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*Sports Information*

# DAVIDSON

## **Davidson Elevates Patnesky From Interim to Full-Time Head Coach for Wrestling**

**For Immediate Release**

**May 7, 2005**

Davidson Athletics Director Jim Murphy announced today that interim head wrestling coach Bob Patnesky has been hired on a permanent basis for the head coaching position.

Patnesky took over the head-coaching duties in mid-season and led the Wildcats to their best finish in both the regular season and the Southern Conference Championships in 21 years. Davidson posted its first winning record at 8-7 since the 1983-84 season, plus finished the league tournament in fifth place as three wrestlers placed third.

“The wrestling program made tremendous progress this year thanks to the efforts of the men on the mat and Coach Patnesky,” stated Murphy. “We are pleased Bobby will continue to lead us forward.”

This past season was Patnesky’s second on the Wildcat wrestling staff. Davidson had four wrestlers record at least 20 wins this season, three of which were freshmen that Patnesky had a hand in recruiting. There were no seniors on the 2004-05 wrestling squad, meaning Patnesky will have all his talent returning for an even more successful season next year.

“Switching coaches in mid-season is never easy,” Patnesky said, “but everyone pulled together from the athletics administration to the college administration to the guys on the team. The future is bright here, and we are going to keep raising the ceiling on what we can accomplish.

“It is an honor to work at Davidson College,” he continued. “The administration and coaches have all been terrific, but what makes it really special are the student-athletes. These guys have such a great feel for each other and respond well to coaching, which makes it a delight to work with them every day.”

Patnesky is a 2001 graduate of West Virginia, where he was a three-year starter on the Mountaineer wrestling squad. The three-time NCAA qualifier graduated as the all-time winningest wrestler in his weight class at WVU. Patnesky was the 2000 Eastern Wrestling League champion, helping his team win the EWL crown and finish sixth in the country.

A five-time freestyle wrestling All-American, Patnesky was individually ranked among the top 12 wrestlers in the country for three years. During college, he also competed for the U.S. on a tour of France and Poland in 1999. He completed his collegiate wrestling career with over 100 victories.

Patnesky served as a volunteer assistant coach at his alma mater for a year before taking an assistant position at Ohio, where he earned his master’s degree in recreation and sport sciences. His coaching duties included recruiting, coaching, scheduling and scouting.

### **TRANSACTIONS**

**Davidson College** — Announced Bob Patnesky has been promoted from interim to head wrestling coach.

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For more information on the Davidson wrestling team,  
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