

**The original documents are located in Box 30, folder “Presidential Meetings with Members of The House of Representatives, 9/24/75-9/30/75” of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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September 25, 1975

Dear Ed:

Enclosed is the photograph which was taken yesterday morning at the meeting which you had with the President.

I am pleased to send this to you with the best wishes of the President.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Loeffler  
Special Assistant  
for Legislative Affairs

Honorable Edwin B. Forsythe  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Enclosure

TGL:nd

1 photo 24SE75A6587-07



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF  
THROUGH: VERN LOEN *VL*  
FROM: TOM LOEFFLER *T.L.*  
SUBJECT: Congressional Hour - September 24

Attached is a revised list of the participants in the Presidential meeting with Representative Edwin B. Forsythe. This meeting was at 11:00 a.m. for 10 minutes.

Attach.

## PARTICIPANTS

The President

Rep. Edwin B. Forsythe (R-N.J.)

Tom Loeffler (staff)



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1975

MEETING WITH REP. EDWIN B. FORSYTHE (R-N.J.)

Wednesday, September 24, 1975

11:00 a.m. (5 minutes)

The Oval Office

Via: Max Friedersdorf

From: Vern Loen VL

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the Army's plans to transfer basic training operations from Ft. Dix, New Jersey, to Fts. Benning, Georgia, and McClellan, Alabama.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. Rep. Forsythe wrote the President expressing concern about the Army's plans to move basic training operations from Ft. Dix.
2. Mr. Forsythe received a reply on August 18 from Brig. Gen. John F. Forrest, Director of Military Personnel Management, which he considered unsatisfactory.
3. Rep. Forsythe, in his 4th term, is a member of the Government Operations Committee and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

B. Participants: The President  
Rep. Edwin B. Forsythe (R-N.J.)  
Vern Loen (staff)

C. Press Plan: White House photographer only

II. TALKING POINTS (see attached fact sheet)

1. Although the Army plans to phase out the training program at Ft. Dix during FY78, there is no intent at present to close the installation.
2. The Army is conducting a study to determine whether other activities can be transferred to Ft. Dix. This study is to be completed by November 1st.
3. Secretary of the Army Hoffman is very concerned about the future of Ft. Dix as demonstrated by his recent visit there to obtain more information.

## FACT SHEET

### Background and Current Army Planning-Fort Dix, New Jersey

Fort Dix has been improved and used over the years to accommodate a training mission. The total investment at the installation is approximately \$200 million. Current Army plans are to phase out the training activities at the post during FY 1978.

As the Army completes its drawdown from the Vietnam era peak of 1.57 million to a strength of 785,000, adjustments to the training base must be made to obtain greater effectiveness at less cost and to help attain the Army objective of fielding 16 active duty combat ready divisions within the 785,000 strength figure. Toward that end, the Army developed its One Station Training Program (OST). Announced in February 1974, this program will permit most soldiers to receive initial entry (basic combat), initial skill (advanced individual) and professional development training at the same installation. This will shorten the time to train the new enlistee, reduce his number of moves and take greater advantage of the expertise in the Army's branch schools. OST is a phased plan which is scheduled to be fully implemented at eight Army installations by end FY 1978. By consolidating training assets, this Army program is expected to make available in FY 1979 and beyond annual savings of \$143.5 million and 8,200 military man years for reallocation to meet priority Army requirements. A House Appropriations Committee Survey and Investigation team is currently (July-September) investigating all aspects of One Station Training.

Fort Dix is less desirable for the training mission than the eight locations selected. It is relatively small in size (32,000 acres) as compared to training centers at Fort Benning, Georgia (182,000 acres) or Fort Knox, Kentucky (110,000 acres), for example, and suffers from greater encroachment and environmental problems. Further, an additional investment of up to approximately \$48 million is required to bring barracks and other facilities at Fort Dix up to the current Army-wide standard. The training load at Fort Dix is to be shifted during FY 1978 to Fort McClellan, Alabama and Fort Benning, Georgia--the professional homes of the military police and infantry, respectively.

Although the Army plans to phase out the training mission at Fort Dix during FY 1978, there is no plan or intent at present to close the installation. The training mission involves about 2,000 of approximately 5,000 permanent party military stationed there, some 200 of 2,000 civilian employees and an average daily training load of 5,915 trainees. The feasibility of moving other activities to Fort Dix is under active consideration. While size and encroachment problems may

## Background and Current Army Planning-Fort Dix, New Jersey

preclude stationing a major troop unit there, several other possibilities are being explored. The Army study assessing these possibilities is expected to be completed by 1 November 1975.

The Secretary of the Army is very much concerned about the future of Fort Dix. He visited there on 4 September 1975 to obtain more information on the installation. He has also recently visited Fort Drum, New York and Fort Monmouth, New Jersey to gain a better appreciation of Army stationing in the Northeast.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: September 10, 1975  
FROM: Vern Loen/VL  
THRU: Max Friedersdorf  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Representative Edwin B. Forsythe (R-N.J.)

DATE: Next Congressional Hour

PURPOSE: To discuss the Army's plans to transfer basic training operations from Ft. Dix, New Jersey, to Fts. Benning, Georgia, and McClellan, Alabama.

