

Fifty-Fifth Annual Ron Mauck Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament

The Largest Conference Tournament in the United States

**WesBanCo Arena
Wheeling, West Virginia**



WesBanCo Arena Management Staff

Doug Campbell – Denny Magruder – Leo Shrader – Mark George

Seated: Sonya Fedorko – Melody Reynolds

Congenial, Cooperative & Efficient

**Thursday - Friday - Saturday
January 17, 18, & 19, 2008**

CITY OF WHEELING

WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA - 26003

Welcome!

On behalf of the City of Wheeling and the Wheeling City Council, we welcome all the wrestlers and fans of the Ohio Valley. We congratulate the RON MAUCK Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Wrestling Tournament on its 55th Anniversary and its 30 years of a mutually beneficial relationship with the WesBanCo Arena.

It is our sincere hope that both fans and participants alike will enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere created by the people and places of Wheeling.

It is our fond desire to make your visit to Wheeling a memorable experience.

Once a visitor to Wheeling...never a stranger again.

By competing, you are all CHAMPIONS!

With warmest regards,

The Mayor, City Manager and Council Members

A Word of Welcome to All...

On behalf of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference, I want to sincerely welcome each of you to the 55th Annual Ron Mauck Wrestling Tournament. Our warmest expressions of Good Luck! are extended to each team and their supporters entering this great event.

From its meager and uncertain start in 1954, the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament has grown into one of the major sports attractions in the Ohio Valley. We do not hesitate to say that this tournament is a display of high moral character, outstanding conduct demonstrated under the rules and mutual respect for one's opponent.

It is our wish, that as you cheer for your favorite team, the highest standards of sportsmanship shall prevail.

Dianna Vargo
2007-2008 OVAC President

I am proud to be the director of the Fifty-Fifth Annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament. I began directing the event in 1979, when it was first conducted at the Wheeling Civic Center. Throughout the last 54 years, many memorable milestones have taken place. Allow me to share them with you.

During the spring of 1970, we lost a phenomenal wrestler, David Bierkorte, to an untimely accident. Because of his athletic prowess, the Wheeling Central High School Boosters Club initiated, the "David Bierkorte Award" for the outstanding wrestler in 1971.

The Wheeling Civic Center Manager in 1979 was Frank Rodriguez. He had a great deal of respect for those involved with OVAC wrestling, and was instrumental in purchasing the world-class time clocks you now see by mat side during the competition. Presently, we are blessed with Dennis Magruder, who has given us the same positive support, along with the entire WesBanco Arena Staff.

In 1980, OVAC wrestling initiated the first "*George Kovalick Scholarship*". Two years later Bob and Dolores Burke lost their son, Danny, a Wheeling Park wrestler, in a tragic accident. Out of their love for him, the "*Daniel M. Burke Wrestling Scholarship*" was initiated in 1983. Recently, we lost a fantastic wrestling enthusiast in 1996 from Marshall County affectionately named "Dead Eye". His devoted family established the "*James H. Morris Sportsmanship Scholarship*" in 1997, out of his love for the mat sport. In 1999, East Liverpool's 2-time OVAC Champ and Hercules Award winner, Matt Salsberry, was lost in a tragic auto accident. In 2003, "*Friends in Memory of Matt Salsberry*" established an annual academic/wrestling scholarship. In 2003, Lucas "Luke" Sedgmer, a two-time OVAC Wrestling Champion from Cadiz High School, tragically lost his life in an auto accident. In 2005, a committee in his community established *The Lucas D. Sedgmer Memorial Scholarship*.

So, we now have five (5) permanently installed scholarship funds that over the years have afforded 62 deserving OVAC wrestlers an amazing \$76,500 in college scholarships.

In 1999, there was a unique change in the tournament format, which promotes OVAC wrestling even further throughout the Valley. The championship finals are now being televised live by WTO-9 for all viewers in the entire area to enjoy. This year we proudly celebrate the 55th anniversary of the tournament and 30 years of a mutually beneficial relationship with the City of Wheeling and welcome the corporate sponsorship of the WesBanCo Arena. I want to thank every one of the workers, coaches, officials and wrestlers. They are the people who make the Annual OVAC Wrestling Tournament a truly grand adventure for Ohio Valley athletics.

Ron Mauck
Director
The Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament

OVAC EXECUTIVE BOARD



Seated: Walt Skaggs, Ohio Board Member – Jeff Crosier, Ohio Board Member
Jerry Narcisi, Past President – Dianna Vargo, President – Dan Doyle, Vice-
President – Dan Angalich, West Virginia Board Member –

Middle: Tom Rataiczak, Executive Secretary/Treasurer – Steve Wojcik, Baseball
Commissioner – John Howell, Basketball Commissioner – Don Zinni,
Football Commissioner – Tom Bechtel, Softball Commissioner – Nancy
Mumley, Past Treasurer

Back: Blair Closser, AAAA Representative – Kelly Rine, AAA Representative –
Ed Cihy, AAA Representative – Bob Koch, AA Representative – Doug
Tush, A Representative
(Absent Tim Haight, West Virginia Board Member)

**55th ANNUAL
RON MAUCK OVAC
WRESTLING TOURNAMENT
January 17, 18 & 19, 2008**

First Session – Thursday, January 17, 2008 – 6:00 PM

**Opening Ceremonies
National Anthem
Presentation of Assistant & JR. High
Coach of the Year Awards
Wrestling (8 mats)**

Second Session – Friday, January 18, 2008 – 11:00 AM

(8 mats)

Third Session – Friday, January 18, 2008 – 5:00 PM

Wrestling (8 mats)

Fourth Session – Saturday, January 19, 2008 – 12:00 PM

**Wrestling (4 mats)
Championship Semi-Finals & Fifth Round Consolations**

Fifth Session – Saturday, January 19, 2008 – 6:00 PM

**Introductions/ Ceremonies
MR . MAT 2008 Presentation
1983 OVAC Champions & Coaches**

CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

(4 MATS)

Contestants Vying for 1st – 3rd – 5th – 7th Places

ADMISSION

Single Session	Adult - \$10.00	Student - \$6.00
Advance Ticket Book	Adult - \$25.00	Student - \$15.00
Single Final Session	Adult - \$10.00	Student - \$6.00

WesBanCo Arena & OVAC Wrestling A 30 Year Partnership



Another significant milestone has been reached this year. It marks the 30th anniversary of the WesBanCo Arena serving as host to the 55th Annual Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

Prior to moving to the former Wheeling Civic Center in 1979, the OVAC Wrestling Tournament had been held in five (5) different locations.

Beginning with Arena Manager, Frank Rodriguez, cooperation was soon evident. He had such faith in OVAC Wrestling leadership, that he demonstrated it by his influence in purchasing the (8) world-class time clocks seen at mat side during competition.

The Arena Management has been more than our congenial hosts; they have been like a partner.

You can tell it is time for the OVAC Wrestling Tournament by the weather. It arrives as expected in the Upper Ohio River Valley, in wintry abundance and unpredictable. Arena management has the awesome responsibility of seeing that whatever is scheduled proceeds without the influence or affect of Old Man Winter.

The Flood of '96 became an imminent threat, and the staff and management of the Arena set about the monumental task of securing the facility, in light of its elevation and proximity to the flood waters. Consequently, wrestling was halted at 6:00 PM on Friday and rescheduled for the following Saturday.

Mark George, an inspirational and motivational leader, and his crew did a remarkable job of keeping the damages of the invasive waters to a minimum.

One week later on Saturday the 27th, the tournament resumed as if it were originally scheduled as such.

Mark is often viewed as the "true operations director". He began working at the Arena in '78 as a part-time concession worker. Since that time he has worked as an usher, door guard, setup/tear down crew and even as a cook. Demonstrating exceptional skills, conscientious workmanship and leadership ability has led to him being in charge of building maintenance. His knowledge of ice making has earned him the respect of Operations Directors around the country.

A Wheeling native, he is a graduate of West Virginia Northern Community College. Mark and his wife, Candy, have three teenage children.

Again in 2005, the National Weather Service called for "freezing rain turning to snow early Saturday morning". Wrestling was wisely halted and the Saturday sessions were rescheduled for Monday. Once again, with the complete cooperation of Arena management and OVAC wrestling, the resumption of the tournament occurred without visible disruption.

This can only happen with the complete and total commitment of a management staff, dedicated to serving and satisfying.

A tournament of this magnitude has much equipment that requires storing. The sheer volume has continued to grow over the

years. We would be hard pressed to imagine where we could find such available space and logistically ideal without the sincere consideration of arena management

These are but a few of the obvious examples of the type of cooperation that we have received from Rodriguez and his successor, Executive Director, Dennis Magruder, currently serving in his 23rd year, and his loyal, devoted and efficient staff.

Denny is a graduate of West Liberty State College and a Certified Facilities Executive. A Wheeling native, he resides here with his wife Barbara, three children and six grandchildren.

Denny is humble and friendly, yet a tireless task master, who goes about his job seeing not problems to be solved, but challenges to be met in the most unobtrusive ways possible.

Doug Campbell is in his 14th year as Assistant Director. He is a '97 graduate of the IAAM Public Assembly Facility Managers School and serves as box office director, personnel/payroll manager, in-house advertising agency and maintains computer operations and the building's web site. He resides in Shadyside where he is a member of the Board of Education and serves as an assistant football coach.

Sonya Fedorko began as a temporary hire, but quickly impressed and was hired as a full-time secretary. She has become an integral and indispensable part of day-to-day operation of the building. She handles much of the bookkeeping and publishes the monthly newsletter. Sonya is coordinator of the very successful and long-running "Christmas in November" craft show.

Sonya coaches in the East Ohio Girls Softball League and plays in the Wheeling Recreational League. She also coaches basketball at Buckeye Local. Sonya resides in Yorkville with her two children.

Like many of her co-workers, Melody Reynolds started at WesBanCo Arena as a part-time worker. Bringing her many years of experience and talent in cooking and planning, gained in the area's Elby's Big Boy restaurants, Melody has become an invaluable asset as she prepares for intimate parties or 1,000 person banquets. She has prepared meals for such entertainers as Elton John, Kenny Rogers, Neal McCoy and Larry the cable Guy. Mel is very active in her church and with her family.

Leo Shrader is a certified electrician having served the Arena for the past 25 years. He began his full-time duties upon retirement as Asst. Fire Chief with the City of Wheeling in '96 after 30 years of service.

Everything from ticket sales and food service to restroom maintenance functions with an efficiency that is worthy of much praise.

It is because of this unbelievable cooperation on behalf of management that we feel that we have found a permanent home where we are welcome and appreciate the Arena staff's efforts to make us feel so.

To the staff and management of WesBanCo Arena, we extend our collective and heartfelt appreciation for all of your many considerations and cooperation today and throughout the years.

OVAC

MR. MAT AWARD 1976 – 1985



1976: George Koalick
Bellaire Athletic Director



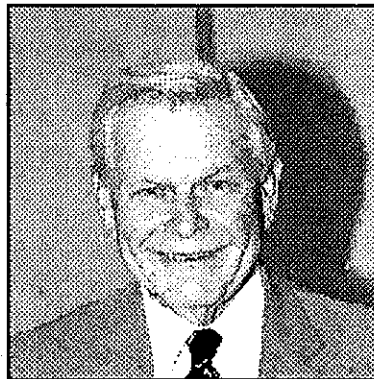
1977: Bill Van Horne
Sports Editor, Wheeling News
Register



1978: John Vrotsos
Martins Ferry High School



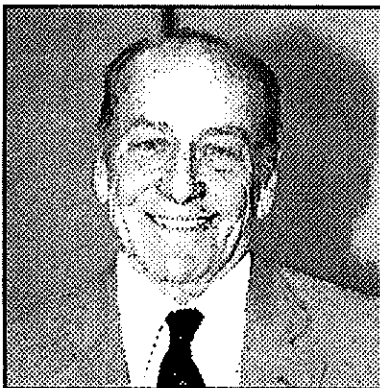
1979: Richard Edge
Principal, Springfield High



1980: George Walley
John Marshall Athletic Director



1981: Bob Hedmond
Steubenville Athletic Director



1982: Paul Crago
Marshall County Schools



1983: Dr. Vince Monseau
West Liberty State College



1984: Bill Hinagardner
John Marshall High School

OVAC MR. MAT 1985 – 1994



1985: Dennis Bowman
Belhairs High School



1986: Ron Mauck
Brooke High School



1987: Eric Carder
Wheeling Park Athletic Director



1988: Dave Kovalick
Barnesville High School



1989: Steve Kish
Principal, Belhairs High School



1990: Carl Fodor
Hancock County Schools



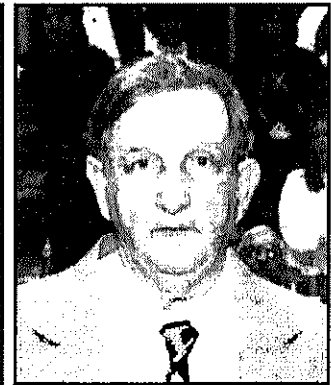
1991: Dr. William Welker
Warwood Middle School



1992: Larry Deaton
Martins Ferry



1993: John Stephenson
Cadiz High School

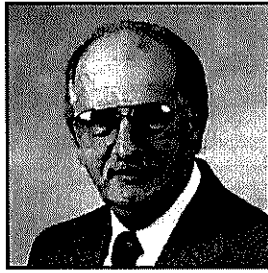


1994: Joe Bates
Woodsfield High School

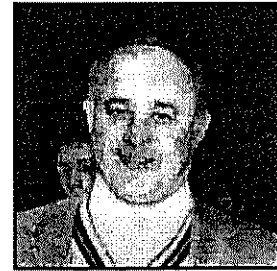
OVAC MR. MAT AWARD 1995-2007



1995: Bob Bruney
Martins Ferry High School



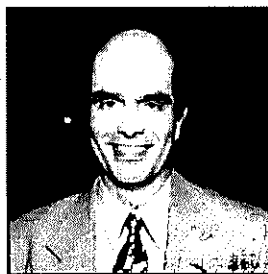
1996: Larry Chambers
Moundsville Jr. High



