



NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

Massachusetts Chapter

2019 INDUCTION CEREMONY
& HONORS BANQUET

The Board of Directors of the
National Wrestling Hall of Fame -
Massachusetts Chapter
congratulates Daniel, Homer,
Keith, Kevin, and Steve on their
induction into the National
Wrestling Hall of Fame.



2019 CEREMONIES

WELCOME

Dave Russo, Master of Ceremonies

PARADE OF HONOREES

*Past Inductees followed
by the Class of 2019*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Performed by Jeff Goor

OPENING REMARKS

*Sean Harrington, President
Board of Directors,
Massachusetts Chapter*

PECKHAM SCHOLARSHIP

*Presented by Matt & Diana Peckham
and Greg Wilson*

DINNER SERVICE

LIFETIME SERVICE

INDUCTEES

*Homer Barr, Daniel Balboni,
Keith Durham, Kevin Russo,
Steve Toubman*

PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS OF 2019

Donning of the Jacket

CLOSING REMARKS





Coach Steve Toubman **JUST DID IT.**

The Henry Littlefield Brigade of Amherst College Wrestling is proud to congratulate their teammate, friend, mentor and hero on the occasion of his entry into the Mass Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Plus, he's great at math. Go get 'em Toubie!

Dan, Keith, Kevin, Steve and Homer

*Congratulations on your induction into
the National Wrestling Hall of Fame!*

MIWCA
Massachusetts Interscholastic
Wrestling Association



Steve Toubman



Nobles Wrestling Team Coach 1981 – 2019

From Coach Toubman's first wrestling team co-captains at Nobles, Clift Georgaklis and John Tayer, and on behalf of the student athletes he coached during that inaugural season . . . Congratulations on your well-earned National Hall of Fame induction and your 38-year legacy of achievement, both in preparing young men for wrestling competition and life-long wrestling discipline!



CONGRATULATIONS, COACH TOUBMAN

on your induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Massachusetts Chapter. The high standard for leadership and dedication you set has never been forgotten. Thank you from the Ackil Family - Al, Ann, Anthony, Mike, Albie and Danny. Noble and Greenough School 1991-1999.

NOBLES



CONGRATS, COACH TOUBMAN!



Nobles congratulates Steve Toubman for his well-deserved induction into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame!

Through nearly four decades, Coach Toubman trained beginning and seasoned wrestlers to embody the athleticism and sportsmanship that is essential on the mat. He has lived the Nobles mission to inspire leadership for the public good.



Congratulations, Steve Toubman!



As a coach at Nobles for 38 years, Steve Toubman has been a model of sportsmanship, character and integrity who continually shapes young minds and bodies. His passion for the sport is only surpassed by his genuine care for his athletes.

Thank you, Coach Toubman, for your years of leadership of and dedication to Nobles Wrestling. Your induction to the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is well-deserved!

Nobles Class of 2018 Graduates and Parents



Lee Roy Smith

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NATIONAL WRESTLING
HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

The National Wrestling Hall of Fame is committed to advancing awareness and appreciation for the history of wrestling in the state of Massachusetts. Each year your State Chapter program accomplishes its mission of preserving your state's history in wrestling by recognizing and inducting individuals who have inspired others through their years of service and commitment. It is my pleasure to welcome you as we induct another great class of honorees.

We believe that when properly informed, people will better understand what a wrestling life is all about. By sharing in this celebration and enshrinement ceremony, you are witnessing first-hand the impact our State Chapter programs and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame have upon the sport. As we recognize these individuals honored today, we are able to share their inspiring stories with current and future generations. Our mission uniquely qualifies us to help shape public perception about our sport through the lives and stories of those you are here to support today. Our honorees have made an indelible impact upon our sport and our communities because of the lives they have transformed through a sport that welcomes everyone, no matter their size, ethnicity, physical limitations or gender.

We are fortunate to have the generous and outstanding volunteer leaders to manage and operate this program in the state of Massachusetts on behalf of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. I also thank you for supporting our chapter, which is dedicated to celebrating and advancing the heritage of wrestling in the state of Massachusetts for generations to come.

Sincerely yours in the spirit of preserving, recognizing and inspiring,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee R. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Lee Roy Smith
Executive Director, NWHOF

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF
THE NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

The mission of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame is to promote and strengthen the sport of wrestling in Massachusetts. We do this by preserving the history of Massachusetts wrestling, recognizing our excellence, and inspiring future generations to learn from our great sport.

As a state chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, the Massachusetts Chapter carries forth the goals of our national organization by celebrating the excellence of wrestlers, coaches, officials, and other contributors to Massachusetts wrestling.

LIFETIME SERVICE TO WRESTLING: an individual who has dedicated at least twenty years of meaningful service to the sport of wrestling.

MEDAL OF COURAGE: a wrestler or former wrestler who has overcome insurmountable challenges or made heroic sacrifices.

OUTSTANDING AMERICAN: a former wrestler who has applied lessons learned from wrestling to achieve notable success in another area of life.

Our inductees are enshrined in the State Chapter Gallery of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Museum in Stillwater, OK. In the museum, our inductees take their rightful place alongside other wrestling greats from across the country who have contributed to the sport of wrestling.

The **DAVE SCHULTZ AWARD** is presented by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame to the top wrestler from each state who displays outstanding character and academic performance.

In addition, the Massachusetts Chapter selects exceptional student-athletes who aspire to wrestle in college for **JAMES PECKHAM SCHOLARSHIPS**.