FORMAT: The Oval Office - 10 minutes

9/24 11:00/05

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Rep. Edwin B. Forsythe (R-N.J.)  
Vern Loen (staff)  
Capt. Leland Kollmorgen (Military Aide)

SPEECH

MATERIAL: Talking points to be provided by Military Aide

PRESS

COVERAGE: White House photographer only

STAFF:

Vern Loen  
Capt. Leland Kollmorgen

RECOMMEND: Max Friedersdorf

BACKGROUND:

1. Rep. Forsythe wrote to the President on June 18 expressing concern about the Army's plans to move the basic training operations out of Ft. Dix.
2. Mr. Forsythe received a reply on August 18 from Brig. Gen. John F. Forrest, Director of Military Personnel Management, which he considered unsatisfactory.
3. Rep. Forsythe, in his 4th term, is a member of the Government Operations Committee and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Military Aide

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date \_\_\_\_\_

TO: VH

FROM: VERN C. LOEN

Please Handle ✓

For Your Information \_\_\_\_\_

Per Our Conversation \_\_\_\_\_

Other: *Please do draft  
sched. proposal - maybe  
we can get him in Cong.  
he. on 9-16.*

September 5, 1975

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your September 3 letter to the President asking that you have an opportunity to meet with him to discuss the Fort Dix problem and the ramifications of its closing.

I wanted you to know that I have submitted a Schedule proposal asking that a meeting be arranged as soon as possible. We will be back in touch with you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen  
Deputy Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable Edwin B. Forsythe  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

~~cc: w/incoming~~ to Vern Loen for submission of Schedule Proposal  
bcc: w/incoming to Capt. Kollmorgan for background status  
report for use in preparation of briefing paper.  
bcc: w/incoming to Max Friedersdorf - FYI

VCL:VO:vo



SEP 4 1975

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

September 3, 1975

Hon. Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On June 18 I wrote to you expressing my deep concern about the Army's plans to transfer basic training operations out of Ft. Dix, New Jersey, and into Fts. Benning, Georgia and McClellan, Alabama. My letter was intended to be personal in nature and to appraise you directly of the political problems raised by such a move at this time.

On August 18, two months later, I received a response from Brig. Gen. John F. Forrest, Director of Military Personnel Management, which provided no substantial information and which indicated to me that you had not, in all probability, been aware of my correspondence.

Mr. President, serious questions have been raised by the staff of the House Appropriations Committee as to the actual cost impact of the projected move. The investigatory staff of the committee has recommended against the approval of funds requested by the Army for this purpose. Secretary of the Army Hoffman is to visit Fort Dix with me tomorrow, and I hope, as do Sens. Case and Williams, to convince him that this installation should remain a viable force in our Army training operations.

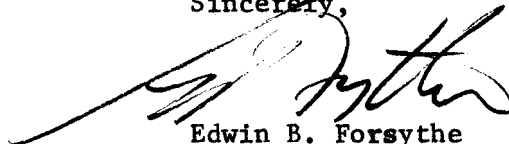
I must reiterate, Mr. President, my deep concern that continued Administration efforts to cut the heart out of Fort Dix, casting aside nearly \$200 million in physical facilities, and adversely impacting on an unemployment rate presently at 13 percent, are seriously damaging to your position in New Jersey as well as to my own.



Page Two  
Hon. Gerald R. Ford  
September 3, 1975

I am requesting the opportunity, Mr. President, to meet personally with you to discuss this most important matter. I will greatly appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. B. Forsythe', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left.

Edwin B. Forsythe  
Member of Congress

EBF/jdg



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

12 September 1975

*Ken*  
MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. Warren L. Gullett  
Executive Assistant to the  
Military Assistant to the President  
The White House

Pursuant to your request, attached is a fact sheet on  
Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

*Ken*  
Kenneth R. Bailey  
Colonel, USA  
Military Assistant

Attachment

*File w sched prep.*  
*VL*



## FACT SHEET

### Background and Current Army Planning-Fort Dix, New Jersey

Fort Dix has been improved and used over the years to accommodate a training mission. The total investment at the installation is approximately \$200 million. Current Army plans are to phase out the training activities at the post during FY 1978.

As the Army completes its drawdown from the Vietnam era peak of 1.57 million to a strength of 785,000, adjustments to the training base must be made to obtain greater effectiveness at less cost and to help attain the Army objective of fielding 16 active duty combat ready divisions within the 785,000 strength figure. Toward that end, the Army developed its One Station Training Program (OST). Announced in February 1974, this program will permit most soldiers to receive initial entry (basic combat), initial skill (advanced individual) and professional development training at the same installation. This will shorten the time to train the new enlistee, reduce his number of moves and take greater advantage of the expertise in the Army's branch schools. OST is a phased plan which is scheduled to be fully implemented at eight Army installations by end FY 1978. By consolidating training assets, this Army program is expected to make available in FY 1979 and beyond annual savings of \$143.5 million and 8,200 military man years for reallocation to meet priority Army requirements. A House Appropriations Committee Survey and Investigation team is currently (July-September) investigating all aspects of One Station Training.

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## Background and Current Army Planning-Fort Dix, New Jersey

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The Secretary of the Army is very much concerned about the future of Fort Dix. He visited there on 4 September 1975 to obtain more information on the installation. He has also recently visited Fort Drum, New York and Fort Monmouth, New Jersey to gain a better appreciation of Army stationing in the Northeast.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

8 September 1975

TO COLONEL BAILEY  
FROM BILL GULLEY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'BG' or 'Gulley', is written over the name 'BILL GULLEY'.

Can we have a fact sheet on this as soon as possible.

WH 26913

September 5, 1975

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your September 3 letter to the President asking that you have an opportunity to meet with him to discuss the Fort Dix problem and the ramifications of its closing.

