



GRAND STATE
A Brief but Important part of
Kansas High School Wrestling History
by Patrick Kelly

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Selected content for presentation at the 2025 KWCA Fritz Knorr Fall Clinic
October 3, 2025 - Salina Fieldhouse

2025 KWCA Fritz Knorr Fall Clinic attendees:

Whenever I get a chance to talk about Kansas wrestling history, I jump at the opportunity. I consider it an honor and a privilege to talk about Grand State at the 2025 KWCA Fritz Knorr Fall Clinic.

The Grand State program had only a two-year run, 1975 and 1976, but it is an important part of Kansas high school wrestling history.

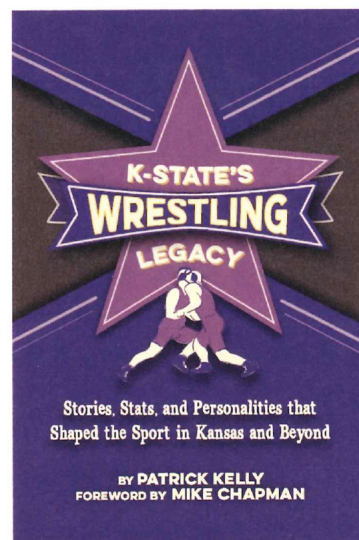
My goal with this project is to present factual information and honor those who were a part of it and, in doing so, create something that can be referred to for entertainment, fact-checking, and to inspire the next generation.

Included in this packet are select portions of the entire document to whet your appetite for the finished product, which is scheduled to be out in December. I have included the entire table of contents with sections included in this packet in ALL-CAPS, **boldface**, and in a larger font.

Please let me know your thoughts, patrick.kelly.ks@gmail.com.

I would also like you to consider ordering a copy of *K-State's Wrestling Legacy* by scanning the QR code below. For a limited time only, I have reduced the price by 25% for orders through Amazon.com.

Patrick R. Kelly



**Order
Your
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Today!**



For over 50 years, Kansas State University offered a wrestling program that became the state's flagship at the collegiate level. However, K-State Wrestling has now been dormant for half a century. *K-State's Wrestling Legacy* gives readers a comprehensive look at the program's history and connects it to the sport's growth in the Sunflower State and its national impact.

"... an entertaining and interesting read..."

~Dan Gable, Olympic Champion, Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient.

"... It's one of those books you will read once, but refer to it constantly in the future."

~Jason Bryant, Wrestling historian, award-winning journalist, public address announcer



CONTENTS

Grand State history article from <i>WIN</i>	page 1
GRAND STATE OVERVIEW.....	PAGE 2
1975 Grand State summary	page 6
1975 Grand State newspaper articles	page 11
1975 Grand State brackets	page 14
1975 Grand State finals results	page 26
1976 Grand State summary	page 29
1976 Grand State newspaper articles	page 35
1976 Grand State brackets	page 38
1976 Grand State finals results	page 50
1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic summary	page 53
1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic newspaper articles	page 66
1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic finals results.....	page 69
1982 Sunflower Wrestling Classic summary	page 72
1982 Sunflower Wrestling Classic finals results.....	page 78
APPENDIX A – GRAND STATE PARTICIPANT DATABASE...	PAGE 81
Appendix B – Grand State Statistical Summary	page 93
Appendix C – Sunflower Wrestling Classic Participant Database.....	page 97
Appendix D – All-Class Rankings 2007-2025.....	page 102
APPENDIX E – INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS	PAGE 108
Project Sponsors.....	page 110
About the Author.....	page 111

GRAND STATE

A Brief but Important part of Kansas High School Wrestling History

By Patrick Kelly



Grand State was a unique and short-lived, but important slice of Kansas high school wrestling history, a history that dates to the first sanctioned state tournament in 1930.

The state wrestling tournament was an all-class affair from 1930-65 before it was broken into two classes (Class AA and Class AB) in 1966. In 1971 the three-class system was brought about (Class 5-4A, Class 3A, and Class 2-1A). The current four-class set-up was ushered in with the 1973 tournament (Class 5A, Class 4A, Class 3A, and Class 2-1A).

With the perspective of history, Grand State was just ten years removed from its single-class roots and just two years into the four-class system. There were many compelling storylines that surfaced in 1975 and 1976. Following are a few of the most interesting.

Fab Freshmen. It isn't exactly an apples-to-apples comparison when studying the number of freshmen standouts from back in the day compared to what we see today. Fifty years ago, many freshmen didn't get their first taste of the sport until they enrolled in high school. Today, a freshman taking up the sport for the first time is an anomaly. Another factor was that some districts, especially those with larger enrollments, didn't allow freshmen to compete at the varsity level, housing them in a 'Junior High' system with grades 7-9.

Out of the three hundred eighty-four participants in the two Grand State tournament combined, only seven freshmen have the distinction of competing. Six in 1975 and only **Don Pickinpaugh of Hoxie** in 1976. There were no freshman Grand State medalists in either 1975 or 1976.

Interesting data came out of the tournament that adds fuel to the '**My class is better than yours!**' debate. Class 3A (think **Kapaun** and **Goodland**), had the most overall champs, finalists, and

medalists in combined years... However, after a study of the graphical data in Appendix B, **2-1A** has a good case for class superiority. 40% of the top ten Grand State teams came from the smallest class. With four classifications, it's tidy. If all were equal, the champion, finalist, and top-four medalist data would be 25% for each class. The following table represents how the data was actually distributed.

Grand State Classification Representation - 1975, 1976, and Combined Data					
Year	Class	Schools (79 total)	Champions (12)	Finalists (24)	Medalists (48)
1975	2-1A	19 (24%)	4 (33%)	8 (33%)	10 (21%)
1975	3A	25 (32%)	3 (25%)	9 (38%)	12 (25%)
1975	4A	21 (27%)	2 (17%)	2 (8%)	15 (31%)
1975	5A	14 (18%)	3 (25%)	5 (21%)	11 (23%)
Year	Class	Schools (80 total)	Champions (12)	Finalists (24)	Medalists (48)
1976	2-1A	21 (26%)	1 (8%)	5 (21%)	14 (29%)
1976	3A	23 (29%)	7 (58%)	11 (46%)	16 (33%)
1976	4A	23 (29%)	3 (25%)	6 (29%)	12 (25%)
1976	5A	13 (16%)	1 (8%)	1 (4%)	6 (13%)
Year	Class	Schools (159 total)	Champions (24)	Finalists (48)	Medalists (96)
Combined	2-1A	40 (25%)	5 (21%)	13 (27%)	24 (25%)
Combined	3A	48 (30%)	10 (42%)	20 (42%)	28 (29%)
Combined	4A	44 (28%)	5 (21%)	8 (19%)	27 (28%)
Combined	5A	27 (17%)	4 (17%)	6 (13%)	17 (18%)

More data. Sixty-three schools participated in both the 1975 and 1976 tournaments. Of the group of single year participants, **Bishop Carroll** stands out by going from zero qualifiers in '75 to four in '76.

