

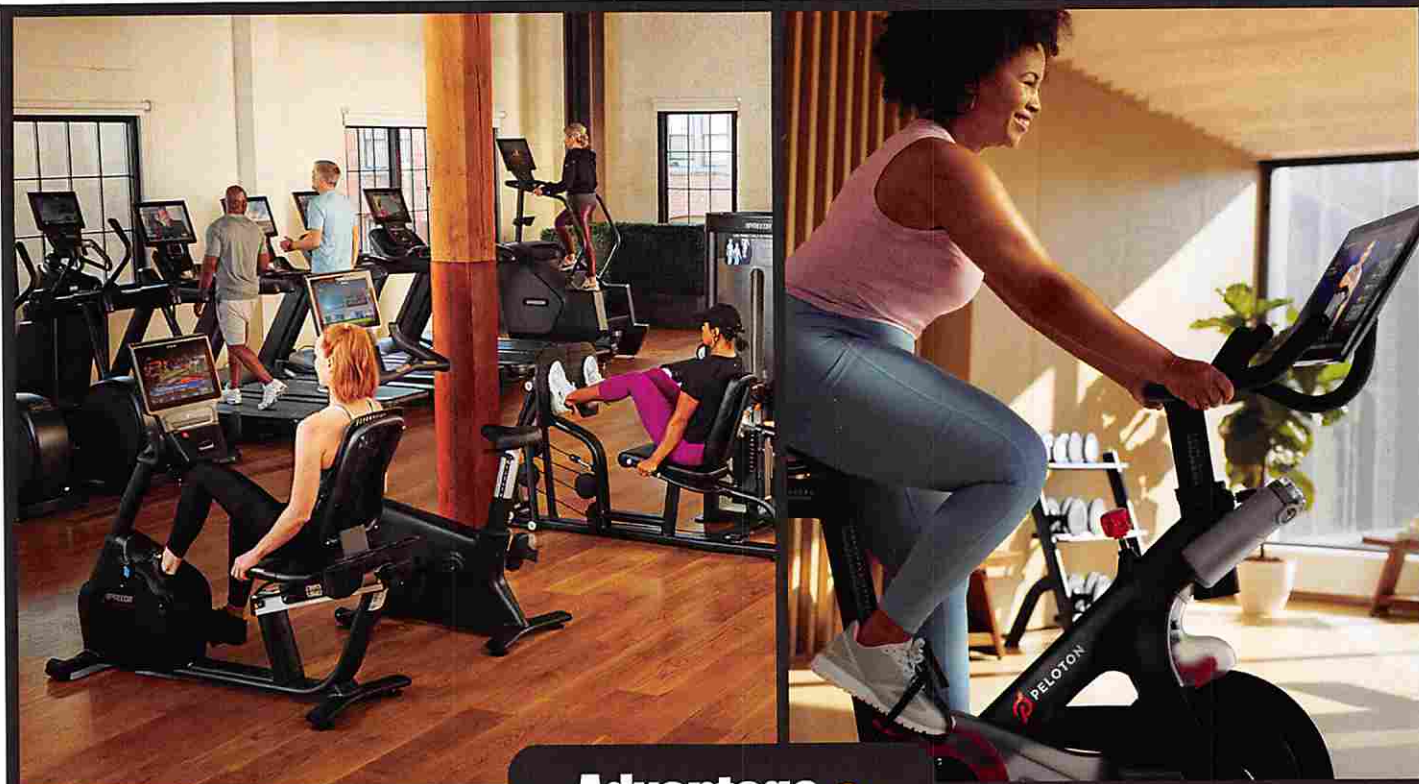


*26th Annual New York Chapter  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum*  
**DINNER AND INDUCTION CEREMONY**



**SEPTEMBER 29, 2024**  
**2023 INDUCTEES**





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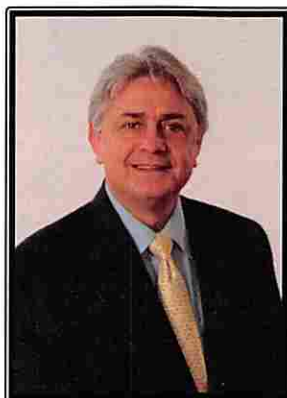
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Photo courtesy of Carlo De Jesus/Marist College



It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you to our 2024 Upstate New York Chapter banquet and induction ceremony. This year marks Upstate New York's 27th class of inductees into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame's State Chapter program.

This year the NWHOF is celebrating its 48th 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 Upstate New York Chapter 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 & 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, reading "Lee Roy Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized "S" at the end.

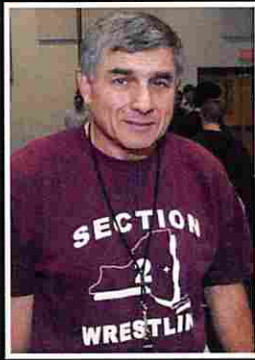
Lee Roy Smith  
Executive Director, NWHOF



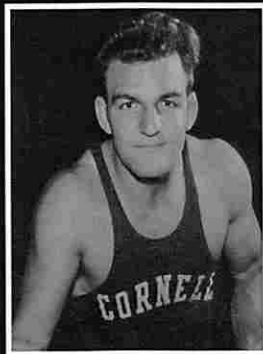
# *In Memoriam*



*Elmer Akley*



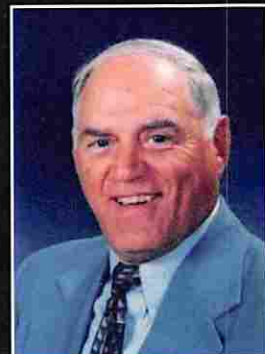
*Joe Bena*



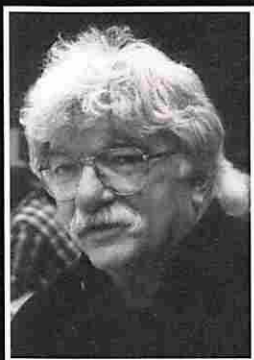
*Frank Bettuci*



*Richard Brown*



*Ed Carlin*



*Art Connorton*



*Don DeBadts*



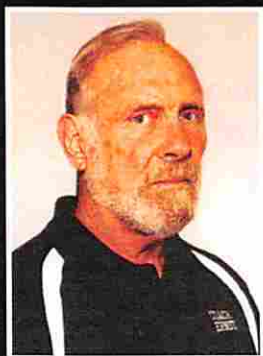
*Joe DeMeo*



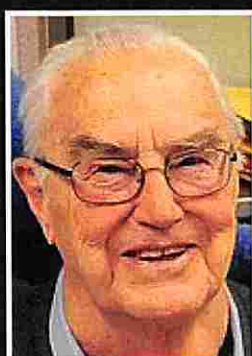
*Gary Dillingham*



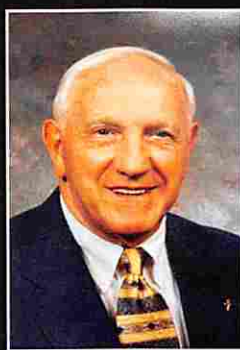
*Sam Elia*



*Bert Ernst*



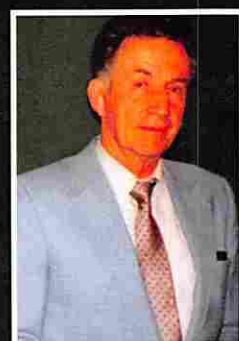
*Robert Felmeier*



*Norm Foster*



*Al Feuz*



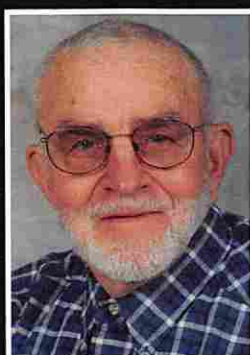
*Earl Fuller*



*Frank Giltner*



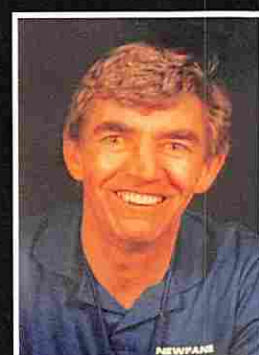
*Bill Layton*



*Douglas Lobdell*



*Lacey Jones*



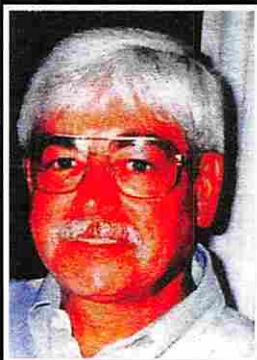
*Richard Lang*



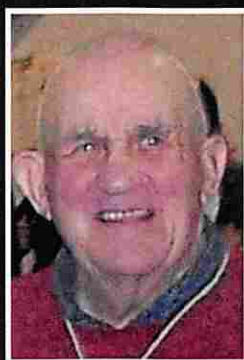
# *In Memoriam*



*Robert "Bo" MacNeill*



*Jim McCloe*



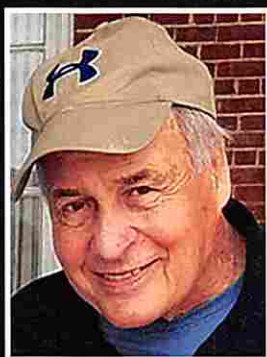
*Frank Mielnicki*



*Jimmy Miller*



*Roger Miller*



*Tom Pauley*



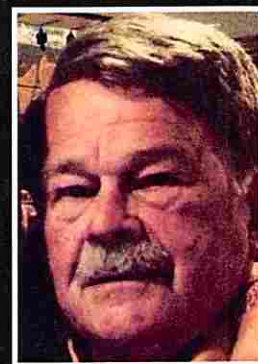
*Walt Peterson*



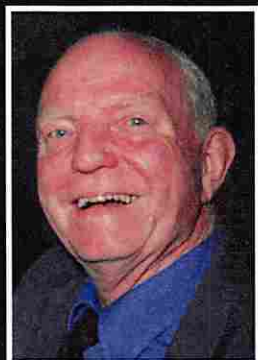
*Lou Pettinelli*



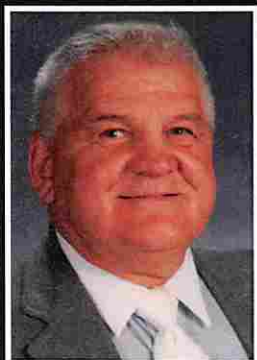
*Richard Post*



*Stanley Riggs*



*Tom Robertson*



*Frank Sorochinsky*



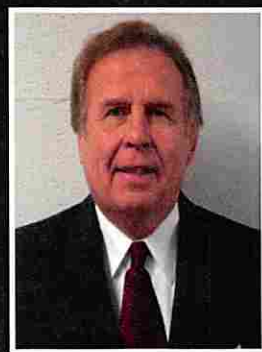
*John Spencer*



*Jack Stanbro*



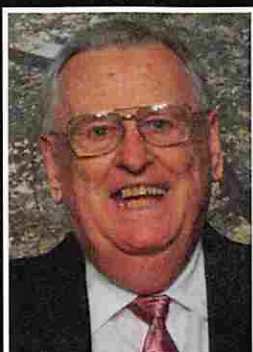
*Mark Stephens*



*Scott Stever*



*Walt Teike*



*Jack Williams*





# Welcome

The Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is pleased to honor the following individuals, who will be receiving the Lifetime Service Award and enshrinement into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame at this occasion, are: James Beichner – former University of Buffalo wrestling coach; William Doran – high school and college wrestling official, Mike Frood – high school coach and official at Jordan-Elbridge Central School - Section III; Leonard Gadway – high school coach at Beekmantown Central School - Section VII; Michael Howard – wrestling coach at Oswego State; William Hadsell – coach and Section V State Wrestling Chairperson; Carl Koenig – former coach, high school, college official, and President of the Upstate New York Chapter. In addition, this year the Upstate New York Chapter will present Philip “Red” Fedele the Outstanding American Award. Furthermore, Gail, Judy and Laurie Tracy will receive the Swimelar Volunteer Award for 2024. P J Duke will be bestowed with the “Robert Feldmeier Outstanding Wrestler’s Award” for Division I and Ousame Duncanson will receive the “Richard (Pete) Hausrath Outstanding Wrestler’s Award” for Division II. Ragan Retell will be receiving the Tricia Saunder’s Award and the “Steve Silver’s Outstanding Girls Wrestler Award.” In addition, Stephan Monchery will be honored as the Chapter’s nominee for the David Schultz Award. These individuals certainly represent some of the best of Upstate New York wrestling on all levels.