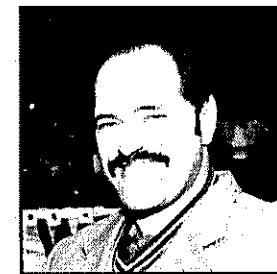
1997: Gary Davis
Beallsville High School



1998: Cal Pokas
Martins Ferry Times Leader



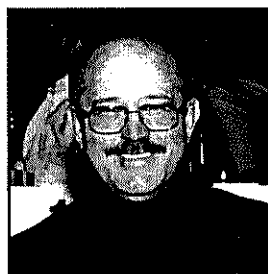
1999: Tom Lackman
Jefferson Union High School



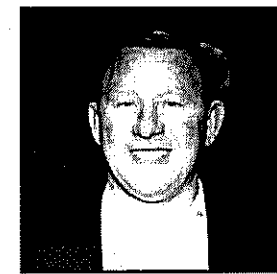
2000: Ed "Buzz" Evans
Wheeling Park High



2001: William McEldowney
Wheeling



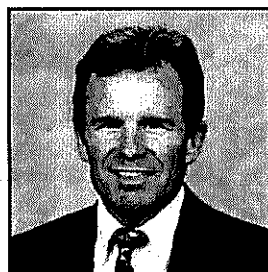
2002: John Craig
Indian Creek



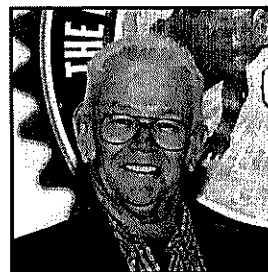
2003: Ed Dugas
John Marshall



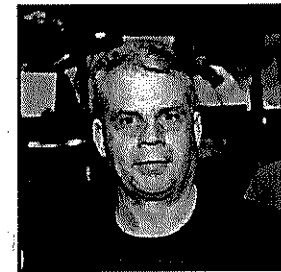
2004: Jeff Oberdick
Martins Ferry



2005: Dan Doyle
Noble County Schools



2006: Nolan Van Gilder
Brooke High School



2007: Rick Link
Union Local

**O.V.A.C. OVER ALL
TOURNAMENT TEAM CHAMPION
1954-2007**

1954 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1955 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1956 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1957 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1958 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1959 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1960 BRIDGEPORT	GEORGE KOVALICK
1961 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1962 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1963 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1964 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1965 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1966 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1967 MARTINS FERRY	JOHN VROTSOS
1968 MARTINS FERRY	ART HEHR
1969 ST. JOHN'S	JOE BATES
1970 WHEELING CENTRAL	JOHN HIBBERT
1971 ST. JOHN'S	DENNIS BOWMAN
1972 JOHN MARSHALL	BILL HINEGARDNER
1973 JOHN MARSHALL	BILL HINEGARDNER
1974 JOHN MARSHALL	BILL HINEGARDNER
1975 WARWOOD	ERIC CARDER
1976 WEIR	CHARLES MURRAY
1977 JOHN MARSHALL	BILL HINEGARDNER
1978 WHEELING PARK	ERIC CARDER
1979 WHEELING PARK	ERIC CARDER
1980 STEUBENVILLE	JOHN CRAIG
1981 CADIZ	JOHN STEPHENSON
1982 STEUBENVILLE	JOHN CRAIG
1983 JOHN MARSHALL	ED DUGAS
1984 STEUBENVILLE	JOHN CRAIG
1985 BARNESVILLE	DARRELL DAVIS
1986 EAST LIVERPOOL	NICK TROMBETTA
1987 STEUBENVILLE	JOHN CRAIG
1988 EAST LIVERPOOL	NICK TROMBETTA
1989 STEUBENVILLE	JOHN CRAIG
1990 WHEELING PARK	BUZZ EVANS
1991 OAK GLEN	LARRY SHAW
1992 STEUBENVILLE	JOHN CRAIG
1993 MARTINS FERRY	JEFF OBERDICK
1994 WHEELING PARK	BUZZ EVANS
1995 STEUBENVILLE	RICK CAMILLETI
1996 BUCKEYE LOCAL	DAN DOYLE
1997 BUCKEYE LOCAL	DAN DOYLE
1998 MARTINS FERRY	JEFF OBERDICK
1999 MARTINS FERRY	JEFF OBERDICK
2000 EAST LIVERPOOL	SCOTT HEIMSTRA
2001 EAST LIVERPOOL	SCOTT HEIMSTRA
2002 OAK GLEN	LARRY SHAW
2003 BEAVER LOCAL	RICH WRIGHT
2004 OAK GLEN	LARRY SHAW
2005 OAK GLEN	LARRY SHAW
2006 WHEELING PARK	GENE MONTELEONE
2007 OAK GLEN	LARRY SHAW

The Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament

Its birth...growth....and tradition

By Richard Keith Wolf

It began as all ideas...the dream of one man...the late George Kovalick.

In March of 1954, Wheeling, Bridgeport, Barnesville and Linsley Institute competed in the inaugural OVAC Wrestling Tournament.

The following year Weirton was added as the tournament moved to Barnesville.

The tournament returned to Bridgeport in 1956, where it remained through 1958, while growing to 7 participating schools.

After 5 years as Tournament Director, Coach Kovalick relinquished the reins to John "Corky" Vrotsos when the tournament moved to Martins Ferry.

Over the next 9 years, the tournament grew to 18 teams, as schools, sometimes reluctantly added wrestling to their inter-scholastic programs as fan interest blossomed.

There was a concern expressed by participating coaches that the OVAC had never been held in West Virginia.

A decision was made to move the tournament to Moundsville and thereafter to alternate between West Virginia and Ohio.

And so it was, that in 1968 under Co-Directors George Walley and George Kovalick, the tournament opened with 20 participating schools.

Ironically, no significant mention of alternating tournament sites occurred during the next 8 years, as the tournament grew in both participant and fan numbers.

Several landmark events occurred during the Moundsville Era... With 23 schools competing in 1970, the OVAC crowned its first West Virginia Over-All Team Champion, Wheeling Central Catholic...in 1971, following the tragic death of David Beirkorte, former OVAC Tournament

Champion, the Wheeling Central Catholic Boosters Club established the Most Valuable Wrestler Award to be presented annually to a wrestler of merit in the tournament... the first recipient was Don Blum of Martins Ferry...In 1974, with 32 schools competing, the OVAC became a 3 day event and 6 mats were used for the preliminary rounds...In 1975, with 34 schools competing and as a result of recent school district consolidations, it was decided that the smaller schools should be competing for team championships against equal or near equal enrollment. Therefore, classifications were established for 3 Division Champions plus an Over-All Tournament title... Finally, little Warwood became the first school to win the Over-All Team Championship without an individual champion.

In 1976, the tournament moved to the Steubenville Diocesan Arena with Bob Hedmond as Director.

It was during this year that the most prestigious honor in OVAC Wrestling, "MR. MAT" was established as an annual award. How fitting and appropriate that George Kovalick, affectionately known as Coach "K", should be the initial recipient of an award earned for "a lifetime of dedication to the sport of wrestling"...for it was his idea...his dream...his energy...and his enthusiasm that had made it a reality.

In 1977, school classifications were expanded to 4 divisions, as paid attendance to the three day event soared to 9,465.

The OVAC Wrestling Tournament and foul weather seem to arrive as distinct, yet inseparable entities. And so it was, that in 1978, when faced with treacherous highway conditions from an accumulation of ice and snow, it was deemed necessary to postpone the Friday session until Saturday.

In 1979, the Tournament moved to the Wheeling Civic Center with Ron Mauck as Director. Two

major improvements took place that year, (1) the massive floor area of the Civic Center now made it possible to wrestle on 8 mats, and (2) 8 individual and independent electronic match scoreboard/clocks were purchased.

In 1980, recognition of individual weight-class competitors was expanded to include the top 8 finishers.

That same year, the OVAC Wrestling Coaches Association created, to honor Coach "K", the George E. Kovalick Scholarship to be presented annually to assist a college-bound scholar wrestler.

Following the tragic 1982 death of Wheeling Park High School wrestler, Danny Burke, his parents established a living tribute to his memory. In 1983, the first annual Danny Burke Memorial Wrestling Scholarship was awarded to John Witzberger of Wheeling Central.

In 1997, following the untimely passing of James "Dead Eye" Morris, sons Jeff and Gregg (both former OVAC Champions), and the Morris family, established an annual sportsmanship award and a scholarship to honor his memory, in tribute to his long abiding love for wrestling and devotion to the OVAC.

The threatening flood was more a probability than a possibility when the 43rd Annual Tournament opened on Thurs. Jan. 19, 1996. When it became evident that we were faced with the certainty, a prudent, yet difficult and unpopular decision was made to discontinue wrestling at 6:00 PM on Friday, Jan. 20, and resume at that point on Sat. Jan. 27.

To accomplish this monumental task required the complete cooperation of everyone involved, including, but not limited to wrestlers, coaches, athletic directors, tournament workers, referees and the rescheduling or dropping of other meets or tournaments, plus a host of individual problems faced by everyone associated with an undertaking of this magnitude. An indication of the level of cooperation and commitment to the OVAC was never more evident than when the tournament reconvened one week later, just as though it were a part of the original plan.

None of this could have taken place without the cooperation, understanding and participation of the Civic Center staff, under the supervision its

congenial and tireless Director, Dennis Magruder.

WTOV-9, as a corporate sponsor, demonstrated their enthusiastic support for OVAC wrestling when they initiated live television coverage of all championship bouts in 1998.

In the spring of 1999, the dynamic force behind the growth and expansion of the OVAC, Sam Mumley, Executive Secretary for 32 years, succumbed to his battle with cancer.

Steve Kish, Superintendent of Martins Ferry Schools, willingly stepped in to fill the void, serving as interim, until Tom Rataiczak assumed the permanent position in the fall of 1999.

In November of 2002, we mourned the passing of Bob Hedmond, MR. MAT of '81. He had served as football coach at East Liverpool, Brooke and Steubenville High Schools as well as OVAC Wrestling Tournament Director during its 3 years at the Diocesan Arena ('76-'78).

In 2003, "Friends in Memory of Matt Salsberry" established an athletic/academic scholarship "with a desire to honor and perpetuate his memory". He was a two-time OVAC Champion in '98-'99 and Mr. Hercules Award winner from East Liverpool. He lost his life in a tragic auto accident in '99.

The year 2003 marked three significant mile stones: (1) the OVAC celebrated the 50th annual tournament, (2) the OVAC commemorated 25 years of a cooperative relationship with the Wheeling Civic Center and (3) we recognized, honored and applauded Ron Mauck for 25 years of dynamic leadership as the Director of OVAC Wrestling. More than 250 former OVAC wrestling tournament champions were introduced and applauded as they paraded before a packed house.

The tragic death of Lucas "Luke" Sedgmer, two-time OVAC champion from Cadiz, on May 9, 2003 brought about the establishment of the Lucas D. Sedgmer scholarship.

OVAC Wrestling now provides 5 permanent scholarships annually to deserving wrestlers. To date we have presented 62 scholarships in the amount of \$76,500.

With student and spectator safety always the primary concern, the Sat. Jan. 22, 2005, sessions of the tournament were wisely postponed, when it was learned that the National Weather Service prediction of "freezing rain turning to snow early Saturday morning" would be a reality. The tournament resumed on Mon. Jan. 24, without a hitch, thanks to the outstanding cooperation of schools, coaches, WesBanCo Arena management, tournament officials and staff.

In 2006, the OVAC Executive Committee unanimously voted to rename the wrestling tournament the RON MAUCK OVAC WRESTLING TOURNAMENT in honor of his dedication, enthusiasm and leadership as Director of Wrestling for 28 years.

2008 marked another milestone. It marked the 30th year of Ron Mauck's dynamic and tireless leadership. He has fostered the growth and stability of what many consider the signature event in the OVAC.

Giving selflessly of his time, energy and talent, He has engendered much goodwill and cooperation among both those involved and those attending this spectacular event. His warmth and camaraderie has created what has become a family of wrestling enthusiasts and supporters.

Rare are these character traits embodied in one so humble, yet so capable. His legacy of leaderships shall serve to inspire and motivate, much like his mentor, the late venerable George Kovalick.

Retiring as OVAC Director of Wrestling does not mean that Ron will no longer be a part of that which he has so zealously created and perpetuated. He will continue to be involved and provide wise counsel to his successor.

It is our fond wish that this tournament will continue to grow...if not in size, hopefully in stature...as a symbol of all that is good a decent. There is no greater satisfaction than that which one receives from the investment of time and energy devoted to youth.

As you witness the pomp and pageantry, from opening ceremonies on Thursday...through the Parade of Champions on Saturday...only then will you realize that this is a true labor of love...and a living tribute to all those, both past and present, who have strived to make it possible and memorable.

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POTTERS

**63rd ANNUAL RUDY MUMLEY
OVAC ALL-STAR
FOOTBALL CLASSIC**

“Serving the Youth of the Upper Ohio Valley”

SUNDAY JULY 27, 2008

Wheeling Island Stadium

7:15

FEATURING

McDonald’s OVAC All-Star Band

OVAC Queen of Queens

OVAC All-Star Cheerleaders

Wednesday July 23 George Strager Evening with the Stars

White Palace at Wheeling Park

Friday July 25 Queen of Queens Talent Contest

WesBanco Arena

Saturday July 26 Pep Rally

Russek Field WLSC

Bob Koch – Game Director

Ron Mauck – Game Advisor

Reva Icard – Queen of Queens Coordinator

Dru-Meyer – All-Star Band Coordinator

Linda Myers – Program Coordinator

Dianna Vargo – Evening with the Stars Coordinator

Steve Kish – Ten-Year Reunion Coordinator

Tom Rataiczak – Executive Secretary OVAC

In 36 years, the OVAC has donated over \$802,400 to charity organizations and scholarships throughout the Ohio Valley

2007 RUDY MUMLEY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Andrew Spiczenski - Barnesville HS

Cy Mazingo - John Marshall HS

2007 RON MAUCK SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Matt Ischy - Monroe Central HS

Chris Neidhardt - Wheeling Central HS

“Charity and Love for Our Fellowman”

DANIEL M. BURKE MEMORIAL WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP

Dedicated to the sincere belief that the loss of their young son, Danny, should not end with the tragic auto accident on February 8, 1952, Bob and Delores Burke wished to establish a living tribute to perpetuate his memory.

