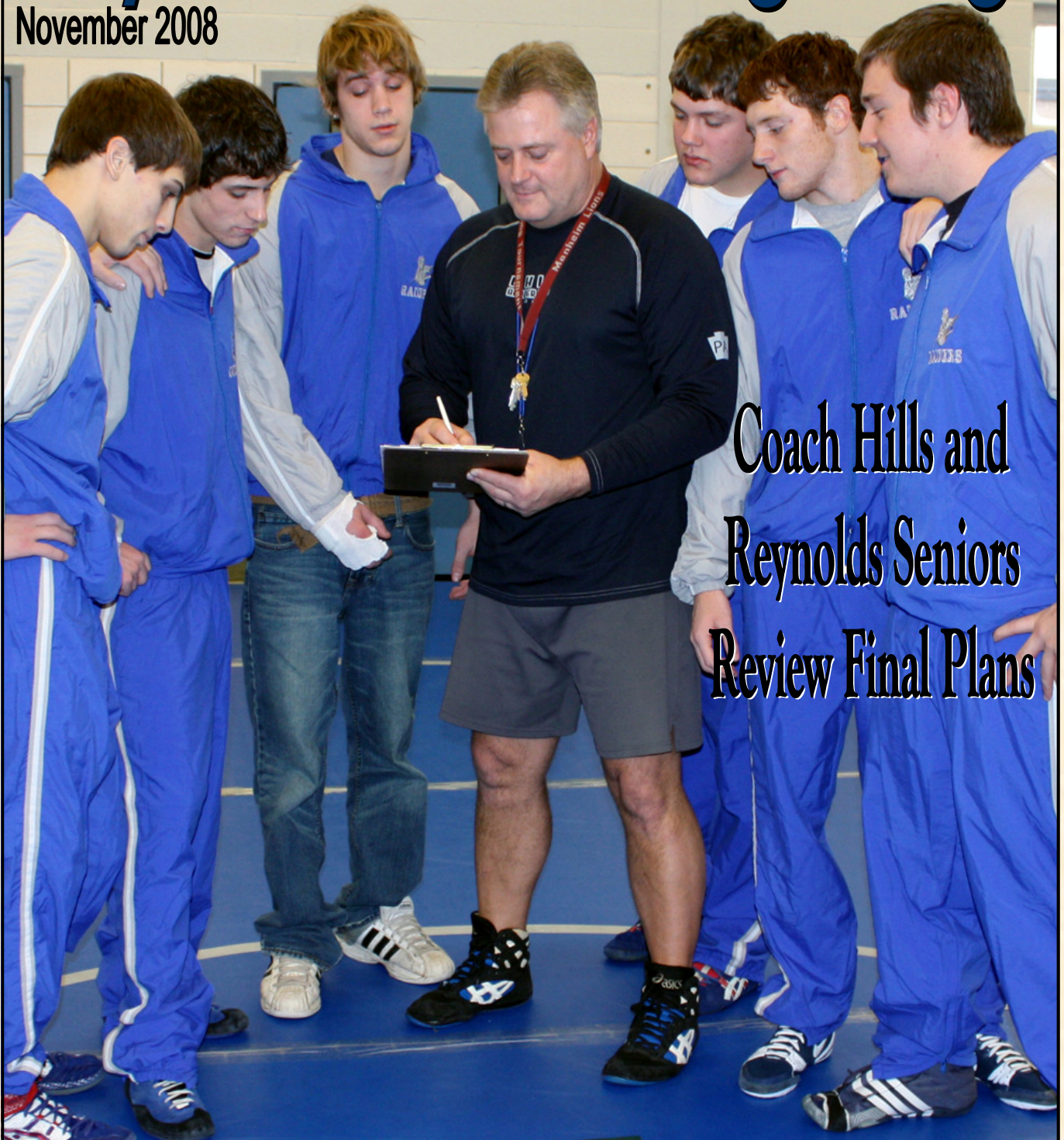


Reynolds Wrestling Mag

November 2008



Coach Hills and
Reynolds Seniors
Review Final Plans

National Ranking Welcomes Raiders to New Season

Hills Gives Raiders Marching Orders

Like the Civil War general whose school is named after, Reynolds head wrestling coach Brian Hills has prepared his troops for battle.

Beginning his 23rd season at the helm, Hills is a proven teacher and motivator who knows how to get the most from his student athletes. This season, there is a bit of an added incentive — as if they needed it. Many of the Raiders on this year's team still carry the scar of last year's loss to Burrell in the state semifinals.



