



2001 State Man-of-the-Year Award



Alfred Fontes
Brentwood, California

Teacher/Coach - California editor of *Wrestling USA Magazine*. Co-Editor of Wrestling Report web page and Coach Al's California Wrestling Web Page. Al has kept all the wrestling coaches, participants and fans aware of current wrestling activities plus maintaining a weekly state ranking of California high school wrestlers.



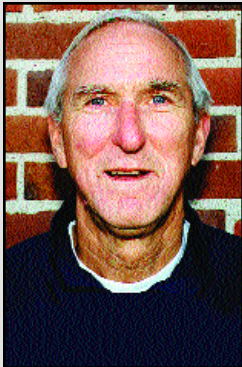
Phil Bode
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Electrician - Phil is a native of Iowa where he wrestled in high school. He was recruited by Coach Dale Ketelsen for LSU where he wrestled and garnered two sectional titles and served as team captain. Phil started the wrestling program at Redemptorist and Brusly High Schools, they have won 8 team state championships between them. Phil jumpstarted the Zachary program in '95 and began a program at St. Amant.



Rex Jones
Lincoln, Nebraska

Associate Director, Nebraska School Activities Association - Rex is completing 26 years on the NSAA staff, the last 25 of which he has been responsible for wrestling rules interpretation as well as directing the state meet. He spent 12 years on the National Federation Wrestling Rules Committee, 8 as chairman. He will long be remembered as the man responsible for NE "Parade of Champions".



Jare Klein
Olivet, Michigan

Coach - Jare completed his 33rd year as head wrestling coach at Olivet College. Career dual meet record of 569-116. He has coached 15 All-Americans and 43 of his student athletes have been named Scholar All-Americans. Jare was inducted into the NCAA Division III Hall of Fame in 1992 and the Michigan Hall of Fame in 1997. His hard work and dedication have contributed significantly to the success of wrestling in the state of Michigan.



Jim Jackson
Apple Valley, Minnesota

Teacher/Coach - Jim led Apple Valley to its third straight state title, and fourth in the past five years. Jim has a career record of 187-9-3 and was instrumental in bringing the Wrestling USA Dream Team Classic to Minnesota in 2000.



Bill Welker
West Virginia

Assist. Executive Secretary WVSSAC - Bill has been awarded the "West Virginia State Man of the Year Award". He was the state rules interpreter and clinician from 1989-2000, and has done an outstanding job. He has authored and published instructional programs for wrestling officials; promoted wrestling through countless writings. His devotion to the sport has gone far beyond his call of duty in West Virginia.



Dean Short
Kingston, New York

Teacher/Coach - Dean has been involved in Kingston wrestling since 1969. He served as assistant coach and head coach. Dean has coached 15 sectional champions and has won two team titles in Section One in 1977 and '78. He took the struggling Mid Hudson Wrestling Tournament in 1985 and turned the tourney into one of the most competitive in New York. This past season the tournament attracted 23 teams and is highly regarded throughout the entire wrestling community. Dean is retiring after 27 years.



Eric Turner
Littleton, Massachusetts

Mathematic Teacher - Men, such as Eric, laid the foundation for the tremendous growth of interscholastic wrestling in Massachusetts. For over three decades Eric tirelessly worked as a coach, official and clerk. His leadership has been an integral part of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Wrestling Officials Association since 1973.