He was a dynamic individual and wrestler at Wheeling Park, who had yet to reach his full potential in this sport he loved. It was both fitting and appropriate that his parents decided to help a gifted scholar/athlete attain his full potential, in the career of his choice.

Therefore, in 1983 the first *Daniel M. Burke Memorial Wrestling Scholarship* was presented.

The qualifying criteria require that the recipient be a senior with outstanding records in both wrestling and academic performance.

The original award was in the amount of \$1,000, however in 2006, was increased to \$2,500 and is to be applied to college expenses.

As each recipient is added to the list, it reads like a veritable "Who's Who Among Outstanding Young Men in the Upper Ohio Valley"

It is our fond hope that the accomplishments of each successive recipient serves to honor and perpetuate Danny's memory in a manner fulfilling the wishes of his parents.



YEAR	NAME	SCHOOL	COLLEGE
1983	John Witzberger	Wheeling Central	West Virginia University
1984	Todd Rowe	Wheeling Park	Mount Union
1985	Todd Hibbs	Jefferson Union	Mount Union
1986	Paul Ice	East Liverpool	Muskingum
1987	Jeff Sobel	Oak Glen	Syracuse
1988	Steve Woods	Wellsville	Maryland
1989	David Woods	Cameron	Capital
1990	David Heath	St Clairsville	Washington & Jefferson
1991	Larry Sams	Wellsville	Ohio State
1992	Rick MoKros	Shadyside	Ohio Northern
1993	Dwayne Patterson	Oak Glen	W. Virginia Northern
1994	Ryan Slack	Shadyside	Univ. Pennsylvania
1995	Luke Underwood	Weirton	Fairmount St.
1996	David Cornish	Buckeye Local	Waynesburg
1997	Chris Ward	John Marshall	West Liberty
1998	Dan Jones	Martins Ferry	Ohio State
1999	Jose Smith	Cambridge	Cleveland State
2000	Zack Zubay	Oak Glen	West Virginia U.
2001	Nathan Kendjorsky	Buckeye Local	West Virginia U.
2002	John Tierney	Martins Ferry	Kent State
2003	David Bertolino	Buckeye Local	Iowa State
2004	Jason Bahmer	Barnesville	West Point Mil. Acad.
2005	David Foltz	Oak Glen	
2006	Abbie Rush	Wheeling Park	Boston Univ.
2007	James Myers	Indian Creek	

2007
OVAC WRESTLING TOURNAMENT
FINAL TEAM STANDINGS

A

- 16 - Bellaire St. John - 64.5**
- 23 - Beallsville - 45**
- 29 - Bridgeport - 24.5**
- 31 - Weirton Maddona - 18.5**
- 35 - Conotton Valley - 11**

AA

- 14 -Caldwell - 76**
- 22 - Shenandoah - 47.5**
- 24 - Monroe Central - 41**
- 39 - Cameron - 39**
- 26 - Shadyside - 36**
- 28 - River -28**
- 30 - Wellsville - 20.5**
- 32 - Steubenville Central - 18**

AAA

- 1 - Oak Glen - 200.5**
- 6 - Bellaire - 122**
- 7 - Martins Ferry - 118**
- 10- Barnesville - 96.5**
- 11 -Harrison Central - 91**
- 18 -Wheeling Central - 61**
- 19 - St. Clairsville - 60**
- 20 -Meadowbrook - 54**
- 21 -Union Local - 50**
- 33 -Tyler Consolidated - 17**
- 34 -Magnolia - 12**

AAAA

- 2 - Wheeling Park - 194.5**
- 3 - Cambridge - 172**
- 4 - John Marshall - 169**
- 5 - Beaver Local - 148**
- 8 - Brooke - 104**
- 9 - East Liverpool - 100.5**
- 12 -Edison - 90.5**
- 13 -Buckeye Local - 81**
- 15 -Indian Creek - 65**
- 17 -Steubenville - 61.5**
- 27 -Weir - 33.5**

James H. Morris

OVAC Wrestling

Sportsmanship Award & Scholarship

A memorial tribute to James "Dead Eye" Morris was established by the Morris family and sons, Jeff and Gregg, (both former OVAC Wrestling Champions), following the untimely passing of their father in 1997.

In recognition of his long and abiding love for wrestling and his working commitment to the OVAC, the Morris family has determined that a perpetual tribute in his memory shall be in the form of an annual award and scholarship.

This is a unique award in that it is presented to "a non-coach supporter of OVAC Wrestling, to say thank you, for your support through the years". The recipient of this award will then have the privilege and honor of "presenting a \$1,000 scholarship to the wrestler recipient at the OVAC Spring Awards Banquet

The recipient of this scholarship shall be selected by a committee that determines by qualifying criteria that he is deserving.

Such criteria is structured to place great emphasis on "good sportsmanship" and a favorable evaluation of his academic and wrestling accomplishments.

A plaque, allowing for the listing of successive recipients, shall be prominently displayed along with other OVAC awards.

It is obvious that much prayerful thought went into the decision to honor "Dead Eye" in this memorable fashion. It could only have been the product of individuals with an appreciation for what this tournament is all about.

From the OVAC Wrestling Family to the Morris Family, "In sharing your loss, we further acknowledge and appreciate your generous contribution in a manner reflective of HIS compelling desire to give."

Sportsmanship Award Winners

- 1997 Tom & Ray McMool - Moundsville
- 1998 James & Bobbie Stephenson
- 1999 Dick Wolf - East Liverpool
- 2000 Randy Elliott - Oak Glen
- 2001 Pete Cuffaro - Wheeling
- 2002 Tom & Linda Myers - Wheeling
- 2003 "Babe" Schmitt, Jr. - Wheeling
- 2004 Steve Shaffer - Wheeling Park
- 2005
- 2006 Ann Morris & Evelyn Kovalick
- 2007

Scholarship Award Winners

- 1997 Paul Grinch - Shadyside
- 1998 Garrett O'Neal - Cameron
- 1999 Lucas Sedgmer - Cadiz
- 2000 Scott Roth - Martins Ferry
- 2001 Philip Bellville - Oak Glen
- 2002 Mike Fassouletos - John Marshall
- 2003 Tony Maylee - Indian Creek
- 2004 Branden Shaw - Brooke
- 2005 Logan Hartle - John Marshall
- 2006 Justin Seebach - Caldwell
- 2007 Stephen Jewell - Wheeling Park

NICK TROMBETTA

CEO

The Pennsylvania Charter Cyber School

Executive Director

National Network of Digital Schools

As a former OVAC wrestling coach, I am aware of the unique role that this conference plays in the lives of the member schools' student/athletes. Your demonstrated emphasis on sportsmanship and scholarship are a tribute to your dedicated leadership and is rivaled by no other high school organization of which I am aware.

It is my honor and extreme pleasure to play a small part in your continuing success.

To my dear friend, Ron Mauck, Congratulations! You have set the standard expressed by the motto of the OVAC – "Serving the Youth of the Ohio Valley". Yours is a legacy of commitment, dedication and excellence.

George E. Kovalick

4/8/23 – 4/8/84

“Founding Father of OVAC Wrestling”

Teacher exceptionale...competitive coach...gracious mentor...visionary, endowed with boundless energy and enthusiasm.

His accomplishments are legendary...his influence unparalleled

A man whose profound influence on coaches and athletes is a legacy which will continue to have an impact on generations yet to come.

Standing as tangible proof of all that he epitomized is his enshrinements in four separate and distinct Athletic Halls of Fame; Kent State University, West Liberty State College, Ohio Wrestling Coaches and Ohio High School Athletic Directors Association.

In 1980, a scholarship was established to honor Coach Kovalick by the OVAC Wrestling Coaches Association. It is presented annually to a college-bound scholar/wrestler.

During opening ceremonies of the 1985 OVAC Wrestling Tournament, a bronze plaque was unveiled and now hangs in the lobby of the WesBanCo Arena, inscribed in fitting tribute it reads:

“The Ohio Valley Wrestling Coaches Association honors the memory of George Kovalick...a man marvelously competitive, meticulous in organization and endowed with an enormous capacity for work.

He produced an unparalleled record, with more championship teams in more sports than any other man who ever coached in this valley

He was responsible for tremendous progress in the development and expansion of our wrestling program. Teacher, strategist and fundamentalist, he was an inspiration and a friend.”

The George Kovalick Memorial Wrestling Scholarship

1980 Mike Patone, Magnolia

1981 Bob Furr, Beallsville

1982 Dave Delande, St. Clairsville

1983 Scott Mills, Steubenville

1984 Tim Ward, Beallsville

1985 Charlie Keenan, Steubenville
Darrin Heavilin, Cadiz

1986 Mike Imbroscio, Bellaire

1987 Vinnie Monseau, Wheeling Park

1988 Dan Keenan, Steubenville

1989 Reed Case, Cadiz

1990 Ed Neely, Weirton

1991 Eric Potts, Cameron

1992 John Gibeaut, Union Local

1993 Dave Norris, Cameron

1994 Chad Burge, Cameron

1995 Brian Roskovich, Bridgeport

1996 Eric Anderson, St. John's

1997 Sean Doyle, Buckeye Local

1998 Aaron Monseau, Wheeling Park

1999 Craig Bruney, Martins Ferry

2000 Steve Ochap, Wheeling Park

2001 Tyler Hughes, Cameron

2002 Chris Taylor, John Marshall

2003 Phil Bliss, Brooke

2004 Casey Hughes, Cameron

2005 Clay Tucker, Martins Ferry

2006 Bryan Rowland, Oak Glen

2007 Daniel Felton, Brooke

David Bierkorte Award

David Bierkorte after having been crowned the 165# Champion at the 1970 OVAC Wrestling Tournament and compiling an undefeated record, was fatally injured in an auto accident during his junior year.

The Wheeling Central Catholic Booster Club decided the best way to pay tribute and honor the memory of their fallen hero was to create, in his name, a perpetual memorial. Thus was established the David Bierkorte Award.

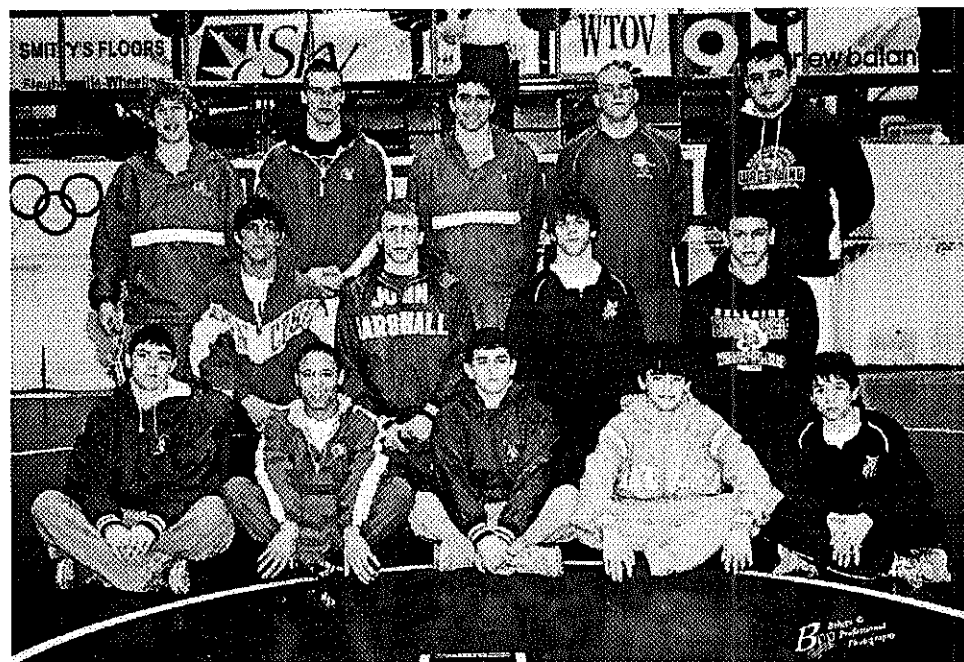
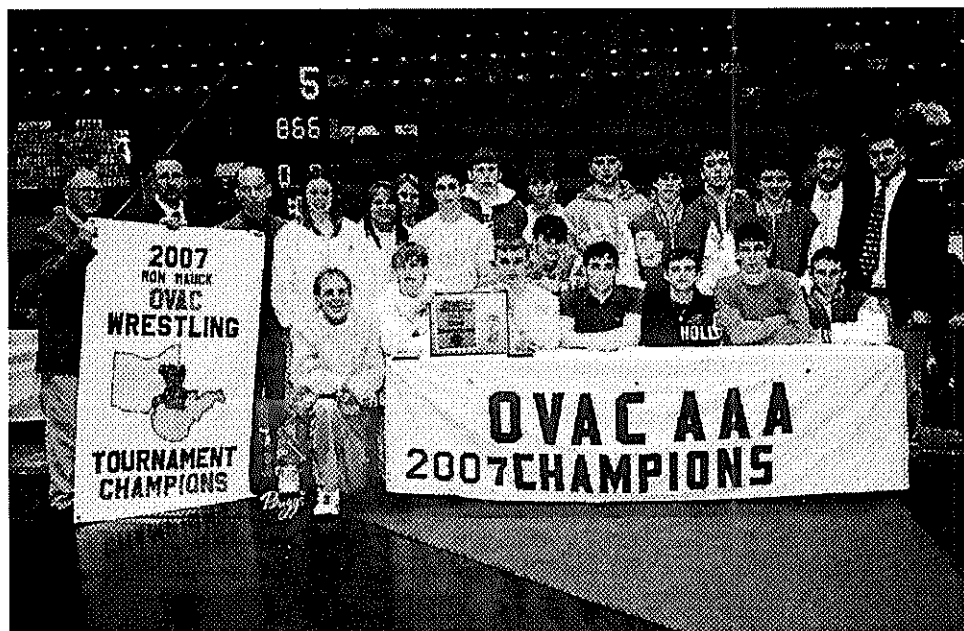
The recipient of this award is to be announced during the awards ceremony following the conclusion of the Ron Mauck OVAC Wrestling Tournament. The honoree, as selected by a panel of judges, is to be deemed the Most Valuable Wrestler in the tournament. Formal presentation of the award will take place during the OVAC Spring Awards Banquet.

