

UNIVERSITY OF

NEW HAMPSHIRE

S P O R T S I N F O R M A T I O N

MEN'S (603) 862-2585

DURHAM NH 03824

WOMEN'S (603) 862-3835

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire Wrestling team Opened up its 1987-88 season on November 7 at the West Point Invitational.

The Wildcats were 14-6 last season, the best ever by coach Jim Urquhart. The team was led by 14 returning lettermen, and junior Mike Caracci, who at the NCAA Championships tallied a first round victory. The team looks to be even stronger this season.

The following student-athlete is a member of the 1987-88 wrestling team. For more information, contact the UNH Sports Information Office at (603) 862-2585.

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M069 Spts 1

Nov. 10, 1987

DURHAM, N.H. -- After opening up the new season at the West Point Invitational, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team will return to action Nov. 21 at the East Stroudsburg Open.

Coach Jim Urquhart's squad, which won a school-record 14 matches last season (14-6), got solid performances from many of the 14 lettermen back for 1987-88. Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won three matches to give him 54 career victories. Caracci, who won a match at the NCAA Championships last season, ranks fifth all-time in career wins. He competes in the 118 group.

Senior Dan Shain (Lexington, KY) won four matches in the 167 weight class, while sophomore Curt DiGrigoli (Great Barrington, MA) earned three victories to boost his career total to 21 wins.

The Wildcats will begin dual meet play on Dec. 12 at W.P.I. along with Harvard and N.Y.U. After the East Stroudsburg meet, UNH will compete at the Cornell Invitational Dec. 5. The home season begins Jan. 13, when UNH entertains Lowell on the mats at Lundholm Gymnasium.

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M078 Spts 1

Nov. 17, 1987

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire wrestling team returns to action Saturday at the East Stroudsburg State University Open.

The Wildcats opened up on Nov. 7 at the West Point Invitational tourney. UNH will compete at the Cornell Tournament on Dec. 5 before they open up dual meet action on the mats on Dec. 12 at WPI with Harvard and N.Y. University.

Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won three matches at West Point and will look to tie Con Madigan for fourth place in all-time victories. Caracci stands 54-20 in his stunning career at the 118 weight class, and he needs just three wins to tie his former teammate Madigan (57-42-1).

Senior Dan Shain (Lexington, KY) has a 4-2 mark after the West Point tourney, and he competes in the 167 weight group.

The Wildcats will open up their home season on Jan. 13 against Lowell at Lundholm Gymnasium.

M093 Spts 1

Nov. 30, 1987

DURHAM, N.H. -- Coach Jim Urquhart's University of New Hampshire wrestling team returns to action after a three-week layoff this Saturday when the Wildcats compete at the Cornell Invitational Tournament.

The Wildcats have not competed since the West Point Invitational Tournament Nov. 7. After this week's action, UNH will compete at WPI with Harvard and NYU on Dec. 12, and the Sunshine Open in Tampa, Fla. Dec. 29-30.

Leading the Wildcats in wins is senior Dan Shain (Lexington, KY), who has four wins in the early going. Shain competes in the 167 weight class. Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won three matches in the 118 at West Point, and sophomore Curt DiGrigoli (Great Barrington, MA) also has three wins, competing in the 126 weight group.

The Wildcats open up their home season Jan. 13 against Lowell at 7:30 p.m. at Lundholm Gymnasium.

M098 Spts 1

Dec. 7, 1987

DURHAM, N.H. -- After an impressive third place showing at the Cornell Invitational Saturday, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team will have its first quad meet of the season when it joins Harvard and N.Y.U. at W.P.I. Saturday.

The Wildcats finished third in the eight-team field at Cornell. Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won the 118 weight class with four victories, as he improved his season mark to 7-2. His 58 career wins now ranks him fourth all-time, as he passed former teammate Con Madigan (57). Caracci lies just two wins shy of third place Tim Weckwerth.

Two freshmen also had strong tourneys for Coach Jim Urquhart's squad. Paul Peterson (Sodus, NY) won three of four matches to finish second in the 158 weight class, and fellow frosh Bill Santiago (Brandon, VT) took second in the 150 with three victories. Senior Steve Russell (Elmira, NY) had two victories in the 142 class, and finished fourth.

New Hampshire will compete at the Sunshine Open in Tampa, FLA on Dec. 29-30. The home opener at Lundholm Gym is slated for Jan. 13 against Lowell.

