

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

CLIFF KEEN WRESTLING PRODUCTS (BANNER) - Mr. Jim Keen  
HITCHCOCK VINEYARDS - Vaughan Hitchcock  
MARTELL WINE CELLARS - Bill Martell  
ONG & LARSEN GRAPHIC DESIGNS, SAN JOSE - Ms. Molly Larsen  
CREATIVE ENGRAVING, SAN JOSE - Mr. Zack Schroeder  
KIMS EMBROIDERY - Ms. Vickie Huynh  
USA WRESTLING - Mr. Leroy Evans  
CONCORD HILTON HOTEL - Pat Smith & Nancy Brown  
CONTRA COSTA CONVENTION &  
VISITORS BUREAU - Hazel Sturm & Rita Corbinok  
CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Nancy Schultz - Awards Presentations

## Induction Banquet PROGRAM

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Induction Banquet  
May 27, 2000  
Concord Hilton Hotel  
Concord, California

CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME  
INDUCTION BANQUET  
MAY 27, 2000  
CONCORD HILTON HOTEL  
CONCORD, CA.

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES**  
DON BLASINGAME

**INVOCATION**  
JEFF ROBERTS  
*Pastor, Calvary Chapel - Grass Valley, CA*

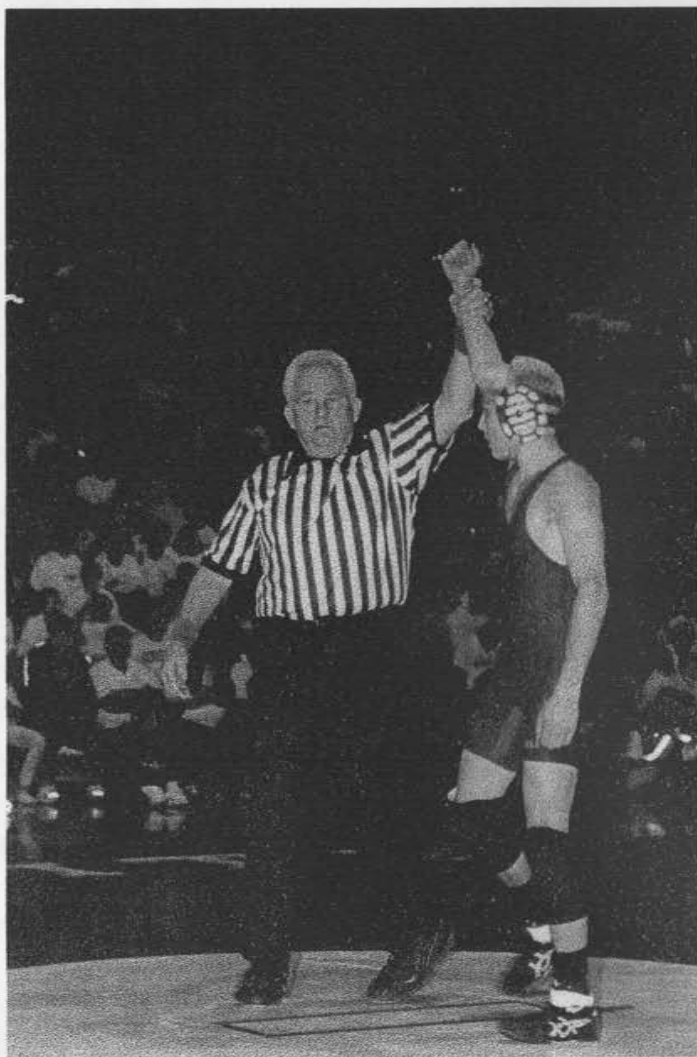
**WELCOME**  
LYNN DYCHE  
*President, California Wrestling Hall Of Fame*

**INTRODUCTION OF CALIFORNIA HALL OF FAME  
HONOREES & AWARDS PRESENTATION**

DON BLASINGAME  
*Commentary*  
NANCY SCHULTZ  
*Awards Presentations*

**CLOSING REMARKS**  
LYNN DYCHE  
FRITZ KNIPE

**CLOSURE**  
DON BLASINGAME



Pat LoVell, 2000 Hall of Fame Inductee - 42 years of officiating

## CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME HISTORY

In October, 1996 a group of twenty five wrestling coaches, officials and friends met in Monterey, California to discuss organizing a California Wrestling Hall Of Fame.