The **MASSACHUSETTS WRESTLING ROOTS** and the **BAY STATE PRIDE** awards are presented to individuals who have made other contributions to the Massachusetts wrestling community. Coach-of-the-year, outstanding wrestler, and various honors are presented to recognize stellar performances by athletes, officials, and coaches.

We take great pride in the Massachusetts State Chapter programs, including our website (<http://nwhof.org/massachusetts/>), our Mass Mayhem and spring awards ceremony, and our induction banquet. All of these things preserve our wrestling heritage and celebrate the individuals who have made notable contributions to Massachusetts wrestling.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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(Co-VP of Nominations)

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2019 HONOREES

Homer Barr
Daniel Balboni
Keith Durham
Kevin Russo
Steve Toubman

Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Lifetime Service to Wrestling

PAST HONOREES

CLASS OF 2018

Burton Burger, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Dennis Fenton, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Robert Gay, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
David A. Lipton, Outstanding American
John Lopresti, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
John Staulo, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2017

Robert Anniballi, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Thomas Bartosek, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Patrick Coleman, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Dr. John Passarini, Outstanding American
Craig Stone, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2015

Manny Costa, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Mike Pyle, Outstanding American
Bruce Rich, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Steve Tassini, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Neal Zonfrelli, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2014

Mark Donovan, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Chip Dunn, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Brian Gallagher, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Larry Tremblay, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Greg Wilson, Outstanding American

CLASS OF 2013

Steven H. Biondolillo, Outstanding American
Rick Bowe, Massachusetts Wrestling Roots
Carmine Colace, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Glen Doherty, Medal of Courage
Ray Miro, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Nick Zacchilli, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2012

Gary Chase, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Deke Conklin, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Tom Darrin, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Warren Farrell, Massachusetts Wrestling Roots
Phil Gormley, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2011

Fran Cranston, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Colin Kilrain, Outstanding American
Joe LeVasseur, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Dennis Puleo, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
John Puleo, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Randy Whitehead, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2010

Stephen Henry, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Frank Millard, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Fred Scyocurka, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Otis Tholander, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Brian Urquhart, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2009

Dave Baldanza, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Rod Buttry, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Tim Donovan, Medal of Courage
Phil Tomkiel, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Steve Ward, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2008

John Putnam, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Robert Rudolph, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Rick Sullivan, Outstanding American
Eric Turner, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2007

Norm Bouley, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Andy McNerney, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Frank Smith, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Vinnie Viglione, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2005

John McLaughlin, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Frank Millard, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Denis Mulvihill, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Bob Skelton, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Tim Walsh, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2003

Frank Ball, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Norm Collier, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Phil Grebinar, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Stan Holmes, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Alex Steinbergh, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2002

Carl Adams, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Mike Defazio, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Peter Fuller, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Dick Griffin, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Rick Moyer, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 2000

George Bossi, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Howard "Tug" Crozier, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
John Lee, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
George Myerson, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Bill White, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

CLASS OF 1999

Louis Andrews, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
John Harkness, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Ken Mallory, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
Doug Parker, Lifetime Service to Wrestling
James Peckham, Lifetime Service to Wrestling

SEAN HARRINGTON

PRESIDENT, MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER



Sean Harrington is an accomplished trainer, coach and motivational leader with over 20 years of experience leading and inspiring wrestlers and teams. His areas of expertise span across all facets of wrestling from youth to Division I college wrestling. Sean is currently the Head Assistant Wrestling Coach at Harvard University. Elected President of the Board for the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in October of 2016, Sean is serving his first term as President.

Prior to Harvard, Sean was the Head Assistant Wrestling Coach at Boston University from 2011-14. In addition, he owned and operated BrickHouse Wrestling and Fitness, llc in Lowell, Massachusetts from 2006-2012. Wrestlers from BrickHouse went on to wrestle at Harvard, Boston U, Buffalo, Pitt, as well as WPI, Roger Williams,

and Johnson & Wales. In 2011, Sean received the PCA Double-Goal Coaching Award from Liberty Mutual Insurance for coaching and more specifically, for teaching life lessons through sport. He served as the Massachusetts Junior National Wrestling team coach from 2008-10.

As a competitor, Sean was a two-time Olympic Trials competitor and placed 8th at the US Open Championships in 2004. He was a 3-year resident-athlete at the US Olympic Center in Colorado Springs, CO where he trained with, and competed against elite wrestlers from around the world. Collegiately, Sean was a two-time All-American wrestler for University of Massachusetts–Lowell and earned the University’s esteemed Cushing Award, presented to the University’s top athlete, for both the ’95 and ’96 seasons. At Dracut High School, he was a Massachusetts State Champion and New England Champion.

He is a member of the Athletic Hall of Fame at UMass Lowell, Dracut High School and the Massachusetts Interscholastic Wrestling Coaches Association. Sean holds a BS in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts–Lowell, and lives in Pelham, New Hampshire with his wife, Jackie, and daughters, Madeline and Sophia.

Congratulations to Homer Barr, Dan Balboni,
Keith Durham, Kevin Russo, and Steve Toubman.



Your dedication and leadership has helped
thousands of wrestlers in our state and beyond.

With great respect- your friends in officiating.



Homer J. Barr

Homer J. Barr was the varsity wrestling coach at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) from the fall of 1966 until his untimely death due to cancer in June of 1975.

A native of Pennsylvania, a state rich in wrestling tradition, Homer became a state champion at 185 lbs. in his senior year (his only year of high school wrestling). Continuing on at Penn State, he became a 3-time All-American, finishing 4th as a sophomore, 3rd as a junior, and 2nd as a senior. That year, 1951, he was selected as Penn State's Most Outstanding Athlete. With this kind of success, it was no surprise that Homer Barr would have great success as a high school coach, first at Warren High School and then at State College High School. His 64 straight dual meet wins at State College High was widely acclaimed as was his 98-12 win/loss record during his 10 years as head coach.

