



National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum Florida Chapter

NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 Issue 1

Spring 2019

About the Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame
was established in 2000.

Our mailing address is:

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1505 Crowberry Lane, Sebastian, FL 32958

Our email address is nwhof.fl@att.net

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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VISIT

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ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/NationalWrestlingHallOfFameFloridaChapter/>

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Mark your calendar

Sporting Clays Tournament – May 4th

Spring Tournament – May 18th

More information in this newsletter!

The President's Podium

The year was 1999. Bob Walker and I were encouraged to start the Florida Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Our first induction ceremony was held on a Friday night in September 2000 at Greenlefe Resorts in Winter Haven, Florida. Now 2019, twenty years have passed and the schedule has changed.

Our Chapter year starts in March at the Florida State High School Wrestling Championships. On Thursday evening, we hosted a dinner with Coach Tom Ryan of Ohio State University with 200 in attendance. On Friday and Saturday, we displayed the Florida Wrestling History Museum in the wrestling venue, and Saturday evening we introduced the new class of Inductees. Prior to the Finals Round, there was the Walk of Fame, as the Florida Alumni lined up in their green jackets to welcome the new class and introduce them to the wrestling community.

May is a busy month for the Board of Directors, hosting two fund raising events. On May 4, 2019, we're hosting the Sporting Clays Tournament in Okeechobee. On May 17th and 18th, we will be in Tampa for the Florida Chapter Hall of Fame Classic Wrestling Tournament.

Our premier event is held in August at the Wyndham Hotel and Resort in Lake Buena Vista. On Friday morning, the 16th, there is a Golf Outing. That Friday evening is the Meet and Greet Social. Saturday morning, the 17th, the Testimonial Breakfast is held, followed later that evening by the Induction Banquet.

What are our goals and what is our purpose for the future of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Florida Chapter?

1. **Honor** and keep alive the Spirit and History of the oldest sport known to man - wrestling.
2. **Educate, Preserve, and Publicize** the history of wrestling and Florida wrestling through the National Museum, the Florida Museum, social media, and sponsoring events that reach out to the wrestling community.

3. **Develop** Character, Strength, and Technique in each athlete, and a positive competitive atmosphere for all athletes. Create competitive tournaments and clinics, promote the development of grass roots wrestling, girls' programs and the development of new college programs. Work together with other state wrestling organizations and reach out to County Sport Development Programs within the state.
4. **Honor** Florida's Coaches, Officials, and Contributors who have dedicated their lives to the development and support of wrestling programs and athletes in our great sport.

This is the 20th anniversary of the Florida Chapter. We are planning to celebrate the past twenty years with a special event or two for our Alumni at this year's Honors Weekend in August. We encourage all our past honorees to attend.

The Florida Chapter Board of Directors feel very strongly about the preservation, development and honoring of individuals who have made Florida wrestling great, and we will continue to support, promote, and develop all areas of wrestling. I reach out to the wrestling community to assist our efforts for the continued growth of the Florida Chapter's goals. There are several ways to become involved, such as financial contributions, volunteering, and memorabilia donations to the Florida Museum. For more information, contact me at nwhof.fl@att.net.

***Remember, when we do it, do it with class,
for we are honoring the best of the best***

Gary Townsend

**Saturday, May 18, 2019
NWHOF Florida Chapter
Wrestling Tournament**

**Jesuit High School
4701 N. Himes Avenue
Tampa, FL 3361**



ALL 3 STYLES! FREESTYLE, GRECO, & FOLKSTYLE

USA WRESTLING SANCTIONED EVENT

\$20 ENTRY, \$30 FO ALL 3 STYLES

MADISON WEIGHT SYSTEM

- 14U & under: Weigh-in 8-9am - Wrestling begins @ 10am
- 16U & Juniors: Weigh-in 8-10am - Wrestling begins @ 11am

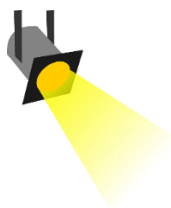
AND THERE IS AN ALL AGES GIRL'S DIVISION!