The Raiders are well equipped as they march into the 2008-09 season

I look for the Raiders to wrestle as if they have something to prove.

Of course having a measure of talent will come in handy along the way. The top-to-bottom balance of this year's team has all the makings of an outstanding dual match team. Plus, there is enough quality performers to make a strong tournament team.

In short, it's time to get ready for a memorable 2008-09

wrestling season.

KELLY SIGNS WITH CORNELL:

We all know what a talented

A View From Matside

By Don Shaffer

wrestler senior Cody Kelly is, now it's also safe to say he's a pretty intelligent young man, as

well, based on the fact that he has signed to wrestle at Cornell University.

A three-time state place-winner, Kelly boasts a career record of 131-20 and is in line to challenge the school's all-time win record held jointly by Matt Dunn and Lawrence Beckman (176).

Without the pressure of making a collegiate choice during the season, Kelly should be able to focus solely

on wrestling for the next four months, and that, is a good thing.

NATIONAL RANKING: It's hard to think of a better way to begin the 2008-09 season than with a lofty national ranking from a trusted source.

The Raiders, who open the season at the Ironman Tournament on Dec. 5-6, will commence the campaign as the No. 27 team in the nation. The pre-season rankings are compiled by Bob Preusse of *Amateur Wrestling News*.

According to Preusse, co-director of the Ironman event, the Raiders have earned their

spot in national rankings.

"(Reynolds has) a great coach in Brian Hills, tough kids and a great small town program," Preusse said. "Always a good team ... they look good on paper again this season. They usually do well at Ironman and at PA states."

There is one other Pennsylvania Class AA team listed in the rankings— No. 19 Shadyside Academy. Like last season when Reynolds appeared to be on a collision course with Burrell, this year it could be SSA. The Raiders beat Shadyside in last year's dual tournament, but Shadyside, led by coach Tim Geil, boasts a strong lineup that has three wrestlers— Dane Johnson, Frank Martelotti and Roman San Doval—who have won state championships.

HERE ARE THE NUMBERS:

Let's get these out of the way right up front. Here are the important numbers for the Reynolds wrestling program. Know them. Love them. Commit them to memory:

- All-time, the Raiders own a dual match record of 622-71-2. That's an 89.8 winning percentage.
- The regular season win streak stands at 73 straight.
- Brian Hills has a coaching record of 310-33-1 — a 90.4 winning percentage.

WHO'S UP NEXT FOR 100?:

Barring anything unforeseen, the answer is senior Will Ringer. A former Pennsylvania Junior Wrestling state champion, Ringer enters the season with an overall record of 86-46. He was 37-10 last season.

On The Cover: Reynolds seniors surround head coach Brian Hills. Pictured (from l-r) are Tony D'Urso, Cody Kelly, Kaine Kulka, Corey Augustine, Sam Fuchs and Will Ringer.

Veteran Raiders Primed for Battle

Now in his 23rd season as head coach, Brian Hills knows a good wrestling team when he sees one. While assessing this year's squad, he patiently talked about his returning letter-winners, cautiously worked his way through a tentative lineup careful not to forget anyone who will compete for a starting spot, and talked at length about the changes to this year's schedule. He recapped it all by saying, "from top to bottom we're happy with this lineup. We think it's pretty solid." Then, he laughed. Not a big belly laugh, more like a chuckle. Even if he won't come right out and say it, Hills knows. We all know. The 2008-09 Reynolds wrestling team is going to be something special.

Returning Lettermen

Seniors

Tony D'Urso
Sam Fuchs
Cody Kelly
Kaine Kulka
Will Ringer

Juniors

Greg Baptiste
Rodney Harnett
Luke Taylor

Sophomores

Mason Beckman
Adam Matthews
Eddy Nottingham

By **DON SHAFFER**

Reynolds Wrestling Mag Editor

If you are looking for a single indicator of how good the 2008-09 Reynolds High School wrestling team is going to be, try this one -- the Raiders' projected starting lineup features nine wrestlers who have been Northwest Regional qualifiers.

Three-time PIAA place-winner Cody Kelly, a 130-pound senior who has signed to wrestle collegiately at Cornell University, leads a group of 11 returning letter-winners who figure to fill the majority of the team's starting spots.

Seniors Tony D'Urso, Kaine Kulka, Sam Fuchs and Will Ringer, juniors Gregg Baptiste, Rodney Harnett and Luke Taylor, and sophomores Mason Beckman, Adam Matthews and Eddy Nottingham are the other returning

letter-winners.

