

*20th Annual New York Chapter*  
**National Wrestling**  
**Hall of Fame and Museum**  
*Dinner and Induction Ceremony*



2015 Inductees

*September 18, 2016*

Double Tree Hotel, 6301 Route 298, East Syracuse, NY



## *Welcome*

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you to our 2016 Upstate New York Chapter banquet and induction ceremony. This year marks Upstate New York's 20th class of inductees into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame's State Chapter program.

This year the NWHOF is celebrating its 40th Anniversary as a cultural institution for the sport of wrestling in the United States. The Board of Governors is grateful to our State Chapter volunteer leaders in Upstate New York for representing our organization within your wrestling community, and for annually recognizing the heritage of our sport's most prominent legacy makers.

The individuals being honored here today are members of a great mission and legacy not just in their state, but in our sport. They are heroes to the people they have impacted through their work in the sport and beyond, and provide an inspiration to future generations. Their dedication, service, and leadership build and sustain our sport one individual, one program, and one community at a time.

Your state chapter and the honorees from the State of Upstate New York are truly inspirational in their efforts to help grow and fortify our sport and their communities.

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, I want to congratulate the honorees being inducted today. Their names will soon appear in the newly renovated National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum's John T. Vaughan Hall of Honors in Stillwater, Oklahoma. We hope that each of you have the opportunity to visit the Hall of Fame with your family and friends.

In the spirit of preserving, honoring and recognizing.

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee R. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Lee Roy Smith  
Executive Director, NWHOF

# In Memorial Past Inductees



*Elmer Akley*



*Richard Brown*



*Art Connorton*



*Gary Dillingham*



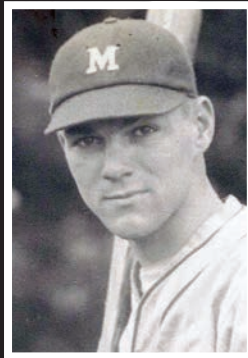
*Sam Elia*



*Robert Felmeier*



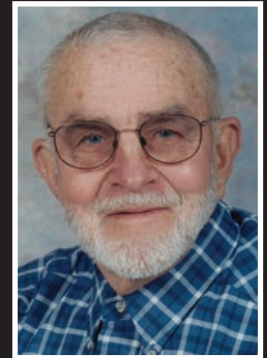
*Al Feuz*



*Frank Giltner*



*Bill Layton*



*Douglas Lobdell*



*Robert "Bo" MacNeill*



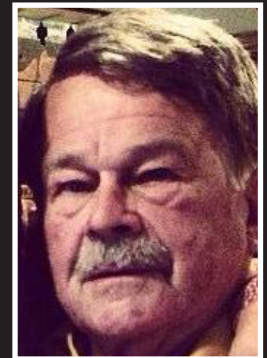
*Jimmy Miller*



*Roger Miller*



*Lou Pettinelli*



*Stanley Riggs*



*Tom Robertson*



*Frank Sorochinsky*



*John Spencer*



*Mark Stephens*



*Jack Williams*

# *Welcome*

The New York State Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is pleased to honor the following individuals: Brad Hamer—Jordan-Elbridge High School; Charles Hughes—Waverly High School; Thomas Hurley—Elmira Southside High School, posthumously; John Kopalek—Chenango Valley High School; Richard Morton—Salamanca High School; John Murray—Ithaca College; Robert Stulmaker—NYSPHSAA and Saratoga Springs High School; Robert Zifchock—Valley Central High School, Liam Ollive—Medal of Honor Award—Beacon City High School and James Carrier—Edgewood Management—has been selected to receive the Outstanding American Award. In addition, John Drew of the Central New York Wrestling website will receive the Stanbro Media Award and Kevin Parker, Shenendehowa High School has been selected as the Outstanding Wrestler in New York State for the 2015-16 season. All of the above are being recognized for their efforts as coaches, teachers, officials, wrestlers, contributors or role models and influence on young wrestlers they associated with in the sport.

The pinnacle of any person's career in athletics is the permanent recognition of the individual by the sport's Hall of Fame. These men are being honored by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame with an award that is not about won/loss records; it is about a person's tireless and dedicated efforts to develop the characteristics in young people that will allow them to succeed not just in wrestling but in life.

The Lifetime Service Award program, coordinated by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, is designed to honor and recognize dedicated wrestling people for their years of commitment to young people and our great sport of wrestling.

These individuals—Bradford Hamer, Charles Hughes, Thomas Hurley—posthumously, John Kopalek, Richard Morton, John Murray, Robert Stulmaker, Robert Zifchock, Liam Ollive—Medal of Courage and James Carrier, Outstanding American will be permanently recognized in the Hall of Fame at the State Chapter Exhibit and each will receive a plaque or award to commemorate their efforts.

## **Krista Graff**

National Wrestling Hall of Fame  
State Chapters Executive Director

## **Carl Koenig**

President

National Wrestling Hall of Fame—Upstate New York Chapter

## **Board of Directors**

National Wrestling Hall of Fame—Upstate New York Chapter

Fred Brown, Don DeBadts, Stan Elinsky

Pat Greene, Pete Hausrath, Reed Hawke, Tim Herman,

Jim Howard, Eric Knuutila, Don Kovalchik,

Carl Koenig, John Kopalek, Jack LaBombard, Frank Marotta

Fred Marcello, Jim McCloe, Ed Michael, Jack Stanbro

Sonja Stanbro, and Bob Zifchock

# *New York State Chapter Mission Statement*

The future of American society depends upon the existence of a strong citizenry, comprised of individuals with leadership qualities based upon self-discipline, self-reliance and self-confidence. The sport of wrestling helps build these characteristics in youth regardless of their physical, economic, cultural or geographic backgrounds. The National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum seeks to broaden the understanding and development of these values in the following manner:

1. Through recognition of those who have demonstrated these characteristics while achieving or developing excellence in the sport as wrestlers, coaches and contributors.
2. Through recognition of those who have demonstrated these characteristics while achieving excellence in other walks of life after participating in wrestling.
3. Through the maintenance of documentation and memorabilia that depicts and preserves the history of the sport.
4. Through the stimulation and encouragement of those who established and conduct activities at all levels nationwide.
5. Through the development of State Chapters that will continuously strive to enhance the image of the sport of wrestling at the state and national levels.

## **Board of Directors**

National Wrestling Hall of Fame—Upstate New York Chapter

Fred Brown, Don DeBadts, Stan Elinsky, Pat Greene, Pete Hausrath, Reed Hawke,  
Tim Herman, Jim Howard, Eric Knuutila, Don Kovalchik,  
Carl Koenig, John Kopalek, Jack LaBombard, Frank Marotta,  
Fred Marcello, Jim McCloe, Ed Michael  
Jack Stanbro, Sonja Stanbro, Bob Zifchock

*Recognizing Excellence in Wrestling  
Preserving the History & Heritage of Wrestling  
Inspiring Future Generations*

# *Induction Program*

**12:00 p.m. Reception**

Harbour Ballroom  
Honorees' Individual Exhibits & Cocktails/Social

**1:30 p.m. Welcome and Introductions**

Carl Koenig, President  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Upstate New York Chapter

Master of Ceremony—Robert Zifchock  
TV Commentator for Section I Wrestling Championships  
Member of New York State Wrestling Hall of Fame  
Presenter for numerous professional development conferences  
Coach of 1988 New York State Team Champions—Valley Central

Introduction of Past Members & Distinguish Inductees in Attendance

Entrance of 2016 Inductees & Award Winners

**1:40 p.m. National Anthem & Invocation**

Allison Beckwith, National Anthem, Oxford Academy & Central School  
Frank Marotta—Invocation—Member of Board of Directors  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame—Upstate New York Chapter

**Dinner**

**2:40 p.m. Awards Ceremony**

Robert Zifchock—Master of Ceremony  
Stanbro Media Award  
Upstate New York Outstanding Wrestler  
Lifetime Service Awards, Outstanding American Award & Medal of Courage

