

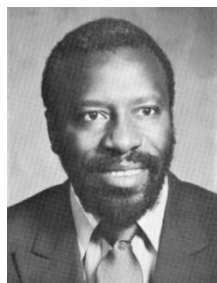


# HILLTOPPER All-Americans

## National Champions

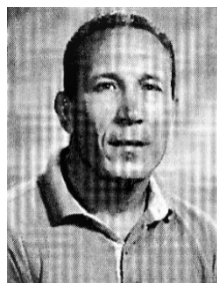


1962



**Bobby Douglas**  
(130 Pounds - NAIA)

1979



**Dave LaMotte**  
(150 Pounds - NAIA)

1994



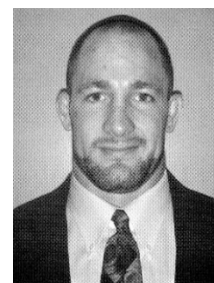
**Brian Davis**  
(177 Pounds - NAIA)

1995



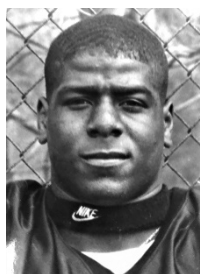
**Branden Hinkle**  
(190 Pounds - NAIA)

1996



**Scott Shipman**  
(177 Pounds - NCAA)

1997



**James Branch**  
(150 Pounds - NCAA)

2001



**Nick Spencer**  
(149 Pounds - NCAA)

2009



**Doug Surra**  
(141 Pounds - NCAA)

2021



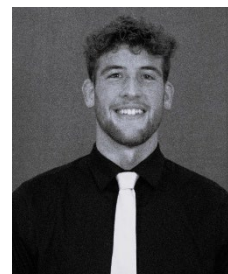
**Tyler Warner**  
(133 Pounds - NCAA)

2021-2022



**Cole Laya**  
(125 Pounds - NCAA)

2023-2025



**Ty McGeary**  
(184 Pounds - NCAA)

## Hilltopper All-Americans



Year	Wrestler	Nationals
1962	Bobby Douglas	130 (Champion)
1966	Richard Bane	123 (6th)
	Thomas Pugliese	130 (6th)
1972	John Craig	158 (Runner-Up)
1976	Rick Link	190 (6th)
1977	Jeff Carroll	142 (Runner-Up)
1978	Dave LaMotte	150 (3rd)
1979	Dave LaMotte	150 (Champion)
	Troy Owens	118 (7th)
1981	Brian Edison	177 (Runner-Up)
	John Lower	150 (6th)
1982	Brian Edison	177 (Runner-Up)
	Randy Pryor	126 (8th)
1983	Randy Pryor	126 (6th)
	Rich Schoene	190 (6th)
	Dave DeLande	142 (7th)

1984	Rich Schoene	190 (3rd)
	Rick Crosier	158 (5th)
1985	Bryan Bunch	118 (4th)
	Dave DeLande	150 (4th)
	Rick Crosier	158 (5th)
	John Blangor	142 (6th)
	Jeff Walker	167 (8th)
1986	Dave DeLande	158 (Runner-Up)
	Scott Schenerlein	177 (Runner-Up)
	Bryan Bunch	118 (3rd)
1987	Scott Schenerlein	177 (Runner-Up)
	Bryan Bunch	126 (3rd)
	Bryan Driscoll	167 (3rd)
1988	Bryan Driscoll	167 (3rd)
1990	Tom Moore	HWT (3rd)
	Vinnie Monseau	142 (4th)
1991	Tom Moore	HWT (3rd)
	Vinnie Monseau	142 (5th)
	Eric Nicolella	150 (5th)
	Mark Mlynek	158 (6th)
1992	Tom Moore	HWT (Runner-Up)
	Brian Davis	177 (3rd)
	Vinnie Monseau	142 (4th)
1993	Brian Davis	177 (3rd)

