



2002-2003 MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING PREVIEW

Despite an 11th place finish at the Big East Championships one season ago, one aspect that remained a constant for the Villanova men's swimming & diving all season long was its marked improvement. Losing only two seniors to graduation, head coach Rick Simpson has the base of his team back. With this core and a strong group of newcomers added to the fold, the Wildcats are hoping for bigger and better things in 2002-2003.

Sprint freestyle is an event in which Villanova appears to be very deep. Senior Pete Klimas will lead the sprint corps this season. He returns after a phenomenal year where he finished at the Big East Championships and came within tenths of a second of setting new university records. Sophomore Bill Serencsits will add depth behind Klimas in that area.

Several freshmen will also add depth to the sprint freestyle events, including Mike and Matt McLaughlin, Matt Noble, and Dave Filepp. In addition, sophomore Mark Niziol has returned after a leave of absence and an outstanding summer of hard training.

In the distance freestyle events, the trio of Bryan Rivera, Ryan Costella, and Jamie Wolczynski will again carry the distance responsibilities. Rivera has really developed over the past year, and after a summer that included international competition for his native Puerto Rico, he has the ability to excel at the Big East level.

The butterfly events will be led by seniors Adam Walchak and Andrew Harbuck, with both looking to once again dominate both the 100 and 200 yard events. Harbuck has developed into a Big East scorer over the course of his career. Harbuck will see the majority of his action in the 100 yard fly, while Walchak will focus equally on both events.

In the breaststroke, both Justin Buland and Harbuck are coming off of great top eight finishes. Both athletes exceeded expectations at the conference championships last season and even bigger things will now be expected of them this season.

Backstroke will again be anchored by Buland. Mike Phinney



Villanova seniors (clockwise from left): Adam Walchak, Andrew Harbuck, Peter Klimas, and Justin Buland.

and newcomer Jim Harrell will provide solid counterparts for Buland in both the 100 and 200 yard backstrokes.

As a program that follows an IM (individual medley) based training philosophy, the ability of several athletes to swim the IM events is an asset. Top scoring prospects in the 200 IM are Harbuck, Walchak and Buland, while Costella will look to score in the 400 IM.

Once again, the relays will continue to be the focal points of the men's success. With solid performers in all four strokes, the 200 and 400 yard medley relays will be the strongest of the five relays at the conference level. Historically, the 200 and 400 yard freestyle relay teams have also brought much success for the Wildcats. This will again be the case with senior and Big East sprint finalist Klimas leading the way.

The Wildcat diving corps will be led by rookie Colin May who comes to the Main Line with an extensive background at the junior diving level.



In the distance freestyle events, Ryan Costella will again help carry the distance responsibilities.



ATHLETE PROFILES



JUSTIN BULAND

SENIOR • BREASTSTROKE
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
LAWRENCE CENTRAL H.S.

Villanova: One of the team's top breaststroke swimmers...Made a name for himself at the 2002 Big East Championships with a top eight finish...Will anchor the backstroke events...A top scoring prospect in the IM events for the 'Cats. **2001-2002:**

Placed sixth in the 200 yard breaststroke (2:04.78) at the Big East Championships...Big East finalist in the 100 yard breaststroke (57.57)...Had team best in the 200 breaststroke last season, swimming a 56.97 at the Big East Championships...Team-leader in the 100 backstroke, swimming a 53.56 at the Big East Championships. **2000-2001:** Helped several Villanova relay teams to Big East finals appearances, including the Wildcat 200 and 400 yard medley relay teams...Had Villanova team-highs in the 100 yard (53.88) and 200 yard (2:03.77) backstroke events, the 200 yard breaststroke (2:08.52), and the 200 yard IM (1:56.37) in 2000-2001. **1999-2000:** Big East finalist in the 100 yard (57.80) and 200 yard (2:06.20) breaststrokes...Helped lead the 400 yard medley relay team to a seventh place finish at the Big East Championships (3:25.87).

