



1949 SAINTY TEAM WON THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP — Pictured: back row: Dale Merklin, Robert Ackerman, Lee Mills, Paul Neville, Pete Gienger, Elmer Richers, Gordon Leonard, Dwane Raile, Don Stone; front row: Coach Warren 'Barney' Boring.

Wrestlers inducted into Hall of Fame

By Betty Jean Winston

On Sunday the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Kansas Chapter, will be holding a Hall of Fame Day Banquet at City Limits Convention Center in Colby starting at 4 p.m. Following the meal an awards presentation will be held. The purpose of this banquet is to honor and recognize people for their years of commitment as positive role models to Kansas school athletes.

Being honored this year at the first of what is planned to become an annual affair are Alvin "Al" McCall, Gordon "Buzz" Matson, Ed Keller, Jake Durham, William Bill Pickenpaugh, Warren J. "Barney" Boring and Steve Lampe for their Lifetime Service to Wrestling. These men have given countless hours of their time instilling in young people the skills needed to succeed in all areas of life. They will be permanently recognized at the National Wrestling Hall of Fame and Museum in Stillwater, Okla.

Two of the men to be inducted have been instrumental in wrestling in St. Francis one of them was raised in St. Francis before the family moved to Colby.

Dr. Ed Keller, a St. Francis native, not only wrestled for St. Francis Community High School and Kansas State University but returned to St. Francis and provided support to all wrestling endeavors for many years.

Dr. Warren Boring was the wrestling coach at St. Francis Community High School from 1947 to 1953.

Steve Lampe, who spent his early years here, still has relatives in the area and he is also familiar to many area residents through his involvement with Colby Community College.

Dr. Ed Keller

Dr. E.J. Keller, one of the pioneers of wrestling in St. Francis, was inducted into the Kansas Wrestling Coaches' Association Hall of Fame in October 1988.

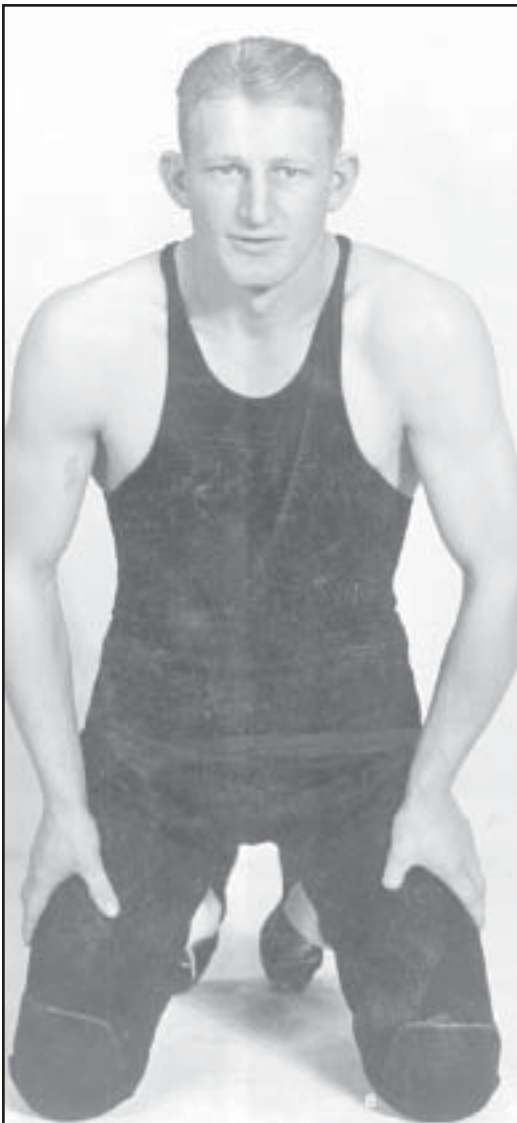
Keller was a four-year high school wrestler in St. Francis and it was during his freshman year that the wrestling program was initiated at the high school. He worked under Coach G.E. Greene and won the first match ever by a St. Francis high school wrestler.

During his junior year, he was a league champion and went to the state tournament which was being held in Manhattan. Due to illness, he was unable to participate.

He had an outstanding senior year on the mat taking all of his matches by falls, including pinning the second place finisher from the previous year's state tournament. Keller was the league champion but St. Francis did not send a team to state that year (individual wrestlers did not qualify for state as they do now).

Keller attended Kansas State University, working toward a degree in veterinary medicine. He placed second at 175 pounds in the Big Six Tournament in 1937; was the captain of Kansas State's Big Six Conference championship team and placed second in the conference tournament in the 165 pound class in 1939. He earned wrestling letter at K-State in 1937, 1938 and 1939.

Keller participated in the Missouri Valley Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) tournament for three years,



Ed Keller

placed each year and then, after receiving his doctor's degree in veterinary medicine, served in the U.S. Army.

Returning to St. Francis to establish his veterinary practice, Keller kept his strong interest in wrestling. He refereed high school matches and tournaments from 1945 to 1958 and always was a fan and supporter of the wrestling program, attending countless high school and college matches.

Keller and his wife Rachael began the annual wrestling recognition banquet, honoring high school wrestlers each year. For the first eight years it was held in their home.

He was one of several St. Francis wrestlers whose early participation in the sport encouraged the strong level of excellence that St. Francis Community High School wrestlers still follow.