I wanted you to know that I have submitted a Schedule proposal asking that a meeting be arranged as soon as possible. We will be back in touch with you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen  
Deputy Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable Edwin B. Forsythe  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc: w/incoming to Vern Loen for submission of Schedule Proposal  
~~bcc: w/incoming to Capt. Kollmorgan for background status~~  
report for use in preparation of briefing paper.  
bcc: w/incoming to Max Friedersdorf - FYI

VCL:VO:vo



WH 26913

SEP 4 1975

MEMBER:  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON  
MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

September 3, 1975

Hon. Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On June 18 I wrote to you expressing my deep concern about the Army's plans to transfer basic training operations out of Ft. Dix, New Jersey, and into Fts. Benning, Georgia and McClellan, Alabama. My letter was intended to be personal in nature and to appraise you directly of the political problems raised by such a move at this time.

On August 18, two months later, I received a response from Brig. Gen. John F. Forrest, Director of Military Personnel Management, which provided no substantial information and which indicated to me that you had not, in all probability, been aware of my correspondence.

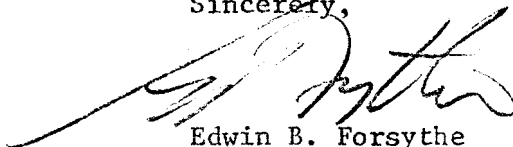
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I must reiterate, Mr. President, my deep concern that continued Administration efforts to cut the heart out of Fort Dix, casting aside nearly \$200 million in physical facilities, and adversely impacting on an unemployment rate presently at 13 percent, are seriously damaging to your position in New Jersey as well as to my own.

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September 3, 1975

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Sincerely,

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Edwin B. Forsythe  
Member of Congress

EBF/jdg



8 September 1975

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With kindest regards,

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Deputy Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable Edwin B. Forsythe  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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SEP 4 1975

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House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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The White House  
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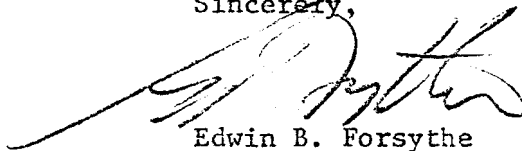
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September 3, 1975

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. B. Forsythe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edwin B. Forsythe  
Member of Congress

EBF/jdg

September 25, 1975

Dear Bill:

Enclosed are the photographs which were taken yesterday at the meeting you and the Murphy's and Johnson's from Virginia had with the President.

I am pleased to send these to you with the best wishes of the President.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Loeffler  
Special Assistant for  
Legislative Affairs

Honorable William Wampler  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Enclosures

TGL:nd

5 photo enclosures sent by messenger  
#24SE75A6585-07A



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1975

GREET REP. WILLIAM WAMPLER (R.-VA.) AND MR. AND MRS.  
J. R. (PAT) MURPHY AND MR. AND MRS. ERNEST JOHNSON

Wednesday, September 24, 1975  
11:10 a.m. (5 minutes)  
The Oval Office

Via: Max Friedersdorf  
From: Tom Loeffler

I. PURPOSE

Opportunity for Mr. Wampler to introduce to the President Mr. and Mrs. J. R. (Pat) Murphy and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Johnson. The Murphy's and Johnson's wish to present to the President the first signed artist proof of a watercolor celebrating our Bicentennial.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background

1. Mr. Murphy commissioned Mr. Johnson to paint watercolor Bicentennial paintings. Mr. Johnson will personally supervise the printing of a limited number of artist proofs.
2. The artist, Mr. Johnson, is presently a free-lance illustrator, designer, artist and art teacher.
3. In addition, he has participated in many art shows and has won numerous awards on his work.
4. Painting is entitled "Our Martyred Presidents".

B. Participants:

The President  
Rep. William C. Wampler (R.-Va.)  
Mr. J. R. (Pat) Murphy - New Castle, Va.  
Mrs. Ruby Murphy  
Mr. Ernest Johnson - Salem, Va.  
Mrs. Jean Johnson  
Tom Loeffler (staff)

C. Press Plan

Announce to press  
White House photographer only

III. TALKING POINTS

1. Bill, thank you for bringing the Murphy's and Johnson's to see me.
2. I appreciate having the first signed artist proof of this beautiful Bicentennial painting.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~Weta -~~

~~this is approved .~~

~~W.~~

~~11:25 (5 min) 7/17/75~~

Hold for next Congr Hour





June 4, 1975

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your May 17 letter about the request of Mr. J. R. Murphy to arrange for the presentation to the President of an artistic proof of a Bicentennial water-color which Mr. Murphy has commissioned Mr. Ernest Johnson to paint.

I will be pleased to ask that full consideration be given to arranging a meeting at which you, Congressman Caldwell Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson can participate in the presentation. The President's schedule will be particularly heavy in the coming weeks, but I want to assure you every effort will be made to schedule an appointment.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Ray L. Friedlander  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable William C. Wampler  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: w/incoming to Nancy Kennedy for pending file  
w/incoming to Warren Rustand for further handling

MLP:EF:VO:mig



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 27, 1975

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
DISTRICT OFFICES:  
524 CUMBERLAND STREET  
BRISTOL, VIRGINIA 24201  
309 N. WASHINGTON AVENUE  
PULASKI, VIRGINIA 24301  
P.O. Box 2000  
POST OFFICE BUILDING  
BIG STONE GAP, VIRGINIA 24219

JUN 3 1975

Mr. Max L. Friedersdorf  
Assistant to the President  
for Congressional Relations  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Max:

Mr. J. R. Murphy, P. O. Box 261, New Castle, Virginia 24127, has contacted me regarding a watercolor celebrating the Bicentennial which he has commissioned a local artist to paint.

