

# PWCA HALL OF FAME CLASS TO RECOGNIZE TEN NEW MEMBERS

## *PWCA HALL OF FAME TO CELEBRATE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY IN 2019*

On Sunday May 19, 2019, the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association will induct ten (10) individuals into the Pennsylvania Wrestling Hall of Fame, Class of 2019.

For the eleventh consecutive year, the banquet and induction ceremonies will be held in the State College area, but the site has been changed to the Mountainview Country Club in Boalsburg beginning at 12:30 pm with a hospitality hour. The banquet meal will follow beginning at 1:30 pm and induction of new members will start promptly at 2:30 pm.

As has been the case for the past ten years, the official ceremonies will be held separate from the PIAA State Wrestling Championships, but inductees will be named and recognized in the PIAA State program.

Tickets to attend the Hall of Fame banquet and induction ceremonies can be obtained by contacting Hall of Fame chairman Gene Waas by phone (610-428-4686) or by mail to 1604 Riegel Street, Hellertown, PA 18055. Tickets cost \$35 and can be reserved for pickup at the registration table at the Ramada Inn on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The PWCA Class of 2019 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association has inducted a class of deserving individuals since 1970. The Hall of Fame committee will be inviting all past Hall of Fame members to this year's event to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

The Class of 2019 consists of the following individuals (in alphabetical order):

**Tom Best, Jr. (Wrestler – District 4)** – Tom Best was a 1989 graduate of Williamsport High School and attended North Carolina State following high school graduation. He was a four-time letter winner at Williamsport and competed in four PIAA Class AAA state finals matches before winning the 1989 PIAA championship at 140 pounds. In 1986, as freshman, Best advanced to the 112-pound state finals before dropping a 13-4 decision to Bethlehem Catholic's John Likins. As a sophomore, in 1987, Best once again advanced to the 126-pound PIAA finals, but was pinned by Elizabethtown's Tom Miller in 4:53 in a battle of returning state runners-up. In the 1988 132-pound state finals, the Millionaire junior lost by technical fall to Huntingdon's Jason Shea, 18-3. In his senior year, Best captured the 140-pound state championship after pinning Pottstown's Brian Campbell with a headlock in 1:27. Best became Williamsport's second PIAA state champion in school history and first for his Hall of Fame father-coach, Tom Best, Sr. Tom, Jr. finished his high school career with an impressive 116-6 won-loss record. He attended North Carolina State University where he earned a pair of varsity letters before withdrawing in 1992. In 1989, Tom was inducted into the Williamsport High School Sports Hall of Fame and joined his father as inductees to the District 4 Wrestling Hall of Fame.

**Tom Best, Sr. (Coach – District 4)** – Tom Best, Sr. is a graduate of Parkland High School where he became the head wrestling coach in 1973-74. In his five years as head coach, he led Parkland to a 50-36 won-loss record. In 1978-79, Best coached Parkland's first two state placewinners in state champ Doug Billig at 98 pounds and Rich Shoemaker, 3<sup>rd</sup> at 105 pounds. Best was named head wrestling coach at Williamsport High School in District 4 in the summer of 1980, a position he held for 18 years. During his tenure at WHS, Best coached 17 PIAA state placewinners including a pair of PIAA state champions in his son, Tom, Jr., a four-time state finalist and 1989 state champion and Matt Neenan, the 275-pound PIAA champion in 1990. Tom, Sr. joined his son as members of the District 4 Wrestling Hall of Fame. Best was also inducted into the District XI and Parkland Wrestling Hall of Fame.