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 – James Beichner, William Doran, Michael Frood, Leonard Gadway, Mike Howard, William Hadsell, and Carl Koenig and Philip “Red” Fedele, Outstanding American, will be permanently recognized in the Hall of Fame in the State Chapter Exhibit and each will receive a plaque to commemorate their efforts.

Krista Graff  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame  
State Chapters Executive Director

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

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Board of Directors  
Fred Brown, Kristin Clark, Mike Fusilli, Pat Greene, Bradford Hamer, Pete Hausrath,  
Tim Herman, Mike Hogan, Jim Howard, Jeanne Jackson, Carl Koenig,  
Eric Knuutila, Frank Marotta, Dr. Thomas Martin, Ed Michael  
Matt O’Rourke, Anthony Servidone, Cheyenne Sisenstein, and Bob Zifchock



# *New York State Chapter*

## *2024 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 builds 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.

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

Fred Brown, Kristin Clark, Mike Fusilli, Pat Greene, Bradford Hamer, Pete Hausrath,  
Tim Herman, Mike Hogan, Jim Howard, Jeanne Jackson, Carl Koenig,  
Eric Knuutila, Frank Marotta, Dr. Thomas Martin, Ed Michael, Matt O'Rourke,  
Anthony Servidone, Cheyenne Sisenstein, and Bob Zifchock

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





# *Induction Program 2024*

12:00 pm Reception

Crossroads Ballroom

Honorees Individual Exhibits & Cocktails/Social Hour

1:00 pm Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Thomas Martin – Board of Directors Member, Outstanding American Award Recipient, Doctor at UHS of Binghamton and AAFP Fellow

Robert Zifchock - Master of Ceremony - Member of NYS Wrestling Hall of Fame – Coach of 1988 NYSPHSAA Championship team - Valley Central High School

Introduction of Past Members & Distinguish Inductees in Attendance  
Dr. Thomas Martin & Robert Zifchock

Entrance and Announcement of 2024 Inductees & Award Winners

1:15 National Anthem & Invocation

Presentation of Colors – Norte Dame NJROTC

Araina Cornell - National Anthem - GMU High School

Matt Sorochinsky – Invocation – Division III All-American at Ithaca College, NYSPHSAA State Champion and Division I wrestling official – officiated 15 Division I Championships & 13 Final Bouts

Dinner

2:00 Awards Ceremony

Robert Zifchock - Master of Ceremony

Steve Silver Outstanding Girls Wrestler Award – presented by Steve Silver – Ragan Retell

New York Tricia Saunders Award – presented Steve Silver - Ragan Retell

Robert Feldmeier Outstanding Wrestler Award – Division I – presented by Jeanne Jackson - P.J. Duke

New York State David Schultz Award Nominee – Stephan Monchery

Richard “Pete” Hausrath Outstanding Wrestler Award – Division II – Presented by Pete Hausrath - Ousmane Duncanson

*Thank You for Supporting Wrestling in New York State  
Safe Travels Home*



# *Presenters for the Honored Guests*

Lifetime Service Awards and Outstanding American Award

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Honored Guest James Beichner

*Presenter* – Steven Penhollow

Honored Guest William Doran

*Presenter* – Kurt Honis

Honored Guest Michael Frood

*Presenter* – Bradford Hamer

Honored Guest Leonard Gadway

*Presenter* – Dennis Renadette

Honored Guest Michael Howard

*Presenter* – Michael Howard Jr.

Honored Guest William Hadsell

*Presenter* – Frank Marotta

Honored Guest Carl Koenig

*Presented by* Richard Koenig

Honored Guest Philip “Red” Fedele – Outstanding American Award

*Presenter* – Frank Marotta

Swimelar Volunteer Award

Gail Godici, Judy, and Laurie Tracy

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2024 Robert Feldmeier Awards – Division I

P J Duke

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2024 Richard “Pete” Hausrath Award – Division II

Ousmane Duncanson

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2024 Steve Silver Award – Outstanding Female Wrestler

Ragan Retell

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2024 Dave Schultz Nominee

Stephan Monchery

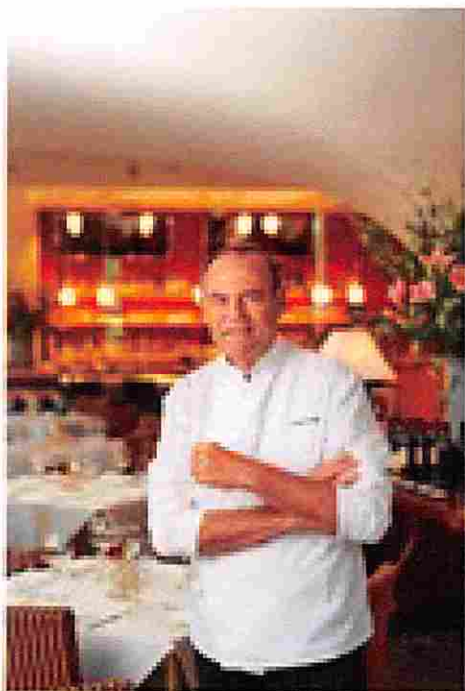


# **Congratulations to All 2024 Honorees!**



The "Official Merchandiser" of the NYSPHSAA

**A Special Recognition To  
Our Outstanding Friends:  
Bill Hadsell  
Carl Koenig**



to all of the  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame  
Upstate New York Chapter  
2024 Inductees –

## **Congratulations**

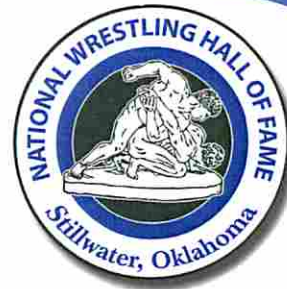
& best of luck to all future  
wrestlers!

**CHARLIE PALMER**  
[COLLECTIVE]

with appreciation, the Palmer  
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## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

# James Beichner

It could be said that James A. Beichner was born to wrestle and coach. He burst on the scene in the late 1970's, wrestling for Cassadaga Valley H S, in NY State Section VI. Jim quickly distinguished himself as an exceptional athlete. With an overall four year record of 130 -18 -1, he placed three times in the NY State High School Wrestling Championships ( 5th, 4th, & 2nd). As one would suspect, Jim Beichner became a highly recruited wrestler during his senior year. When the "dust settled," He chose to attend Clarion University and grapple for hall of fame coach Bob Bubb. Jim went on to have a terrific wrestling career at Clarion. He won 125 matches. In doing so, he won four Pennsylvania State Conference Championships and was voted OW in 1986, won the Eastern Wrestling League Championships in 1984 and 1985, was a two-time (1984 & 1985) NCAA Div. I All American, at 190 lbs. (5th & 6th), was captain of the only Clarion wrestling team in history to complete an undefeated dual meet season at 17-0. In addition, the team was ranked as high as third in the NCAA Div. I wrestling rankings. Also, Jim went undefeated for three straight years in dual meets and was invited to wrestle in the NWCA East vs West All Star Classic in 1985 and 1986.

Mr. Beichner began his wrestling coaching career in 1986 when he assumed an assistants position at his alma mater, Clarion University. The following year, Jim accepted a job as assistant wrestling coach at the University of Pittsburgh. He remained in this position for seven years. During this period, Pitt produced several wrestling All Americans and enjoyed seven straight winning seasons. It was not long before Jim became highly sought after by colleges and universities looking for a good head wrestling coach. Not surprisingly, Mr. Beichner accepted the head wrestling coaching position at the University at Buffalo (UB) in 1995. Jim quickly went to work building the foundation for a wrestling program that would be recognized and respected nationally.

Jim Beichner accomplished a great deal during his 18 years at UB, both on and off the mat. He was named Rookie Coach of the Year by Amateur Wrestling News (1998), twice voted NY State Collegiate Wrestling Coach of the Year (1995 & 2004), East Coast Conference Coach of the Year (1998), Mid-American Conference Coach of the year ( 2011 ), served as president of the of the NY State College Wrestling Coaches Association ( 2000 - 2001 ) and the National Wrestling Coaches Association ( 2008 - 2010 ). In addition, his teams won two NY State Collegiate Championships (2003 & 2009), won the Binghamton Dual Meet Tournament (2000) and the Bloomsburg Invitational (2000 & 2001). Also, Jim gave UB it's first in history NCAA Div. I wrestling All American, Kyle Cerminara, 8th at 190 lbs. (2004).