The artist, Ernest Johnson, will personally supervise the printing of a limited number of artist proofs, and Mr. Murphy would like to present the first signed artist proof to President Ford.

Although he would like to make this presentation on July 4, 1975 because of the significance of the date, any date that can be arranged this year would be welcomed. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, myself and hopefully Congressman Caldwell Butler, in whose congressional district Ernest Johnson resides, would be the ones attending the presentation.

I am enclosing Mr. Johnson's resume for your information, and I will appreciate your consideration of this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

*Bill*

William C. Wampler  
Member of Congress

WCW:jg



Ernest M. Johnson  
Rt. 2, Box 297-B  
Salem, Virginia 24153

Native of Hampton, Virginia  
Born April 18, 1924

Studied at Pratt Institute for 3 years, receiving Certificate in Illustration  
...instructors included Khosrov Ajootian, Maitland Graves, Herbert Creekmore  
Mac Harshberger, Fritz Eichenberg. (1946-1949)

Past Employment - artist and art director for advertising agencies

Present Employment - Free-lance illustrator, designer, artist and art teacher

#### JURIED SHOWS AND AWARDS

2 man show - Roanoke Fine Arts Center, Roanoke, Virginia - October 1960

Honorable Mention, Watercolor - Heironimus-AAUW Show 1963

Best in Watercolor & Mixed Media, Professional-Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show 1963

Third Place, Watercolor - Heironimus-AAUW Show 1964.

17th Annual Show, Winston-Salem Gallery of Fine Arts, 1964

Accepted, Rental Gallery - Norfolk Museum of Arts & Sciences, 1964

Piedmont Graphics Exhibition, Mint Museum, Charlotte, N.C. - 1965 and 1966

First Honorable Mention, Oils - Heironimus-AAUW Show 1965

Best In Show, Heironimus-AAUW Show 1966

First in Watercolor, Professional - Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show 1966

Best in Show, Popular Vote, and First Honorable Mention, Watercolor  
Heironimus-AAUW Show 1967

1-Man Show, Roanoke Fine Arts Center 1967

22nd American Drawing Biennial, Norfolk, Museum 1967

First Place, Aqueous Media - 6th College & Community Art Show, Roanoke College

Grand Piano Furn. Co. Purchase Award - Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show 1967

Purchase Award, 19th Annual Irene Leach Mem. Exhibition - Norfolk Museum of  
Arts & Sciences 1968

Security National Bank Purchase Award, Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show 1968

Purchase Awards for: Realistic Painting of Distinction

and: Drawing, Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show 1969

Honorable Mention, Watercolor - 9th Annual College & Community Art Show 1970

1-man Show - Lynchburg Art Club 1970

2 paintings accepted in WATERCOLOR USA 1971 - Springfield, Missouri  
- 1 painting awarded Citizens Bank Award

1-man Show - Roanoke Fine Arts Center 1971

Best Professional Watercolor - Roanoke Sidewalk Art Show 1971

1-man Show - Lynchburg Fine Arts Center, March 1974

1-man Show - White House Galleries, Roanoke, Va., May 1974

College Toyota Award, Lynchburg Art Festival September 1974

Juried Artists Exhibition - Roanoke Fine Arts Center 1974

1-man Show - North Cross School, Roanoke, Va. - March 1975

#### OTHER HONORS

Served as Associate Trustee, Roanoke Fine Arts Center 1957

Served as Chairman, Exhibition Committee, Roanoke Fine Arts Center 1959

Co-Judge (with Walter Biggs and Pierre Daura) NEW Art Exhibit 1963

Subject of Article in "La Revue Moderne des arts et la vie"(Paris)-Nov. 1967

Judge Crossroads Mall Art Show, Roanoke - 1968

Instructor for University of Virginia and Roanoke Fine Arts Center

Chairman, Advisory Committee for Commercial Art, Roanoke County Educational Center



September 25, 1975

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed are the photographs which were taken yesterday during your meeting with the President and Senator Curtis, as well as Mr. Davis and Mr. Smith.

I am pleased to send these to you with the best wishes of the President.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Loeffler  
Special Assistant  
for Legislative Affairs

Honorable George Mahon  
Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Enclosures

TGL:nd  
2 photo enclosures sent by messenger  
#24SE75A6586-06/  
-06A



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF  
THROUGH: VERN LOEN VL  
FROM: TOM LOEFFLER T.L.  
SUBJECT: Congressional Hour - September 24

Attached is a revised list of the participants in the Presidential meeting with Senator Curtis and Representatives Mahon. This meeting was at 11:35 a.m. for 15 minutes.

Attach.

## PARTICIPANTS

The President

Senator Curtis

Congressman Mahon

Ray Davis, former President of the National Wheat Growers  
Assoc.

Wilmer Smith, a cotton farmer from Newhome, Texas

## Staff

William T. Kendall

Thomas G. Loeffler

September 25, 1975

Dear Bill:

Enclosed are the photographs which were taken yesterday at the meeting you and the Luffman Family from New York had with the President.