In 1966 when UMass offered its head coaching position, Barr accepted the challenge and moved his wife and 4 children to Amherst. At this time, UMass was a fledgling program fielding a team with whoever happened to show up for the first day of practice. Barr was a visionary, however, and aspired not only for New England success but felt that national competitiveness was an attainable goal. To this end, he began a recruiting effort that would bring in talent from traditionally strong wrestling states like Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Delaware. Within 2 years, UMass had a practice room full of young talent that would propel the UMass program to a level of competitiveness far above any previous season. With nearly 30 New England colleges and universities with varsity wrestling programs, it was Springfield College that dominated the New England Intercollegiate Wrestling Association's end of season tournament, with championships in 20 consecutive seasons. Now with a solid line up, coupled with a dramatically improved and challenging schedule, it was time for UMass to unseat Springfield and become New England champions in 1971, 1973, and 1974. Furthermore, Coach Barr's goal for national competitiveness began to come to fruition when in 1969. Two UMass wrestlers competed at the NCAA University Division Championship Tournament at Brigham Young University. In the years that followed and up until his death, UMass would qualify more wrestlers by far than any other New England college or university including longtime and well-established schools that competed in the Ivy League, like Harvard and Yale.

Homer Barr was cognizant that the continual development of wrestling at the high school level was critical to achieving his long-term goals. Accordingly, he reached out to the high school coaching community soon after his arrival at UMass. When Granby High School needed space for their Christmas Tournament, Barr arranged for facilities and assistance at UMass. Hosting the 1970 High School New England Tournament was another opportunity to bring high school wrestlers onto campus showcasing the state's flagship university and its programs. Springtime and summer clinics and tournaments were other initiatives organized by Barr, which provided for the development of Massachusetts wrestling. These efforts increasingly resulted in Massachusetts born and bred wrestlers now able to compete at the highest levels of collegiate wrestling.

A man of strong moral character, Homer Barr modeled the ideals of good sportsmanship, of respect for one's opponent, and of doing the right thing. He set high goals for himself and his teams, and he made it clear to all that with commitment and diligence, and a willingness to sacrifice, success would follow.

Recognitions for this man have been numerous. As a result of his Pennsylvania high school coaching success, he has been inducted into several regional halls of fame. Most notable was his induction into the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1995, and now with his induction into the Massachusetts Chapter, he will be one of the very few to ever be inducted by 2 different state chapters of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

The respect and admiration that those in the wrestling community had for Homer J. Barr was evidenced by his selection as the first President of the Pennsylvania State Wrestling Coaches Association, his selection as the first New England University Wrestling Association President in 1973, and his selection as a member of the Executive Board of the National Wrestling Coaches Association in 1975 just prior to his death. He unquestionably committed himself to a lifetime of service to the sport he loved and so it is befitting that he be forever recognized as a leader and a most deserving member of our Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.



Daniel Balboni

Dan Balboni was born Boston, MA and grew up in Framingham, MA. He has two Children, Rachel and April, with his first wife Liz. Both daughters were involved with wrestling throughout their high school years, April scoring matches and Rachel helping out with Wall Charts during Tournaments. Dan is now married to Maria who has two children, Vincent and Allison. He and Maria live with their foster son Jayden in Somerset, MA. Although he has retired from coaching, Maria says Dan's still coaching today! He has been in the Waste Industry for over 40 years starting with Browning Ferris Industries (BFI). Presently he holds the position of General Manager for City Carting & Recycling in Stamford, CT, a subsidiary of Tunnel Hill Partners.

Dan's wrestling journey started as a freshman at Framingham North High School. He was playing B Team basketball when one of his friends convinced him to go out for wrestling. His high school coach was Ed Kavanagh who was a great role model. That is where he first learned about hard work and dedication needed not only in wrestling but in life. He was a Sectional runner up and placed fifth in the State during his High School wrestling career. He was also a member of the 1972 South Sectional Championship team where he placed second at 101lbs. Both his brothers, Ed and Joe, wrestled for Framingham. They also coached with him at one time or another; both were State place winners.

Coach Balboni started coaching in 1977 as the Freshman coach. Then in 1978, he was the Junior Varsity Coach which led to him becoming the Head Coach in 1979, a position he held at Framingham North and Framingham High until 1995. During Coach Balboni's tenure in coaching, he has had many State and New England place winners. His teams won four Sectional Titles and one State Championship. The 1994 team had five wrestlers in the All State finals with three Champions. Those are records that still have not been broken today. He was Boston Globe coach of the year in 1990 and 1994. He was the Division 1 Central Sectional Chairman during the late 80s and 90s, representing the Division 1 Central Section at the State Tournament.

Coach Balboni was involved with USA Wrestling in many aspects including being on the Executive Board. He also had the privilege of coaching wrestlers from Massachusetts at Northeast Regionals during the 1980s and 90s, traveling to New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania to compete. He started one of the First Wrestling Clubs in Framingham in 1988 (MetroWest Wrestling Club) with longtime friends, Gordon Wrin and Bob Anniballi, which has now branched out to a few clubs. Coach Balboni was the point person for USA Wrestling for a Cultural Exchange Program where a team from Sweden toured Massachusetts and wrestled the MetroWest Wrestling Club. He was involved with the wrestling portion of the Bay State Games, being one of the original organizers and State Director in 1989. Framingham also hosted the qualifiers for the Bay State Games where he was the site director.

