

WRESTLING USA
COACH-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD

BRAD HILDEBRANDT
Omaha, Nebraska

Brad, a captain with the Omaha fire department, has been the head coach at Skutt Catholic High School since 1993. In his 15 years at the helm, he has coached his teams to 12 straight Class B State Championships to go along with 49 individual state champions.

The 2009 Skyhawks were perhaps the best of those state championship teams. They placed seven wrestlers in the state tournament semifinals, winning all seven matches. Six of those young men won state titles to lead Skutt to a 70 point win over second place Auburn.

The Skyhawks boasted a national ranking of #20. Three-time state champion Zach Cottle was ranked 4th in the nation at 112 lbs by *Wrestling USA Magazine*. Derek Vogel, Matt Katusin and Jacob Hasz received honorable mention recognition.

Hildebrandt has been instrumental



*Brad Hildebrandt
Omaha, NE*

in the success of his wrestlers even beyond high school. Skutt has produced 11 Junior National All-Americans, six NCAA All-Americans and in 2008 had seven wrestlers competing at NCAA Division I, II & III colleges.

His love of athletics comes naturally. Brad's father, Fred, was the athletic director at Griswold, Iowa, where Brad excelled as a multi-sport stand-

out. Brad was a two-time Iowa high school state place winner, three-time All-American and Academic All-American for Coach Denney at Nebraska-Omaha, an Omaha World Herald "Coach of the Year" and was inducted into the University of Nebraska at Omaha Hall of Fame.

The Skyhawks boasted a 20th ranking in the nation while *Wrestling USA Magazine* recognized Zach Cottle as being ranked 4th in the nation at 112 lbs. Derek Vogel, Matt Katusin and Jacob Hasz received honorable mention recognition.

NOMINATED BY: Mark Egger,
Nebraska State Editor