

Key Standard July 16, 1990

'Foster Story' cast members make 1,500 performance club

This year marks the 18th season for six cast members of *The Stephen Foster Story*.

Veterans of the 1,500 performance club are: Jim Barnard, David Hedrick, Sharon and David Brown, Bill Murtland and Wilma Wilson. Orville Williams, also a member of the 1,500 performance club, is in his 20th season.

Jim Barnard of Elizabethtown, plays Dudley Morton, Stephen Foster's rival for the hand of Jane McDowell. A middle school music teacher, Barnard is co-founder and the director of the Elizabethtown Baroque Ensemble.

William B. Foster is played by David Hedrick. Employed by the Shelby County Board of Education, Hedrick is a published arranger, has soloed with and arranged music for the Lexington Singers, and soloed with members of the Dallas Symphony and Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra.

Sharon Lawrence Brown is on the music faculty at Indiana University southeast, where she teaches voice and is conductor of the concert choir. Brown performs in the role of Rebecca Rowan.

Musical director David Brown is in his sixth year as conductor, although he has been both a performer and/or conductor. Since 1978, he has been the chairman of the Choral Music Department of the Youth Performing Arts School, and also serves as the director of music at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Louisville.

Henry Kleber, Stephen Foster's music teacher and friend, is played by Bill Murtland. He has performed in and choreographed shows for the Camelot Dinner Theatre, Weirton, W.Va., and taught dance at the University of Steubenville. He was an original cast member of *Chinese Boxes* at Towngate Theatre in Wheeling, W.Va.

Orville Williams can be seen as Gottlieb Igoe, a Pittsburgh businessman interested in making lots of money.



These *Stephen Foster Story* performers are members of the 1,500 performance club. In the front row are: Wilma Wilson and Sharon Lawrence Brown. In the second row are: Orville (Bud) Williams Jr., Bill Murtland, David Hedrick, Jim Barnard and David Brown.

Williams attended Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh, and Tarkio College in Tarkio, Mo. since 1957, he has lived in Louisville and taught history at Seneca High School, where he also serves as senior play music director and wrestling coach. At present, he is minister of music at First Baptist Church in New Albany, Ind.

Mattie McDowell is once again played by Wilma Wilson. A former member of the Louis-

ville Bach Society, she sings at Calvary Episcopal Church. She is employed as a music consultant with Macmillan/McGraw Hill Publishing Co.

The Stephen Foster Story plays nightly except Monday through Sept. 2 at 8:30. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Group reservations are also available. For more information call 348-5971.

*Had to throw in some
Foster stuff!*

Seneca's Williams helping make high school wrestling grow

It may not be too tactful to compare the growth of high school wrestling in Kentucky with Orville Williams' waistline but the temptation to make the comparison is almost too much to resist.

Williams could be legitimately titled "Mr. Wrestling" in Kentucky for the part he has played in building it from a starveling ten years ago to a healthy child that is outgrowing its present home. Williams was the "lightest man on the team" at 170 pounds when he played football at Tarkio, Mo., College. That was 15 years ago and 70 pounds ago.

"When we first started the wrestling tournament it was an invitational affair and there were something like seven schools represented, as I recall," Williams said yesterday. "It was two years before the Kentucky High School Athletic Association sanctioned us. Now there'll be 112 kids in the state meet this weekend and there were more than 50 wrestling teams. We've got to find new quarters for the state meet next year."

Williams will be wearing two hats when the 11th annual state meet begins at 9:30 tomorrow morning at Seneca High. First, he is serving as the meet manager, and as coach of the Seneca entry, he has one of the top groups in the competition. His Redskin rasslers won six of the 12 weight divisions in last week's Central-Jefferson County regional meet as well as winning the team title.

Williams had done some wrestling in high school in western Pennsylvania when Ken Farmer, then Seneca principal, sent out an SOS for a wrestling coach in 1962. "Some of the kids at Seneca had cousins who were wrestling at New Albany High School and wondered why Seneca couldn't have a team. When Mr. Farmer found out I had some experience, I was it. In Pennsylvania wrestling outdraws high school basketball, that's how popular it is."

Williams, who has served as chairman of the KHSAA wrestling committee for many years, derives great satisfaction from wrestling for one particular reason. "You can take almost any kid and make a wrestler of him if he works at it," he pointed out. "You don't need to be tall as in basketball or physically big as in football. You can wrestle even with a handicap. MMI had a boy one year who wrestled with a brace on one leg—he had had polio as a youngster. And we were in a tournament in Indiana a couple of years ago where a boy with only one leg wrestled."

Williams is quick to point out that wrestling was third in revenue produced by KHSAA sports last year. "Only basketball and football produced more money for the KHSAA," he noted. "It cost the association only \$213.98 to put on the regional and state tournaments last year." By contrast, the KHSAA paid out \$20,069.71 for the state track meet and \$6,205.22 for the baseball tournament. The state tennis meet cost \$4,542.43, the state swimming meet \$5,605.44 and the state cross-country meet \$2,905.43.

"We're going to have to find another

place for next year but I don't know where," Williams said. "Convention Center costs too much. Maybe Bellarmine would be available."

Three defending state champions will be trying for repeats.—Flaget's Chester Massie in the 112-pound class, Ft. Campbell's Alan Boyd in the 119-pound division and Waggener's Arthur Noonan. The latter won at 185 pounds last year.



**ORVILLE
WILLIAMS**

Says 192 kids will compete

but is competing in the 167-pound class this year.

Eliminations for the 192 entrants who won their way into the state meet with first or second place regional finishes will begin at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow and continue with an evening session at 7:30. Semifinals will begin at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, the consolation at 6:30 p.m. and the finals at 8 p.m.

Previous state champions:

1964—Ahrens; 1965—Ahrens; 1966—Kentucky School for the Blind; 1967—Newport Catholic; 1968—North Hardin; 1969—North Hardin; 1970—Woodford County; 1971—Ft. Campbell.

With the season fast approaching its conclusion, Dr. Litkenhous holds a four-game edge over the Times panel in picking high school basketball games. Dr. Litkenhous is averaging .853 with 141 correct predictions in 177 tries. The Times Consensus weighs in at .774, hitting on 137 of 177 forecasts. The Times' pickers won't gain any ground in tonight's only game, Eastern High at Seneca (8 p.m.). The Litratings pick Eastern (rating of 80.3) over Seneca (70.5) by ten points. The Times gives Eastern a six-point edge.

Bishop David has a top-notch jayvee team to go with its fine freshman team; coach Dan King is quick to point out.

"They're 13-3 now," King noted. The starters are Mark Kemper, Rick Hayden, Tony Simpson, Kevin Shircliff and Mark Selent, who also doubles with the freshmen. . . . Former Atherton tackle Scott Duke has transferred from Alabama to Kentucky, where he is being converted to an offensive guard. . . . Ballard lost a first-rate swimmer for the state meet when Nancy Nesbitt ran into a wall while practicing with the 880-yard relay team for the Mason-Dixon Games and broke a wrist.

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Boyle County's Denny Belcher has the upper hand on Chris Heavrin of St. Xavier in their first round match in the Kentucky State High School

Wrestling Tournament last night at the Atherton. Heavrin won 8-2, then went on to win a quarter

Eastern, Boone County early leaders

State wrestling officials eye expansion

By BOB WHITE

Courier-Journal & Times Staff Writer

The format for the State High School Wrestling Tournament may change before the 1980 meet gets under way, Orville Williams said yesterday while overseeing the 16th annual affair at Atherton's gym.

Williams, the coach at Seneca since 1958, is the father of high school wrestling in Kentucky. He helped start the first state meet and he will have a say on what changes are made, if any, for next year.

Up for consideration by the wrestling committee are two recommendations.

"One suggestion is to have a 32-team format in each weight division," Williams said. "That would double what we have now."

Currently, the winner and runner-up from each of the eight regions advance to the State Tournament, giving the finals a 16-team bracket in each of the 12 weight classes.

"We're taking a look at several different formats for next year," Williams said. "We could follow what Minnesota does. And that is to have the top two teams from each region advance to the state and wrestle other teams head-on. There would be a separate tournament for individuals and we would declare both team and individual champions.

"Each team would bring 15 kids and we would get a true team champion this way," Williams said.

Expanding the State Tournament has its drawbacks, though.

"There is no high school gym in Jefferson County that seats 5-6,000 people," Williams said. "That's our problem. If we went to the Fairgrounds, they would charge a large fee each day and we can't afford that. The Broadbent Arena there seats 8,000, but there are no dressing facilities.

"If we bring in more teams, we'd have to go to a bigger gym," Williams said. "We'd need more than three mats. You can see we can't get more than three mats in here (at Atherton) unless we pushed back the stands."

Then where would the people sit? Although the snow cut down on the crowd, there were around 2,000 fans at last night's quarter-final session. The

finals, set for 7 o'clock tonight, have attracted a full house of 2,500 the last two years.

Atherton charges no rent for the two-day use of its gym. "Atherton makes its money off the concession stands," Williams said.