Since retiring from coaching, Dan has stayed involved with wrestling, having been the director of the Framingham Holiday Tournament for a number of years. He has coached wrestlers from Framingham and the local MetroWest area at the High School Nationals in Virginia. He has also stayed actively involved in the Framingham Wrestling Program.

Dan is an avid New England Patriots fan; he enjoys going to the beach, golfing, and spending time with family, especially his grandkids that he never seems to get enough time with.





Keith Durham

Keith Durham's introduction to wrestling came in 1968, at a small private school in the Central Square section of Cambridge, Charles River Academy. They wrestled against other private schools in the Greater Boston area, traveled up to Bath, Maine to wrestle against the Hyde School and wrestled at the Freestyle Tournaments at the Lawrence and Cambridge YMCAs.

In the fall of 1970, Keith went to Fryeburg Academy in Fryeburg, Maine, where he lived on campus and was a resident of Webster Hall. Keith was a two-year member of the football team where he was an offensive and defensive lineman, the team's placekicker, and he was a member of the wrestling team.

During Coach Durham's senior year, the football team went 7-1, and won the 1971 Maine Prep School Championship, led by Coach Dan Turner, Dave Woodsome, Ken Brown and Kit Foster. The Fryeburg Academy Wrestling Team was led by Coach David Woodsome (who was also the line coach in football). During that 2-year period, 1970-1972, Fryeburg was a wrestling powerhouse, winning the 1971 Maine Prep Title along with the State Class B Title. In his junior year, Coach Durham's individual record was 16-0, and he won both the Maine Prep Title at 177 and the State Class B Title at 185. During Keith's Senior Year at Fryeburg, the team won the New England Prep Class C title and finished second at the Class B State Tournament. Keith's individual record was 15-3, and he won the State Class B Title at 185. He was a finalist at the New England Class C Tournament. His overall individual record was 31-3.

Coach Durham then entered St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, in the Fall of 1972 and was a member of the football team, playing on the offensive line for the X-Men. From there, he transferred to Plymouth State College in Plymouth, NH and wrestled for Plymouth State from 1973-1977. He graduated with a BS in Social Science Secondary Education.

Keith Taught in the Special Education and Social Studies Departments in the Boston Public School System for 31 years, and he earned a Master's Degree in Education from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1989.

Keith also has a small vending business outside of Fenway Park on Lansdowne Street, abutting the Green Monster, and he has been running it for 35 years and 4 World Series Championships.

He has had the good fortune to coach high school wrestling in Massachusetts for 34 years at 4 different schools: Belmont High School, Catholic Memorial, Hingham High School, and Scituate High School. During this time, Coach Durham coached in Division I, II and III as well as in the Central, South, and North Sections.

While Coaching at Belmont, along with Warren Farrell, Sam Robinson, and Ted Neil, they were able to start the Belmont Tournament (now the Brendan Grant Tournament). Steve Farrell was the first Outstanding Wrestler of the

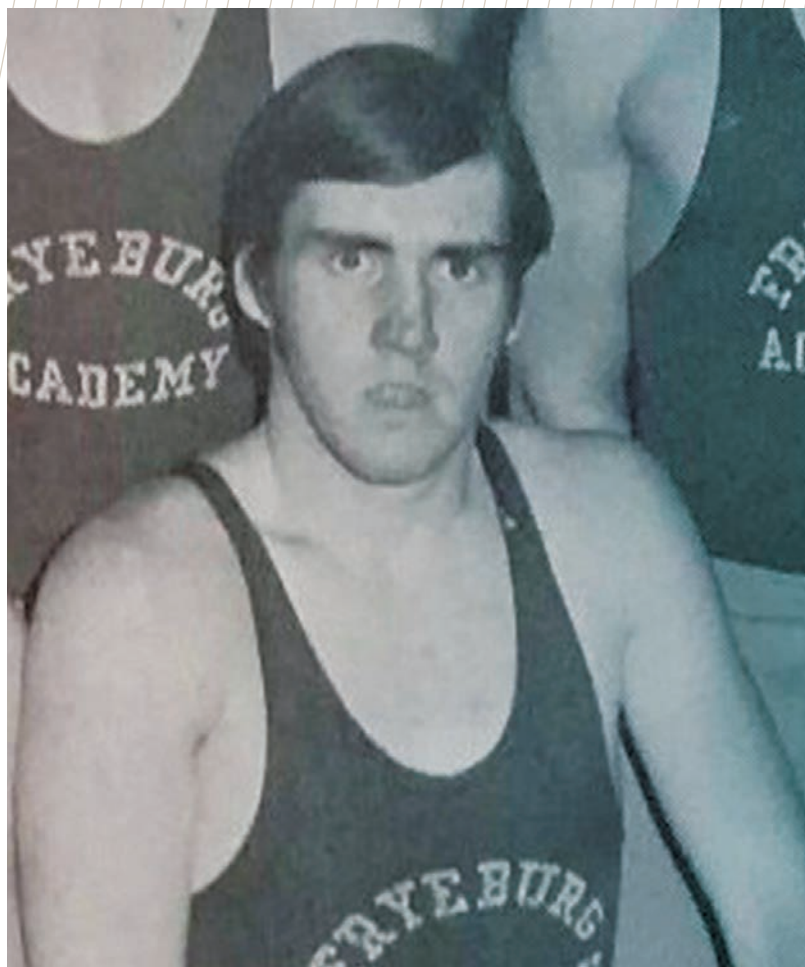
Tournament. Steve later went onto be a two-time Captain at Harvard and finished 3rd in the 1987 Eastern Tournament and qualified for the Nationals.