Each successive recipient brings greater stature to this coveted award, as envisioned by the Booster Club.

DAVID BIERKORTE WRESTLING AWARD WINNERS

1971	Don Blum	Martins Ferry	
1972	Art Jones	Bellaire	
1973	Dan Claugus	Barnesville	
1974	Sheldon Grace	Weirton	
1975	Mike Kovalick	Bellaire	
1976	Randy Davia	Cadiz	
	Ed Covey	Bridgeport	
1977	Rich Davis	Jefferson Union	
1978	Carl Stanley	Wheeling Park	
1979	Randy Pryor	Weirton	
1980	Trent Iachini	Steubenville	
1981	Mike Tluchowski	Steubenville	
1982	Larry Isleman	Toronto	
1983	Brian Miller	Barnesville	
1984	Heath Beardmore	Cambridge	
1985	Tim Moxley	Barnesville	
1986	Sean Murray	Oak Glen	
1987	Mark Mlynek	Bellaire	
1988	Rick Burlenski	Bridgeport	
1989	Mark Emmerling	East Liverpool @	
1990	Babe Sidon	Martins Ferry	
1991	Douglas Knight	Steubenville	
1992	R. C. Anderson	Cameron	
1993	Kelly Shields	Edison South @	
1994	Dustin Harris	Beaver Local	
1995	Justin Ewing	St. Clairsville	
1996	Eric Anderson	St. John's	
1997	Ryan Muldrew	John Marshall	
1998	Chad Pratz	Linsly	
1999	Jose Smith	Cambridge	
2000	Scott Roth	Martins Ferry	
2001	Cole Bowersock	Beaver Local	
2002	Derek George	John Marshall	
2003	David Bertalino	Buckeye Local	
2004	Adam Hoppel	Beaver Local @	
2005	Clay Tucker	Martins Ferry	@ 4 Time OVAC Champion
2006	Zack Schuller	St. Clairsville	
2007	James Myers	Indian Creek	

2007
OAK GLEN AAA & OVER-ALL TOURNAMENT
CHAMPIONS



2007
WEIGHT CLASS CHAMPIONS

Front R to L: Dirk Bauer (103) Wheeling Central – Troy Eckleberry (112) Oak Glen
Daniel Felton (119) Brooke – Roneel Green (125) Wheeling – James McFarland (130) Brooke
Middle R to L: Robbie Chilson (135) Bellaire – Zach Basich (140) Wheeling Central
Brandon Richey (145) John Marshall – James Myers (152) Indian Creek
Back L to R: Jon Bittinger (160) Beaver Local – Dusty Hill (171) Wheeling Park
Kyle Reeder (189) Beaver Local – Paul Jefferis (215) Barnesville – Eric DiAgosta (285)
East Liverpool

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REUNION
1983 O V A C CHAMPIONS**

- 98 – Todd Rowe-----Wheeling Park**
- 119 – Phil Milantoni-----Brooke**
- 105 – John Goempel-----East Liverpool**
- 112 – Rich McKinney-----Cadiz**
- 126 – Tim Ward-----Beallsville**
- 132 – Brian Miller-----Barnesville**
- 138 – John Blangor-----Steubenville**
- 145 – Mike Miller-----Shadyside**
- 155 – Albert Caldwell-----River**
- 167 – Bill Gilbert-----John Marshall**
- 175 – Charlie Keenan-----Steubenville**
- 185 – Fritz Braunlich-----Wheeling CC**
- HWT- Jamie Price-----Cambridge**

25TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION O V A C CHAMPIONS 1983



Picture Not Available

98#
Todd Rowe
Wheeling Park
6938 Richwood Dr.
Conneaut, OH 44030
Mgr. Auto Parts Store



105#
John Goempel
East Liverpool
3688 Bentwood Cove Dr.
Apison, TN 37302
Dir. U S Express



112#
Rich McKinney
Cadiz
128 W. Main St.
Hopedale, OH 43976
Teacher-Harrison Cntrl



Picture Not Available

119#
Phil Milantoni
Brooke
618 Sundance Dr.
Osloaon, MO 63366



126#
Tim Ward
Beallsville
P O Box 926
Coshocton, OH 43812
Teacher



132#
Brian Miller
Barnesville
4628 Crown Point Lane
Virginia Beach, VA
Dir. of Manufacturing
Earl Manufacturers

25TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION O V A C CHAMPIONS 1983



138#
John Blangor
Steubenville
9325 Ft. Hamilton Pkwy
Apt. D5D
Brooklyn, NY 11209
Deputy Capt.
Fed. Prison System



Picture Not Available

145#
Mike Miller
Shadyside
8602 Soldier Dr.
Galloway, OH 43119
Transportation Sales



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152#
Albert Caldwell
River
133 Main St.
Powhatan Point, OH
Operational Technician
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167#
Bill Gilbert
John Marshall



175#
Charlie Keenan
Steubenville
10015 Crows Nest Cove
Aurora, OH 44137
Supt. Maple Hgts Schools



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185#
Fritz Braunlich
Wheeling Central



Picture Not Available

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Cambridge
1721 Creston Road
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WRESTLING . . . A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

Competition is an inherent character trait in all forms of animal life, rooted in a need for preservation of the species, through survival of the fittest.

While evolving, man has perpetuated this innate desire to demonstrate such superiority. However, in a more enlightened society, it has progressed from battles to the death, by creating and refining games and sports, which may determine a winner by scoring systems, thereby eliminating the ultimate barbarism.

It is believed that wrestling and running are the earliest known competitive sports practiced by man, and continue today. Perhaps the single most compelling argument that such is the case, is the fact that all that is required are two competitors with a desire to determine individual superiority.

Today, wrestling has become, if not a science, at the very least, an art form. Strength, speed, and agility are all desirable attributes for any aspiring wrestler, but absent the knowledge and skills, which are constantly being honed and refined, seldom will the untrained and undisciplined ever be victorious.

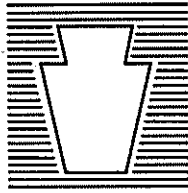
No athletic endeavor requires as deep a commitment or as much dedication and self-sacrifice as does wrestling. No one who enters the sport of wrestling and labors seriously, to become the best that they can be, will ever be the same person again. The impact of that experience will forever alter perspectives, values, and personal dignity.

To a committed wrestler, a complete metamorphosis transpires, - - for as a caterpillar, having wrapped itself in a cocoon, ultimately emerges as a butterfly, - - so a boy immerses himself in a wrestling program and emerges as a man!

What a joy it is to see the progress and view the process!

**CHAMPIONS CHERISH NOT CONQUEST
BUT CHALLENGE
BORN OF AND NURTURED BY
A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE**

By
Richard Keith Wolf



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The Wrestling Parent

Parents in wrestling are courageous - it's true,
They feel all the pain that boy must go through,
At home, when he diets, they wish it could stop,
Yet know he must do it to stay at the top.

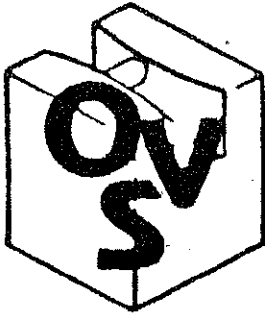
Excuses for losing they will never endure,
"Don't blame the ref, son, because of the score,
The coach, he will show you the best way to move.
Keep working in practice if you want to improve."

At dual meets, you'll see them whispering a prayer,
As their boy must compete with no one else there,
Whatever the outcome - mom cheers with deep pride,
While dad - you will notice - stands right by his side.

They'll drive to a tournament many miles away,
To witness a son who's prepared for this day,
Their boy, he has trained, with all of his might,
Having hopes of becoming a champion tonight.

But should he fall short, at his corner you'll find,
A mother and father - supportive and kind,
They teach that through wrestling he'll learn about
life,
Yes, living is filled with both triumph and strife.

Now, if you are searching for people who care,
Just look by the mat, they'll always be there,
Such love for a sport is truly inherent,
The wrestling parent.



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Worshrag's Last Season

by
Fred Miller



I write this after Worshrag's first practice of the last season of his scholastic wrestling career.

Our son has been wrestling since preschool. Thirteen winters of practice, making weight, waking up at 5 a.m. to drive to a tournament two hours away. Thirteen springs of hanging on, fighting through fatigue and injuries, getting pumped for league and conference tournaments. For him and for us the years have been divided into three seasons: wrestling season, after wrestling season and before wrestling season.

Suddenly it's here. Three months from now it will all be over - win or lose, triumph or tragedy. Our son's wrestling career will be cardboard boxes of pictures, trophies and tournament programs. . . not to mention dresser drawers stuffed with tournament T-shirts.

It's no secret that more than anything else, Worshrag wants to win the OVAC. He wants his name beside mine on the wrestling room wall in our high school. He has trained incredibly hard, developed a spartan discipline in diet and lifestyle, denied himself leisure in the off-season, and focused his life on what he needs to do to reach his goal. I badly want it for him, too, but the fact he wants it so much honors me more than whether or not he actually gets it.

The truth is, a long time ago I got lucky in a 16-bracket tournament. My entire wrestling career lasted all of three years, and winning the OVAC was my only memorable accomplishment. I tell Worshrag he is 10 times the wrestler I ever was, and has given me 100 times more pride, excitement and memories than I had any right to expect.

When he was six and won a rookie tournament at Burgettstown, he slept with the trophy. He won four youth league championships, and BMAC and Ohio Valley championships in middle school. He started on the varsity as a freshman in high school, has a couple of team records in the book, got his 100th win as a junior, has been a member of three state championship teams and two OVAC championship teams, was

individual runner-up at state last year, and co-captains his team for the second year. Worshrag has had a wonderful wrestling career, though individual state and OVAC titles have eluded him.

This season hasn't started and my wife Honey already is a basket case.

"I wish it was over. I wish this was March and it was all over," Honey said.

"Don't wish our lives away," I replied. "This is the good stuff."

I mean it. I wouldn't have missed a match of our son's wrestling career for anything, the thrilling victories and the bitter losses both. The difference now is, if he's injured, if he loses in the semi's or finals of a tournament, there is no next year.

It's hard for my wife to think of the OVAC tournament as anything but a three-day gut-churning torment. Worshrag himself admits he doesn't enjoy wrestling like he once did because of the expectations on him to win, including the pressure he puts on himself. I want him to enjoy his senior year, but his duty to his team and himself is more important than finding enjoyment. This is about honor, about self-sacrifice and dedication in pursuit of a dream. If he wins, we all will be beyond joyous. If he gives his best yet falls short, he can be satisfied it was not for lack of effort or commitment.

Worsh started training for this season two days after last season ended. Running and lifting every day; grilled skinless chicken breast and egg whites for protein; gigantic tossed salads instead of what everyone else was eating; cleaning carrots and celery sticks every morning for school lunch. His self-discipline and work ethic have been exemplary. He has fashioned himself into the model of what a senior wrestler should be.

There have been times over the years, especially after injuries, when he was sorely tempted to quit wrestling, as so many of his former teammates have done. Two things held him back: his own competitive drive, and his desire not to disappoint me.

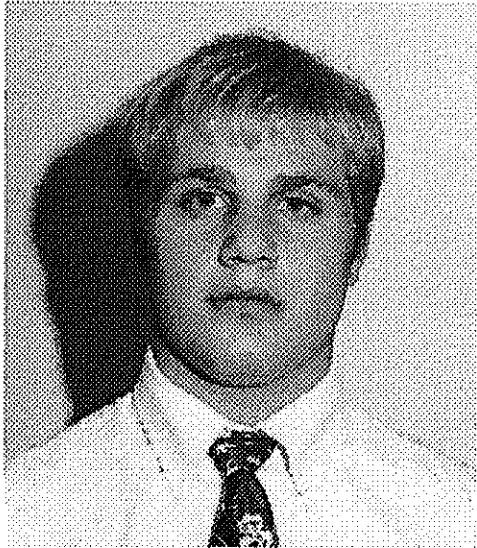
For those first seven years and hundreds of matches I was on the corner of his mat as my son's youth wrestling coach. For the last six I've been a proud dad on the sidelines. He has given me such joy I could have jumped through the rafters, and I have hurt so bad for him I ached to the depths of my being, but I have never, ever been disappointed in him, not once.

I won't lie; an OVAC championship for my son would be icing on the cake. But the cake is already made, and a fine one it is.

Miller is a free lance writer and Public Relations Specialist at the PA Charter Cyber School in Midland, PA. He was the 138th Champion OVAC Tournament from Oak Glen High School in 1968.

Matthew Salsberry

1980-1999



Within minutes after leaving for home from Ohio Northern University, where they had all just undergone freshmen orientation, Matt Salsberry; his girlfriend, Emily Bickerton; and his best friend, Dan Aldrich, fell victims to tragedy. An inattentive and irresponsible teenage driver, in a moment of senseless exhilaration took the lives of all three and brought emotional devastation to the families and school community.

Matt Salsberry had a lust for life that dictated success. The commitment and enthusiasm which he brought to the wrestling mat, the playing field, the stage and the classroom, motivated and inspired teammates, classmates and fans. He was a humble winner and a gracious loser, who gained the respect of all who came to know him.

If any single incident defined his commitment and enthusiasm for whatever the project might be, surely

it had to be his humorous show-stealing portrayal of "Earthquake" McGoon in the school musical "Lil Abner".

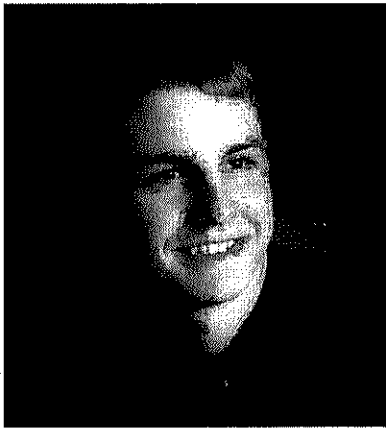
Matt was a two-time OVAC champion and winner of the "Mr. Hercules Award" in '99, by pinning his way to the 215# championship in a cumulative time of less than a single match. He was 4th in the State of Ohio while compiling 124 wins. He was All-State in football for three years and started in 32 consecutive games. He earned 11 varsity letters, was River Valley League discus champion, served as Junior Class President and Senior Class Vice President, while maintaining a 3.5 GPA as a member of NHS.

