



## Confessions of a Wrestling Official Part 2

By Dr. Bill Welker

**A**s some of you might know, I am the West Virginia State Rules Interpreter and Clinician, as well as the supervisor of officials during the West Virginia Wrestling Championships. I have held this position since 1989.

I have also been the rules interpreter of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference's "all-

classes" wrestling tournament for 12 years.

In the above capacities, I have had to make hundreds of decisions. The majority of them have been correct, while a very few have caused me to later question my personal judgement.

Such is the stuff that those in authority must accept, and live with. I have chosen this responsibility, and I have never regret-

ted it.

That being said, permit me to share with my readers a recent competition in which I lost concentration, and failed in my duties as an official.

The indiscretion took place at this year's Wheeling Park Duals. It is a tournament that has evolved over the last 11 years into a first-class, nationally-recognized