M104 Spts 1

Dec. 14, 1987

DURHAM, N.H. -- In its first dual meet of the season, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team opened up with a clean sweep. The Wildcats, 3-0, will be back in action after Christmas at the Sunshine Open in Tampa, FLA.

The Wildcats defeated N.Y.U. (34-12), Harvard (38-12) and host W.P.I. (35-8) Saturday. The next dual meet on the schedule is Jan. 9 at Rutgers with Columbia and C.W. Post.

Two veteran 'Cats recorded three pin victories while another recorded three victories. Nate Baldasaro (Bedford, NH) won all three of his matches with pins in the 177 class to up his record to 3-0 in his debut this year. Chris Murtha (Shoreham, NY) also won three pins, and improved his mark on the season to 5-1. Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) continued to shine with three wins. He stands 10-2 on the year, and now has a career record of 61-20, as he passed Tim Weckwerth (60-25-3) for third place on the all-time victory list. Next on tap is second place Dave Yale (85-31-1).

Freshman Pat Napoli (Ridge, NJ) won both his matches in the 142 class. Curt DiGrigoli (Great Barrington, MA) also won two matches, in the 126 weight class, to improve to 5-2.

The Wildcats will open up their home season at Lundholm Gymnasium on Jan. 13 against the University of Lowell at 7:30 p.m.

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M114 Spts 1

Jan. 11, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- With the University of Lowell providing the opposition, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team will open up its home season Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Lundholm Gym.

Coach Jim Urquhart's squad had a 4-1 dual meet record entering a Monday night meet at Wagner University.

Last weekend, the Wildcats opened up their swing through the Garden State with a split at Rutgers University. The Wildcats defeated the host school, 40-8, but lost to Columbia, 23-13, to go to the 4-1 dual meet mark. Senior Paul Dinkelmeyer (Commack, NY) highlighted the Wildcats cause. He won both matches in the 158 class, and improved his season slate to 5-5.

New Hampshire will be off after the home meet until Jan. 23 when it goes back to New Jersey for a pair of meets, against Seton Hall and Kings College.

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M120 Spts 1

Jan. 18, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- With three straight victories and a 7-1 record, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team has one road date this week. The Wildcats travel to Seton Hall to face Kings College along with the host school, Saturday at 1 p.m.

The Wildcats had two solid performances last week. In the home opener at Lundholm Gymnasium Wednesday, UNH defeated Lowell, 31-14. Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) opened it up with a win at 118, and freshman Pat Napoli (Ridge, NJ) was a victor at 142. Also winning for the 'Cats were Paul Peterson (Sodus, NY) at 167, Nate Baldasaro (Bedford, NH) at 177, and Tom Joy (Wakefield, RI) at 190. Chris Murtha (Shoreham, NY) ended the evening with an impressive pin just 32 seconds into his heavy-weight match..

Coach Jim Urquhart's squad didn't cool off at Bowdoin College Saturday. The Wildcats downed the Bears, 43-3. Four different Wildcats won on pins, including Napoli and Joy. Curt DiGrigoli (Great Barrington, MA) was a pin winner at 1:34, and Eric Hunziker (Westfield, NJ) recorded a pin at 1:49 in the 150 class.

After the meet at Seton Hall, UNH will join Rhode Island College at Western New England on Jan. 29 before returning home the following evening to host Fairleigh Dickinson.

M126 Spts 1

Jan. 25, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- A busy week is ahead for the University of New Hampshire wrestling team. The Wildcats will travel to Western New England College along with Rhode Island College Friday, before returning home to Lundholm Gymnasium for a match with Fairleigh Dickinson Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Wildcats improved their mark to 9-1 on the season with a sweep of action in New Jersey Saturday. UNH defeated Kings College, 21-16 before sweeping the day with a 25-9 triumph over Seton Hall.

Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won both his matches in the 188 group to give him five straight victories in dual meet action. Freshman Kevin Beland (Manchester, NH) won both his matches in the 134 group, while freshman Pat Napoli (Ridge, NJ) also won on two pins in the 142 class. Paul Dinkelmeyer (Commack, NY) easily won both his meets in the 158 class. Chris Murtha, the senior from Shoreham, NY, went 2-0 in the heavyweight division.

Other winners in the Seton Hall meet included William Santiago (Brandon, VT) in the 150 and Tom Joy (Wakefield, RI) in the 190 class.