A 32-team format or adoption of the Minnesota plan would add an extra day to the State Tournament schedule. "We probably would start on Thursday night," Williams said. "Another thing we have to look at is weight certification. We have to control that so that the kids won't be abused."

Another matter being considered is clinics to train referees.

Unlike fans and participants at basketball games, wrestlers and their fans don't yell at referees during matches.

"There are not as many arm-chair authorities in wrestling," Williams said with a grin. "As a whole, these are good people to work with — the coaches, kids and parents."

This is the 16th State Tournament sanctioned by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. "We might have had two tournaments that weren't sanctioned," Williams said. "I've managed them all, but Gene Minton (the Atherton athletic director) and I co-manage it now. It's gotten so big. He runs the business end and I manage the floor."

Wrestling has grown during Williams' tenure.

"There were only seven teams in the whole state when we had our first State Tournament," Williams said. "Kentucky School for The Blind was one of the original schools. So were Seneca, Fern Creek, Bardstown St. Joe and MMI (Millersburg Military Institute). I can't remember all even.

"But the tournament was not sanctioned by the state or the county," he said. "We called ourselves a wrestling club."

Now, 49 high schools are represented at this year's State Tournament, and there are 70 schools with wrestling teams throughout the state.

"We pick up a few and lose a few each year," Williams said. "Male dropped the sport this year, but Atherton and Thomas Jefferson started teams.

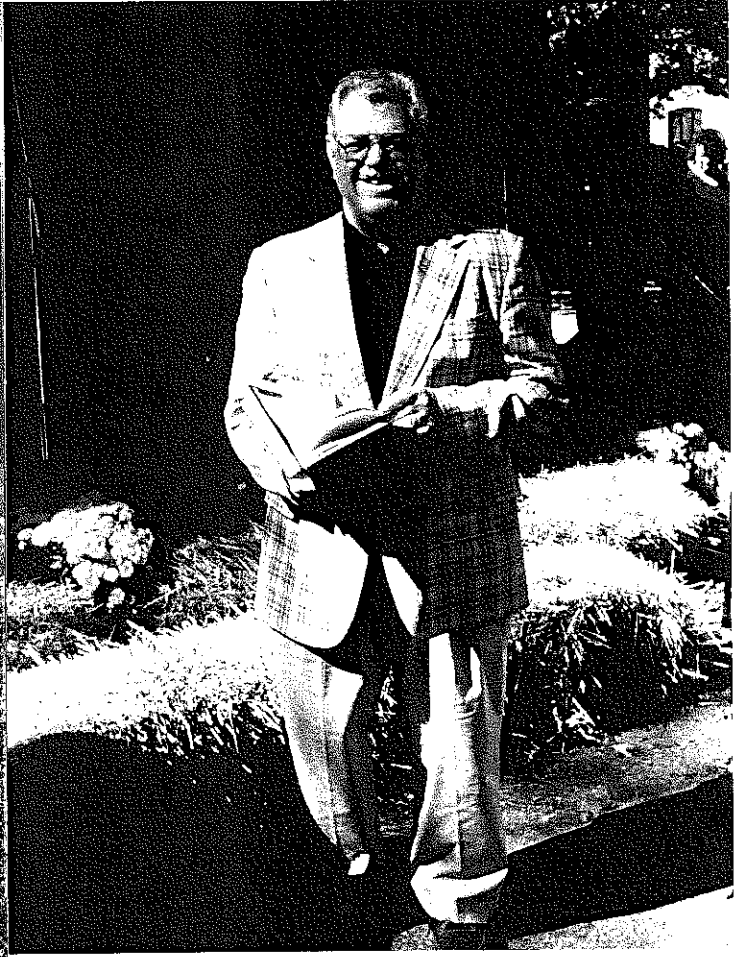
"We seem to be stuck around the 70 mark," Williams said. "We can't get over the hump. But money is tight in high school athletics right now. That's why there are not more teams."

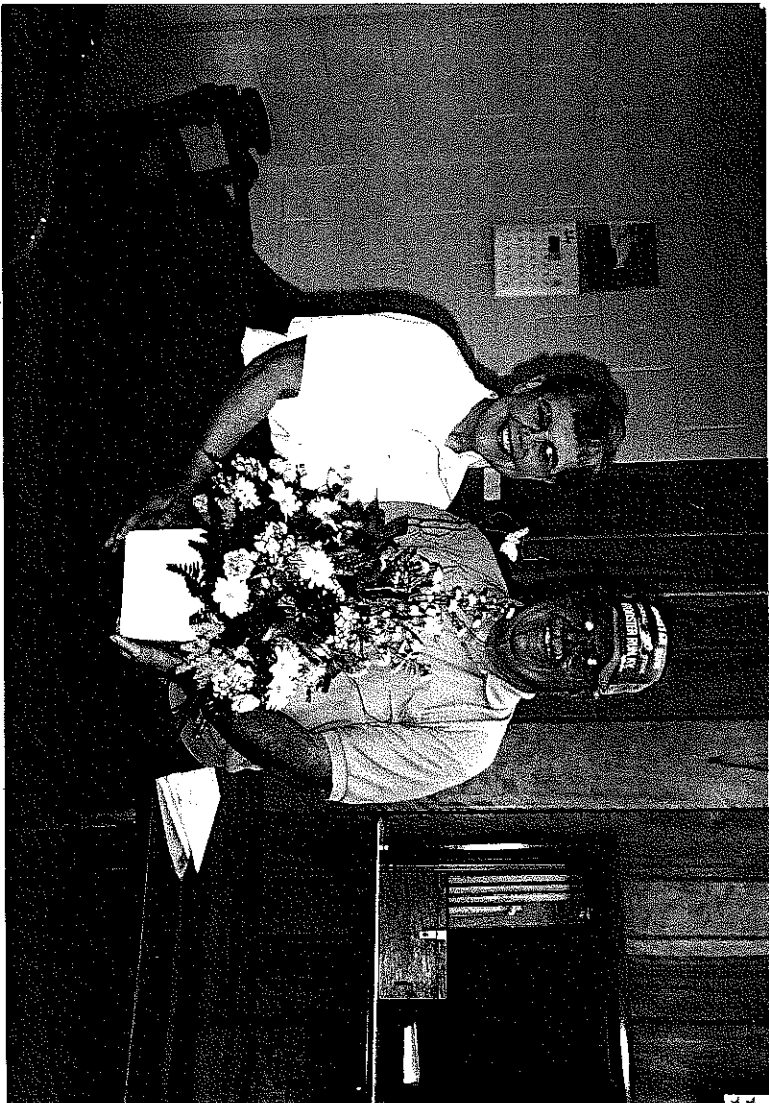
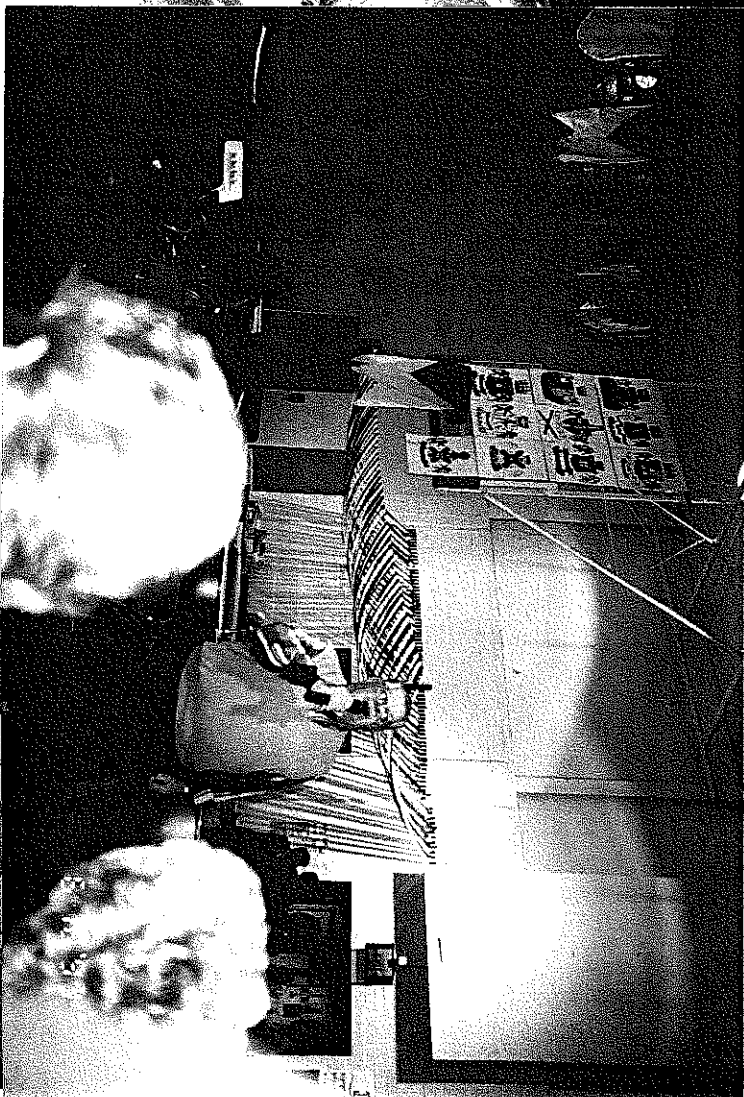
The most expensive buyout was for the 1977-78 season. "That one I bought for \$3,200 seven years ago," Williams said, pointing to the original schools. "That one in Ridge Park's a \$5,000," Williams said.