- (9U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and Junior): Weigh-in 8-10am - Wrestling begins @ 11am

Make Sure to Get Your BOYS and GIRLS HERE!

DON'T MISS THIS AWESOME WRESTLING EVENT!!

Questions? Contact Bill Combs - mcbmbc@aol.com



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Don Smith

Class of 2011

Congratulations to Don Smith for his induction into the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame!

“Mr. Smith spent the last twenty-eight years as a Palm Beach County high school teacher and coach as well as an official for track and field meets and wrestling matches. He has officiated at fifteen state track meets, twenty-five regional and district meets and has been the starter for the last eighteen years at Dick Melear-Palm Beach County Track and Field Championships. As a wrestling official, he has worked ten state tournaments and twenty-eight regional and district meets. In 2008, he was named the FHSAA Florida Active Wrestling Official of the Year; in 2011 he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and in 2012 into the PBC Wrestling Hall of Fame. He has been retired since June of 2016.”

Source: www.palmbeachsports.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=pages.hof

- Don is still officiating and has over 45 years doing so. His first few years were in Minnesota. When he moved to Florida, he continued by immediately contacting the local officials association and signing up.
- Don is the man that signs you in and gives you your ticket at the Sporting Clays Tournament, the annual golf outing, and Honors Weekend events.
- Don and Christine have been married for 20 years.
- Don's hobbies include golf, golf, and golf!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Pete Collins

Class of 2012



Pete Collins has a vision, and that vision is becoming a reality! Pete is the NWHOF Florida Chapter Mobile Museum curator. Yes, a movable Florida Wrestling Hall of Fame! In just a few years, Pete has:

- with Bill Combs' assistance, added a large screen TV to the display table for viewing alumni biographies in the NWHOF at Honors Weekend
- expanded the Florida Chapter's museum display area with the addition of
 - *Outstanding Women Wrestlers* exhibit
 - *College Coaches of Florida* Banner and PowerPoint
 - miscellaneous photographs printed from "I Wrestled in Florida" Facebook posts
 - two TV monitors that displayed PowerPoints of Florida Chapter Inductees and College Coaches of Florida. Pete provided 2 laptops to connect to the monitors.
- plans to make the reality of his vision even stronger include:
 - alumni video interviews beginning in the Tampa Bay area
 - alumni interviews in Southeast, East, Southwest, Central, Northeast, and Northwest Florida
 - donations of Florida wrestling memorabilia. Thank you to Henry Jackson, Dave Frayer, Charlie Zies, and Kim Fries for getting the donation train started!
 - other ideas for displays include (but are limited to):
 - Florida's Finest – The Most Successful High School Programs
 - Florida's Finest - NCAA All-Americans Who Wrestled in Florida
 - Growth of Girls Wrestling in Florida
 - Rule Changes Over the Years
 - FHSAA Wrestling – The Early Years (60's-70's)
 - College Wrestling Before Title IX
 - Dave Schultz and Tricia Saunders Award Winners from Florida

Pete Collins knows this project will take a group effort. Be ready, Alumni!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

2019 Regional Tournament **Weekend**

Thank You to all alumni who
volunteered at the twelve Regional
Tournaments on Friday, March 1st,
and/or Saturday, March 2nd.

Your time, energy, and enthusiasm
representing the Florida Chapter was
noticed, appreciated, and embodied the
spirit of the great sport of wrestling.

NWHOF FL Chapter Board of Directors

QUALIFIED CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM IRAS

RETIREMENT PLANS

Certain IRA holders have the opportunity to make tax-free distributions from their IRAs to qualified charitable organizations. For tax-free eligibility, the qualified charitable distribution (QCD) must be sent directly from the IRA payable to the receiving qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Eligibility and Donation Limit

IRA holders must be at least 70½ years of age before the distribution. In addition, beneficiaries of inherited IRAs who meet the age requirement can also take advantage of QCDs.

For those who qualify, the maximum IRA charitable distribution is limited to \$100,000 per tax year. Any distribution in excess of this limit will not qualify for the tax exclusion benefit and will be treated as ordinary income. The provision applies for Traditional, Roth, and inherited IRAs, but does not typically apply to distributions from “active” SEP or SIMPLE IRAs.