The last four years the Raiders have placed among the top three in the state as far as dual meet teams, finishing 2nd, 1st, 1st and 3rd, respec-

tively. That is a lofty standard to uphold, but according to coach Hills, this year's team will strive to do just that.

"I think this team could be just as good as the team we had last year, with the potential to be even better," Hills said. "I guess that's my job to get the most out of these kids, but when everybody is in there and everybody is healthy, we'll have a very solid line-up with great flexibility."



Cody Kelly

The Raiders will open their season Dec. 5-6 at the rugged Ironman Tournament in Ohio.

"We don't have the luxury of having a dual meet to start the season. Ironman is an extremely tough opener," Hills said. "It's absolutely loaded this year. Nothing like jumping right into the fire."

At 48-3 a year ago, Kelly is one of four Raiders with a state tournament resume and appears destined to join a very short list of Reynolds wrestlers who have won four PIAA medals. He has finished third at the last two state tournaments and was second as a freshman. His career mark of 131-20 puts him in position to challenge the school's career win record which is jointly held by Matt Dunn and Lawrence Beckman (176).

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Kelly and classmate Will Ringer have been voted by their peers as the captains of this year's squad. Ringer will start the season at 285 pounds after wrestling at 215 the last three seasons. Ringer is just 14 short of 100 career wins and is a two-time Regional qualifier.

Seniors D'Urso, Fuchs, Kulka and Corey Augustine also are expected to hold down starting positions.

With 62 career wins, Fuchs is a two-time state qualifier who missed nearly all of his junior season because of injury. He will begin the season at 140 pounds.

"It's nice to have Sam back," Hills admitted. "And I will say that Sam has looked very good in pre-season workouts."

D'Urso, 36-16 last year, was injured at the 2008 regional tournament and missed out on a trip to Hershey. He will get the starting nod at 135 pounds.

Kulka (152) suffered a broken bone in his elbow during pre-season conditioning and will be out until sometime in January. He did a solid job for the Raiders last year, posting a 28-15 record.

"Injuries are one of the most frustrating parts of my job," Hills said. "There's not a whole lot you can do about it, except try to work through it."

With Ringer bumping up to heavyweight, Augustine will take over the 215 pound slot. Though he has yet to wrestle a varsity match, Augustine was unbeaten in junior varsity action a year ago, scoring 15 falls among his 17 wins.

"It's a big step up going from junior varsity to varsity, but Corey is working hard and we think he can step in and do a good job," Hills said.

Juniors Taylor (145), Baptiste (160) and Harnett (112) all had impressive sophomore campaigns

2008-09 Varsity Roster

<p style="text-align: center;">Seniors</p> <p>Cory Augustine Tony D'Urso Sam Fuchs Cody Kelly Kaine Kulka Will Ringer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Juniors</p> <p>Dillon Babcock Greg Baptiste Jeremy Fowler Tom Gilson Rodney Harnett Charlie Murray Luke Taylor Steve Mink</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sophomores</p> <p>Mason Beckman Adam Matthews Eddy Nottingham Tyler Rhoades</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Freshmen</p> <p>Tommy Davis Dylan D'Urso Blake Heim Tyler Miller Sam Napodano Tyler Reeher Justin Rhodes Tyler Tarr Matt Tofani</p>
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and caught the eye of their head coach.

"These guys all had good years last year and we expect big things out of them," Hills said of his junior standouts.

Taylor won 39 matches a season ago and Baptiste added 30.

Reynolds Has Won 73 Straight Regular Season Dual Matches

Harnett shared time at 103 pounds last year and boasted an impressive 18-8 mark. He will see action at 112 and 119 this season.

The other juniors on the roster are Dillon Babcock (125), Jeremy Fowler (189), Tom Gilson

(189), Charlie Murray (152) and Steve Mink (152).

Babcock and Fowler are both penciled in to starting spots, while Mink and Murray will battle to fill the spot at 152 pounds while Kulka is sidelined.

Beckman quickly rose to stardom last season and posted 48 wins in his initial varsity campaign. He lost in the 103-pound

state finals in overtime ride-out. He will wrestle at 112 at Ironman but will also see action at 119 this year. Sophomore classmate Matthews will be the starter at 125 pounds.

(continued on page 4)

Matthews finished his freshman season with a bang, catching fire in the second half and advancing all the way to the state tournament. He had 29 wins.