As a result of that meeting Lynn Dyche was elected as president and a steering committee was formed. Additional meetings took place, and we now have governing by-laws adopted, and a selection procedure and process in place for inducting individuals into the Hall Of Fame.

California has been long overdue in establishing a Hall Of Fame. There are many past coaches, officials, athletes and friends who have supported wrestling through their efforts and who should be recognized and remembered for their contributions to "the oldest living sport" WRESTLING.

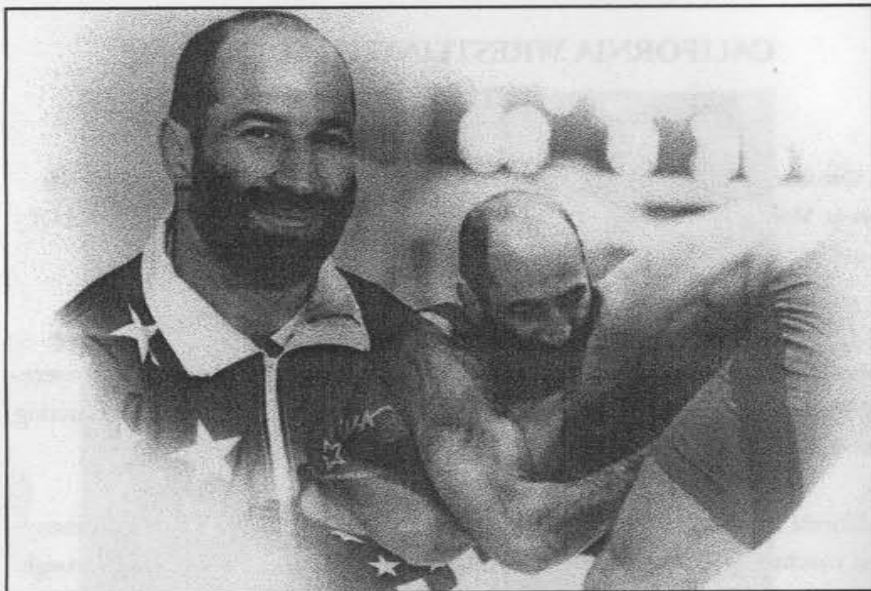
The late David Schultz was the first California Wrestling Hall Of Fame Inductee in 1997. The first group of nineteen individuals has been selected for induction. They will be inducted this evening at the first California Wrestling Hall Of Fame banquet

At the present time, we are searching for a permanent Hall Of Fame facility. Many prefer a location in a central California city such as Fresno, Bakersfield or San Luis Obispo. However, the immediate goal of the committee is to find an interim location that could facilitate the Hall Of Fame.

If you would like further information on the goals of the California Wrestling Hall Of Fame, or you would like to serve on the Hall Of Fame Committee, contact Lynn Dyche at 408-978-9543 or e-mail Lynn at: [dyche@earthlink.net](mailto:dyche@earthlink.net). The committee is also seeking donations to support this worthwhile endeavor.

Annual membership dues are \$25 per year. You will receive a membership card and an annual newsletter. Please send your check to California Wrestling Hall Of Fame, c/o Del Schwartz, 25071 Luna Bonita, Laguna Hills, CA 92653





Dave Schultz, 1st Inductee California Wrestling Hall of Fame, 1997



Nine of our Inductees Recognized at the California C.I.F. Wrestling Tournament

## RECIPIENT PROFILES



**JOHN AZEVEDO** - John has established himself as one of California's most accomplished native sons in the sport of wrestling. As a competitor, his record was exemplary. John was California's inaugural two-time State champion from Modesto is Grace Davis High School. He was a Junior National Freestyle Champion, a three-time NCAA Division II Champion, an undefeated NCAA division I National Champion his senior year at Cal State Bakersfield, a National Open Freestyle Champion, 4th in the World Championships, and a member of the 1980 Olympic Freestyle Wrestling team. John has a "Hall Of Fame" career as an athlete and continues to add to the legacy of California wrestling as a coach with his teams at Calvary Chapel winning six of the past ten CIF State Championships.