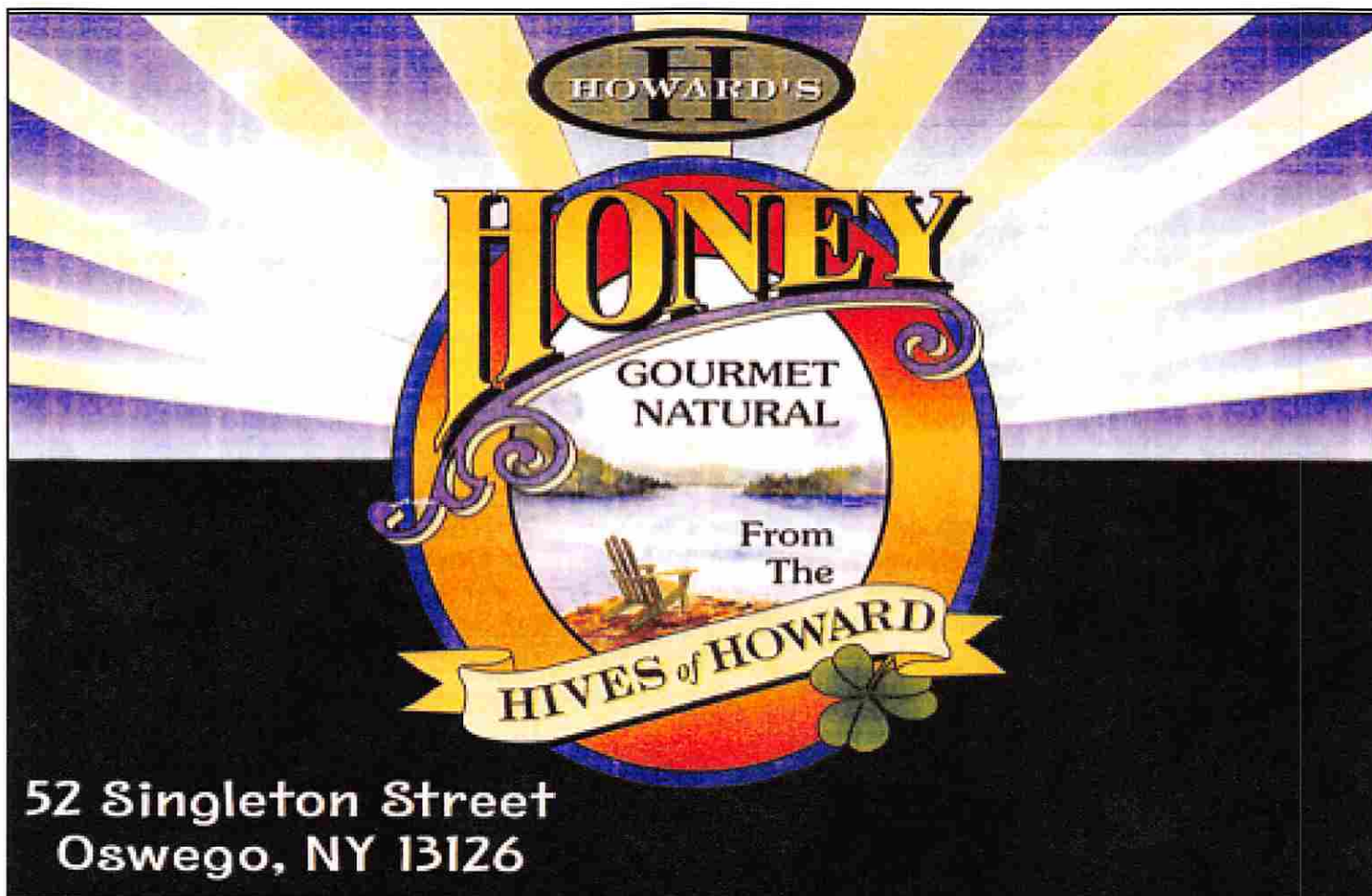
Mr. Beichner's positive impact was not only experienced by the UB Athletic Department but was also felt by those who live in the greater Western NY community. His work in the community included co-founding an annual fund-raising event called Takedown Cancer that raised over \$98,000 for Carly's Club of Roswell Park Cancer Hospital (2009 - 2013). In addition, Coach Beichner and his wrestlers spent a great deal of time interacting with cancer patients at Roswell Park. The local media outlets gave a great deal of coverage for the good deeds Jim and his wrestlers were doing on behalf of others. Mr Beichner also led several other local fund-raising initiatives for individuals and families in need. Because of their efforts, the UB wrestling program was viewed by others with a great deal of respect and admiration.

2013 saw Jim accept a job as Director of Athletics for Team Penske Auto Racing. A hands-on supervisor, he managed the efforts of eight professional fitness coaches and staff members. Over a nine-year period, Jim Beichner trained pit crews have been chosen as the Top Pit Crew ten times in races that include the: INDY 500, Daytona 500, Brickyard 400, Monster Energy Cup and the X finite Owners Championship. The Penske Team has won these races multiple times as well as others. It seems obvious that Mr. Beichner's presence has been impactful on the success of Penske Auto Racing.

Jim has been a loving father. A parent of three adult children, his two sons, Jacob and Sam, wrestled in high school (Williamsville East), with Jacob making it to the States and wrestling for Cortland in college. Daughter Grace excelled in high school soccer at Williamsville East as well. Recently becoming a grandfather, Mr. Beichner lives in Salisbury NC with his wife Delaney.

The Upstate NY Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is honored to award Coach Jim Beichner with the Lifetime Service Award of the NWHOF. We salute you for all your contributions to wrestling on the local, state and national level.





**Waste Recovery**

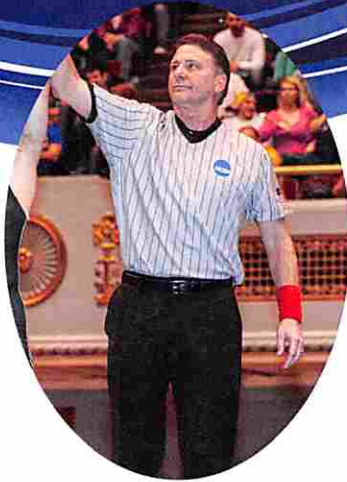


**Enterprises**

*Salutes the 2024 Award Recipients  
Upstate New York Chapter of the NWHoF*

**Sean LaRose – CEO**





## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

### **Bill Doran**

Bill Doran was a stand-out runner at North Syracuse Central High School, holding a school record in the intermediate hurdles for many years. But during his freshman year, he was "encouraged" to join his high school's wrestling team when two of his best friends – then members of the team – began a habit of kidnapping him after track practice, tossing him in the showers and refusing to let him exit unless and until he acquiesced to their demands that he join them in the wrestling room.

The extortion worked.

Bill's wrestling journey officially began after he was "persuaded" by the same two pals to attend a Lake George wrestling camp in the summer of 1973.

Bill went on to wrestle three years on the varsity for North Syracuse, then known as the Northmen (before that high school recombined with Cicero High to form the C-NS NorthStars). He graduated in 1976 as a tri-captain of the wrestling team - together with those same two friends.

Bill continued his wrestling career with two years at Morrisville Community College and completed his run as a participant for Region 5 in the 1979 Empire Games. During the early 1980's, he became the first North Area Wrestling Club Coach, a program which drew hundreds of youth wrestlers from North Syracuse, Cicero and Liverpool, many of whom went on to enjoy highly successful high school wrestling careers.

At this time, Ron Roch, Bill's high school wrestling coach and friend Gene ("Butch") Meyle both suggested that Bill consider joining the Syracuse Wrestling Officials Association (SWOA) and the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Officials Association (EIWOA). Doran ended up officiating for both associations for more than forty-three years and, during his time with SWOA, served that organization variously as president, vice-president, member-at-large and rules interpreter.

Bill was selected many times to officiate the class tournaments, sectional finals and the Dual Meet Finals. He was also chosen to officiate the New York State Championships four times and was ranked as that tournament's top official in 1999 – an outstanding achievement.

As a college official, Doran officiated no fewer than five national championships. Major highlights of his officiating career included being selected to officiate a Division 1 tournament, three Division 2 and one Division 3 tournaments. In addition, during his officiating career, Bill worked seventeen Division 1 national qualifying tournaments, thirty-five Division 3 qualifying tournaments, two Division 2 qualifying tournaments and twenty-eight New York State college championship tournaments.

Bill was also selected to officiate the first ever collegiate wrestling matches held at Madison Square Garden for the Beat the Streets' "Grapple at The Garden" dual between Cornell University and Oklahoma State. He was an active member of the EIWOA Executive Board for fifteen years and the assignor for the New York State SUNY schools and Ithaca College wrestling teams.

In 2022, Bill capped his officiating career by being chosen for induction into the Hall of Fame for both the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Officials Association and Section III Wrestling. He continues to remain involved in our sport as the SWOA rules interpreter, organizing training programs for new officials and as assessor for the New York State weight certifications.

Bill's professional career included working as a business analyst for the Kimberly-Clark Corporation for nearly thirty years. During his spare time, he enjoys golfing. Bill currently serves as vice-president on the Kanon Valley Golf Course Executive Board.

Bill states his involvement in officiating would not have been possible without the love, support and understanding of Roxanne (Rocky), his wife of over thirty years, his son Nicholas, a Federal Bank Examiner for the United States Treasury and his daughter Jessica (ex-wrestling score keeper), a physical therapist assistant for SOS and personal trainer. And, of course, without the "encouragement" associated with being tossed in the showers by his North Syracuse High School buddies.

# Congratulations

**Philip "Red" Fedele**

on receiving the

**Outstanding  
American Award**

from the

**National Wrestling  
Hall of Fame**

*From your friends and fellow Kiwanians -  
we are extremely proud of  
your accomplishments!*



**Kiwanis®**  
ROCHESTER WEST CENTRAL





## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

### **Red Fedele**

Philip "Red" Fedele started wrestling in a very interesting manner. Red was a very good athlete and actually played basketball as a freshman but beginning his sophomore year at Madison High School in the Rochester City School system. The basketball coaches decided Red's playing days were limited (he was only 5 feet tall) and wrestling coach "Bozo" Snider asked Red to give wrestling a try; however, at first Red was not excited about the sport. Eventually he started to enjoy the sport and became the starter at the 95-pound weight class. In the 1950's the Rochester City Schools were the dominant league in most of the sports in the section. In his first year of wrestling Red was already excelling and was able to win the prestigious Rochester City League championships in 1954. This achievement qualified Red for the Section V tournament where he was a finalist. Red would go on to win two more city championships and 2 Section V championships as well. Fedele gives Coach John Spencer, another Hall of Famer, credit for his development as a wrestler. Additionally, he indicated that his Madison High team had a great group of guys who to this day still meet every month at his restaurant to reminisce about the "old days." Some of those teammates include Frank Marotta and Lou Fusilli. To advocate for the sport Red had provided a space on the walls of his restaurant to commemorate Section V wrestling and the Section V Wrestling Hall of Fame.

After high school Red secured a job working at Xerox and had a very successful career. However, after his retirement he decided to venture off to develop another business of his own. Thus, the Red Fedele's Brook House Restaurant was born. Red had no previous restaurant experience but he believed in himself and was determined to make a go of it. Red stated that the sport of wrestling helped him in his business in many ways. The life lessons of perseverance, never giving up, and having courage enabled him to establish a thriving business. And this business has now become a family centered enterprise that a few generations of Fedeles work and love. Well into his 80's Red still plays a very active role in the business - he welcomes guests and makes his way around the restaurant chatting with the patrons to check to make sure everything is satisfactory.