Benefits of a QCD

If a taxpayer makes the donation as prescribed by the IRS, then the distribution will be excluded from gross income and counts toward:

- The taxpayer’s \$100,000 exclusion limitation for the year the distribution occurs and
- The taxpayer’s required minimum distribution (RMD) for the current year

With the increase in the standard deduction for 2018 and future tax years to \$26,600 for married filing jointly age 65 or older and \$13,600 for single filers age 65 or older, more Americans will be using the standard deduction rather than itemizing deductions on their tax returns. QCDs are excluded from taxable income, but do not allow for an itemized deduction. If more individuals age 70 ½ or older use the standard deduction, the QCD is a great way to keep taxable income lower when satisfying an RMD and still get the full benefit of the standard deduction. By using the standard deduction, a taxpayer will receive no benefit for their charitable contribution unless it is processed as a QCD from an IRA. In addition, by not including a charitable donation from an IRA as ordinary income, an individual’s adjusted gross income is not increased, which could affect the ability to:

- Qualify for Roth IRA contributions
- Avoid other potential tax ramifications, such as:
 1. The 3.8% health care surcharge. (Even though distributions from IRAs are exempt from the 3.8% health care surcharge, taxable distributions from IRAs could push income over the threshold amount, causing other investment income to be subject to the surtax.)
 2. Paying more for Medicare Premiums.
 3. Taxation on Social Security Benefits.

QCD Tax Reporting

Typically, the custodian of an IRA will report a QCD as a normal distribution on the 1099R tax form, while QCDs from inherited IRAs are reported as death distributions. This gives the IRS no notification that an IRA holder intended to make a tax-free distribution from the IRA to a charity. It is the responsibility of the IRA holder or his or her tax preparer to properly report the QCD on a 1040 tax return. It is also strongly suggested that the IRA holder obtains a receipt from the charitable organization.

Is a QCD the right strategy for you?

Please seek the aid of a competent tax advisor or tax attorney for guidance.



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PCR# 032018-01 Stifel does not provide tax advice. You should consult with your professional tax advisor regarding your particular situation.

Reserve the Date

May 4, 2019

Sporting Clays Tournament!

***8th Annual
Sporting Clays
Tournament***



Registration Fee: \$125.00 Per Person
4 Shooters per team Gun Rentals Available*

***Call Quail Creek in advance to reserve.**

863-763-2529

We Need Your Support!

All proceeds will benefit the
Florida Chapter Inductees into the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame

Sporting Clays Tournament- Golf with a Shotgun!
Includes golf cart, 100 targets per shooter and Lunch.
Quail Creek Plantation
12399 North East 224th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972
Registration: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

To register click on the link below or contact

Don Smith

Email: djs4track@gmail.com

For more information contact,

Robert Matyskiel

Email: Rem@pbcwhof.net or 561-688-1515 ext. 301

- REGISTER TODAY -

We also need station sponsors.

If you cannot attend, sponsor a station for this year's inductees.

Contact Jeff Malavsky at Jmalavsky@aol.com

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NWHOF FL Chapter Sporting Clays Tournament

NWHOF Florida Chapter, 1505 Crowberry Lane, Sebastian, FL 32958

Coaches Corner

NWHOF – FLORIDA CHAPTER Class of 2019

Lifelong Service to Wrestling Award

This year, five of the six inductees are coaches or have coached, so the *Coaches Corner* column is a fitting place to introduce the group. (Don't worry, the sixth inductee will also be introduced!)



From left to right: Jeff Malavsky, Mark S. DeAugustino, Mika Zarra, Dr. Eric Hughes, Jim Smoot, and Doug Rasmusson.

Mark S. DeAugustino is being inducted as a **coach**. After graduating from the University of Tennessee, Mark spent time as a volunteer coach and a private business owner in Tennessee, Pennsylvania, and Florida. It wasn't until 1989 that he began his Florida coaching career. He was a volunteer coach at Cypress Lake High School in Ft Myers, then an assistant coach at Land O'Lakes High School. In 1998, he became the head coach at Pasco High School in Dade City, a position he held until 2017 when he accepted the head coaching duties at Zephyrhills Christian Academy. Throughout his coaching career, Mark has trained eighty FHSAA state qualifiers, thirty-six place winners, fourteen state finalists, and six individual state champions.