I am pleased to send these to you with the best wishes of the President.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Loeffler  
Special Assistant  
for Legislative Affairs

Honorable William F. Walsh  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Enclosure s

TGL:nd

5 photo enclosures - 24SE75A6586-02A  
2 photos - 24SE75A6585-18A



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF  
THROUGH: VERN LOEN *VL*  
FROM: TOM LOEFFLER *T.L.*  
SUBJECT: Congressional Hour - September 24

Attached is a revised list of the participants in the Presidential meeting with Representative William F. Walsh. This meeting was at 11:20 a.m. for five minutes.

Attach.



## PARTICIPANTS

The President

Rep. William F. Walsh (R. -N. Y.)

Mr. Robert Luffman

Mrs. Joan Luffman

Miss Leslie Luffman

Miss Margaret Luffman

Tom Loeffler (staff)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1975

GREET REP. WILLIAM F. WALSH (R-N. Y.) AND MR. AND MRS.  
ROBERT LUFFMAN

Wednesday, September 24, 1975  
11:20 a.m. (5 minutes)  
The Oval Office

Via: Max Friedersdorf  
From: Tom Loeffler

I. PURPOSE

Opportunity for Mr. Walsh to introduce to the President Mr. and Mrs. Robert Luffman. Mr. and Mrs. Luffman will present a Bicentennial art form to the President.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background

1. Mr. Walsh requested this presentation for his constituents of Waterloo, New York.
2. Mr. and Mrs. Luffman wish to present an artistic innovation called Luffman Delft, part of the Luffman family collection. This is a soft paste porcelain plate, hand painted in shades of blue, and representing religious, mythological and historic events significant in American life.
3. Mrs. Luffman is an outstanding contributor to our creative culture, and as a result of her work has been awarded the Mamie Doud Eisenhower citation.

B. Participants:       The President  
                              Rep. William F. Walsh (R. -N. Y.)  
                              Mr. Robert Luffman  
                              Mrs. Joan Luffman  
                              Tom Loeffler (staff)

C. Press Plan  
                              Announce to press  
                              White House photographer only

III. TALKING POINTS

1. Art is a wonderful form of expression for the Bicentennial celebration and this beautiful delft original is certainly no exception. I thank you for your thoughtfulness in presenting me with the first plate.
2. Mrs. Luffman, I understand that you are an outstanding contributor in the field of art and have been awarded the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Citation for your exceptional merits in this field.
3. The Luffman Delft collection which was originated by your family in 1973 is very unique in its representation of historic events.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL  
DATE: July 9, 1975  
THRU: Max Friedersdorf  
FROM: Vern Loen *VL*  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Rep. William F. Walsh (R-NY)

DATE: Next Congressional Hour  
(scheduled for July 17)

PURPOSE: Bicentennial art form presentation

FORMAT: The Oval Office - 5 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Rep. William F. Walsh (R-NY)  
Mr. Robert Luffman  
Mrs. Joan Luffman  
Vern Loen (staff)

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points

PRESS COVERAGE: Announce to press as part of Congressional Hour  
White House photographer only

STAFF: Vern Loen

RECOMMEND: Max Friedersdorf

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND:

1. By letter of June 26 Mr. Walsh requested this presentation for his constituents of Waterloo, New York.
2. They wish to present an artistic innovation called Luffman Delft, part of the Luffman family collection. This is a soft paste porcelain, hand painted in shades of blue, and representing religious, mythological and historic events significant in American life.

3. Mrs. Luffman holds the Mamie Doud  
Eisenhower citation (1972) and is  
listed in "Who's Who of Women."

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Bill Walsh's office  
Diane Roberts -

225-3333

- Robert Luffman
- Joan Luffman
- Lesley Luffman 17  
daughter

July 1, 1975

HC  
Looking for 7/17  
Cong. Mr.?

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your June 26 letter to the President concerning the desire of the Luffman family to present a commemorative piece of Luffman Delft to him.

I will be pleased to ask that full consideration be given to this request. You will hear further as soon as possible.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Vernon C. Loen  
Deputy Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable William F. Walsh  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc: w/incoming to Warren Rustand for further action  
w/incoming to Max Friedersdorf - for pending  
w/incoming to Vern Loen for pending

VCL:EFLVO:mlg



4  
WILLIAM F. WALSH  
330 DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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AND TRANSPORTATION  
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F. GIBSON DARRISON, JR.  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
202 225-3333

*Re  
Interview to  
present gift*

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

6-27  
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June 26, 1975

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

*MF*  
As the Bicentennial approaches, citizens from New York to California rally for the traditions and culture of our American life. The art form, acting as a medium for expression, has become an integral part of our culture and should be recognized as symbolic of our heritage.

Members of my constituency, acting in a creative capacity, desire the opportunity to add to our heritage through an artistic innovation called Luffman Delft. The Luffman Delft collection was started in 1973 by the Luffman Family of Waterloo, New York. It is a soft paste porcelain, hand painted only in shades of blue, and representing religious, mythological and historic events significant to the lives of all Americans.

The Luffman Delft collection has been acclaimed by many renowned organizations as a masterwork in the field of art. Mrs. Luffman, an outstanding contributor to our creative culture, has been awarded the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Citation (1972) and has been listed in the "Dictionary of International Biography" and "Who's Who of Women" (1975).