	Eric Nicolella	142 (6th)
	Jeff Stone	150 (6th)
1994	Brian Davis	177 (Champion)
	Jeff Stone	150 (5th)
	Branden Hinkle	190 (6th)
	Scott Shipman	158 (7th)
	Jeff Smith	126 (8th)
	Rick Merzouk	HWT (8th)
1995	Branden Hinkle	190 (Champion)
	Scott Shipman	167 (Runner-Up)
	James Branch	142 (8th)
	Jeff Stone	150 (4th)
	Richard Foston	158 (6th)
	Brian Davis	177 (3rd)
	Robert Clayton	HWT (3rd)
	Rick Merzouk	HWT (6th)
1963	Bobby Douglas	130 (Runner-Up)
1996	Scott Shipman	177 (Champion)
	Branden Hinkle	190 (Runner-Up)
	James Branch	150 (3rd)
	Robert Clayton	HWT (5th)
	Richard Foston	158 (7th)



# HILLTOPPER All-Americans

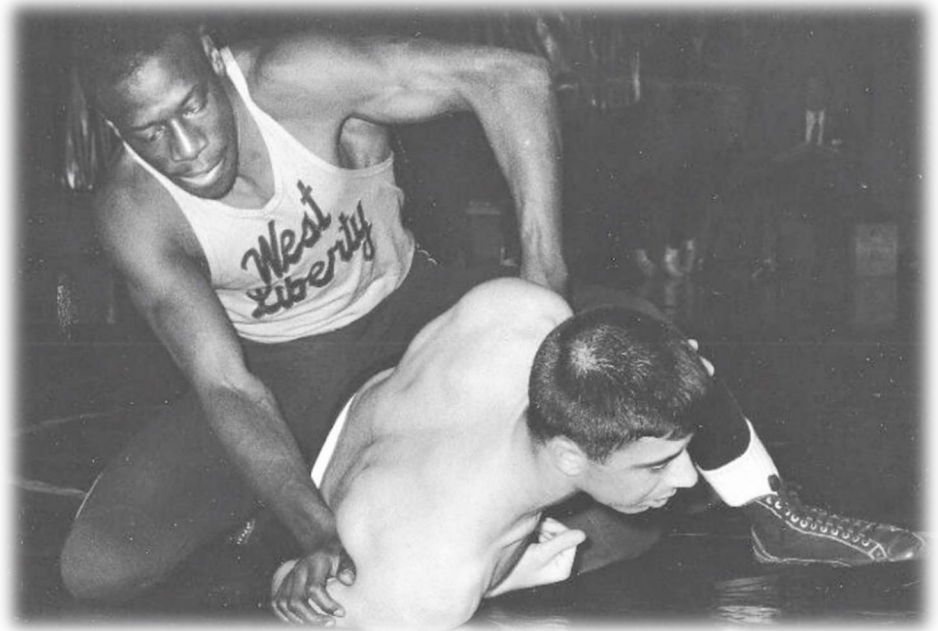
## Legends of the Hilltop



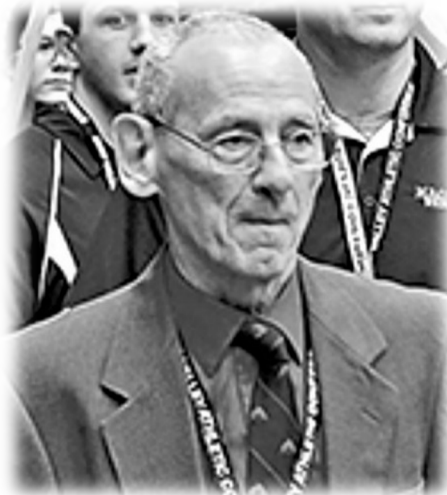
NCAA **WRESTLING**

1997	James Branch.....	150 (Champion)
	Richard Foston .....	158 (6th)
	Scott Shipman .....	177 (6th)
1999	Steve Massouh.....	174 (7th)
	Josh Waugh .....	197 (8th)
2000	Nick Spencer .....	149 (6th)
	Josh Waugh .....	197 (6th)
	Wes Watson .....	133 (8th)
2001	Nick Spencer .....	149 (Champion)
	Wes Watson .....	133 (5th)
	Jeff LaMotte.....	165 (7th)
	Ryan Courtney.....	184 (7th)
	Matt LaMotte.....	157 (8th)
2003	Aaron Monseau.....	149 (6th)
2004	Luke Main .....	157 (4th)
2005	Luke Main .....	157 (5th)
	Tommy Clark .....	174 (8th)
2006	Tommy Clark .....	174 (6th)
2007	Doug Surra.....	141 (4th)
2008	Chris Gibbs.....	174 (6th)
	Doug Surra .....	141 (7th)
2009	Doug Surra.....	141 (Champion)
	Mitch Smith .....	157 (4th)
2010	Mitch Knapp .....	197 (5th)
	Mitch Smith .....	149 (7th)
2011	Mitch Knapp .....	197 (Runner-Up)
2012	Jarrod Shaw.....	157 (Runner-Up)
	J.D. Ramsey.....	285 (8th)
2018	Darius Bunch.....	133 (4th)
2020	Cole Laya*.....	125 (Vote)
2021	Cole Laya .....	125 (Champion)
	Tyler Warner .....	133 (Champion)
	Connor Craig.....	184 (Runner-Up)
	Francesco Borsellino.....	285 (7th)
2022	Cole Laya .....	125 (Champion)
	Tyler Warner .....	141 (4 <sup>th</sup> )
	Ty McGeary .....	174 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
	Connor Craig.....	184 (Runner-Up)
