

WOOD COUNTY WRESTLING
Jr. HIGH – MIDDLE SCHOOL
2011 50th ANNIVERSARY

WHO'S WHO LIST

16 thru 30 of 114

16. Rod Oldham – 1962-1966, Coach Franklin Jr. High, 1967-1986 Coach Parkersburg South High School, 2003 National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Coach Oldham was an assistant coach at Franklin in the inaugural year and became head coach in 1963 when Glenn Kiger left for the principal position at Jackson. Rod Oldham coached at Franklin Jr. High for five years from 1962 to 1966. In 1967 he became the first wrestling coach for Parkersburg South High where he was named state coach of the year on four occasions. He coached 30 individual high school state champions and four state team championships. He was voted 3 times U.S. District 2 National Coach of the Year. Coach Oldham took four international trips to Germany with West Virginia teams. In 2003, he was elected to the state chapter of the National Wrestling Hall Of Fame. Wrestling on Coach Oldham's initial team at Franklin in 1963 were: 80 Richard Miller 4th; 90 Steve Parsons; 100 Gary Alton 4th; 105 Bill Cockrell; 112 Mike Anthony 2nd; 118 Steve Brown 4th; 123 Sam Sams; 127 Larry Bennett; 135 Erwin Stephens; 145 Rod Crites; 155 Dan Mollendick; and UNL Denver Cline.

17. Phil Clevenger – 1964-80 1965-90 1966-105 Franklin Jr. High. Franklin Jr. High claimed its first individual champion at the Fourth County Championship in 1965 when Phil Clevenger defeated Jackson's George Deem for the 90 pound crown. Heavyweight Ken Redabaugh also claimed a title for Franklin that year with a 10-8 decision over Dave Knight of VanDevender. Phil was a double champion when he defeated Mike Halbert of Edison for the 105 pound title in 1966. Phil later won a Regional Title for PHS and was team captain at South that won their first Regional Championship in 1969. Phil has also been an assistant coach for Lubeck Recreation Team in the 1970s.

18. Bob Furr – 1964-112 1965-118 VanDevender Jr. High. Bob becomes VanDevender's first titlelist when he won the 118 pound class over Washington's Ron Packard. VanDevender has crowned 64 county champions in the 50 years of the county tournament.

19. Ray Vensel – 1965-80 1966-100 1967-123 Washington Jr. High. Ray becomes the county's first three time champion by winning the 123 pound class over VanDevender's Ron Hale at the Sixth County Championship with a 2-0 decision. Ray claimed his first title over Vandy's Steve Adkins for the 80 pound crown in 1965 with a 7-3 decision and his second over Vandy's Danny Arnold for the 100 pound title in 1966.

20. Mike Litton – 1966-80 1967-90 1968-105 VanDevender Jr. High. Mike was a three year starter and two-time county champion for VanDevender. In 1967 he decisioned Sapp from Hamilton 2-0 for the 90 pound crown and in 1968 he defeated Russ Smith also of Hamilton for the 105 pound crown. Mike wrestled for Parkersburg High School and was a two-time state runner-up having lost both titles to Ted White of Scott by decisions. Mike was runner-up in 1970 at 130 pounds and in 1971 at 132 pounds. Mike coached North Parkersburg for one year and in 1978 he started the Parkersburg Cougars Wrestling Club and led the Cougars for 25 years.

21. Marvin Pickens – 1966-105 1967-118 1968-127 Washington Jr. High, 1998 Coach Edison Jr. High. Marvin won two county titles as a wrestler and then added a team title as a coach in 1998. He is the second person to accomplish that feat. His county titles were both won against Edison opponents, the first against Williams and the second against Gary Reed. Marvin was a volunteer assistant coach when Washington won their first County Title in 1969 and also coached the South Parkersburg recreation team to several County Titles in the mid '90s. He was also the commissioner of the Wood County Recreation League in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Marvin won the 155 pound state high school title in 1971 and was the first county wrestler to win the Outstanding Wrestler Award at the High School State Tournament. Marvin was also a High School All-American. Wrestling on Coach Pickens championship team at Edison in 1998 were: 75 Justin Conley 1st; 90 Brian DeBarr 2nd; 95 Bryce Pickens 2nd; 102 James Coss 1st; 110 John Duncan 1st; 116 Casey Daggett 1st; 123 Nathan Pickens 1st; 128 James Eddy 1st; 135 Kenny Parrish 1st; 145 Chris Daggett 1st; 155 Danny Carpenter 1st; 165 Matt Wright 1st; and HWT Wesley Young.

22. David Jeffrey – 1966-112 1967-123 1968-135 Franklin Jr. High, 1971 Ohio-West Virginia Wrestling Official Board. Dave wrestled for Franklin Jr. High for three years finishing as high as 3rd in the county tournament. Dave started officiating right out of High School in 1971 and was one of the more popular officials in the area. Dave coached the YMCA Cougars in 1972 and worked for the Wood County Recreation Commission, being the director of the Jr. Wrestling Program in the mid to late seventies. Dave was the youngest person to officiate the State High School Tournament when it was held at Fairmont in 1975. He has officiated in about ten High School State Tournaments. In 1988, he took a leave of absence but returned to the mats in 1998 and has been officiating since. Dave rejoined the coach's ranks in 1999 with the Jr. Patriots and has coached at Edison and Parkersburg South. He has served as WV State AAU Chairman, founded the USYWA Elementary and Middle School National Championship, founder of the West Virginia Duals and also founded Team WV and serves on its board.

