



SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Nov.			
11	Sun.	No. 20 PITTSBURGH (Grace)	1:00
16	Fri.	at Nebraska	8:30
17	Sat.	at UNO Kaufman-Brand Open	10:00
24	Sat.	vs. Virginia @	10:00
24	Sat.	vs. Central Michigan @	12:00
24	Sat.	vs. Binghamton @	2:00
24	Sat.	vs. Clarion @	4:00
30	Fri.	RUTGERS* (Grace)	7:00
Dec.			
2	Sun.	at Maryland	2:00
2	Sun.	at American *	6:00
7	Fri.	PENN STATE (Stabler)	7:00
30	Sun.	vs. Eastern Michigan #	12:00
30	Sun.	vs. Buffalo #	2:00
30	Sun.	at Michigan #	5:00
Jan.			
4	Fri.	STANFORD (Grace)	7:00
11-12	Fri.-Sat.	at Virginia Duals	TBD
19	Sat.	NAVY* (Grace)	7:00
26	Sat.	at Harvard*	11:00
26	Sat.	at Brown*	6:00
Feb.			
8	Fri.	HOFSTRA (Grace)	7:00
14	Thu.	RIDER (Grace)	7:00
17	Sun.	at Army*	4:00
24	Sun.	at Penn*	1:00
24	Sun.	at Drexel	4:00
Mar.			
8-9	Sat.-Sun.	EIWA Championships (at F&M)	11:00
20-22	Thu.-Sat.	NCAA Championships (St. Louis, Mo.)	11:00

* - EIWA Opponent
 @ - Journeyman/Brute Duals (Troy, N.Y.)
 # - Wolverine Quad (Ann Arbor, Mich)

MEDIA INFORMATION

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On the Internet

Today's match will be broadcast online at Lehighsports.com with streaming video and audio powered by Yahoo! Sports.

On the Radio

Today's match will be broadcast in the Lehigh Valley on **WLVR-FM (91.3)**. Steve Lomangino and Gary Brownell will provide the commentary

LEHIGH

WRESTLING

LEHIGH VS. No. 20 PITTSBURGH

PITTSBURGH (0-0, 0-0 EWL) AT LEHIGH (0-0, 0-0 EIWA)
 LEEMAN-TURNER ARENA AT GRACE HALL (2,130) • BETHLEHEM, PA.
 NOVEMBER 11, 2007 • 1:00 PM

SETTING THE SCENE

The 99th season of Lehigh wrestling officially gets underway this afternoon as the Mountain Hawks host No. 20 Pittsburgh. The Mountain Hawks posted another successful dual season last year, with a 14-9 mark, but saw their string of five straight EIWA team titles come to an end. Lehigh will be looking to bounce back from a 38th place NCAA finish last year, which saw the Brown and White fail to crown an All-American for the first time in eleven years. This young Mountain Hawk team should face a tough challenge in a veteran Pittsburgh squad that features three nationally ranked grapplers, led by top-ranked senior Keith Gavin at 174.

FAST FACTS

- Lehigh has posted eleven straight winning dual seasons and has won at least 13 duals in each of the last eight seasons.
- The Mountain Hawks roster features five NCAA qualifiers, and one of the nation's top recruiting classes according to *InterMat*.
- Pittsburgh finished 20th at the 2007 NCAA Championships and crowned a pair of All-Americans in Matt Kocher (157) and Keith Gavin (national finalist at 174).

PROBABLE MATCHUPS

<u>LEHIGH</u>	<u>PITTSBURGH</u>
125 Mitch Berger (Fr., Freehold, N.J.)	vs. Brad Gentzle (Jr., Easton, Pa.)
133 Kevin Vinh (Jr., Nazareth, Pa.)	vs. Jimmy Conroy (So., South Plainfield, N.J.)
141 Jeff Santo (Sr., Wind Gap, Pa.)	vs. No. 11 Drew Headlee (Sr., Waynesburg, Pa.)
149 Trevor Chinn (Sr., Canandaigua, N.Y.)	vs. Joey Ecklof (Jr., Northampton, Pa.)
157 Dave Nakasone (Sr., Ellicott City, Md.) (14-11)	vs. No. 4 Matt Kocher (Sr., State College, Pa.)
165 Mike Galante (So., Ocean City, N.J.) OR Manuel Schubert (So., Westland, Mich.)	vs. Sean Richmond (Jr., Emmaus, Pa.)
174 Alex Caruso (Fr., Green Brook, N.J.) OR No. 12 David Craig (So., Brandon, Fla.) OR Eddy Silverman (Sr., Gladwyne, Pa.)	vs. No. 1 Keith Gavin (Sr., Factoryville, Pa.)
184 Alex Iacocca (So., Allentown, Pa.)	vs. David Sullivan (So., Dingmans Ferry, Pa.)
197 TBD	vs. A.J. Hunte (So., Brookline, Mass.)
285 Justin Allen (So., Raleigh, N.C.)	vs. Zach Sheaffer (Jr., Carlisle, Pa.)