	Logan Kemp .....	197 (8 <sup>th</sup> )
2023	Cole Laya .....	125 (8 <sup>th</sup> )
	Vincent Scollo.....	133 (6 <sup>th</sup> )
	Alec Cook .....	165 (6 <sup>th</sup> )
	Ty McGeary .....	184 (Champion)
2024	Khyvon Grace .....	141(7 <sup>th</sup> )
	Ty McGeary .....	184 (Champion)
2025	Khyvon Grace .....	141(Runner-Up)
	Ty McGeary .....	184(Champion)

\*-The 2020 All-America Team was selected by vote



Bobby Douglas was West Liberty's first national champion, winning the 130-pound title as a freshman at the 1962 NAIA Nationals. Douglas was the NCAA 130-pound runner-up the following year before transferring to Oklahoma State for his final two seasons. A two-time U.S. Olympian and five-time national freestyle champion, Douglas retired in 1970 with a record of 303-17-7 dating back to his high school days. An outstanding coach at the collegiate and international levels, Douglas coached multiple U.S. Olympic teams and won more than 400 dual meets at Arizona State and Iowa State. His wrestlers won 23 NCAA titles, 162 NCAA All-America citations and 99 conference championships.



A former three-sport athlete on the hilltop, **DR. VINCE MONSEAU** cemented West Liberty's place on the national stage during a 32-year coaching career. From 1973-2004, Monseau's wrestlers posted eight Top 10 national finishes and posted a 359-221-7 dual meet record with 72 All-Americans, 34 NWCA All-America Scholar-Athletes and 6 national champions. Dr. Monseau is a member of the West Liberty, OVAC, National Wrestling, NCAA D2 Wrestling and NAIA Halls of Fame.



Bobby Douglas' high school coach, Hall of Famer **GEORGE KOVALICK** started the West Liberty wrestling program in 1961 by coaching Douglas to an NAIA national title and never looked back. Kovalick added the football head coaching job in 1963, leading West Liberty to a West Virginia Conference championship, and guided the 1964 baseball team to an NAIA World Series title. He is a member of the West Liberty, OVAC, Kent State and National Wrestling Halls of Fame.