Nottingham earned a letter last season, appearing in a dozen varsity matches, and Rhoades (4-3), who experienced good success filling in a year ago, will be counted on to step up at 171 pounds.

Nine freshmen will be part of the varsity roster. They are undoubtedly led by the talented Dylan D'Urso, the Raiders' projected starter at 103 pounds. Look for D'Urso to be ranked among the best wrestlers in the state after winning a Pennsylvania Junior championship - without giving up a single point - this past spring.

"I expect to see a very good year out of Dylan," Hills said. "He can wrestle with anybody. He is right on par with some of the excellent freshman we've had in our program."

Other freshmen include Tommy Davis (189), Blake Heim (189), Tyler Miller (112-119), Tyler Reeher (215), Justin Rhodes (112), Tyler Tarr (285), Matt

Tentative Starting Lineup

103-Dylan D'Urso, fr., 2008 PA Junior state champ
112-Rodney Harnett, jr., 18-8 record in 2007-08
119-Mason Beckman, so., 2008 PIAA state runner-up
125-Adam Matthews, so., 2008 PIAA state qualifier
130-Dillon Babcock, jr., 12-0 JV record in 2007-08
135-Cody Kelly, sr., 3X PIAA state place-winner
140-Tony D'Urso, sr., Northwest Regional qualifier
145-Sam Fuchs, sr., 2X PIAA state qualifier
152-Luke Taylor, jr., Northwest Regional qualifier
160-Kaine Kulka, sr., Northwest Regional qualifier
171-Gregg Baptiste, jr., Northwest Regional qualifier
189-Tyler Rhoades, so., 9-0 JV, 4-3 varsity record
215-Cory Augustine, sr., 17-0 JV record (15 pins)
285-Will Ringer, sr., 2X Northwest Regional qualifier

Others Who Will Contribute: Jeremy Flower (189), Blake Heim (189), Eddy Nottingham (119-125), Tyler Miller (119), Justin Rhodes (112-119) and Matt Tofani (135)

Tofani (140) and Sam Napodano. Napodano was seriously injured in an ATV accident over the summer and spent weeks recovering from life-threatening

injuries in a Pittsburgh hospital. Even though he will not be able to compete this season, Napodano remains a part of the team roster, according to coach Hills.



Returning Wrestlers With The Most Varsity Wins In 2007-08

Cody Kelly 48
Mason Beckman 48
Luke Taylor 39
Will Ringer 37
Tony D'Urso 36
Gregg Baptiste 30
Adam Matthews 29
Kaine Kulka 28
Rodney Harnett 18

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING RANKINGS

1. Blair Academy, N.J.
2. St. Paris Graham, Ohio
3. Northampton, Pa.
4. Central Dauphin, Pa.
5. Apple Valley, Minn.
6. St. Edward, Ohio
7. Wyoming Seminary, Pa.
8. Catoosa, Okla.
9. Huxley Ballard, Iowa
10. Montini Catholic, Ill.
11. Iowa City West, Iowa
12. Central Mountain, Pa.
13. Massillon Perry, Ohio
14. Bishop Lynch, Texas

15. Cumberland Valley, Pa.
16. Eastern Regional, NJ
17. Don Bosco, Iowa
18. St. Mark, Del.
19. Shady Side Academy, Pa.
20. Brandon, Fla.
21. Simley, Minn.
22. Providence Catholic, Ill.
23. Clovis, Calif.
24. Wausau West, Wisc.
25. Roseburg, Ore.
26. Goddard, Kan.
- 27. REYNOLDS, PA**
28. High Point, N.J.

29. Oak Park, Mo.
30. Colonial Forge, Va.
31. McDonogh, Md.
32. Holt, Mo.
33. Flathead, Mont.
34. Waverly-Shell Rock, Iowa
35. Selma, Ca.
36. Campbell County, Wy.
37. Christiansburg, Va.
38. Oak Park River Forest, Ill.
39. S. Dade, Fla.
40. Havre, Mont.

(List compiled by Bob Preusse of Amateur Wrestling News)

Matt Dunn: Junior, Columbia University, New York, NY. Dunn is ranked 18th nationally in the Wrestling USA pre-season poll. He was named second team All-Ivy League last season at 157 pounds. He was 19-9 overall and had a perfect 5-0 mark in Ivy League duals. Dunn, back down to 149 this season, is featured on the cover of the Lions' 2008-09 wrestling media guide.