**Tom Bold (Wrestler/Contributor – District 11)** - Tom Bold is a 1979 graduate of Bethlehem Catholic High School and a 1984 graduate of Lehigh University. Bold was a three-time District 11 and Northeast Regional champion while competing for Hall of Fame coach Tony Iasiello. In 1979, Bold captured the 138-pound PIAA state championship and was voted the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler after pinning defending state champion Tony Differ from Upper Merion in 5:41. Bold participated in the Pittsburgh Dapper Dan Classic where he pinned Montana's Fritz Campbell in 3:36 to help his Pennsylvania team to a 30-18 victory. He was a four-year letterwinner for the Mountain Hawks, finishing fourth at 142 pounds in the 1981 EIWA Championships and second in 1982 at 150 pounds. Bold completed his Mountain Hawk career with a 38-26-2 record with 13 pins and 23 bonus point victories. After serving as assistant wrestling coach at Brown University, Bold eventually was named Athletic Director. Bold has served as Executive Director of the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association, an affiliate organization of the ECAC, from 1992 - 2010. He is a former member of the Division I NCAA wrestling committee from 2002-2005, serving as chair in 2005.

**Vince DeAugustine (Wrestler/Coach – District 7)** – Vince DeAugustine is a 1997 graduate of Hempfield High School (District 7) and a 2002 graduate of St. Vincent College. He was a four-year starter for the Spartans while compiling a 135-18 career record. Vince was a three-time Section 1-AAA Champion, three-time Westmoreland County Champion, and a three-time WPIAL Champion. As a freshman, he finished second in 1994 PIAA Class AAA Championships at 145-pounds. DeAugustine captured back-to-back PIAA titles in 1996 and 1997 at 160 pounds. In 1997, he participated in the Dapper Dan Wrestling Classic for the Pennsylvania All-Stars, dropping a 7-5 overtime decision to California's Ty Wilcox. He wrestled at the University of Buffalo for one year and was a 1998 NCAA Division I qualifier before he transferred to St. Vincent College, becoming the school's first baseball All-American in its 120-year history. He served as head wrestling coach at Hempfield for 13 seasons where he individually guided six PIAA individual champions, 12 WPIAL champions and placed 28 wrestlers in states. DeAugustine guided the Spartan program to 213 dual meet victories a WPIAL team title. In March 2018, DeAugustine was hired as the head wrestling coach at Norwin High School.

**Charlie Griffin (Wrestler – District 3)** – Charles "Charlie" Griffin is a 2004 graduate of Reading High School and a 2008 graduate of Hofstra University where he majored in Liberal Arts – Psychology. In high school, Charles was a four-time section champion (2001-2004). Charlie was a three-time District III tournament finalist, winning titles in 2002 and 2003. He qualified for the PIAA Class AAA Championships three times where he captured the 2003 PIAA state title at 125 pounds before finishing second in 2004, losing to Waynesburg's Coleman Scott in the 125 pound finals, 7-2. Charlie finished his high school career with a 123-22 won-loss record. At Hofstra, Charlie was a three-time Colonial Athletic Association champion (2005 – 2008) and was voted conference Rookie of the Year in 2005. He was a four-time NCAA qualifier, earning All-America honors in 2007 and 2008 by placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the NCAA championships. Griffin was twice voted conference wrestler of the year in 2007 and 2008 and named Hofstra's Howdy Myers Outstanding Male Athlete Award winner in 2008. Charlie finished his collegiate career with 126 wins.

