


2005 Master-of-Wrestling Award
 MAGAZINE

Jim & Jim Meyerhoff New York

A Family Tradition: Yes, there are two Jim Meyerhoffs, father and son, and it can be difficult distinguishing between the two when it comes to their involvement in Washington state wrestling.

The Father: Jim Meyerhoff has contributed in all areas of Washington State wrestling. Meyerhoff was a very successful collegiate wrestler, competing twice in the NCAA National Tournament. At Franklin Pierce High School he coached five state champions and 26 individual state place winners. During his three years at Pacific Lutheran University Meyerhoff coached four NAIA All-Americans. Meyerhoff also served as a wrestling official at the high school and collegiate levels for 28 years, directed the state Cultural Exchange Program for twelve and provided the leadership for the state Wrestling Coaches Association as its president for six years.

Meyerhoff currently serves as an Assistant Executive Director at the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association where he oversees the sport of wrestling. He has been directly involved in all 17 Mat Classic State Wrestling Championships either as tournament manager or as the tournament director. In 2003 he chaired the 50-year celebration culminating with the ceremonies at Mat Classic XV. Most recently Meyerhoff has provided the leadership in the growth of girls wrestling in Washington by beginning the Girls Invitational at the State Tournament where 109 girls completed in 2005. The goal is to have a separate girls state tournament by 2007.



Meyerhoff was inducted into the Washington State Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame in 1989, the University of Puget Sound Hall of Fame in 1990, the state Athletic Directors' Hall of Fame in 2001, and the Washington State Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2003. Jim and his wife Phyllis, an Administrator at Pacific Lutheran University, reside in Puyallup, Washington.

The Son: Jim Meyerhoff is in his fifth year as head wrestling coach at Emerald Ridge High School in Puyallup. Following graduation from Puyallup High School Meyerhoff attended Pacific Lutheran University and was an assistant coach with the PLU wrestling program, along with stints as an assistant at Vashon and Jackson high schools over

the next eight years. He currently serves as the director of the Washington Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame and is a WSWCA Executive Board Member. He has been a part of all 17 Mat Classic state tournaments, and manages the WSWCA, SPSL and Jaguar Wrestling web sites.

In their fifth year as a school, the Emerald Ridge Jaguars recently placed sixth in the 4A Mat Classic State Championships, with three place finishers. This past season the team won their first South Puget Sound League title and were the Regional Champions with eight wrestlers advancing to the state tournament. Meyerhoff was named the SPSL Wrestling Coach of the Year by his peers. Meyerhoff is a technology teacher at Emerald Ridge, and has earned his Masters in Educational Technology and his Administrative Certification. Meyerhoff and his wife Dawn, an elementary teacher in the Franklin Pierce School District, have two children, Angela, a freshman at Western Washington University, and Tyler, an eighth grader.

The Family: The entire Meyerhoff family is very active in the sport. Phyllis and Dawn each oversee a variety of duties at Mat Classic including the awards presentations. Angela served three years as the Jaguar wrestling team manager and was honored as the Wrestling USA "Manager-of-the-Year" in 2004. Tyler competes for his junior high wrestling team and served on the Mat Crew at Mat Classic the past two years. Over the past 15 years it is common to see all of the Meyerhoff family serving at local tournaments.