"Friends in Memory of Matt Salsberry" having a desire to perpetuate the positive impact of his young life, deemed it fitting and proper to establish a \$1,000 scholarship to be considered annually and awarded to an OVAC wrestler who has earned a varsity letter in one additional sport, while likewise maintaining a minimum 3.5 GPA.

RECIPIENTS

2003 – John Petrozzi – Buckeye Local
2004 – Luke Burkhardt – Shadyside
2005 – Anthony Duffield – East Liverpool
2006 – Christopher Crock – Shenandoah
2007 – T. J. Osbon – Oak Glen

Lucas D. Sedgmer Memorial Scholarship



Lucas "Luke" D. Sedgmer, the son of Kay Keyser-Sedgmer and William Sedgmer, was a 1999 graduate of Cadiz High School, where he excelled in wrestling as a 2-time OVAC Champion and a 3rd place finisher at the Ohio State Div. III Wrestling Tournament.

Luke was an avid outdoorsman, possessed of a love and respect for all things living.

Tragically, he lost his life on Friday, May 9, 2003, in a head-on auto collision.

He had worked as a summer employee with the Harrison County Highway Department and served as an assistant wrestling coach at Wheeling Park High School.

He had finished school that very day and was to have graduated from West Liberty State College shortly thereafter.

The fulfillment of his dream would have been to teach and coach wrestling.

He was a member of the New Athens Volunteer Fire Department and attended the United Methodist Church in New Athens.

A committee was established to provide two scholarships to perpetuate and honor Luke in memoriam. One scholarship is presented to a graduate of Harrison Central High School and the other to an OVAC member school wrestler.

The criteria for selection as a recipient are the qualities exhibited by Luke during his brief but dynamic existence. They are scholarship, athletic accomplishments and character.

Luke was greatly admired, widely respected and dearly loved by all who came to know him. It is our fond hope that by honoring him in this fashion we will not only be perpetuating his memory, but aiding others in pursuit of their dream.

2005 - Chas Yoder——Martins Ferry
2006 - John Horn——Shenandoah
2007 - Eric DiAgosta— East Liverpool

2007

**OVAC OUTSTANDING WRESTLER
DAVID BIERKORTTE AWARD WINNER**

James Myers – Indian Creek

COACH OF THE YEAR

AAAA- Gene Monteleone–Wheeling Park
AAA- Larry Shaw-Oak Glen
AA- Luke Johnson-Barnesville
A- Clint Abbott-Beallsville

DANIEL BURKE SCHOLARSHIP

James Myers – Indian Creek

**JAMES H. “DEAD EYE” MORRIS
SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**

**JAMES H. “DEAD EYE” MORRIS
SCHOLARSHIP**

Stephen Jewell-Wheeling Park

SID STOLTZ AWARD

Cindy Clegg

JUNIOR HIGH COACH OF YEAR

Paul Simmons-John Marshall

JAYVEE COACH OF YEAR

Ron Zuzak

SADLER SPORTSMANSHIP

TEAM AWARD

Barnesville

LUCAS D. SEDGMER SCHOLARSHIP

Eric DiAgosta- East Liverpool

TOURNAMENT

DIVISION CHAMPIONS

AAAA- Wheeling Park
AAA- Oak Glen
AA- Barnesville
A- St John

DUAL MEET

CHAMPIONS

AAAA-Wheeling Park
AAA-Oak Glen
AA-Caldwell
A-Cameron

SPECIAL

RECOGNITION AWARD

Bill Hinegardner

OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Ray Jeffries

HERCULES AWARD

Eric DiAgosta-East Liverpool

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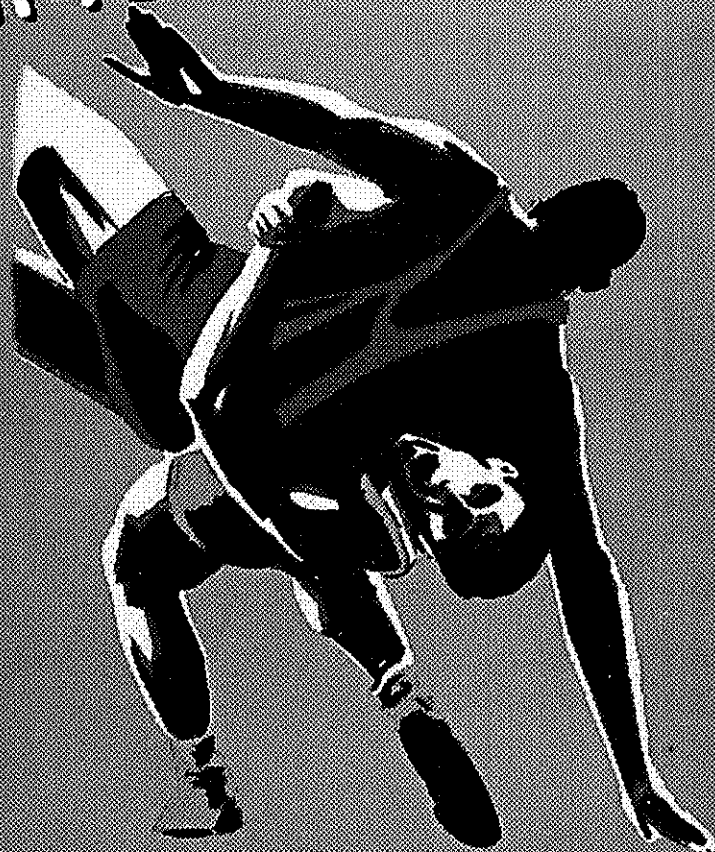
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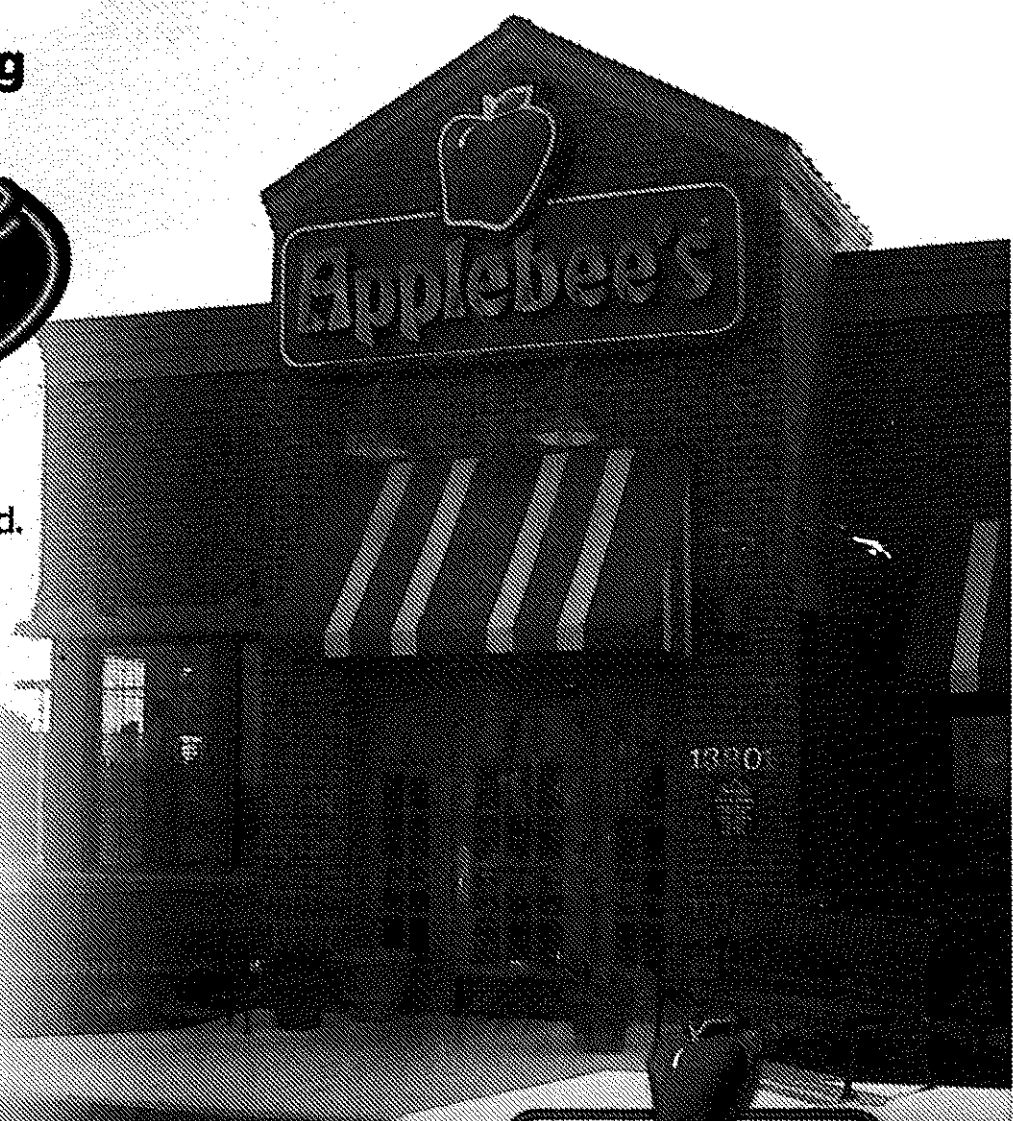


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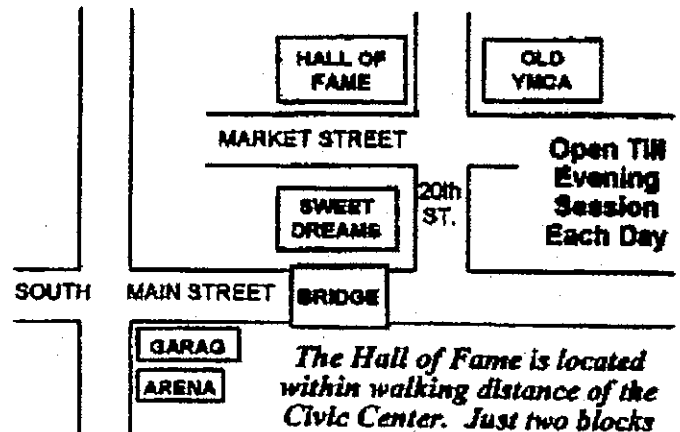
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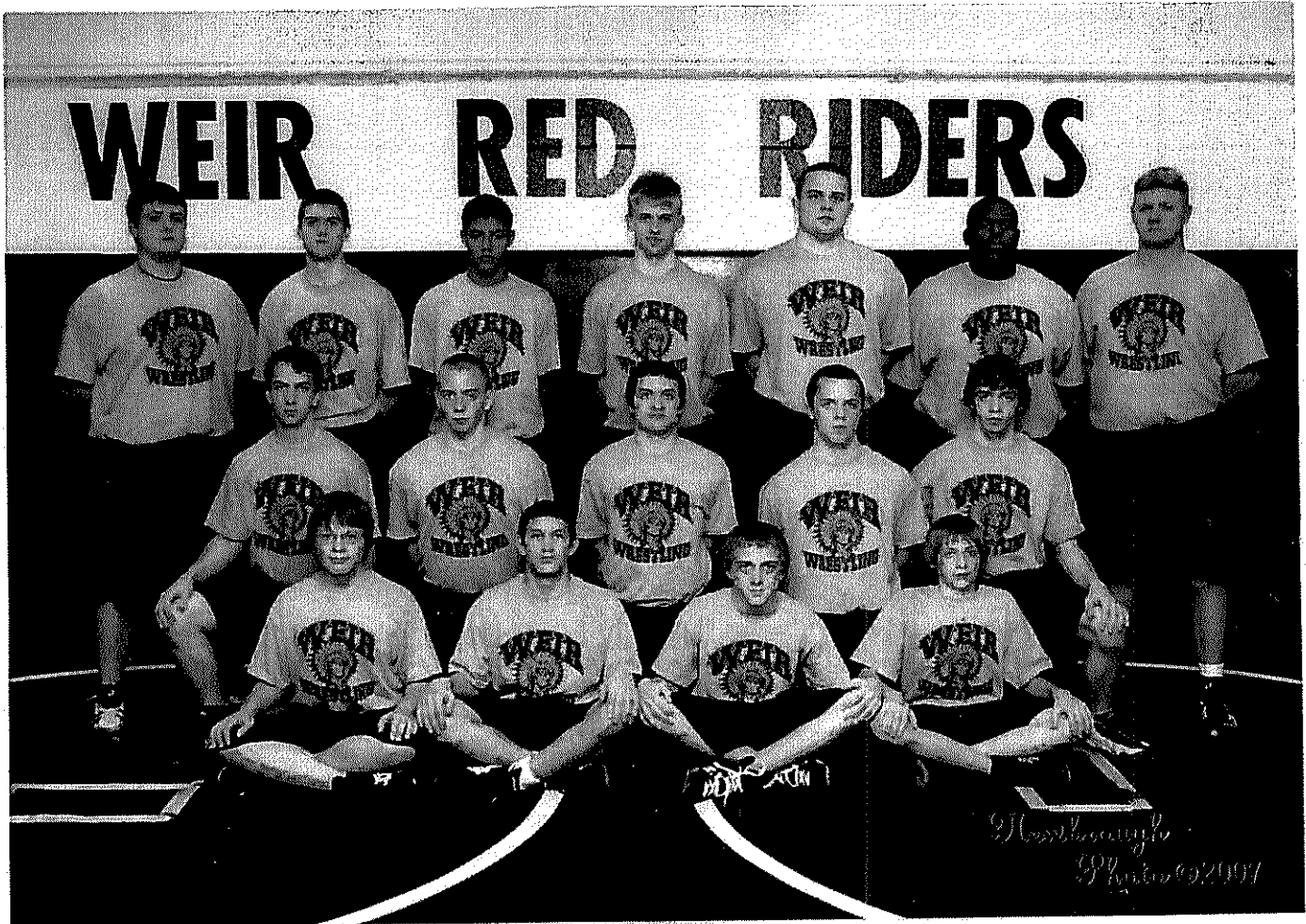
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Josh Paris
3rd Row: Coach Pernell – Wesley Barnes – Seth Gianessi – Adrian Camp
Derrick Rovira – Vance Miller – Coach Pernell

