

R  
EYNOLDS  
W  
RESTLING  
M  
AG

State Place-Winner  
**Levi Stoyer**

December 2013

*(Photo by Connie Sorg)*

# 2013-2014 Reynolds Wrestling Schedule



## December

6	Friday	Home	GROVE CITY
10	Tuesday	Home	McDOWELL
13	Friday	Away	Walsh Ironman Tournament
14	Saturday	Away	Walsh Ironman Tournament
17	Tuesday	Home	CATHEDRAL PREP
19	Thursday	Home	LAKEVIEW — Senior Night*
27	Friday	Away	Manheim Lions Holiday Tournament
28	Saturday	Away	Manheim Lions Holiday Tournament

## January

2	Thursday	Away	at Canton Central Catholic
4	Saturday	Away	Region I Mega Duals (@ Sharpsville HS) vs. Sharpsville, Slippery Rock, Hickory, Mercer & West Middlesex
8	Wednesday	Away	at Greenville (match @ Thiel College)
10	Friday	Away	at Fort LeBoeuf
15	Wednesday	Away	at Sharon
18	Saturday	Away	Ultimate Duals (at Brookville HS) vs. Boiling Springs, Chestnut Ridge, Brookville, Saegertown & Burrell
22	Wednesday	Away	at Franklin
30	Thursday	Away	at Cambridge Springs

## February

1	Saturday	Away	District 10 Class AA Dual Match Championships (at Sharon HS)
6	Thursday	Away	PIAA Class AA Dual Match Championships (at Giant Center, Hershey)
7	Friday	Away	PIAA Class AA Dual Match Championships (at Giant Center, Hershey)
8	Saturday	Away	PIAA Class AA Dual Match Championships (at Giant Center, Hershey)
14	Friday	Away	Section Tournament (at Sharon HS)
15	Saturday	Away	Sections Tournament (at Sharon HS)
21	Friday	Away	District 10 Class AA Individual Championships (at Sharon HS)
22	Saturday	Away	District 10 Class AA Individual Championships (at Sharon HS)
28	Friday	Away	Class AA Northwest Regional Individual Championships (at Sharon HS)

## March

1	Saturday	Away	Class AA Northwest Regional Individual Championships (at Sharon HS)
6	Thursday	Away	PIAA Class AA Individual Wrestling Championships (at Giant Center, Hershey)
7	Friday	Away	PIAA Class AA Individual Wrestling Championships (at Giant Center, Hershey)
8	Saturday	Away	PIAA Class AA Individual Wrestling Championships (at Giant Center, Hershey)



# TIME TO

# RELOAD

## the Raiders

If you still have that old T-shirt that says “Reynolds doesn’t rebuild, they reload,” this would be a pretty good time to run it through the ol’ washing machine.

In terms of the upcoming wrestling season, I think the reloading analogy works pretty well. Certainly, a new round of firepower has arrived. The Raiders are locked and loaded and our steady eye has never wavered from the target. Yes indeed, the reloading process has begun.

As we begin the new season, expectation levels are high for a team that is young, but boasts considerable talent at nearly every weight class. To put it another way, it is a very good time to be a fan of Reynolds Wrestling.

**THIRD YEAR’S A CHARM** - Casey Taylor enters his third season as the Raiders’ head coach with a regular season coaching mark of 31-3, 40-7 overall. For comparison sake, Brian Hills was 25-6-1, Mark Reichard 24-

3-1, Neal Lineman 19-4, and Ed McClimans 22-8 after their first two seasons. Bear in mind that it’s hard to compare coaches from different eras because the post season duals format did not exist when Hills, McClimans, Reichard and Lineman began their tenures. That is a significant variable. So is strength of schedule which once consisted of only local teams. To make it as fair as possible, the chart below consists only of regular season results.

Truth be told, I think Coach Taylor is probably a little ahead of where I thought he’d be. The consensus was that it may take him a year or two to settle into his role and find his niche. It did not, and he has been impressive since day one.

In case you’re wondering, it took Coach Lineman five years to get his first unbeaten team and it took Coach Hills six seasons. I mention that only because unbeaten seasons are always the goal at RHS, and certainly something Coach Taylor will be striving for with this year’s squad.



