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# Editorial

By Lanny Bryant  
Editor-In-Chief

Can you believe it! This is our 38th year of publishing *Wrestling USA Magazine*, "The National Voice of Schoolboy Wrestling since 1965".

Ann and I were just out of college in 1965, had three children (ages 3, 2, and 6 months) when we invested our life savings in a dream. It was a dream of creating a national high school wrestling magazine. We were young and too naive to know that starting a national magazine on our annual teaching salary of \$5,350 (which included the extra payment for coaching football and wrestling) was an impossible dream.

The sport teaches those of us who have competed in wrestling, that if we have a dream and we are willing to make the sacrifice to achieve that dream...it is possible.

Those of us who have competed in wrestling know you will be defeated...you will be discouraged...you will get back up off the mat when defeated...you will walk into the practice room...you will focus on your dream...you will work harder on your dream and you will become a champion, not always a winner but always a champion.

"It is not the critic who counts," according to *WRESTLING USA's* Florida state editor Ira Fleckman. "Not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done better."

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcomings... who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at best knows in the end triumph of high achievement, and who at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

The quote above came from a speech by Theodore Roosevelt, a man devoted to the strenuous life, to fair play and good sportsmanship. It speaks out against critics generally but more importantly speaks to those with the courage to dare. The quote makes it clear that those who dare to achieve are destined for many failures. While it is a cliché to state that victory amounts to getting up one more time than one goes down, this quote states that trying and failing is better than not making the effort.

Those of us who write in this magazine are sincere believers in the positive lifetime teachings of amateur wrestling. Our hope is that, in the future, the joys, the experiences, and benefits of this time-honored sport may be brought in large measure to an ever increasing host of American youth.

You are the reason we publish *WRESTLING USA Magazine*.

Thanks for subscribing. Please ask your school librarian to subscribe and buy your wrestling products and services from our advertisers who make this national wrestling publication possible.

As always let's be "On The Go Together" for America's youth.

Lanny

## Cover Photo

Michigan Division IV Individual State Finals. 140 lb. Martin Rusek, Dundee, defeats Ryan Sunnerville of Martin, 3-2, in a consolation bracket semi-finals match. Rusek took third place. Photo by David Schankin.



### NATIONAL ACTION WRESTLING PHOTO CONTEST

Send your best action wrestling photos. The best photos will be recognized each issue. The outstanding color photo will be featured on the cover, poster or T-shirt. Cover photos to be submitted as 5x7 print.