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Athletic Director, Mike Greene

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Seated: Keith Gubanez – Brian McGlone – Pedro Ortiz – Michael Horlacher
Joey Threatt – Ryan Lemasters
Kneeling: Mason Gubanez – Anthony Shane – Shane Siragusano – Nick Stine
Jack Stine – Andy Stine – Chris Branker
Standing: Daniel Goodwin – Danny Costa – Mason Taylor – Chris Decker
Tyler Frey – Corbin Cline – Kevin Childers
Not Pictured – Anthony Vein – Andy Phelps – Bandon Bradley
Coaching Staff: Head Coach, Bill Koehnlein – Asst. Coaches: Mike Smith
Mitch Costa Vol. Assts: John Costa - Harold Lemasters
Jamie Evans – Dave DiLenardo



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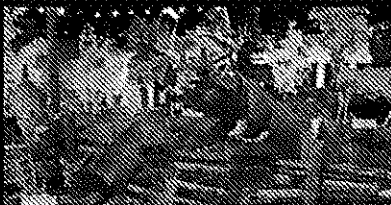
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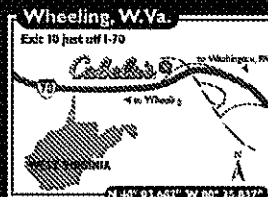


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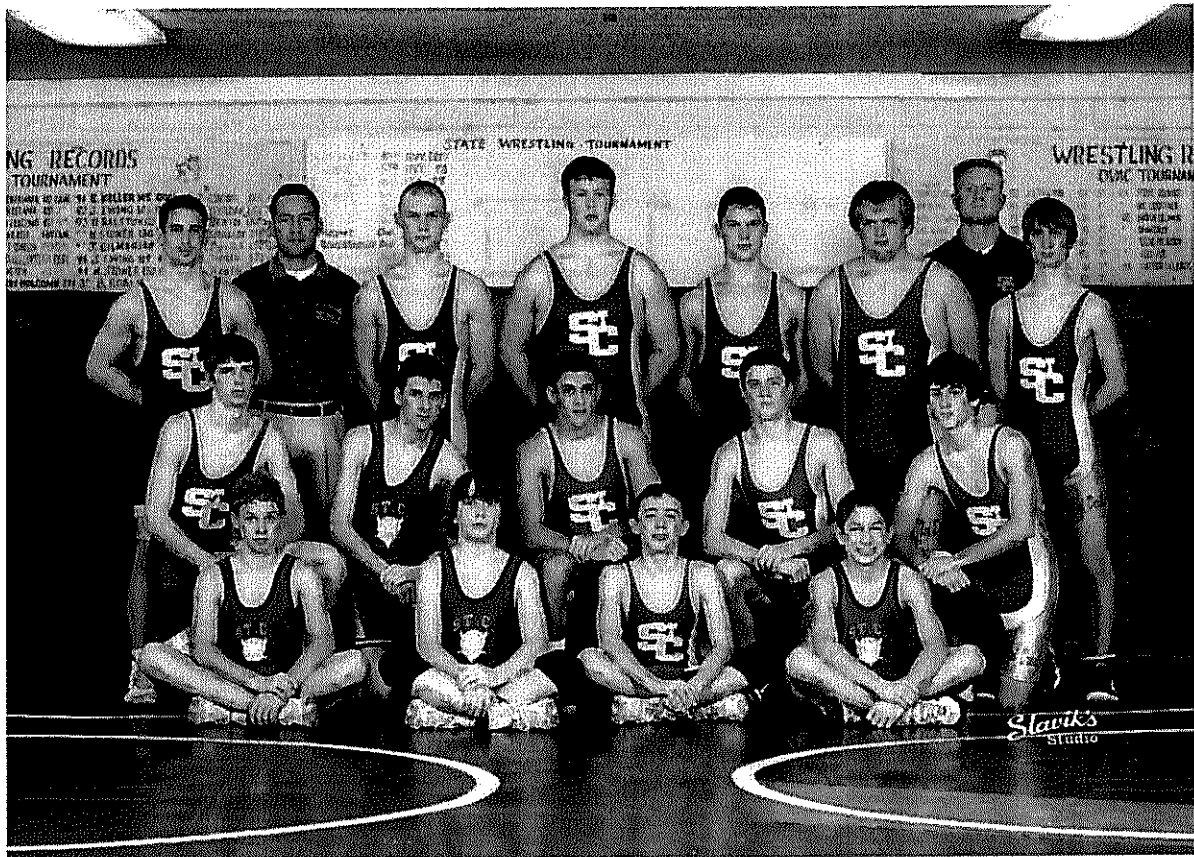
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Levi Holcomb - Chas Snyder - Corey McGarry - Coach Stephens
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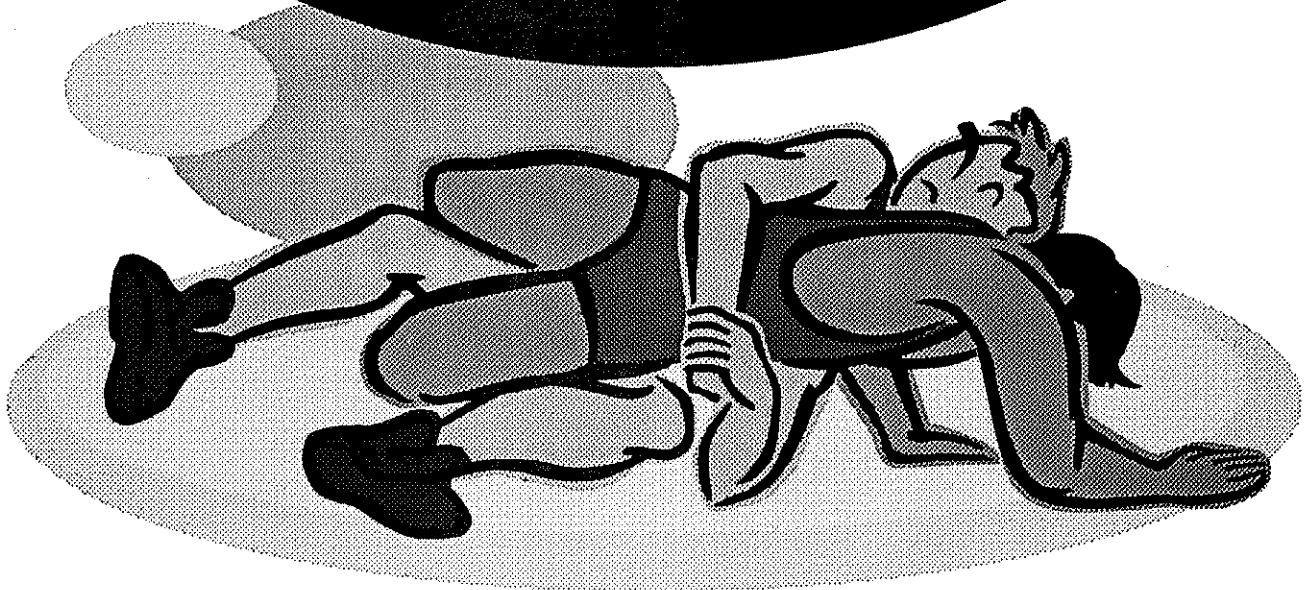
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Standing: Head Coach, Paul Robison – Asst. Coaches, Trevor Craig & Robert Muntz – Coleton Lindamood (10) – Schuyler Bondy (12) Nathan McConazughy (11) – Matt Taylor (10) – Asst. Coaches, Mike English & Ken Robison
Kneeling: Stat. Girl, Ashton Bondy – Brock Jones (9) – Dustin Piatt (10) John Schumacher (12) – Jesse O'Neal (11) – Johnathen Muntz (9) Ryan Richter (9) – Stat. Girl, Amanda Schumacher

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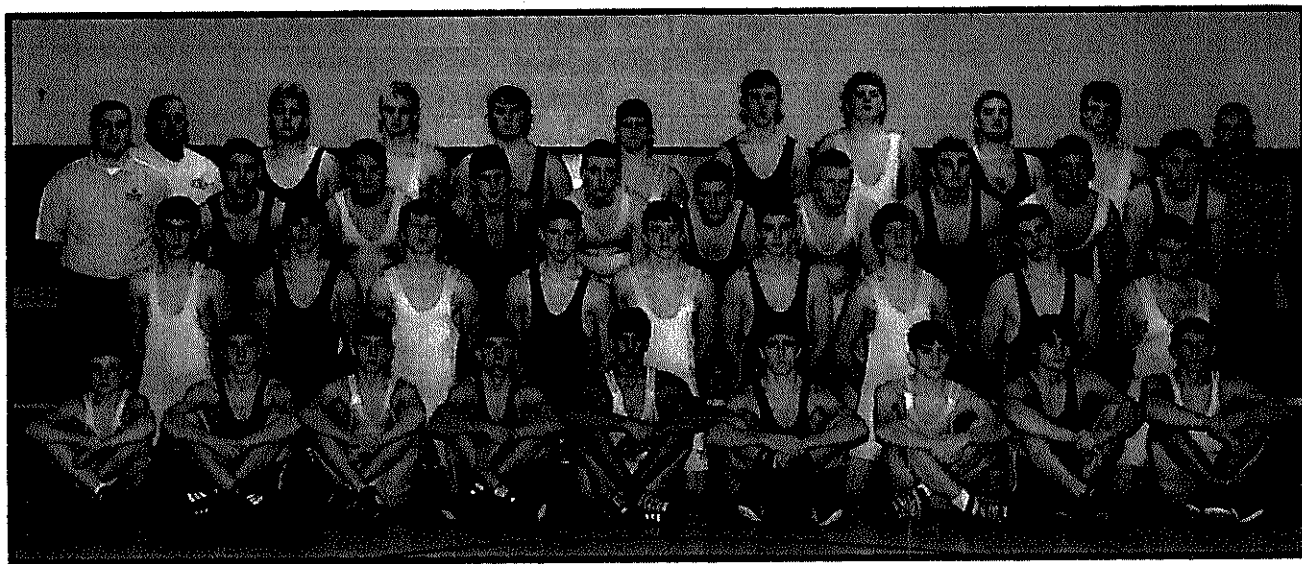
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John Marshall Monarchs



1st row: Justin Rine, Eric Beck, Dylan Aulenbacher, Justin Goode, Paul Flores,
Josh Longworth, Chad Ingram, Jeremy Howard, Christian Durig

2nd row: Dalton Hall, Ben Pockl, Demi Koulis, Levi Hall, Mack Kale, Jarrett Blake,
Marshall Mason, Matt Smith, Keith Haught

3rd row: Coach Koontz, Kason Melchiori, John Koulis, Dannie Ruza,
Michael Simmons, Bryan Morris, Sam Gilmore, Tyler Drushcel,
Michael Gonchoff, Greg Riggs

4th row: Coach Simmons, Tyler Crow, Lee Galentine, Paden Morris, Andrew Clark,
Trevor Dunn, Michael Berardi, Tyler Potts, Cody Taylor, Coach Zervos