The following table details the schools with three or more Grand State medalists (1975 and 1976 combined). A week after their runner-up performance at 3A State in '76, **Kapaun Mt. Carmel** caught fire at Grand State with five medalists to bring their two-year total to eight.

Grand State Medalist Data – Combined Years (Schools with Three or More Medalists)						
School	Class	# Medalists	Champions	Runners-up	Third-place	Fourth-place
Kapaun Mt. Carmel	3A	8	3	3	2	0
Oberlin	2-1A	6	1	3	0	2
Derby	4A	5	1	1	3	0
Goodland	3A	4	3	1	0	0
Emporia	4A	3	1	0	1	1
Hoxie	2-1A	3	0	1	2	0
Junction City	4A	3	0	1	0	2
SM Northwest	5A	3	0	0	2	1
Wichita Heights	5A	3	0	0	2	1

Brother Acts. At least seventeen sets of brothers took part in Grand State. The **Bontz** brothers (Lindon and Martin) and **Hershberger's** (Kendall and Eric) accounted for six Grand State medals and five finals appearances for Kapaun. **Duell** (Doug and Fred of Goodland), **Means** (Brett and Brad of Goddard), and **Hewitt** (Greg and Kevin of Beloit) are just a few other brother combos that kept opponents up at night. Doug and Fred are the only brother combos that won Grand State titles.

Returning finalists. **Only five** individuals made appearances in both Grand State finals. That short list includes, Kendall Hershberger, Lindon Bontz, **Dan Schmidt** (Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays), **Kirk Baker** (Goodland), and **Tom Alstrom** (Oberlin). Baker and Hershberger met in the '76 final at 132 pounds. Baker won 3-2 to avenge a loss to Hershberger in the 3A finals one week earlier when he lost 3-1.

Future Coaches. Shake a stick and you will point to a wrestler who competed in Grand State that became a coach of impact. **Brad Fredrickson** (Plainville), **Kirk Baker** (Hoxie), **Dan**

Schmidt (Hoisington), Jon Lippelman (Scott City), and Brett Means (Goddard) are Kansas coaching elites that competed. After four 3A State titles and a Grand State gold, **Doug Duell** had a hall of fame coaching career at **Burlington High School in Colorado** where he led the Cougars to three State titles.

Speaking of coaches, take a look at the coach column in Appendix A. Talk about shaking a stick and finding a hall of famer at the end of it; **Jake Durham (Norton), Ken Spicer (Wichita East), Buzz Matson (Oberlin), Ken Piazza (Beloit), Delbert Erickson (Newton), Ben Bennett (Junction City), Bill Pickenpauh (Hoxie), Dee Gard (Wichita Heights), and Duwane Miller (Kapaun Mt. Carmel)** are among the group of hall of famers that appear on just the first page!

Legends. On February 15, 1975, in Abilene, **Doug Duell** became the first four-time State champion in Kansas wrestling history. A week later he capped his career off with his **fifth** State title at Grand State. A sophomore from Kapaun won his second 3A State title that night in Abilene. **Roy Oeser** would go on to win two more to become the second four-time State champion in Kansas high school wrestling history. He is also a **five-time champ** when you add his 1976 Grand State crown. How close was he to a sixth title? In '75 Oeser lost to eventual GS champ, **Bill Boyle (Shawnee Mission West)**, by Referee's Decision in the semifinals. He went on to finish in third-place.

To demonstrate the impact of Grand State and the thirst the Kansas wrestling community had for it, also included are sections on the **1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic**, the **1982 Sunflower Wrestling Classic**, and Eric Johnson's **All-Class ranking** which is a modern-era of the concept of coming up with a single-class pecking order for both teams and individuals.

I hope you enjoy *Grand State: A Brief, but Important part of Kansas High School Wrestling History* as much as I did researching, interviewing, and compiling it. I think you will agree that it was a special part of Kansas wrestling history!



APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1975	98	CHAMPION	Newell	Dave	Sophomore	Norton	Jake Durham	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	98	Runner-up	Mott	Gregg	Senior	KC Washington	John Vaughn	5A	Runner-up
1975	98	Third-Place	Duggan	Keith	Sophomore	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	Runner-up
1975	98	Fourth-Place	Bell	Mike	Junior	Hoisington	Bruce Custer	3A	CHAMPION
1975	98	Qualifier	Bontz	Martin	Freshman	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Runner-up
1975	98	Qualifier	Escarno	Phil	Senior	Wichita South	Louis Valadez	5A	CHAMPION
1975	98	Qualifier	Flemming	Guy	Sophomore	Pratt	Kurt Heaton	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Frazier	Ken	Freshman	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Fredrickson	Brad	Freshman	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Green	Dave	Junior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Third-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Hewitt	Kevin	Freshman	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Means	Brad	Sophomore	Goddard	Dale Naden	3A	Third-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Minor	Steve	Senior	Newton	Delbert Erickson	4A	CHAMPION
1975	98	Qualifier	Parks	Wayne	Sophomore	Leavenworth	Gary Rosso	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Shaffer	James	Sophomore	Junction City	Ben Bennett	4A	Third-Place
1975	98	Qualifier	Shipley	Rick	Sophomore	Hoxie	Bill Pickinpaugh	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	105	CHAMPION	Mosley	Doug	Senior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	CHAMPION
1975	105	Runner-up	Means	Brett	Junior	Goddard	Dale Naden	3A	CHAMPION
1975	105	Third-Place	Gaskill	Jeff	Senior	Hays	Ken Coover	4A	Third-Place
1975	105	Fourth-Place	Messersmith	Guy	Junior	Coffeyville	Jim Stockard	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	105	Qualifier	Bigler	Carl	Junior	Garden City	Marvin Landes	4A	Runner-up
1975	105	Qualifier	Buckner	Terry	Junior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	CHAMPION
1975	105	Qualifier	Frakes	Richard	Freshman	Douglass	Dan Provence	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	105	Qualifier	George	Bill	Junior	Oakely	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	105	Qualifier	Grady	Dale	Freshman	Wichita South	Louis Valadez	5A	Third-Place
1975	105	Qualifier	Leshar	Dana	Junior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Runner-up
1975	105	Qualifier	McCoy	Mike	Senior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Third-Place
1975	105	Qualifier	McDaniel	Terry	Senior	Scott City	Dean Briggs	3A	Runner-up
1975	105	Qualifier	O'Dell	Dan	Sophomore	Belleville	Edward Fuhrman	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	105	Qualifier	Stude	Ron	Senior	Bonner Springs	Richard Burns	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	105	Qualifier	Tate	Troy	Sophomore	Lawrence	Jim Belch	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	105	Qualifier	Winter	Mike	Senior	Hoxie	Bill Pickinpaugh	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	112	CHAMPION	Hershberger	Kendall	Junior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Runner-up

