

Inaugural Kendall Wrestling Alumni Night

On January 21st, 2010 the Kendall Eagles Wrestling team hosted rival Lyndonville in a Genesee Region League Dual Meet. The Kendall Grapplers lost the meet during the last match of the night. Despite the difficult loss, it was a winning evening for the Kendall Wrestling Team and Kendall community as a whole.

During the pre-season Varsity Wrestling Coach Mike Bourne designated that Lyndonville match as Alumni Night. Coach Bourne stated, "Our current wrestlers need to know they are continuing a long standing tradition of great wrestling in Kendall. At the same time, the hard working individuals who have wrestled for Kendall through the years deserve to be honored for the legacy they have established."

Advertisements were posted on the Section V wrestling website to help spread the news about this event. Former Kendall Wrestling Coach and Section V Wrestling Hall of Famer Jim Sauberan started to spread the news by word of mouth. Initially responses were limited, but as the date grew closer the number of Alumni who expressed interest increased. During the week prior to Alumni Night RSVPs swelled from a dozen to more than two dozen. Ultimately 35 Alumni wrestlers were in attendance. Graduation years ranged from 1972 to 2009.

Prior to the meet the Alumni mingled and shared stories. Hugs and backslaps were exchanged. Before wrestling commenced each Alumni wrestler was called onto the mat and acknowledged. A group photo of wrestlers and coaches was taken for posterity. Throughout the match you could here the cheers of the largest, most knowledgeable and partisan crowd of the year.

Coach Sauberan remarked, "What a great night. To see all these wrestlers again after all these years has been a pleasure. It's also important for these young wrestlers to see what they now have become part of and continue to carry on the tradition."

Coach Bourne and the Kendall Wrestling Program are committed to making Alumni Night an annual event. More activities will be planned around next year's event and we hope to see even more Alumni in attendance.

Any Kendall Wrestling Alumni, or friends of Kendall Wrestling, are encouraged to contact the Athletic Department and provide contact information so a mailing list can be generated for next year's Alumni Night.