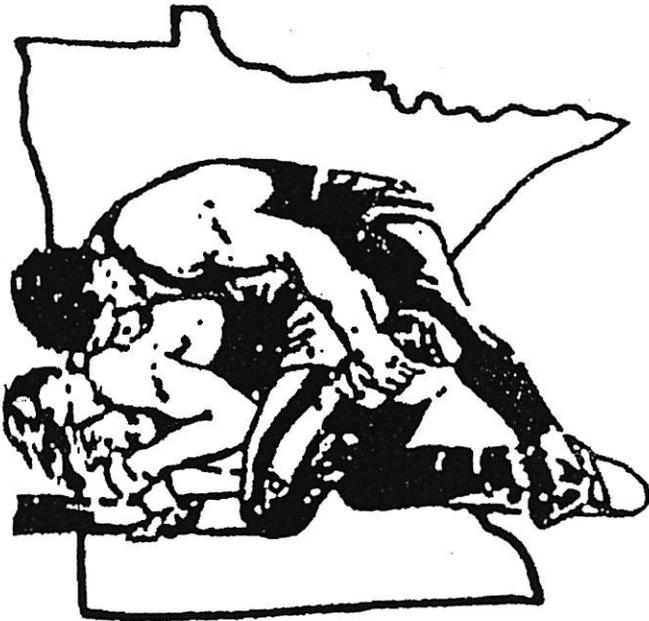


**Minnesota Wrestling Coaches
Association**

Dave Bartelma Hall of Fame Banquet



**October 3, 2020
Benson Inn
Benson, MN**

Welcome/Invocation.....Steve Ricard

Dinner

Introduction of present Hall of Fame Members.....Spencer Yohe

MWCA Hall of Fame

Inductions.....Steve Ricard

Inductee

Presenter

Dave Droegemueller.....Darren Droegemueller

Loren Hacker.....Emily Sanders and Evan Hacker

Dan Jinks.....Lavern "Tuffy" Hoard

Don Kuusinen.....Joe Silko

Brian "Buck" Lindberg.....Eric Lindberg and Kyle Lindberg

**Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association
Dave Bartelma Hall of Fame
Inductee Biographies**

Dave Droegemueller, Athlete

Dave Droegemueller attended Osseo High School, graduating from there in 1986. Dave was a five-time top six place winner. (fifth at 98AA, third at 105AA, state runner-up at 105AA, State Champion at 112 AA, State Champion at 119AA. Dave's high school record was 158-10-2. He was named a high school Academic All-American and also a High School All-American Wrestler. Dave attended the

University of Nebraska where he was four-year varsity letter-winner and a three-time NCAA Div. 1 National Qualifier. Dave was a two-time captain at Nebraska, All-Big 8 Academic team, placed fourth in the Big 8 in 1990, and 2nd in the Big 8 in 1991. Upon obtaining his B.S. in Math Education, Dave began teaching and coaching. He was a head coach at Wayzata from 1991-92, Chisago Lakes from 1992-1995, and Wayzata from 1995-2001 (record 115-82-6). Today Dave is an assistant coach at Wayzata. He is recognized, according to friend and colleague Eric Swensen, "as an outstanding role model and tremendous leader." Hall of Fame member Jeff Lamphere writes "Dave helps kids that wrestle for him to feel good about themselves, regardless of how successful they are, and always makes them feel like they are a part of the wrestling family." Stillwater Coach Tim Hartung wrote "Dave's true honors are measured best by the lives of those he has changed." Dave and his wife Kristi have two kids, Weston and Shelby.

