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Guest Editorial

By Don Huff

It's "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year" ...is something that you probably heard many times during the month of December as you made preparations to celebrate Christmas. We would like to put a little twist on the phrase itself, now, as we introduce the 2003 DREAM TEAM CLASSIC. Although it doesn't quite measure up to Christmas for the millions of us who celebrate Christ's birth, the DREAM TEAM CLASSIC has rapidly become one of the most wonderful events of the year for high school wrestlers and for all amateur wrestling fans. The 7th Annual DREAM TEAM CLASSIC will be held in Iowa this year and the potential match-ups between Iowa's seniors and WRESTLING USA's DREAM TEAM will provide excitement equal to or surpassing the six previous Classics.

You can expect this year's crop of talented seniors to showcase their techniques in much the same way as their predecessors did in Waterloo, Iowa, in 1997 and 1998; in Virginia Beach, Virginia, in 1999; in Apple Valley, Minnesota, in 2000; in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 2001; and in Wisconsin in 2002.

No one who witnessed the 1st Classic at West High in Waterloo will forget Jamarr Billman's front flip out of a single-leg attempt by Ben Shirk as the two wrestled to an 8-8 tie in regulation. Billman won with a takedown at the 1:04 mark in over time. Others who have virtually lit up the mat in previous Classics include Joe Heskett, Cael Sanderson, Mike Zadick, Paul Hynek, Jessman Smith, Luke Eustice, Luke Becker, Jared Lawrence, Tommy Rowlands, Steve Mocco, Garret Lowney and Luke Moffitt. This year's lineups have huge shoes to fill, but are fully capable of doing so.

Don't miss the opportunity to see the 7th Annual DREAM TEAM CLASSIC in April.

We would like to thank Lanny Bryant and his WRESTLING USA family, and Jim Keen, Sr. and his Cliff Keen Athletic family for their part in the origin, support, promotion, and continuation of the DREAM TEAM CLASSIC. They have truly made this the "most wonderful time of the year".

More information about the DREAM TEAM CLASSIC will be available soon, including the lineups for the DREAM TEAM and the IOWA ELITE TEAM.

Underclassmen, set your sights on working your hardest, doing your best and becoming a part of the DREAM TEAM CLASSIC when it comes to your state or a state near you. 🏪

Cover Photo

Harold Nichols's Open. 165 pound championship. Johnson, UNI, decisioned Sturm, Wartburg, 5-1. Photo by John C. Johnson.



NATIONAL ACTION WRESTLING PHOTO CONTEST

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