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1975	112	Runner-up	Hooper	Errol	Senior	Ottawa	Darrell Bourque	3A	CHAMPION
1975	112	Third-Place	Kerr	Gary	Senior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	Third-Place
1975	112	Fourth-Place	Price	Ed	Senior	Liberal	John Kendall	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	112	Qualifier	Compton	Mike	Sophomore	Kinsley	Lee Martin	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	112	Qualifier	Fields	Andrew	Senior	Topeka High	Ray Glaze	5A	Third-Place
1975	112	Qualifier	Harold	Ward	Junior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	112	Qualifier	Knoll	Doug	Senior	Osborne	J.R. Dumlér	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	112	Qualifier	Lollar	Jack	Sophomore	Scott City	Dean Briggs	3A	Third-Place
1975	112	Qualifier	Mancillas	Mark	Senior	SM North	Jack Prall	5A	CHAMPION
1975	112	Qualifier	McKee	Jeff	Senior	Topeka West	Bill Wilson	4A	CHAMPION
1975	112	Qualifier	Richard	Mark	Junior	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	112	Qualifier	Rowberry	Kory	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up
1975	112	Qualifier	Selves	Gary	Senior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	Runner-up
1975	112	Qualifier	Taylor	David	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	112	Qualifier	Withorn	Danny	Senior	Parsons	Ray Harvey	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	119	CHAMPION	Duell	Doug	Senior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	CHAMPION
1975	119	Runner-up	Bontz	Lindon	Junior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Runner-up
1975	119	Third-Place	Schroeder	Terry	Senior	SM Northwest	John Reed	5A	CHAMPION
1975	119	Fourth-Place	Barr	Matt	Senior	Lawrence	Jim Beltsch	5A	Third-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Buckner	Larry	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Runner-up
1975	119	Qualifier	Dreher	Rick	Senior	Plainville	Don Hather	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	119	Qualifier	Farley	John	Senior	Hutchinson	Lyle Neville	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Horning	Frank	Sophomore	Norton	Jake Durham	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Keeney	Bill	Senior	Newton	Delbert Erickson	4A	CHAMPION
1975	119	Qualifier	Kunc	Richard	Senior	Belleville	Edward Fuhman	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Larsh	Scott	Senior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	Runner-up
1975	119	Qualifier	Lippold	Dean	Senior	SM Miego	K.E. Clohecy	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Petterson	Wayne	Junior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	119	Qualifier	Sherraden	Jim	Senior	Salina South	Mike Breakey	4A	Third-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Smith	Kent	Junior	Concordia	Keith Sherwood	3A	Third-Place
1975	119	Qualifier	Soper	David	Junior	Columbus	Jody Thompson	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	126	CHAMPION	Middleton	Levi	Senior	Bonner Springs	Richard Burns	3A	CHAMPION
1975	126	Runner-up	Schmidt	Danny	Junior	Hays TMP	Robert Threlkel	3A	Runner-up

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Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1975	126	Third-Place	Tomes	Jim	Senior	Highland Park	Adrian Fitzmaurice	4A	Runner-up
1975	126	Fourth-Place	Cowen	Tim	Senior	Junction City	Ben Bennett	4A	CHAMPION
1975	126	Qualifier	Duell	Fred	Junior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Third-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Ekey	Charles	Sophomore	Hays	Ken Coover	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Escobar	Bobby	Sophomore	Topeka High	Ray Glaze	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Kleysteuber	Dean	Senior	Garden City	Marvin Landes	4A	Third-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Kraus	Brian	Junior	WaKeeney	Ron Tacha	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	126	Qualifier	Krusen	Jeff	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Third-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Lawler	Rob	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Runner-up
1975	126	Qualifier	Pfizmaier	Greg	Senior	Clay Center	Jerry Fraser	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Schneider	Dwight	Senior	Stockton	Robert Brown	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Smith	Joe	Senior	Wichita West	Greg LaCoss	5A	CHAMPION
1975	126	Qualifier	Tevis	Jeff	Senior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	126	Qualifier	Young	Mark	Junior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	132	CHAMPION	Payne	Greg	Senior	Wichita South	Louis Valadez	5A	CHAMPION
1975	132	Runner-up	Baker	Kirk	Junior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	CHAMPION
1975	132	Third-Place	Allen	Chris	Junior	Arkansas City	Bunt Speer	4A	Runner-up
1975	132	Fourth-Place	Holiwell	Jeff	Senior	Manhattan	Earl Gritton	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Byarley	Dave	Junior	Osborne	J.R. Dumler	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Chavez	Richard	Senior	Wichita West	Greg LaCoss	5A	Runner-up
1975	132	Qualifier	Gawith	Gary	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	132	Qualifier	Hillman	Mark	Senior	Wakeeney	Ron Tacha	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Jones	Terry	Junior	Oakely	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	132	Qualifier	McGrath	Dan	Senior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Runner-up
1975	132	Qualifier	Owens	Pete	Junior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Phillips	Paul	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Third-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Simpson	Kyle	Junior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	CHAMPION
1975	132	Qualifier	Tennal	Cliff	Junior	Winfield	Bill Orth	3A	Third-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Thaw	Don	Senior	Newton	Delbert Erickson	4A	Third-Place
1975	132	Qualifier	Zimmerman	Joe	Senior	Anthony-Harper	Jim Williams	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	138	CHAMPION	Strutt	Darvin	Senior	Oakely	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	138	Runner-up	Washburn	Kevin	Senior	Norton	Jake Durham	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	138	Third-Place	Chamberlain	John	Senior	Baldwin	Ken Jones	2-1A	Third-Place