**RUSS CAMILLERI** - Without a doubt Russ is one of the most successful and prolific home grown wrestlers to ever come out of the state of California. Russ was a member of two Olympic teams (1960 & 1964) and won twelve National AAU Championships between 1960 and 1972 (seven Greco-Roman and five Freestyle). In that period he was voted the Outstanding Wrestler six times, a record that still stands. He started his wrestling career at Campbell HS where he won two Northern California Invitational titles. He attended San Jose State University, winning the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate title in 1958. As an Air force Officer, he won six Interservice Championships and was a CISM (International Military Games) Champion. One of his proudest accomplishments was winning the Naval Training Center Tournament in San Diego, a record 13 years in a row.



**MARK DIGIROLAMO** - Mark wrestled for Harbor and Santa Cruz High Schools. In 1972 "DG" capped a phenomenal four year high school career by winning an unprecedented four straight Northern California Invitational championships thus becoming the first and only wrestler to accomplish this feat. Mark won his titles at 95, 103, 112, and 120 pounds. His 148-3-2 high school career record was a national scholastic record. While still a high school freshman, Mark amazingly won the National H.S. Freestyle championships. Mark won the 1976 NCAA Division I championship at 118 pounds while competing for Cal Poly. He was honored as a high school All American and a collegiate All-American.



**LYNN DYCHE** - Lynn attended Hayward High School and Cal Poly. High School wrestler 1952-55, College Letterman 1956-60, High School coach for 17 years at Andrew Hill and Oak Grove in San Jose. He was selected as the California, District 8 and National High School Wrestling Coach Of The Year. A high school and college wrestling official for 35 years and commissioner of the college officials association for fifteen years. Head official of community college and High School State Championships for 15 years. He has been the state editor for Wrestling USA magazine since 1973. Lynn organized and directed the First California State CIF Wrestling tournament in 1973. One of the original organizers of the Bay Area Wrestling Association and the Santa Clara Wrestling Association. He has served as the California USA Wrestling International Exchange director for the past 12 years and has taken six teams to Japan. Inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of fame, 1996. Lynn took the initial leadership role in organizing the California Wrestling Hall Of Fame.



**JACK FERNANDEZ** - Jack amassed a phenomenal coaching dual meet record at Mira Costa High School of 223-34-1. In addition, his teams won 65 tournaments, 17 league championships and 5 CIF Southern Section titles. He coached a record 22 individual CIF-SS champions and 57 other place winners. Jack officiated for 42 years including both the NCAA and the National AAU Championship tournaments. Because of his commitment and dedication to the sport of wrestling, Jack received many honors including South Bay and Southern California Coach of the Year, National Coaches Association District 8 Wrestling Coach Of The Year, and he is the first wrestling coach ever inducted into the CIF Southern Section Athletic Hall Of Fame.



**GREG GIBSON** - Redding CA, Shasta H.S., Shasta College, University of Oregon, U.S. Marine Corps. A high school CIF Section and Northern California placer in 1972. Shasta College State placer in 1973. University of Oregon NCAA runner-up in 1975-76. A Junior College and University All American. USMC 1978 to present. A four time Military World Champion, a World Cup Greco-Roman Champion in 1980. The first wrestler to medal in three World Championships in three different styles (Freestyle-2nd, Greco Roman-4th, Sombol-1st). A 13 time All Marine Champion, Pan-Am Games champion in 1980. A 1983 World placer, 1984 Olympic Greco Roman Silver Medalist. 1988 Olympic Team

coaching staff, 1988-1990 All-Marine Wrestling Coach. Greg served in both the Desert Shield and Desert Storm campaigns. He is presently a Master Sergeant.