**National Wrestling Hall of Fame**

Closing Remarks  
Robert Zifchock

*Safe Travels Home*

*Presenters for the Honored Guests  
Lifetime Service Awards*

**Honored Guest Bradford Hamer**

Presenter — T.J. Fraher

**Honored Guest Charles Hughes**

Presenter — James McCloe

**Honored Guest Thomas Hurley Posthumously**

Presenter — Michael Stephens

**Honored Guest John Kopalek**

Presenter — Fred Marcello

**Honored Guest Richard Morton**

Presenter — Eric Knuutila

**Honored Guest John Murray**

Presenter — Andy Noel

**Honored Guest Robert Stulmaker**

Presenter — Marty Sherman

**Honored Guest Robert Zifchock**

Presenter — Steven Fischbein

**Honored Guest James Carrier – Outstanding American Award**

Presenter — Richard “Pete” Hausrath

**Honored Guest Liam Ollive — Medal of Courage**

Presenter — Ron Tompkins

*Stanbro Media Award*

John Drew

*New York State Outstanding Wrestler*

Kevin Parker — Shenenedohowa

**CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU**

**To All Upstate NY Hall of Fame Inductees  
And Award Winners**

**We appreciate your great contributions to our  
New York State wrestlers.**

**Section 5 Friends of Wrestling  
Wrestling Officials Association of Section 5**

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**Congratulations to all the  
2016 National Wrestling  
Hall of Fame Inductees  
and especially to good friends  
Brad Hamer  
Bob Stulmaker  
Bob Zifchock**

**FRANK AND ROBERTA MAROTTA**



## *Lifetime Service Award— Bradford Hamer*

Section III has been Brad Hamer's home for wrestling since he graduated from Fulton High School and continued his college wrestling at Cortland State under the tutelage of Vince Gonino. Following graduation from Cortland, Brad served one year at Albany as the graduate assistant to Joe Garcia and then embarked on a coaching career in Section III at Copenhagen and Liverpool High School.



Hamer then moved to Port Byron High School where he successfully rebuilt the Panther's wrestling program into a Section III powerhouse. His Port Byron's teams captured two OHSL League Championship and Brad was named the OHSL South Coach of the Year in 1992 and 1993. In 1992 his team received the John Arcaro Sportsmanship Award given by the Syracuse Wrestling Officials Association. Brad compiled 110 wins during his coaching career and produced many sectional place winners.

Brad became the Athletic Director for two years at Port Byron and then moved to Onondaga Central and served there as the Vice Principal and Athletic Director. He finished his educational administrative career at Jordan Elbridge where he was the Assistant Principal and Director of HPEA for 14 years.

Brad has been for the last fifteen years the Section III Wrestling Coordinator and member of the New York State Wrestling Committee. From 2012-14, Brad was selected to be the President of Section III Athletics and still serves as a member of the Executive Committee of Athletics in the section.

In addition, Brad was instrumental in the establishing the Friends of Section III Wrestling in 2008. The Friends of Section III Wrestling has been very active in improving and supporting wrestling in the section with a Section III Wrestling Hall of Fame banquet, donating eight score clocks for the sectional finals, and providing the medals to all place winners.

Brad is active in his community as a member of the Jordan Elbridge Dollars for Scholars program, Jordan Fall Festival Committee, Jordan Community Council and being a member of the Jordan United Methodist Church where he sings in the choir and acts as Lay Leader.

Brad and his wife, Shannon, resides in Jordan and are the proud parents of two children Daniel and Kelly and the grandparents of Taylor Ann.

# Congratulations

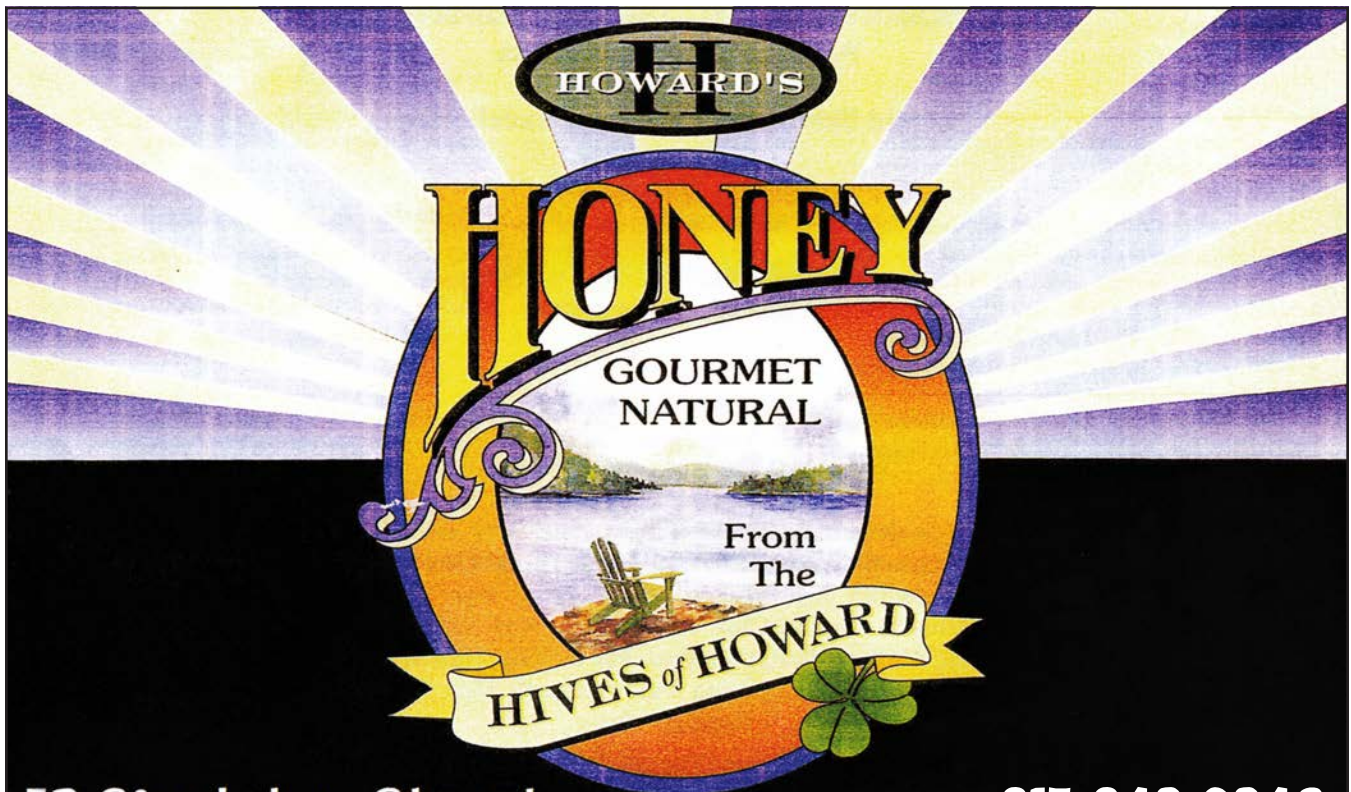
on your induction into the  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame  
**Robert Zifchock**



*If you advance confidently in the direction of your dreams,  
and endeavor to live the life that you have imagined,  
you will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.*

Henry David Thoreau

NYS Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance  
77 North Ann Street, Little Falls, NY 13365 (315) 823-1015 nysahperd.org



52 Singleton Street  
Oswego, NY 13126

315-342-0246  
315-591-4234

## *Lifetime Service Award— Charles Hughes*



Charlie Hughes has been at the forefront of Waverly High School Wrestling for 34 years during that time he has served as Hall of Fame (2008) Coach Jim McCloe’s assistant and the head coach for his final eight years of coaching. Coach Hughes attended Slippery Rock College coached by the great Fred Powell. Charlie benefited greatly from wrestling at the Rock by having such standout wrestlers on the team like Jack Spates (former Cornell Big Red and Oklahoma University coach), Stan Dziejcz (NCAA champion), Robbie Waller and a host of others including himself.

