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Editorial

By Lanny Bryant, Editor-In-Chief

Myron Roderick Steps Down

On September 1, 2004, President of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum (NWHOF), Myron Roderick stepped down as the Chief Executive Officer after more than a decade of loyal and dedicated service. Lee Roy Smith, former head wrestling coach at Arizona State University, has been appointed as the Executive Director of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Myron has generously agreed to remain involved in a volunteer capacity as "Ambassador for the NWHOF." JoAnn, his wife, has graciously agreed to continue to help during this transition through June 4, 2005, Honor Weekend.

During this transition time, Myron will be developing his new Ambassador role, while continuing his recovery and rehabilitation from an earlier stroke. Further, he is looking forward to spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

Wrestling legend Roderick, helped to build the Hall of Fame, which is located in Stillwater, Oklahoma, into one of the premier, debt free, sports hall of fame in the nation. Because of Myron's leadership and vision, the NWHOF has expanded to include the John Vaughan Wing of the museum, increasing the number of wrestling displays and awards, including "Outstanding Americans", "Order of Merit", "Medal of Courage" and the "Dave Schultz High School Excellence". "We owe a lot to Myron Roderick for being the heart and soul behind our National Wrestling Hall of Fame," says Jim Keen, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

The first time I met Myron Roderick was when he brought his defending NCAA championship team from Oklahoma State to the University of Northern Colorado to wrestle us in a dual meet. As you can well imagine the town of Greeley, Colorado, plus the Bear wrestling team was excited about meeting the cowboys on the mat. You could have heard a pin drop in our dressing room as we prepared to meet these extremely talented wrestlers in what was to become the wrestling dual meet of our wrestling career.

Our coach, John Hancock in an effort to ease the tension before we faced them on the mat, exclaimed, "Remember men, these guys put their pants on one leg at a time just like you do." I remember thinking; sure they probably put their pants on both legs at a time. The gym was so crowded that night we had to walk over fans to get from the wrestlers chairs to the mat. The match ended up being a "barn burner". Oklahoma won, but the heavyweight match decided it.

Throughout the years I have had the privilege of hearing that high pitch resounding voice bounce around the fieldhouse as we watched his team claim NCAA title after title before the days of Dan Gable's dominance. In recent years, I have had the same privilege when Myron has called *Wrestling USA Magazine* to promote the Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Thanks Myron for all you have done for the sport of amateur wrestling over more than five decades. Probably no man has contributed more to the sport of wrestling in America.

As Always,

Let's be "On the Go Together"

Lanny

Cover Photo

Athens, Greece - Cael Sanderson defined perfection in college, going 159-0 and winning four NCAA titles at Iowa State, then winning a World silver medal in 2003 in freestyle wrestling. Featured on the cover is Sanderson defeating 1999 World Champion and 2000 Olympic silver medalist Yoel Romero of Cuba, 3-2, in his semifinal bout. Photo by Andre Reddington - Amateur Wrestling News

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.

