



## 2002 STATE EDITOR-OF-THE-YEAR

*Tom Elling*  
*Lock Haven, Pennsylvania*

**T**om Elling has been with *Wrestling USA Magazine* since the 1973-74 wrestling season when he was an active coach at Lock Haven High School.

Tom stays busy promoting wrestling not only through his Pennsylvania column in *Wrestling USA Magazine* but also through his very popular website [www.pawrsl.com/pa](http://www.pawrsl.com/pa) and in his and partner Rich Vetock's Pennsylvania Wrestling Newspaper, which is off to a fantastic start, recently completing its first year of publication.

Tom is and has been highly involved in PIAA wrestling, serving as the NW AAA Regional tournament director since 1989 and with the PIAA State Championship Tournament in various capacities since 1979. He is currently the director of operations for the PIAA Championships.

Tom is on the executive committee for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame (Pennsylvania Chapter), the PIAA Wrestling Steering Committee, the board of the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches' Association, and was involved in the inaugural Brute Select States' Challenge this past year.

Tom serves his community by part-



nering with Joe Walker to bring Lock Haven area fans the move-by-move wrestling action of the Central Mountain Wildcats over radio station WBPZ.

He has also designed and produced the "Legends of Pennsylvania Wrestling" sports cards for the past 5 years, honoring those who helped make Pennsylvania a great wrestling state and established the first state team rankings back

in 1974.

Among his honors are: Clinton County Hall of Fame; District 6 Wrestling Hall of Fame; 1999 Lock Haven University Hall of Fame; 1999 Official of the Year - PIAA; 2001 PWCA Hall of Fame.

Tom's wife Barb has been a big part of his wrestling ventures. From being a coach's wife to helping him get tournament information ready, she has always been willing to help out. The couple have three children- Roger, Michelle and Danny - and one grandchild, expecting another grandchild in late April.

In addition to Tom's work in promoting the sport, he served Lock Haven High for eight seasons and produced a state champion (*Wrestling USA Magazine* All-American class of 1975, John Eichenlaub) and several runners-up and other placers as well as the only undefeated season in Lock Haven's rich wrestling history. He is also a former two-time NAIA All-American for Lock Haven State College at 191-pounds.

Thanks Tom for all you do for *Wrestling USA Magazine* and your lifetime of dedication to the growth and quality of amateur wrestling.