



Athletic Media Relations

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AIR FORCE WRESTLING

at Cowboy Open
Nov. 13, 2005
Laramie, Wyo.

THIS WEEK...

The Air Force wrestling team gets its 2005-06 season off to a start this weekend, Nov. 13, as it travels to Laramie, Wyo., for the annual Cowboy Open, hosted by the University of Wyoming.

SCOUTING THE FALCONS...

With all four of its NCAA qualifiers from last season returning, Air Force is set for a successful year in 2005-06. Among the nine returning letterwinners are senior co-captains **Brandon Strong** and **Beau Tresemer**. Strong is a two-time NCAA qualifier, and hopes to make a return trip to the national championships this season. Meanwhile, Tresemer led the Falcons with an impressive 32 victories last season, while also compiling a 10-2 dual meet record at 165 pounds.

Other returning national qualifiers include **Matt Benza**, **Brenden McLean** and **Jake Kriegbaum**. Benza, a 133-pounder, and McLean, wrestling at 197 pounds, each made their first trips to the NCAAs last year as juniors, while Kriegbaum qualified at 141-lbs. last season during his freshman campaign. In addition, junior **Chris Nissen**, who participated at the NCAA Championships as a freshman, returns to the Air Force lineup after sitting out most of the 2004-05 season due to injury.

In addition to a solid core of experienced veterans, Air Force welcomes several newcomers to the Falcon squad who should become immedi-

ate contributors. This year's incoming class should help give Air Force greater depth throughout most of the weight classes. If the Falcons are able to avoid the injuries that have plagued the team in recent years, the 2005-06 campaign could be an exceptional success.

LAST YEAR AT THE COWBOY OPEN...

Last season, senior captain **Josh Peterson** finished first at 149 pounds, while four other Falcons were placewinners at the 2004 Cowboy Open.

Matt Benza took second at 133 pounds, **Brandon Strong** finished third at 125 pounds and **Zane Hershey** and **Brenden McLean** each placed fourth at 184 and 197 pounds, respectively.

IN THE NATIONAL RANKINGS...

Three Air Force seniors find themselves in the national rankings to begin the 2005-06 season, as returning NCAA participants **Brandon Strong**, **Matt Benza** and **Brenden McLean** are all rated in the top 20 of their respective weight classes in the preseason NWCA/Intermat/NWMA poll. Strong is ranked 13th at 125 pounds, while Benza and McLean are both rated 19th, at 133 and 197 pounds, respectively.

2005-06 Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
11/13	at Cowboy Open	All Day
11/19	at UNC Open	All Day
11/26	at Oklahoma Open	All Day
12/2	at Las Vegas Invitational	All Day
12/3	at Las Vegas Invitational	All Day
12/9	at Colorado School of Mines	7:00 p.m.
12/29	at Midlands Invitational	All Day
12/30	at Midlands Invitational	All Day
1/7	at Portland State	7:00 p.m.
1/8	at Portland State Open	All Day
1/13	Western State	7:00 p.m.
1/14	at Adams State	6:00 p.m.
1/21	at Colorado Collegiates	All Day
1/27	at North Dakota State	7:00 p.m.
1/28	at South Dakota State	7:00 p.m.
2/4	at All-Academy Champs.	All Day
2/10	Cal State Fullerton	7:00 p.m.
2/17	at Wyoming	7:00 p.m.
2/23	at Northern Colorado	4:00 p.m.
2/23	vs. Utah Valley State	6:00 p.m.
3/5	at NCAA West Regional	All Day
3/16-18	at NCAA Championships	All Day

Home matches in **bold**

All times local to site and are subject to change

In addition, Benza and McLean were both ranked in the preseason polls by *Amateur Wrestling News* and *W.I.N. Magazine*. Benza is ranked 15th and 19th, respectively, by the two publications, while McLean is listed 19th and 20th.

UP NEXT...

The Falcons continue the season with another open event, this time traveling to Greeley, Colo., for the Northern Colorado Open on Saturday, Nov. 19.