At Catholic Memorial, Coach Durham was able to bring back the Catholic Memorial Tournament with the great efforts of Jim O'Connor and Richard Chisholm. During that time period, they had four individual state champions: Adam Fandry (CM's first), Kevin Daly, and 2-time 285-pound champ Steve Berte. Both Fandry and Berte were New England Finalists.

During the Hingham Years, the team won the 2003 South Sectional D- II Championship led by Gregg Khan and Guy Matisis. The Harbormen were Sectional Finalists in 2007 led by Captains John Beal, Greg Vaughn, along with Garrett Lincoln and Chris Constantine. They had 3 State Champions: Guy Matisis, Greg Vaughn and Mike Mui. Matisis and Mui went onto win the All State Titles, Mui 3 times.

Scituate was the last stop on this 34-year journey. Just like the other 3 schools, the wrestlers were wonderful to work with and very dedicated. The team went from the first year (2012-13), not scoring a single point in the State Tournament, to finishing 6th the next year. Rob McDonald won the 126 lb. State Championship in 2014 and added 3 Individual Sectional Champions.

Coach Durham is very grateful to many people who have helped along the way. First of all his wonderful wife and best friend, Cathy. Their children and grandchildren Dennis, Andrew, Aimee, PJ, Lou, Louis and Ross. His high school teachers and coaches: Dave Woodsome, Dan Turner, Maryellen and Ken Brown, James Clifford Hobbins, and Dr. Maynard Weston Dow (PSC).



Coaches Paul Canniff, Tony Bligh, Pat Kelly, John Morrissey, Mark Hohmann, Brian Keaty, Kevin King, Guy Matisis, Garrett Lincoln, Billy Hann and Charlie Doyle, Monsignor John McLaughlin and Steve Berte.

Opposing Wrestling Coaches and close friends John Staulo, Larry Trembley, Tommy Darrin, Joe Lev, Paul Murphy, John Hartunian, George Nichols, and Nick Zachilli.

Friends and Family: Dolly, Annie & Theresa Staulo, Simon Kurash, Lesley & Paul Murphy. His Uncle and Godfather Don Seager. His dear deceased parents, Paul and Helen Durham.



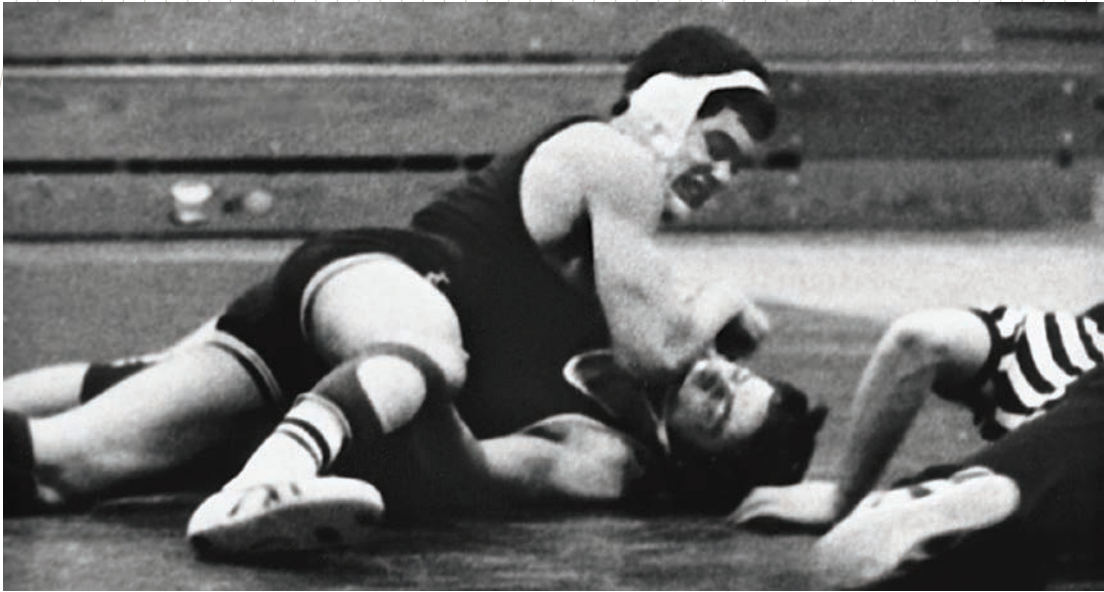
Kevin Russo

Kevin was raised as a member of a large extended family. In addition to his late parents and two older brothers, he has many cousins. His mother was one of 15 children. Kevin's father, Don, owned and operated a Canteen truck business. His mother, Beverly, remained a homemaker, often driving the 3 boys to practice of some sort. As a child, Kevin was a member of 4 championship baseball teams and he played hockey from the age of 4 until being introduced to the sport of wrestling. Kevin attended Waltham High School and was a member of the only undefeated wrestling team in the school's history. He won the Coaches Award for having most MVP Awards for individual matches, as well as being recipient of the first Coach Pass Enrichment Award. His team outscored their opponents 620-93 and gave up only 7 pins all season. Kevin was also a first-team Suburban League All-Star and his only loss in Sectionals came at the hands of the Champion.

After high school, Kevin attended UMass Boston, where he received a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education and Master's Degree in Critical and Creative Thinking. Planning to continue wrestling, Kevin experienced 2 shoulder separations that removed him from competition at age 20. Having unfinished business in the sport, he jumped at the opportunity to coach under Paul Murphy at Belmont High School. Something that seemed like it would last a few years, ended up being a 29 year run (and counting). Kevin has coached 3 different schools to their best years ever. In particular, Lexington's only championship teams came under Kevin's tutelage.

