

Kip Herren

LIFETIME SERVICE TO WRESTLING

Sterling Junior High School 1976-1979

Auburn High School 1979-1992

Kip wrestled in high school in California where he was a 3 time CIF state placer with a record of 108-17. He then attended San Francisco State University where he was a Western Athletic Conference and Central Coast College Champion and a 3 time Division II NCAA qualifier with a 130-19 won/loss record. He comes from a strong family wrestling tree in San Francisco that included Al Abraham, Bill Smith and Ed Haddad. Following his graduation in 1974, he started his wrestling coaching career as an assistant coach at SFSU for two years before moving to the State of Washington as head wrestling coach at Sterling JH School in Wenatchee. In 1979, Herren became the head wrestling coach at Auburn High School, where he led the Trojans for the next 13 years.

As the head wrestling coach at Auburn, Kip compiled a 139-28-1 dual meet record, had 32 state placers including eight State Champions. His teams were 5 times North Puget Sound League or South Puget Sound League Champions, 5 times Regional Champions and finished 2nd, 3rd, 5th-twice and 6th-twice in the State "AAA" Championships. His teams finished in the Top Ten 9 times in his 13 years, and were twice WIAA Wrestling Academic State Champions.

Herren served as Vice President of the Washington Wrestling Coaches Association from 1985-1989 and was instrumental in putting together the first State Wrestling Poll, and served as color commentator at Mat Classic for Prime Sports Northwest. Kip was also involved in freestyle coaching and coached the West Team in the 1979 Sports Festival and the 1979 World Elite Team. Herren was a very active advocate for the state cultural exchange program and provided clinics at the local and state level. He published articles on wrestling technique, coaching and program building and was one of the early advocates for women's wrestling. He proposed the 2-entry per weight class for wrestling state qualifiers which was eventually adopted by the WIAA.

Coach Herren was selected as the "AAA" Wrestling Coach of the year in 1986, and was inducted into the Washington State Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame in 1992. In 1992 Kip Herren received his Doctorate in Education from Seattle University and became the Principal at Auburn High School, and then served as Superintendent of the Auburn School District, retiring in 2015. He was named the Washington State Superintendent of the Year for 2015.

Kip and his wife Julie reside in Auburn and have three adult children Dennis (41), who was a NAIA National Champion, Ruth (38) and April (35). Kip and Julie have 8 grandchildren.

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