**JOE "GONZO" GONZALES** - is recognized as a member of the California Wrestling Hall Of Fame. Joe took the art of taking his opponent down to a new level, establishing a single season record of 448 takedowns. Joe completed his collegiate season by posting an NCAA record of 55 wins and losing none. Some of his wrestling achievements include:

- 3 time World Cup Champion
- United States Olympian
- NCAA Division I Champion
- 2 time NCAA Division II Champion
- 11 time AAU National Freestyle Champion
- Tbilisi Tournament Champion (Soviet Union)
- National High School Wrestling Champion
- National Wrestling Hall of Fame



**DAVE HENGSTELER** - One of the founding fathers of the Community College State Tournament - 1959; the only coach to win three consecutive State Championships 1964-66; El Camino College coach-1954-1976; National Wrestling, U.C. Santa Barbara & El Camino Halls of Fame. Coached 25 State Champions and had a record of 216-45-10. He attended Los Angeles H.S., Santa Monica City College, and U.C. Santa Barbara. He received his B.A. degree from U.C.S.B. and his M.A. degree from U.S.C. Dave was a pioneer in the Southern California Wrestling Coaches Association.



**VAUGHAN HITCHCOCK** - Vaughan was an outstanding football player and three time Northern California Wrestling Champion at Hayward High School. His H.S. wrestling record was 101-2-0. He attended Washington State University where he won two Pacific Coast Intercollegiate titles with a record of 97-4-0. Vaughan was selected for the East-West Football Game. He coached high school wrestling at Castro Valley and Hayward High Schools, with a record of 72-1, winning five league championships, four CIF Section Championships and two Northern California Invitational team titles. He coached wrestling at Cal Poly SLO for 23 years with a record of 355-112-4. His teams won eight NCAA

Division II Wrestling Championships. He coached 96 NCAA National place winners and he was twice selected NCAA Division II Wrestling Coach of the Year. Vaughan was selected as Team Leader of the 1976 Olympic Greco Roman Team and Team Leader and Coach of the 1979 USA World Freestyle Team. He was elected into the Helms Wrestling Hall Of Fame in 1994 and the NCAA Division II Wrestling Hall Of Fame in 1998.



**DAVID LEE** - Prior to entering high school, David was a World Schoolboy Freestyle Champion (1979) and the World Greco-Roman School Boy Champion (1981). His pre-high school wrestling record was 408-15. He attended Bella Vista High School where he was coached by his father (Charlie Lee) and his four year record was 177-9. David was the first three-time CIF State Champion. In 1984 he was selected as an All-American by Amateur Wrestling News and was on the All-American "dream team" by Wrestling USA Magazine.. His collegiate career included being a two time PAC-10 Champion while wrestling at Stanford and a two-time Big 10 Champion, three-time NCAA All- American, and in 1989 he was an NCAA Division I Champion. Dave also won numerous international wrestling titles including being the Canada Cup Champion, Cerro Polado (Cuba) Champion and the Czechoslovakia Gran Prix Champion. Dave presently serves as an assistant coach at Stanford University.



**PAT LOVELL** - A three sport athlete at Sequoia High School, Redwood City, Pat matriculated to Cal Poly (1956-60) where he was a three year varsity football letterman and four year varsity wrestler including winning the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Heavyweight Championship in 1958 and 1960. Pat placed in thirteen National Freestyle and Greco-Roman Championships. He was a member of the 1964 Olympic Greco-Roman wrestling team at the Tokyo Olympics. Pat started his coaching career at James Lick High School in San Jose where he coached Jim Plunkett and Dan Lloyd among many other outstanding wrestlers. He moved to Monta Vista High School where his teams won numerous league championships. He then moved to Cabrillo Community College where he was the wrestling coach and assistant football coach. This past year, Pat concluded his 42nd straight year of high school and college officiating. He has been considered one of the outstanding officials in the nation and officiated at 17 NCAA Division I, 17 Pac-10, 15 California State High School, 2 Junior World, and 17 National Open Freestyle Championship Tournaments. Pat Lovell is a leader in the wrestling commu-

nity. He is the CCS Regional High School Commissioner, he has directed many prestigious wrestling tournaments, and he was instrumental in organizing the Bay Area Wrestling Association. He was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall Of Fame as an official.



