



2005 State Man-of-the-Year Award



Dick Bailey
San Diego, California

Dick is the President of the San Diego Wrestling Association. He is also an active organizer of the California State Games. Dick is actively involved with local high school, freestyle, and Greco-Roman tournaments in the San Diego area. He was the assistant coach at Valhalla High School, 1986-88. Dick was recently awarded the 2005 Irv Oliner Award for outstanding contribution to California High School wrestling.



Roger Mischke
Joseph, Minnesota

The past 10 years, Roger has served as a staff writer for *The Guillotine Wrestling Newspaper* with a Central Minnesota Mat Rats Reports, Class "A" Ratings Editor, Websites Reporter, and updates results. Roger spends over 12 hours each Sunday night doing it. Very few people do as much for wrestling as Roger does. Wrestling is his passion.



John Olivas
Johnstown, Colorado

John Olivas has worked around the clock to make a difference for the sport of wrestling in the state of Colorado. Five years ago, he started a website called ColoradoWrestling.com and has managed to cover all levels of wrestling in the state. The website has everything including dual and tournament results, articles, interviews, rankings, and links to all the state's newspapers. John is a big reason for the growth of the sport in the state.



Martin Fleming
Tarboro, North Carolina

Martin Fleming has been the editor of the Takedown Report for 8 years. He is a promoter of amateur wrestling especially in eastern North Carolina. Martin e-mails coaches, fans, and wrestlers numerous links to wrestling sites. He is a tournament director and is instrumental for getting the state high school tournament carried on North Carolina public television. Martin is most certainly a "giver-back" to the sport of wrestling.



William J. Grant
Florida

William J. Grant has given a great deal of his life to Florida wrestling. Bill, as his friends know him, has coached high school and youth wrestling, has refereed at the state and national level, and has been on the Florida USA Board many times and now serves as State Chairman.



Jon Connole
Pennsylvania

Jon Connole, a graduate of Marquette University in 1985, has served as Athletic Director of the St. George wrestling program for 4 years and an officer of the Cathedral Prep Wrestling Boosters for 4 years. He also ran business operations of the Greater Erie Wrestling Club for 3 years and helped launch the Great Lakes Elementary Wrestling League for youth programs of which he has served as treasurer for 6 years. Jon took over Tom Elling's *Pennsylvania Wrestling News* this past year and developed it into a first-rate publication, respected around Pennsylvania and the nation.



Bill Johnson
Norton, Kansas

Norton's Bill Johnson is a contributor to Kansas wrestling on many levels. He is a very successful coach at Norton High School with two straight state team titles, 63 state placers, 20 state champions, and a 119-32 dual record in 14 years. He has served on the KWCA Board for 16 years, has been Junior National Team Director for seven years, and is active with USAW-KS on the youth level. He was a national champion collegiate wrestler at Fort Hays State.



Jeff Price
Tennessee

Jeff Price has coached 21 years at the college and high school level. After moving to Science Hill five years ago, Price's "Hilltoppers" have won five consecutive Region Dual Meet Championships and four consecutive Traditional Region Championships while amassing a 57-1 dual meet record against region schools. His teams have consistently finished in the top ten in the state. Recently, he, along with his assistant coach and 2 wrestlers, participated in a triathlon in which they raised \$4,000 to assist cancer victims.



Steve Swindells Augusta, Maine

Steve coached middle school wrestling for 10 years and became totally involved in the sport. In 1973, he was asked to officiate. In four decades, he has tried to be consistent and give the wrestlers a fair opportunity. He was advised that a good referee is not part of the show, but is in the background. He has never missed a meet or state tournament. Numerous current coaches in Maine were wrestlers that he had the honor of officiating and longevity has provided more fun and found memories that any man could possibly expect.



Ross Halford Nebraska

Ross Halford supports wrestling in the state of Nebraska through his online website "Huskermat". Ross also fosters a weekly radio program which celebrates high school wrestling throughout the state. In addition to these things, Ross travels extensively throughout the state covering wrestling on all levels. Ross is a tireless worker in the name of Nebraska wrestling. Ross is a true ambassador for wrestling.



Jack Craig New England Region

First at Fay and then at Moses Brown, Jack has instilled the passion of wrestling into hundreds of young men. A gentleman on and off the mat, perhaps the greatest lesson ever taught is how to act with grace and humility. Wrestlers always felt a deep care for them as they grew from novice boys into capable athletes. Jack's tireless efforts on behalf of the coaches association showed colleagues that there is so much more to wrestling than what takes place on the mats. For years, Jack has kept the association headed in the path of always doing what is best for our kids.



Neil Adleberg Baltimore, Maryland

Neil Adleberg is the past coach of 3 national prep championship teams. He has coached 5 national prep champions, 11 Division I wrestlers and created the largest and toughest high school wrestling tournament in the state using much of his own money to fund the Mount Mat Madness Tournament for the past two years. He has given so much for Maryland wrestling.



Mike Anderson Randolph, Vermont

Mike has been an advocate for Vermont wrestling as a coach and official. He is highly regarded as an official on the state, regional and national level. In the 17 years as a coach, he's led 17 individuals to state championships, 1 New England champion, and 1 Asics All-American. Mike left coaching in 1995 and then returned for one more year in 2003 which led to a 3rd place state finish. Mike's officiating expertise brings him to the Virginia Duals and Mid-West City Classic each year. He currently sits on the Wrestling Rules Committee for the National Federation of High Schools.



Jim Kaufman New Hampshire

Athletic Director for the Bow School District since the high school's opening in 1997, Jim has thirty years of coaching, officiating or meet management in high school wrestling. Jim was a high school wrestler at Framingham North, Massachusetts and Springfield College. He has clerked state championships the last 8 years and clerked the New Hampshire state meet of champions the last seven years. He was the meet announcer at the 1999 New England Championships. Jim has run summer wrestling clinics in Concord and Bow and conducts an annual Greek wrestling week for the Bow School District.



Todd Guidry Lafayette, Louisiana

Todd Guidry is the driving force behind the success of Northside High's two consecutive state championships. Todd dedicates his time and spends his own money to progress the wrestling program at Northside High School. He currently has a youth wrestling program in the works.



Ron Seibel Moses Lake, Washington

For 35 years Ron Seibel taught and coached in Moses Lake, seven at Frontier Junior High and the last 28 for the Chiefs of Moses Lake High School. Seibel's teams placed in the top four at state twenty times. Twenty-six times his teams finished in the top ten. Ron coached nine state championship teams along with seven runner-up finishes and two third place trophies. 132 state placers wrestled for Seibel, including 26 state champions and 29 runners-up. The teams he coached won 23 league titles and 25 district titles. His dual meet record in the Big Nine was 227-7-2 and his overall record was 408-28-2.



Gary Papa Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Gary Papa led the Camden Catholic Fighting Irish to #1 in New Jersey and to the top 20 national ranking with 400 + victories, 7 state championships and 9 district titles. He is a true leader of men.



John Johnson Iowa

John Johnson is one of the top wrestling photographers in the country. This year he accomplished a feat that is unparalleled in wrestling media coverage. John covered five collegiate national tournaments including the NJCAA, NAIA, and all three NCAA wrestling championships. John also writes numerous wrestling stories for various media outlets, officiates, and volunteers as a coach. He is a three-term officer in the National Wrestling Media Association having served two terms as treasurer and one term as president. John is a 3x national wrestling photographer of the year and also a voting member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.