Lawrence Central High School: Earned four varsity letters in swimming for head coach Andy Renie and two letters in soccer for head coach Jorge Berry...Team Most Valuable Player in each of his last three seasons of swimming at Lawrence Central...Garnered All-State honors in swimming as a junior and senior...Won the Jake Luther Scholarship Award.

Personal: Comprehensive Science major...Oldest of three children of Mike and Jan Buland...Born 12/26/80.



RYAN COSTELLA

JUNIOR • DISTANCE FREESTYLE
CARSON CITY, NEVADA
CARSON H.S.

Villanova: Will help anchor the Wildcats' in the distance freestyle events this season...A top scoring prospect in the IM events for Villanova...Wildcat co-captain. **2001-2002:** Swam a season-best 4:49.73 in the 500 yard freestyle at UVa...Posted a season-best

time of 10:06.15 versus St. John's...Recorded a season best time of 16:31.21 at the Rutgers University Invitational...Tallied a 2:06.09 in the 200 butterfly versus UConn and Seton Hall, marking his season-best in that event...Finished first in the 1650 yard freestyle at the Rutgers Invitational with a time of 16:31.21. **2000-2001:** One of the team's top distance freestyle swimmers last season...Posted top times in the 200 yard freestyle (1:47.65), the 500 yard freestyle (4:43.94) and the 1,650 yard freestyle (16:23.28) at the Princeton Invitational...Had a season-best time of 9:58.94 in the 1000 yard freestyle versus Maryland and Howard.

Carson High School: Earned four varsity letters in swimming for world renowned head coach Jack Simon...Carson Aquatic Club Swimmer of the Year in 1996-97 and 1997-98...Carson High School Swimmer of the Year in 2000...Hardest Worker Award recipient at the Olympic Training Center Camp...Member of the Junior National Team in the 800 and 1,500 in 2000, finishing 25th in the 1,500...Four-time Scholar Athlete award winner...National Honor Society member...Earned five All-State Academic Team accolades.

Personal: Political Science/ English Chinese major...One of six children of Daniel and Heather Costella...Born 11/15/81.



ANDREW HARBUCK

SENIOR • BREASTSTROKE/BUTTERFLY/IM
OVIEDO, FLA.
LAKE HIGHLAND PREP

Villanova: One of the team's top breaststroke and butterfly swimmers...A top scoring prospect in the IM events for the Wildcats...A Big East finalist in each of his first three seasons on the Main Line.

2001-2002: Finished fifth in the 200 yard breaststroke (2:04.65) at the Big East Championships...Big East finalist in the 200 yard IM (1:52.95)...Team-leader in the 200 breaststroke last season, swimming a 2:03.80 at the Big East Championships. **2000-2001:** A Big East finalist in the 200 yard individual medley (1:53.58)...Helped the 'Cats to an eighth place finish in the 800 yard free relay at the Big East Championships...Made the Big East finals in the 200 yard breaststroke (2:07.04). **1999-2000:** Outstanding freshman campaign...Had the top time on the Wildcats in both the 200 IM (1:53.06) and 400 IM (4:12.50), the 200 breaststroke (2:06.04), and the 200 yard backstroke (2:03.13)...Placed sixth in the 200 IM at the Big East Championships (1:53.06)...Eighth in the 200 yard breaststroke (2:06.20) at conference championships.

Lake Highland Prep: Earned six varsity letters in swimming for head coach Mike Curley and one in baseball...Three-time Lake Highland Prep team Most Valuable Player...Won both the Coaches Award and the Booster Award during his prep career...Served as swim team captain for four years...Member of the National Honor Society in each of his final two years.

Personal: Communications major...Youngest of three children of Jim and Carmen Harbuck...Born 9/15/80.



Justin Buland



ATHLETE PROFILES



PETER KLIMAS

SENIOR • SPRINT FREESTYLE
CHERRY HILL, N.J.
CHERRY HILL EAST H.S.