23. Dan Clevenger – 1966-123 Franklin Jr. High, 1967-127 1968-135 Edison Jr. High, 1978 Coach Franklin Jr. High. Coach Clevenger made county history by becoming the first person to win the wrestler-coach title combo. Dan won his individual crown over Clint Way of Jackson and then won his coaching title ten years later. In 1983, Coach Clevenger broke the 12 year old record when he led Franklin to the team title for the fourth time and is currently tied for second for county championship teams. In 1971, he joined teammate Mike Deem by becoming South's first individual state champions. Dan defeated John Marshall's Tom Zuk with a 9-0 decision to win the 185 pound state title. Coach Clevenger led Washington Jr. High for one year then transferred to Franklin and led the Falcons from 1977 to 1986. He left the Jr. High ranks to take the head coaching job at South from 1987 to 1989. Wrestling for Coach Clevenger on his first championship team in 1978 were: 75 Rich Underwood 1st; 83 Craig Echard; 88 Mike Nutter; 95 Brian Schuck; 100 Greg Gainer; 105 Tony Rejonis 2nd; 112 Ed Gilchrist 2nd; 118 Mike Farley; 123 Jeff Wright 2nd; 127 Bill Mullins 1st; 135 Randy Adams 1st; 145 Brian Miller 2nd; 155 Kraig Burke 1st; 165 Buddy Nolan 2nd; and UNL Nathan Goines.

24. Bob Beto – 1966 Coach Edison Jr. High. Coach Beto led Edison to its first team title in 1966 breaking Jackson's string of four straight titles. Wrestling for coach Beto were 80 Jim Wingrove, 1st; 90 Larry Reber; 100 David Dunn; 105 Mike Halbert, 2nd; 112 Steve Dunn, 2nd; 118 Jeff Williams, 2nd; 123 Gary Cooper; 127 Mike Dickle, 1st; 135 Ron Wilson, cons finals; 145 Ron Graham, cons finals; 155 Roger Bailey; and UNL Bob Brown, 2nd.

25. John Curry – 1967-80 1968-80 1969-90 Washington Jr. High. John becomes the county's second – three time champion by winning the 90 pound title over Jones of Hamilton at the Eighth county Championship with a second period pin in 1:02. John also won his second title against Jones and won his first title over Black of Franklin with a 4-2 decision. John's only loss in his sophomore year in high school came in the state finals against Charles Town's 3-time state champion Larry DePoy.

26. Jack Watkins – 1967 Coach VanDevender Jr. High. Coach Watkins led VanDevender to its first County Championship in 1967 and successfully defended it the following year at the Seventh County Championship. Coach Watkins also led Vandy to its third and last title in 1971 at the Tenth County Championship. He would hold the record for most titles for 12 years. Coach Watkins wrestled at Fairmont State College. Wrestling for Coach Watkins during his first championship were: 90 Mike Litton, 1st; 100 Jeff Jones, 3rd; 105 Richard Bonnett, 1st; 112 Gary Cline, 1st; 118 Doug McDonald, 3rd; 123 Ron Hale, 2nd; 127 Bruce Riley, 3rd; 135 Mark Garvey, 1st; 145 Terry Lowers, 1st; 155 Chuck Dailey, 1st; and UNL Rick Haught.

27. Carroll Jett – 1967 1968 Ravenswood High School, 1977 West Virginia State Wrestling Sportswriter of the Year Award. Carroll Jett wrestled on the reserve team and was a part time starter for the inaugural team at Ravenswood High School under Coach Darrell Bennett in 1967. He wrestled for two years until receiving a dislocated shoulder, courtesy of Coach Bennett. He was a Sportswriter for the Parkersburg News and Sentinel from 1969 thru 1992 and covered all levels of wrestling for the local paper. In 1977, he was elected the West Virginia State Wrestling Sportswriter of the Year at the State High School Wrestling Tournament.

28. Lawrence 'Jay' Yeardeley – 1968-1975 Asst. Coach Parkersburg High School, 1976 Ohio-West Virginia Wrestling Official Board. Coach Yeardeley first started into wrestling at Parkersburg High School as an assistant coach in wrestling, football and track. While at PHS, Coach Yeardeley started officiating on the side and finally went full time as an official in 1976. Coach Yeardeley was one of the top officials in the area and officiated the County Tournament on an annual basis. He retired from officiating in 1995 after 20 years. Coach Yeardeley coached football and track at Hamilton Jr. High from 1964 until he left for PHS. At PHS, he was assistant football coach until 1988 and spent three years as assistant track until 1971 when he became head coach until his retirement in 1998.

29. Steve Bosley – 1969-100 1970-118 1971-135 Franklin Jr. High. Steve became the third – three time county champion when he defeated Spiker of Jackson on an 8-4 decision. Steve won his first title against Edison's Dunbar with a second period pin and his second title the following year against Allman from Washington on a forfeit. Steve had won three consecutive Pee Wee titles before joining the Jr. High ranks and would later win two State High School Titles for Parkersburg South. His first high school title was won against Morgantown's Ken Clark with a first period pin in 1:42. Steve's second high school title was won against John Marshall's Ron Koontz with an 8-4 overtime decision. A notable wrestler in Steve's weight class at the 1974 Championship was Morgantown's Terry Bowden, the son of then WVU football coach, Bobby Bowden, who finished fourth in the state tournament. Terry went on to become a successful college football coach at Auburn and would have a career in TV Broadcasting. Steve was South's first High School All-American. He later served as coach for South Parkersburg's recreation team and is the founder of the Jr. Patriot Wrestling Club.

30. Fred Pence – 1969-105 1970-127 1971-145 Hamilton Jr. High. Fred became the fourth – three time champion when he defeated Edison's Hammond at 145 pounds with a 5-3 decision. In 1969 he defeated Wade from Edison on a 12-5 for the 105 pound title and in 1970 he defeated Spiker from Jackson with a 6-2 decision for the 127 pound title. Fred had won four Pee Wee titles for a combined seven-time County Champion.