



# Wolverine Wrestling Club

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**Joe McFarland enters** his eighth season as the head coach of the University of Michigan wrestling team after leading the Wolverines to their third straight Big Ten dual-meet crown and a seventh-place finish at the 2006 NCAA Championships. Since taking over the reigns in 1999, McFarland has helped mold Michigan into a highly-touted national contender, guiding the U-M wrestling squad to six straight top-10 finishes at the NCAA meet. In the U-M wrestling room, McFarland has led 14 different student-athletes to two NCAA individual titles, 27 All-America citations and 10 Big Ten individual crowns, while placing a heavy emphasis on academics and encouraging numerous academic honors, including 20 distinctions by the National Wrestling Coaches Association and 39 by the Big Ten Conference.

As a Wolverine wrestler (1981-82, 1984-85), McFarland compiled one of the most impressive careers in the program's history. His 166-

24-4 career record ranks third to John Fisher (183 wins) and Otto Olson (175) while his 48 wins during the 1983-84 season are the most recorded by a Michigan wrestler in a single season. McFarland put together a four-time All-America career under Coach Bahr, and was twice an NCAA finalist, placing second at the NCAA Championships in 1984 and '85. He finished fifth (1981) and sixth (1982) in his first two national championship appearances. McFarland is one of only four Michigan wrestlers to earn All-America honors in each of his four seasons, and at the time of his accomplishment, was only the 27th wrestler in NCAA Division I wrestling history to achieve such distinction. McFarland won the Big Ten crown in 1984, and reached the conference finals all four seasons. His 10-3 mark at the conference championship is tied for 10th all-time in U-M wrestling history. McFarland also won the prestigious Midlands Championship in 1982 and 1983.

After completing his Michigan eligibility, McFarland embarked on a successful international wrestling career. He was the silver medalist at the 1986 World Championships in Budapest, Hungary. McFarland captured the 1987 Tbilisi Tournament bronze medal before winning the 1988 World Cup Championship, defeating the Soviet Union's World Champion Hazar Isiev in the gold medal match. McFarland was also named the Outstanding Wrestler of the 1988 USA-USSR dual meet in Orlando, Fla.

Originally from North Olmstead, Ohio, McFarland was a two-time Ohio state champion for North Olmstead High School.



**Jim Mason serves** as the founder and co-director of the Wolverine Wrestling Club. He will look to replicate the success of the Jr. Wolverine Wrestling Club, which he founded in 2001 and turned into one of the most successful youth clubs in the state.

A four-year letterwinner at Michigan State University, Mason stands as one of the top wrestlers in Spartan history. He captured NCAA All-America honors and was a Big Ten finalist as a senior (1984), contributing to the Spartans' most successful season in 10 years. A two-year captain, Mason holds the MSU career falls record with 45 pins during his collegiate tenure and ranks among the top-10 in all-time wins with 107.

Prior to arriving in East Lansing, Mason was a standout athlete at St. Edward High School, capturing an Ohio state title as a senior after placing among the top three his previous two seasons. He continues to own the career fall record at St. Edward with just under

100 falls in his three varsity seasons and boasts an impressive prep record of 126-3. A two-time team captain, Mason was a High School All-American and won the 1980 Lee Kemp Award.



**Mike Kulczycki enters** his third season as a member of the University of Michigan wrestling coaching staff. Prior to his appointment to the full-time coaching staff, Kulczycki spent a season as the Wolverines' strength and conditioning coordinator.

During Kulczycki's career at Michigan (2000-03), the Wolverines established themselves as a dominant team at the national level with top-10 showings at the NCAA Championships in each of his final three seasons. A 2001 All-American and four-time NCAA qualifier at 149 and 165 pounds, Kulczycki ranks among Michigan's most successful wrestlers with a 110-41 career record, placing him 16th on U-M's all-time wins list. Serving as team captain in his senior season, Kulczycki was also the 2003 recipient of the Steve Fraser Award for mental toughness.

Prior to his collegiate career, Kulczycki was a two-time Ohio state champion for St. Edward High School, earning outstanding

wrestler honors at the 1998 Ohio state meet. He was a two-time Cadet world team member and claimed the Dave Schultz Award for Ohio following his senior campaign. A native of North Royalton, Ohio, Kulczycki graduated from Michigan in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in sports management and communications. He lives in Ann Arbor.



**Kirk Trost enters** his 20th season as a member of the University of Michigan wrestling coaching staff and will begin his seventh year as the top assistant coach under Joe McFarland. Honored as the 2005 NWCA Assistant Coach of the Year, Trost has been an integral part of the Wolverines' wrestling achievements. His experience in all styles of wrestling gives him the ability to help the entire team in all phases of the sport.

A teammate of head coach Joe McFarland when both were student-athletes at Michigan, Trost has represented the Wolverine wrestling program at the collegiate and international levels as both a participant and a coach.

Trost capped an outstanding collegiate career by winning the 1986 NCAA heavyweight title. He became Michigan's 12th different national champion and recorded the program's 17th national crown. A two-time NCAA All-American, Trost was the

heavyweight runner-up in 1985. He is one of 13 Wolverine wrestlers to qualify all four years to the NCAA Championships where he compiled a 9-3 record at the 190-pound and heavyweight weight classes.