Furthermore, Red has taken a very active role in his community giving back in many ways. In 1972 Red was the leader of the City of Rochester Narcotic and Guidance Council which reached out to individuals who needed help with addiction problems. Red is a "Paul Harris Fellow" which is the highest form of recognition a Rotary Club can bestow on a member. Accordingly, Mr. Fedele has been awarded the George Hixson Award from the local Kiwanis Club for his work with its Children's Fund. Red received the Youth Advocate of the Year Award, the Spirit of Chamber of Commerce Award which is presented to an individual who has volunteered and made business contributions to the betterment of their community. His annual Brook House golf tournament has generated a significant amount of money that goes out to families in need of assistance ... another example of his generosity and giving back motto that he represents. His family also has been the recognized with the Family of the Year Award for community service by the Greece Central School. It is easy to ascertain that Red and his family are advocates for their community and the children in it.

Additionally, Red has received the Greece Business Man of the Year Award, Greece Beautification Award, the Citizen of the Year Award from the Civic League and numerous other awards. Consequently, he has been inducted in several area Hall of Fames ... including Section V Wrestling Hall of Fame, City-Catholic Wrestling Hall of Fame, the Italian Sports Hall of Fame of Rochester and was the recipient of the Terry Justice Award for his many contributions to wrestling in Section V.

His teammate and close friend Frank Marotta states, "Words cannot describe the impact this man has had on and continues to have on so many. He is truly an outstanding person and an Outstanding American." For these and many more reasons the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame proudly award our Outstanding American Award to Philip "Red" Fedele.



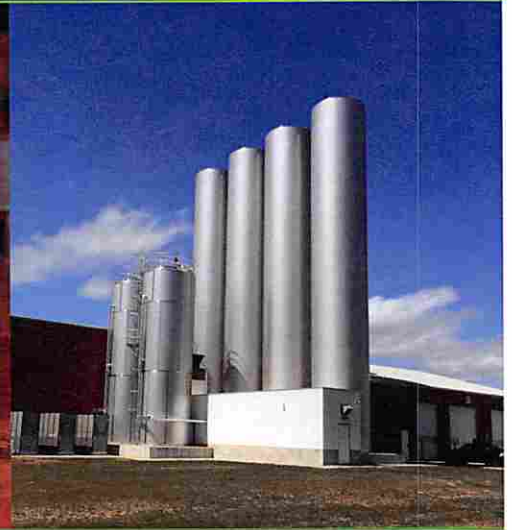


**ARE PROUD SPONSORS OF THE**

# **NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM**

**UPSTATE NY CHAPTER**

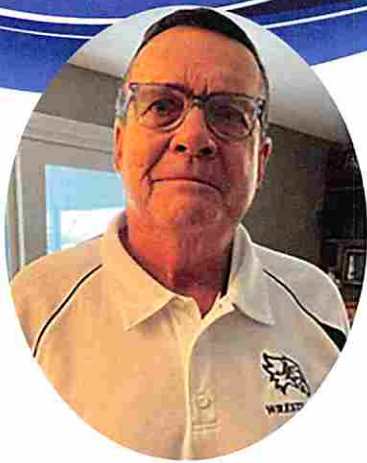
Congratulations to all of this year's inductees  
from your friends at Feldmeier Equipment and  
Meier's Creek Brewing Company.



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## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

### **Mike Frood**

Mike Frood had wrestling in his blood and was destined to be a wrestler and coach. His father, Sheppard, encouraged Mike to wrestle as a young boy. His father had wrestled on the first team at East Hampton High School in the 1930's which was coached then by the legendary coach, Frank "Sprig" Gardner. Sprig would later become the celebrated coach of Mephram High School and a Distinguish Member of the NWHOF.

Following a stellar high school career at East Hampton High School on Long Island, Mike would attend Cortland State and wrestle for Vince Gonino. During his student teaching Mike would teach and coach at Mynderse Academy in Section V and begin to develop his talents as a high school coach. In 1977, he became the high school wrestling coach for Jordan-Elbridge and would guide the Eagles to a 144 - 22 record in Section III. Coach Frood achievements at Jordan-Elbridge are many and included 10 league tournament championships and six Section III Class C Championships. Additionally, the Eagles were runner-ups two time under the mentorship of Frood and he would coach 12 Section III champions who went on to represent JE in the NYSPHSAA Championships. Furthermore, Coach Frood would guide fifty-eight wrestlers to individual League Championships and forty-one Section III Class C individual championships. Perhaps the highlight of his coaching career was in 1986 when his Jordan-Elbridge team would be ranked number 8th in the state and finish second in the sectional tournament. This team tied a Section III record by having four sectional champions and three of those wrestlers would finish 2nd, 3rd and 4th in the state tournament at the Onondaga Memorial Arena. Coach Frood is quick to point out that he had surrounded himself with three very good coaches who helped pilot the Eagles to success. He referred to them as the 3 "w"s. The first "w" was Ken Wilson, a Jordan Elbridge graduate and a standout All-American wrestler at Syracuse University, who served as his assistant coach; the second "w" was Allen Webster, who coached the junior high team and the third "w" was Lonnie Warner, who helped to individualized the instruction. In addition, Mike would also coach two other sports besides wrestling at Jordan-Elbridge football and lacrosse.

Coach Frood stated that, "the sport of wrestling teaches hard work and how to deal with adversity in one's life. And never giving up notwithstanding of the situation."

Not only was Frood an outstanding coach but he also was an exceptional wrestling official. Mike would work as an official for 28 years for the Syracuse Wrestling Officials Association. He would officiate eleven Section III Finals tournaments and twelve Sectional Class events. During his illustrious career officiating Frood would be selected to officiate in three NYSPHSAA tourneys as well as act as the Vice President of the Syracuse group. Upstate New York Chapter's Hall of Famer, Fred Brown, stated this about Coach Frood, "Mike was an exceptional coach and steered his small school, Jordan-Elbridge, to many league titles. He certainly was not afraid to grapple with any school regardless of their size. His teams wrestled tough and fought to the very last whistle irrespective of the score. After he finished his career as a coach he became an excellent official and held every office in the Syracuse Wrestling Officials Association except the treasurer/secretary position. Furthermore, Mike has given back much to his school and community. This is demonstrated by the fact that Mike still works as a coach for both wrestling and lacrosse. Section III should be honored to have such dedicated people in the section."

Mike and his wife, Joan, live in Elbridge and are the proud parents of two sons, Brett and Jared.

The Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is extremely proud and privileged to induct Mike into its Hall of Fame. Mike's picture and bio will be enshrined in the Chapter Room of the National Wrestling Museum in Stillwater, Oklahoma.



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024 INDUCTEES

## HONORING

JAMES BEICHNER  
MIKE FROOD

WILLIAM DORAN  
LEONARD GADWAY

MICHAEL HOWARD

PHILIP FEDELE  
WILLIAM HADSELL

CARL KOENIG

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*Upstate New York Chapter*

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RAGAN RETELL - STEVE SILVER OUTSTANDING GIRLS WRESTLER AWARD & TRICIA SANDERS AWARD RECIPIENT  
OUSEMAN DUNCANSON - RICHARD "PETE" HAUSRATH DIVISION II OUTSTANDING WRESTLER AWARD  
P J DUKE - ROBERT FELDMEIER DIVISION I OUTSTANDING WRESTLER AWARD  
STEPHAN MONCHERY - DAVE SCHULTZ NOMINEE

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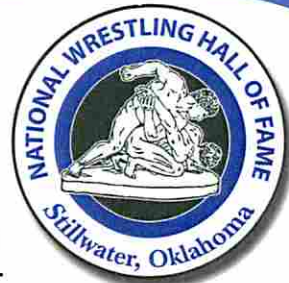
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National Wrestling Hall of Fame*



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# 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame

## Lifetime Service Award

### **Len Gadway**

Len Gadway started his wrestling career in the 5th grade when his physical education teacher, Stan Riggs, presented a unit on wrestling. This was the beginning of Len's love and passion for the sport. Stan Riggs would go on to be a Hall of Fame coach for Peru High School and Len will join his mentor and coach into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame today. In high school Len would win two Section VII sectional titles for the Peru Indians. In 1973 Gadway won the 155 pound title and then in 1975 Len would repeat his sectional title at the 167 pound class. Len would travel on to Syracuse to represent the section in the NYSPHSAA wrestling championship and become the first Peru and Section VII wrestler to finish in the runner-up position on the podium. Len pinned his way to the championship match but would be defeated by Chris Lawson from Section VI.

Len credits Coach Riggs for his development as a wrestler but also gives an enormous amount of credit to Jack Hogan, father of another Hall of Famer Mike Hogan, for all that he did for him in wrestling. Len stated, "Jack Hogan carted us (Mike Hogan and Len) around the state to wrestling events and was very instrumental in my development as a wrestler and person. I owe him a huge amount for his effort and generosity."

Following his high school wrestling career, Len would journey to Northern Adirondack High School, one of Peru's biggest rivals in the Champlain Valley Athletic Conference, to become an assistant coach. Coach Gadway would remain there until 1992 when he started his head coaching position at Beekmantown. Coach Gadway's forty some year career at Beekmantown is something to be very proud of. Gadway has won 482 dual meets at this time and still counting ... it is not sure when Len will end this remarkable run as a coach. During this period of time, Len's Beekmantown teams have won seven Section VII team championships (1985, 86 and 2004,05,06,08 and 2009) as well as six Champlain Valley Athletic Conference championships. In addition, Coach Gadway has been named the Coach of the Year five times during his illustrious career with the Eagles. One of the biggest honors that Len has had is the coaching of his son, Chris, to three Section VII titles in 1999, 2000 and 2001. And in 1999, Len had his two sons, Lee and Chris, win a Section VII title and wrestle in the New York State Championships together. Further, Coach Gadway has coached many individual wrestlers to championships including Hayden Head to a state title in 2012 and Jason Lapham during his career at Beekmantown finished 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th. He has coached 142 Section VII individual champions and numerous other sectional place winners, too numerous to mention.

Furthermore, Chris Gadway, son of Coach Gadway, had this to say about his father, "It isn't always about winning and losing for my father. It is how you won and lost that was important to him. My father stressed that his success as a coach was not what happens on the mat but off the mat. Dad is highly respected in the Section VII wrestling community for his success and the way that he conducts himself and his squads."

Len has indicated that some of the life lessons that he attempts to teach his student/athletes are the same ones that Coach Riggs conveyed to him at Peru. Those lessons include a wrestler should never quit and that hard work and self-confidence will enable a wrestler to achieve anything that they strive to do. Jason Cook, one of Len's former wrestlers, stated this about Coach Gadway, "He was old school and would push all his athletes to do their best. But he would make sure that all his wrestlers were taken care. He would give them money to eat with at tournaments, make sure that they had rides home after practices and contests. And would provide the wrestlers with off season practices and competitions to help them get better at the sport. I feel privileged and honored to have wrestled for Len Gadway."

Len Gadway has given over 40 years of commitment and service to the sport of wrestling. And for this dedication the Upstate New York Chapter is honored to enshrine him into the Upstate New York Chapters Hall of Fame now and forever. Congratulation Len!