Villanova: Will anchor the team's sprint corps this season...Big East finalist...Co-captain. **2001-2002:** Big East finalist in both the 50 yard freestyle (21.14) and the 200 yard freestyle (1:42.34)...Had team bests in three events on the season: 20.85 in the 50 yard freestyle at the Big East Championships, 46.36 in the 100 freestyle at UVa, and 1:41.80 in the 200 yard freestyle at the Big East Championships. **2000-2001:** Big East finalist in the 50 yard freestyle (21.14)...Swam in the 200 yard freestyle relay, the 200 yard medley relay, the 400 yard freestyle relay, and the 800 yard freestyle relay at the Big East Championships...Had Villanova top time in the 50 yard freestyle (21.14), and was second in the 100 (47.08) yard freestyle. **1999-2000:** Amongst the top times on the team in the 50, 100 and 200 yard freestyles...Big East finalist in the 200 yard freestyle with a time of 1:44.79...Had his top season times in all three freestyle events at the Big East Conference Championships.

Cherry Hill East: Earned four varsity letters in swimming...Captain of his high school swim team at Cherry Hill East...Received All-Conference honors a total of seven times...Graduated Magna Cum Laude...Was named Scholar Athlete as a senior for all sports at Cherry Hill East...Tallied Academic All-American honors.

Personal: Engineering major...Older of two sons of Mark and Lorna Klimas...Born 6/8/81.



MARK NIZIOL

SOPHOMORE • DISTANCE FREESTYLE
PATERSON, N.J.
SETON HALL PREP

Villanova: Returning after a leave of absence... Outstanding summer of training...Will contribute in the freestyle. **2001-2002:** Did not compete.

Seton Hall Prep: Earned four letters in swimming and two in soccer...Received All-Essex County and third team All-Parochial honors in the 400 freestyle relay...Iron Hills Conference first team in swimming...All-Essex honorable mention in soccer.

Personal: Undecided on college major...Youngest of four children of John and Barbara Niziol...Born 6/14/83.



MICHAEL PHINNEY

SOPHOMORE • BACKSTROKE/FREESTYLE/IM
YARDLEY, PA.
HOLY GHOST PREP

Villanova: Will add depth for the Wildcats in the backstroke and freestyle events. **2001-2002:** Swam well for Villanova as a freshman last season...Team leader in the 200 backstroke, swimming a 1:59.38 at the Rutgers Invitational...Had a season-best time of 2:08.70 in the 200 yard individual medley versus St. John's...Posted a season-best 4:29.97 in the 400 yard individual medley at Notre Dame.

Holy Ghost Prep: Letterwinner in swimming, golf and basketball...Earned All-State honorable mention in swimming...Finished 11th at the state tournament...Holds the school records in the 100 yard backstroke and the 400 yard freestyle relay...Honors student.

Personal: Business major...Older of two children of Greg and Margaret Mary Phinney...Born 11/4/82.



KEVIN QUINN

SOPHOMORE • SPRINT FREESTYLE
WHITEHOUSE POINT, FLA.
MONTCLAIR KIMBERLY ACADEMY

Villanova: Will add depth for head coach Rick Simpson and the Wildcats in the sprint freestyle events this season. **2001-2002:** Swam a season-best time of 49.54 in the 100 yard freestyle at the Rutgers University Invitational...Posted a season-best mark of 1:00.04 in the 100 backstroke versus St. John's.

Montclair Kimberly Academy: Received four varsity letters in both swimming and golf...Second team All-State in the 400 yard freestyle relay in 2001...Earned All-County and All-Conference honors all four years...All-State golfer in Parochial B in 2001...Three-time All-Conference golfer...1999 County golf champion...Honor roll student.

Personal: Liberal Arts major...Oldest of five children of Kevin and Jeanne Quinn...Born 5/21/83.