Eastern, Boone County early leaders since Fern Creek tournament with this morning's and second-place teams throughout the state.

Trinity, with Larry Gibson win his quarter Willis of Christ place with 26 p one point late tied the match overtime. Trinity

uals for the ser





SPORTS/RECREATION

Wrestling

With budget cuts

Bud Williams faces saying farewell

to sport he brought the county

By JOYCE DEHLI
Special Writer

When Orville "Bud" Williams arrived at Seneca High School 23 years ago to teach history, there was no wrestling program.

It was a shock for the native of Pennsylvania — where, he said, wrestling drew bigger crowds than basketball.

So he did something about it.

Within two years, Williams established the first high school wrestling club in Jefferson County.

He also started the Seneca Wrestling Invitational tournament.

By 1964, that tournament had become the state wrestling championship, and was being conducted by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association.

And at last month's state tournament, the association gave Williams, who is Seneca's head coach and chairman of the state wrestling committee, an award for 21 years of service.

"When I came here, if you couldn't

drabble it, they didn't know anything about it," said Williams.

"It was hard to get used to basketball just dominating everything else here.

"Now, I live with it." Ironically, Williams now faces the possibility that, once again, there might not be wrestling in high schools. The Jefferson County Board of Education may include wrestling in its athletic budget cuts.

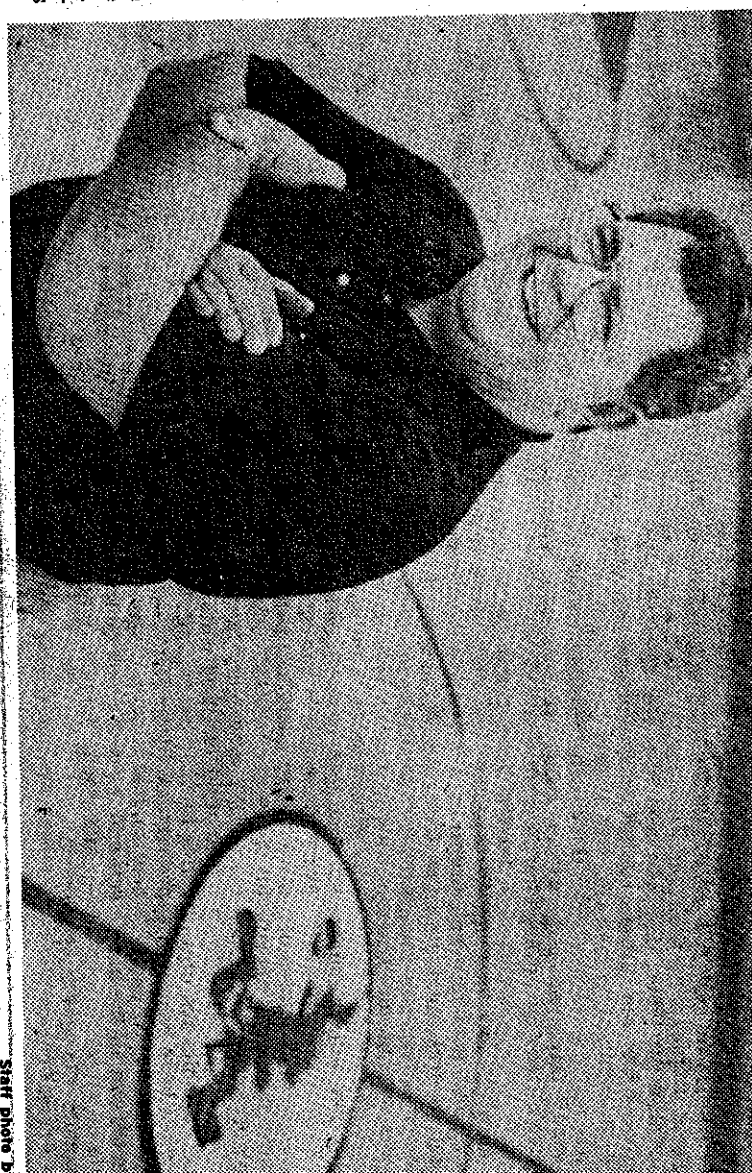
But whatever happens, Williams, 46, won't be without things to do.

Williams, of 6306 S. Watterson Trail, is a world history teacher and chairman of the social studies department at Seneca.

As such, he advises his students to do as the Renaissance man did: "Diversify your interests."

And he's a living example. Williams, his wife, Betty, and his four children — ages 18 to 24 — work on a variety of projects.

Last summer his son Bill joined him in Bardtown's annual production of "The Stephen Foster Story." For eight years, Williams has portrayed Stephen



Staff photo by

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association honored Orville "Bud" Williams for Seneca's wrestling coach. He began the school's wrestling program and the state-

Foster's employer, a singing and acting part he calls "a lot of fun."

He also directs the chorus and the vocals for Seneca's senior musicals each fall.

And he is the minister of music at the First Baptist Church in New Albany, Ind.

Still, wrestling is his special interest. "It seems like no one knows if wrestling will definitely be one of the

sports cut. It's possible that it will be back," he said.

"We have improved the program every year. More kids are getting involved."

He isn't bitter that wrestling may be dropped, but he wants to be sure people appreciate the qualities it can develop in young people.

"The sport gives the little kid a chance

"Take a kid who weighs 100 pounds. There's not an ounce of fat on him. In high school football, but he can wrestle.

"If he's got a head on his shoulders, he can be a good wrestler."

For example, he said, he can be a good wrestler. For example, he said, he can be a good wrestler. For example, he said, he can be a good wrestler.

Sort of like wrestling

Sports Briefly

By JIM KIRCHNER
Staff Writer

Basketball

Knight Middle girls
finish season 11-0

Coach Donna Stevenson said she knew of no other undefeated team of girls in the county. It also was the first girls team at Knight to win every game, sent Mrs. Stevenson, who has coached there six years.

The team recorded victories over these opponents: St. Bartholomew, 22-4; Western, 32-17; Lassiter, 42-12; Frost, 53-18; Conway, 28-22; Western 37-30; Conway, 25-24; Lassiter, 43-23; Moore, 45-16; Frost, 33-22; and Moore, 39-27.

Ms. Stevenson attributed much of the success to a 2-2-1 zone press and a scorekeepers included Sondra Thornsberry, Nancy Nichols, Eva Bonnaton, Denise Westfall, Cheryl Hockenberry and Laura Hemson.

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disease ideas.
Bruce Nickerson,
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committee that overs
least triple in size.
He said the park's f
mostly softball, but a

By JIM KIRCHNER
Staff Writer

Basketball

Knight Middle girls finish season 11-0

The girls basketball team at Knight Middle School probably can claim at least a share of the local school championship, after finishing the season last week with an record.

Although the school system do keep records of all the teams, Knight coach Donna Stevenson said she's of no other undefeated team.

It also was the first girls team to win every game, said Stevenson, who has coached there years.

The team of seventh- and eighth graders was led by Pam Tanner, w some coaches call the best eighth grade player in the county.

Pam, a forward who averaged 2 points per game, plans to attend Southern High School next year.

She was helped by teammates Kelli Elkin, a guard who averaged 10 assists per game, and center Teri Carrethers who grabbed 15 rebounds per games. The team recorded victories over these opponents:

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Bud Williams wrestles with proposal to cut his sport

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Staff photo by David R. Lutman

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in Bardtown's annual production of "The Stephen Foster Story." For eight years, Williams has portrayed Stephen Foster's employer, a singing and acting part he calls "a lot of fun."

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"The sport gives the little kid a chance.

"Take a kid who weighs 98 to 126 pounds. There's not any room for him in high school football or basketball, but he can wrestle.

"If he's got a head on his shoulders, he can be a good wrestler. It builds self-discipline in a young man."

For example, he said, if you're tired or injured there's no one to replace you.

Sort of like wrestling coaches.