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Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1975	138	Fourth-Place	Woodruff	Warren	Senior	Topeka High	Ray Glaze	5A	Third-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Benson	Mark	Junior	Dodge City	Rich Wilkinson	4A	CHAMPION
1975	138	Qualifier	Clifton	Scott	Senior	Olathe	Gary Ulmer	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Davis	Eddie	Senior	Bonner Springs	Richard Burns	3A	Third-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Handke	Steve	Junior	Effingham (ACCHS)	Larry Tilton	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Kenney	Mark	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Koehler	Bryan	Junior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	CHAMPION
1975	138	Qualifier	Luttrell	Gordon	Junior	Great Bend	Charley Gowdy	4A	Third-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Mathes	Dana	Senior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	Runner-up
1975	138	Qualifier	Moody	Terry	Junior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	CHAMPION
1975	138	Qualifier	Vaughn	Craig	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Runner-up
1975	138	Qualifier	Walton	Paul	Junior	Atwood	Gus Garcia	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	138	Qualifier	Zirger	Craig	Sophomore	Marysville	Larry Jackson	3A	Runner-up
1975	145	CHAMPION	Amrein	Jeff	Junior	SM Miego	K.E. Clohecy	4A	Third-Place
1975	145	Runner-up	Alstrom	Tom	Junior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	145	Third-Place	Cooper	Randy	Senior	Hoxie	Bill Pickinpaugh	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	145	Fourth-Place	Ruffin	Tim	Senior	SM Northwest	John Reed	5A	Third-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Alley	David	Junior	Douglass	Dan Provence	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Bernhardt	Mark	Senior	Lawrence	Jim Belch	5A	CHAMPION
1975	145	Qualifier	Binns	Tim	Senior	Scott City	Dean Briggs	3A	Runner-up
1975	145	Qualifier	Cirese	Pat	Junior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up
1975	145	Qualifier	Fox	Rocky	Junior	Larned	Greg Newell	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Geist	Mike	Sophomore	Topeka Hayden	Gerald Sadowski	3A	Third-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Goetz	Steve	Senior	Great Bend	Charley Gowdy	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Isenhower	Jerry	Senior	Paola	Dick Gilman	3A	CHAMPION
1975	145	Qualifier	Stueve	Calvin	Senior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	Runner-up
1975	145	Qualifier	Thornburg	Rick	Sophomore	Osborne	J.R. Dumler	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Williams	L.C.	Junior	Topeka High	Ray Glaze	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	145	Qualifier	Witherspoon	Bernard	Senior	Liberal	John Kendall	4A	CHAMPION
1975	155	CHAMPION	Boyle	Bill	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	CHAMPION
1975	155	Runner-up	Schroeder	Gary	Senior	Paola	Dick Gilman	3A	Runner-up
1975	155	Third-Place	Oeser	Roy	Sophomore	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	CHAMPION
1975	155	Fourth-Place	Stueve	Mark	Junior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	CHAMPION