Kevin's head coaching career began at Belmont High School, where he remained for 4 years. While at Belmont, Kevin coached wrestlers who placed second in the state (twice), third in the state and fourth in the state. He also coached the first ever Massachusetts Cadet National Champion. One year, Belmont had 5 Finalists in a very tough Middlesex League tournament, tied for most that year. After bringing the Marauders to their highest finish in the league tournament as well as their very own Belmont Tournament (third in both), Kevin embarked on a very risky transition- coaching at Lexington.

Taking over the last place team in the Middlesex League, Kevin coached Lexington for 7 years, bringing the team from worst to first. During the interview process, he was told by an administrator, that if they won 5 matches, he would "get my vote for coach of the year." Lexington went 5-14-1 in Kevin's first year, followed by 3 consecutive 20 win seasons. Lexington went on to win a League title, sectional championship and place top 10 in the Division 1 State Tournament for 5 of his 7 years. They also won 20 or more matches in 4 of his 7 years. Never before had Lexington experienced a winning season, nor have they experienced nearly the success since that time. Kevin coached 3 state finalists in Lexington, 2 who competed on the national level. He consistently brought wrestlers to the New England and over a 2-year period, had wrestlers place 4th and 5th at the New England Championships. Furthermore, Lexington earned the Sportsmanship award during a season in which they also won 20 matches and a league championship. Overall, Lexington placed many sectional finalists (4 in 1 year) over his 7 seasons and many sectional champs.



During his time at Lexington, Kevin was editor of his newsletter “The Wrestler” with over 400 subscribers for the newsletter (\$15 per year subscription). He was often told that the newsletter promoted Massachusetts High School Wrestling more than any other tool used at the time. He conducted interviews with Fred Smerlas and other former Massachusetts greats, as well as some premiere coaches throughout the state. Rankings were facilitated and maintained throughout the season and college coaches used the newsletter as a way to scout. This newsletter will remain one of the best promotion tools for Massachusetts wrestling (for copies, email Matt Quimby as he saved the issues and has filed them electronically).

Leaving Lexington was not easy, as it was nothing but a positive experience for Kevin. However, he was married and starting a family in Watertown, a place where wrestling had never existed. Beginning the program was far from easy. Currently, the Raiders have 30 wrestlers on the team, with approximately 330 boys in the entire school. Watertown has won a league title, earned a sportsmanship award, won 20 or more matches in 6 different seasons and placed many wrestlers in post-season tournaments, (4 sectional champs). According to an MIWOA source, Kevin is the only head coach of two different teams recognized by the Massachusetts Officials Association for Sportsmanship.

In addition to his coaching, Kevin also served as a well-respected wrestling official for 5 years, often selected to referee league title meets. He also served as sectional chairman for 10 years in two different sections, and he continues to serve on the Massachusetts wrestling coaches Executive Board as a Member at Large.

Kevin is the current owner/president of ARISE Consulting Service, Inc. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Physical Education, and a Master’s degree in Critical and Creative Thinking. He also obtained an Advanced Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis from Florida Institute of Technology. Kevin is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), Licensed Applied Behavior Analyst (LABA) and a Life Coach through the American Counseling Association (ACA).

Although Kevin loves his work and his coaching, his family remains most important. It is his daughters Jessica and Jillian for which Kevin is most proud and grateful. In addition, Kevin credits all of his former teammates, coaches, administrators and assistant coaches with whom he has worked for helping him throughout his career. However, it is the wrestlers for whom he has had the pleasure of coaching, and their families, that he feels deserve the most credit.



Steve Toubman

Steve Toubman started wrestling in eighth grade, weighing only 80 pounds as a wiry 13 year old. At Conard High School, he placed third at the CIAC (Connecticut) State Tournament in the 98-pound weight class in 1972. In addition, he won the Connecticut Freestyle title at 108 pounds in 1973. A three-sport athlete at Conard, Steve also played soccer and goalie on the lacrosse team.

After high school, Steve matriculated at Amherst College where he wrestled for that highly successful Division III team under the guidance of Henry Littlefield for two years and then for two years under Tim Walsh, a 2005 Massachusetts Wrestling Hall of Fame inductee. At Amherst, Steve was a four-year starter, a three-time New England Tournament place-winner, and captain during his senior year.

While in graduate school at Northeastern and then during his two-year business career, Steve continued his involvement with wrestling, although on a limited basis. During that time, he volunteered with the MIT wrestling team and also helped prepare the Massachusetts freestyle wrestling squad for summer competition.

Steve joined the Noble and Greenough School faculty in the fall of 1981, where he inherited a wrestling program which had gone through 5 coaches in 5 years. With Steve's stability, passion, and technical expertise, Nobles wrestlers earned two New England titles (Andrew Pritchard and Paul O'Boyle) and one National Prep title (Clift Georgaklis) in 1982. During those early years at Nobles, Steve competed actively in freestyle wrestling tournaments throughout New England, finally retiring from active competition at age 29. He also competed in two Maccabiah Trials, one in 1981 and the other in 1985. Steve was the President of the New England Independent School Wrestling Association in the late 1980's and also earned his USA Wrestling Silver Level Coaching Certificate in 2004. He coached youth wrestling clubs in Franklin, Dedham, and Natick. In addition, he worked at many wrestling camps in New England and Pennsylvania.

Steve introduced and administered the Nobles Wrestling Pinathon, from the late 1990's until 2016. This initiative raised roughly \$50,000 during that time period for Campuses Against Cancer.

