



## FROM PINS TO PEN . . . AS I SEE IT!

By Wade Schalles

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In the last edition of *Wrestling USA Magazine*, I put forth the premise that fun had taken a back seat to progress in America's elementary wrestling programs. That the enjoyment of movement exploration had become a lost component in our sport.

I took the position, and still believe,

that success in wrestling can be measured solely by its attraction and retention rate. How many young men do the coaches have in their wrestling rooms today and how many are they expecting for tomorrow's practice? Are attendance numbers going up or down?

Forget everything else, nothing else

matters as absenteeism and a lack of fun are joined at the hip in every sport. Where you find one, you'll find the other. Unfortunately we have too many wrestling coaches who look at laughter and things like dodge ball the same way as our parents used to view dessert at dinnertime . . . to be enjoyed only after we cleaned our plates.