### RHS Coaching Comparison

Coach	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
Casey Taylor	16-1	15-2	?
Brian Hills	12-3-1	13-3	15-1
Ed McClimans	10-3	12-5	11-4
Mark Reichard	12-1	12-2-1	11-3
Neal Lineman	10-2	9-2	10-2

*\* Statistics include regular season only*

**Analysis:**  
Coach Taylor's early career numbers compare favorably with his predecessors



(Photo by Connie Sorg)

# The Young & Restless

Nearly half of the Raiders' starting lineup could be made up of freshmen and sophomores, but don't let that fool you; these kids are talented, experienced and ready to start the season

By DON SHAFFER  
RWM Editor

It's easy to understand why Casey Taylor begins his third season as the Reynolds wrestling coach with an extraordinary amount of enthusiasm.

Not only does Taylor's team return 10 lettermen, he also has at his disposal an arsenal of extremely talented freshmen - the kind of talented troop that shows up about once every decade. If Taylor can balance that youthful energy with the experience and grit of his upperclassmen, it will lead to another exciting chapter in the Reynolds Wrestling chronicles.

Last year's entry was especially riveting as the Raiders overcame adversity time and time again to

compile a 21-3 dual-match record and finish second at the Class AA Team Duals. Austin Matthews, now wrestling at Clarion University, capped off the memorable run by becoming the Raiders' 24<sup>th</sup> state champion.

To repeat that kind of success, Reynolds will first look to its senior class, one of the largest in recent memory. Make no mistake; it is the seniors' responsibility to carry on the Raider tradition.

"This year's senior class includes 11 members that have quite a bit of experience," Taylor said. "Five of them are returning lettermen and it is important that they hit the ground running for us to have success. These young men are doing a good job of demonstrating the kind of work ethic that we look for."

Levi Stoyer, Mason McCollum, Austin Moffett and Alex DiGregorio have all won multiple varsity letters and Denton Zeronas picked up his first last year. Trevor Griswold, Robert Foulkrod, Kegan Miller, Tyler Gongloff, Dustin McCurdy, and Alex McWherter are the other seniors.

After winning just 12 matches in his freshman and sophomore years combined, Stoyer shined in his first year as a full-time starter rolling all the way to medal at the PIAA Championships. His turn-around was nothing short of amazing, posting a 42-8 mark as a junior after going 8-13 as a sophomore.

"Levi showed us exactly what we believed he had," Taylor said. "He

(Continued on page 4)



developed a mental toughness that was necessary for him to put the pieces of the puzzle together. The coaching staff is going to continue to encourage him to raise the bar every time he steps on the mat with the ultimate goal of standing on top of the medal stand in Hershey.”

McCollum has been a model of consistency for the Raiders, winning 30, 30 and 28 matches in his first three seasons. He finds himself just a dozen wins short of the century mark, and should quickly become the 31<sup>st</sup> wrestler to win 100 matches at RHS.

“Mason has made probably the most notable progress in the off season. He set his sights on the weight room and is entering the season as a full-fledged, 152-pounder,” Taylor said. “We have highlighted a few areas for Mason to work on in order to cross the threshold and become a state qualifier. We firmly believe that he can be a part of the tradition of Reynolds wrestlers that finish their career with a PIAA medal.”

Though he has earned a bit of a reputation of bumping up and doing well against bigger and stronger kids, Moffett will drop a weight class and could fit into the starting lineup at 160 pounds. He ranks fourth among active RHS wrestlers with 53 wins.

Miller also has his sights on the 160 pound slot and although he has yet to crack the varsity lineup he is an authentic talent and has been wrestling extremely well in the practice room. Likewise, Gongloff is also capable of working his way into the lineup, having performed very well on the junior varsity stage.

Zeronas came up just short of a .500 record last year at 195 pounds and that experience should help propel him to more victories this season.

DiGregorio missed nearly all of last season after being disciplined for a violation of team rules, but he returns with a new focus and solid experience, having won 36 matches and a pair of letters. He is the expected starter at 138 pounds.

