



Wrestling USA

1999 Coach of the Year Dick Rhoades - Pennsylvania

Editor's Note: *Wrestling USA Magazine's Coach of the Year Award is determined by considering two aspects of the careers of the nominees...their coaching performance during the season just completed and their record over a period of time. We sincerely applaud the contributions made by these men to the sport of wrestling as well as to the young men they coach. - Cal Johnson*

Wrestling fans who follow scholastic wrestling on a national level will be well acquainted with the name Bald Eagle Area High School in Wingate, Pennsylvania.

Let's review the 1998-99 season just in case the memory has faltered. Bald Eagle won the Manheim Holiday, Mid-Atlantic and Centre County tournaments as well as the Big Seven and Central Wrestling Conference championships. They finished with an 18-2 dual record. Average, you say? Now add the Pennsylvania AAA State Dual Meet Title, the first in state history. Then add the Pennsylvania AAA State Individual Tournament Championship. And cap off the season by being named National High School Champions by National Wrestling Coaches/*USA Today*, *Wrestling USA Magazine*, and *Matside*.

The architect of this amazing program is head coach DICK RHOADES. Over the past twenty-six years Dick has accumulated an overall dual record of 343-86-10, including five undefeated seasons. He has coached 15 state finalists and 5 state champions in one of the nation's toughest wrestling states. His teams have won fourteen district and six regional titles, and finished as the PA Class AAA Runners-up in 1998.

Rhoades has been named Pennsylvania (PIAA) Coach of the Year twice, in 1997 and 1999. He has been

inducted into the PA Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame (1997) and Lock Haven University Wrestling Hall of Fame (1993). In addition to being named WUSA Coach of the Year, Dick was also named National High School Wrestling Coach of the Year by the National Wrestling Coaches Association/*USA Today*.

And the list goes on. Coach Rhoades has made an obvious impact on Bald Eagle, Pennsylvania, and national scholastic wrestling. His tremendous spirit and enthusiasm for his program and the sport has been a large part of his success.

Wrestling USA Magazine congratulates Dick Rhoades for engineering a season that would meet the expectations of any high school coaches' dreams!!

Rhoades was nominated by Lloyd Rhoades of Howard, PA.



COACH OF THE YEAR

First Runner-Up

Wade King

State Individual Champs 1995, 1998, 1999 State Dual Champs 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999
Davenport Assumption High School
Davenport, IA
Nominated by Kevin Parker



COACH OF THE YEAR

Second Runner-Up

Craig Martin

State Champions 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999
St. Charles West High School
St. Charles, MO
Nominated by Jim Vollmar



COACH OF THE YEAR

Honorable Mention

Manny Costa

St. John's Prep
Danvers, MA
Nominated by Nathan Cote and Andrea Costa



COACH OF THE YEAR

Honorable Mention

Laris Roberts

Huntley Project High School
Worden, MT
Nominated by Pam Roberts