Rob Miller: Sophomore, Thiel College, Greenville, PA. Miller is off to a flying start with a perfect 9-0 record and has already been named President's Athletic Conference Wrestler of the Week – for the third time in his career. Miller was a NCAA Division III national qualifier last season at 125.



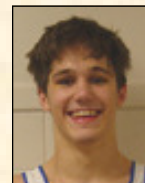
Aaron Nestor: Redshirt Freshman, Rider University, Lawrenceville, N.J. At the Stroudsburg Open, Nestor went 4-2 to claim a 7th place finish at 141 pounds. He finished 6th at the Keystone Classic and is 5-4 overall so far this year.



Lawrence Beckman: Redshirt Freshman, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY. Wrestling behind No. 6

FORMER RAIDERS ON COLLEGE MATS

ranked Lucas Alton at 174 pounds, Beckman saw his first action of the season at the recent Brockport (NY) Tournament. As a team, Hofstra if off to an impressive start, upsetting No. 7 Penn State, 18-15, in a recent dual match. Beckman was named to the Dean's List for the Spring '08 semester for his academic achievements.



Corey Brown: Freshman, Thiel College, Greenville, PA. Started off his collegiate career in stunning fashion, going 8-0 and winning titles in his first two events. He is wrestling at 133 pounds for the Tomcats.



Mason Stewart: Sophomore, Thiel College, Greenville, PA. A 141-pounder, Stewart saw his first action of the season recently, posting a decision to help the Mat 'Cats to a win over Mt. Union.



2008 - 09 VARSITY SCHEDULE

It doesn't take long to notice a couple of not-so-subtle changes to the Raiders' 2008-09 regular season schedule.

The first thing that jumps off the page is that the Raiders will not be attending the Tool City Tournament, held annually at Meadville High School. Instead, the Raiders will be participating in the Commodore Perry Duals, where they will compete in a series of five dual matches.

The Raiders have enjoyed remarkable success at Meadville,

having won a tournament record six straight Tool City titles. It was a popular tournament for Raider

Missing from the 08-09 schedule is the Tool City Tournament as well as a dual match with Greenville

fans who loved the event, not only because the team dominated there, but also because it was only a 35-minute drive from home.

The second major change in

the schedule is that there is not a scheduled dual match with arch-rival Greenville.

Through the years, the Reynolds-Greenville match has earned the reputation as one of the best in all of western Pennsylvania, even though Reynolds holds a dominating 41-9 advantage in the all-time series.

The two teams could potentially meet at the District 10 duals, but that is not a certainty.

DATE	EVENT	SITE
Dec. 5-6	Ironman Tournament	at Walsh-Jesuit HS
Dec. 12-13	Commodore Perry Duals (5 matches)	at Commodore Perry HS
Dec. 17	West Middlesex	Away
Dec. 19-20	King of the Mountain Tournament	at Central Mountain HS
Dec. 23	HICKORY	HOME
Dec. 29-30	Manheim Invitational	at Manheim HS
Jan. 3	Reynolds JV Tournament	HOME
Jan. 6	Slippery Rock	Away
Jan. 8	Lakeview	HOME
Jan. 14	Grove City	Away
Jan. 17	Ultimate Duals (5 matches)	at Brookville HS
Jan. 20	SHARPSVILLE	HOME
Jan. 22	Sharon	Away
Jan. 29	District 10 Team Duals	At Edinboro University
Jan. 31	Cranberry JV Tournament	At Cranberry HS
Feb. 6-7	PIAA Team Duals	At Hershey
Feb. 13-14	Sections	At Sharon HS
Feb. 20-21	District 10 Championships	At Sharon HS
Feb. 27-28	Northwest Regional	At Sharon HS
March 5-7	PIAA Championships	At Hershey

The Back Page



2008-09 Raiders

Reynolds Coaching Staff

Brian Hills -- Head Coach
Casey Taylor -- Assistant Coach
Joe Reichard --Varsity
Ron Beckman --Varsity
Billy Collins --Varsity
Michael Hills --Assistant and Head Jr. High Coach
John Tofani --Assistant and Jr. High Coach
Mark Higbee -- Jr. High
Rick Stoyer -- Jr. High

Raider Trivia

New Question

Q: Name the last Mercer County team to beat Reynolds in a dual match.

(Answer in the next issue)

Previous Question

Q: Name the five Reynolds wrestlers who have won both Junior Olympic and PIAA state championships.

A: Chuck Coryea, Jeff Ship-ton, Casey Taylor, Justin Nestor and Matt Dunn.



Adam
Matthews
in Action