Loren Hacker Contributor

Loren Hacker attended Canby High School, graduating from there in 1973. He competed in wrestling, earning a 4th place state finish his senior year and compiled a 49-10 record. He set a UM-Morris record with 10 falls and team points (78). Loren attended the University of Minnesota-Morris from 1973-75 and 1976-1978. He was a NCAA Div. 3 All-American, earning a fourth place finish at heavyweight. Loren went on to coach at McIntosh, SD from 1978-1980, Canby from 1980-1982, and Dawson-Boyd from 1982-1995. Loren was named District 9 Coach of the Year, and District 11 Coach of the Year. Loren amassed a record of 172-174-6. During Loren's tenure as head coach, Canby was crowned Region 3A champs and finished 6th in state. He had one state champion (Terry Ochsendorf), and 8 state placers. Loren has continued to give back to the state tournament for the past 20 years as a state tournament volunteer. He has directed many Section 3A tournaments. Hall of Fame member Spencer Yohe writes "Loren has been a great volunteer/contributor from 1995-2020. He built a very competitive program in Dawson-

Boyd. He also worked and organized youth tournaments from 1978-2010. Hall of Famer Mike Bredeck writes "Loren was one of the individuals that promoted every aspect of the sport from being an athlete, coach, and parent of a State Champion." Today Loren serves as Superintendent for Hancock Public Schools. Loren and his wife Karen have two kids, Evan and Emily.

Dan Jinks, Coach

Dan Jinks attended Grand Rapids High School, graduating from there in 1973. While in High School Dan participated in football, wrestling, and track. Dan earned 3 letters in football, captained the team his senior year and earned All-conference honors as a Defensive Tackle. Dan was a three-time letter winner in Track, throwing the shot and discus. Dan also earned 2 letters in wrestling and capped off his senior year with a Section Championship and state tournament berth.

Dan attended college at Moorhead State University. While there he participated in both wrestling and football. Dan graduated in 1978 with Bachelor of Science degrees in both Health Education and Physical Education.

Dan taught and coached in Ellsworth, Minnesota from 1978-1980 and in Grand Rapids, Minnesota from 1980-2017. Dan's coaching record was 420-210-3. During his 30 years as the Grand Rapids head wrestling coach Dan coached 70 Region/Section champions, 115 state qualifiers, 48 state place winners and 6 individual state champions. Dan's teams reached the state tournament 8 times and they were state runner-ups in 1987. Seven of Dan's wrestlers have gone on to gain All-American status in college. Dan was named Region/Section coach of the year 9 times.

Dan served as MWCA Section 7AAA Representative for 9 years, from 1987-1996. In 2005-2006 Dan served as President of the Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association.

Longtime friend Steve Lynch wrote “his kids wrestled hard for him. The bonds he formed as a coach and leader influenced many kids on the edge of school and society to stick with the sport, and many of them have successful stories to tell because of their time in Jink’s room.”

Dan is retired and resides at his lake home in Bowstring Township Minnesota with the love of his life Lori. He has two children that he is extremely proud of, a son Jacob (wife Stacey) and daughter Jennifer (husband Chad).

Don Kuusinen, Contributor

Don Kuusinen attended Grand Rapids High School, graduating from there in 1963. Don placed fourth at state in a one class system. Don wrestled for a year at the University of MN, then for a year at the University of North Dakota. He completed his B.S. degree in Math Education at Bemidji State University. Don would also earn a Master’s of Science degree. After graduation, he got a position teaching math at Grand Rapids Junior High School. He retired in 2001. Don served as a junior high/middle school coach at Grand Rapids from 1968 to 1976. He was Head Wrestling Coach at Grand Rapids High School from 1977 to 1979. Don officiated for 50 years, starting and ending his officiating career in the Grand Rapids gymnasium. He served as Assistant Coach in 1979-80 and was an Elementary Coach for 10 years. Kuusinen is a member of the Grand Rapids Wrestling Hall of Fame, the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame and the Minnesota-Dave Bartelma Wrestling Hall of Fame. The Kuusinen Family includes wife, Laurel, sons, Kraig (a two-time cancer survivor) living in New Hope, Minnesota and Kent, who lives with his wife and 2 daughters in Vernon, Vermont, and Lance who lives in Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Brian “Buck” Lindberg, Contributor