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Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Brown	Ward	Junior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	155	Qualifier	Cox	Jay	Junior	Liberal	John Kendall	4A	Third-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Dearden	Kirk	Junior	Leoti - Wichita County	Doug Lunt	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Gantenbein	Dave	Junior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Hallum	Jack	Senior	Wichita South	Louis Valadez	5A	Runner-up
1975	155	Qualifier	Koehler	Mark	Sophomore	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Markley	Tim	Senior	SM Miege	K.E. Clohecy	4A	Runner-up
1975	155	Qualifier	Reynolds	Tom	Senior	Leavenworth	Gary Rosso	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Schamberger	Dave	Junior	Hoxie	Bill Pickinpaugh	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	155	Qualifier	Schoenborn	Frank	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Third-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Steffens	Phil	Senior	Scott City	Dean Briggs	3A	Third-Place
1975	155	Qualifier	Woods	Richard	Senior	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	167	CHAMPION	Keller	Perry	Senior	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	167	Runner-up	Johnson	Willie	Senior	Wichita North	Roger McCune	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	167	Third-Place	Hunt	Wilbert	Senior	Wichita South	Louis Valadez	5A	CHAMPION
1975	167	Fourth-Place	Laster	Bob	Senior	Junction City	Ben Bennett	4A	Runner-up
1975	167	Qualifier	Anderson	Erik	Senior	Holton	Roger Learning	3A	CHAMPION
1975	167	Qualifier	Baker	Carl	Senior	Anthony-Harper	Jim Williams	3A	Third-Place
1975	167	Qualifier	Brown	Doug	Senior	Manhattan	Earl Gritton	4A	Third-Place
1975	167	Qualifier	Cooper	Lee	Junior	Hoxie	Bill Pickinpaugh	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	167	Qualifier	Doherty	Dennis	Senior	Paola	Dick Gilman	3A	Runner-up
1975	167	Qualifier	Eichman	Duane	Senior	Norton	Jake Durham	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	167	Qualifier	Finney	Eric	Senior	SM East	Bill Atwell	5A	Runner-up
1975	167	Qualifier	Hoover	Scott	Senior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	CHAMPION
1975	167	Qualifier	Kyler	Bud	Senior	Ellsworth	Eldon Friesen	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	167	Qualifier	McGowen	Mark	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	167	Qualifier	Moody	Steve	Senior	Salina Central	Randy Steidle	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	167	Qualifier	Nichols	Red	Sophomore	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	Third-Place
1975	185	CHAMPION	Blackwell	Tim	Senior	Wichita North	Roger McCune	5A	Runner-up
1975	185	Runner-up	Spresser	Ed	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	185	Third-Place	McCoy	Ron	Senior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	CHAMPION
1975	185	Fourth-Place	Harman	Steve	Senior	Garden City	Marvin Landes	4A	Runner-up
1975	185	Qualifier	Carpenter	Ed	Sophomore	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Fourth-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Drennan	David	Junior	Winfield	Bill Orth	3A	CHAMPION
1975	185	Qualifier	Ellis	Paul	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	CHAMPION
1975	185	Qualifier	Fose	John	Senior	Wakeeney	Ron Tacha	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Gibson	Greg	Senior	Manhattan	Earl Gritton	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Korkames	Jesse	Senior	Ottawa	Darrell Bourque	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Madden	Jerry	Senior	Effingham (ACCHS)	Larry Tilton	3A	Runner-up
1975	185	Qualifier	Moser	Monte	Senior	Oakley	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	185	Qualifier	Naccarado	Brad	Senior	Caney Valley	Ross Vander Hamm	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Starr	Tony	Senior	Topeka West	Bill Wilson	4A	Third-Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Wittry	Tom	Senior	Garnett (Anderson County)	Emmitt Omar	3A	Third-Place
1975	185	Qualifier	Wolfenburger	Eric	Sophomore	Hutchinson	Lyle Neville	5A	Third-Place
1975	Heavyweight	CHAMPION	Zuege	Les	Senior	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	CHAMPION
1975	Heavyweight	Runner-up	Lippleman	Jon	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Third-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Third-Place	Cornelius	Terry	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	CHAMPION
1975	Heavyweight	Fourth-Place	Nieman	David	Senior	Effingham (ACCHS)	Larry Tilton	3A	Fourth-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Blue	John	Senior	Wichita South	Louis Valadez	5A	Fourth-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Bradley	Roger	Senior	Lawrence	Jim Belch	5A	Third-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Culbertson	Mike	Junior	Leavenworth	Gary Rosso	4A	Runner-up
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Denner	Dale	Junior	Leon Bluestem	Sam Phillippi	2-1A	Runner-up
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Haugenberry	Ralph	Junior	KC Harmon	John East	4A	Fourth-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Johnson	Mike	Junior	Colby	Jim Lampe	3A	Third-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Johnson	Glenn	Senior	McPherson	Harry Heckethorn	4A	Third-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Kraushaar	Steve	Senior	SE of Saline	Dwight Smith	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Senac	Steve	Senior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	CHAMPION
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Shumaker	David	Senior	Russell	Vick Lyczak	3A	Runner-up
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Tushaus	Kirk	Senior	SM Miego	K.E. Clohecy	4A	CHAMPION
1975	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Zeman	Joe	Junior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up
1976	98	CHAMPION	Frazier	Ken	Sophomore	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	Runner-up
1976	98	Runner-up	Duggan	Keith	Junior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	CHAMPION
1976	98	Third-Place	Holiwell	Dennis	Sophomore	Manhattan	Earl Gritton	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	98	Fourth-Place	Anderson	Larry	Junior	Atwood	Gus Garcia	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	98	Qualifier	Dawson	Scott	Senior	Abilene	Bob Holeman	3A	Runner-up
1976	98	Qualifier	Ekey	Tim	Sophomore	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Fourth-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Evans	Link	Junior	Lyons	Dick Fisher	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Frederickson	Brad	Sophomore	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	98	Qualifier	Howell	Mike	Senior	Olathe	Gary Ulmer	4A	Third-Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Krusen	Kurt	Sophomore	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	CHAMPION
1976	98	Qualifier	LaMarr	Barry	Sophomore	Russell	Vick Lyczak	3A	Third-Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Nail	Dave	Junior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Third-Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Pickinpaugh	Don	Freshman	Hoxie	Rex Mauck	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Pollock	Clyde	Senior	Topeka Seaman	Dennis Switzky	4A	Runner-up
1976	98	Qualifier	Rogers	Tim	Sophomore	Caney Valley	Ross Vander Hamm	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	98	Qualifier	Walker	Mike	Senior	Wellington	Tim Hillman	3A	CHAMPION
1976	105	CHAMPION	Bontz	Martin	Sophomore	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	CHAMPION
1976	105	Runner-up	Frakes	Richard	Sophomore	Douglass	Dan Provence	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	105	Third-Place	Means	Brett	Senior	Goddard	Dale Naden	3A	Runner-up
1976	105	Fourth-Place	Sims	Kelly	Senior	Scott City	Dean Briggs	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Atkinson	Gene	Junior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Third-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Buckbee	Mike	Sophomore	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	Third-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Crowley	Glen	Junior	Leoti - Wichita County	Doug Lunt	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	105	Qualifier	Green	Dave	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up
1976	105	Qualifier	Hale	Mike	Senior	Lawrence	Jim Beltch	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Herman	Dennis	Junior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	CHAMPION
1976	105	Qualifier	Murray	Ron	Senior	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Parson	Larry	Sophomore	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Richards	Mark	Junior	Wichita South	Steve Anderson	5A	CHAMPION
1976	105	Qualifier	Schiffelbein	Tim	Junior	Garden City	Marvin Landes	4A	Runner-up
1976	105	Qualifier	Seaton	Jerry	Sophomore	Bonner Springs	Richard Burns	3A	Third-Place
1976	105	Qualifier	Smith	Mark	Senior	Topeka West	Bill Wilson	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	112	CHAMPION	Tolbert	Herbert	Junior	Newton	Delbert Erickson	4A	CHAMPION
1976	112	Runner-up	Rudolph	Tim	Junior	Junction City	Ben Bennett	4A	Runner-up
1976	112	Third-Place	Buckner	Terry	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	CHAMPION
1976	112	Fourth-Place	Wright	Jason	Senior	Ellsworth	Eldon Friesen	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	112	Qualifier	Compton	Mike	Junior	Kinsley	Lee Martin	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	112	Qualifier	Garcia	Ernie	Junior	Ulysses	Tom Coons	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Hewitt	Kevin	Sophomore	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Kercher	Ed	Junior	Wichita Campus	Robert Williams	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Lasher	Dana	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Runner-up
1976	112	Qualifier	Lent	John	Junior	Wichita North	Roger McCune	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Lollar	Jack	Junior	Scott City	Dean Briggs	3A	CHAMPION
1976	112	Qualifier	Means	Brad	Junior	Goddard	Dale Naden	3A	Third-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Newell	Dave	Junior	Norton	Jake Durham	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Olivarez	Joey	Junior	Dodge City	Rich Wilkinson	4A	Third-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Smith	Steve	Junior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Third-Place
1976	112	Qualifier	Wilson	Mike	Senior	Marysville	Larry Jackson	3A	Runner-up
1976	119	CHAMPION	Smith	Kent	Senior	Concordia	Keith Sherwood	3A	Third-Place
1976	119	Runner-up	Messersmith	Guy	Senior	Coffeyville	Gary Blosser	4A	Runner-up
1976	119	Third-Place	Hershberger	Eric	Sophomore	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	119	Fourth-Place	Petterson	Wayne	Senior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	119	Qualifier	Bahe	Randy	Senior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Runner-up