Keller also kept his interest in the Kansas State wrestling program by working with the Steer-A-Year program and assisting Kansas State coaches and the athletic department in recruiting and promoting throughout the state.

In an article in *The St. Francis Herald* at the time he was inducted into the Kansas Wrestling Coaches' Association Hall of Fame, it stated that Keller always said that the support he received from his hometown and from his coaches, teammates and family allowed him to participate in and benefit from a sport he enjoyed and to attend college and obtain a degree, and therefore he tried to repay the sport through his years of support.

He was a strong leader and besides his wrestling ability, his leadership is one of the reasons that he is being honored on Nov. 9.

Warren Boring

Dr. Warren J. "Barney" Boring, Los Alamitos, Calif., will also be inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Kansas Chapter. Boring began his coaching career at St. Francis Community High School in the fall of 1947 following his graduation from Kansas State University. He remained in St. Francis until the spring of 1953, when he left for Bloomington, Ind., to attend the University of Indiana where he earned his doctorate.

As early as his youth, Boring displayed an interest in the sport of wrestling, which he was introduced to as a teen at the Young Mens Christian Association (YMCA) in Kansas City. He has spent a lifetime learning and teaching the sport to many.

At 16, he entered the Kansas National Guard which offered him the opportunity to successfully pursue wrestling before entering college. He graduated from Wyandotte High School in 1938. When the wrestling program at the University of Kansas disbanded he enrolled at Kansas State University in 1939.

Following World War II, where he earned three Purple Hearts, he re-enrolled at Kansas State and was elected captain of the wrestling team for the 1946-47 season.

While Boring was attending the University of Indiana following his tenure in St. Francis, he assisted with the university's wrestling team. Upon earning his doctorate he continued his career in education at the California State College at Long Beach in 1956. He initiated college courses in wrestling as part of the physical education program and founded and served as head coach of the Long Beach State Wrestling team. His career as an educator continued until 1988.

The doctor has published various articles and books about wrestling including *Science and Skill of Wrestling* in 1975.

He was an inaugural member of the Southern California Wrestling Association, was inducted into the Long Beach State University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994 and in 1998 was inducted into the Kansas State Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

In a letter to the St. Francis Herald in 1998, Boring said, "I have wonderful memories of those six years I spent in St. Francis. From my perspective, two other subjects deserve emphasis that should exceed a profile of my wrestling experiences; the people of the community and the continuous wonderful wrestling program."

Boring was featured in the April 20, 1953, issue of the *Cheyenne Indian News* at the times he left St. Francis. This publication stated that at St. Francis his wrestling teams placed first in regionals three times, once in league and at state in 1949, 1952 and 1953. He coached nine boys (Paul Neville (2), Elton Keller, Dwane Raile, Henry Hilt, Larry Hartley, Kenny Ross, Lyle Neville, Bill Cecil) to individual state championships. His wrestling teams won 49 dual meets and lost eight during the six year."

Boring said his six years in St. Francis were extremely pleasant for his entire family.

Steve Lampe

Lampe was featured in the Oct. 2, 2003, issue of *The St. Francis Herald* when Colby Community College released the announcement of his receiving the Lifetime Service to Wrestling Award from the Na-



1935 SAINTY WRESTLING TEAM — Front row: Sam Thompson, Bill Fuller, Leroy Edmunds, Bill Wellman, Alfred Rueb; back row: Glen Duncan, Clayton Gienger, Ken Nighswonger, Ed Keller, Ole Bob Cram, Joe Cook and Coach G.E. Greene.

Photos courtesy of Tom Keller



Lampe

tional Wrestling Hall of Fame.

He was active in both high school and college wrestling before beginning his coaching career.

Lampe was a three-time state champion of the Colby Eagles in the lightweight divisions during his high school career.

Next he attended Iowa State and participated in their wrestling program. As a senior he placed sixth in the National Tournament.

Following his graduation from college he moved to a position at Claremore Junior College in Oklahoma.

Lampe arrived at Colby Community College following his time at Claremore and has been there ever since.

He has coached many wrestlers during his tenure at Colby, including a number of Northwest Kansas League wrestlers, and has taken many wrestlers to the National Junior College Wrestling Tournament.

During his almost three-decade career at Colby Community College, he has posted over 240 dual

wins, has coached four teams to regional championships, 14 individual national champions and 71 National Junior College Athletic Association All-Americans. Thirteen times his teams have placed in the top 10 at the National Tournament including the 1999 first place finish and second place finish in 2002.

The Lifetime Service to Wrestling Award by the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Kansas Chapter, is one of a number of awards he has received. This award is in recognition of years of dedication to the development of leadership and citizenship in young people through the sport of wrestling.

He was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame in 1984 and was honored again for his contribution to the sport in 1990. He has been named the West-Central Zone Coach of the Year seven times, National Junior College Athletic Association National Coach of the Year in 1993 and 1999, and in 1998 was selected National Junior College Athletic Association Man of the Year in wrestling.

Coach Lampe was selected in 1997 to receive the 25-year Service Award from the National Wrestling Coaches Association in recognition of his remarkable success as a college wrestling coach and efforts in furthering the sport.

He was awarded the 1998-99 National Wrestling Coaches Association Excellence Award, honoring his outstanding season and coaching expertise. In addition, he was inducted into the Kansas Coaches Hall of Fame in 1999.