Dr. Eric Hughes is being inducted as a coach. Eric started his coaching career in 1981 as an assistant at South Miami Senior High School, then head coach at South Miami Middle School, and Cutler Ridge Middle School. His first head coaching job was at South Miami Middle School. Following that he was the inaugural head coach at Bay Point School in Miami, where he started the wrestling program. Later, he became head coach at Westminster High School in Miami. Since 2007, Eric has been the head coach at Everglades High School in Pembroke Pines. Throughout his tenure, he has amassed a career record of 505 wins against 65 losses. He has also coached twenty-two FHSAA state qualifiers with eight state place winners. Besides the sport of wrestling, Dr. Hughes had a successful career as an elite Power Lifter through the 80's and 90's, holding several world records in different weight classes.

Jeff Malavsky is being inducted as **contributor/coach**. In 1987, Jeff relocated to Naples from New Jersey after a successful high school and collegiate wrestling career. He started his Florida wrestling career as an FHSAA official. From 1992 to 2004, he was a volunteer coach throughout the Collier and Lee counties area. In 2005, Jeff became the inaugural head coach at the Evangelical Christian School in Ft. Myers, a post he would hold until 2017. While coaching at Evangelical Christian School, he also started the wrestling program at Southwest Christian Academy. During that time, he started "The Law" wrestling club. The club was open to all Lee County wrestlers. In addition, in 2013 he was the wrestling booster club president for Florida Gulf Coast University. While at the Evangelical Christian School, Jeff coached five FHSAA state qualifiers and two state place winners. Since 2018, Jeff has been the Director of Development for the Florida Chapter of the NWHOF.

Doug "Raz" Rasmusson is being inducted as a coach. Following graduation from Eastern Michigan University (December, 1983), Doug moved to Palm Beach County in March, 1984. His introduction to Florida wrestling was as an assistant at Dwyer High School in Palm Beach Gardens. The next year he would become the head coach at Jupiter High School, where he is still teaching and coaching. He also coached football and weightlifting at Jupiter High School. In 2013, he was inducted into the Palm Beach County Wrestling Hall of Fame and is a board member. Throughout his career "Raz" has been "Coach of the Year" for Palm Beach County eleven times. He was also "Coach of the Year" for the Palm Beach Post, and the Palm Beach edition of the Sun Sentinel. Doug has coached two FHSAA state champions, four finalists and several place winners. He has been running wrestling tournaments since he was a teenager and continues to run several each year. Doug teaches the members of his teams that there is more to wrestling than winning and losing. Wrestling teaches about life and how to live it! Many of his wrestlers have gone on to wrestle in college and have become wrestling coaches.

Mike Zarra is being inducted as a coach. Mike began coaching in 1976 as an assistant at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. After graduating from Florida Atlantic University, he moved up to head coach. While at St. Thomas Aquinas, Coach Zarra's teams finished in the top 10 at the FHSAA State Tournament five out of six years. Following that, he was the head coach at Pope John Paul High School in Boca Raton, and McArthur High School in Hollywood. In 2006, Mike left wrestling to become the head football coach at McArthur, a post he held until 2011. He would get back into wrestling in 2011 as the head coach for McArthur High School. Throughout his career, Mike earned 311 wins with only 119 losses. He has coached 39 stat qualifiers, fourteen state place winners, and two FHSAA State champions. However, if asked, Mike would say his most important wrestling credential is that he started and continues to host the South Florida Girls Championships.

Jim Smoot is being inducted as an **official**. Jim started his FHSAA officiating career in 1989. In addition to his FHSAA duties, Jim is also a referee for USA Wrestling. During his storied career, Jim has officiated eleven FHSAA State Tournaments and has worked District and Regional tournaments since 1994. In 2012, he was an official at the USA Wrestling Southeast Regional Qualifying Tournament. Jim has also officiated three Southwest Regional tournaments and four Super 32 qualifying tournaments, and, in 2017, he was an official for the USA Wrestling National Kids Tournament.