ATHLETE PROFILES



BRYAN RIVERA

SOPHOMORE • MIDDLE/DISTANCE FREESTYLE
CATANO, PUERTO RICO
COLEGIO SAN IGNACIO

Villanova: Has developed tremendously over the past year...Competed internationally this past summer for his native Puerto Rico...Possesses the ability to excel at the Big East level. **2001-2002:** Swam a season-best time of 1:44.10 in the 200 yard freestyle

at the Rutgers Invitational...Team-leader in the 500 yard freestyle last season, swimming a 4:39.77 at UVa...Posted a season-best 16:40.15 in the 1650 yard freestyle at the Rutgers Invitational.

Colegio San Ignacio: President of the National Honor Society...Model UN Environmental Conference Peer Minister...Team MVP in each of his last two seasons...Member of the Puerto Rican Junior National Team.

Personal: Political Science major...Youngest of three children of Irma Lopez... Born 3/30/84.



BILL SERENCSITS

SOPHOMORE • FREESTYLE
STATE COLLEGE, PA.
STATE COLLEGE AREA H.S.

Villanova: Will contribute in the sprint freestyle events for the Wildcats this season. **2001-2002:** Among the team leaders in the sprint freestyle events, swimming personal season best times of 22.96 in the 500 free at UVa, 49.40 in the 100 free at

the Rutgers Invitational, and 1:47.15 in the 200 free at the Rutgers Invitational.

State College Area: Lettered four times in swimming, three times in cross country and once in track...All-State in the 400 yard freestyle relay in 2001...Team captain in 2000-2001...Won the Coaches Award in 2001...Two-time PIAA State Championship Qualifier...National Merit Scholar honorable mention.

Personal: Mechanical Engineering major...Son of William and Colleen Serencsits...Born 10/5/82.



ADAM WALCHAK

SENIOR • BUTTERFLY/IM
MEDIA, PA.
PENNCREST H.S.

Villanova: One of the team's most dominating performers in the butterfly events...A top scoring prospect in the IM events for the `Cats...Developing into one of the top butterfly swimmers in the Big East. **2001-2002:** Big East finalist in both the 200

yard butterfly (1:55.24) and the 200 yard IM (1:53.95)...Team leader in the 100 yard butterfly with a time of 50.90 at the Big East Championships...Led the Wildcat team in the 200 Im wwith a time of 1:52.90 at the Big East Championships...Swam a team-best 1:54.08 in the 200 yard butterfly at the Big East Championships. **2000-2001:** Competed in the medley relay events for the `Cats at the Big East Championships...Team's top performer in the 100 (51.90) and 200 (1:55.57) yard butterfly events last season. **1999-2000:** Among the team leaders in both the 100 and 200 yard butterfly events as well as the 200 yard IM...Had his top season times in each of those events at the 2000 Big East Conference Championships...Strong showings in both the 100 and 200 yard butterflys at conference championships.

Penncrest: Earned four varsity letters in swimming at Penncrest...Received All-America honors in the butterfly during his prep career...Tallied a top 16 time along with his fellow Suburban Swim Team members in the 4x100 medley relay...An honor roll and Renaissance Student during all four years...National Merit Scholar.

Personal: Biology major...Older of two children of Paul and Jeanne Walchak...Born 12/11/81.



JAMES WOLCZYNSKI

JUNIOR • DISTANCE FREESTYLE
VALRICO, FLA.
BERKELEY PREP

Villanova: One of the team's top distance freestyle swimmers...Big East finalist in each of his first two seasons. **2001-2002:** Big East finalist in the 500 yard freestyle (4:43.34) last season...Team leader in the 1000 yard freestyle, swimming a 10:04.90 at La

Salle...Posted a team season-best 16:15.84 in the 1650 yard freestyle at UVa. **2000-2001:** Competed for Villanova in the 800 freestyle relay at the Big East Championships... Big East finalist in the 1,650 yard freestyle, placing seventh with a time of 15:53.47...The team's top distance performer, posting season-best times in the 1000 yard freestyle (9:51.91) versus Penn State, and in the 1,650 yard freestyle (15:53.47) at the Big East Championships.