Coach Eric D’Arcy of Newark Valley attribute much of the success of Coach McCloe’s wrestling teams to the outstanding work that Charlie did. Eric states that, “Charlie is technically very knowledgeable and all his athletes respect and desire to do their best for their coach.” This has been proven out by the fact that in the 1999-00 season, Hughes received the New York State Assistant Coach of the Year Honor given by the NWCA. As the head coach at Waverly Charlie’s team had a 93-60 record and won the Division II New York State Public High School Athletic Association’s state title in 2009. He has had four New York Division II State Champions—Brian Sewatt (2009), Chris Nocchi (2009), Ryan Wolcott (2014) and (2015) state champion AJ Burkhart. Furthermore, he has developed many Section IV and IAC champions and place winners.

Charlie placed a premium on good sportsmanship and his team reflect this—several of his Waverly Wolverines’ teams have received the Section IV Officials Association Sportsmanship Awards. Coach Hughes has also been active in the National Wrestling Coach Association and is a member of the Executive Board of the Friends of Section IV Wrestling.

Charlie and his wife, Janet, for 39 years are retired school teachers who have three children. Kati and her husband Gregg Altieri live in Pittsburgh where Kati is a physical education teacher in the Fox Chapel School District. His other daughter Jessica Shirley along with her husband Eric Shirley live in the Virginia Beach area. Jessica is a Sr. Advertising Coordinator for Anthem, Inc. Charlie’s son, Eric, works for NUWAY wrestling out of the Cornell wrestling office and was a standout track and wrestling athlete at Waverly High School.

The Upstate New York Chapter is proud to honor Charlie with the Life-time Service Award for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

*Congratulations to All 2016  
National Wrestling  
Hall of Fame Honorees  
Upstate New York Chapter*

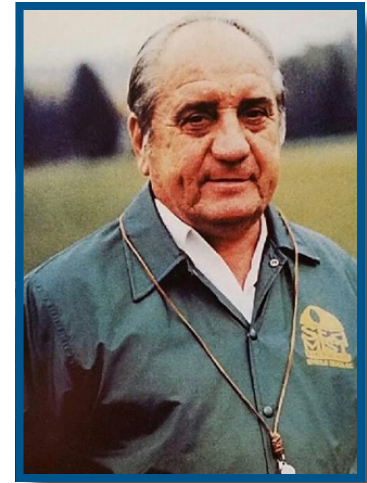


521 Main Street, Chenango Bridge, NY



## *Tom Hurley— Posthumously*

“Coach” Tom Hurley grew up in the Wilkes-Barre, PA area and graduated from Coughlin High School in 1946 where he was played several sports. Football was his first love and he played it during his two years in the Marine Corps (1946-48) and during his college career at Mansfield State. In 1954 he started his teaching career at the Elmira Southside High School and became the head wrestling coach in 1956 and served in that capacity until 1970.



He also had a 23-year career as the head football coach at ESS and in October 1992 the new sports complex at Southside was dedicated to Tom. At the dedication, Kevin Callahan, one of Tom’s former players who is the head coach at Division I – AA Monmouth University, stated, “I am sure at the time, he didn’t envision us moving on and becoming coaches, at the college or high school level. He was training us for life and teaching us to be good people, to do the right thing and be role models.”

Tom Hurley has been considered one of the most successful coaches in the history of athletics in the Elmira City School District. While the wrestling coach Tom achieved a 154-29-3 record along with developing 12 Section IV Champions and two state champions during this tenure. In 1967 Tom received the New York State Coaches Association Honor Award in wrestling and was selected as the Coach of the Decade for the 1960’s.

Mike Stephens, brother of Tom’s first state champion and Hall of Fame honoree Mark Stephens (2013), added “there is no doubt that without Coach Hurley my brother would never had won his 1966 state championship.”

Impressive as his accolades are for wrestling he was also an outstanding football coach at Elmira. His Elmira teams won 113 games and garnered six conference championships and in 1971 and 1974 he was selected as the Coach of the Year in the conference. Today the Elmira City Schools present the Most Valuable Football Player Award in the memory of Tom.

In addition, Tom was one of the founding fathers of the Section IV Wrestling Officials Association and served as their assigner for many years. He accomplishments as an official included working the New York State Wrestling Championships four times—1971, 72, 76 and 77. Tom spent his life serving and working for his student/athletes and the sports that he loved. Jim Gush, defensive coordinator for Baylor University and player for Tom at ESS, sums it up best with this statement, “Tom meant so much to me as a person. To me, he’s the legend.” He is truly a worthy honoree for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

# Special Tribute

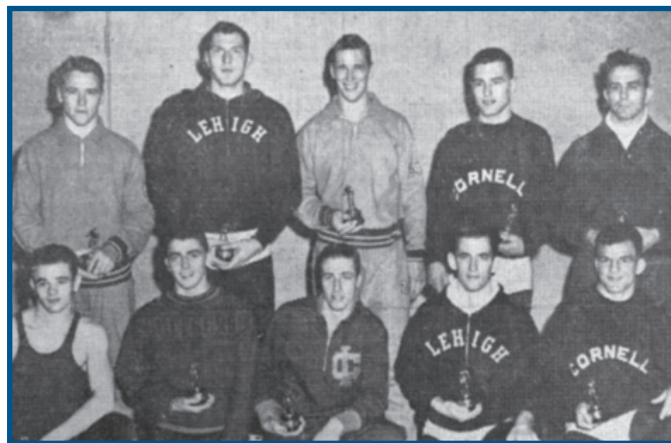
## Coach Jim Howard—“Mr. Legs”



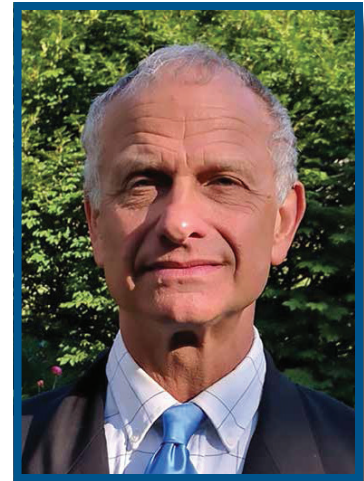
Coach Howard, as he is called by all his past wrestlers, a title that bestows the respect he has gained throughout the years, remembers quite clearly one of the main reasons he made the decision to wrestle at Vestal High School as an 8th grader. It was the promise made by John Pendlebury, his middle school physical education teacher, that if he wrestled he would get a locker in the varsity team room. Thus began the high school wrestling career of the young Vestal wrestler which would conclude with 2 Section IV titles and many individual championships. The turning point in Howard's high school career occurred after he was soundly beat by Wimpy Rice from Norwich, and he promised to himself this would not happen again. Jim recalls that back in those days the horse-hair mats were tied together and a black rubber cover was placed over them for practice and matches. He indicated that, “you had to be real tough back then because those rubber covers would cause mat burns all over the body.” Fortunately, before too long, vinyl covers were developed and the mat burns situation got much better. The Golden Bears' biggest rivals back in the 1950's were Norwich, Elmira, VanHornsville and of course the “Little Red” of Ithaca. Howard was not a one sport athlete at Vestal, he also excelled at cross-country and track and reminisces fondly that his cross-country team was the first Section IV team to win a state championship in the sport.

Following high school Coach Howard decided that Ithaca College was the best fit for him. He had a lot of contact with the Ithaca wrestling scene at the time and enjoyed the competition that it offered. He recalls that during his high school career, he used to hitch-hike from Vestal to Ithaca to work out with the best wrestlers Ithaca had. Furthermore, Ithaca College would allow him to continue to train under the watchful eye of Bill Layton. Howard wrestled his first two years at Ithaca College under the tutelage of Clyde “Whitey” Cole and finished up his career with Herb Broadwell. Jim lived at the number 5 Fire House (free room and board) and vividly recalls that all the stellar athletes at Cornell and Ithaca lived at different Fire Houses throughout the city. If a fire broke out, all the athletes were expected to leave their classes and go fight the fire without exception. He and his roommate, Joe Olszweski, at number 5, enjoyed the life at the fire house but detested the fire training that took place every Sunday at the mouth of Cayuga Lake. However, he does remember the fun he had spraying the Cornell crew team as they returned to the boat house, much to the dismay of the Cornell coach. At Ithaca, Howard was undefeated in dual meets and was a 2 time NCAA All-American – finishing 3rd his junior year and 2nd as a senior. As a senior he almost did not get a chance to participate in the NCAA tourney because it was in Oklahoma and would have been too expensive for the college (the actual ticket for his fare was \$ 90.05). However, a large contingent from Ithaca lobbied the University and he was able to gain his runner-up position. While at Ithaca he recalls that he once hitch-hiked from Ithaca to Wilkes College and won the title at the prestigious Wilkes Tournament which was called, in those days, the “Rose Bowl of East Coast Wrestling.”