During Steve's 38-year career coaching wrestling, Nobles wrestlers garnered 5 Prep National medals (1 champion) 54 New England medals (7 champs), and 23 Graves-Kelsey titles.

Some of Steve's favorite years were when his son Dan (2013 New England runner-up) was a varsity wrestler, his daughter Sarah was one of the wrestling managers, and his wife Ellen was a captain's parent.



Below are words from a speech by Nobles Athletic Director Alex Gallagher in 2016, honoring Steve Toubman as he stepped away from head coaching after 35 years.

“High School Wrestling is an incredible sport. It takes immense courage to walk out onto the mat and put it all on the line, face-to-face, with another young man or woman who wants to take you down and pin your shoulders to the mat. It takes heart and grit, but it also takes strong technical coaching. I believe that Mr. Toubman is one of the finest technical coaches that this school has ever seen. Every winter, kids who have never wrestled before make the choice to join his program and he honors their choice by teaching the sport with professionalism, patience, and dedication that have made him a model for countless other coaches to follow.

Thirty-five years ago, Coach Toubman set out to positively impact the lives of student-athletes, using the sport that he loved to show them what it means to be organized, disciplined, hardworking, supportive, kind, and loving. Mr. Toubman has been a life-changing figure who countless former wrestlers refer to as one of the most important people they have ever met in their lives.

I have known Steve Toubman since I was 15 years old. It is hard to put into words the impact that he has had on my life as a man, as a father, and as a coach and, therefore, I can say with great certainty that it has been one of the great privileges of my career to share these remarks about a man who very quietly went about becoming one of the greatest coaches in the 150 year history of this school.”



The **Peckham Family** would like to recognize the past recipients of the James C. Peckham Scholarship Award:

AWARD YR.	RECIPIENT	HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE
2018	Brad Basham	Buckingham Browne & Nichols School	Washington & Lee University
2018	Bella Ricchiazzi	Framingham High School	University of the Cumberlands
2017	Brendan Kiernan	Wayland High School	Williams College
2017	Nick Konovalchick	Brooks School	Washington & Lee University
2016	Peter Tedesco	Belmont Hill School	Maryland
2015	Fritz Hoehn	North Andover High School	Edinboro University
2015	Brandon Casamassima	Worcester Academy	Gettysburg College
2014	Chris Sullivan	Canton High School	Coast Guard Academy
2014	Christian Vallis	Phillips Andover Academy	Johns Hopkins University
2013	Aaron Conrad	Bridgewater-Raynham High School	Boston University
2013	Ryan Neals	North Andover High School	University of Massachusetts
2013	Jim Ryan	Dracut High School	Roger Williams College
2013	Mike Stewart	Dracut High School	Ellsworth Community College
2013	Geoff Verallis	Northfield Mount Hermon School	Drexel University
2012	Logan David	King Philip High School	Cornell University
2012	Mike Mui	Hingham High School	Merchant Marine Academy
2012	Ryan O'Boyle	Central Catholic School	McDaniel College
2012	Jeffrey Ott	Belmont Hill School	Harvard University

Through their actions and character, these young athletes are perpetuating the legacy of James Peckham, the founder of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Coach Peckham believed in the power of education and understood the value of wrestling as a foundation upon which to build one's life.

DAVE SCHULTZ AWARD

2018	Lucas Cordio	Nashoba Regional High School
2017	Jake Ferri	Shawsheen Regional Technical HS
2016	Peter Tedesco	Belmont Hill School
2015	Jonathan Viruet	Springfield Central High School
2014	Christian Monserrat	Methuen High School
2013	Leo Trindade	Billerica High School
2012	Jeffrey Ott	Belmont Hill School
2011	Kyle Visconti	Malden Catholic High School
2010	Derek Papagianopoulos	Buckingham, Browne & Nichols
2009	Miguel Guzman	Greater Lawrence High School
2008	John Sughrue	Methuen High School
2007	Sean Bilodeau	Brooks School
2006	Brian Sheehan	Lowell High School
2005	Casey Boyle	Lowell High School
2004	Joe Fendone	Central Catholic High School
2003	Mike Arone	Waltham High School
2002	Mike Pedro	St. John's Preparatory School
2001	Mike Parziale	Woburn High School
2000	Steve Heleniak	Franklin High School
1999	Nathan Cote	St. John's Preparatory School
1998	Mark Laramée	Rockland (Northeast Regional Winner)
1997	Conan Leary	Tabor Academy

TRICIA SAUNDERS AWARD

2018	Isabella Ricchiazzi	Framingham High School
2017	Naomi Hunt	Middlesex School

Massachusetts Chapter of the NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME



A GATHERING OF SCORES OF WRESTLERS, COACHES, OFFICIALS AND SUPPORTERS ORGANIZED BY JIM PECKHAM WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME.

The gathering at Jacob Wirth's Restaurant on Stuart St. in Boston in January of 1998 provided the impetus needed for Jim Peckham to organize an association of devoted wrestling aficionados which would preserve history, recognize excellence and inspire generations. Jacob Wirth's was a few steps from the iconic Young Men's Christian Union where many of these men trained and competed.

Jim Peckham spearheaded the formation of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame on May 20, 1998 at Ye Olde Union Oyster House in Boston. Jim gathered together the good men of wrestling in Massachusetts to recognize athletic dedication and achievement and to enjoy an evening of camaraderie and fellowship. An organization was soon put into place with a group of officers and a mission statement for the future of the association. The initial organizational meetings were all held at Jim Peckham's home in Weymouth.