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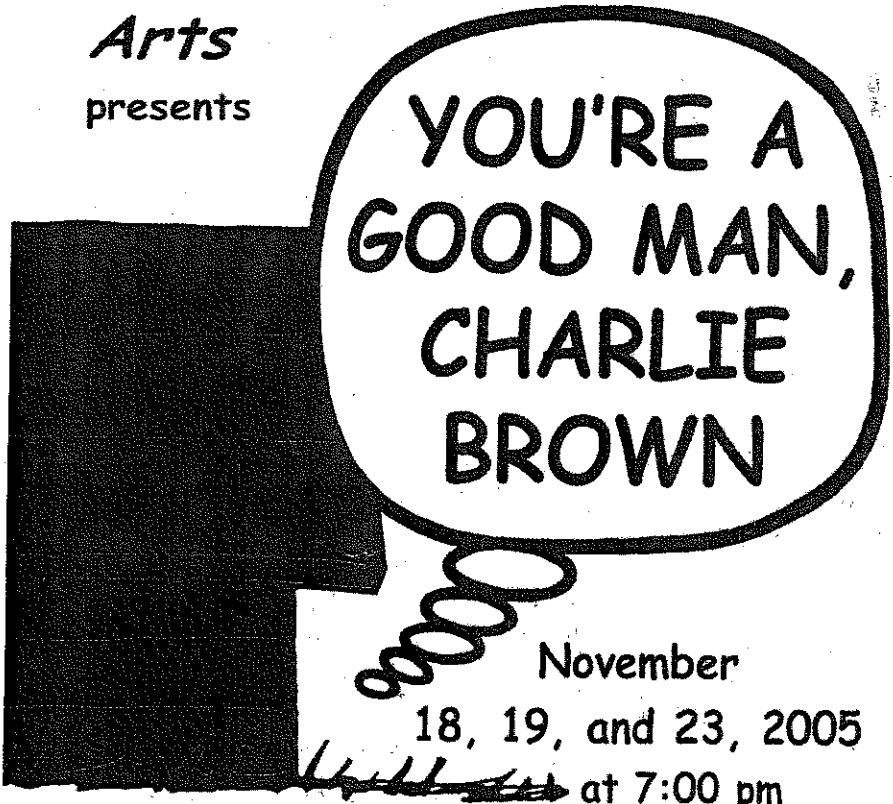
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The 46th Annual Broadway Musical



Staff Photo by Bill Luster

Hey, coach! I won!

A HAPPY young man is Dan Jacobson of Seneca High who leaps into the arms of coach Orville Williams after a victory yesterday in state high school wrestling tournament at Seneca. (Story, Page B 7.)

Drama's Igoe made name in wrestling

By SARA NAY
Staff Writer

Orville Williams Jr. has performed in the *Stephen Foster Story* for 21 years.

He was involved in wrestling longer than that.

It may seem like a strange combination, but both areas are special to Williams.

He got involved in theater in high school and started college as a music education major.

He wound up teaching history at Seneca High School in Louisville, but he stayed involved in music and theater by working on yearly Broadway musical presentations given at Seneca and by directing the choir there.

He got involved in wrestling because he enjoyed the sport.

Also, he noticed that Seneca High, with more than 3,000 students, only had boys' basketball in the winter.

"This was before they even had girls' basketball, so there were maybe 50 students, plus cheerleaders, involved in [basketball]," Williams said. "The rest didn't do anything."

After students asked, he started a wrestling club. He later organized a state tournament for schools with wrestling teams. The first year, six schools attended.

During the 27 years he coached, the high school athletic association sanctioned wrestling and the tournament grew. Williams continued to manage the tournament.

In recognition of his contributions to sports in Kentucky, the outstanding wrestling tro-

phy is named after Williams.

"I feel good about that," Williams said. "I love the sport."

Wrestling, Williams said, teaches self-defense and initiative.

"You can't hide in a huddle," Williams said.

"I had kids that were on the borderline academically," Williams said, "who had to keep their grades up. We turned out a lot of good citizens."

He retired from coaching wrestling in 1985 "after the old knees gave out."

"I like to get out there with 'em," Williams said, "I couldn't coach from a chair."

At the drama, he sang in the chorus his first year, played minstrel king E.P. Christie his second year, and has played Gottlieb Igoe, young Stephen Foster's boss, ever since.

The drama, he said, is fun after teaching all year.

"You get outside, and get to stomp and yell and scream and have fun," Williams said, "and make the audience feel good — I hope they do."

Recently, the teacher/actor/former wrestling coach has been keeping busy with a different project — a rocking horse.

He made the horse for his first grandson, but at 4 feet tall, it was "too big for the house."

The horse is no ordinary rocking horse. It's a five-gaited gelding rocking horse, according to Williams.

He said he got the idea at the state fair's International Horse Show.



"Business, stick to business," Orville Williams, as Gottlieb Igoe, admonishes Andrew Varela, who portrays Stephen Foster, every night *The Stephen Foster Story*. Igoe is Foster's boss. (Photo by Beth Dole)

"It's the only day I miss intentionally," Williams said. "It's in the drama contract — I go the last Saturday of the state fair."

His horse will go to the fair, too. He's entered it in an open class — of craft projects.

**Betty A. Williams
1230 Pin Oak Drive
Taylorsville, KY 40071**

June 14, 2006

Ms. Brigid L. DeVries, Commissioner
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Ms. DeVries:

Thank you for the letter of May 23rd informing me of the selection of my deceased husband, Orville "Bud" Williams into the 2007 Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame. He would be so pleased and honored to be among such a wonderful group of people who are being inducted in this class - I only wish he could be there for the occasion.

My family and I will plan on being there for the banquet, so I will look forward to receiving more information later about the event.

I also received an invitation to the Golf Outing and luncheon on June 22nd, which I will have to decline, but appreciate the honor of being invited.

I am enclosing a bio of Mr. Williams and hope you can glean enough information that you will need to include in the banquet program. Please do not hesitate to give me a call if you need further clarification or information about his career in the sport of wrestling. I have also enclosed some photographs and have specified one that I would like for you to use on the plaque.

Again, please feel free to call me at home: 502-239-7178 or at work: 502-584-7148. I work every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. I have an e-mail at work: bettyw@episcopalky.org which you can use to communicate with me as well.

Sincerely,



Betty A. Williams, Spouse
Orville "Bud" Williams

Baw

Enclosures

ORVILLE "BUD" WILLIAMS
1230 Pin Oak Drive
Taylorsville, KY 40071
502-239-7178

BORN: Clarksburg, W. VA.
August 11, 1934
Lived in Washington, PA during grade school, high school and
College years

DIED: April 18, 2005

MARRIED: Betty Louise Acklin (of Waynesburg, PA) (Betty A. Williams)
July 31, 1955
Bethlehem Baptist Church – Ruff Creek, PA.
Married for 49 years with 4 children and 8 grandchildren

EDUCATION: Graduate of Trinity High School, Washington, PA - 1952

Attended Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh for one semester until
transferring to Tarkio College, Tarkio, MO. in January, 1954.

Graduated from Tarkio College in 1957 with a B. S. degree and two
majors: History and Education; and three minors:
English, Political Science and Sociology.

EMPLOYMENT: Teacher/Coach - Jefferson County Board of Education
Seneca High School -
Louisville, KY 40220
1957 – 1997 – 40 Years
First position was at Southern High School – 1957
He joined Seneca High School the following year where he taught 10th
grade Advanced World History, until his retirement.

Served as Chairman of the Social Studies Department at Seneca for a
number of years

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**

Shortly after starting his career at Seneca he was asked to be part of the coaching staff. He was assistant football coach for five years and a tennis coach for six years.

Coming from Pennsylvania where the sport of wrestling outdrew crowds in high school over basketball, he thought having the sport of wrestling in Kentucky would provide an option for the kids who didn't qualify for other sports. It became his passion, and the turning point came when some of the kids at Seneca, who had cousins wrestling at New Albany High School in Indiana, wondered why Seneca did not have a wrestling team. As a result, the principal sent out an S.O.S. at Seneca for a wrestling coach in 1962 and Bud answered the call.

From that point he served as wrestling coach at Seneca for 23 years. When the Kentucky High School Athletic Association sanctioned the sport of wrestling, Bud was named manager of the KHSAA State Wrestling Tournament and served in that capacity for 25 years before he retired from wrestling in 1994. He was also chairman of the State Wrestling Committee for several years and had the responsibility of attending the national and state Rules Interpretation conferences to learn the new rules being put into place, and then acting as rules interpreter for the other coaches around the state. During those early years he also wrote a wrestling manual for coaches who weren't as knowledgeable about the sport. Several schools used that manual to start their own programs.

AWARDS/HONORS:

When he retired as State Wrestling Tournament manager a trophy was established in his honor to be given to the outstanding wrestler during the State Tournaments – to be known as the Orville Williams Outstanding Wrestler Award, and he was presented with one personally at that time as well. He became known then as the “Father” of wrestling in Kentucky, because of his efforts in establishing the sport in Kentucky.

In the fall of 2005, Betty, his wife, was notified that the Jefferson County Board of Education had approved the naming of Seneca High School's small gym in his honor, to be called “The Orville “Bud” Williams Sports and Performance Center”. That gym was used for every activity in which he was involved: his home wrestling matches were held there as well as the first State Wrestling Tournaments until the event became too large and had to be moved to other schools. The Seneca senior plays and the Renaissance Faire, which he directed for several years at Seneca, were also presented in that gym. The dedication included a framed certificate proclaiming Wednesday, November 23rd, 2005 as the “Orville (Bud) Williams Day” which was signed by the Mayor of Louisville, as well as a plaque to go on the inside of the Gym, and his name to be put on the outside of the gym.