As you can well see, the Luffmans have contributed greatly to our society, both in and out of the art field. They are indeed prominent citizens who wish to gain the privilege to present you, Mr. President, with one of their own delft creations, an original first plate. I would join the Luffmans in being very grateful for any consideration you might show their request.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

*Bill Walsh*

William F. Walsh  
Member of Congress

WFW/dlr

THIS STATIONERY PRINTED ON PAPER MADE WITH RECYCLED FIBERS

GLb Darrison



**September 29, 1975**

**Dear Don:**

**Thought you might like to have several more pictures taken with the President when you had Mr. Seberanes and Mr. Quigley in during the Congressional Hour.**

**Sincerely,**

**Charles Leppert, Jr.  
Special Assistant  
for Legislative Affairs**

**Honorable Don H. Clausen  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515**

**Enclosures: (4) blkwh. 24SE75A6585-24A**

**CL:nb**



**September 25, 1975**

**Dear Don:**

**I am enclosing the pictures taken during your visit with the President on September 24th when you introduced Mr. Bill Seberanes and Mr. Maurice Quigley during the Congressional Hour.**

**These are the only pictures available and I am pleased to send them to you on behalf of the President.**

**Sincerely,**

**Charles Leppert, Jr.  
Special Assistant  
for Legislative Affairs**

**Honorable Don H. Clausen  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515**

**Enclosures: (3) blkwh. 24SE75A6585-24A +**

**CL:nb**

*Bill Birkhofer 225-3311 (Fitzsimmons)*



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1975

MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE DON H. CLAUSEN (R-CAL.)

Wednesday, September 24, 1975  
11:25 - 11:30 a.m. (5 minutes)  
The Oval Office

Via: Max L. Friedersdorf  
Vern Loen

From: Charles Leppert, Jr. *CLJr.*

I. PURPOSE: To greet Rep. Don Clausen with Mr. Bill Soberanes, Mr. Jim Dolcini and Mr. Maurice Quigley

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. Rep. Don Clausen was elected to the 89th and succeeding Congresses and represents the Second Congressional District of California. He serves on the House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs and Public Works and Transportation.
2. Mr. Soberanes, of Petaluma, California, is a columnist for the Petaluma Argus-Courier and the founder and promoter of the World Wristwrestling Championship. As a promoter, his oldest and best known project is the World Wristwrestling Championship which was started 21 years ago as the Petaluma Championship, progressed to the California State Championship and 13 years ago became a World Championship and an international event with the entry of world-wide media coverage.
3. Mr. Jim Dolcini of Petaluma, California, is the 1974 World's Heavyweight Wristwrestling Champion. He won the same title in 1970 and 1972. He will defend his world heavyweight title in Petaluma, California on October 11, 1975.

*Mr Dolcini could not make it - M7 wanted it done anyway.*



4. Mr. Maurice Quigley of Santa Rosa, California, is the Vice President and Treasurer of the T.A.S. Management Corporation and the World's Wristwrestling Championship, Inc.

B. Participants:

The President  
Rep. Don H. Clausen  
Mr. Bill Soberanes  
Mr. Jim Dolcini  
Mr. Maurice Quigley  
Charles Leppert, Jr. (staff)

C. Press Plan:

White House photographers only

III. TALKING POINTS

1. Briefly, tell me how wristwrestling started and became an international event. How many people will your Championship in October draw as spectators?
2. Mr. Soberanes, I congratulate you on making Petaluma, California the home of an international event and wish you every success in the future.
3. Mr. Dolcini, good luck to you in the defense of your heavyweight title next month.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: July 28, 1975  
FROM: Charles Leppert, Jr. *CLJ*  
THRU: Max Friedersdorf  
Vern Loen  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Rep. Don H. Clausen (R-Calif)

DATE: During Congressional Hour in September, 1975.

PURPOSE: To give Rep. Don Clausen the opportunity to introduce Mr. Bill Soberanes and Mr. Jim Dolcini, the originator, and the current heavyweight champion of the World Wristwrestling Championships.

FORMAT: The Oval Office (5 minutes)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Rep. Don H. Clausen  
Mr. Bill Soberanes  
Mr. Jim Dolcini  
Mr. Maurice Quigley  
Mr. Charles Leppert (staff)

CABINET  
PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: None

PRESS COVERAGE: Press announcement.- White House Photographer only.

STAFF: Charles Leppert, Jr.

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: 1. Mr. Bill Soberanes, columnist for the Petaluma Argus-Courier, Petaluma, California, is the originator and promoter of the World's Wristwrestling Championships.

2. The first official World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament was held in Petaluma in 1963.
3. Jim Dolcini, the present champion wristwrestler in the heavyweight division, won the World's Heavyweight Title in 1970, 1972, 1974, and will defend his title at the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament in Petaluma on October 11, 1975.
4. Maurice Quigley is Vice President and Treasurer of T.A.S. Management Corporation and World's Wristwrestling Championship, Inc.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

# SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: July 23, 1975  
FROM: Charles Leppert, Jr.  
THRU: Max Friedersdorf  
Vern Loen  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Rep. Don H. Clausen (R-Calif.)