Following college he was drafted and served two years in the demolition division of the U. S. Army which was “no picnic.” But he was offered the chance to wrestle on the Army team and an injury prevented him from qualifying for the Olympic Team. He then embarked on a coaching career which included two schools, Windsor High School—1956 to 1961 and Oswego State where he coached until 1989. His accomplishments at Oswego were many and included Division III Wrestling Coach of the year (1982), SUNYAC Coach of the Year (1987), President of National Wrestling Coaches Association (1985-87), coached 3 Division III National Champions and was inducted into many Hall of Fames. In 1990 he culminated his college career by receiving the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service. It is with great honor and pleasure that we pay special tribute to a true professional and role model for the many athletes that he has had contact with during his illustrious career.



## *Lifetime Service Award— John Kopalek*



John was first introduced to the sport when he went out for the Chenango Valley wrestling team in 1963. He was a two year varsity starter and a Sect. IV place winner as a senior. After High School, John continued his education at Broome Community Junior College while wrestling for Head Coach Duane Whittaker and also was a starter on the wrestling team that was ranked 7th in the country. John qualified for the JUCO Nationals both seasons while at Broome. He earned his Associates degree in Liberal Arts and went on to SUNY Buffalo to continue wrestling and further his education.

At Buffalo, John was the starting 158 pounder on a top 15 Div. 1 wrestling team coached by the Hall of Famer (1999) Ed Michael and assistant coach Scott Stever. He also was the New York State collegiate runner up at 158 lbs. in 1973. John received his Bachelor's degree in history and a minor in Physical Education. He later received his master's degree from Buffalo State College in Education.

In 1974 John began officiating wrestling in Sect. IV. A year later, he also started officiating collegiate wrestling. John began his coaching career as an assistant at Windsor High School in 1979, where he was a substitute teacher. In 1980 he became the head wrestling coach at BCC and coached three national qualifiers and three academic All Americans. BCC ended up dropping the sport a few years later. In 1982 John became an assistant to former collegiate teammate and Hall of Fame coach (2009) Fred Marcello at Maine-Endwell and together helped the Spartans become a Section IV power and a perennial top 20 ranked team in New York State. In 1990 John became head wrestling coach at his alma mater, Chenango Valley, where he coached that schools first Sect. IV champion in 33 years. In 1998 John was an unpaid assistant at Vestal High School under Hall of Fame Coach (2015) Tony Policare, who is the winningest coach in Section IV history. He stayed in that position until 2008.

Currently, John is officiating many top D-1 tournaments and is a member in good standing in the EWLOA (PIT) and EIWOA (Lehigh), MSWOA (OHIO), SFWOA (Sect. IV). John also has officiated in the National Collegiate Open in Ohio and the National High School Coaches' Association Dual-Meet Tournament in Virginia Beach. Furthermore, John has officiated wrestling in 6 states and worked in over 130 college tournaments. Altogether, John has coached wrestling for 29 seasons and is currently in his 28th season of officiating. The Upstate Chapter is happy to present John with the 2016 Lifetime Service Award.

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2016 INDUCTEES

Brad Hamer      Charlie Hughes      Tom Hurley      John Kopalek      Rich Morton  
 John Murray      Robert Stulmaker      Robert Zifchock

Your induction recognizes outstanding accomplishments and service in behalf of amateur wrestling in New York State

**KUDOS TO**  
 James Carrier— Outstanding American Award  
 Liam Olive— Medal of Courage Award  
 John Drew— Stanbro Media Award  
 Kevin Parker— Outstanding H.S. Wrestler Award 2015-16 (Upstate NY Chapter NWHOF)

*Ed and Connie Michael*



Alfred State College  
 Binghamton University  
 SUNY Brockport  
 University at Buffalo  
 Columbia University  
 Cornell University  
 SUNY Cortland

Hofstra University  
 Hunter College  
 Ithaca College  
 New York University  
 Niagara County C.C.  
 SUNY Oneonta  
 SUNY Oswego

R. I. T.  
 US Military Academy  
 Yeshiva University  
 US Merchant Marine Academy  
 Mount Saint Vincent College  
 Jamestown C.C.  
 Nassau County C.C.

47th Annual NYS Collegiate Wrestling Championships  
 Sunday, November 20, 9:00 a.m.  
 Hosted by: Cornell University, Ithaca, New York



# *Lifetime Service Award— Richard Morton*

Richard Morton earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education in 1980 from Ithaca College, and received a Masters of Education degree from St. Bonaventure University in 1984. Rich has been a PE teacher and Coach at Salamanca High School since 1980, and is the current Director of Physical Education and Athletic Director at SHS. Rich continues to inspire students and athletes, being selected “Teacher of the Year” by the Student National Honor Society in June of 2009.



When people speak about leaders in the sport of wrestling in Western New York, the name Richard Morton is always in the forefront. Rich’s accomplishments and contributions to wrestling are remarkable. He began his wrestling career at Olean High School, then went on to wrestle for Ithaca College where he was a two-time Division III NCAA National qualifier, and placed 5th in the 167 lb. weight class at the New York State Collegiate Championships.

Rich has been coaching wrestling for 36 years, and has been recognized extensively for his contributions. The Olean Times Herald chose Rich as the Sportsperson of the Year early on in his career. He has been inducted into the Cattaraugus County Sports Hall of Fame (2010), as well as the Western New York Wrestling Hall of Fame (2015). Under Rich’s leadership, the Salamanca Warriors wrestling team has been league champions, class and sectional champions, and in 2003-04 were Section VI champions. Rich has developed sixty one individual class and league champions, twenty one Section VI champions, and 15 NYS place winners. In addition, Rich has coached two 2-time individual NYS champions. Kane Smith, who won the NYS championships at 189 lbs. in both 2004 and 2005, and Ben Haas, who won the NYS championships at 145 lbs. (2011), and 152 lbs. in 2012. Ben currently wrestles for Lehigh University.

After being selected as the Southern Tier League Coach of the Year several times, Rich was selected as the Big 30 Coach of the Year in 2001/2002. In 2003, Coach Morton was selected Post Journal Coach of the Year, and Western New York Coaches Association/Section VI Coach of the Year. To promote and advocate the sport of wrestling, Rich organized and ran the Salamanca Invitational Wrestling Tournament for decades, and directed numerous Salamanca summer wrestling camps throughout his tenure.

As extraordinary as his accomplishments in wrestling, as a football coach, Rich Morton attained outstanding success on the football field. He led the Salamanca Warriors to three undefeated regular seasons from 1999-2001, with a record 24 - 0. He led his team to the NYS finals in 1999, and the NYS semi-finals in 2001. Coach Morton’s football accolades include: The NFL and Buffalo Bills Coach of the Week in 2000, and both the Big 30 Football Coach of the Year, and Western New York Coach of the Year in 2001.

As a two time cancer survivor, Rich Morton was chosen to be featured in an inspirational book written by former Buffalo Sabers player Pat La Fontaine, entitled- *Companions in Courage*. An entire chapter is devoted to Morton’s courage and triumph as he battled cancer, and came back to coach a championship football team. Robert Breidenstein, Superintendent of the Salamanca School district said the following about Morton, “simply and aptly put, Rich cares about each student, every athlete, and every family as if they were his own.” What more can be said about an individual and future National Wrestling Hall of Famer.