(Editor's Note: At the March Board meeting, Jim was nominated to fill the open Officials Director position and he has accepted.)

Officials Position

With regret, Pat Fairfax has resigned his position as the Officials Director for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame - Florida Chapter. Due to work obligations, Pat felt he could not serve the Florida Chapter in the manner required. The Board of Directors and I want to thank Pat for the six years he contributed to and supported this organization. Pat did express that he would be there to help when possible. Again, thank you, Pat.

Gary Townsend

2019 Honors Weekend Events

Friday, August 16th

9:00 AM - Golf Event

6:00 PM – Alumni Only Event

8:00 PM – Meet and Greet Social

Saturday, August 17th

9:00 AM – Testimonial Breakfast

7:00 PM – Induction Banquet

Tickets for all events: <https://fl-nwhof.ticketleap.com/>

Hotel reservations for Wyndham Buena Vista Resort, 1850 Hotel Plaza Blvd, Lake Buena Vista, Fl 32830:

Direct contact: 800-624-4109, and tell the reservation clerk you will be attending the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Florida, Honors Weekend August 16th & 17th

OR Online reservations:

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/hr/national-wrestling-hall-of-fame1>

Wrestler Pin Down

The 2019 FHSAA Wrestling Championships



The NWHOF Florida Chapter expanded its display and presence inside the Kissimmee Silver Spurs Arena, the site of the 2019 FHSAA Wrestling Championships. On Thursday evening (March 7) the Hall sponsored Ohio State Head Wrestling Coach, Tom Ryan, who spoke before an audience of high school coaches, wrestlers, and parents inside the Heritage Park Pavilion. Over dinner, Coach Ryan addressed the things that motivate him and how he turns them into lessons for life to be shared with his athletes who compete at the highest level. (Please see article on page 18.)

Our traveling Florida Wrestling History Museum and information booth stretched the length of the north mezzanine inside the venue. Pete Collins is our resident curator and, under his direction, hundreds of programs, articles and memorabilia documenting Florida's rich wrestling history have been archived. Melanie Combs tirelessly manned HOF Central as she answered questions and informed the many visitors about our upcoming events.



Before the championship finals the 'Green Jackets' assembled on the event floor to form the tunnel for the "Walk of Fame". The National Wrestling Hall of Fame Florida Chapter class of 2019 was introduced to the crowd and greeted while proceeding through the tunnel. The NWHOF finished the weekend by handing out framed certificates of merit to the FHSAA athletes on the podiums during the medal ceremonies.

**The 1st period is won by the best technician.
The 2nd period is won by the kid in the best shape.
The 3rd period is won by the kid with the biggest heart.**

Dan Gable

OHIO STATE HEAD WRESTLING COACH TOM RYAN SPEAKS TO FLORIDA STATE QUALIFIERS

Submitted by Kelli Malavsky, Florida Chapter Ambassador

The Florida Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame was pleased to host the multiple award-winning coach Tom Ryan, as he spoke to athletes, parents, coaches and fans. Ryan offered congratulations to all the participants on the night before the state tournament began. The 200 attendees were captivated by Coach Ryan's philosophy of focusing on what you can control – effort, temper, preparation, mindset, and attitude. The Florida Chapter looks forward to presenting an inspirational speaker at this event next year.



Please support the NWHOF Florida Chapter sponsors



561-245-4722



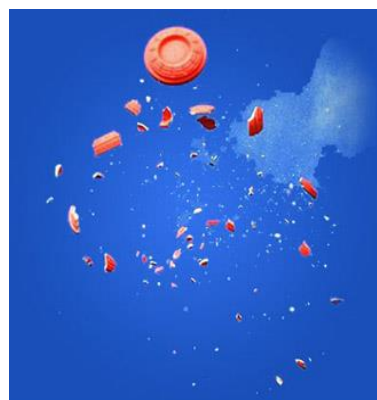
239-936-9006



There's always ways of motivating yourself to higher levels.
Write about it, dream about it.
But after that, turn it into action.
Don't just dream.
Dan Gable



**The National Wrestling
Hall of Fame and
Museum - Florida
Chapter will again host
the annual
SPORTING CLAYS
TOURNAMENT
on Saturday, May 4th.**



The **\$125** entry fee will include the shoot and tournament lunch held at the Quail Creek Plantation in Okeechobee, Florida. This event has been enjoyed by HOF members, family, and supporters for several years at this American sportsman paradise. We encourage your participation in this special sport and social event as a way to strengthen the mission of the Florida HOF.