Foulkrod is a wrestler that has not

*(Continued on page 7)*



Mason McCollum needs a dozen wins to reach 100



Denton Zeronas



Alex DiGregorio



*(Photos by Connie Sorg)*

Austin Moffett works a power half



# Brian Hills Headed to PA Hall of Fame

## Legendary Reynolds Wrestler and Coach Joins Lineman, Taylor & Bodo

**B**rian Hills will become the fourth Reynolds Raider inducted into the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches' Association Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2014. For those who followed his career, this announcement was inevitable.

Though he will tell you that he loved playing football just as much as wrestling, it is on the mat where Hills made his greatest mark. As a youngster, he won a pair of Junior Olympic state titles. In high school at Reynolds, he excelled, going 81-9-1 over a four-year career while finishing second in the state at 167 pounds in 1975.

Thiel College was his next stop and the success continued as he twice qualified for the NCAA Division III National Championships. Though his athletic career alone would make him a candidate worthy of consideration, it is his coaching accolades that make him a no-brainer.

Taking over as the head coach at RHS in 1986-87, after running a highly successful Reynolds junior program, Hills immediately began a 25-year odyssey that reads more like a fairy tale than a history book. His statistics are mind boggling.

In two and a half decades, Hills' teams won 23 Section championships, 16 District 10 Championships, 15 Northwest Regional team titles and 5 PIAA Team Points championships. In addition, his teams also won 10 District 10 Team Duals titles and 3 PIAA Class

AA Team Duals titles. His teams finished either second or third at the state championships seven other times.

Twenty eight of his wrestlers reached the state finals with 17 winning titles. Included in that list are three-time champs Casey Taylor and Justin Nestor, and two-timers Jonathon Hazi and Mason Beckman.



In all, Hills led 78 wrestlers to state medals, averaging more than 3 per year over his 25 seasons. In addition, he coached 128 Section champions, 78 District, and 53 Northwest Regional titlists. His dual match teams won 370 of the 410 matches they wrestled. He finished his career with a coaching record of 370-39-1.

Hills was named the PIAA Class AA Coach of the Year on three occasions – 1992, 1998 and 2006, and he won the D-10 Coach of the Year 7 times. In 2006, he was honored as the National Wrestling Coaches Association Region 2 Coach of the Year, an honor which encompasses the northeast corner of the US. Previously, Coach Hills was inducted into the Reynolds High School, Thiel College and Mercer County hall of fames.



# Steve Popovitch's ALUMNI NEWS



**Beckman**  
133 pounds



**D'Urso**  
141 pounds



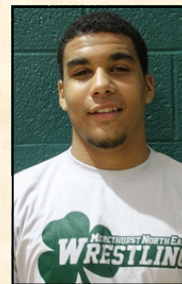
**Cianci**  
149 pounds



**Matthews**  
157 pounds



**Taylor**  
174 pounds



**Henry**  
182 pounds



**Heim**  
Heavyweight

## Raiders Thriving at the Next Level

The college wrestling season is off to an early and exciting start.

**Mason Beckman ('11)**, coming off a stellar red-shirt year and tough offseason training regimen that had him working out in Tokyo at Japan's national training center, was selected to compete in the NWCA All-Star Classic. Beckman was paired against AJ Schopp of Edinboro in the exhibition. Schopp entered the event ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation, but on the strength of two takedowns, Mason rolled to a 5-1 victory.

Officially, Beckman owns a 7-0 record and the sixth spot in the national Division I rankings. Five of his wins have come against other ranked opponents: #12 Nick Wilcox of Bloomsburg (2-0), #11 Jimmy Gulibon of Penn State (7-6), #13 Joe Roth of Central Michigan (2-1), #17 Shelton Mack of Pitt (5-3), and #19 Joe Martinez of Virginia (4-2). At the Northeast Duals in Albany, NY this past weekend, Beckman went 3-0 to help his school to three

straight wins, including an impressive win over No. 11 Virginia.

"The biggest success today was as a team," Beckman said following the Northeast Duals. "Three wins against three very good teams. Every match has shown improvement and it's nice to see our guys having fun."