At the 2006 Kentucky State Wrestling Tournament in Frankfort, Bud was honored, along with a long-time wrestling referee Gary Ingraham, during a special ceremony at which they presented each of the wives with plaques commemorating their husbands' contributions to the sport of wrestling. A special powerpoint presentation was shown also commemorating their careers in the sport.

OTHER INTERESTS

Outside of his academic and coaching careers, he had other passions as well. He always loved music and took voice lessons and directing in college. After moving to Louisville, he served as Minister of Music at several local churches in the Louisville area, and was also Music Director for all of the musical productions at Seneca High School. During the summer months he was part of the cast of the Stephen Foster Association outdoor drama where he played the major role of Gottlieb Igoe for 26 seasons. He retired with over 1,500 performances to his credit.

February 7, 2001

The Board of Control
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Committee Members:

I am extremely pleased to place the name of Mr. Orville "Bud" Williams into nomination for membership in the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

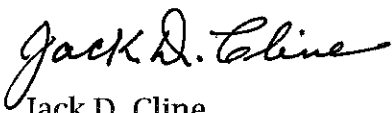
Mr. Williams taught at Seneca High School for forty (40) years. In 1960, he became the first wrestling coach at Seneca. There was only a small group of schools who had wrestling programs at that time. In fact, the sport was not sanctioned by the KHSAA in those early years.

Wrestling became a KSHAA sport in the 1963-64 school year and the KHSAA crowned its first champion in February of 1964. Mr. Williams became the first chairman of the State Wrestling Committee and manager of the State Wrestling Tournament. He would hold these positions for twenty-three (23) years. During those years, he attended national and statewide meetings. From those meetings, it was his responsibility to set up regional clinics for coaches and officials, acting as rules interpreter and as a liaison for the KHSAA. During his years of leadership, wrestling experienced its greatest growth. Those years saw the sport grow from less than ten (10) programs to greater than sixty-five (65) programs. Those who have been associated with the sport have known Mr. Williams as "Mr. Wrestling" or the "Father of Wrestling" from the early years until the present. Upon his retirement, the Wrestling Committee, headed by Commissioner Stout established the Outstanding Wrestler trophy in his name. Mr. Williams presents this award at the State Wrestling Tournament each year. He also honored us by singing the national anthem at the 2000 state tournament.

I have known Mr. Williams for thirty-five (35) years. I can honestly say I have never known a more sincere, honest, or Christian gentleman. I thoroughly enjoyed the years that I served with him on the Wrestling Committee. He has been a wonderful friend and mentor to me and to many others over the years.

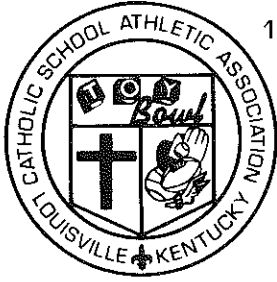
I make this recommendation with the sincere belief that no sports figure is more worthy or deserving of admission into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I respectfully request that you honor this wonderful wrestling pioneer with induction into this illustrious group who have served the association with distinction.

Sincerely,



Jack D. Cline
Manager, KHSAA State Wrestling Tournament
Member, KHSAA Wrestling Committee
Member, KHSAA Hall of Fame

Catholic School Athletic Association



1939 GOLDSMITH LANE • SUITE 214 • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40218-2006
TELEPHONE 502/456-2722
FAX 502/459-8420

Rev. Thomas E. Gentile
Chairman

Mr. James R. Frame
Executive Director

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter as my personal and professional recommendation for Mr. Orville Williams for induction into the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

I have known Orville Williams for over thirty years, first when I was a wrestler at North Hardin High School and Orville was the wrestling coach at Seneca High School. Throughout the years, I have known Orville to be a vital and vibrant supporter of Kentucky high school athletics and athletes in general, and in particular wrestling. To put it very simply, Orville is a mentor's mentor.

His career as a coach and director of the state wrestling tournament speak volumes to support his involvement in the positive growth of Kentucky's young people. I have seen Orville work as a coach and as the director of the state wrestling tournament and continue to marvel how he balanced his role in both positions. I continue to be proud of his efforts and his unsung accomplishments.

To me, induction into the Hall of Fame is reserved to those who have selflessly supported and have been actively involved in the promotion of high school youth and their participation in the program. It is reserved to those who, year after year, commit to excellence in their own performance and that of the KHSAA. It is reserved to those who commit to their own ongoing personal and professional development and to the training of young men who will follow in their footsteps. It is reserved to those who are willing to serve as a role model in fair play and hard work. It is reserved to those who have dedicated themselves to the growth of the KHSAA during the good times and the lean. To me, it is reserved for those like Orville Williams.

Sincerely,
James R. Frame
Executive Director
Catholic School Athletic Assoc.
Louisville, KY

7408 Maria Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40222
Mr. Louis Stout
Commissioner KHSAA
Lexington, Kentucky

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Orville "Bud" Williams election to the KHSAA Hall Of Fame. He has surely earned this honor. He has dedicated more than 40 years to the sport of wrestling, and is admired by everyone associated with the sport.

When I began my career in officiating wrestling in the state of Kentucky it was Bud who first gave me an opportunity. There were a total of four schools in the state involved in the sport in 1959 and he labored to increase both the number of schools and participation in wrestling, and he continued these efforts his entire career. In addition to his teaching school and coaching duties at Seneca High School, he also served as state tournament director for 23 years. He has brought distinction to the sport with class and dignity. In my more than 40 years associated with him I have never known anyone to have a disparaging word about the man. I consider him to truly be my mentor and friend.

I could expound at great length about "Bud", but let it suffice to say he is genuinely worthy of the honor and I urge his election posthaste.

Sincerely yours,
Gary Ingraham

ORVILLE WILLIAMS
1230 Pin Oak Drive
Taylorsville, KY 40071
502/239-7178

PERSONAL

Birth Date: August 11, 1934

Married to Betty Acklin Williams for 45 years.

Have 4 children and 7 grandchildren.

EDUCATION

1952 - Graduated from Trinity High School in Washington, PA.

1956 - Graduated from Tarkio College at Tarkio, MO with a BS degree with majors in History and Education, and minors in Political Science, Sociology, and English.

EMPLOYMENT

Joined the Jefferson County Board of Education in 1957.

Taught Core one year at Southern High School, Louisville, KY

Began teaching at Seneca High School, Louisville, Ky. in 1958, and taught there until my retirement in 1998.

During those years I taught Core, Freshman English, Television American History, World History, Civics, and Sociology. In addition, I also coached football, tennis and wrestling.

I came to Kentucky from Pennsylvania and was surprised to learn that Kentucky did not have much interest in the sport of wrestling. There were probably only 4 schools who had wrestling programs. In Pennsylvania, wrestling was more popular than basketball.

In 1960, Seneca's principal at that time put out an all-points call for a wrestling coach. He didn't get much response. When he learned that I had some knowledge of the sport he assigned me as the wrestling coach to get the program off the ground.

During those early years the first state tournament was called an Invitational Tournament because it hadn't yet been sanctioned by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. We had seven schools that participated in that first tournament.

Two years later the sport of wrestling was sanctioned by KHSAA and I was named it's first manager. Those early tournaments were held at Seneca High School until it had to be moved to a larger school gym. That's when it was moved to Atherton, where it remained until being moved to Frankfort's Civic Center.

I served as Chairman of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Wrestling Committee, and was manager of the State High School Wrestling Tournament for 23 years.

During the years of managing the State Wrestling Tournament, some of my duties included attending national and statewide meetings, acting as rules interpreter for the State of Kentucky in wrestling. From those meetings, it was then my responsibility to set up regional meetings with all the coaches where I would hold clinics and explain any rules changes, and also act as a liaison between the coaches and the High School Athletic Association Wrestling Committee to resolve any issues or concerns which the coaches might have.

At my retirement the Wrestling Committee established the Outstanding Wrestler award in my name, which is a bronze statue of two wrestlers, and it has been my honor to present that award at each year's state tournament since that time. They also presented one of the statues to me, personally, and I treasure that award for it will always remind me of the great times I spent as part of the sport of wrestling.

ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF TEACHING AND COACHING

Minister of Music

Since coming to Kentucky in 1957 I have served as Minister of Music at the following churches:

Jeffersontown Baptist Church - Jeffersontown, KY

Green Acres Baptist Church - Louisville, KY

Beulah Presbyterian Church - Fern Creek, KY

First Baptist Church of New Albany, Indiana - served there 31 years until I retired from that position in June, 1999.

I was also a cast member of the Stephen Foster Story outdoor drama in Bardstown, KY for 26 seasons, playing the part of Gottlieb Igoe, one of the major character parts in the show.

Seneca's Williams helping make high school wrestling grow

It may not be too tactful to compare the growth of high school wrestling in Kentucky with Orville Williams' waistline but the temptation to make the comparison is almost too much to resist.

