

# The History of Florida High School Wrestling

By Stuart Mahler

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**T**he beginning of Florida High School Wrestling started in the summer of 1960 when Dwight Witty arrived from North Carolina.

Having been an outstanding wrestler in high school and college, he immediately sought out high schools with wrestling

programs. There were none. However, one Saturday morning, he did find an AAU tournament at Miami Military Academy, which he entered and won the heavy-weight division.

The need for a high school wrestling program was obvious, and Dwight decided to try to make something happen. There

were two individuals who encouraged and advised him. Both were physical education teachers who had wrestling backgrounds in Pennsylvania: Ben Wolfson at Coral Gables High School and Earl Oster at Shenandoah Junior High School. With their guidance, Dwight began contacting high school PE teachers and setting up clinics