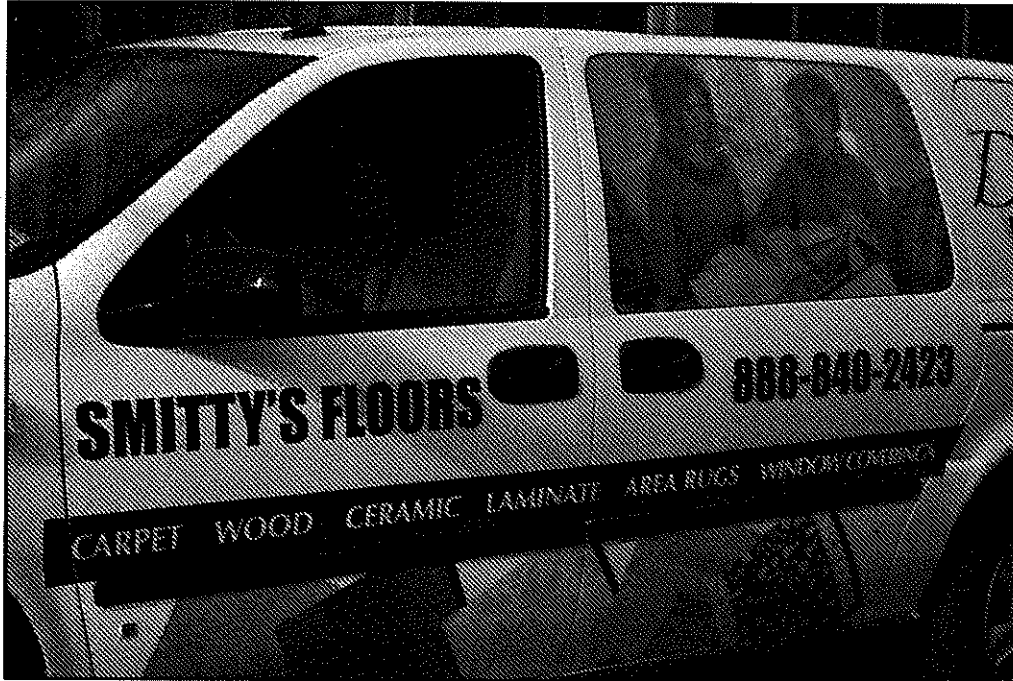


**Good Luck
Monarchs !!!!!**



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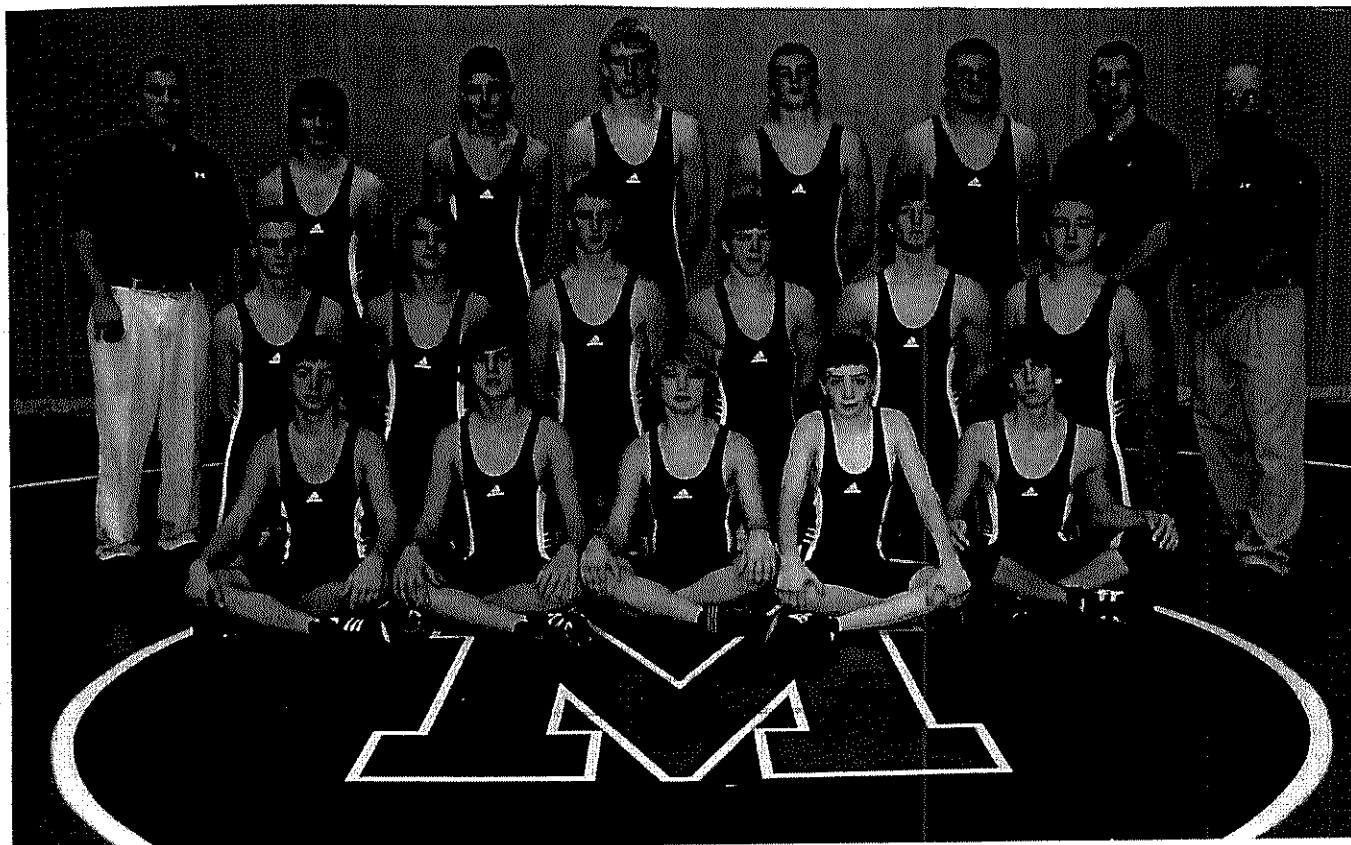
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'90 – Eric Wickham: '91 & '92 - Ric Ro

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Andrew Dettra

Middle: Jordan Payton – Cody Compton – Caleb Price – Ed Lehotay
Brandon Conrad – Clint Childers

Back: Troy Keith – Jonathan Smith – Derek Sisk – Kiefer Watson
Eric Ravak – Justin Pierce – Ben Cain – Tom Lehotay

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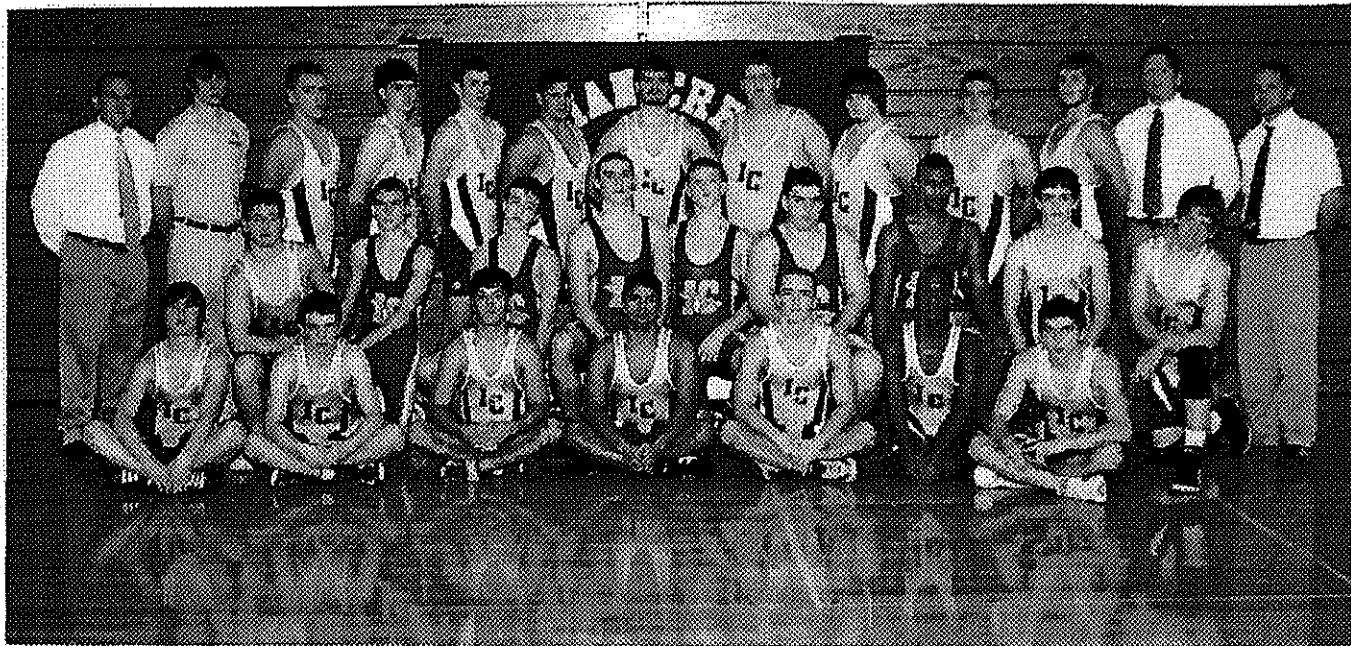
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INDIAN CREEK



Front: Justin LeRoy - Devin Mazik - Aaron Bolitho - Ashton Benton
Todd Parker - Joe Lawrence - Brandon Staudacher
Middle: Brian Polsinelli - Logan Pfouts - Justin Walker
Adam Wickham - Jon Renforth - Chris Ullery - Robert Yetts
Pat Marshall - Shawn Losey
Back: Coach Knight - Coach Emery - Anthony Rheinhardt
Erik Miller - Mike Emery - Brad Ensel - Tod Miller
Casey Nestor - Brian Ware - Matt Cowser - Anthony Petrella
Coach Grinch - Coach Pendleton

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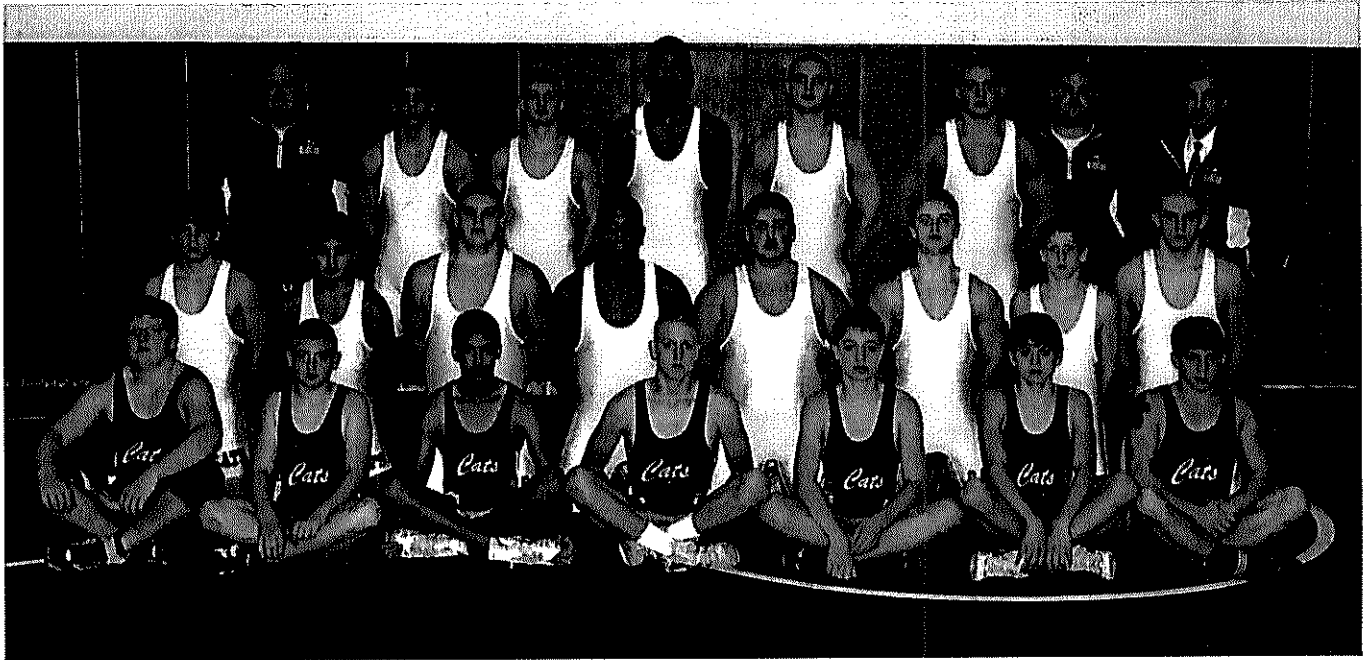
Don
Sloan

NEWS


9

The Most Local Sports.

CAMBRIDGE



1st: Caleb Gunn – John Scrudders – Justin Beatty – Devin Alfinan – Logan Kasinec – N/A
 Tyler Berger –
 2nd: Dillon VanDyne – Andrew Bertubin – Zac Wojciechowski – Robbie Moten – Nick Burligame
 Trevor Schaub – Tim Fox – John Coleman
 3rd: Coach, Tank Moore – Jon Ray – Paul Rose – James Beatty – Kirk Wetherell – Chad Teague
 Coach, Chad Kerns – Team Doctor, Dr. Paul Wright
 Not Pictured: Kenny Thompson – Coaches, Mark Bartlett & Dusty Braun

Supt. – Martha Moore-McConnell
 Principal – Scott Eldredge
 Ath. Director – Dave Gray
 School Colors – Royal Blue & White

'07 – 119# - Paul Rose 5th State Div II
 '07 – State Qualifiers

Good Luck Bobcats
 Feat



The Cambridge Athletic Boosters

Past OVAC Champions

'81 & '82 – 155# - Brian Duff 5th State AA
 '83 – HWT - Jamie Price 5th State AAA
 '84 – 119# - Denis Daugherty
 '84 – 126# - Heath Beardmore - Bierkorte Award
 '84 – 132# - Tim Pontius
 '88 – HWT - Tom "Tank" Moore 3rd State Div II
 '92 – 171# - Kelly Stevens
 '93 – 152# - Jeremy Wilkinson – State Champ Div II
 '95 – 160# - T.J. King
 '96 - 171# - T.J. King
 '99 – 119# - Jose Smith
 '01 – 171# - Jake Sowers
 '06 - 119# - Dustin Daugherty -6th State Div II



**“Why can’t you be cool
like other parents?”**

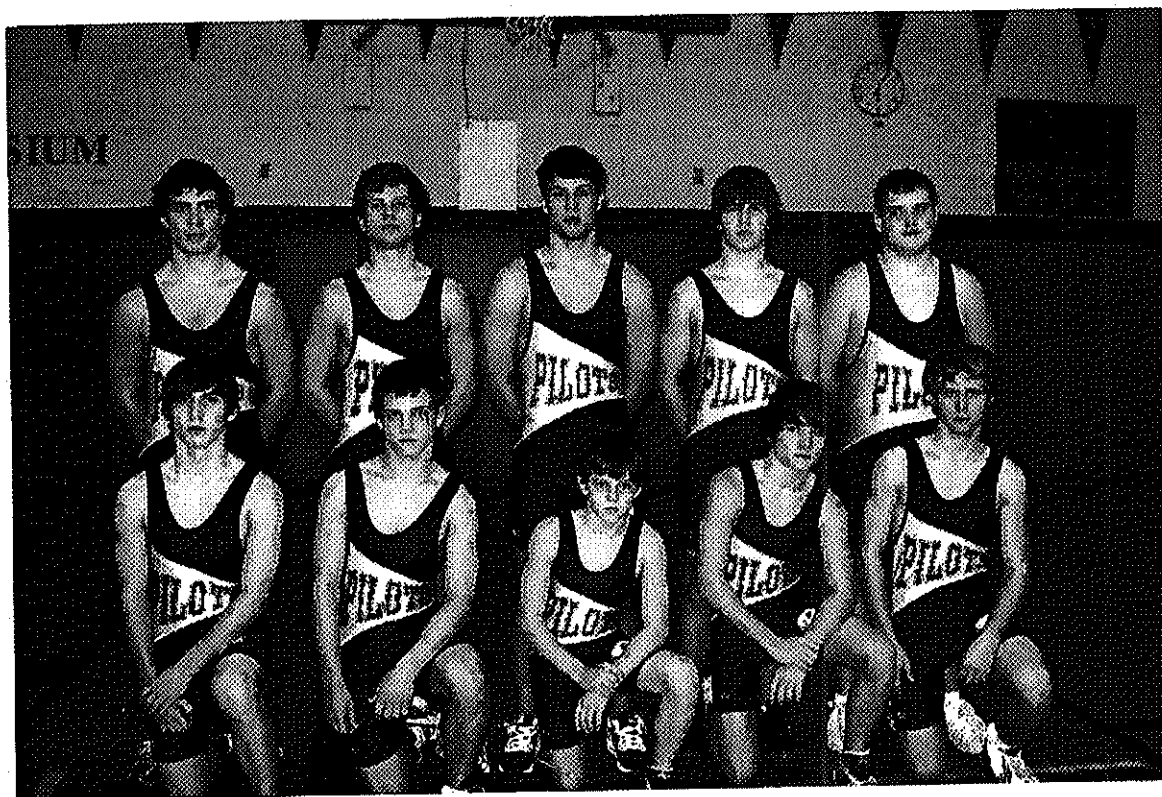


Actually, most parents agree that it's never "cool" to host a teen drinking party. It's wrong, and it's illegal. Talk with your teens, and help them find ways to have a good time without drinking.

