

Coby Wright CSUB Wrestling Coach

We are excited to announce the return of Coby Wright to the CSUB wrestling staff as the assistant coach. After serving in the Kern County Fire Department for over 20 years Coby has returned to the mat to coach the roadrunners! For any Cal-State wrestling fans this is exciting news, and it is especially exciting for myself. My name is Ian Nickell and I wrestled at Cal-State from 2011-2016. During my time wrestling for the Roadrunners I began a feud turned friendship with Coby. It began during my freshmen year at Cal-State. Coby would often come into the wrestling room on his own time and voluntarily train and work out myself and some of the other lower weight class wrestlers. During my first few years of wrestling at Cal-State takedowns on Coby were hard to come by and it was not uncommon to find myself on my back staring up at the ceiling helplessly counting the lights while Coby whispered trash talk in my ear.

The good thing for me was that Coby provided more than just beat downs, he also provided valuable lessons in technique and how to be successful on the mat. Throughout my years wrestling at Cal-State our ongoing feud was documented in the blogs I wrote giving insight into what it was like being a wrestler at Cal-State. Unfortunately for him (and fortunately for me), his lessons made me tougher and more skilled. Eventually I was the one giving him a beatdown, he even had to fake a "back injury" my senior year to get out of having to wrestle me.

Since I have been around the Cal-State Bakersfield wrestling program there are few men who have demonstrated the loyalty and devotion to its success. From being a two-time All-American and member of the 1996 roadrunner team that placed third at the NCAA tournament to over a decade of experience coaching at Cal-State that he already has. I personally am excited to have Coby on the staff full time, he brings an incredible amount to the table and it is great for the program.

Although Coby's current position is full time, it is not funded. The program is looking for generous donations to help support his position as assistant coach.

Go Runners,

Ian Nickell