## National Wrestling Hall of Fame Upstate New York Chapters Honorees

### 1996

Earl Fuller

### 1999

Art Connorton  
Norm Foster  
Ed Michael  
Dick Post

### 2002

Steve Friedman – OA  
Carmon Molino  
Bill Layton  
Jimmy Miller  
Roger Miller – OF

### 2005

John Clark  
Dominic Iacovazzi  
Steve Jackowski  
Donald Kovalchik  
Jack Stanbro  
Sonja Stanbro

### 2008

James McCloe  
Rick Perkins  
Robert Ridall  
Al Sosa  
Richard Yarosh – MC  
Robert Feldmeier

### 2011

Al Feuz – OF  
Roy Hunt  
Richard Lang  
Joseph McCabe  
Frank Mielnicki  
Walter Thurnau

### 2014

Donald Blaine  
Michael DeBarbieri  
Gary Dillingham  
Thomas Green – MC  
James Lamb  
Anthony Policare  
Ken Spenard

### 1997

James Howard  
Leo Johnson  
Tom Robertson  
Donald Quinn

### 2000

Lacey Jones  
Jack LaBombard  
Frank Millard  
Stan Riggs

### 2003

Frank Bettucci – OA  
Robert Sulkoski – MC  
Donald DeBadts  
Frank Marotta  
Joseph Shifflet  
Walter Teike

### 2006

Dave Auble  
Reed Hawke  
Thomas Pauley  
Louis Pettinelli  
Ronald Roch  
Tommy Hilfiger – OA

### 2009

Peter Hausrath  
Fred Marcello  
Marshall Schlosberg – OF  
Marty Sherman  
Dan Wickham  
John Williams

### 2012

Neal Aubel  
Rick Armstrong  
Bert Ernst  
Wayne Ferguson  
Robert MacNeill  
James Sauberan  
Mark Stephens – OF

### 2015

Richard Brown  
Jeffrey Cuiity  
Dennis Disanto  
Sam Elia  
Frank Giltner  
Joseph Gustainis  
Dr. Thomas Martin – OA  
Donald New  
John Roselli

### 1998

Stanley Elinsky  
Steve Erber  
Frank Sorochinsky  
Orlando Turco

### 2001

Elmer Ackley  
Douglas Lobdell  
Laurence Rector  
Jack Williams

### 2004

Nick Coffman – OA  
Joe Bena  
Tom Canty  
William Smith  
William White

### 2007

Armand Cacciatore  
Edward Carlin  
Walter Peterson  
John Spencer  
Scott Stever  
Richard Vincent – OA

### 2010

Dennis Beck  
Fred Brown OF  
Ronald Brunner  
Eric Knuttila  
Al Sheer  
The DiPaollo Family – OA

### 2013

Dr. Peter Capone  
Joseph DeMeo  
Fred Marcheson  
Andy Noel  
Frank Oliveri  
Kerwin Pine

### 2016

James Carrier – OA  
Bradford Hamer  
Charles Hughes  
Thomas Hurley  
John Kopalek  
Richard Morton  
John Murray  
Liam Ollive – MC  
Robert Stulmaker  
Robert Zifchock

# *Lifetime Service Award— John Murray*

Former Ithaca College head wrestling coach, John Murray, has been awarded the “Lifetime Service to Wrestling” award by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. John’s legacy, which embodies a lifetime commitment to the sport, will be recognized at the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Museum in Stillwater, Oklahoma and John will be honored on September 18th as a member of Class of 2016.

John Murray grew up 30 miles east of Pittsburgh in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and was recruited to play football and wrestle at Cornell University. He arrived at Cornell in the fall of 1974 having survived a near-death car accident that summer. Murray was elected captain of the Cornell teams in 1977 and 1978. He was awarded the Eric LaFrance “Tough Guy” Award and James Meldrim Award for Outstanding Character, Sportsmanship and Contribution to Cornell Wrestling following his junior season. He graduated from Cornell in 1978 with a degree in biology and later earned a Master’s degree in physical education at Ithaca College in 1983.



John took over as the Ithaca College wrestling coach in the fall of 1980, becoming the youngest head wrestling coach in the NCAA at 23 years old.

The program was at a crossroads when Athletic Director Bob Deming hired Murray as Ithaca’s eighth wrestling coach. Ithaca was 45-59-8 with only three winning records under four different coaches during the 70’s. There was serious talk about dropping the program before Deming offered Murray a part-time position earning only \$3,500 per year. Within three years Murray began producing nationally contending teams and his position was soon elevated to full-time after his sixth season at the helm.

The Bomber mat men went on to win three NCAA Division III National Wrestling Championships and finished in the Top 15 twelve times in Murray’s fifteen years as coach. During his tenure, 27 wrestlers earned 50 All-American honors including 5 NCAA Division III National Champions.

When he retired from coaching following the 1994-95 season, Coach Murray had become the winningest wrestling coach in Ithaca College Wrestling’s 65-year history, sporting a record of 150-59-1 (.715). He was chosen as the NCAA Division III Coach of the Year in 1984, 1989 and 1994 and the New York State Coach of the Year in 1985, 1988 and 1994.

Since retiring Coach Murray has been recognized for his success by induction into the Cornell Distinguished Wrestling Alumni Hall of Fame, Ithaca College Athletic Hall of Fame, and both the New York State and NCAA Division III Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fames.

John started Advantage Sport & Fitness, a specialty fitness company, in his basement in 1987, and then left coaching in 1995 to devote his full time to Advantage along with his college roommate and equal partner John Pfunter. Since its inception twenty-nine years ago, Advantage has become one of the most successful distributors of commercial fitness equipment in North America. The company currently employs 70 plus people, and distributes fitness equipment in nine states including New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia and Florida.

Murray has continued to maintain his connection to wrestling as a booster club member of both the Cornell University and Ithaca College wrestling programs. He also employs eight former collegiate wrestlers (most of whom were All-Americans and several of whom were National Champions) as sales representatives at Advantage,

Murray resides in Ithaca with his wife Kathy, who is also an Ithaca College graduate. They have three daughters, Candace and Christine—graduates of the University of Central Florida’s Rosen School of Hospitality (2006) and Caitlin—a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2008). In addition to his commitments to wrestling and Advantage, John and his wife Kathy have recently planted a church in Downtown Ithaca, NY called Catalyst Vineyard Church.

**Friends of Section IV Wrestling Congratulates –  
Tom Hurley, Charlie Hughes, John Kopalek and John Murray  
Wrestling Legends – 2016 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductees**



**Section IV National Wrestling Hall of Famers** — Rick Armstrong, Elmer Ackley, Dave Auble, Frank Bettucci, Richard Brown, Ed Carlin, Pete Capone, Sam Elia, Stan Elinsky, Steve Erber, Frank Giltner, Pete Hausrath, Charlie Hughes, Tom Hurley, Jim Howard, Dominic Iacovazzi, John Kopalek, Don Kovalchick, Bill Layton, Doug Lobdell, Bob MacNeill, Fred Marcello, Jim McCloe, Ed Michael, Roger Miller, Jimmy Miller, Carmen Molino, Rick Perkins, Anthony Policare, Tom Robertson, Al Scheer, Marshall Schlosberg, Al Sosa, Ken Spenard, Jack Stanbro, Sonja Stanbro, Mark Stephens, Orlando Turco and Dan Wickham

*Thank you for Your Contribution to Growing Our Sport!*



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**All 2016 Hall of Fame Honorees**

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## *Lifetime Service Award— Robert E. Stulmaker*

Robert E. Stulmaker received his Bachelors (1977) and Masters (1981) degrees in Physical Education from Ithaca College. He earned Educational Administration degrees from the State University of New York at Albany in 1992 and 1994. Friends and colleagues know him as Bob.



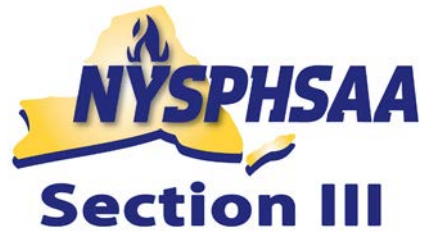
Bob's educational career is noteworthy and filled with many accolades that speak to his ability to inspire others to greatness. He has served in the capacity of the NYSPHSAA Section II Wrestling Chairman from 1988 to 1997 and Bob is well-known throughout New York State as a leading advocate for wrestling and all athletics. Bob was the Head Wrestling Coach at Saratoga Springs High School from 1983-1995, building an impressive 125-42-2 won-loss record that include several Section II Champions and Place Winners, as well as NY State Medalists.