Brian “Buck” Lindberg attended Fertile-Beltrami High School, graduating in 1979. Brian wrestled under the late Marv Nelson, as well as Hall of Fame member Paul Cyr and Bob Thorson. Brian was a three-time Pine to Prairie Conference Champion, and a two-time Northwest Tourney champion (one of the toughest tournaments in the northwest at that time.) Brian placed third in the Region his junior and senior year. He amassed a record of 75-15. Brian went on to wrestle in college at NDSSS (now called NDSCS in Wahpeton, ND. He graduated with an Associate of Science Degree. Brian worked for Polk County from 1985 to his retirement in 2018. Brian served as an assistant coach under Bob Thorson at Fertile-Beltrami High School from 1981-1987 and from 2003-2007, serving as the main technician. He was voted Assistant coach of the Year for Section 8A two times. Brian began officiating under mentor Paul Cyr in 1981. He quickly became very well-known not only in the northwest part of the state, but throughout the state as well. He was consistently ranked as one of the best officials in the state of MN. He has served as a Rules Coordinator for the MSHSL for many years. Brian officiated for 36 years. Steve Ricard, Hall of Fame Chairman who had the opportunity to be coached by “Buck”, wrote “I took lots of life lessons from Buck: 1. Treat people with respect. 2. Be genuine. 3. Laugh with kids, and make wrestling fun. 4. Work hard, regardless of how things go. 5. Be dedicated to family. 6. Do your best. 7. Give back.” Hall of Fame Member Kory Mosher wrote, “Buck was a sparring partner for me in high school, and he was great coach and mentor.” Hall of Fame Coach Rodd Olson wrote “Wrestling is a great sport and Brian Lindberg has devoted much of his life to make it great. His contribution as a wrestler, coach, and most of all a respected official by many makes him a deserving candidate.” Today Brian is teaching part time for the University of Minnesota LTAP program and owns a small business. He continues to work for the MSHSL as a rules coordinator. Brian lives near Crosslake, MN with his wife Renae and stepdaughter Shelbe. Brian has two sons, Eric (Katie) and Kyle (Jenna) and 4 grandchildren.

DAVID BARTELMA
"FATHER OF MINNESOTA WRESTLING"

David C. Bartelma, or "Bart" as he was affectionately called by his wrestlers and known by wrestling fans, was largely responsible for the planting of the wrestling seed in Minnesota. Bart was a transplanted Iowan. He had spent a decade coaching wrestling in Iowa; first at Iowa Falls and then at Cresco where he also served as principal. He directed six undefeated teams and his 1933 and 1935 teams won the Iowa state high school championships.

Bart joined the University of Minnesota Athletic Staff as the first full time wrestling coach in 1935. He nurtured the wrestling seed in Minnesota not only by profound wrestling knowledge, but also by his contagious enthusiasm and ability to convince others of the merits of this sport. In addition to these attributions, Bart worked indefatigably to popularize amateur wrestling. He staged the first high school wrestling tournament in 1937 (not sanctioned by the MSHSL). The first tournament was held at the University of Minnesota Field House with only eight weight classes (95#, 105#, 125#, 135#, 145#, 155#, 165#, & Unlimited), Minneapolis Marshall was the first team champion. From the first state tournament where only 13 schools participated to our present very successful state tournament where 260 schools support wrestling teams, wrestling has come a long ways. The success of Minnesota Wrestling is the direct result of the hard work and dedication fostered by David C. "Bart" Bartelma, "The Father of Minnesota Wrestling."

("Acorn To Mighty Oak", by John Matlon, 1969.)

MWCA HALL OF FAME SELECTION COMMITTEE

Steve Ricard (Chair), Mike Bredeck, James Campbell, Buzz Cummins, Bob Dettmer, David Erickson, George Graff, Don Meyers, Mike Niemczyk, Wes Tessman, Ken Vogt, and Spencer Yohe.