(Rankings NWCA/InterMat: Preseason)

34-TIME EIWA CHAMPIONS
26 INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

IN THE POLLS

NWCA/INTERMAT RANKINGS
Top 25 (Preseason)

1. Minnesota
2. Oklahoma State
3. Iowa State
4. Iowa
5. Michigan
6. Northwestern
7. Missouri
8. Ohio State
9. Cornell
10. Central Michigan
11. Penn State
12. Wisconsin
13. Hofstra
14. Nebraska
15. Indiana
16. Edinboro
17. Illinois
18. Navy
19. Oklahoma
20. Pittsburgh
21. UT-Chattanooga
22. Harvard
23. Penn
24. American
25. Oregon State

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

1. Minnesota
2. Iowa State
3. Iowa
4. Cornell
5. Oklahoma State
6. Missouri
7. Nebraska
8. Ohio State
9. Michigan
10. Central Michigan
11. Northwestern
12. Penn State
13. Wisconsin
14. Illinois
15. Indiana
- 22. Lehigh**

LAST TIME THEY MET
DECEMBER 9, 2006 - PITTSBURGH, PA.
LEHIGH 29 - PITTSBURGH 10

Lehigh bounced back from a loss to Penn State the night before, winning eight of ten bouts in a 29-10 triumph over No. 20 Pittsburgh at Fitzgerald Field House. The win evened Lehigh's record at 4-4 at the conclusion of the fall semester. The two teams exchanged wins by fall to start the dual, with Paul Weibel pinning Zach Scheaffer in 2:28 at heavyweight, and Pittsburgh's Brad Gentzle pinning Patrick Berger. The key bout in the dual was at 133, where freshman Seth Ciasulli upset No. 8 Drew Headlee 7-4. Senior Matt Ciasulli and junior Dave Nakasone added wins by major decision for the Brown and White.

285	Paul Weibel (LU)	Fall	Zach Scheaffer (PITT)	2:28
125	Brad Gentzle (PITT)	Fall	Patrick Berger (LU)	0:31
133	Seth Ciasulli (LU)	dec.	Drew Headlee (PITT)	7-4
141	Matt Ciasulli (LU)	maj. dec.	Joe Ciampoli (PITT)	10-2
149	Trevor Chinn (LU)	dec.	Joey Ecklof (PITT)	8-4
157	Dave Nakasone (LU)	maj. dec.	Dave Kapetanovich (PITT)	17-5
165	Mike Galante (LU)	dec.	Sean Richmond (PITT)	7-2
174	Keith Gavin (PITT)	maj. dec.	Dave Helfrich (LU)	10-1
184	David Craig (LU)	dec.	Mike Heist (PITT)	6-1
197	Matt Cassidy (LU)	dec.	Eric Cassidy (PITT)	6-3

LEHIGH HEAD COACH GREG STROBEL

Coach Strobel begins his 13th season guiding the Mountain Hawks. He currently holds a dual record of 177-69-1 (.719) and ranks second in career dual wins at Lehigh behind only the legendary Billy Sheridan. Strobel has guided Lehigh to six EIWA team championships and six top-ten NCAA tournament finishes in his first 12 years. He is a three-time EIWA Coach of the Year and was the 2004 National Coach of the Year. Since arriving at Lehigh, Strobel has coached 30 All-Americans, 27 EIWA Champions and two National Champions. The 1975 Oregon State graduate also coached the 2000 U.S. Olympic team.

PITTSBURGH HEAD COACH RANDE STOTTLEMYER

Coach Stottlemeyer is in his 28th season at Pittsburgh. During his coaching tenure, Stottlemeyer has produced a two-time national champion in former Lehigh assistant Pat Santoro, 26 NCAA All-Americans, 114 national qualifiers and 28 Eastern Wrestling League Champions. His 234 dual wins are the most in school history. Last season, Stottlemeyer guided the Panthers to a 20th place finish at the NCAA Championships. He guided Keith Gavin to the NCAA Finals, and Matt Kocher to All-American honors. Stottlemeyer, a three-time All-American at Pitt, has a Lehigh connection as well. His daughter Tara is a 2007 Lehigh graduate who earned All-Patriot League honors on the soccer field for the Brown and White.