**Bruce Haselrig (Contributor – District 6)** – Bruce Haselrig is a 1962 graduate of Johnstown High School and a 1966 graduate of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. As a high school wrestler at Johnstown High School, he was District 6 runner-up at 133 pounds in 1962, while wrestling for Coach Milan Svitchan's District Six team champions, the only Trojans team to win a District wrestling championship. Bruce, recognized for his excellence as a PIAA and NCAA wrestling official, is an active member of the Cambria- Somerset Chapter of PIAA Wrestling Officials organization, serving as president, interpreter, and for the past 15 years, secretary/treasurer. He has been District 6 Wrestling Rules Interpreter for over 30 years and was Assistant Supervisor of Officials at the PIAA State Wrestling Championships for 8 years. He has worked numerous high school district (31) and regional tournaments while officiating at 18 PIAA Wrestling Championships and 3 PIAA Team Championships. He is past President of the Board of Directors, (NCAA) Eastern Wrestling League Officials Association (4 years); a member since 1975. He was selected to officiate the NCAA Division II Championships (6 times), the NAIA Championships (3 times), and numerous NCAA Division I qualifiers (EWL, (10 times); ACC, (1 times); Colonial (2 times), NCAA Eastern Region (5 times). He was inducted into the *Cambria County Sports Hall of Fame* in July of 2012, the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013, and the District 6 Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2015. Bruce serves as Head Official to many youth organizations including the PA Junior Wrestling Championships (PJW), Middle Atlantic Association (MAWA) and National United Wrestling Association for Youth (NUWAY). He serves the PIAA as the Evaluator of Officials for both the team championship and the individual PIAA championships. He currently serves as an Evaluator of Officials for the Big 12 and Big 10 Conferences. He took on a new role prior to the 2017-18 wrestling season as a video review official for the Big 10 conference. Bruce was inducted into the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, the Pennsylvania Junior Wrestling Hall of Fame, selected as "Man of the Year" on several occasions, most notably by the PIAA District Six Coaches Association, and the Inter- County Wrestling Conference. The National Federation of Interscholastic Officials Association (NFIOA) named him the 1993-94, Outstanding Wrestling Official for the State of Pennsylvania (for outstanding service and unselfish devotion to interscholastic athletics). He was inducted into the Cambria County Sports Hall of Fame, the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown Athletics Hall of Fame and District 6 Wrestling Hall of Fame.

**Tom Hontz (Coach – District 1)** – Tom Hontz is a 1985 graduate of Quakertown High School and a 1989 graduate of Duke University. Hontz was a four-year starter in wrestling at Quakertown where he compiled an 111-11-2 career record. He was a four-time Sectional champion, four-time District finalist and a two-time champion, a Southeast Regional champ and three-time PIAA Class AAA State qualifier. In 1985, Tom was the first Quakertown state finalist in the PIAA state championships, dropping an 8-5 decision to Bethlehem Liberty's Gino Capuano in the 138-pound state finals. At Duke, he was two-year starter and achieved all-ACC status in 1988. He fashioned a 41-18 record over his first two seasons and envisioned trips to nationals the next two years, but injuries quickly changed his plans. Hontz's junior year, in which he finished 13-3, was shortened by shoulder surgery, and his senior season ended before it began due to a serious knee injury. Tom became the head wrestling coach at Upper Perkiomen High School in 1990. Tom served as head coach for 24 years and during that time led Upper Perk to 10 PAC 10 Championships, 6 District Dual championships, 9 Section II championships, 5 District Championships, and 5 Southeast

Regional championships. In 2006, his team was the PIAA Class AAA Team Dual Meet champions and Tom was named the PIAA Coach of the Year. In addition to the State Dual championship team, Coach Hontz had teams that finished in the top four in the state duals on five different occasions. Tom was named PAC 10 Coach of the Year 10 times, and District One Coach of the Year 5 times. His overall record at Upper Perkiomen was 341-184-1 and he coached 71 Sectional champs, 29 District champs, 18 Regional champs, and 23 state medalists, including 4 State champions. In 2014, Tom resigned as the wrestling coach and took on the role of head football coach at Upper Perkiomen, in 2016, Coach Hontz returned as a head wrestling coach, accepting the challenge of building a program at Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford. His first season resulted in a 5-13 campaign.