If you are planning to make this a family weekend, hotel arrangements will need to be made directly with Quail Creek. Set your calendar to May 4th and join Board members Bob Burns and Bill Combs in keeping clay pigeons buckshot free.

All reservations and meal requests will need to be made directly through the management at Quail Creek. [863-763-2529](tel:863-763-2529) or email reservations@quailcreekplantation.com.

Quail Creek Plantation
12399 Northeast 224th Street
Okeechobee, FL 34972.

Checks for the Clay Shoot registration should be made out to: **NWHOF Florida** and mailed to **NWHOF Florida Chapter,**

**1505 Crowberry Lane
Sebastian, FL 32958**

Include a T shirt size and contact information along with the check. If you register a team, please include each individual's contact information.

Sponsors may support this event with a \$100 ad on a shooting station sign. Please mail you sponsorship to: **NWHOF Florida Chapter**

**1505 Crowberry Lane
Sebastian, Fl 32958.**

Clay Shoot check-in begins at 8:30 am. For more information, contact Robert Matyskiel by phone [561-688-1515](tel:561-688-1515) or by email rem@pbewhof.net.

Saturday, May 18, 2019
NWHOF Florida Chapter
Wrestling Tournament

Jesuit High School
4701 N. Himes Avenue
Tampa, FL 3361



ALL 3 STYLES! FREESTYLE, GRECO, & FOLKSTYLE

USA WRESTLING SANCTIONED EVENT

\$20 ENTRY, \$30 FO ALL 3 STYLES

MADISON WEIGHT SYSTEM

- 14U & under: Weigh-in 8-9am - Wrestling begins @ 10am
- 16U & Juniors: Weigh-in 8-10am - Wrestling begins @ 11am

AND THERE IS AN ALL AGES GIRL'S DIVISION!

- (9U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and Junior): Weigh-in 8-10am - Wrestling begins @ 11am

Make Sure to Get Your BOYS and GIRLS HERE!

DON'T MISS THIS AWESOME WRESTLING EVENT!!

Questions? Contact Bill Combs - mcbmbc@aol.com

Memories of Great Matches Involving Florida Wrestlers

by Ira Fleckman, Contributing Writer

Derrick Hinson, Winter Park

Prior to a match with Lake Howell HS, Johnny Rouse and his assistant told me to watch Winter Park's new 100-pound wrestler. Derrick Hinson was a little muscular wrestler who was taking the mat for his first dual meet. His opponent attacked and snatched a single leg and, as the opponent lifted the leg, Derrick Hinson jumped up in the air, spun behind his opponent, and was completely off the ground but in control in a cross-body ride. I had officiated for quite a while and I had never seen this! Derrick Hinson had control, but he had not taken his opponent down. There was a potentially dangerous situation because one wrestler, the Lake Howell guy, was supporting the weight of the other wrestler on his feet. To say that I hesitated to blow the whistle or to make a call would be too kind. I was frozen. Derrick ended my confusion by jumping back down off his opponent, who still held Derrick's leg up in the air. Derrick recovered his leg and won the match with more traditional moves.

Derrick faced many problems in adjusting to high school, wrestling, and adult responsibilities, but the last time I saw Derrick, he had completed his undergraduate degree at Howard University in Washington DC and had completed a career as a college varsity wrestler, too.



MORE THAN A MUSEUM
it is an experience!

**America's shrine to the sport of wrestling, the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame & Museum has the largest
collection of wrestling artifacts and memorabilia in the world!**



Stillwater, Oklahoma



**State Chapter
Induction Banquets**



Waterloo, Iowa

CONTACT INFORMATION

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