

BAY (Panama City)

Coach: Mark Deaton, 5th year.

2021-22: 7-9 in duals. 20th at Border Wars IX, 15th at Allstate Wildcat (GA), 11th at Gator Brawl, 12th at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 27th at 36th Annual Flagler Rotary, T-16th at Clay Rotary.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: Did not qualify for region round; Traditional: District 5th, region 16th, T-49th at states. 2021 — Duals: 1-2 at districts; Traditional: District 5th, 21st at region. 2020 — Duals: District quarterfinalist; Traditional: District 5th, T-20th at region. 2019 — Duals: T-9th at district; Traditional: District 6th, T-21st at region, T-65th at states.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights):

David Drake (sophomore, 20-15 at 106, District 1 4th, 2-2 at Region 1); Leonardo Sanchez (junior, 31-15 at 113, District 1 champ, 2-2 at Region 1); Cameron Parrish (sophomore, 9-27 at 120, District 1 5th); Elijah Stillgess (senior, 26-20 at 126, District 1 runnerup, 1 match from states); Christen Patterson (sophomore, 7-20 at 132, District 1 6th); Deven Bradshaw (sophomore, 7-18 at 138, did not compete in post-season traditional); Nicholas Wood (junior, 6-26 at 152, District 1 5th); Shaun Sandidge (junior, 10-23 at 160, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); Dominick Gianfrancisco (junior, 3-8 at 170, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); Joshua Fine (senior, 8-21 at 182, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); David Lester-Sagehorn (junior, 4-16 at 285, District 1 6th).

Key addition (transfer): Derrick Williams (junior, 54-6 at 106, 2A-District 1 champ, 2A-Region 1 runnerup, 2A state 5th; transferred from Mosley).

Key losses (graduation): Corban Cherry (44-21 at 138, District 1 3rd, Region 1 4th, 1 match at state medal); Trenton Wood (18-12 at 145, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1).

Matmen's take: Tornados have been quietly putting a program together, with not only returning numbers on the rise each season, but also with more and more off-season work, and the results are starting to get statewide notice. Graduation losses do hit the program from a leadership standpoint, however.

BOZEMAN (Panama City)

Coach: Robert Dobbs, 2nd year.

2021-22: 3-12 in reported duals. 15th at Gator Brawl, 16th at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 9th at Spearfish Tournament.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: Did not qualify for region round; Traditional: District 7th, 26th at region. 2021 — Duals: Did not compete; Traditional: District 8th, T-28th at region. 2020 — Duals: District quarterfinalist; Traditional: District 6th, T-20th at region. 2019 — Duals: District T-5th; Traditional: District 10th, 23rd at region.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights):

Charles Kern (8th, 3-32 at 113, District 1 5th#, 0-2 at Region 1); Daniel Pierce (freshman, 20-16 at 132, District 1 5th); Jeremy Tavernier (junior, 7-23 at 138, District 1 5th#, 0-2 at Region 1); Bricen Surber (7th, 2-18 at 170, District 1 6th); Asher Burris (freshman, 11-17 at 220, District 1 runnerup, 1 match from states); Kerian Tripp (freshman, 7-20 at 285, District 1 5th); John Hagans (senior, 4-18 at 285, did not compete in post-season traditional).

Key additions (transfer): Tyler Johnson (freshman, 20-26 at 113, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1; transferred from Wewahitchka); Justin Johnson (senior, 33-21 at 126, District 1 4th, 1-2 at Region 1; transferred from Wewahitchka).

Key losses (graduation): William Groves (13-9 at 160, District 1 6th).

Matmen's take: Bucks lost just one starter to graduation in May, which is a good thing, but that one starter was one of only two regular starters with a better-than-.500 record last year. Getting more experience in the lineup would be beneficial; there was a base of prior experience that would certainly help as a start.

FREERPORT

Coach: Carey Nick, 1st year at school.

2021-22: No wrestling; new program in 2022-23.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: New program, did not compete; Traditional: New program, did not compete.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights): None.

Key losses (graduation): None.

Matmen's take: New programs are a tricky thing to start up, but the emphasis on club wrestling in the Panhandle has sparked more interest area-wide. Having an experienced hand at the wheel doesn't hurt either, as Nick brings years and years of head-coaching experience to the Bulldogs.

NORTH BAY HAVEN (Panama City)

Coach: Zane Turnipseed, 2nd year.