1976	119	Qualifier	Boyd	Jim	Senior	Marysville	Larry Jackson	3A	CHAMPION
1976	119	Qualifier	Davies	Scott	Senior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	Third-Place
1976	119	Qualifier	Edwards	Eldon	Junior	Wichita North	Roger McCune	5A	CHAMPION
1976	119	Qualifier	Grady	Dale	Sophomore	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	119	Qualifier	Kunkel	Mark	Senior	Douglas	Dan Provence	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	119	Qualifier	Kuse	Mark	Junior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Third-Place
1976	119	Qualifier	Olson	Karl	Senior	Junction City	Ben Bennett	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	119	Qualifier	Peck	Allan	Senior	McPherson	Harry Heckethorn	4A	CHAMPION
1976	119	Qualifier	Richard	Mark	Senior	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	119	Qualifier	Sheets	Jeff	Junior	Linwood	Dan Easter	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	119	Qualifier	Sutington	Anderson	Senior	KC Wyandotte	Richard Howe	5A	Runner-up
1976	126	CHAMPION	Schmidt	Danny	Senior	Hays TMP	Robert Threlkel	3A	CHAMPION
1976	126	Runner-up	Bontz	Lindon	Senior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Runner-up
1976	126	Third-Place	Garcia	Mike	Junior	Newton	Delbert Erickson	4A	CHAMPION
1976	126	Fourth-Place	Young	Mark	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	126	Qualifier	Cahoj	Rory	Sophomore	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	126	Qualifier	Gallegoes	Ralph	Sophomore	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Parson	Jerry	Junior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Patry	Don	Junior	Wichita Carroll	Tony Hagar	4A	Fourth-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Rice	Keith	Junior	Topeka High	Jerry Skakal	5A	Runner-up
1976	126	Qualifier	Roberts	Clyde	Junior	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Schwindt	Tim	Sophomore	El Dorado	Dean Roedel	3A	Third-Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Simpson	Wayne	Junior	Great Bend	Charley Gowdy	4A	Runner-up
1976	126	Qualifier	Swander	John	Senior	SM North	Jack Prall	5A	CHAMPION
1976	126	Qualifier	Valdez	Gary	Sophomore	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Third-Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Weaver	Jeff	Junior	Salina South	Mike Breakley	4A	Third-Place
1976	126	Qualifier	Winter	Dave	Senior	Hoxie	Rex Mauck	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	132	CHAMPION	Baker	Kirk	Senior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Runner-up
1976	132	Runner-up	Hershberger	Kendall	Senior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	CHAMPION
1976	132	Third-Place	Larson	Tim	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up
1976	132	Fourth-Place	Reuber	Dave	Senior	Atwood	Gus Garcia	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Ashpole	Keith	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Third-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Barnes	Bruce	Senior	Newton	Delbert Erickson	4A	CHAMPION
1976	132	Qualifier	Hewitt	Greg	Senior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Hoffman	Greg	Senior	Chapman	Rod Morgan	3A	Third-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Jones	Terry	Senior	Oakely	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	132	Qualifier	Kraus	Brian	Senior	WaKeeney	Ron Tacha	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	132	Qualifier	Maag	Randy	Junior	Salina Central	Randy Steidle	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Peck	Steve	Sophomore	McPherson	Harry Heckethorn	4A	Third-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Schmidt	Dan	Senior	Hays	Bob Kuhn	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Toney	Mike	Sophomore	Coffeyville	Gary Blosser	4A	Runner-up
1976	132	Qualifier	Twist	John	Sophomore	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	132	Qualifier	Williams	Reggie	Senior	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	CHAMPION
1976	138	CHAMPION	Duell	Fred	Senior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	CHAMPION
1976	138	Runner-up	McAtee	Larry	Senior	Colby	Gary Wilson	3A	Runner-up
1976	138	Third-Place	Simpson	Kyle	Senior	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	CHAMPION
1976	138	Fourth-Place	McDaniel	Bob	Junior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	138	Qualifier	Allen	Chris	Senior	Arkansas City	Bunt Speer	4A	Runner-up
1976	138	Qualifier	Bobbs	John	Junior	Liberal	John Kendall	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	138	Qualifier	Eck	Urban	Senior	Wichita Carroll	Tony Hagar	4A	Third-Place
1976	138	Qualifier	Ekey	Charles	Junior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	CHAMPION
1976	138	Qualifier	Gienger	Kelly	Sophomore	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	Third-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1976	138	Qualifier	Goff	Jim	Senior	Topeka High	Jerry Skakal	5A	Third-Place
1976	138	Qualifier	Hamilton	Jeff	Senior	Concordia	Keith Sherwood	3A	Third-Place
1976	138	Qualifier	Hill	Rod	Junior	Wamego	Dwight Hemmerling	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	138	Qualifier	McClellan	Vince	Senior	Leon Bluestem	Terry Alley	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	138	Qualifier	Owens	Pete	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up
1976	138	Qualifier	Walton	Paul	Senior	Atwood	Gus Garcia	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	138	Qualifier	Wiseman	Lynn	Junior	Hutchinson	Lyle Neville	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	145	CHAMPION	Alstrom	Tom	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	145	Runner-up	Geist	Mike	Junior	Topeka Hayden	Gerald Sadowski	3A	CHAMPION
1976	145	Third-Place	Hess	Scott	Senior	SM Northwest	John Reed	5A	Runner-up
1976	145	Fourth-Place	Butters	Jim	Senior	Winfield	Vernon Goertz	4A	Third-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Abrams	Steve	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Cooper	Lee	Senior	Hoxie	Rex Mauck	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	145	Qualifier	Gravely	Gil	Senior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	Runner-up
1976	145	Qualifier	Hall	Rex	Junior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	Runner-up
1976	145	Qualifier	Hardin	Jim	Senior	Oakely	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Kingsley	Todd	Senior	Leon Bluestem	Terry Alley	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Laschen	Scott	Sophomore	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	CHAMPION
1976	145	Qualifier	Long	Burt	Senior	El Dorado	Dean Roedel	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Luttrell	Gordon	Senior	Great Bend	Charley Gowdy	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Moody	Terry	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Third-Place
1976	145	Qualifier	Spencer	Bob	Junior	Wichita Carroll	Tony Hagar	4A	CHAMPION
1976	145	Qualifier	Wedman	Jeff	Senior	Chaparral	Jim Williams	3A	Third-Place
1976	155	CHAMPION	Stueve	Mark	Senior	Emporia	Pat Sands	4A	CHAMPION
1976	155	Runner-up	Alley	David	Senior	Douglass	Dan Provence	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	155	Third-Place	Fox	Rocky	Senior	Larned	Greg Newell	3A	CHAMPION
1976	155	Fourth-Place	Thornburg	Rick	Junior	Osborne	J.R. Dumlir	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	155	Qualifier	Amrein	Jeff	Senior	SM Miego	Dale Niehus	4A	Runner-up
1976	155	Qualifier	Bell	Gary	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Runner-up
1976	155	Qualifier	Benton	Gary	Senior	Arkansas City	Bunt Speer	4A	Third-Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Brown	Ward	Senior	Oberlin	Gordon Matson	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Gantenbein	Dave	Senior	Beloit	Ken Piazza	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Holcomb	Doug	Sophomore	Derby	Jim Noel	4A	Fourth-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Koehler	Mark	Junior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Runner-up
1976	155	Qualifier	Laschen	Jay	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Nichols	Red	Junior	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	CHAMPION
1976	155	Qualifier	Taliferro	Keith	Senior	Effingham (ACCHS)	Larry Tilton	3A	Third-Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Taylor	Harry	Senior	Colby	Gary Wilson	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	155	Qualifier	Wingfield	Andy	Senior	SM East	Bill Atwell	5A	Third-Place
1976	167	CHAMPION	Oeser	Roy	Junior	Kapaun Mt. Carmel	Duwane Miller	3A	CHAMPION
1976	167	Runner-up	Schamberger	Dave	Senior	Hoxie	Rex Mauck	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	167	Third-Place	Robinson	Dave	Senior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Third-Place
1976	167	Fourth-Place	Harding	Ron	Senior	Topeka West	Bill Wilson	4A	Runner-up
1976	167	Qualifier	Barger	Jan	Junior	Great Bend	Charley Gowdy	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	167	Qualifier	Barnhart	Dan	Senior	St. Francis	Larry Gabel	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	167	Qualifier	Bumpers	David	Junior	Wichita East	Ken Spicher	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	167	Qualifier	Cherry	Robin	Senior	Hutchinson	Lyle Neville	5A	CHAMPION
1976	167	Qualifier	Eartherly	Bob	Senior	Garden City	Marvin Landes	4A	Third-Place
1976	167	Qualifier	Farber	Curt	Senior	Norton	Jake Durham	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	167	Qualifier	Nelson	Shawn	Junior	Oakley	Dale Samuelson	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	167	Qualifier	Oswald	Cliff	Senior	Effingham (ACCHS)	Larry Tilton	3A	Third-Place
1976	167	Qualifier	Phillips	Ed	Senior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Runner-up
1976	167	Qualifier	Raymond	Mitch	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Runner-up
1976	167	Qualifier	Seiler	Rick	Sophomore	Wichita Carroll	Tony Hagar	4A	CHAMPION
1976	167	Qualifier	Sinnett	Jay	Senior	Pratt	Kurt Heaton	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	185	CHAMPION	Madden	Henry	Junior	Effingham (ACCHS)	Larry Tilton	3A	CHAMPION
1976	185	Runner-up	Drennan	David	Senior	Winfield	Vernon Goertz	4A	CHAMPION
1976	185	Third-Place	Schippers	Dave	Senior	Hoxie	Rex Mauck	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	185	Fourth-Place	Sexton	Greg	Senior	Chapman	Rod Morgan	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Carpenter	Ed	Junior	SM West	Darol Rodrock	5A	Runner-up
1976	185	Qualifier	Eggers	Bob	Junior	Stockton	Robert Brown	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	185	Qualifier	Erbert	Steve	Junior	Ellis	Stan Faulkender	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Haney	Gary	Senior	Spring Hill	Harold Montgomery	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Irons	L.J.	Senior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Runner-up
1976	185	Qualifier	Keller	Mike	Senior	Salina Central	Randy Steidle	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Marks	Paul	Senior	Lawrence	Jim Belch	5A	Third-Place