**Greg Jones (Wrestler – District 7)** – Greg Jones is a 2000 graduate of Greensburg Salem High School and a 2005 graduate of West Virginia University. In high school, he was a three-time WPIAL Class AAA finalist and a PIAA champion in his senior season. He posted a 139-28 won-loss record in high school for the Lions. Jones placed third in both the 1998 and 1999 (state championships at 103 and 125 respectively before capturing the 160-pound state title in 2000. At 2000 Pittsburgh Wrestling Classic, Jones defeated Vermont's Steve Forest, 8-3, to help lead his Pennsylvania team to a 34-12 victory. At West Virginia, he became one of only 20 wrestlers in NCAA history to win national titles at two different weight classes. He won at a national title as a 174-pounds freshman, and then won two more titles as a junior and senior at 184 pounds. Following the 2005 NCAA's, Jones was voted the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler. He was a four-time Eastern Wrestling League champion and is WVU's all-time leader with a 126-4 record. He is the only West Virginia wrestler to post an undefeated season, doing it twice - 2004 (26-0) and 2005 (25-0). Jones appeared in the NWCA All-Star Classic three times, winning each match. In 2010, Jones was inducted into the EWL and Pittsburgh Dapper Dan Wrestling Classic Hall of Fames. Jones went on to serve as assistant coach for the West Virginia wrestling team for 9 years until he was offered a head coach wrestling coaching position with the Blackzilians, an MMA-affiliate. At [Blackzilians](#) since the summer of 2014, Jones has been one of the top wrestling coaches in [Mixed Martial Arts](#), training top contenders.

**Floyd Marshall (Wrestler – District 7)** – Floyd Marshall is a 1960 graduate of Burgettstown High School and a 1965 graduate of Findlay (OH) College with a B.S. degree in Education. Floyd was a three-time WPIAL champion, winning titles from 1958-60. In his sophomore season, he dropped a 2-1 semi-final decision to Mechanicsburg's Gary Fake in the PIAA Championships. In 1959, Marshall advanced to the PIAA state finals at 145 where he dropped a 3-1 decision to Frank Eisenhower from Bald Eagle-Nittany. In 1960, as a senior, Marshall advanced to the 154-pound state finals where he once again suffered a loss to Eisenhower, 3-0. At Findlay College, Marshall was a three-time NAIA placewinner. Marshall finished third at 157 pounds in 1963 before becoming Findlay's first-ever NAIA national champion in 1964, defeating Eastern Oregon's Rollin Schimmel in the 157-pound finals. In 1965, Marshall, the defending champion as a senior, Marshall advanced to the championship finals before dropping a decision to Lock Haven's Frank Eisenhower. He competed in the United States Olympic Trials in 1964. Marshall had a 26-year coaching career at four different high schools – Albion (MI), Ogdensburg (NY), Parma (MI) and Norwin (PA) as well as Delaware Valley College. At WPIAL Norwin High School he compiled a 130-98-3 record. Floyd Marshall is an honored member of the Findlay College Sports Hall of Fame, the Hancock County Hall of Fame, the NAIA Wrestling Hall of Fame and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Wrestling Hall of Fame. Marshall is also a retired committee member of the Pittsburgh Dapper Dan Wrestling Classic.

**Tom Tomeo (Wrestler – District 10)** - Tom Tomeo is a 1993 graduate of Grove City High School and a 1998 graduate of Clarion University of Pennsylvania. At Grove City, he was a 4-time PIAA state placewinner in both Class AA and AAA. As freshman in 1990, Tomeo finished 6<sup>th</sup> at 103 pounds and followed that with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in 1991 at 112 as a sophomore. Tomeo captured the first to two state titles in 1992 when he won the 119-pound champion. As a senior in 1993, Grove City moved up to Class AAA and Tomeo captured his second state title at 130 pounds. He finished his high school career with a 143-8 record. He was selected to compete in the 1993 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Classic and was voted the Pennsylvania team Outstanding Wrestler after defeating Iowa's Jeff McGuinness, 6-4. Tomeo was a four-year letterwinner for Clarion University from 1993 to 1998. As a senior at Clarion in 1998, Tomeo served as co-captain, had his best season at 142-pounds posting a season record of 31-7 and earned NCAA Division I All-America honors with an 8th place finish. He also won PSAC and EWL individual titles in 1998. Tomeo finished his career at Clarion as a three-time NCAA Division I qualifier with an overall record of 98-34. Following his graduation from Clarion, he was an assistant coach at Slippery Rock (1998-99), assistant coach at Cumberland College (2000), assistant coach at the University of Buffalo (2000-2002), and Clarion University plus a stint with USA Wrestling.