### Have a tip for Alumni News?

E-mail Steve at:

[stevenpopovitch@gmail.com](mailto:stevenpopovitch@gmail.com)

Entering his senior season with the United States Coast Guard Academy, **Luke Taylor ('10)**, has been named captain for the second straight season. Luke opened his season at the Messiah Invitational where he posted two convincing wins before being injured in a semi-final loss. He was forced to default from the event, but hopes to compete again this season.

**Dylan D'Urso ('12)** has moved up from the weight class where he qualified for nationals last year to

141 pounds. Dylan advanced to the finals of his first completion (Laker Open) at his new weight class on the strength of two major decisions and a fall. In the finals he dropped a decision to West Virginia's Colin Johnston. D'Urso has since reeled off four straight convincing victories – three technical falls and a pin. Mercyhurst will compete at the PSAC Championships in Edinboro on Dec. 7.

Thiel College's **Blake Heim ('12)** has enjoyed early season success that includes a runner-up finish at the Washington & Jefferson Invitational. Blake is currently 6-2 with four wins coming by fall. Both of his losses were by decision. Thiel next wrestles at the Ohio Northern Invitational on Dec. 7.

**Austin Matthews ('13)**, a 2013 PA state champion, made his much anticipated college debut for Clarion at the Eastern Michigan University Duals. Austin went 3-1 with a major decision, technical fall, and a pin. His only loss came by decision against Northern Illinois's 12<sup>th</sup>

*(Continued on page 10)*



gotten a lot of attention, but in an effort to make the lineup he has trimmed down to 220 pounds, after serving as the backup to heavyweights Blake Heim and Gene Ringer the last three years. Foulkrod's experience and maturity give him the inside track to the starting job.

Griswold (182) is another senior who is likely to show up in the starting lineup on opening night. He was used just once last season in a varsity bout, but



*(Photo by Connie Sorg)*

**Seth Hogue eyes another successful campaign. As a freshman, he won 31 matches and was a state qualifier.**

Coach Taylor needs him to step up in a big-time way.

McCurdy is currently sidelined with a knee injury and McWherter, nicknamed "The Tank" on the football field, is a first-year wrestler.

Returning state qualifier Mike Bartolo heads up the junior class which also includes returning start-

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Starting Lineup

Here is a look at a potential starting lineup for the 2013-14 Raiders. Wrestlers are listed by weight class, name, grade, last season's record and career record:

106—Gage Bayless, fr., 0-0, 0-0

113—Seth Hogue, so., 31-15, 31-15 or  
Chaise Hauck, fr., 0-0, 0-0

120— Hogue or Hauck

126—Mike Bartolo, jr., 30-9, 61-19

132— Joel Leise, fr., 0-0, 0-0

138—Alex DiGregorio, sr., 0-3, 36-40

145— Levi Stoyer, sr., 42-8, 54-26

152—Mason McCollum, sr., 28-15, 88-48

160—Austin Moffett, sr., 23-14, 53-45 or  
Kegan Miller, sr., 0-2, 0-2

170—Mike Millero, jr., 22-14, 22-15

182—Trevor Griswold, sr., 0-1, 0-1.

195—Denton Zeronas, sr., 13-16, 13-16

220—Robert Foulkrod, sr., 0-1, 0-2 or  
Cole Rickert, fr., 0-0, 0-0

285—Gene Ringer, so., 34-19, 34-19

**NOTE:** Final eliminations have not yet been held





Junior Mike Millero



Sophomore Gene Ringer

ers Mike Millero and Nick Nottingham. Other juniors are Jake Stoyer, James Slater and Ryan Zeronas.

Bartolo (126) has won 61 matches his first two seasons and is looking to add a little more consistency to his game. His win total would have been higher, but he missed the start of his sophomore season with an injury.

Millero (170) is on the verge of becoming one of the real stars of the team. He won 22 matches as a sophomore even though he missed nearly all of December with an injury. If Millero continues to improve at his current pace he will be a beast.

"I look forward to Bartolo and Millero showing that there impressive sophomore seasons were not a fluke," Taylor said. "These two young men are hungry for the action to kick off this season."