Williams could be legitimately titled "Mr. Wrestling" in Kentucky for the part he has played in building it from a starveling ten years ago to a healthy child that is outgrowing its present home. Williams was the "lightest man on the team" at 170 pounds when he played football at Tarkio, Mo., College. That was 15 years ago and 70 pounds ago.

"When we first started the wrestling tournament it was an invitational affair and there were something like seven schools represented, as I recall," Williams said yesterday. "It was two years before the Kentucky High School Athletic Association sanctioned us. Now there'll be 192 kids in the state meet this weekend and there were more than 50 wrestling teams. We've got to find new quarters for the state meet next year."

Williams will be wearing two hats when the 11th annual state meet begins at 9:30 tomorrow morning at Seneca High. First, he is serving as the meet manager, and as coach of the Seneca entry, he has one of the top groups in the competition. His Redskin rasslers won six of the 12 weight divisions in last week's Central-Jefferson County regional meet as well as winning the team title.

Williams had done some wrestling in high school in western Pennsylvania when Ken Farmer, then Seneca principal, sent out an SOS for a wrestling coach in 1962. "Some of the kids at Seneca had cousins who were wrestling at New Albany High School and wondered why Seneca couldn't have a team. When Mr. Farmer found out I had some experience, I was it. In Pennsylvania wrestling outdraws high school basketball, that's how popular it is."

Williams, who has served as chairman of the KHSAA wrestling committee for many years, derives great satisfaction from wrestling for one particular reason. "You can take almost any kid and make a wrestler of him if he works at it," he pointed out. "You don't need to be tall as in basketball or physically big as in football. You can wrestle even with a handicap. MMI had a boy one year who wrestled with a brace on one leg—he had had polio as a youngster. And we were in a tournament in Indiana a couple of years ago where a boy with only one leg wrestled."

Williams is quick to point out that wrestling was third in revenue produced by KHSAA sports last year. "Only basketball and football produced more money for the KHSAA," he noted. "It cost the association only \$213.98 to put on the regional and state tournaments last year." By contrast, the KHSAA paid out \$20,069.71 for the state track meet and \$8,205.22 for the baseball tournament. The state tennis meet cost \$4,542.43, the state swimming meet \$5,605.44 and the state cross-country meet \$2,905.43.

"We're going to have to find another

place for next year but I don't know where," Williams said. "Convention Center costs too much. Maybe Bellarmine would be available."

Three defending state champions will be trying for repeats—Flaget's Chester Massie in the 112-pound class; Ft. Campbell's Alan Boyd in the 119-pound division and Waggener's Arthur Noonan. The latter won at 185 pounds last year



**ORVILLE
WILLIAMS**

Says 192 kids will compete

but is competing in the 167-pound class this year.

Eliminations for the 192 entrants who won their way into the state meet with first or second place regional finishes will begin at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow and continue with an evening session at 7:30. Semifinals will begin at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, the consolation at 6:30 p.m. and the finals at 8 p.m.

Previous state champions:

1964—Ahrens; 1965—Ahrens; 1966—Kentucky School for the Blind; 1967—Newport Catholic; 1968—North Hardin; 1969—North Hardin; 1970—Woodford County; 1971—Fl. Campbell.

With the season fast approaching its conclusion, Dr. Litkenhous holds a four-game edge over the Times panel in picking high school basketball games. Dr. Litkenhous is averaging .853 with 141 correct predictions in 177 tries. The Times Consensus weighs in at .774, hitting on 137 of 177 forecasts. The Times pickers won't gain any ground in tonight's only game, Eastern High at Seneca (8 p.m.). The Litratings pick Eastern (rating of 80.5) over Seneca (70.5) by ten points. The Times gives Eastern a six-point edge.

Bishop David has a top-notch jayvee team to go with its fine freshman team, coach Dan King is quick to point out.

"They're 3-3 now," King noted. The starters are Mark Kemper, Rick Hayden, Tony Simpson, Kevin Shircliff and Mark Selent, who also doubles with the freshmen. . . . Former Aberton tackle Scott Duke has transferred from Alabama to Kentucky, where he is being converted to an offensive guard. . . . Ballard lost a first-rate swimmer for the state meet when Nancy Nesbitt ran into a wall while practicing with the 880-yard relay team for the Mason-Dixon Games and broke a wrist.

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State wrestling officials eye expansion

By BOB WHITE

Staff Writer

The format for the State High School Wrestling Tournament may change before the 1980 meet gets under way, Orville Williams said yesterday while overseeing the 16th annual affair at Atherton's gym.

Williams, the coach at Seneca since 1958, is the father of high school wrestling in Kentucky. He helped start the first state meet and he will have a say on what changes are made, if any, for next year.

Up for consideration by the wrestling committee are two recommendations.

"One suggestion is to have a 32-team format in each weight division," Williams said. "That would double what we have now."

Currently, the winner and runner-up from each of the eight regions advance to the State Tournament, giving the finals a 16-team bracket in each of the 12 weight classes.

"We're taking a look at several different formats for next year," Williams said. "We could follow what Minnesota does. And that is to have the top two teams from each region advance to the state and wrestle other teams head-on. There would be a separate tournament for individuals and we would declare both team and individual champions. Each team would bring 15 kids and we would get a true team champion this way," Williams said.

Expanding the State Tournament has its drawbacks, though.

"There is no high school gym in Jefferson County that seats 5,600 people," Williams said. "That's our problem. If we went to the Fairgrounds, they would charge a large fee each day and we can't afford that. The Broadbent Arena there seats 8,000, but there are no dressing facilities.

"If we bring in more teams, we'd have to go to a bigger gym," Williams said. "We'd need more than three mats. You can see we can't get more than three mats in here (at Atherton) unless we pushed back the stands."

Then where would the people sit? Although the snow cut down on the crowd, there were around 2,000 fans at last night's quarter-final session. The

finals, set for 7 o'clock tonight, have attracted a full house of 2,500 the last two years.

Atherton charges no rent for the two-day use of its gym. "Atherton makes its money off the concession stands," Williams said.

A 32-team format or adoption of the Minnesota plan would add an extra day to the State Tournament schedule. "We probably would start on Thursday night," Williams said. "Another thing we have to look at is weight certification. We have to control that so that the kids won't be abused."

Another matter being considered is clinics to train referees.

Unlike fans and participants at basketball games, wrestlers and their fans don't yell at referees during matches.

"There are not as many arm-chair authorities in wrestling," Williams said with a grin. "As a whole, these are good people to work with — the coaches, kids and parents."

This is the 16th State Tournament sanctioned by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association. "We might have had two tournaments that weren't sanctioned," Williams said. "I've managed them all, but Gene Minion (the Atherton athletic director) and I co-manage it now. It's gotten so big. He runs the business end and I manage the floor." Wrestling has grown during Williams' tenure.

"There were only seven teams in the whole state when we had our first State Tournament," Williams said. "Kentucky School for The Blind was one of the original schools. So were Seneca, Fern Creek, Barstow St. Joe and MMI (Military Military Institute). I can't remember all 'em."

"But the tournament was not sanctioned by the state or the county," he said. "We called ourselves a wrestling club."

Now, 49 high schools are represented at this year's State Tournament, and there are 70 schools with wrestling teams throughout the state.

"We pick up a few and lose a few each year," Williams said. "Male dropped the sport this year, but Atherton and Thomas Jefferson started teams."

"We seem to be stuck around the 70 mark," Williams said. "We can't get over the hump. But money is tight in high school athletics right now. That's why there are not more teams."

The most expensive item is a mat. "That one I bought for Seneca costs us \$3,200 seven years ago," Williams said, pointing to the mat in front of him. "That one in the center is Pleasure Ridge Park's and it cost them over \$5,000," Williams said. "It is bigger than ours."

Eastern, hoping to become the first state champion from Jefferson County since Fern Creek won in 1975, led the tournament with 29½ points going into this morning's semifinals. Both Eastern and second-place Boone County (28 points) advanced five wrestlers to the semis.

Trinity, with unbeaten 145-pounder Larry Gibson needing an overtime to win his quarter-final match over Leon Willis of Christian County, claimed third place with 26 points. Gibson trailed by one point late in regulation time, but tied the match and then won 8-3 in overtime. Trinity qualified four individuals for the semis.

March 26, 2006

The Board of Control
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Committee Members:

I know that you have my original letter on Orville "Bud" Williams on file but I want to take this opportunity to supplement that letter with several few events that have happened since that letter was written in 2001.

As some of you know, Bud passed away on April 18, 2005 after a long struggle with congestive heart failure and diabetes. At the time of his passing, I had known Bud Williams for 39 years. He was my great friend and my mentor in coaching, officiating and tournament management. I can honestly say that Bud was the most sincere, honest, and Christian gentleman I have every known.

In the fall of 2005 the Jefferson County Board of Education and Seneca High School honored Mr. Williams's contributions to the school by naming their small gymnasium and performing arts center "The Orville "Bud" Williams Performance Center." That fall Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson issued a proclamation that designated November 23, 2005 as Orville "Bud" Williams Day.