M138 Spts 1

Feb. 8, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- After a second place finish in the Northern New England Championships at Plymouth State last weekend, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team will return to dual-meet action Wednesday at Boston College. The Wildcats will also host Boston University, Springfield and Maine Saturday at Lundholm Gymnasium at 6 p.m.

New Hampshire has a 13-1 record on the season under Coach Jim Urquhart, and need just one victory to tie last season's school record of 14 wins in a season.

Senior Chris Murtha (Shoreham, NY) led the Wildcat cause at Plymouth Saturday. He won all three matches in the heavyweight class, to improve his season slate to 19-3. Freshman Pat Napoli (Ridge, NJ) scored a second place finish in the 142 weight group, while junior Nate Baldasaro (Bedford, NH) also placed second in the 177 weight class.

Other highlights for the Wildcats included a third place finish by sophomore Tom Joy (Wakefield, RI) in the 190, and fourth place finishes by senior Steve Russell (Elmira, NY) at 142 and senior Paul Dinkelmeyer (Commack, NY) in the 158 class.

Saturday's 6 p.m. home date featuring Springfield, B.U. and Maine will be the last meet at Lundholm Gymnasium this season.

M143 Spts 1

Feb. 15, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- Two dual meets on the road await the University of New Hampshire wrestling team before the squad competes at the New England Championships. The Wildcats will compete at Brown with Central Conn. State Saturday. UNH will also compete at Maine on Feb. 27.

The Wildcats lost at Boston College, 27-21 Wednesday, then came home to Lundholm Gym for the final home date of the season Saturday. UNH split on the day, defeating Springfield, 22-17 before losing to Boston University, 30-7. The Wildcats stand 14-3 on the season.

Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) recorded a win and a draw in Saturday's action, and he now stands 24-5-1 on the season including a 14-1-1 mark in dual-meet action in the 118 class.

Senior Chris Murtha (Shoreham, NY) lost at BC but rebounded with a win over Springfield. He improved his record on the season to 18-4, with a 16-1 slate in dual-meets at heavyweight.

Freshman Pat Napoli (Ridge, NJ) has a 10-7 mark in the 142 class for the Wildcats.

Paul Peterson (Sodus, NY), another fine freshman find for Coach Jim Urquhart, has been outstanding in the 158 weight class. He won eight straight dual-meet matches before losing to BU, and now has a 13-4 slate overall and an 8-1 mark in dual-meets.

The Wildcats will have the away meets at Brown and Maine before the New Englands get under way, March 5-7 at B.U.

M148 Spts 1

Feb. 22, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- As it looks to reverse a trend that has seen it lost four of the last five matches, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team will head to Orono for a match with the University of Maine on Saturday. This meeting will be the last dual meet of the season for the Wildcats.

The Wildcats will bring an impressive 14-5 record into Saturday's action against the Black Bears. This will be the Wildcats' final tuneup before they compete in the New Englands at Boston University March 5-6.

In a pair of meets Saturday at Brown, the Wildcats lost to the host school, 33-9, and to Central Conn. State University, 25-19. In the match with Brown, junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won in the 118 weight class, while senior Paul Dinkelmeyer (Commack, NY) was a victor at 158. Mark Perkins, a senior from Topsham, ME, battled to a draw in the 167 weight class.

New Hampshire battled back against the Blue Devils, but came up short. Caracci won again at 118 to improve his dual meet slate to 16-2 and his overall mark to 26-6. Senior Steve Russell (Elmira, NY) earned a triumph at 134 and promising freshman William Santiago (Brandon, VT) battled to a draw in the 142 weight classification.

After Maine, the New Englands will provide stiff competition for Coach Jim Urquhart's squad. Caracci will look for his second straight trip to the NCAA's, which will be at Iowa State March 17-19.

M159 Spts 1

March 7, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- Mike Caracci and Chris Murtha will represent the University of New Hampshire in the 1988 NCAA Wrestling Championships at Iowa State March 17-19.

Caracci and Murtha won New England Championships at the New Englands at Boston University last weekend. Caracci, a junior from Great Neck, NY, defeated Adam Goldstein of Wagner, 10-3 in the finals of the 118 weight class to win his second straight New England title. Caracci became the first Wildcat ever to win a match at the NCAA's last season.

Murtha, a senior from Shoreham, NY, captured the heavy-weight title with a 12-3 victory over John Merklinger of Boston College in the finals.