Jim found a receptive audience for his vision of a Massachusetts Chapter in Carl Adams, Rick Sullivan, Warren Farrell, Steve Biondolillo, Ted Neill and Mike Testa. George Bossi, Tom Bartosek, Bobby Morrison, Alex Steinbergh, Myron Allukian, Dave Breen and Phil Grebinar were also instrumental in forming the chapter.

The inaugural Massachusetts Chapter Banquet was held on April 10, 1999 at the Hilton Hotel in Dedham. That night over 230 wrestlers, coaches, family members and guests attended an elegant dinner and awards ceremony. Keynote speaker Bruce Baumgartner, the Olympic and

World Champion said that "it was the best state chapter Hall of Fame awards ceremony that he had ever attended."

Mike Testa organized the first five very successful banquets for the organization. Testa set the groundwork for the future of the chapter. The financial support for the Chapter was generously provided by Alex Steinbergh, Warren Farrell and Steve Biondolillo.

Beginning in 2007, Bob Rudolph and Tom Bartosek organized the first of three gala events at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro. Patriots Hall of Fame linebacker Andre Tippett, Olympian Bobby Douglas, National Wrestling Hall of Fame President Lee Roy Smith and Harvard National Champion JP O'Connor were guests at these highly successful induction ceremonies. The 2009 banquet, a huge financial success, brought in a record breaking crowd of 460 guests to the magnificent Fidelity Suites at Gillette Stadium. The Massachusetts Chapter was firmly established and recognized as one of the best chapters in the country.

In 2011, Mike Stuer and Stephen Henry skillfully took the reins of the vitally important Banquet Committee. The Framingham Sheraton Tara became the host of the annual banquet from 2012 until 2015. Over these years the Massachusetts Chapter instituted numerous innovative programs and brought financial stability to this growing concern by continuing to organize extremely successful banquets. A spring event was organized by Stephen Henry and Mike Stuer to honor the achievement at the youth, high school and the college wrestlers and coaches.

Over the past decade, the great work of the Massachusetts Chapter has been acknowledged by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame for its dedication and innovation. In addition, many prominent wrestling dignitaries have recognized the professionally organized banquets, the exceptionally beautiful program booklets as well as the

many new programs which the Chapter has instituted to promote wrestling in Massachusetts.

In 2016, Sean Harrington and Matt Quimby took over the leadership of the Massachusetts Chapter. A bright future is in store for this thriving organization as it continues to fulfill its stated mission.

The Massachusetts Chapter has celebrated the achievement of many outstanding individuals at its annual Banquet and Induction Ceremony. The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Chapter takes great pride in promoting and strengthening wrestling in Massachusetts and inspiring future generations of

young men and women to learn from our great sport of wrestling.

Jim Peckham's idea of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame was transformed from a mere vision into a vibrant and impactful organization before he died. Jim was especially proud of the dedication and hard work of the Board of Directors and the exceptional work of the Massachusetts Chapter in promoting wrestling in our Commonwealth. More than anything else however, Jim was pleased that he was able to gather the good men of wrestling together in order to renew acquaintances and celebrate the friendships and competition brought about by the magnificent sport of wrestling.

THE MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE
NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME WOULD
LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE PLATINUM,
GOLD AND SILVER SPONSORS FOR THEIR
CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MISSION!

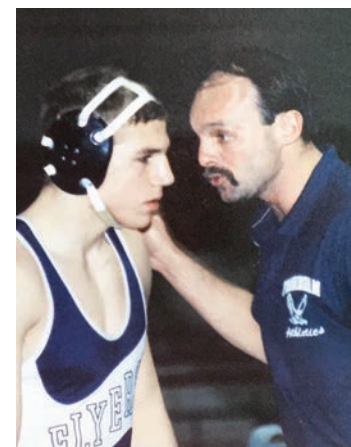


Congratulations Coach Dan Balboni



FRAMINGHAM WRESTLING

Head Coach..... 1979-1995
 Assistant Coach 1976-1979, 2007-2013
 State Champions..... 1994
 Sectional Champions..... 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994
 Bay State League Champions 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993



Supporters:

Mike Afergan
 Lance Baden
 Pete Connery
 Barbara Daley
 Todd Davis
 Dick Diatalevi

Matt Fine
 Nick Flannery
 Andy Goldman
 Dale Henderson
 Mike Kavanaugh
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 PJ Rovinelli
 Eric Seasholtz
 Mike Silverman
 Mike Smith

Steve Stepanian
 Greg Sullivan
 Jon Kanavich
 Gordon Wrin
 Framingham Wrestling
 Alumni Association

COACH TOUBMAN

**YOU HAVE TAUGHT US ABOUT
COMMITMENT, PERSEVERANCE,
PATIENCE, SACRIFICE AND CHARACTER.**

You saw potential where we didn't know it existed, have been our biggest fan during victories and our friend when we've come up short. We learned that hard work really does pay off and that excellence can be achieved by working through challenging conditions.

These and so many other lessons that you instilled in us on and off the mat, have helped us become better students, parents, family members and people. We can only hope that we have impacted your life as profoundly as you have touched ours.

Thank you for everything and we're proud and honored to celebrate this incredible achievement with you and your family.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON
YOUR INDUCTION INTO THE
MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF
THE NATIONAL WRESTLING
HALL OF FAME.**

YOUR WRESTLERS.



NOBLES





Nobles Parents Honor the Impact of Coach Steve Toubman on Generations of Athletes

We are grateful for the lifelong lessons that you taught our children. Congratulations on the well-deserved honor of being inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame!