The 2006 State Wrestling Tournament Julian Tackett and the tournament staff paid tribute to his memory and his contributions over many years to the development and progression of the sport of wrestling in Kentucky. He was correctly described as the "Father of Wrestling" in Kentucky. He was also known as Mr. Wrestling by all of us who knew him for all the years of his involvement in the sport. Without his leadership, it would have been several years later before the KHSAA recognized wrestling as a sanctioned sport in this state.

Again, I make this recommendation with the sincere belief that no sports figure is more worthy or deserving of admission into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I respectfully request that you honor this wonderful wrestling pioneer with induction into this illustrious group who has served the association with distinction.

Sincerely,



Jack D. Cline
Manager, KHSAA State Wrestling Tournament
Member, KHSAA Wrestling Committee
Member, KHSAA Hall of Fame

March 10, 2006

Hall of Fame Committee
KHSAA
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Gentlemen:

I am writing in support of my husband, Orville "Bud" Williams being nominated to the KHSAA Wrestling Hall of Fame.

I married Bud on July 31, 1955 in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, and we would have celebrated 50 years of marriage last year if he had not passed away on April 18th after a long illness with Diabetes and all that goes along with that terrible disease.

He was a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather and we were blessed with 4 wonderful children and 8 grandchildren, one of whom died at birth, leaving us with 7 beautiful and talented grandchildren.

Bud was a great Christian family man and wanted nothing more than for his family to become fine Christian people and to stay close to each other and to God. They have done that for which we are thankful.

My husband had many interests and top among them was sports. He played football and tennis in college at a small mid-western school known as Tarkio College in Tarkio, Missouri. He graduated in 1956 with a B. S. degree with two majors: History and Education, and three minors: English, Political Science, and Sociology.

We moved from Missouri to Louisville, Kentucky in January, 1957 where he was scheduled to attend the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. After the first semester, when our family began to grow, he had to drop out and find permanent employment. Having the degree and desire to be a History teacher, he applied at the Jefferson County Board of Education and was accepted for the fall term of 1957. His first year of teaching was at Southern High School where he was given the subject of CORE, which was a new course of study at that time in the school system. After that first year he was transferred to Seneca High School, and thus began his career of teaching on the staff at Seneca for 39 years. With a degree in basic Social Studies, he not only taught World History but was also placed in the realm of teaching 8th grade Math, Freshman English, Television American History, Civics and Sociology; but his first love was always World History.

With his background in those subjects, he also served as Chairman of the Social Studies department at Seneca.

Shortly after joining the staff at Seneca he was also a member of the coaching staff as an assistant football coach for five years and tennis coach for six years.

Coming from Pennsylvania where the sport of Wrestling outdrew crowds in high school over basketball, he thought having the sport of Wrestling in Kentucky would provide an option for kids who were not tall enough for basketball, or big enough for football. It became his passion, and the turning point came when some of the kids at Seneca, who had cousins wrestling at New Albany High School in Indiana, wondered why Seneca did not have a wrestling team. The principal sent out an SOS at Seneca for a wrestling coach in 1962. When he learned that Bud had some experience with the sport, he was chosen to be the coach and get it started.

In searching for other coaches he found that there were at least four who had either wrestled or knew something about the sport. They got together and began making plans to have a season of wrestling matches with each other. After getting the necessary equipment for the boys and floor mats to wrestle on, the first season of Wrestling began.

Bud derived a great deal of pleasure from watching a kid develop his skills and abilities simply by their own determination. He thought you could take a kid and make a wrestler out of him if he worked at it. He saw kids who had handicaps, such as a leg brace, or even with just one leg, be great wrestlers. The Kentucky School for the Blind was one of the first schools to have a wrestling team, and they produced some great champions. Wrestling builds self confidence in a boy because he has to rely on his own mind and skills to be a champion, and those skills can carryover into adulthood.

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association first sanctioned the sport of wrestling two years later, and at that time there were about 7 schools who had programs in place. Bud was not only a wrestling coach but manager of the first State Tournament, and he managed those State Tournaments for 25 years. He has also chairman of the State Wrestling Committee and had the responsibility of attending the national and state Rules Interpretation conferences to learn of new rules being put into place, and then acting as a rules interpreter for the state.

Early on, Bud also wrote a manual for coaches who weren't as knowledgeable about the sport. It gave the background history of wrestling and contained much detail about the intricacies of wrestling moves and counter moves which a kid could employ to out-manuever their opponents. Several schools used that manual to start their own program.

The first wrestling tournaments were held at Seneca. After outgrowing the capacity of Seneca's gym it was moved to Atherton High School, where it remained until growth again demanded an even larger facility than any of the schools in Kentucky could accommodate. The Civic Center in Frankfort, Kentucky was approached and the management quickly responded and opened their doors in 19__ for the State High School Wrestling Tournament, where it resides today, with 50 or more teams throughout the state participating. When Bud retired from wrestling, an award was named in his honor which is called "The Orville Williams Outstanding Wrestler" award which is presented each year at the State Wrestling Tournament finals.

Even though the sport of wrestling was one of Bud's passions, he had many other interests.

He had studied music in college and took voice lessons, and while in college was a choir director at the local Baptist Church in Tarkio. After graduation from Tarkio and moving to Kentucky in 1957, one of his first jobs, outside of teaching, was as a choir director at several churches in the Louisville area. He was choir director for the Jeffersontown Baptist Church; from there to Green Acres Baptist Church, Beulah Presbyterian Church, and lastly at the First Baptist Church in New Albany, Indiana, where he retired in 1996 after 30 years as their Minister of Music.

He loved to perform on stage, so around the early 1970's he decided to try out for a part in the outdoor summer production of the Stephen Foster Story in Bardstown, Kentucky (now known as "Stephen Foster, the Musical"). He was part of the cast of singers his first year, but then landed the major role of Gottlieb Igoe, a Pittsburgh businessman who was interested in making a lot of money. Igoe hired Stephen Foster to work in his whisky and tobacco warehouse – but eventually had to fire him because of his passion for writing music instead of taking care of the books. He played that part for 26 seasons and when he retired he had over 1,500 performances to his credit. Our son, Bill and his wife, Laura Hanberry Williams, performed in the production for two years.

His musical talent while at Seneca was put to use as music director and vocal coach for all the Senior Plays, which were always Broadway musicals. During his career they had performed at least 25 Broadway plays and then began to repeat them.

As a World History teacher and chairman of the Social Studies department, he was one of a group of fellow teachers at Seneca who were invited to spend one summer at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky, to participate in an arts workshop, where they were to present new ideas for bringing history alive in a more meaningful way, especially during the Renaissance Period. From those workshops the first Renaissance Faire at Seneca was born and Bud headed up that effort along with other Social Studies teachers. It was so well received that it became an annual event and he remained in charge until his retirement from teaching in 1994. He taught part-time for

three years after his formal retirement but still kept his hand in the Seneca musicals, as well as the Renaissance Faire.

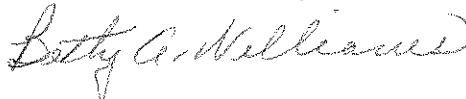
In the fall of 2005, I was informed that the Jefferson County Board of Education had approved the naming of Seneca's small gym in honor of Bud. It is called "The Orville "Bud" Williams Performance Center. That gym was used for every activity in which he was involved: his home wrestling matches were held there as well as all the Seneca senior plays, and the Renaissance Faire. The night of the dedication was held at the last performance of their senior play in 2005, entitled "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," and several past cast members were in attendance for the occasion. They had a wonderful power point presentation about all aspects of his life, not only at Seneca but throughout his life, and they presented me with a framed Proclamation, signed by the Mayor of Louisville, stating that November 23rd, 2005 would be called the Orville "Bud" Williams Day. He would have been humbled and proud of that honor, and his whole family and friends were part of the dedication.

One of his passions outside of the business arena, was his hobby of woodworking. He turned our 2 car garage into his woodworking shop, and the first project on his agenda was making a table to fit the size of our dining room – which was almost 11 feet long. He and my father, who lived with us at the time, and our son, Bill, built a trestle table that was perfect and big enough for all the family members to sit around together for meals and other entertainment events. He was big on family gatherings and there were many happy times sitting, eating and talking around that table. He made a piece of furniture for all 4 of our kids to use in their homes, and, in addition, made a rocking horse on the style of the five-gated thoroughbred horse for the grandkids, which some of them still enjoy riding today. In addition he made a baby crib which was passed around in the family for our grandchildren, and was even used by some of our friends when they had children.