2021-22: 10-7 in reported duals. 5th at Cam Brown Seminole Classic, 6th at Ryan Blackwell Invitational, 6th at Gulf Shores Scramble, 12th at Gator Brawl, 5th at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 10th at Big Bend Invitational, 18th at Clay Rotary.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: Did not qualify for region round; Traditional: District 4th, region T-12th, T-27th at states. 2021 — Duals: Did not compete; Traditional: District 6th, region 19th, T-42nd at states. 2020 — Duals: District semifinalist; Traditional: District 7th, 27th at region. 2019 — Duals: District T-7th; Traditional: District 8th, 24th at region.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights):

Gavin Ricca (freshman, 17-15 at 106, District 1 5th); Caleb Fuster (8th, 18-11 at 113, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1); Zander Stillgess (freshman, 32-22 at 120, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Bodie Barlup (sophomore, 8-17* at 126, did not compete in post-season traditional); Will Lundgren (freshman, 17-16 at 132, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); Bryan Hurtado (senior, 17-18* at 138, did not compete in post-season traditional); Bear Siegal (freshman, 35-17 at 145, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Julian Hernandez (sophomore, 12-23 at 152, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); Jack Hauck (senior, 17-18 at 160, District 1 5th); Joseph Cox (senior, 12-24 at 170, District 1 5th); Peyton Saluto (8th, 11-16 at 182, District 1 5th); David Mercado (junior, 56-3 at 195, District 1 champ, Region 1 champ, 1A state 4th); Logan McAlister (sophomore, 38-15 at 220, District 1 champ, 2-2 at Region 1); Kam D'Niroux (sophomore, 26-20 at 285, District 1 4th, did not compete at regions-injury).

Key losses (graduation): Tristan Le' (26-20 at 126, District 1 3rd, 0-2 at Region 1); Evan Cox (3-7* at 132, did not compete in post-season traditional).

* -- *incomplete records due to missing results*

Matmen's take: Buccaneers took many strides as a team last year, growing together as a group, but expectations for the young group may have been premature. With just one graduation loss, however, the performance this group may put on could match those expectations. Individual successes will certainly be on the table either way.

ROCKY BAYOU CHRISTIAN (Niceville)

Coach: Kevin Walsh, 7th year.

2021-22: 7-9 in reported duals. 16th at Border Wars IX, 13th at Ryan Blackwell Invitational, 5th at Gator Brawl, 8th at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 3rd at Spearfish Tournament.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: District runnerup, region quarterfinalist; Traditional: District runnerup, region 19th. 2021 — Duals: District runnerup, region quarterfinalist; Traditional:

District 3rd, region 20th. 2020 — Duals: District quarterfinalist; Traditional: District 4th, 19th at region, T-48th at states. 2019 — Duals: District T-7th; Traditional: District 5th, 17th at region, T-42nd at states.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights):

Wyatt Moore (8th, 20-12 at 106, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Thomas Pluhar (freshman, 25-25 at 113, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Clay Nelson (8th, 18-11 at 120, District 1 3rd, 0-2 at Region 1); Elijah Chapman (8th, 6-11 at 120, did not compete in post-season traditional); Jeremiah Herron (7th, 8-28 at 126, District 1 5th); Carson Tingle (sophomore, 4-20 at 132/138, did not compete in post-season traditional); Ethan Heathershaw (sophomore, 30-9 at 138, District 1 4th, did not compete at regions); Owen Parry (junior, 17-23 at 152, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1).

Key losses (graduation): Luke Latham (42-7 at 132, District 1 champ, 1 match from states); Jaden Scruggs (24-20 at 160, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1); Peyton Andersen (34-17 at 170, District 1 champ, 2-2 at Region 1); Russell Merrifield (12-11 at 182, District 1 3rd, 0-2 at Region 1); Jeremiah O'Sullivan (23-21 at 195, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1).

Matmen's take: Knights did a good job of recruiting sufficient lowers to reach the region duals round, but couldn't replace bigs up top, and missed state IBT for second straight year. This year, there's a fair amount of returning ability in the lower half, but uppers across the board are needed in rebuilding effort.

RUTHERFORD (Panama City)

Coach: Jarod Melvin, 4th year.

2021-22: 9-9 in reported duals. 15th at Border Wars IX, 8th at Gator Brawl, 7th at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 12th at Big Bend Invitational, 4th at Spearfish Tournament.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: Did not qualify for region round; Traditional: District 3rd, region 20th, T-49th at states. 2021 — Duals: District 4th; Traditional: District runnerup, region 12th, T-42nd at states. 2020 — Duals: District quarterfinalist; Traditional: District 4th, 19th at region, T-48th at states. 2019 — Duals: District T-7th; Traditional: District 5th, 17th at region, T-42nd at states.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights):

Gabriel Breen (8th, 9-27 at 106, District 1 6th); Dylan Malott (junior, 18-10 at 106/113, did not compete in post-season traditional); Cyrus Nichols (junior, 15-30 at 120, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); Giovanni Vinczan (sophomore, 13-24 at 132, District 1 3rd, 0-2 at Region 1); Romero Black (senior, 53-6 at 138, District 1 champ, Region 1 3rd, 1 match from state medal); Camryn Jolly (senior, 7-17 at 138/145, did not compete in post-season traditional); Wyatt Griffin (senior, 6-23 at 145, District 1 5th); Seth'lyn Banks (senior, 9-14 at 152, did not compete in post-season traditional); Keaton Schirmer (senior, 28-9 at 160, District 1 champ, 2-2 at Region 1); Jacob Peace (sophomore, 12-10 at 160, did not compete in post-season traditional); Bryson Schirmer (senior, 17-10 at 182, District 1 champ, 1-2 at Region 1); Tyler Hall (sophomore, 8-13 at 182/195, did not compete in post-season traditional); Ty'quarius Oats (junior, 7-11 at 220, did not compete in post-season traditional); Edward Johnson (sophomore, 22-17 at 285, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1).