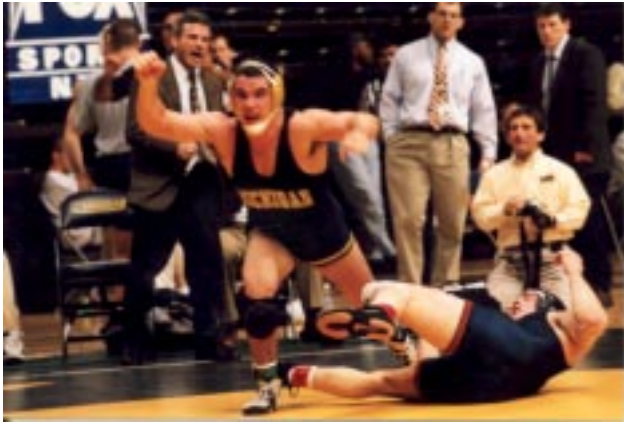
A four-year Michigan letterwinner (1983, '84, '85, '86), Trost's 139-48 career mark is fifth all-time in wins at Michigan. He compiled 71 victories in dual meets, Big Ten and NCAA tournament competition. Trost posted back-to-back 44-win seasons during his last two years, including an undefeated dual and Big Ten dual campaign as a senior. Trost's 23 straight victories during the 1986 season ranks ninth on Michigan's all-time consecutive wins list.

After a successful collegiate career, Trost pursued an international wrestling career that began with a third-place finish in the 220-pound class at the 1987 Olympic Festival. He went on to claim the 1987 World Cup title, defeating Akmed Atovov, the Soviet Union's top wrestler (8-2), in Mongolia. He also captured the gold medal at the 1990 Pan-American Games and won bronze and the 1990 World Championships and the 1991 World Cup.

Trost competed at the 1988 U.S. Olympic Trials where he was the runner-up at 220 pounds. He traveled to Seoul, South Korea, as an alternate on the U.S. Olympic Team and was the 1990 World Championships bronze medalist. A member of the USA freestyle team since 1987, Trost placed third in the 1992 Olympic Trials and won the 1993 U.S. Freestyle National Championship.

A 1998 inductee to the Illinois Wrestling Hall of Fame, Trost was a runner-up and third-place finisher at the Illinois State High School Championships while a student at Lincoln-Way High School.

A New Lenox, Ill., native, Trost graduated from Michigan in 1986. Trost resides in Pinckney with his wife Theresa, daughter Elise and son Lance.



**Andy Hrovat enters** his third season on the U-M coaching staff and has served in various positions, including the strength and conditioning coach and administrative assistant.

A member of the USA National Freestyle team, Hrovat has placed at several major international competitions, including the 2001 Pan-Am Championships (silver), 2004 Pan-Am Championships (bronze), and the 2004 International Grand Prix of Buratya, Russia (gold). He is currently the top-ranked wrestler in nation at the Senior Freestyle level at 84 kilograms, and will represent the United States at the 2006 World Freestyle Championships in China.

As a standout Wrestling Wolverine from 1998-2003, Hrovat was a four-time NCAA qualifier and three-time All American for the Wolverines. In 1998, he became one of just four Wolverine

wrestlers to earn All American honors as a true freshman by finishing eighth in the nation at 184 pounds. Hrovat followed his freshman year up with a fourth-place finish as a junior and seventh-place finish as a senior. His 132-39 career record ranks 10th all-time among the Wolverine greats.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Hrovat was a two-time state champion and three-time state finalist at Lakewood St. Edward High School and boasted a career prep record of 120-27.



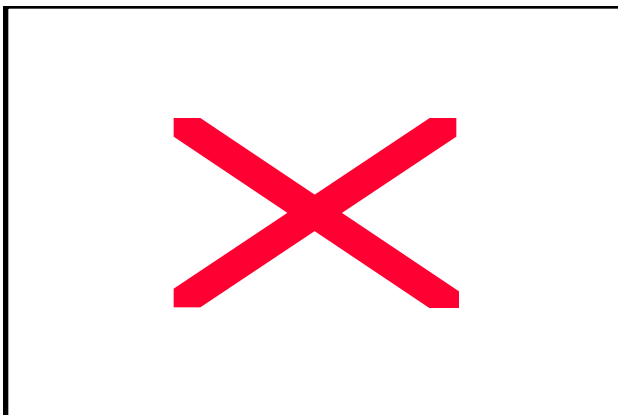
**Ryan Churella will** join the Wolverine staff after recently wrapping up one of the greatest careers in U-M program history. Churella will continue to train in freestyle with aspiration of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games.

Churella earned three consecutive NCAA All-America citations and captured a trio of Big Ten titles, becoming just the eighth Wolverine wrestler to win three consecutive conference crowns. Perhaps most impressive, Churella climbed two weight classes between his sophomore and junior seasons without missing a beat. He lost just one dual match in his final two seasons, posting 35 straight wins in head-to-head team competition.

A two-time team captain, Churella registered a career mark of 117-18, ranking 15th all-time among the Wolverine wins leaders. His winning percentage of .867 lists sixth in U-m

history. A bear on top, Churella twice led the team in falls and posted 35 career pins to list ninth all-time in that category.

Prior to his arrival in Ann Arbor, Churella was a two-time state champion at Novi High School and the 2001 Senior National champion at 140 pounds.



**Greg Wagner similarly** joins the U-M wrestling staff after completing his collegiate career last season as one of the Wolverine greats. Wagner elevated himself to the top tier of all-time U-M heavyweights and will continue to compete as he looks for a spot with Real Pro Wrestling.

Wagner claimed three straight NCAA All-America citations, including a third-place finish in a dominant performance during his senior season. A 2006 team captain, he posted a career record of 134-37 during his U-M tenure to rank seventh all-time in career wins and second among Wolverine heavyweights.

A consistent figure at the closing weight, Wagner was nearly perfect in pressure situations. He boasted a career record of 7-1 when the dual meet came down to the last match. He shared the team in falls as a senior and compiled 29 pins in his career, the second-most all-time among U-M heavyweights.

A native of Fort Wayne, Ind., Wagner was an Indiana state champion and two-time state finalist at Snider High School.