I am enclosing several pictures and newspaper articles about him. I want you to know the whole family would be so proud and pleased if this honor could be bestowed on Bud.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Betty A. Williams
Loving and devoted wife of
Orville L. "Bud" Williams

Enclosures

March 17, 2006

K.H.S.A.A. Board of Control
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
22800 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Committee Members;

I understand that Orville "Bud" Williams has been nominated for membership in the K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame. I would like to endorse his candidacy as president of the Kentucky Wrestling Coaches Association. I knew Orville Williams when I was a young coach in the 70's. He was head of the Jefferson County Coaches Association and inspired many young coaches like myself to take on leadership roles in our sport. I think it would be a fitting to honor the pioneer's who blazed the first trails in the development of wrestling and athletics in the state of Kentucky. Orville Williams was a fitting role model and exemplified all that is good in sport. Please induct Orville Williams in to the K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame.

Sincerely

Phil Coomes
Kentucky Wrestling Coaches Association

*Louisville
Office of the Mayor*

Proclamation

*Greetings to whom all these presents
shall come, know ye that*

November 23, 2005

is hereby proclaimed in Louisville, Kentucky to be

Orville "Bud" Williams Day

*and I urge all citizens to observe this
special recognition.*

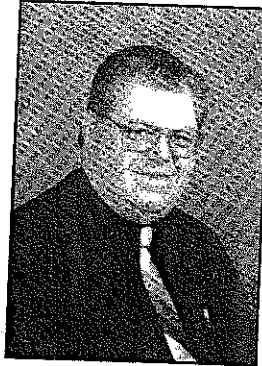
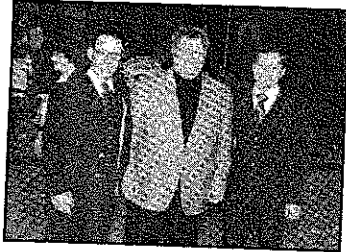


*Done in Louisville, Commonwealth
of Kentucky, this the Twenty-third
day of November, 2005.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerry E. Abramson', written over a horizontal line.

Jerry E. Abramson, Mayor

KHSAA
STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS
 Feb. 16-18, 2006
 Frankfort Convention Center



Orville "Bud" Williams

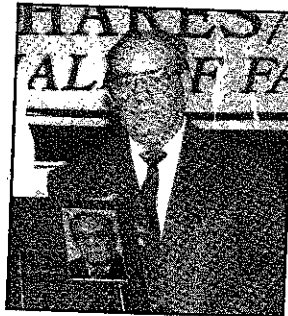
In Memory

For its 2006 tournament, the wrestling family pays tribute to two pioneers for the sport in the state of Kentucky - Orville "Bud" Williams and Gary Ingraham - who passed away since the 2005 State Championship.

Bud Williams was truly the "father" of Wrestling in the state. A long time school administrator, Bud converted his large invitational event to the KHSAA Board of Control State Tournament beginning in 1964. He continued as the State Tournament manager until the mid 1980s when he handed the reins to Larry Mann. In recognition of his achievements and contributions, the outstanding wrestler award presented each year at the State Championship is named in his honor.

Gary Ingraham also was a dedicated worker for the sport and the State Championship. He officiated the State Tournament from its inception in 1964 through his retirement from the sport in 1989, an unequalled streak of 26 consecutive years. After retiring as an official, he immediately began serving as a scorer and continued that role through the 2005 tournament. In 2000, Ingraham was inducted into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

As new memories are made during this 2006 State Tournament, we dedicate the festivities to these fine individuals and honor their memory while thanking them for their contributions.



Gary Ingraham



We, the undersigned high school wrestling supporters, do hereby support the nomination of Coach Orville "Bud" Williams for induction into the KHSAA Hall of Fame

Jane Marie	Norman Powye
Gene Banker	Nick Barker
Betty Banker	Tom W. Mills
Nancy Jordan Blackwo	Jacky Jett
Robert Haydock	Chris Tracy
Rosemary Roberts Haydock	Alan E. Jett
Don J. Smith	Joe Carr
Bill Kenya	Mark A. Draham
Ken Beckman	Gary Ingraham
Phil Coomes	Micky Waller
Walter Banker	Joseph A. Plesson
Bob White	Donald K. Rugg
Ed. Harris	Pat King
Tim Cole	John C. Ham
Ladd Cole	Mark
W. M. Smith	David L. New
John Wayne Badida	Harry Carter
Raymond L. Gabel	Geby Hatney
William Crum	John Plesson
Don Upch	David S. Holten
Jim Shaw	Lester Smith
Jefferson	Thomas J. J.
Robert H. Peely	Jim C. Wilks
Shirley Lee	Duane V. Dixon
Rusty Parks	Neil J. Hughes

Orville "Bud" Williams (continued)

Joe Hemmick
 J. J. Wier (J.J. WILBERS)
 Bob Schmidt
 Tom Sellers
 Don Hughes
 Alan Morte
 Jim Nathan
 Jack D. Tolina
 Karen Shirley
 Jeffrey Edgar Thompson
 Larry Shirley
 Pat Ewing
 Doug Blumhugh
 Willard Coonan
 Melissa Hutchins
 Linda Cook
 Jeanne Clemmons
 Jean Fitch
 Terry Smith
 C. C. Schrock
 Joe Eberhardt
 J. Deak
 Jim K. Buchanan
 Joe Bost
 Neil A. Bost

Wm. H. Millins
 Lloyd J.
 Joe Tindley
 Whinn Jones
 Regis Hemmick
 J. Albert Kelly
 Don J. Adams
 Albert
 Jim Hoffmann
 David L. Foy
 Helen J. Koff
 Don P. French
 Joan M. French
 William Adams
 Ruby Walls
 L. Humphreys
 Jack Green
 Paton Gray
 Geo. Linder
 Leroy Kesper
 L. Hovey
 James Fassinger
 James Hicks
 James R. Frame
 Fred Canyon

We the undersigned do hereby support the nomination of Orville
"Bud" Williams for induction into the KHSAA Hall of Fame

Al Scully

Jim Klein

Harry A. Miller

Marion Thorge

Ch. D. St.

Paulie A. Collette

Chris Blomquist

James B. ...

Marty Nemes

Frank B. ...

Earl H. ...

Bill Spatta

Jim B. ...

Redmond

Doyle Patrick

William J. Spatta

Charlie Ruter

Jim Wilhelmus

Paul Sykes

John Asher

Gene Kappham

Gene Kappham

Gene Kappham

Gene Kappham

Gene Kappham

B. Dan Greenwell

Tom ...

Jason ...

Greg ...

Tom ...

Tom ...

Clay ...

Amanda ...

Stuart ...

Rosalee ...

Ruth ...

Bob ...

Keith ...

Jeff ...

Walt ...

Kim ...

Sarah ...

Cris ...

Jeany ...

Jeff ...

Keith ...

Joe ...

W. Taylor ...

Don ...

Betty ...

Seneca's 4/1981 Bud Williams wrestles with proposal to cut his sport

By JOYCE DEHLI
Special Writer

When Orville "Bud" Williams arrived at Seneca High School 23 years ago to teach history, there was no wrestling program.

It was a shock for the native of Pennsylvania — where, he said, wrestling drew bigger crowds than basketball.

So he did something about it.

Within two years, Williams established the first high school wrestling club in Jefferson County.

He also started the Seneca Wrestling Invitational tournament.

By 1964, that tournament had become the state wrestling championship, and was being conducted by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association.

And at last month's state tournament, the association gave Williams, who is Seneca's head coach and chairman of the state wrestling committee, an award for 21 years of service.

"When I came here, if you couldn't dribble it, they didn't know anything about it," said Williams.

"It was hard to get used to basketball just dominating everything else here.

"Now, I live with it."

Ironically, Williams now faces the possibility that, once again, there might not be wrestling in high schools.

The Jefferson County Board of Education may include wrestling in its athletic budget cuts.

But whatever happens, Williams, 46, won't be without things to do.

Williams, of 6306 S. Watterson Trail, is a world history teacher and chairman of the social studies department at Seneca.

As such, he advises his students to do as the Renaissance man did: "Diversify your interests."

And he's a living example.

Williams, his wife, Betty, and his four children — ages 18 to 24 — work on a variety of projects.

Last summer his son Bill joined him



Staff photo by David R. Lutman

Orville "Bud" Williams was honored for his 21 years as Seneca's wrestling coach

in Bardtown's annual production of "The Stephen Foster Story." For eight years, Williams has portrayed Stephen Foster's employer, a singing and acting part he calls "a lot of fun."

He also directs the chorus and the vocals for Seneca's senior musicals each fall.

And he is the minister of music at the First Baptist Church in New Albany, Ind.

Still, wrestling is his special interest.

"It seems like no one knows if wrestling will definitely be one of the sports cut. It's possible that it will be back," he said.

"We have improved the program every year. More kids are getting involved."

He isn't bitter that wrestling may be dropped, but he wants to be sure people appreciate the qualities it can develop in young people.

"The sport gives the little kid a chance.

"Take a kid who weighs 98 to 126 pounds. There's not any room for him in high school football or basketball, but he can wrestle.

"If he's got a head on his shoulders, he can be a good wrestler. It builds self-discipline in a young man."

For example, he said, if you're tired or injured there's no one to replace you.

Sort of like wrestling coaches.