APPENDIX A

Complete List of Grand State Participants - 1975 and 1976

Year	Weight	Grand State Place	Last	First	Grade	School	Head Coach	Classification	Class State Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Redingshafer	Chris	Senior	SM Miege	Dale Niehus	4A	Runner-up
1976	185	Qualifier	Shearburn	Tony	Junior	El Dorado	Dean Roedel	3A	Third-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Tipton	Jeff	Senior	Arkansas City	Bunt Speer	4A	Third-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Wilson	Rick	Senior	KC Wyandotte	Richard Howe	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	185	Qualifier	Woods	Charles	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	CHAMPION
1976	Heavyweight	CHAMPION	Culbertson	Mike	Senior	Leavenworth	Gary Rosso	4A	Third-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Runner-up	Guilfoyle	Steve	Senior	Ellsworth	Eldon Friesen	2-1A	Runner-up
1976	Heavyweight	Third-Place	Denner	Dale	Senior	Leon Bluestem	Terry Alley	2-1A	CHAMPION
1976	Heavyweight	Fourth-Place	Williams	Mike	Senior	Wichita Heights	Dee Gard	5A	Fourth-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Archer	Lee	Junior	SM North	Jack Prall	5A	CHAMPION
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Bieberle	Jim	Junior	Great Bend	Charley Gowdy	4A	Runner-up
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Haugenberry	Ralph	Senior	KC Harmon	John East	4A	Fourth-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Johnson	Mike	Senior	Colby	Gary Wilson	3A	CHAMPION
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Johnson	Dean	Senior	Eudora	George Abel	2-1A	Fourth-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	King	Shawn	Junior	Goddard	Dale Naden	3A	Third-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Queen	Lee	Junior	Lawrence	Jim Beltch	5A	Third-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Randolph	Craig	Junior	Goodland	Wallace Welton	3A	Fourth-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Sauer	Bruce	Junior	Seneca Nemaha Valley	Rodney Spellman	2-1A	Third-Place
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Sexton	Steve	Senior	Abilene	Bob Holeman	3A	Runner-up
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Stewart	Malcom	Senior	Salina Central	Randy Steinle	4A	CHAMPION
1976	Heavyweight	Qualifier	Zeman	Joe	Senior	SM South	Guy Malone	5A	Runner-up

APPENDIX E

Grand State Project Interview Participants

View the interviews on the Grand State Wrestling YouTube Channel at “KS Grand State Wrestling”



Ken Thomas

Ken Thomas led the Jackson Heights Cobras to the 1976 Grand State championship in girls basketball. The Class A school had a total enrollment of 104 students at the time.



Kirk Baker

Kirk Baker is one of the most decorated wrestlers in Kansas high school history with appearances in four Class 2-1A championship matches in addition to two Grand State finals representing Goodland High School. He won three class titles and the 1976 Grand State gold.

Baker went on to a hall of fame coach at Hoxie, where he accumulated seven State Championships.



Dee Gard

Dee Gard coached at Wichita Heights after graduating from Goodland High, where he was a State champion and K-State, where he was a two-time NCAA qualifier.

Gard led Heights to two State titles. He brought a record eleven wrestlers to the 1976 Grand State tournament.

He left coaching to go into school administration but continued to serve the sport as an official for many years.