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-present	177-69-1

SERIES HISTORY

The Lehigh-Pittsburgh series dates back to 1916, with the Mountain Hawks holding a 36-14-2 edge in the series. These two schools have met every season since 1991, and Lehigh has won the last ten duals in the series. Greg Strobel is 11-1 all-time versus the Panthers.

	<u>Meets</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Most recent</u>
Lehigh vs. Pittsburgh	52	36-14-2	1916	2006

Last Lehigh win: 12/9/06 Lehigh 29 Pittsburgh 10 (at Pitt)
 Last Pittsburgh win: 2/23/97 Pittsburgh 20 Lehigh 17 (at Pitt)
 Last meeting at Lehigh: 1/13/06 Lehigh 28 Pittsburgh 9
 Last Pitt win at Lehigh: 1/7/94 Pittsburgh 24 Lehigh 10

LET'S GET IT STARTED

Today's dual marks the season opener for the Mountain Hawks. Lehigh dropped last season's opener at Rider 24-14 and will look to avoid losing back-to-back openers since losing to Michigan in 2002 and to Iowa State in 2003. Lehigh is 9-3 in openers under Greg Strobel. The Mountain Hawks last opened up against Pittsburgh in November, 2001; a match won by Lehigh 29-6

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	132
2.	Iowa	73
3.	Oklahoma	65
4.	Iowa State	64
5.	Lehigh	26
6.	Michigan State	24
7.	Northern Iowa	21
8.	Penn State	20
	Illinois	20
10.	Michigan	19
	Minnesota	19
12.	Wisconsin	17
13.	Pittsburgh	15
14.	Oregon State	12
15.	Ohio State	11

ALL-AMERICAN HEROES

Only four schools in the last 54 NCAA tournaments have had All-Americans in 49 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	413
2.	Iowa State	266
2.	Iowa	265
4.	Oklahoma	255
5.	Michigan	164
6.	Penn State	157
7.	Minnesota	134
8.	Michigan State	132
9.	Lehigh	127
10.	Northern Iowa	111

SCOUTING THE PANTHERS

Pittsburgh brings a veteran team to Bethlehem, with three seniors, four juniors and three sophomores among the Panthers' projected starters. Pittsburgh finished the dual season at 7-7 last year, then went on to place fourth in the EWL. Led by national finalist Keith Gavin (174) and All-American Matt Kocher (5th at 157), the Panthers placed 20th at the NCAA Tournament. Both wrestlers enter this season ranked in the top five, and are joined in the rankings by senior Drew Headlee, the 2007 EWL Champion at 133 who has bumped to 141 this season. The Panthers also have several local connections, as three of their projected starters for today's dual hail from the Lehigh Valley.

GIVE IT UP FOR THE NEW GUYS

It's likely that two Mountain Hawks will make their varsity dual debuts this afternoon. True freshman Mitch Berger won his wrestle-off over Kellen Aura and is expected to start at 125, while deferred freshman Alex Caruso, a former New Jersey state champion, could get the starting nod at 174 or 184. Also of note for Lehigh, projected starters Alex Iacocca (184) and Justin Allen (285) each have just one varsity dual appearance between them.

RANK AND FILE

In InterMat's preseason rankings, Lehigh has wrestlers ranked in two of ten weight classes; however, neither Seth Ciasulli nor David Craig is slated to compete today. Senior Dave Nakasone is not ranked by the NWCA or by W.I.N. Magazine, but is ranked 17th at 157 by Amateur Wrestling News.

<u>Weight</u>	<u>Wrestler</u>	<u>NWCA</u>	<u>W.I.N.</u>	<u>A.W.N.</u>
133	Seth Ciasulli	14	17	13
157	Dave Nakasone	----	----	17
184	David Craig	12 (174)	7	12

ANYONE, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

Head coach Greg Strobel has once again put together one of the nation's toughest dual meet schedules. The Mountain Hawks are scheduled to face eight of the top 20 finishers in last year's NCAA tournament and ten teams ranked in the preseason top 25:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>'07 NCAA Finish</u>
11/11	Pittsburgh	20	20
11/16	at Nebraska	14	16
11/24	vs. Central Mich.	10	15
12/2	at American	24	17
12/7	Penn State	11	11
12/30	at Michigan	5	6
1/19	Navy	18	18
1/26	at Harvard	22	22
2/8	Hofstra	13	7
2/24	at Penn	23	25

Lehigh could also face current No. 2 Oklahoma State, No. 17 Illinois and No. 25 Oregon State at the Virginia Duals in January.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP

Junior Matt Fisk was named team captain for the 2007-08 season, despite his likely intentions to defer eligibility while he moves up a weight class. Fisk qualified for the NCAA tournament in each of his first two seasons and led the Mountain Hawks with 12 falls last season.