In educational leadership roles, Bob has served the Saratoga Springs City Schools as Director of Physical Education. In addition, he has served as the President of the NYS Federation of Secondary School Athletic Associations from 2012-2014, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association as Assistant Director (2007-2015), retiring in August 2015. Furthermore he is the past President of the NYS Athletic Administrators Association (2005-2006).

As an administrator, Bob received recognition and honors that include: the NYSAAA Apple Appreciation Award, the NIAAA State Award of Merit for New York, 2013 Saratoga Springs Schools Hall-of-Fame inductee and will be inducted into the NYSAAA Hall of Fame in March 2016. These prestigious awards pay tribute to Bob's leadership, involvement and support of student-athletes.

Bob is very active in community organizations, too. He is currently on the Ronald McDonald House and Launch Your Life Board of Directors. In the past, Bob served on the Boards of the Southern Saratoga County YMCA and Shaker Ridge Country Club, as well as Trustee for the Woodland Hills Montessori School.

Robert E. Stulmaker is a well-known leader, an outstanding role-model, and more than a friend to student-athletes, coaches, parents, administrators and citizens throughout New York.



*Section III Athletics congratulates all of today's honorees of the*

*Upstate New York Chapter of the  
National Wrestling Sports Hall of Fame.*

*With special recognition to:  
Brad Hamer*

**Friends of Long Island Wrestling**

## **Congratulations 2016 Inductees**

**Bradford Hamer, Charles Hughes, Thomas Hurley, John Kopalek,  
Richard Morton, John Murray, Robert Stulmaker, Robert Zifchock**

**James Carrier — Outstanding American Award**

**Liam Ollive — Medal of Courage**

**John Drew — Stanbro Media Award**

***Friends of Long Island Wrestling***

***The Down State Chapter of  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame***

## *Lifetime Service Award— Robert “Bob” Zifchock*

Bob has had an illustrious career in all aspects of the sport of wrestling from wrestler, to official, to coach and to athletic administrator.

Bob was a standout wrestler at Lansing High School and followed up with a strong career at Tompkins-Cortland Community College and Ithaca College. At Ithaca, he was a two-time qualifier for the Division III NCAA wrestling championships and placed third in the 142-pound weight class at the New York State Collegiate Wrestling Championships.

Bob started his coaching career at Candor Central, and then later moved on to Valley Central High School in Section IX. The Zifchock-led teams had a 163-89-3 dual meet record. While at Valley Central, Bob’s teams won six consecutive Orange County League titles. Coach Zifchock’s teams also won five Section IX Tournament Team championships and enjoyed a 48 consecutive dual match win streak within Section IX. In 1988, his Valley Central High School team won the New York State Wrestling Tournament team championship. During his tenure at Valley Central, he coached 25 individual Section IX champions, 11 all-state wrestlers and two individual New York State champions—Lou Ruggirello, Sr. and David Hardwick.

In addition to coaching chronicles, Bob received recognition and honors by being named the 1995 USA Wrestling Man-of-the Year Award for New York, honored with the 2010 Section IX Lifetime Achievement Award, and in 2013 he was inducted in the New York State Wrestling Coaches Association’s Hall-of-Fame.

His officiating career ran from 1974 to 1992, which included the high points of officiating in ten Empire State Games and two New York State Wrestling Cups held at West Point. Bob also served the Orange-Sullivan Wrestling Officials Association as its Rules Interpreter for four years.

Bob’s administrative career incorporates being an Athletics Director at several schools, serving on numerous state committees (New York State Athletic Administrators, Council of Administrators and New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) and coauthoring state-level administrative guidance documents, as well as the work that he performed on a daily basis to enhance physical education programs in schools. Bob also received recognition by being named New York State Director-of-the-Year in 2006.

Personally Bob and his wife, Kathy, make their home in the lower Catskill Mountains and support their local community. They participate in church-related activities by serving as lectors and Eucharistic Ministers for their parish.

Bob’s credentials speak for themselves and exemplify excellence in all aspects of the sport of wrestling. The Upstate Chapter honors Bob with his induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.



Congratulations to  
all the honorees!



We are inspired  
by your contributions  
to wrestling!



*Thank you for your  
lifetime service to the  
world's greatest sport.*

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WESTERN NEW YORK WRESTLING

*Norwich Booster Club Salutes*

*All 2016 Inductees to the National  
Wrestling Hall of Fame  
&*

*All Past Norwich Inductees*

*Sam Elia, Frank Giltner, Dan Wickham*

*Don Kovalchick and Al Scheer  
&*

*2015 New York Outstanding Wrestler -  
Tristan Rifanburg*

## **Congratulations Coach John Murray**



**From Cornell Wrestling**



## *Outstanding American Award— James Carrier*

Jim Carrier enjoyed a solid wrestling career at Sherburne-Earlville High School under the tutelage of Hall of Fame Coach (2009) Pete Hausrath. Coach Hausrath states that, “Jim was a true team leader and one of the hardest working wrestlers that we had in the wrestling room. He exemplified and was guided by our motto of “Pride, Loyalty and Fortitude”.



Following graduation from Colgate in 1984 Jim embarked on a successful career in investment management at Edgewood Management in New York City, and worked to promote several humanitarian causes in the country. Jim contributes his successes to the important core values taught to him by his supportive family and the lessons that were conveyed to him during his high school wrestling career at Sherburne-Earlville. It was also at this time that Carrier began to look at ways that he could help to promote the welfare of others.

Jim decided to focus his energies in caring for what he considers, “our nation’s most precious resource, our nation’s military personnel and veterans.” While working to pursue his lofty goals Jim has been the recipient of the Navy’s 2006 Bob Hope Spirit of Hope Award given for “his unrelenting enthusiastic support to Naval Special Warfare and the United States Military.” In May of 2008 Carrier received the Superior Public Service Award, the second highest award attainable by a civilian, for his contributions honoring our nation’s military heroes through his efforts serving on several boards. These contributions include serving as the Commandant’s Guest of Honor at a Marine Corps Sunset Parade in Arlington National Cemetery, being the founder of the Veterans Appreciation Council in Greenwich, serving on the Board of Trustees of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, working as a trustee for the Fisher House Foundation, and serving as a Blue and Gold Officer for the United States Naval Academy.

Jim is married to Deborah “Freddie” Carrier and they presently reside in Greenwich, Connecticut where they continue to be actively engaged in matters supporting the courageous men and women who serve in our nation’s military. It is with great honor that we recognize James Carrier with the Outstanding American honor at our 20th annual ceremony.

*In Memory of  
Robert "Bo" MacNeill*



Coach, Teacher, Official,  
Humorist and Family Man

*Sweet is the memory of distant friends!  
Like the mellow rays of the departing sun,  
it falls tenderly, yet sadly on the heart.*

—Colonel Eric Doane & Friends

*Congratulations to John  
Kopalek and thank you for  
your many contributions to  
the sport of wrestling.  
From Mike Wilcox and The  
Hinkley Insurance Agency.*



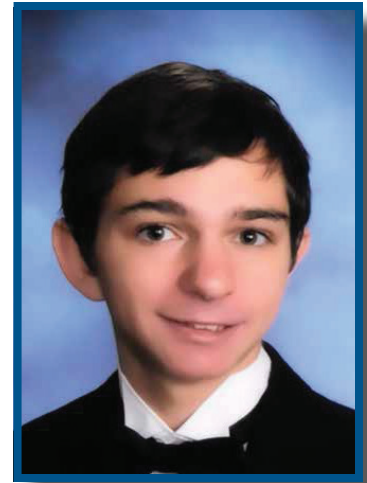
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*Congratulations  
to  
Coach Tom Hurley  
& Family*

For Induction into the  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame

**Mark Stephens  
Foundation**

## *Medal of Courage— Liam Ollive*

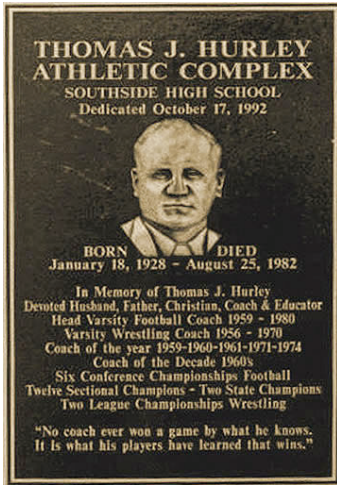


Few wrestlers have displayed the courage and determination that Liam Ollive has demonstrated in his life. At the age of four he was diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare cancer of the soft tissue, and he went through 11 months of chemotherapy and 6 weeks of radiation. Following his treatments Liam went back to a “somewhat” normal life. However, in 2005 while at his oncologist a tumor was found on his leg. Immediately he started another treatment of chemo and radiation but the tumor failed to be eradicated and an amputation at the knee level was needed to save his life. A few months after the first amputation another surgery was needed above his knee due to an infection and suspect growth in the leg. Liam’s parents and doctors were astounded with his quick recovery . . . 10 days after the second surgery he was parasailing and displayed a strong desire to live a full and productive life.