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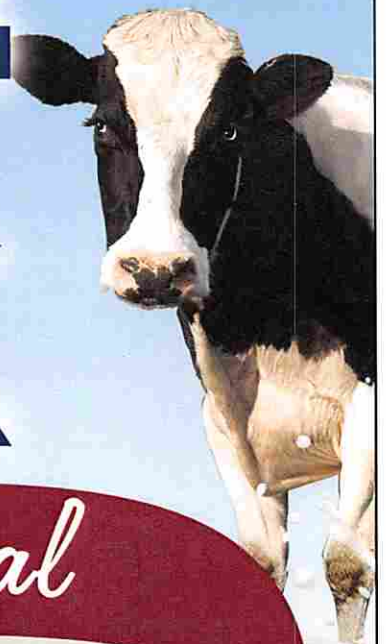
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**\*Cornell University, Department of Food Science**







## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

### **Mike Howard**

After his 34th season as the head wrestling coach at SUNY Oswego, Mike Howard will be inducted into the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame for his lifetime service to wrestling on September 29, 2024 at the Double Tree Hotel in East Syracuse.

Mike started his wrestling career on the mats at Oswego State where his father Jim Howard was coaching the Lakers. Jim would later be inducted into the Chapter's Hall of Fame in 1997 following a stellar career of coaching. During Mike's high school wrestling career, one of his highlights was when he won the first Section III title that Oswego High School ever had. While at Oswego High School Mike wrestled under the guidance of Elmer Akley, another Hall of Famer, who later would become his father-in law. In addition, Mike won many local scholastic high school tournaments and was highly regarded by many excellent collegiate programs.

Howard began his collegiate wrestling career with the University of Buffalo, and wrestled there from 1981-1983 before transferring to SUNY Oswego where he wrestled from 1984-1986. During his time with the Lakers, Howard wrestled in the 167-pound weight class and was a two-time co-captain.

After spending three seasons as the assistant wrestling coach for the Lakers Howard was hired by SUNY Oswego in 1989 to be the associate head coach with the Oswego State wrestling program. Howard and the Lakers has had a lot of success from the start, making 20 straight team NCAA championship appearances from 1990-2009 and 27 appearances total throughout his tenure. During this time, he has had 72 NCAA championship individual qualifiers.

Howard has been named Empire Collegiate Wrestling Conference (ECWC) coach of the year on two separate occasions, once in 1996 and again in 2001.

The wrestlers he has coached over the years have racked up a high number of accolades under his command. He has had 22 individuals earn All-America honors, 26 conference champions, and 199 conference place winners. Five of his wrestlers have been honored as the Conference Most Outstanding Wrestler and two have earned Conference Rookie/Freshman of the Year awards. Eight individuals have won the New York State Collegiate Championships with 130 total NYS place winners. Since 2013 when the NCAA created regional competition in the sport of wrestling, he has coached three regional champions and 34 regional place winners. Twenty-eight of his wrestlers have been named to the National Wrestling Coaches Association Division III Scholar All-America team. Mike Howard has certainly carried on the torch for the Howard family at SUNY Oswego.

Furthermore, Mike has been a very successful coach of golf at Oswego State. In 2019 and 2022, Howard was selected as the Empire 8 Conference Coach of the Year. During his 28 years at the helm of the Lakers golf team, his team has won numerous championships to add to his remarkable coaching resume.

During his tenure Howard has also served as the Chair of the NWCA Division III Ranking Committee and served multiple years on the NCAA Championship Seeding Committee. In 2022, Coach Mike Howard was recognized by the SUNY Oswego Alumni Association with the Oswego Impact Award, which is given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the college and the students. A very fitting award to such a deserving coach and leader.

For all that Mike Howard has accomplished in collegiate athletics, the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is pleased to enshrine him into the State Chapter Room of the Hall of Fame and Museum in Stillwater, Oklahoma





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*Having reviewed the qualifications for the  
"OUTSTANDING AMERICAN AWARD"*

---

*which include*

*Being a former wrestler with integrity;  
Being highly successful in his profession;  
Being a person who has used the disciplines  
learned in wrestling to reach his level of  
success.*

---

## **PHIL "RED" FEDELE**

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***Congratulations from***

***THE BROTHERHOOD OF MADISON ALUMNI***







## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

# William Hadsell

Bill Hadsell came from a family of seven boys and wrestling was a way of life for the Hadsell family with all the boys wrestling. His brother Dick was a member of the first Section V team representing the section at the NYSPHSAA championships in 1968. Additionally, brother Bruce was a New York State Champion in 1973 and brother Robert finished 3rd in 1973 and 6th in 1976. Bill would place 4th in the 1980 state championship for Canandaigua Academy and all the boys wrestled for legendary Coach Weldon Canough. While in high school Bill served as the team captain for the Braves, who were Section V team champions in 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980, and he was selected as the Most Valuable Wrestler for Canandaigua in his senior year.

Bill would start his collegiate career at the University of Buffalo for Hall of Fame Coach Ed Michael in 1980-81. Then finish up his college wrestling career grappling for another Hall of Fame coach, John Murray, and the Ithaca Bombers. His 1989 and 1990 Ithaca College teams were Division III NCAA champions and in 1991 Bill would become an All-American for the Bombers finishing eighth in the 190 pound weight class. Furthermore, he was selected the Most Outstanding Wrestler and served as the captain of the squad.

Coach Hadsell started his coaching career in the Geneva City School system in 1993. He served as the coach at Geneva from 1993 to 2009 and during his tenure there he was named the 1996 Section V Coach of the Year. In addition, Coach Hadsell guided his first state champion, Bill Payne, to the 155 pound championship for the Panthers. Bill would later coach Owen and Craig Scott to state championships at Pal Mac in 2011. In his illustrious coaching career, he has coached 12 NYSPHSAA place winners including five finalists. On the sectional level Hadsell has coached 34 class champions as well as numerous champions of local wrestling tournaments. As result of his distinguished career as a wrestler and coach, Bill has been selected to the Canandaigua Academy Athletic Hall of Fame, the Geneva Sports Hall of Fame and last year he entered the Section V Wrestling Hall of Fame. Coach Hadsell has also coached girls' soccer, girls' and boys' tennis. Recently he has guided the Fishback brothers, Ryan and Drew, to inspiring finishes in the NYSPHSAA Tennis Championships - Ryan finished 1st in 2019 and 4th, and Drew placed 3rd last year as a sophomore. This year Bill guided Drew to the NYSPHSAA Championship at USTA National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows, the home of the US Tennis Open. Hadsell has truly made an impressive impact as a coach at many sports and levels.

On the administrative level of the sport, Bill has served as the Finger Lakes League Chairman and the Section V Class chairman for 10 years where he established an extraordinary record. His work as a class chairperson enabled him to make a seamless transition into the role of the New York Public High School Athletic Association's Section V Wrestling Coordinator. There he has established himself as a highly respected and esteemed coordinator. Kathy Hoyt, Executive Director of Section V, stated that "his positive rapport with all - athletes, coaches, officials, assignors, committee members and administrators is exceptional." And "all sectional tournaments are run efficiently and effectively each year." Bill record is impeccable!

Bill has indicated that he owes a great deal to his high school coach Weldon Canough and his collegiate college John Murray. These men were very instrumental in his development as both a wrestler and person. In addition, he gives credit to all his brothers but especially Bruce, who helped with his growth and maturity. He feels that the most important life lesson that wrestling teaches is that of "taking responsibility for yourself."

The Upstate New York Chapter of the NWHOF is privileged and proud to welcome William Hadsell into their Hall of Fame for all that he has done for wrestling in his section and state.



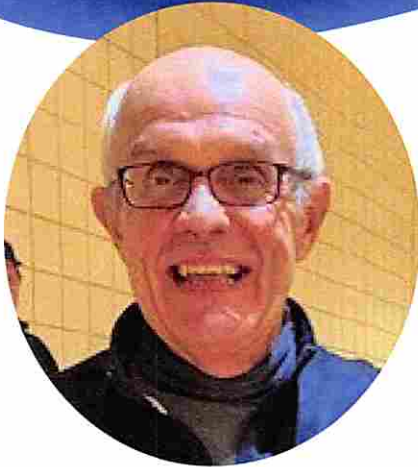
***Congratulations to All 2024 Inductees  
Special Congratulations  
to  
Carl Koenig***



521 Main Street, Chenango Bridge, NY







## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee Lifetime Service Award

### **Carl Koenig**

Carl Koenig's years of commitment and dedication to the sport of Wrestling epitomizes his numerous accomplishments in our great sport.

Carl has left an indelible mark on the mats as a wrestler, coach, official and President of the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

On the wrestling front, Carl's achievements are equally noteworthy. Carl wrestled three seasons collegiately at Oswego State from 1965 to 1968 and then started coaching in 1969. He coached Oxford HS in Section 4 to an undefeated mark in the 1973-74 season in addition to coaching 3 Class Sectional championship teams. After his retirement from coaching, Carl started officiating wrestling in both the high school and college levels. Carl's excellence as an official led him to officiate elite events such as 13 appearances in the EIWA College Wrestling championships, many NYS Collegiate Championships, SUNY Conference, Junior College and NCAA Division III Championships. At the high school level Carl officiated every Section 4 Tournament Championships from 1974 to 2010. Carl is a member of both the Section 4 and EIWOA Halls of Fame.

Beyond his personal accomplishments, Carl's dedication to Wrestling is absolutely remarkable. Carl formerly served on numerous boards that included President and Vice President of the New York State Wrestling Officials Association, President and assignor of the Section 4 Wrestling officials association and currently serves on the Finger Lakes Regional Training Center Board, Vice President for the EIWOA and serving outstanding leadership as President on the board for the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. His leaderships on the boards he serves on are beyond noteworthy as Carl's excellence continues in his unwavering journey.

Carl Koenig's professional career included Teaching at Oxford MS; in addition, he served as an administrator at both Oxford and Greene school districts.

Carl presently serves as an educational consultant and hearing officer for superintendent hearings at DCMO BOCES, in addition to serving on the Oxford Town Board of Directors and Chairs the Oxford Academy Hall of Distinction Committee.

In addition, during the summers Carl worked under the direction of Ben Nelson at Camp Dudley along with his friends Charlie Stratton, Mike Marks, Don Cooper and others. Camp Dudley played a special part in his life.

The chapter acknowledges the many earned outstanding accomplishments of Carl Koenig and welcomes him into the Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

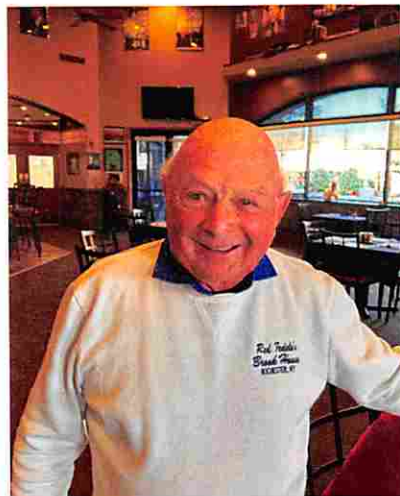
## CONGRATULATIONS

*Congratulations to all the 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductees and Award winners. Your dedication to wrestling is greatly appreciated.*

Thank you to special friends **Bill Doran, Bill Hadsell and Carl Koenig** for your lifetime of contributions to New York State wrestling. You have had a great impact on wrestling in New York State.