Lindon Bontz

Lindon Bontz was part of the Kapaun Mt. Carmel dynasty under the direction of coach Duwane Miller. He was runner-up in both the 1975 and 1976 Grand State tournaments. He is one of only five individuals to have made the finals both years of Grand State.

APPENDIX E

Grand State Project Interview Participants



Rick Peterson

Rick Peterson was with the *Topeka Capital-Journal* for many years, starting his career just years after the Grand State era. He has a unique and valuable perspective on Grand State and how the media viewed it.

Peterson is now with TOP Sports, which he helped establish. TOP Sports is a social media sports reporting company.



Kendall Hershberger

Kendall Hershberger won a Grand State title in 1975 and finished as runner-up a year later. He was part of the Kapaun dynasty under Duwane Miller.



Brett Means

In 2025 Goddard's Brett Means tied Ark City's Wayne Jackson with his thirteenth State team title. The two are the all-time leaders in Kansas for an individual wrestling coach.

Means finished as Grand State runner-up for Goddard as a junior in 1975 and finished in third-place in 1976.

After high school, Means was the first junior college All-American for Labette Community College and went on to become an NCAA DII All-American for Southern Illinois University.



Tom Alstrom

Tom Alstrom is a rare two-time Grand State finalist. He won the title in 1976 after finishing as runner-up in '75 while competing for Oberlin.

Alstrom went on the compete collegiately for Northern Colorado. He became a teacher and coach before a long and distinguished career as a principal and superintendent in Kansas.

APPENDIX E

Grand State Project Interview Participants



Eldon Zimbelman

After forty-two years as a wrestling official, Eldon Zimbelman retired. He worked many state tournaments and high-level college duals, tournaments and national events. His many awards included induction to the KWCA, NFHS, and NWHOF halls of fame. Zimbelman is one of only two officials to have worked both Grand State tournaments.



Jeff Amrein

Jeff Amrein was one of only three Grand State champions that did not make the finals in their individual state tournaments. He won the 145-pound Grand State title in 1975 representing Bishop Meige High School, where he was a two-time 4A state medalist, finishing in third-place in 1975 and as runner-up in 1976. An injury prevented him from competing in the '76 Grand State tournament.



Danny Schmidt

Danny Schmidt made the Grand State finals in both 1975 and 1976, winning the title as a senior in '76. He went on to compete for Colby Community College and Ft. Hays State University before an outstanding career as a teacher and coach in both wrestling and track and field.

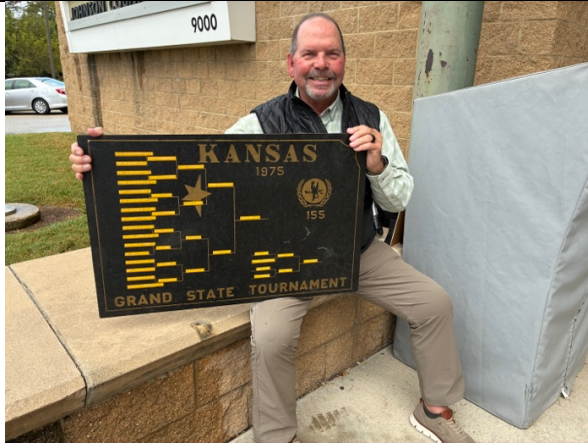


Perry Keller

Perry Keller is one of the greats from the storied St. Francis program. He was Grand State champion in 1975 and went on to a successful college career at Colby Community College and Northern Colorado.

APPENDIX E

Grand State Project Interview Participants



Bill Boyle

Bill Boyle won two 5A state titles and was part of the only state championship team in Shawnee Mission West history in 1974. In 1975, he won Grand State. In the semifinals he earned a historic referee's decision win when he defeated Roy Oeser of Kapaun Mt. Carmel, who became the second four-time state champion in Kansas history in 1977. Oeser also won Grand State in 1976.



Doug Duell

Doug Duell... Kansas wrestling royalty. The first four-time state wrestling champion in the history of the state. By winning the 1975 Grand State title the week after his fourth 3A state title, Duell became a five-time state champion. He went on to compete at Oklahoma State and had a hall of fame career as a coach at Burlington High School in Colorado.



A special thank-you to the following individuals for providing their insight and primary-source points-of-view to this project. Their thoughts not only provided flavor and detail but is an important part of the history that would have otherwise been lost to the ages. Thank you!

Last	First	Connection to the Grand State story
Charbonneau	Dennis	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic participant, Clay Center. Hall of Fame coach.
Coover	Ken	Kansas Kids director, helped establish the Sunflower Wrestling Classic
Dale	Jerry	1982 Sunflower Wrestling Classic participant, Arkansas City
DeLeon	Bobby	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic runner-up, Leoti
Douglas	Melvin	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic runner-up, Topeka-Highland Park. Three-time state champion, two-time NCAA champion, World Champion, two-time Olympian.
Duell	Fred	1976 Grand State champion. One-half of the only brother combination to have won Grand State titles (Doug, 1975). Two-time NCAA Qualifier for Oklahoma State.
Fraser	Jerry	Clay Center head coach for nineteen years, 1981 4A state champions
Jackson	Wayne	Arkansas City head coach starting in 1978 (24 seasons, 13 state titles)
Johnson	Billy	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic participant, Flint Hills High School. NAIA national champion for Ft. Hays State. Coached Norton to eleven state titles
Johnson	Eric	Author of the Kansas All-Class rankings since 2007
Klemm	Kevin	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic third-place finisher, SM West
Koehler	Matt	Brother of 1981 Sunflower Wrestling Champion, Eric (Nemiah Valley)
Lippleman	Jon	1975 Grand State runner-up from Oberlin. Hall of Fame coach (Scott City)
Miller	Les	1982 Sunflower Wrestling Classic champion for Ark City
Nave	Stevan	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic champion, 1982 runner-up (Coffeyville)
Neumann	Tim	University of Nebraska head coach, 1985-2000. Assistant coach, 1983-85
Petterson	Wayne	Head coach at Fort Hays State University from 1982-1992. Beloit native.
Ray	David	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic champion, Goddard
Rios	Joel	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic champion, Emporia
Rochholz	David	Kansas high school coach, Ft. Hays State assistant coach, Team Kansas coach during the Grand State/Sunflower Wrestling Classic era.
Spellman	Rod	Coached Eric Koehler as a freshman and at the 1981 Classic
Sporer	Troy	1981 Sunflower Wrestling Classic runner-up, Oakley
Tennal	Kimbrook	High school coach of 1981 SWC champion, Eric Koehler
Treaster	Matt	4X state champion, member of 1981 and 1982 state champion teams, Beloit