.

WWC WRESTLER OF THE WEEK...

On Feb. 27, senior captain **Zach Lord** became the latest Air Force wrestler to earn WWC Wrestler of the Week honors. Lord notched a fall over UNC's Luke Salazar in a time of 5:26 to help lead the Falcons to their fourth-straight dual victory.

Earlier in the season, **Bridger Lord** also earned the award after helping the Falcons pick up their first conference victory against South Dakota State, recording his first fall of the season, pinning Sean Flynn in a time of 1:33.

2006-07

SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
11/11	at Cowboy Open	NTS
11/18	at Kaufman-Brand Open	NTS
11/25	at Oklahoma Open	NTS
12/1-2	at Las Vegas Invitational	42nd/7.0
12/2	at FHSU-Bob Smith Open	NTS
12/8	at Western State	L, 12-19
12/9	Colorado School of Mines	W, 29-16
12/29-30	at Midlands Invitational	NTS
1/5-6	at Tourn. of Champions	NTS
1/6	vs. #4 Oklahoma State	L, 5-40
1/6	vs. Central Oklahoma	L, 0-38
1/6	vs. Brown	W, 18-13
1/6	vs. #19 Wisconsin	L, 6-37
1/20	at Pittsburgh	L, 9-28
1/20	at Glen Brand Open	NTS
1/21	vs. Cleveland State	L, 10-23
1/21	at Ashland	L, 9-24
1/21	vs. #21 Kent State	L, 4-33
1/27	North Dakota State*	L, 15-24
1/27	Adams State	L, 15-23
1/27	at Borah Duals	All Day
1/28	vs. Portland State	W, 31-9
2/3	All-Academy Champ.	5th/33.5
2/10	South Dakota State*#	W, 25-21
2/17	at Utah Valley State*	W, 38-6
2/20	Northern Colorado*#	W, 25-20
3/3	at NCAA West Regional	All Day
3/15-17	at NCAA Championships	All Day

Home matches in **bold**; held in Cadet East Gym, unless otherwise denoted

- Held in Clune Arena

* - denotes Western Wrestling Conference match

All times local to site and are subject to change

Meanwhile, junior heavyweight **Anthony Stegeman** became the first Air Force wrestler to receive WWC accolades after going 3-0 against North Dakota State, Adams State and Portland

Season Records (as of Feb. 21, 2007)

	Overall	Dual		Overall	Dual	Pins	Number (Fastest)
125			165			Bozynski	1 (5:29)
Samuel Sheppard	5-11	1-3	Felix Abeyta	0-2		Butikofer	1 (6:43)
Zach Valdez	11-18	4-8	Tony Dorward	3-7	0-6	Ciccione	2 (1:19)
			Zach Lord	7-6		Crippes	1 (4:25)
133			Duane Miller	4-17	2-7	Crozier	3 (1:39)
Stephen Makuka	7-21	4-11	Akira Nervik	2-2		Devlin	2 (3:05)
Juancarlos Pino	0-4		Alec Schwartz	0-2		Dorward	3 (3:13)
Kurt Spranger	3-13		Justin Shadrix	9-11	1-0	French	5 (0:06)
Zach Valdez	1-0	1-0				Gorry	1 (5:30)
			174			Harris	2 (0:31)
141			James Ciccione	6-8		Kriegbaum	4 (0:21)
Matt Crippes	2-2		Stephen Crozier	10-23	4-11	Lopez	1 (4:53)
Jake Kriegbaum	17-18	10-6	Tyler French	16-13	0-1	B. Lord	1 (1:33)
Juancarlos Pino	1-3		A.J. Harris	6-10		Z. Lord	3 (1:55)
						Makuka	2 (3:41)
149			184			Miller	1 (0:28)
Bridger Lord	12-10	10-4	James Ciccione	0-1	0-1	Nervik	2 (0:54)
Chris Nissen	1-2		Jacob Devlin	13-20	7-8	Nissen	1 (1:32)
Chris Szabolcs	7-10	1-1	A.J. Harris	1-3		Shadrix	3 (1:54)
Andrew Teigeler	3-6		Jordan Tribble	7-5		Sheppard	1 (3:43)
						Spranger	1 (5:11)
157			197			Stegeman	7 (0:56)
Tony Dorward	5-8	1-0	Peter Bozynski	2-8	0-6	Szabolcs	6 (2:04)
Michael Erickson	0-2		Casey Butikofer	1-6		Tribble	2 (1:51)
Thomas Gorry	2-4		Jordan Tribble	5-9	3-7	Valdez	2 (4:09)
Joshua Lopez	3-12						
Bridger Lord	5-6		HWT				
Zach Lord	9-15	5-10	Peter Bozynski	1-8			
Randall Mitchner	0-2		Steve Larson	0-3			
			Kevin Quinn	1-3			
			Anthony Stegeman	16-18	7-9		

State. The Cincinnati, Ohio, native registered a fall, a decision and a tech fall in his three wins.

WYOMING MATCH CANCELLED...

Due to road closures caused by stormy weather, the Falcons were unable to get to Laramie for their scheduled match against Wyoming on Feb. 16. The match was cancelled, with no plans to make up the competition date.

UP NEXT...

The Falcons who perform well at the West Regional will move on to the NCAA Championships, March 15-17, in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Tournament Placewinners

Cowboy Open (Amateur)

Jordan Tribble, 2nd (184)

Kaufman-Brand Open (Amateur)

Tyler French, 5th (174)

Oklahoma Open

Anthony Stegeman, 3rd (HWT)

Zach Valdez, 4th (125)

Bridger Lord, 4th (157)

Stephen Crozier, 4th (174)

Tournament of Champions

Tyler French, 3rd (174)

A.J. Harris, 4th (174)

All-Academy Championships

Zach Lord, 3rd (157)

Tony Dorward, 3rd (165)

Zach Valdez, 4th (125)

Jordan Tribble, 4th (197)

Anthony Stegeman, 4th (HWT)