Thank you to **Gail, Judy and Laurie Tracy** for your volunteer work. So many tournaments have run smoothly because of your tireless work.

Thank you **Red Fedele** for all you have done not only for wrestling but for so many people in all walks of life. Words cannot express the love and appreciation people have for you. You are truly an **Outstanding American**.



Frank and Roberta Marotta





## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame

### 2024 Swimelar Award

The 2024 Swimelar Volunteer Award is given each year to a person or in the case of this year's recipients a group of people who have given their time freely to help better the sport. The "Tracy Ladies", Judy, Laurie and Gail, have certainly had a significant impact on the sport. Their connection to wrestling has been meaningful in many ways ... their work as score keepers, timers or any other activities at a wrestling tournament has ensured that wrestling would be done in a timely, efficient and professional manner. High school athletics are very dependent on volunteers to ensure the smooth operations of an event and volunteering enables them to fulfill the main missions of the section or host group. Wrestling tournaments could not be done if it wasn't for this core group of people - thank you Judy, Gail and Laurie!!!

The Tracy Ladies began their involvement in the sport back when their brother, Gene, was wrestling at Fulton High School. Mom and Dad made it known that the girls were expected to go to matches to support their brother. With this early parental indoctrination, the girls soon learn to enjoy the sport and all it offered. Judy pointed out that witnessing Gene cutting weight was not always easy but the end result of winning was always rewarding. As the girls grew older and entered high school many of their friends were involved in wrestling so the ladies continued with their attachment with the sport. Gail became a "wrestling maid" for the Raiders and continued the close involvement of the family. The initial connection with volunteering to assist at wrestling tournaments began in 1995 when all of the girls helped the Section III wrestling officials with their annual "Blind Men's" tournament at Oswego State. This event was a large fund-raising tourney for the officials who used the money to help outfit the Section III team at the NYSPHSAA championships. After that the girls were all in with helping with the functioning of tournaments.

The ladies thoroughly enjoyed the work and began to develop a great knowledge of the sport. They were also a joy to have at a scoring table and began to do such things like developing a system of evaluating the officials. Their brother was an outstanding official and this proved to be the guideline that they used. It was always done in good fun to help pass the time during a long day at a wrestling tournament. The wrestling officials also began to appreciate the good job that they did. Officials are always concerned about the caliber of work done by the table help and the "Tracy girls" never failed to be up to the task. Brad Hamer, Section III Wrestling Chairman, stated this about them, "for thirty some years the "Tracy girls" have been helping with wrestling tournament in Section III and all the long days working for no compensation was greatly appreciated. They were always on point and provide a fresh break from all the seriousness of competition." The girls also got engaged in assisting at the Section III golf tournament. They could be seen helping at registration, selling raffle tickets and anything else that was needed. Now they have created their own foursome and play in it. The girls have worked Sectional finals, class sectional championships, and have aided on the state level with the Boy's Dual Meet Championship as well as the Girls State Individual Championships at the SRC Arena in Syracuse.

Judy stated that what has been very rewarding to the sisters has been the camaraderie they have developed between the coaches, officials, and wrestlers. Additionally, the respect and sportsmanship that they have seen displayed throughout the years. Furthermore, they have enjoyed seeing a young junior varsity wrestler mature into a sectional champion and in some incidents a state champion ... that has been particularly gratifying. It just great to see all of our friends in wrestling at all of the events each year. However, Gail did indicate that the travel did get a little scary on some of the blizzard like evenings in the area.

The Upstate New York State Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is privileged to present Judy, Gail and Laurie this year's Swimelar Volunteer Award. Thank you for all that you have done for wrestling in Section III and the state.



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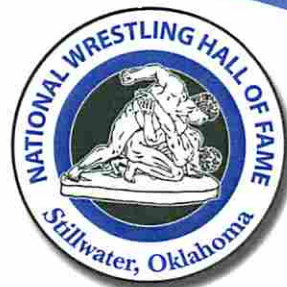
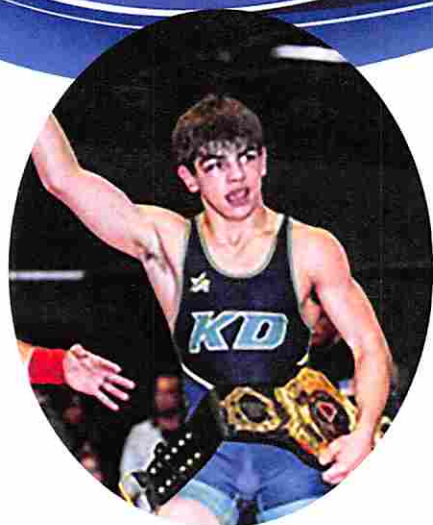
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## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Robert Feldmeier Outstanding Wrestler Award

### **P.J. Duke**

P J Duke's wrestling started early at Carmel High School where as a 7th grader he proceeded to accomplish what few people believed was possible. At 13 years of age, P J became the youngest Division I wrestler in NYSPHSAA history to win a state title. In his first varsity season, Duke was undefeated, won a Section I championship, an Eastern State Classic championship and capped it all off by winning the NYSPHSAA title at the MVP arena in Albany. In an interview in the Journal News newspaper that year, after he was named the Journal News/IohudWestchester/Putnam Wrestler of the year, J P humbling stated, "It's pretty cool to be a seventh grader and be named number 1 out of everyone."

From there P J has had an amazing career at Minisink Valley Central school, where he was coached by 2023 Upstate New York Chapter Hall of Fame coach Kevin Gallagher. P J's career included many outstanding high school and international championships. Some of these include the Eastern State Classic, Section IX Sectional Championships, a Super 32 Championship, a Walsh Ironman Championships, a Fargo Championship and several NYSPHSAA championships as well. Furthermore, this year P J has indicated that he will be going to Penn State to join his former high school teammate Zach Ryder after his 2024-25 high school tenure. Upon committing to Penn State, Duke stated on his Instagram account the following, "I want to thank my parents for all the sacrifices they have made to make my dreams a reality. They are the reason why I am in this position today. They have been my biggest supporters since day one. Through the highs and lows, they stuck by my side and provided me everything I could ever need and more." In addition, Duke thanked KD Training Center and Total Fitness for everything that they had provide him. In concluding, he said that he is looking forward to joining Ryder at Penn State in the 2025-26 season. I bet Cael will like to see that as well.

On the free-style side of competition P J has also obtained many outstanding accomplishments as well. This summer Duke has won the U20 Men's Freestyle World team trials in Geneva, Ohio and then traveled to Peru and won the Pan American championships. Duke is quick to recognize the impact that the KD Training Center has provided him. Coach Khaled Dasso and Mike Macchiavello have been instrumental in his development both on the mat and personally. It should be noted that P J joined fellow Penn State recruits winning the Pan-Am Championship which includes Luke Lillidahl, Connor Mirasola and his former teammate at Minisink Valley, Zach Ryder - Penn State looks to be load in the next few years. For his exceptional showing at the world trial out he was named by USA Wrestling Athlete of the Week.

P J is just not an outstanding wrestler, he is also a valuable member of his team at Minisink Valley. Coach Gallagher had this to say about Duke. "He is just different, he is a really good kid. A lot of people see him out there wrestling but they don't see the kind of teammate he really is. And what a difference he makes in our wrestling room. He is an unbelievable wrestler but he is an awesome teammate." That description speaks volume for the type of individual that P J represents and Minisink Valley has had many like Duke.

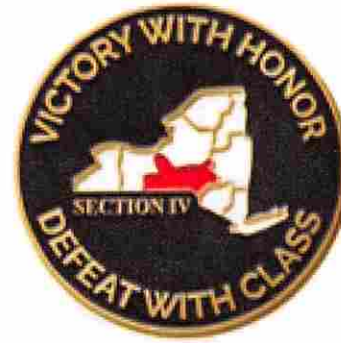
## Section Four Wrestling Officials Association



**Congratulates**  
**Carl Koenig - Lifetime Service Award**  
**Ousmane Duncanson -**  
**Pete Hausrath Award**

*National Wrestling Hall of Fame –*  
*Upstate NY Chapter*  
*SFWOA* also congratulates all 2024  
inductees, as well as all past inductees  
and honorees from Section IV.

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## Section IV Athletic Office

Salutes All 2024 Honorees of the Upstate  
New York Chapter of the NWHOF

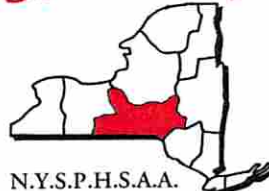
Special Congratulations

To

**Carl Koenig**  
**& Ousmane Duncanson**

**Friends of Section IV Wrestling**  
**Congratulations**  
**All 2024 Honorees**  
**Section IV Honorees – Carl Koenig**  
**Richard “Pete” Hausrath Award - Ousmane Duncanson**

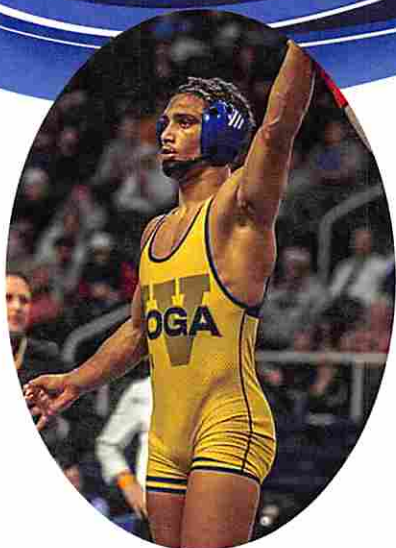
**Section IV**



*Section IV National Wrestling Hall of Famers – Rick Armstrong, Elmer Ackley, Dave Auble, Frank Bettucci, Richard Brown, Ed Carlin, Pete Capone, James Carrier, Mark Cody, Eric D'Arcy, Sam Elia, Stan Elinsky, Steve Erber, Mike Fusilli, Frank Giltner, Rick Gumble, Pete Hausrath, Charlie Hughes, Tom Hurley, Jim Howard, Dominic Iacovazzi, Tim Jenks, Arthur Jones Jr, Scott Key, John Kopalek, Don Kovalchick, Bill Layton, Doug Lobdell, Bob MacNeill, Fred Marcello, Jim McCloe, Ed Michael, Roger Miller, Jimmy Miller, Carmen Molino, Charlie Palmer, Brad Penrith, Rick Perkins, Anthony Policare, Tom Robertson, Al Scheer, Marshall Schlosberg, Al Sosa, Ken Spenard, Jack Stanbro, Sonja Stanbro, Tom Stanbro, Mark Stephens, Orlando Turco, Dan Wickham, and Robert Zifchock*

*Thank you for Your Contribution to Growing Our Sport*





# 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame

Richard "Pete" Hausrath  
Outstanding Wrestler Award

## **Ousmane Duncanson**

Over the last 30 years especially, the mighty Tioga Tigers wrestling program has asserted itself as one of the premier programs in New York State while producing dozens of elite athletes and championship teams. Since 1990, no team (large or small school) has more NYSPHSAA federation tournament place winners than the Tigers' sixty-one. Tioga ranks 4th in NYS in that same time in individual state tournament champions, with the Class of 2024's Ousmane Duncanson claiming three of those titles himself.