Because of the uncommonly high level of "never-say-die" in the veins of Nottingham, he became one of Raider Nation's favorite wrestlers last season. He'll have a battle on his hands to crack the lineup at either 132 or 138 pounds this year, but with his determination, he simply can't be counted out. In addition, his abilities give Taylor some options with his dual-match lineup card.

Stoyer, Slater and Ryan Zeronas will all press for varsity time, though they are not expected to start. All have strong jayvee pedigrees.

Last year's freshman class was small with just three members, but Seth Hogue (113) and Gene Ringer (285) grew into monster contributors very quickly. Hogue became a state qualifier and missed placing by one match, and Ringer stormed out of the gate with a medal at the Ironman ended up wrestling 53 matches, winning 34 of them.

"Our bookends of last year - Seth and Gene - are battle tested and understand what is expected of them coming into the season. Both of these young men are capable of leaving Hershey with some hardware," Taylor said. "The staff is encouraged by the dedication that Seth

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Most Wins Last Season

(Returning Wrestlers)

Levi Stoyer, sr.	42
Gene Ringer, so.	34
Seth Hogue, so.	31
Mike Bartolo, jr.	30
Mason McCollum, sr.	28
Austin Moffett, sr.	23
Mike Millero, jr.	22
Nick Nottingham, jr.	15
Denton Zeronas, sr.	13

The **Reynolds Raiders** begin the 2013-14 season with an all-time dual-match record of:

# 722-84-2



Coach Taylor and the 2013-14 Seniors

made to the weight room and Gene has improved his offense in many ways that we hope will result in some very big wins throughout the season.”

Alec Reiter was the other freshman last year but he is joined by classmates Zach Huffman and Daniel Blayney. Huffman wrestled on the highly successful junior high team last year.

Freshmen Gage Bayless (106), Chaise Hauck (120) and Joel Leise (132) are looked at as favorites to start on opening night and Cole Rickert (220) is stalking a lineup spot, as well. Other freshmen on the roster include Andrew Osborne, Brik Bateman, Damion Gearhart and Ben Wilcox.

“On paper, this year’s freshmen class has as much *potential* as some of the all time great classes that we have had. They still have a lot to prove on the mat, but in the short time being on the varsity squad they have shown that they understand the amount of work that it will take to be very successful,” Taylor said. “The staff has already expressed to them that they are a key ingredient to the success of this year’s team; therefore, it is essential that they have a quick learning curve and wrestle with heart.”

Lastly, Coach Taylor was pleased to announce that former Raider Adam Matthews has been added to the varsity coaching staff. Matthews, a former PIAA runner-up and winner of 131 career matches, joins fellow assistants Joe Reichard, Michael Hills, Mark Bartolo and Marty Taylor in the Raiders’ coaching corner.

The Raiders are slated to open the season at home on Friday, Dec. 6. They will wrestle three-time defending District 10 Class AAA team champions McDowell on Tuesday, Dec. 10 before heading off to the Ironman Tournament on Dec. 13 and 14.

## 2013-14 Reynolds Wrestling Roster

### SENIORS

Alex DiGregorio	Alex McWherter
Robert Foulkrod	Kegan Miller
Tylor Gongloff	Austin Moffett
Trevor Griswold	Levi Stoyer
Mason McCollum	Denton Zeronas
Dustin McCurdy	

### JUNIORS

Michael Bartolo	James Slater
Michael Millero	Jake Stoyer
Nick Nottingham	Ryan Zeronas

### SOPHOMORES

Daniel Blayney	Alec Reiter
Seth Hogue	Gene Ringer
Zachary Huffman	

### FRESHMEN

Brik Bateman	Joel Leise
Gage Bayless	Andrew Osborne
Damion Gearhart	Cole Rickert
Chaise Hauck	Ben Wilcox





The 2013-14 Reynolds Wrestling Cheerleading Squad

## ALUMNI NEWS, continued

*(Continued from page 6)*

ranked Andrew Morse. He also had an exciting comeback victory against Rutgers, winning with a fall after trailing entering the third period.

Most recently, Matthews competed at the Northeast Duals where he turned in an impressive performance, going 3-0 with a fall to improve his season record to 7-1.