Berkeley Prep: Earned one varsity letter in swimming for head coach Cindy Boss...Won the Coaches Award as a senior...Helped Berkeley Prep win four straight District titles...Sunshine State record holder in the 200 and 800 and 1500 meter freestyles...School record holder in the 500 freestyle...Junior Olympic Record Holder in the 800 and 1,650 free...Four-year member of the Dean's List.

Personal: Civil Engineering major...Younger of two children of Chet and JoAnne Wolczynski...Born 8/4/82.

V

NEWCOMERS



DAVE FILEPP

FRESHMAN • FLY/SPRINT FREE/BACK
MILLBURN, N.J.
MILLBURN H.S.

Millburn High School: Four-year letterwinner in swimming...Also lettered in track and lacrosse...Team captain as a senior.
Personal: Computer Science major...Oldest of three children of Robert and Catherine Filepp...Born

12/10/83.



JAMES HARRELL

FRESHMAN • BACKSTROKE/SPRINT FREESTYLE
NORWOOD, PA.
CARDINAL O'HARA H.S.

Cardinal O'Hara High School: Four-time All-Catholic League performer...Second team All-DELCO...Earned High School All-America honors twice (first team and honorable mention)...Led team to a sixth place finish at Easterns as a senior...Team

captain as a senior.
Personal: Undecided on college major...Youngest of three children of James and Monica Harrell...Born 10/25/02.



COLIN MAY

FRESHMAN • DIVING
GREENWICH, CONN.
FAIRFIELD PREP

Fairfield Prep: Four-year varsity letter-winner in swimming & diving...Member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society...Placed seventh in the 2001 Connecticut State Open Preliminaries and 12th overall.

Personal: Pre-Med major...Youngest of seven children of Cary and Mona May...Born 9/22/02.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN

FRESHMAN • SPRINT FREESTYLE/BACKSTROKE
PAWLING, N.Y.
OUR LADY OF LOURDES H.S.

Our Lady of Lourdes: Lettered four times in swimming...National Scholar-Athlete Award winner in 1998-2002...Four-time winner of the New York State Scholar Athlete Award...Member of the New York State Champion Scholar Athlete Swim Team in

1998-1999...Elected to the Who's Who among America's High School Students and Athletes in 2001-2002...State Finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award in 2001-2002...Four-time All-League and All-Section Swim Team Member...All-State performer three times.
Personal: Undecided on major...One of four children of William & Rebecca McLaughlin...Twin brother Matt is also a freshman on the Villanova swim team...Born 1/22/84.



MATT McLAUGHLIN

FRESHMAN • SPRINT FREESTYLE
PAWLING, N.Y.
OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Our Lady of Lourdes High School: Lettered four times in swimming and golf...An All-League, All-Section and All-County performer all four years...Two-time member of the All-State squad...Holds four high school team record...Anchored several relay teams to sectional championships...An All-League and All-Country golfer as well...2001-2002 Our Lady of Lourdes High School Athlete of the Year...Four-time New York State Scholar Athlete for golf and swimming...A member of the NYS Scholar Athlete State Champion in 1998-1999...In the National Honors Society.

Personal: Undecided on college major...One of four children of William and Rebecca McLaughlin...Twin brother, Mike, also swims for Villanova...Born 1/22/84.



MATT NOBLE

FRESHMAN • SPRINT FREESTYLE/IM
QUEENSBURY, N.Y.
QUEENSBURY H.S.

Queensbury High School: Four-year varsity letter-winner in swimming...New York State All-Scholars Team all four years...A second team Foothills Council All-Star as a sophomore...Named to the Foothill Council All-Star first team in each of his last two seasons...Team MVP as a senior...Team co-captain in 2001-2002...Part of the school record in the 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams.

Personal: Finance major...One of two sons of Patrick and Lenore Noble...Born 9/7/83.