



WRESTLING



Program Highlights

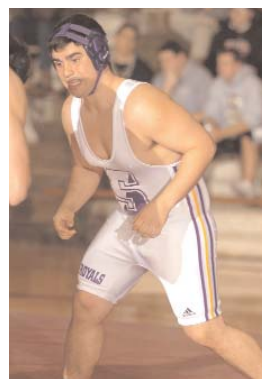
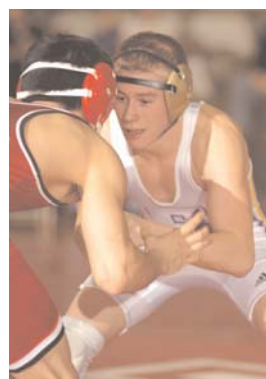
- * The University of Scranton wrestling program has been competing on the intercollegiate level since 1968
- * The Royals will begin their third season as a member of the Metropolitan Wrestling Conference, whose members include the following insitutions:

Centenary College (Hackettstown, N.J.)
 Hunter College (New York, N.Y.)
 King's College (Wilkes-Barre, Pa.)
 Maritime College (Bronx, N.Y.)
 The College of New Jersey (Ewing, N.J.)
 New York University (New York, N.Y.)
 Wilkes University (Wilkes-Barre, Pa.)
 Yeshiva University (New York, N.Y.)
 York College of Pennsylvania (York, Pa.)

- * Twelve Scranton wrestlers have qualified for the NCAA Division III championships, including **Donell Young**, who earned a wild-card entry to the 2007 championships after finishing runner-up in the 149-pound weight class at the Metropolitan Wrestling championships
- * **Tim Kelly** became the first of three wrestlers in Royals' history to win an individual championship in Scranton's

previous affiliation with the Middle Atlantic States Collegiate Athletic Corporation, more commonly know as the Middle Atlantic Conference, by capturing the 126-weight class title in 1981. **Denis Udicious** and **Darren Buseman** are the other two, having won the 142 and 157-pound titles in 1988 and 2003, respectively.

- * **Michael Grandchamp** became the first of two wrestlers in Scranton history to earn all-America honors by finishing seventh in the 165-pound weight class at the 1999 NCAA Division III championships. He was also named second-team Academic all-American by the College Sports Inforamtion Directors of America (CoSIDA). Buseman garnered all-America honors by finishing seventh in the 157-pound weight class at the 2003 NCAA Division III championships.
- * Six wrestlers--**John Gill** (126), Kelly, **Ray Yeager** (Hwt.) Udicious, **Steve Lawrence** (Hwt.) and **Steve Daigle** (158)-- have been inducted into the University's prestigious Wall of Fame. The Wall of Fame was founded in 1970 to honor former student-athletes, coaches, administrators and those in the community who have been instrumental in the overall development of the university's athletics program.



Individual Achievements

NCAA All-American

Year Name

- 1999 Michael Grandchamp (165)
2003 Darren Buseman (157)

NCAA National Participants

Year Name(s)

- 1981 Tim Kelly, Jack Johnson
1982 Tim Kelly, Ray Yeager
1983 Tim Kelly, Ray Yeager,
Steve Yurenda, Mike Gill
1984 Jerry Rivers
1988 Denis Udicious
1995 Will Morgan
1996 Juan Teaman
1999 Michael Grandchamp
2003 Darren Buseman
2007 Donell Young

National Catholic Champions

- 1977 John Gill (118)
1981 Ray Yeager (Hwt)
1984 John Raabe (118)
1985 John Raabe (118)

NCAA East Regionals

- 1995 Will Morgan (126)
1996 Juan Teaman (190)

Middle Atlantic Conference Champions

- 1981 Tim Kelly (126)
1988 Denis Udicious (142)
2003 Darren Buseman (157)

University of Scranton

Wall of Fame Selections

- 1989 John Gill (126)
1993 Tim Kelly (126)
1994 Ray Yeager (Hwt)
1999 Denis Udicious (142)
2007 Brooks Bernabe (167)



Head Coach
Al Russomano

Al Russomano brings a wealth of experience as both a coach and competitor to The University of Scranton wrestling program. The highlight of his two-year tenure came in March 2007 when he escorted Donell Young to the NCAA Division III championships in Duquabue, Iowa.

Prior to his appointment as head coach, he served as an assistant varsity wrestling coach for nine seasons at nearby Scranton High School, where he helped develop four Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) District II champions and two two-time all-regional selections by the Scranton Times-Tribune. He was also on staff when the Knights won the Lackawanna League Division II title in 2000.

Russomano also served as head junior high school and substitute assistant varsity wrestling coach at Elk Lake High School in Dimock, Pennsylvania, where the Warriors produced two junior high school individual district champions and were Northern Athletic Conference (NAC) team champions in 1994.

Russomano, a member of the PIAA Coaches' Association, also served as head coach of the Iron Man Wrestling Club of Pennsylvania in Scranton in 1999-2000, where he was voted by the organization's more than 200 members as its coach of the year at its annual end of the season tournament. He has been a guest clinician at various wrestling clubs and events throughout the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

He learned his craft from Larry Fornicoli, the legendary head coach of the wrestling program at the then Keystone Junior College in nearby LaPlame in the early 1970s. As a competitor, Russomano finished third in the PIAA District II championships at the former Scranton Technical High School and was a two-time Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Eastern qualifier. He is also a two-time Pennsylvania state power-lifting champion (1972, 1973).

Russomano resides in Scranton. He is the father of two sons: Anthony, a volunteer assistant with the program and a United States Marine Corps veteran who took part in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Al, Jr., also a member of the United States Marine Corps and a former member of the all-Marine International wrestling team.

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