When Liam entered the 9th grade he went out for Ron Tompkins’ Beacon City School’s wrestling team and found that he loved the challenge of wrestling - he enjoyed the opportunity to compete as an individual and to contribute to his team. Coach Tompkins stated, “when Liam first came into the wrestling room, I had some reservations. But when practice started, Liam was the first to arrive and immediately began the daily preparation for practice; and it has been that way ever since. There is never any excuses or complaints that practice is too hard, he pushes through everyday figuring out how to work through any challenges that come his way.”

Liam not only participates in wrestling but he is also a member of the golf team, video club, culture club, the high school band and is a member of the National Honor Society. Dutchess Community College Statistics teacher Robert Atwell summarizes Liam with this statement, “Liam succeeds with a combination of natural intelligence and an intense desire to succeed. He has a tremendous work ethic coupled with an aura that he will not be denied.” The Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is honored to present Liam Ollive with our Medal of Courage—a fitting award for all the courage and determination that he has demonstrated in his life.

*Congratulations to  
Tom Hurley & Family*



*From the Family of Mark Stephens  
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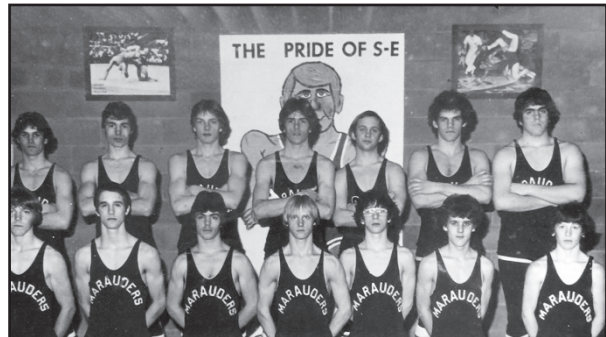
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# Congratulations

*Sherburne-Earlville Wrestling!*



**Jack Buell —**  
2016 NYS Champion

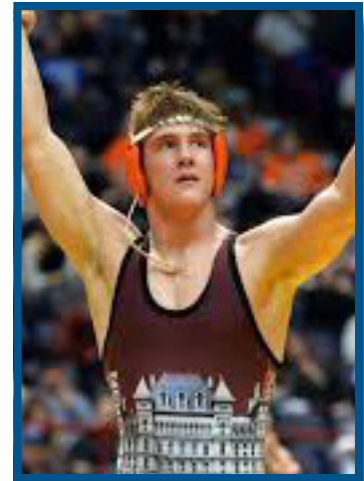


**James Carrier —**  
Outstanding American

—Pete Hausrath

## *Kevin Parker*

The Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is proud to announce that Kevin Parker is their selection for the Outstanding Wrestler in New York State for the 2015-16 season. Kevin was a senior at Shenendehowa High School in Section II where he was coached by former Section II champion Rob Weeks and assistant coach Frank Popolizio, the brother of North Carolina State Wolfpack wrestling coach Pat Popolizio. Rob has the following to say about his stellar wrestler, “he’s valuable, almost like an assistant coach in the room,” and “he’s always working to help his teammates out.” Weeks also mentioned that Kevin is one of the hardest working wrestlers that he has had in the “Shen” wrestling room. For those reasons, Kevin has been the captain of the Plainsmen for three years. Weeks summed up Kevin’s career with this quote in the Daily Gazette, “It’s surreal,” head coach Rob Weeks said of watching Parker’s last high school match, “I’ve said it to Kevin all along that when this season comes to an end, it will be an end of a long era for me.”



During his career at Shenendehowa Kevin was a two time New York State Division I wrestling champion and twice was selected as the Outstanding Wrestler in Section II. In 2015, Kevin won his first NYSPHSAA championship and became the second state champion in his family. His brother, Greg, won the state championship in 1996 and in 2002 Greg was a NCAA runner-up for the Princeton Tigers, becoming the fifth Princeton wrestler to reach the finals of the NCAA championships. This year Kevin was ranked 14th nationally by WIN magazine. In addition, Kevin was a six time New York State Scholar Athlete, the 2016 Shenendehowa Trophy winner and was a President’s Academic Excellence Award winner while he was at Shenendehowa. Furthermore, Kevin was chosen the Saratogian Wrestler of the Year this year and has decided to attend Princeton as his college of choice, thus following his brother Greg. Kevin said the following, “Each challenge is harder than the next, it’s just about keeping ahead of the pack and to keep working.” “I have high aspirations at Princeton, and that’s what I’m looking forward to now. I think that has driven me to be successful this year.” Coach Chris Ayres and the Princeton Tigers are very fortunate to have secured the services of this talented young man.

Kevin’s accomplishments are many and include being 2 time New York State Triple Crown winner, two time FloNationals All- American, two time New York State Junior Men’s Freestyle Most Outstanding Wrestler, he is three time Junior Fargo All American, a national finalist this year in freestyle and finished sixth in the Greco division, and an USA wrestling All American. Kevin is also involved with the “Got Your 6” program, is a volunteer at his high school in several initiatives, takes part in the Captain Youth and family services program and is active working at the Shenendehowa youth wrestling program. It is a privilege and honor to acknowledge Kevin Parker as our Outstanding Wrestler for New York State.

**SECTION IV**  
  
**ATHLETICS**  
*Education through Sports*

**Congratulations**

*To the 2016 New York Chapter of the  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame  
Inductees from Western New York*

**Rich Morton**

And all of the Inductees and Honorees as well as  
previous Inductees from Western New York

**College Coaches** — Eric Knuutila,  
Ed Michael, Scott Stever

**High School Coaches** — Dennis Beck, Ron Brunner,  
Armand Cacciatore, Mike DeBarbieri, Bert Ernst,  
Jim Lamb, Dick Lang, Fred Marcheson, Skip Pine,  
Tony Policare, Dick Post, Joe Shifflet, Walt Thurnau

**Contributors** — DiPaolo Family & Al Fuez

**Western New York  
Wrestling Coaches Association**

*Section Four Wrestling  
Officials Association*



**Congratulates**

**John Kopalek, Charlie Hughes  
and Thomas Hurley**

*2016 Inductees  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame —  
Upstate NY Chapter*

*SFWCA* also congratulates all 2016  
inductees, as well as all past inductees  
and honorees from *Section IV*.