DATE: *During Congressional Hour in September, 1975*

PURPOSE: To introduce the President to Mr. Jim Dolcini and Mr. Bill Soberanes. Mr. Dolcini is the/wristwrestling champion in the heavyweight division. ~~current~~

FORMAT: The Oval Office ( 5 minutes)  
The President  
Mr. Bill Soberanes  
Mr. Jim Dolcini  
Mr. Maurice Quigley  
Charles Leppert (staff)

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: None

PRESS COVERAGE: W.H. Photographer only. Press announcement

STAFF: Charles Leppert

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: 1. Mr. Bill Soberanes, columnist for the Petaluma Argus-Courier, Petaluma, California, is the originator and promoter of the World's Wristwrestling Championship. The ~~Championships~~ were started in 1955, in a saloon in Petaluma, Calif.

wristwrestling matches

2. The first official World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament was held in Petaluma in 1963.

3. Jim Dolcini, the present champion wristwrestler in the heavyweight division, won the World's Heavyweight Title in 1970 - 1972 - 1974 and will defend his title, in Petaluma on October 11, 1975.

at the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament

3. Maurice Quigley is Vice President and Treasurer of T.A.S. Management Corporation and World's Wristwrestling Championship, Inc. k

APPROVE: \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DON H. CLAUSEN  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
20 DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
"THE REDWOOD EMPIRE DISTRICT"

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2433 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
PHONE: 225-3311  
AREA CODE 202

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
206 ROSENBERG BUILDING  
306 MENDOCINO AVENUE  
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95401  
PHONE: 543-8844

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

June 27, 1975

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TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

Mr. Charles Leppert, Jr.  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Charlie:


Purasant to our previous discussions, I am formally requesting a photo session with the President for myself, Bill Soberanes and Jim Dolcini. Mr. Soberanes and Mr. Dolcini have indicated to me they could be in Washington any week day during the month of July with three days notice.

Mr. Soberanes is a columnist for the Petaluma Argus-Courier and founder of the World Wristwrestling Championship. Mr. Dolcini is the current defending champion in the heavyweight division.

Any assistance you could give in arranging this session would be appreciated.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,



DON H. CLAUSEN  
Representative in Congress

DHC:g



DON H. CLAUSEN  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
2D DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
"THE REDWOOD EMPIRE DISTRICT"

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2433 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
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PHONE: 225-3311  
AREA CODE 202

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
206 ROSENBERG BUILDING  
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SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95401  
PHONE: 545-8844

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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PUBLIC LANDS  
TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

*Since we wrote the letter, Maurice  
Quigley has been included in the party and  
will be able to come to Washington at  
any time with Messers. Sobreros and Dolcini*

*Larry Graves*



**MAURICE QUIGLEY**

**1064 Vallejo Street**

**Santa Rosa, Ca. 95404**

**707 - 542 1114**

**Vice President and Treasurer of T.A.S. Management  
Corporation and World's Wristwrestling Championship, Inc.**

**Resident of California for 17 years. Former Police  
Officer in New York and and Private Investigator in  
California.**

**Presently active in T.A.S. Management Corporation and  
Wristwrestling, Inc.**

**JIM DOLCINI**

**Born on Marin County Ranch.**

**Graduate Petaluma High School.**

**Attended Santa Rosa Junior College and Humboldt State College.**

**Starred in football at Petaluma High, at Santa Rosa Junior College and Humboldt State College.**

**Age 23.**

**Won the World's Heavyweight Wristwrestling Championship in 1970 - 1972 - 1974 and will defend his title at the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament in Petaluma on October 11, 1975.**

**Jim is single, and has never been married.**

**His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Dolcini, own a large dairy ranch.**



✓

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: July 28, 1975  
FROM: Charles Leppert, Jr. *cg*  
THRU: Max Friedersdorf  
Vern Loen  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Rep. Don H. Clausen (R-Calif)

DATE: During Congressional Hour in September, 1975.

PURPOSE: To give Rep. Don Clausen the opportunity to introduce Mr. Bill Soberanes and Mr. Jim Dolcini, the originator, and the current heavyweight champion of the World Wristwrestling Championships.

FORMAT: The Oval Office (5 minutes)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
Rep. Don H. Clausen  
Mr. Bill Soberanes  
Mr. Jim Dolcini  
Mr. Maurice Quigley  
Mr. Charles Leppert (staff)

CABINET  
PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: None

PRESS COVERAGE: Press announcement. White House Photographer only.

STAFF: Charles Leppert, Jr.

RECOMMEND: Max L. Friedersdorf

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: 1. Mr. Bill Soberanes, columnist for the Petaluma Argus-Courier, Petaluma, California, is the originator and promoter of the World's Wristwrestling Championships.

2. The first official World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament was held in Petaluma in 1963.
3. Jim Dolcini, the present champion wristwrestler in the heavyweight division, won the World's Heavyweight Title in 1970, 1972, 1974, and will defend his title at the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament in Petaluma on October 11, 1975.
4. Maurice Quigley is Vice President and Treasurer of T.A.S. Management Corporation and World's Wristwrestling Championship, Inc.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_





Jim Dolcini, left, defeating George Ludwickson at the M.G.M. Grand Hotel, Las Vegas, for the 1974 National Heavyweight Wristwrestling Championship. Worlds Heavyweight Wristwrestling Champion, Bill Harrison refereeing.

# SOUVENIR PROGRAM

## 1974





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**PEOPLEOLOGIST** — Columnist Bill Soberanes, originator and promoter of the World's Wristwrestling Championship claims the unusual distinction of having been photographed with more famous, infamous, usual and unusual people than anyone in the world. It is Bill's claim that he is the world's only "Peopleologist." Here he is seen with Charles Schultz; creator of "Peanuts" comic strip.

If Bill Soberanes hasn't been photographed with the little green men from Mars—he's done the next best thing. He's been pictured with the men who claim to have flown in flying saucers with the littlemen.

Soberanes whose boast is he has not missed a column in the Argus-Courier in 20 years—6 days a week—also claims that he's been photographed with more famous, infamous, usual and unusual people than anyone in the world.

Columnist Soberanes has always had a tenacious desire to meet, interview and be photographed with more people from all walks of life.