Ousmane began his wrestling career going to Union-Endicott peewee practices at five years old. After years of paying his dues through the youth wrestling circuit, Ousmane was elevated to the combined Spencer-Van Etten/Candor Eagles varsity wrestling team as a 7th grader at Candor Junior/Senior High School under head coach Ernie Marilley in the 2018-2019 season.

Ousmane reached the 20-win mark in his first varsity campaign and qualified for the Section IV Division II championships. In the following season as an 8th grader, he achieved over 30 wins on the way to taking 3rd in Section IV at 132-pounds.

Following the spring 2021 'pandemic' season, Ousmane moved to Tioga Center and enrolled at Tioga Central CSD where he would go on to have one of the most prolific careers perhaps in the history of New York State high school athletics.

In his sophomore, junior, and senior years Ousmane would play a major role on three consecutive NYSPHSAA Class D state champion Tigers football teams under head coach Nick Aiello. The New York State Sportswriters Association (NYSSWA) named Ousmane to the All-NYS Class D team in both 2022 and 2023 as 1st team linebacker.

Following three outstanding football campaigns that lasted well into the start of wrestling season, Ousmane would help lead the Tigers to three consecutive NYSPHSAA Dual Meet team state championships under head coach Kris Harrington before capturing three individual Section IV titles and three New York State titles in 2022, 2023, and 2024.

At the state dual meet championships in Syracuse, Ousmane and the rest of the high-powered Tigers lineup cruised to three straight NYS Division II team titles a month before the individual state championships in Albany. In those three dual tournaments, Ousmane posted a perfect 12-0 record picking up crucial bonus points by pinning in ten of his twelve bouts. As is expected of outstanding senior stars, he was 4-for-4 with pins in the Tigers' run to the 2024 small school state title in January.

Leading up to his first trip to the state federation championships in 2022, a loss in mid-January would be Ousmane's last defeat in high school as he would go on to win 92 consecutive matches from Jan. 14 to his third and final state title on Feb. 23, 2024.

Unbeaten junior (37-0) and senior (33-0) campaigns ended with back-to-back NYS small school 160-pound titles to cap off a remarkable athletic career and a final individual record of 175-25 with nearly 120 career pins, good for a 66% pin rate over the course of his career.

"He loves wrestling," said Harrington on Ousmane. "For him, he's 'any place, any time.' He's not worried about who he's wrestling...he just wants to wrestle."

"Ousmane, and this whole group, was more of a 'we instead of me' group," said Harrington discussing the 2023-2024 Tigers senior class. "There was never a question about when we put a lineup together. They are winners, and that's all they cared about. Ousmane's (and the whole group in general) had the philosophy of 'let's get the team titles and then refocus on individual wrestling after.'"

When reflecting on his high school career, Ousmane wished to especially thank Harrington, Jason Bellis, David Crow, Ryan MacWhinnie, Mr. Josh Roe, Carson "Cork" Armstrong, and all his other coaches for their guidance.

The Upstate New York Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is proud to recognize Ousmane Duncanson as the recipient of the 2024 Richard "Pete" Hausrath Outstanding Wrestler Award.

# CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU



Hall of Fame Inductee  
for Lifetime Service  
**Bill Hadsell**

Outstanding American Award  
**Philip "Red" Fedele**

The Section 5 Friends of Wrestling and the  
Wrestling Officials Association of Section 5  
are proud of your accomplishments.



A special congratulations to Carl Koenig 2024 Inductee

Tim Jenks HOF 2019

Guy Dugas - Dan Wallon - John Dibiase - Paul Head

Gene Mills HOF 1994

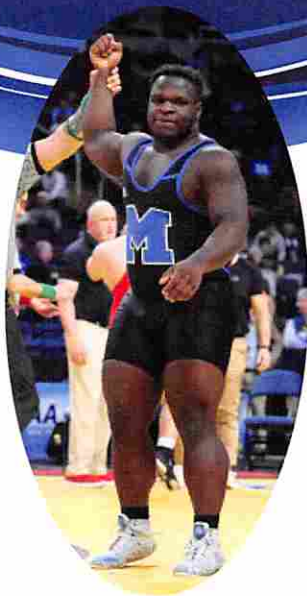
Tim Meredith - Kenny Wilson - John Janiak - Randy Gillette

Mike Rotunda - Patrick Greene HOF 2017

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## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame David Schultz Award

# Stephan Monchery

Stephan Monchery's High School career had all the makings of a Hollywood movie. It met all of the criteria one would expect to see - controversy, struggle, loss, injury, self-doubt and finally great success! Throughout the story Stephan was the foundation of a great run of success for his high school football and wrestling teams.

On the football field Stephan was a fierce competitor, a 4-year starter on both the offensive and defensive lines. Stephan was a 4x All-Section player capped off with an All-State selection his senior year as well as being voted Section IX's top linemen by opposing coaches. During his tenure on the gridiron he led his football team to 3 Section IX Championship appearances and 2 Section IX Championships. Stephan was simply unstoppable on the football field, his ability to make the plays needed at key points in huge games was motivational to all of his teammates. He was unanimously voted team captain by his peers and was the prototypical "lead by example" captain that every coach aspires to have to lead their team. A man of very few words who let his actions speak for him but when he spoke his teammates knew to listen.

As great as he was on the football field he was more so on the mat. As a 7th grader Stephan was brought up to the varsity team to wrestle at 285 lbs, something we have never seen at the Division 1 level in NYS. His first varsity match was a home match against Washingtonville where he picked up the first of 132 career pins. In his first tournament in Horseheads NY, he went 7-0 with 6 pins and was unanimously selected as the tournament's Most Outstanding Wrestler. He went on to have 29 wins his 7th grade season and earn his first of 6 All-Section placings.

As an 8th grader Stephan was ranked in the top 8 of NYS most of the season, he then finished as the Section IX runner-up. His freshman year was canceled due to COVID, but he was able to compete at the Journeyman NYS Championship where Stephan finished 6th and earned his first of 4 NYS Medals.

Stephan's sophomore year began with an unbearable loss as his oldest brother Stevie, passed away. This tragic loss delayed the start to his sophomore year but lit a fire inside of Stephan to reach new levels of greatness. By year's end Stephan had made his mark in NYS and nationally. After winning his first of 3 Section IX Championships he finished 5th in NYS. He then switched his focus to off-season wrestling where he finished 3rd at the NHSCA Nationals and 4th at the USAW Greco-Roman Nationals.

During his Junior season on the football field he took an awkward hit which resulted in a hlsach fracture. The injury persisted all football and wrestling season, but he never let anyone know the severity. During his junior season he set the program record for wins in a career, won his first of 2 Eastern States titles, his 2nd Section title and became the school's first state finalist in 23 years. Immediately following the season, he had surgery to repair the broken bone in his arm.

The senior season became Stephan's Hollywood ending, and no one earned and deserved it more. He started by leading our football team to its 2nd title in four seasons, being voted the Section's lineman of the year while also earning All-State honors. Then wrestling began and Stephan was on a mission. He helped lead the Middletown Middies to their first ever Section IX Dual Meet Championship. Stephan finished the season 42-0, and won the NYSPHSAA Championship. In the spring Stephan capped off the greatest career by a Middletown athlete and won the NHSCA National Championship. For his remarkable career the Section IX Wrestling coaches voted him the recipient of the Troy Bouzakis Male Senior Athlete Award.

It's hard to put into words what Stephan has meant to our community. He has inspired so many young Middletown athletes to see that they are capable of reaching greatness with hard work, dedication and loyalty. He recently committed to wrestle for Appalachian State and even while he is away, his career and perseverance serves as motivation that greatness does come from Middletown, NY.

Stephan was nominated by the Chapter for the Dave Schultz Award which was eventually given to another wrestler from Section V. The Chapter congratulates and acknowledge Stephan for his remarkable career.

*Congratulations to all the 2024  
Upstate NY National Wrestling  
Hall of Fame Inductees*



**Columbia High School Wrestling  
NYSPHSAA Section 2 D1**



Joseph McCabe 2011  
Joseph DeMeo 2013  
Anthony Servidone 2019



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## 2024 National Wrestling Hall of Fame Inductee

Steve Silver Award -  
Outstanding Wrestler Award  
Tricia Saunders Award



## Ragan Retell

There was no doubt as to the sound they heard – a low and menacing growl – a warning to keep your distance. This was Chris and Kevin Retell's first encounter with the six-month old who would be returning home with them to the Capital Region from the Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan. As Kevin recalls, "[w]hen Chris I and first met Ragan, we knew right away she was right for us ... she was adorable of course, but the growl cemented the relationship, since Ragan would be joining a family with three rambunctious older brothers, all wrestlers. She would have to be tough."

And tough she would turn out to be. Dad Kevin coached wrestling, first at Shaker High and then at Tamarac High, and he and Chris spent many a weekend carting the boys and others to wrestling tournaments. By the age of six, Ragan insisted on joining in the fun, at first over the objections of mom and dad. After they grudgingly relented, Ragan started winning pee wee tournaments competing against boys. The winning continued, with Ragan placing four times at Fargo, third and second at Eastern States her, respectively, her junior and senior years, placing second in the first girls (unofficial) state championships and capping her high school career off with a state championship this past winter at the first official New York State Public High School Association state championships.

Ragan also found time to excel on her high school soccer team, where she played goalie and made the league All-Star second team, served on the Student Council, volunteered with her school's youth wrestling program, participated in 4-H and helped raise money for numerous charitable organizations, including the Humane Society.

These successes and achievements, together with solid grades and a winning and magnetic smile, garnered the attention of a number of college coaches in a sport exploding in popularity around the country. One of those was Elmira College, where Ragan has chosen to enroll and continue her studies and participation in our great sport.

Ragan journey from a Kazakh orphanage to success as a student-athlete in the United States is an inspiration to all. There is no doubt that Chris and Kevin, both teachers, instilled a respect for the importance of education, and that Kevin and her brothers, Blake, Riley and Bryce, all top wrestlers in their right, helped infuse her competitive spirit. However, the blood of those rough and ready ancestors from the Central Asian steppe seems to also play a continuing part in the story. When asked if there was anything in particular he remembers from the night Ragan won the New York State championship, dad's reply was "I could have sworn I heard that growl when she first stepped on the mat."