Two other Wildcats came up a bit short in their bids for New England Championships. Freshman Paul Peterson (Sodus, NY) lost to Pat Duffy of BU in the finals of the 150 class, while Paul Dinkelmeyer (Commack, NY) lost in the finals of the 158 weight group to Jim Sloan of Central Conn.

Central Conn. won the New Englands, while host BU finished second and New Hampshire was third. UNH scored more than 20 points more than fourth place Boston College.

Other highlights for Coach Jim Urquhart's squad included third place finishes by senior Steve Russell (Elmira, NY) at 134 and sophomore Tom Joy (Wakefield, RI) at 190.

M164 Spts 1

March 23, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- For the second straight season, the University of New Hampshire wrestling team racked up a school record 14 victories. The Wildcats, boosted by two New England Champions and nine grapplers who recorded 10 or more wins, finished up with a 14-5 record this season.

Coach Jim Urquhart's squad, which has won 39 games in three seasons, featured a 13-1 start and a nine-match winning streak. UNH also placed third in the New England, third in the Northern New England, third in the Cornell Invitational and fourth in the West Point Invitational.

Two UNH stars who won New England titles represented New Hampshire in the NCAA Championships at Iowa State March 17-20. Junior Mike Caracci (Great Neck, NY) won his second straight New England title and made his second straight NCAA appearance in the 118 weight class. He lost in the preliminary round, but closed out with a 28-6-1 record and an 18-1 dual meet slate. His career mark of 79-24-1 ranks him third all-time, 14 behind Dave Yale and 21 behind all-time leader and former teammate Paul Schwern.

Senior Chris Murtha (Shoreham, NY) closed out a fine career in the heavyweight class. He lost in the prelims of the NCAA's, but did come back in the pigtail consolation before losing to close out at 25-7 on the season. He posted an 18-2 dual meet record. His career mark of 57-36-1 tied

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his predecessor in the heavyweight class, former teammate Con Madigan, for fifth all-time in victories. Murtha also recorded eight pins to lead the squad.

Sophomore Curt DiGrigoli (Great Barrington, MA) posted an 18-15-1 slate, and won 13 matches in dual meets while competing in the 126 weight group. Senior Paul Dinkelmeyer (Commack, NY) rolled up an 18-9 record and a 13-3 dual slate in the 158 weight class.

Urquhart also got a lot of production out of his fine freshman class. Paul Peterson (Sodus, NY) completed with a 15-5 slate in 150, and an 8-1 dual mark. William Santiago (Brandon, VT) won 13 matches at 142. Newcomer Tom Joy, a sophomore from Wakefield, RI, pulled out 12 wins in the 190 weight class, the weight that Murtha competed in last season.

Junior Nate Baldasaro (Bedford, NH) won 13 matches in the 177 weight class for the Wildcats.

In the past three seasons, Urquhart has guided the Wildcat grapplers to a record of 39-16 while taking four UNH wrestlers to the NCAA Championships.

M173 Spts 1

April 11, 1988

DURHAM, N.H. -- New England champions Mike Caracci and Chris Murtha walked away with most of the awards at the annual University of New Hampshire wrestling banquet Sunday night. UNH posted a 14-5 record this past season, the best in the school's history.

Caracci, a junior from Great Neck, NY, posted a 28-6-1 record this past season and has a 79-24-1 mark in his career. He was voted Most Dedicated Wrestler and also took home the trophy for most team points. Caracci picked up six pins and five technical falls this year. He is a two-time NE champ at 118 pounds.

Murtha earned three awards, taking the trophies for quickest pin (32 seconds), most pins (eight) and Most Valuable Wrestler. Murtha, a senior heavyweight from Shoreham, NY, was 25-7 this past year and 57-36-1 for his career. He and Caracci both advanced to the NCAA Championships in Iowa.

Paul Dinkelmeyer, a senior from Commack, NY, captured the award as most improved wrestler. Dinkelmeyer closed out his career with a 29-39 mark, but was 18-8 this past season. Other wrestlers who had good years were 126 pounder Curt DiGrigoli (18-15-1), 134-pounder Steve Russell (10-7), 142-pound freshman Pat Napoli (9-7), 150-pound freshman William Santiago (13-8-4), 158-pound freshman Paul Peterson (15-5), 177-pounder Nate Baldasaro (13-9) and 190-pounder Tom Joy (12-12-2). Murtha, Dinkelmeyer and Russell are the key losses for next year's squad.