**BILL MARTELL** - Bill has contributed immeasurably to wrestling in California since 1955. Instilling character and self discipline, he has coached with honor at the middle school through college and Olympic levels. In addition to head coaching positions Bill has served in an executive capacity as chairman of the National Greco-Roman Committee for USA Wrestling; President, NCAA Wrestling Coaches Association; and Head Coach, Elite Wrestling Team. He has been extremely active in organizing international exchange trips for high school and college wrestlers throughout the world. Bill is currently the director of the annual Concord Cup International Greco-Roman Tournament. Bill Martell is a true champion of California wrestling.



**M.A. "DOC" NORTHRUP** - "Doc" had the ability to create and express this individuality in a unique wrestling style. He won his first AAU title in 1943. He won again in 1944, 1945 and 1955. The years between brought many other outstanding performances. In 1949 he was the Olympic team alternate and in 1951 he was the Pan Am Champion at 160 pounds. At age 57 he won the Arizona State Freestyle Championship. "Doc" proved that age was not an excuse for not competing and he was an example of a true champion for all.



**STEVE SANCHEZ** - The only California high school wrestling coach to have coached State CIF championship teams at two different California high schools: Merced-1980 and Antioch-1988. Steve attended Antioch High School 1964-67 where he was a four year varsity wrestler. He then attended Diablo Valley College where he was a two time conference champion. He concluded his collegiate wrestling career at Portland State University in 1970. Steve coached at Merced High School 1971-80 where his teams won six CIF Section titles; he coached numerous CIF State place winners including the Cuestas brothers, Roger Roberts, Charles Shelton & Jason Verduzco. Merced placed in the top 10, seven of the nine years at the CIF State tournament. He moved to Antioch High School in 1981 where he coached wrestling for 10 years. His teams won two CIF Section championships;



he coached two state champions and 8 state placers. Sanchez was the National H.S. Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1981 and the California H.S. Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1982 and 1987 as well as the District 8 Coach of the year in 1987.



**JOE SEAY** - Joe started his wrestling career at Wellington High School in Kansas. He attended Kansas State University and was team captain for three years. He won three National AAU Greco-Roman titles and was runner up twice in Freestyle. He was voted the Outstanding Wrestler at the prestigious Midlands Tournament. His coaching career began at South High School, Bakersfield (1964-72) He was selected as the National High School Coach Of the Year. In 1972 he became the head coach at Cal State Bakersfield. His successful program won him NCAA Division II Coach Of the Year honors three times. He then moved to Oklahoma State University in 1984 where he was selected as Division I Coach of the Year. Joe has been head coach of the U.S. Goodwill Games team, head coach of the US team at the World Championships and in 1996 he was the head coach of the Olympic Wrestling Team at Atlanta.



**MARK SCHULTZ:** He is one of the most successful and fierce wrestlers in the history of wrestling in the world. In 1978, he started his wrestling career by winning the California CIF High School Championship for Palo Alto High School. Mark continued his success by winning three NCAA Division I National Championships (1981,82, & 83) for the University of Oklahoma.

On the international scene, he won the Gold Medal at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. In 1985 and 1987 he won the World Championship. He also won four U.S. Open titles (1984-1987). Mark was an assistant wrestling coach for Stanford, Villanova, U.S. Air Force Academy and BYU. Since 1984 he has been the Head Wrestling coach at Brigham Young University.



**DEAN SENSENBAUGH** - One of the founding fathers of the Community College State Tournament-1959. He holds the coaching record for the most California Community College wins-374. Coached at Modesto Junior College 1957-1985 with a record of 374-78-2. Inducted into the Modesto J.C. Hall of Fame as an athlete and coach. Dean attended Modesto High School, Modesto Junior College, San Jose State (BA) and Stanford University (MA). He served during World War II with the Merchant Marines and the 11th Airborne Division.