Congratulations  
Carl Koenig and Bill Doran -  
Lifetime Service Award  
PJ Duke - Robert Feldmeier  
Division I Outstanding  
Boys Wrestler  
Stephan Monchery – Dave  
Schultz Nominee

And all the  
Class of 2024 Inductees  
Thank you for your devotion to  
developing our student-athletes

*Orange-Sullivan  
Wrestling Officials  
Association*

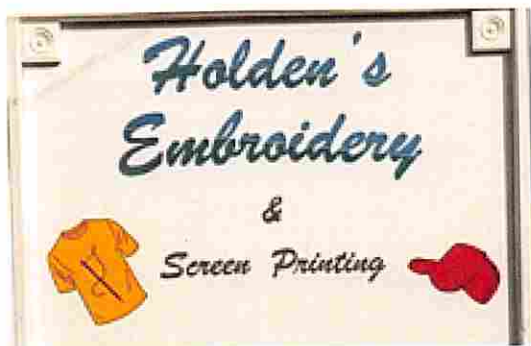


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### 1996

Earl Fuller

### 1997

James Howard  
Leo Johnson  
Tom Robertson  
Donald Quinn

### 1998

Stanley Elinsky  
Steve Erber  
Frank Sorochinsky  
Orlando Turco

### 1999

Art Connorton  
Norm Foster  
Ed Michael  
Dick Post

### 2000

Lacey Jones  
Jack LaBombard  
Frank Millard  
Stan Riggs

### 2001

Elmer Ackley  
Douglas Lobdell  
Laurence Rector  
Jack Williams

### 2002

Steve Friedman - OA  
Carmen Molino  
Bill Layton  
Jimmy Miller  
Roger Miller - OF

### 2003

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

### 2004

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

### 2005

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

### 2006

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

### 2007

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

### 2008

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

### 2009

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

### 2010

Dennis Beck  
Fred Brown - OF  
Ronald Brunner  
Eric Knuutila  
Al Scheer  
The DiPaolo Family - OA

### 2011

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

### 2012

Neal Aubel  
Rick Armstrong  
Bert Ernst  
Wayne Ferguson  
Robert MacNeill  
James Sauberan

### 2013

Dr. Peter Capone  
Joseph DeMeo  
Fred Marcheson  
Andy Noel  
Frank Oliveri  
Kerwin Pine  
Mark Stephens - OF

### 2014

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

### 2015

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

### 2016

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

### 2017

Stefan Banach - OA  
Wayne Carroll  
Murry Dimon - MC  
Steven Fischbein  
Robert Gately  
Rick Gumble  
William Kays  
Brad Penrith  
Charlie Palmer - OA

### 2018

Michael Conners  
Mark Faller  
Scott Freischlag  
Patrick Greene - OA  
Michael Hogan  
Frank Popolizio  
Gene Tracy

### 2019

Mark Cody  
Paul Cummings  
Steven Dalberth  
Tim Jenks  
Donald P. Quinn  
Peter Rao  
Anthony Servidone  
Brian Tompkins

### 2021

Mitch Clark  
Jim Cranfield  
Eric D'Arcy  
Mike Fusilli  
Eric Romanino  
Tom Shifflet  
Timm Slade  
Jim Hughes

### 2022

Chris Bourne  
Dana Charpentier  
John Grillo  
Roy Guarino  
Randy Morrison  
Rob Weeks  
Pastor Arthur Jones, Jr.  
Scott Key

### 2023

Robert Coppola  
Gary Edwards  
Kevin Gallagher  
Dave Hickson  
John Leone  
Jack Romagnoli  
Tom Stanbro

### 2024

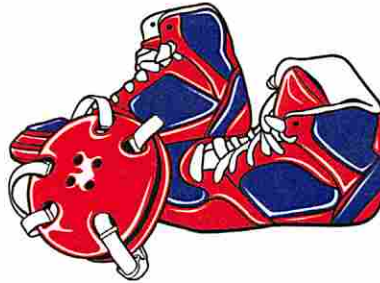
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# Wrestling Officials

## *Past and Present*



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Carl Koenig - past

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# Thank You!

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---

### James Beichner

- I would like to thank my family, friends, college teammates and all the student-athletes / coaches that I worked with during my time as a coach & competitor. I am a very fortunate person to have been surrounded by so many GREAT people. I feel blessed many times over for what you have all done for me. Thank you all so much!! Wrestling is truly the World's Oldest and Greatest Sport and it's also a bond that lasts a lifetime and beyond!

Love and Respect Always  
Jim / Coach Beichs

### Bill Doran

- My wife Roxanne (Rocky) Doran
- My children – Nicholas and Jessica Doran
- Upstate New York Chapter of the NWHOF
- Frank Marotta, Carl Koenig, Brad Hamer
- Syracuse Wrestling officials Association – SWOA
- Fred Brown
- Gene Tracy
- Dick Campbell
- Reed Hawke
- John Arcaro
- Gene Meyle
- Joe DiBarbieri
- TJ Fraher
- Tom Barden
- Eastern Intercollegiate

### Wrestling Officials Association

- Mike Letcher
- Pascal Perri
- Joe Bartell
- Ed Carlin
- Gene Mills
- Gary Kessel
- High School Coach Ron Roch
- Teammates @ North Syracuse HS & Morrisville College
- Jim Frank & Doug McKenney ( For getting me to Wrestle)
- Kurt Honis
- Grant Honis
- Ken Ryan
- Tom Stimson

### Mike Frood

- Mother – Teresa Frood for her love
- Father – Shep Frood who taught me toughness
- Sister – Lauralee – my number 1 supporter
- Wife – Joan – the brains and backbone of our family
- Sons – Brett and Jared
- Robin and Ginny and seven grandchildren
- Coach Gary Golden – my coach
- High School friends – Doug, Kevin, Gary, Andy, Butch and Debbie
- College friends – Billy, Albe, Foamy, Paul, Tom and Crazy Jack
- Friends of SWOA
- Coaches of the OHSL-Central
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### Smith

- Jordan-Elbridge Teacher and Administrators
- Bill Phillips
- Sheril and Jen Spearing
- All the JE wrestlers I coached
- Brian and Lisa Long and the boys
- John Howes, Lonnie Warner and Allen Webster
- 

### Bill Hadsell

- My Parents, brothers Dave, Dick, Mike, Bruce, Robert and John
- To all my wrestlers, there are too many to name. You're the reason I stayed in this sport. It is the journey I will forever remember.
- Coaches - Weldon Canough, Ed Micheal, Dave Aubel, John Murray.
- Canandaigua Academy Teammates - especially Bill Condon, John Hadsell, Ron and Don Jones, Matt, Marty and Mark King, Joe Kuras, Dave Lynn, Morris White, Mike Reho.
- Ithaca College Teammates - especially Joel Lamson, Tim Cotter, Mike Cronmiller, Mike Fusilli, Ron Gross, Marty Nichols, Tim Habecker, Ray LeChase, Marty Sullivan, Dan Bieller, Chris Passero, Ron Post, Karl Zenie, Stu Katzen, Vinnie DiGiacomo
- Coaching Staff
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- 

## Mike Howard

- Thank you to ALL of the current and former Laker wrestlers that I have had the privilege to coach. Without your efforts and commitment this recognition would not have been possible.
- Thanks to ALL of the Oswego State Wrestling Alumni for the tremendous support and contributions as well as the trust they put in me to lead the Laker wrestling program.
- I would like to acknowledge the many individuals who

- served as an assistant coach, I can't thank you enough for all of the help you have provided!
- Special Thanks to my father-in-law, former assistant and High School Wrestling Coach Elmer Akley.
- Also would like to thank Peter Bock and Rick Rollo who served on the Oswego High School coaching staff.
- Coach Ed Michael for his guidance and providing me the opportunity to be part of the UB wrestling program at the start of my college wrestling career.
- I would also like to acknowledge long time Head Athletic Trainer Gary Fulsas for his dedication & commitment to our Laker wrestlers during his tenure at Oswego State.
- I would like to thank my entire family for their continued love and support! Brothers Jim II and Mark, wife Su-Ann and children Michael Jr, Brittany and Matthew.
- Finally, I would like to thank my mother Barbara Howard one of our biggest supporters and Emeritus Wrestling Coach and father Jim Howard II!

## Carl Koenig

- Stanley and Bernie Koenig
- Nathan Koenig
- Patricia Koenig
- Brothers – Rich and Dan
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- Coach Jim Howard
- Ben & Pam Nelson
- Mike & Susan Marks
- Russ Lowe

- Gray & Kate Stevens
- Family of Charles Stratton
- Terrance Dougherty
- Family of Paul Grinwis
- Richie and Susie Burmann
- John Hoxie
- All the Oxford Wrestlers Who Wrestled for Me
- Oxford Athletes who I coached during my career at Oxford
- Coaches Tony Abbott, Don Copper, Steve Bradley and All
- Rick and Ginny Armstrong
- Pascal Perri
- Mark Piven
- Frank Marotta
- Marshall Schlosberg
- Matt Soroichinsky
- John Soroichinsky Junior
- Fellow Section IV Wrestling Officials
- Fellow EIWOA Wrestling Officials
- Lonnie Warner
- Janet MacWeenie
- Bill Byrant
- Friends at Camp Dudley
- Friends of the Annual North Country Golf Trip
- All the Coaches of Section IV that I have worked with







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Carl Koenig - Lifetime Service*

*Ousmane Duncanson  
Pete Hausrath Award*

**Upstate New York Chapter  
National Wrestling Hall of Fame**

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Special Recognition for Our Section IV Friends  
Bill Hadsell

&

Red Fedele - Outstanding American Award

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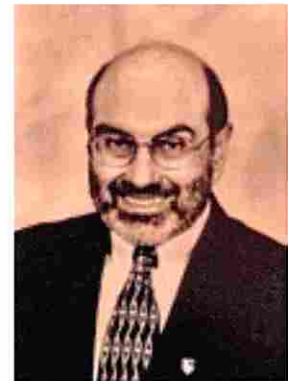
2024 Inductees

Jim Beichner, Bill Doran, Red Fede, Mike Froom  
Len Gadway, Mike Howard, Bill Hadsell and Carl Koenig



Recognizing Past  
Board Member

Ed Michael



The upstate New York Chapter of the NWHOF would like to recognize Ed Michael for his service to the Chapter as a Board member. Ed has provided the Chapter many years of dedicated service and guidance as a Board member. His accomplishments are many and Coach Ed Michael will go down in the annals of wrestling history forever.  
Thanks Ed so much!! Go Bulls!!



# Pride – Loyalty – Fortitude

Sherburne – Earlville Wrestling

Richard “Pete” Hausrath  
&  
New Inductee Carl Koenig



In Appreciation Jim and Freddie Carrier

# **Belgray Oil Company**

**Endicott, New York**

**Patrick Hunter - President**



Congratulates

**Carl Koenig**

Thanks for your Dedication & Service

Former Oxford Athletes