

Bentley Signs Three Wrestling Recruits

Written by Paul Blascovich
Tuesday, 06 December 2011 13:12

Appalachian State wrestling head coach JohnMark Bentley has announced the signing of three new student-athletes

for the 2012-13 season. Elijah Hull, Travis Morgan and Jake Smith have signed National Letters of Intent and will join the Mountaineers on the mats next fall.

Elijah Hull • Camden, W.Va. • Lewis County • proj. 157

Hull is a three-time placewinner at the West Virginia AAA championships at 152 pounds, winning titles in 2009 and '11 with a third-place showing in '10. He captured the 2011 Flonational Wrestling crown at 145 pounds with a dominating tech. fall win in the championship final. Hull posted a 47-1 record in his junior season.

Travis Morgan • Stillwater, Okla. • Stillwater • proj. 285

Entering his senior season, Morgan is a three-time Oklahoma state finalist and three-time all-conference honoree. He has posted a 77-7 record through three seasons and has won titles at both the Reno Tournament of Champions and Perry Tournament of Champions. Morgan was also runner-up at the 2011 NHSCA Junior National Championship.

At the club level, Morgan has notched Oklahoma state and Southern Plains regional championships while competing with the Cowboy Wrestling Club. He is ranked among the d1collegewrestling.net top-150 recruiting class.

Jake Smith • Newark, Calif. • Newark Memorial • proj. 125

Originally competing with Robinson, Va., Smith was a three-time Virginia AAA state finalist and won the state title in 2011 at 119 pounds. He has placed in numerous high-profile tournaments,

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including the 2009 Super 32 and 2010 Beast of the East. In his senior season, his wins have already included a win against Rossi Bruno (Brandon, Fla.), regarded as the nation's No. 1 wrestler in the class by some sources.

The current Mountaineers are back in action on Saturday, Dec. 10 when they travel to face Ohio. The match will be held at noon in the Ohio University Convocation Center.

Photo Courtesy: John Mark Bentley, Meghan Gay, ASU Athletics