2005-06 Roster

Name	Yr.	Rank	Wt.	Hometown (High School)
Josh Arnall	Fr.	C4C	141/149	John Day, Ore. (Grant Union)
Brady Augustin	Fr.	C4C	141	Sleepy Eye, Minn. (Sleepy Eye Public)
Matt Benza	Sr.	C1C	133	Tamaqua, Pa. (Tamaqua Area)
Billy Blumhoefer	Fr.	C4C	197	Cambridge, Minn. (Cambridge-Isanti)
Brett Boyce	Fr.	C4C	184	Brigham City, Utah (Box Elder)
Peter Bozynski	Jr.	C2C	197/HWT	Birmingham, Mich. (Seaholm)
Matt Crippes	Jr.	C2C	141	Cloverdale, Calif. (Healdsburg)
Stephen Crozier	Fr.	C4C	174	Monona, Iowa (MFL Mar Mac)
Brandon Davis	Fr.	C4C	184	St. Cloud, Fla. (St. Cloud)
Jacob Devlin	So.	C3C	184	Livingston, N.J. (Livingston)
Anthony Dorward	So.	C3C	157	Seattle, Wash. (Mt. Rainier)
Greg Ford	So.	C3C	157	Kansas City, Mo. (Rockhurst)
Kellen Griswold	Fr.	C4C	125	Colorado Springs, Colo. (Widefield)
Michael Gruber	Jr.	C2C	133/141	Lilburn, Ga. (Parkview)
AJ Harris	So.	C3C	174	Boise, Idaho (Centennial)
Nathan Hawkins	Fr.	C4C	149	Dayton, Ohio (Troy Christian)
Zane Hershey	Sr.	C1C	184	Hugoton, Kan. (Hugoton)
Jon Koch	Sr.	C1C	165	Centreville, Va. (Centreville)
Jake Kriegbaum	So.	C3C	141	Abilene, Kan. (Abilene)
Bridger Lord	Jr.	C2C	149	Missoula, Mont. (Sentinel)
Zachery Lord	Jr.	C2C	157	Missoula, Mont. (Sentinel)
Jacob Lynes	So.	C3C	184	Ponca City, Okla. (Ponca City)
Shane Manuel	Fr.	C4C	133	Anchorage, Alaska (Bartlett)
Josh Martz	Fr.	C4C	165	Argyle, Texas (Argyle)
Matt McDiarmid	So.	C3C	133	Strongsville, Ohio (St. Edward)
Frank McGrath	Fr.	C4C	HWT	Hammonton, N.J. (St. Augustine Prep)
Brenden McLean	Sr.	C1C	197	Merlin, Ore. (North Valley)
Duane Miller	So.	C3C	157	Bellevue, Idaho (Wood River)
James Miller	Fr.	C4C	141	Absarokee, Mont. (Absarokee)
Chris Nissen	Jr.	C2C	149	Denver, Colo. (Standley Lake)
Zachary Pendleton	Fr.	C4C	157	Bloomington, Ohio (Indian Creek)
Kurt Skarstedt	Sr.	C1C	197	Colorado Springs, Colo. (Air Academy)
Joshua Smith	So.	C3C	174	Orem, Utah (Timpanogos)
Brandon Strong	Sr.	C1C	125	Albuquerque, N.M. (La Cueva)
Robert Strong	So.	C3C	141	Lake Geneva, Wis. (Badger)
Adam Swift	Sr.	C1C	157	Strongsville, Ohio (St. Edward)
Chris Szabolcs	So.	C3C	149	Westlake, Ohio (St. Edward)
Andrew Teigeler	Jr.	C2C	149	Yorktown, Va. (Grafton)
Beau Tresemer	Sr.	C1C	165	Norman, Okla. (Norman)
Zach Valdez	So.	C3C	125	Parker, Colo. (Chaparral)

Head Coach: Wayne Baughman

Assistant Coaches: Lt. Col. Doug Wells, Maj. Matthew Ciccarello

Volunteer Assistant Coach: Mike McArthur