*Serving amateur wrestling in Section IV since 1956.*

**Ilio DiPaolo  
Family Scholarship Fund**

*Congratulations  
All 2016 Inductees*

*and*

*Section VI Lifetime Service Honoree  
Richard Morton*

**DiPaolo Family**

# Thank You!

## National Wrestling Hall of Fame — Upstate New York Chapter

---

### James Carrier

- Patee Carrier
- Chuck Carrier
- Pete Hausrath
- Howard Adams
- Tim Tupper
- Frank Gigilo
- Steve Harris
- Tom O'Connor and Family
- Wrestling Teammates at Sherburne-Earlville

### Brad Hamer

- My wife and family
- My dad, Ernest Hamer
- My coaches: Angelo "Buck" Godici, Dave Adams, Robert Mueller, Dr. Vince Gonino
- Coach Joe Garcia, University at Albany
- My high school and college teammates
- Wrestlers at Copenhagen, Liverpool and Port Byron
- Gino Alberici
- Ron Crowell
- Paul Fietta
- Greg Bailey
- Tom Green
- Leo Johnson
- Mike Froom
- Dick Campbell
- Gene Tracy
- Fred Brown
- Rick Porter
- John Drew and Friends of Section 3 Wrestling
- Bill Kays
- Section 3 Wrestling Committee
- Marty Sherman
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- Ken Avery
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- Bob Stuhlmaker
- Todd Nelson
- Syracuse Wrestling Officials
- Utica Wrestling Officials
- Watertown Wrestling Officials

### Charles Hughes

- Jim & Cindy McCloe and their family
- Devan Whitman, Brett Owen and Derrick Morgan
- Fred Powell — Slippery Rock
- Mike Stevens
- Waverly Wrestling Club
- Section IV Coaches
- Rick Gumble
- IAC Coaches
- Eric D'Arcy
- All the wrestlers and parents that I have had the opportunity to work with

### John Kopalek

- Tom Kopalek
- Stan Wilson
- Norm Donahue
- Wayne Harvey & Barry Tosh
- Coach Duane Whittaker
- Coach Ed Michael
- Scott Stever
- All the Bull, Hornet and Warrior teammates
- Fred Marcello
- Tony Policare
- Dom Scolaro
- Jim Lamonaco
- Colleges and High School that I have officiated at
- Tom Diorio
- Rick Cole & Rob Robertson
- Carl Koenig

- Pascal Perri
- Fred Ambrose
- Fred Feeney
- Rick Armstrong
- All Officials that I have worked with
- All my past Wrestlers
- My wife — Diana
- My family — Paul, Mike and Matt
- Board of Upstate New York Chapter of NWHOF

### Rich Morton

- Julie Morton
- Brittney Morton
- Andrea Morton
- Richard & Kathleen Morton
- Gary Gilbert
- Aaron Minner
- Bob Triscari
- Rex Brown
- Grey Nannen
- Regis Vail
- Salamanca Wrestling Booster Club & Parents
- Jim Myers
- All my former wrestlers

### John Murray

- **Kathy Murray** — for her loving support
- My daughters **Candace, Christine and Caitlin**
- **Bob Deming** — Director of Athletics, Ithaca College
- **Andy Noel** — Director of Athletics and my coach, Cornell University
- **John Pfuntner**, and the entire **Advantage Sport & Fitness**
- The numerous athletes that I had the opportunity to lead and coach at **Ithaca College**
- The eight former wrestlers that currently work for me at **ASF**

# Thank You!

## National Wrestling Hall of Fame — Upstate New York Chapter

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- **Wake and Helen Murray**, who invested in my life from birth until their passing from this earth

### *Liam Ollive*

---

- My parents
- My brother John & sister-in-law Meg Ollive
- All my family
- My friends
- My coach Mr. Ron Tompkins & Mrs. Tompkins
- Assistant coaches Mr. Craig Tompkins and Mr. Adam McPartland
- All the parents and others that came to practice to help out
- Athletic Directors; Mr. Marty Nemecek and Mr. Eric Romanino
- All my Beacon High School Wrestling teammates
- All those people that came out to watch and cheer me on
- I am thankful to you all for helping me to learn and enjoy the sport of wrestling

### *Bob Stulmaker*

---

- Benita Stulmaker — love of my life
- Blasé Iuliano
- Jim Dempsey
- Ed Hall
- Steve Porto
- Anthony Bellai
- John Mulligan
- Bob Iovinella
- Dr. John MacFadden
- Frank Crowley
- Ray Waldron
- Gene Fitzpatrick
- Rich Poplaski
- All my former wrestlers
- All the parents of my former wrestlers

- All the physical education teachers and coaches that I have had the honor and privilege of working with
- To all my colleagues, officers, Central Committee Members, NYSPHSAA wrestling committee, NYSPHSAA staff, NYS Wrestling Officials Association
- All the coaches of Section II

### *Bob Zifchock*

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- I want to take this opportunity to recognize some very special people for their invaluable gifts of love, support, encouragement and dedication. You have been my teachers, my friends, my supervisors and my responsibilities. I am forever appreciative of our time together, and the long-lasting memories.
- **Family**—Wife, Kathleen; Parents, Richard and Elsie; Brothers and Sister: Joseph and Cindy, Edward, Gregory, and Diane and Bill; as well as many nieces and nephews
- **Mentors**—Roger Miller, Ron King, Tom Hurley, Orlando Turco, Frank Sorochinsky, Eric Knuutila, Robert Schoonmaker, James Coonan, Robert Ciganek
- **Coaching Staff**—Terry Collins, Bill Vogt, Joe Presutti, Tim Brown, Sandy Strauss, Bill Bacon
- **Former Wrestlers to Coach**—John Wilcox, Paul Cummings, Lou Ruggirello, Jeff Lewis, Mike Rechotorvic, Greg Conn
- **Colleagues**—Section I/IX Coaches: Hayes Yorks, Jerry McGuire, Tom Canty, Bill

- White, Mark Faller, LeRoy Green, Brian Seeber, Bob Ziggrossi, Harold Fried, Larry Bryant, Don Blaine, Dave Simmons, Gunnar DeJong, Al and Steve Fischbein; and the rest of the Section IX coaches.
- **Section IX Officials:** Dan Johnson, Dick Leggett, Wayne Carroll, John Scessa
- **Chairs:** Jeff Culty, Paul Krupa, Ken Brooker, Eric Romanino
- **Mentor-colleagues:** Frank Marotta, Don DeBadts, Reed Hawke, Mike Norcross, Marshall Schlossberg, Tom Pauley, Wayne Edkin, Bill McNeill, Stan Elinsky
- My sincerest apologies if I have failed to remember and recognize everyone here.
- **Peewee Programs**—Fifth Grade Intramural, Walden Rotary, VC Vulcans; as well as the many coaches who volunteered their time and energies.
- **Former Student-Athletes**—Most importantly to all the wrestlers that I had the honor and pleasure to be around. None of this was possible without each and every one of you. Please know that I was always more interested in your accomplishments than any of mine. THANKS for the honor to be your coach, as well as the enduring memories that we all share!



# *Congratulations!*

**COACH ROBERT ZIFCHOCK**



*on your induction to the  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame.*

The wrestlers, coaches, and parents back in  
Section 9 are very proud to know you.

*Thanks for all you have done for our kids!*

The Fagnoli Family extends their congratulations to the  
2016 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Honorees —  
Upstate New York Chapter



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*Congratulations and  
Thank You Jim Carrier  
For All That You Do For*

*America's Courageous Military  
Heroes & Veterans,  
Your Sons and Daughters at the United  
States Naval Academy and Wrestling*

*Lifelong Friend and  
Sherburne-Earlville Wrestling Fan*

*—Howard Adams*

*Congratulations Bob!*

Thank you for your  
mentorship, friendship and  
commitment to developing  
officials and student-athletes in

**Section IX.  
Well Done!**

*Orange-Sullivan Wrestling  
Officials Association*

**Congratulations**  
to the

*2016 Upstate New York Chapter  
Inductees to the  
National Wrestling  
Hall of Fame*

*An Inspiration to All*

**Patrick Greene  
And  
Family**



*The Columbia High (Section 2)  
Blue Devil Wrestling Boosters*

Congratulations to the 2016 inductees  
into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame  
And Jim Carrier —  
Outstanding American &  
Liam Ollive — Medal of Courage

**Thank you for all you  
have contributed!**

# Your Newly

## National Hall of & Mu



# Renovated

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# *Congratulations Johnniee!*

*Thanks for All You Do!*



*Your Dedication to The Proud Service Men & Women of Our Country is Exemplary.*

*—The O'Connor Family*

## Congratulations to All 2016 Honorees and Award Recipients



Please Join Us for the 2016 NYSPHSAA Wrestling State Championships!

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At the Times Union Center  
Albany, NY