"Our team did well," Matthews said following his three wins in Albany. "Our team just keeps getting better and better every time out."

**Jamar Henry ('13)** is the starting 184 pounder for Mercyhurst North East. After dropping his first two matches at the Clarion open, Jamar rebounded to win three matches at the Laker open and has posted back-to-back dual meet wins. **Cam Cianci ('13)** has seen action at 149 for MNE. Cam continues to wrestle despite the injury to his lower leg. The training staff at MNE recently came up with a new taping procedure that has him optimistic for his wrestling future. He will look for his first collegiate win when his team travels to the Trailblazer open in Sanborn, NY on Dec. 7.

Meanwhile, Clint Morrison, son of former Raider **Tim Morrison ('78)** is a redshirt junior at Rider University. Clint has started his season 4-2 with a sixth place finish at the Keystone Classic as the Broncs' starting 184 pounder. Rider travels to Binghamton on Dec. 7 for a dual meet.



Mason Beckman and Austin Matthews are reunited at the Northeast Duals in Albany, NY.

In other alumni news ... **Corey Brown ('08)** is back for his second season as an assistant coach for Thiel College, where he was their first four-time All American as a student athlete. ... **Will Ringer ('09)**, who capped his career with his second PAC title last spring for Thiel, has joined the coaching staff at Doane College in Nebraska, where he is continuing his education. ... It has also been announced that **Adam Matthews ('11)** will join the Raiders' coaching staff as an assistant for Coach Casey Taylor. Adam was a state finalist for the Raiders and has competed for both North Carolina State University and Thiel College.



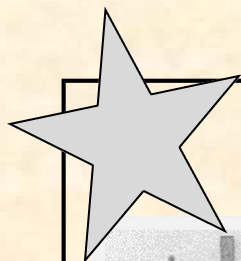
## Mark Bodo Inducted into PA Wrestling Hall of Fame

On Sunday, May 19, 2013, Mark Bodo became the third Reynolds Raider to be inducted into the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches' Association Hall of Fame. Mark was a 1993 PIAA State Champion and a three-time state place-winner with a career record of 137-21. At the University of Pittsburgh, Mark was a three-time Division I All-American (placing 6th, 4th and 6th) and won 106 matches. He remains one of the most-successful wrestlers in RHS and Pitt history and joins coach Neal Lineman and wrestler Casey Taylor in the PWCA Hall of Fame. Brian Hills, Neal Lineman and Rick Stoyer attended the ceremony as did Mark's parents, Ernie and Karen Bodo.



*congratulations!*





# The **Back** Page



**The Reynolds starting lineup from 1967-68**



## REYNOLDS WRESTLING MAG

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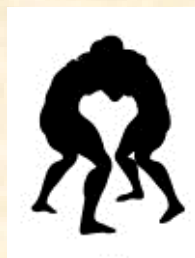
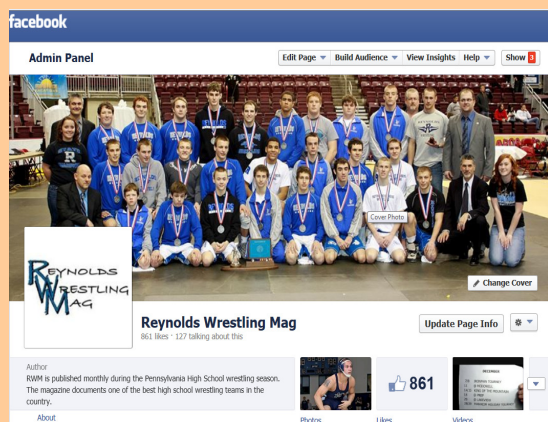
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### Do you Like me?



## REYNOLDS WRESTLING

### TRIVIA CORNER

**New Question:** What was the last year in which Reynolds failed to produce a state qualifier?

**Previous Question:** How many times has a Reynolds Wrestling coach been named PIAA Coach of the Year?

**Answer:** The answer is 5. Neal Lineman was twice named PIAA Coach of the Year, and Brian Hills won the award three times.