**WILLIAM T (BILL) SMITH** - Raised in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Bill won two NCAA titles at Iowa State Teachers College and three National AAU titles (1949-51). In 1952 he capped his amateur wrestling career with a gold medal at the Olympic Games held in Helsinki, Finland. His rock Island, Illinois team won the State H.S. Championship in 1956 after which he coached a highly successful team at the University of Nebraska. In 1960 he became the coach of the San Francisco Olympic Club and his teams set some unprecedented records. 1960-65 his teams won nine National AAU Championships, five in Freestyle and four in Greco-Roman. He had six wrestlers on the 1964 Olympic Wrestling Team. His Clayton Valley H.S. team won the 1977 California State CIF Championship, thus he became one of the few coaches to win state high school championships in two different states. Bill was also instrumental in the organization of the Bay Area Wrestling Association. In 1978 Bill was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. In 1979 he was inducted into the California Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame.



**JOHN WOODS** - John graduated from Redwood High School in 1964 where he won first team honors in football and wrestling. He then attended Cal Poly where he had a very successful wrestling career. He was a two time NCAA Division II finalist winning the championship in 1969. John concluded his collegiate wrestling career in 1969 by placing second at the NCAA Division 1 Championships. He began his coaching at Orange Glen High School where his record was 45-9-2 winning two league titles and CIF runner up in 1973. John moved on to coach at Palomar College from 1973 1988. His Palomar teams were 179-19-3 and won five Community College State Championships. John was voted California Community College Coach of the Year four years (1978,81,83, and 85). John was also voted the NCAA Community College Coach of the Year in 1979,84, 85, and 88.

## CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME SHALL BE TO RECOGNIZE THOSE INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS WHO BECAUSE OF THEIR OUTSTANDING DEDICATION, HAVE CONTRIBUTED IMMEASURABLY TO THE ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE AND CONTINUATION OF AMATEUR WRESTLING IN THE GOLDEN STATE.

THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF STUDENT ATHLETES FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITIES TO CHOSEN CAREERS HAVE BEEN SHAPED, MOLDED AND FOREVER IMPACTED BY THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH AMATEUR WRESTLING. DEDICATION TO A GOAL, DETERMINATION TO DO ONE'S BEST, AND SELF-SACRIFICE FOR EXCELLENCE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE INVESTMENTS WHEN ONE IS A PART OF WRESTLING. SELF-DISCIPLINE, SELF-RELIANCE AND SELF-CONFIDENCE ARE LIFETIME RETURNS, BOTH FOR AMATEUR WRESTLERS AND OTHERS WHO HAVE GIVEN OF THEMSELVES TO THE SPORT.

WRESTLING BUILDS CHARACTER AND IS UNIQUE AMONG SPORTS BECAUSE IT WELCOMES ALL ATHLETES-TALL AND SHORT, HEAVY AND LIGHT, PHYSICALLY FINESSED. WRESTLING IS BLIND TO COLOR, SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AND GEOGRAPHY. THE CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME SHALL RECOGNIZE AND HONOR INTO PERPETUITY THOSE WRESTLERS, COACHES, OFFICIALS, FRIENDS OF WRESTLING AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS WHO BY THEIR EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WORTHY OF RECOGNITION BY INDUCTION INTO THE CALIFORNIA WRESTLING HALL OF FAME.



DEAN JENSEN-RUGBY - One of the founding fathers of the Community College State Tournament (1953). He holds the record for the most California Community College wrestling titles (14). Coached at Modesto Junior College (1957-1963) where he coached 174-74-2. Inducted into the National J.C. Hall of Fame in 1984. Also coached at Oregon State High School (1954-1956), Junior College, San Jose State (1964) and Stanford University (1966). He served during World War II with the Merchant Marines and the U.S. Marine Division.