Don't be a pushover. Be a parent.



RIVER PILOTS



Front: James West (130) – Flint Postle (135) – Josh Bartrug (103) – Journey Wayts (119)
Tyler Ollom (140)
Back: Jordan Clegg (215) - Tim Oldfield (152) – Troy Starr (189) – Paden Stewart (171)
Troy Haslam (285)
Not pictured: Zach Strickland (112)

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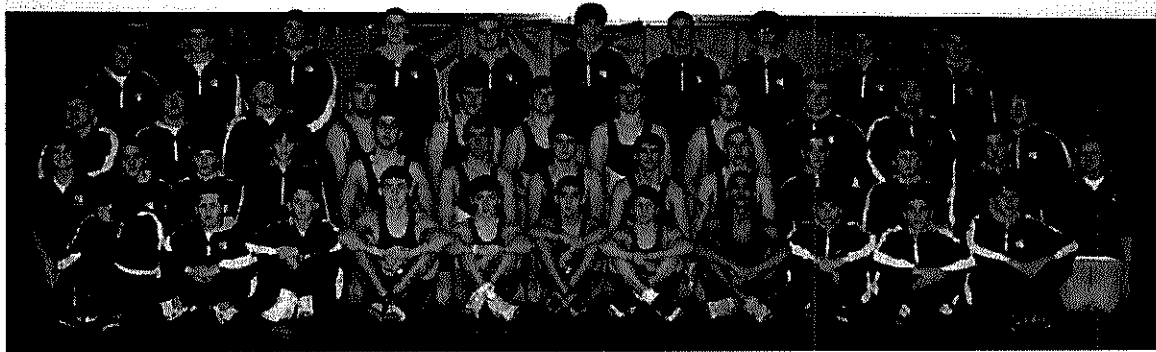
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101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
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STATE CHAMPIONS

201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300
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Row 1: De'Sean Scott – Nate Armstrong – John Nice – Bryce Rush – Nick Taylor – Aaron Majetich
 Dirk Bauer – Leo Rodriguez – Lawrence Carney – Hans Rogerson – Geiorge Schlosser
 Row 2: Jaclyn Fullerton (Trainer) – Dillon Kerns – Tyler Hixenbaugh – Travis Prochaska
 Danny Doyle – Brendon Gibson – Heath Beecher – Jason Waugh – Seth Bumgardner
 Matt Orosz – Cody Berisford - Will Ulrich - Alex Holaska (Trainer)
 Row 3: Mike Reed – Josh Lough – Mike Lough – Josh Anderson – Lucas Goodwin – Tyler Kettlewell
 Zach Kimmins – Vincent Gu – Tyler Coffield
 Row 4: Steven Nyomo – Collin Hudson – Catlin Jacobs – Tyler Settle – Keith Mays – Rob Kondrad
 Kegan Kerns – Cody Fluharty – Holden Ratcliff – Michael Grilli –
 Not pictured: Dutch Fisher – Joseph McKee – Marcus George – Darrick Amos – Joseph Dusci
 Brady McConnell – Jordan Deavers – Derek Minzler – Nathan Tustin

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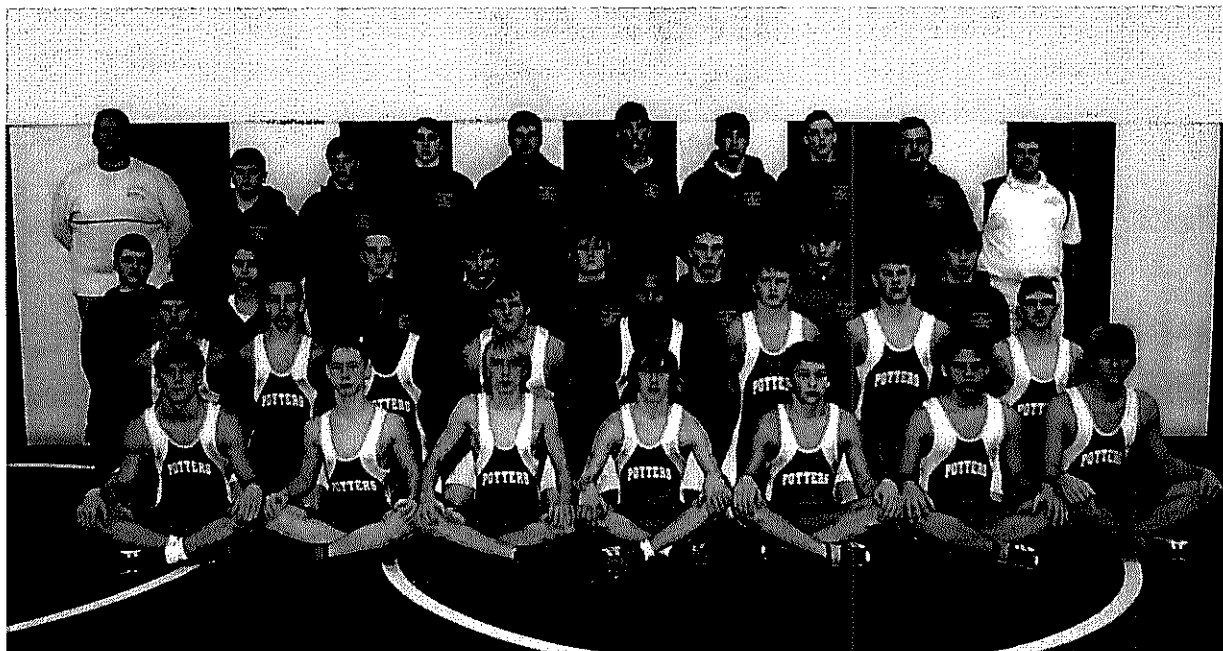
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East Liverpool Potters



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Brandon Kosut - Kyle Mecum - Michael Mercer - Alex Morris
Evan Schneider - Curtis VanDyke
- 10th - Michael Bucheit - Preston Foster - Monte Gonzalez - Dustin Green
Dylan Jones - Jacob Martin - Bobby McDole - Ryan Milan
Anthony Ours - Vince Ours - Rob Rowe - Chris Tatgenhorst
Josh Unger
- 11th Matt Bolen - Joe Coil - Josh Coil - Wyatt Duffield - Brandon Edison
Dalton Fitch - Lauren Lisk - Shane Wright
- 12th: Eric Lillie - Dennie Ours - Cagney Springer
Coaches - Head, Todd Smith - Assts. Sean Smith - Phil Rowe
Dean Hornbeck - Jr. High, Anthony Duffield & Nick Woods

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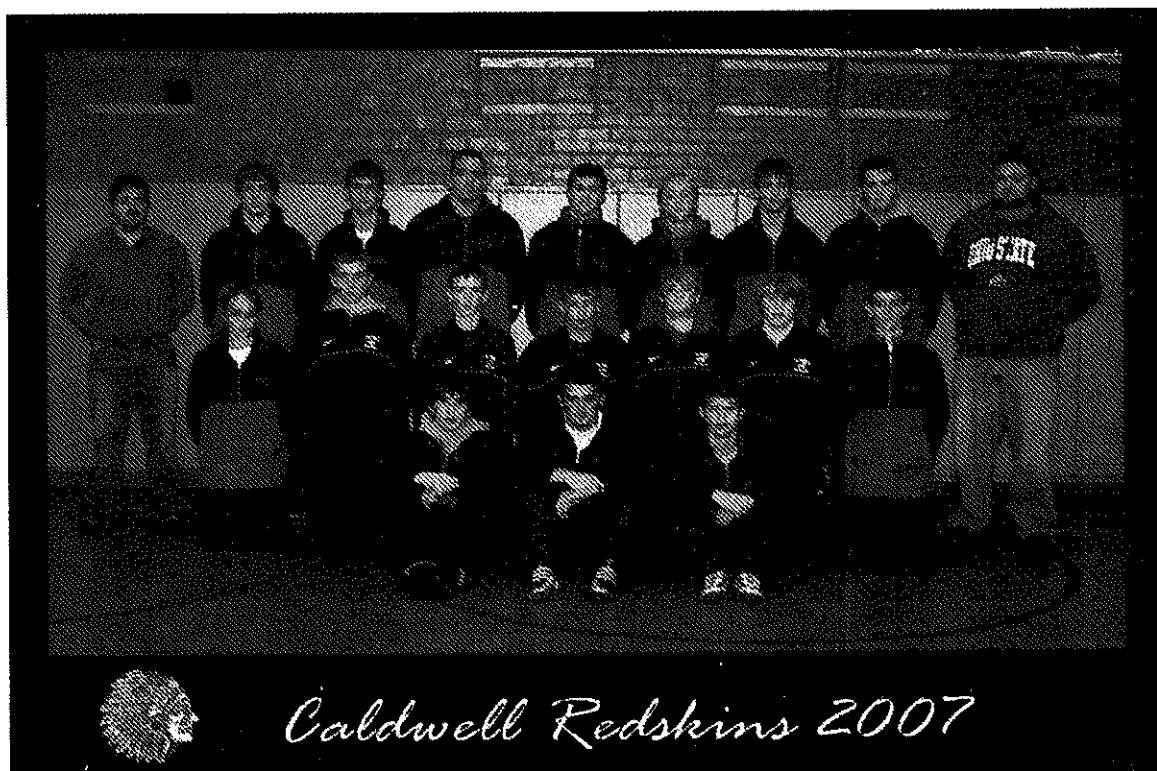
Wheeling News-Register



Herald-Star
The Weirton Daily Times

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CALDWELL WRESTLING



Front (L-R): Jared Border - Derick Hesson - Michael Rohrbaugh

**Middle: Brandy Waller - Cody Morris - Craig Davis - Nick Hummerick - Stephon Poulton
Bryan McKee - Jacob Border**

**Back: Head Coach, Dustin Robison - Patrick Pickenpaugh - Matt Leasure
Tom Schenkel - Nathan Abbott - Clint Boyd - Seth Todd - John Boney
Asst. Coach, Tom Brown**

CALDWELL ATHLETIC BOOSTERS CLUB



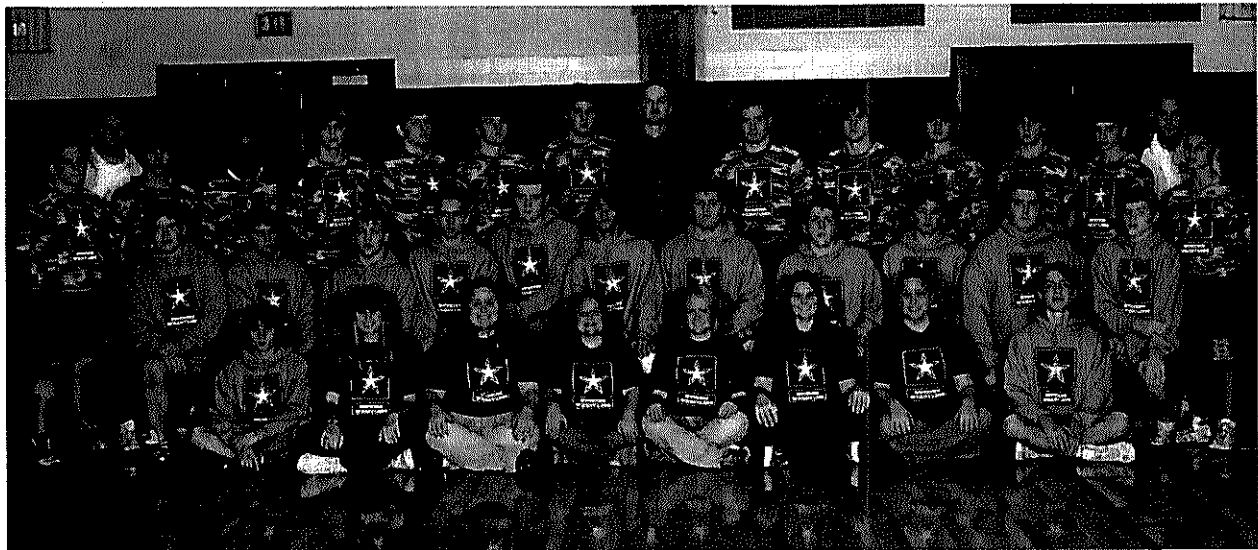
HUGHES XEROGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT in Bellaire is proud to support the

Enthusiasm. Confidence. Energy with a bit of attitude. Mix them together and you've got spirit, the special ingredient that gives one team an edge over another—no matter what the game is. HUGHES XEROGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT in Bellaire gives a rousing cheer for teamwork, which is at the core of every winning effort.

**HUGHES XEROGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT in Bellaire
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(740) 870-9000
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HARRISON HUSKIES



Front: David Watkins – Kirstie Warren – Lauren Knight – Morgan Heavilin
Katie Dodds - Kristina Brandon – Monica Bryant – Jacob Forrester
Middle: Jordan Case – Joey Dotson – Izack Baltic – Bryce Gianangeli
John Eckroth – Justin Currence – Jane Ojala – Ricky Fleming
Back: Rob Eddy – Asst. Coach, Bill Bryant – Nick Risdon – Taylor Banks
Dean Phillips - - Jake Mallernee – Cody Kaiser
Head Coach, Todd Dunlap – Ian Howell - Trevor Coffman – Jake Emery
Shawn Pate – Asst. Coach, Ken Parker – Darin Heavilin

AUTOGRAPHS



Hurray for the OVAC!

At Huntington we're kind of partial to H words. H is for honesty. Home. Harmony. Heart. And in this case, H is for Hurray. We say hurray for the OVAC and good luck to all the participants! We're so happy (another good H word) to be able to support something that makes our community a better place to be.

 **Huntington**

A bank invested in people.



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**Wishing our best
to the valley's
best.**



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