Key losses (graduation): Chad Allgood (15-4 at 170, District 1 runnerup, did not compete at regions-injured).

Matmen's take: Rams should have most if not all weights covered in 2022-23 behind a large group coming back, and have a good mix of youth and experience returning. Team should have some individual success either way, but the biggest step the entire group needs to take comes with added experience, and it should have that this year.

SOUTH WALTON (Santa Rosa Beach)

Coach: Travis Laxton, 4th year.

2021-22: 17-4 in reported duals. 10th at Border Wars IX, 4th at Ryan Blackwell Invitational, 17th at Gator Brawl, 3rd at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 9th at Big Bend Invitational, 10th at Clay Rotary.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: District champ, region quarterfinalist; Traditional: District champ, region 5th, state 15th. 2021 — Duals: District champ, region semifinalist; Traditional: District champ, region 8th, T-34th at states. 2020 — Duals: District runnerup, region quarterfinalist; Traditional: District runnerup, 16th at region, T-56th at states. 2019 — Duals: District runnerup, region quarterfinalist; Traditional: 4th at district, 6th at region, T-23rd at states.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights):

Isaac Brinson (sophomore, 38-12 at 126, District 1 champ, Region 1 3rd, 1 match from state medal); Gibson Moore (sophomore, 33-18 at 132, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Frank Bonjean (senior, 9-9 at 145, did not compete in post-season traditional); Chase Maas (senior, 26-22 at 152, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Kaden Shaw (sophomore, 11-12 at 182, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1); Nick Lee (senior, 47-11 at 285, District 1 champ, Region 1 runnerup, state 8th).

Key losses (graduation): Brett Canut (30-15 at 106, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1); Max Brewster (55-1 at 120, District 1 champ, Region 1 champ, state CHAMPION); Ryan Kurfirist (28-15 at 138, District 1 runnerup, 0-2 at Region 1); Dylan Billingsley (37-8 at 145, District 1 champ, 1 match from states); John Lopez (27-25 at 160, District 1 runnerup, 2-2 at Region 1); Shane Lane (13-19 at 170, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1); Elijah Ramirez (19-17 at 195, District 1 runnerup, 1-2 at Region 1).

Matmen's take: Seahawks return a solid group, but a smaller group than in past years. They have a lot of starters to replace, a larger group than in past years. If anybody's going to get them, this might be the year to do it, but they've established enough of a tradition that they're the favorite until proven otherwise.

WEWAHITCHKA

Coach: Tracy Malcolm, 14th year.

2021-22: 8-10 in reported duals. 17th at Border Wars IX, 9th at Ryan Blackwell Invitational, 9th at Gator Brawl, 11th at 3rd Annual George Mulligan Memorial, 13th at Big Bend Invitational, 4th at Timberwolf XIII.

Post-season stats (last 3 years): 2022 — Duals: Did not qualify for region round; Traditional: District 6th, 21st at region. 2021 — Duals: District T-7th; Traditional: District 7th, 24th at region. 2020 — Duals: District quarterfinalist; Traditional: District 8th, 26th at region. 2019 — Duals: District T-9th; Traditional: District 7th, 19th at region, T-54th at states.

Projected key returners (15+ matches or post-season experience last year, with 2021-22 weights): Jake Parker (sophomore, 45-10 at 106, District 1 champ, 2-2 at Region 1); Wesley Spencer (8th, 4-23 at 120, District 1 6th); Luke Bryan (8th, 1-10 at 132, 0-2 at District 1); Jarrett Spencer (junior, 18-25 at 145, District 1 4th, 0-2 at Region 1); Conner Roberts (senior, 28-11 at 152, District 1 champ, 2-2 at Region 1); Brody Speegle (8th, 4-26 at 160, 0-2 at District 1); Joey Salerno (senior, 8-11 at 182, did not compete in post-season traditional); James Hardy (freshman, 5-13 at 220, District 1 3rd, 1-2 at Region 1).

Key losses (graduation): Braxton Durden (10-16 at 195/220, did not compete in post-season traditional); Briceson Davis (23-30 at 285, District 1 3rd, 0-2 at Region 1).

Matmen's take: Gators rebuilt some with a lot of new faces last year, and the result was solid performance from the experience and some growing pains for the newcomers. An additional year should help with some of that. Group will need some help in uppers to be a team contender, but could see a return to state tournament.