



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 Tblisi 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.