(continued on next page)

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Pat & Marge  
Deering

(continued from preceeding page)

His drive to reach this goal has already met with success and his future plans call for him to continue his never ending search for new faces to be photographed with and new personalities to interview.

His photographs - which fill fire proof steel filing cabinets - show him drinking coffee with the King and Queen of Denmark, being greeted by Carlos Romulo of the Philippines as the ambassador from Petaluma at the United Nations 10th anniversary which he attended without a pass - President Hoover, President Nixon, Senator Ted Kennedy, Sophie Tucker, Jayne Mansfield, six world heavyweight boxing champions from Jim Jeffries to Rocky Marciano, Vince " Pegleg " Lucich (bootleg era figure), locked in a room with the "Beatles" while the fans were trying to break in, Jimmy Durante, Francis X. Bushman, Bob Hope - and on and on into the thousands.

Bill, who runs into someone he knows no matter where he goes, gets mail from all around the world. But he was in Australia when he picked up the most important news from home - he had been posted as killed in action. He was on shore with the Navy when he was greeted by a buddy from home with the news.

After World War II Bill worked as a

hay baler, sailed to Canada, worked at a variety of jobs, bummed around the country, and spent a lot of time checking action at the summer resorts in Northern and Southern California.

Finally in 1950, Bill became a newspaper columnist and feature writer for the Petaluma News and a new horizon opened in his already adventure packed life. After that he went to the Santa Rosa Press Democrat and 20 years ago started writing his column in the Argus-Courier.

Bill got his first testimonial shortly after he went to work for the Petaluma News.

One of his first activities in his columns and his feature stories was to promote a new fire station for what was then called East Petaluma - east of the river. Bill put on the campaign that got through the bond issue to build Fire Station No. 2.

Bill got another testimonial from the city and the Chamber of Commerce a couple of years ago in recognition for "putting Petaluma on the map" with his wristwrestling promotion.

This is probably the oldest and best known of all Bill's projects. It started 21 years ago as a Petaluma Championship, progressed to the California State Championship and finally 13 years ago became a World Championship event. A few years ago the annual World Champ-

ionship Tournament became big time with the entry of Snoopy and international coverage by news, radio, televisions and magazine coverage.

Bill started his annual walkathon between Petaluma and Sonoma 18 years ago. It had several hundred entries last year.

Also 18 years ago, he inaugurated his annual rowboat race on the Petaluma River. His annual Table Tennis tournament is held in November and the seven year old Harry Houdini seance is held every Halloween in gabled houses, old cemeteries and other likely places for spirits. The seance attempts to get in touch with the late Harry Houdini, the skeptic who specialized in exposing spiritualists and the man who felt that contact after death could be made. This seance is handled by Soberanes and the American Magicians Association.

The fast talking newspaper columnist who hasn't taken a vacation or missed a column in 20 years managed to hammer out one the day he broke his left arm five years ago, using a finger of his right hand to hit the typewriter keys.

Soberanes recently coined a new term, Peopleologist, and he claims to be the world's first and only peopleologist.

As for wristwrestling Soberanes says, "It's infectious, and I feel certain it draws more people (as contestants and observers) than any other sport."

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# WHERE IT ALL BEGAN:



Where It All Began: Chicken Farmer Kullberg Vs. Jack Homel, Gilardi's Bar, 1955

The World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament held annually in Petaluma has produced some extraordinary encounters, some humorous episodes, and some mighty battles of strength.

The wristwrestling contests between Earle Hagerman of Santa Rosa and Duane "Tiny" Benedix of Livermore were real classics. The first encounter between Duane, the Livermore Giant, and Earle, the Santa Rosa Atom, saw Duane the victor.

A year later Earle returned and pinned the arm of the Mighty Livermore Giant. The next time around Duane pinned Earle.

Some say this series between Earle and Duane were the all time great wristwrestling matches.

One of the most unusual victories in the annual World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament took place in 1966, when Mike Rowe dethroned Arnie Klein.

The unusual angle: Mike Rowe arrived after entries were closed and was told, "sorry, but the chart is all filled, and you can't enter." Arnie Klein, who was standing nearby, told the chart men that

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*the Village Shop* 

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## THE CARPENTER AGENCY INSURANCE

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(continued from preceeding page)  
one of the heavyweights just dropped out, "so why don't you let Mike take his place on the chart?" The chart men did, and here's what happened: Klein defeated all comers, and the last to face him was Mike Rowe. Ironically, Rowe pinned Klein's arm and became the 1966 world's champion.

If Arnie Klein hadn't told the chartmen that one of the contenders had dropped out, he would have been the first man to win the World's Wristwrestling Championship two times in a row.

A humorous incident that took place during one of the early World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournaments happened like this: A fellow who said he was king of the backwoods men strutted on stage, walked past the wristwrestling table and fell off the stage. Luckily, some of the folks in the first row caught him. The embarrassed lumberjack took off, and he hasn't been back since.

Then there was the cowboy with the tight fitting jeans. As he strained to put down his opponent, the top button on his jeans broke, his pants started to fall, and he rushed backstage for a repair job.

Like the lumberjack, the cowboy never came back.

The most disappointed man ever to compete in the World's Championship Wrestling Tournament was a champion from Oregon. This Oregonian

brought his own rooting section, and he expressed the opinion that he would win with ease. The Oregon champion was involved in the first match of the evening, and his opponent was Arnie Klein.

Now, imagine how disappointed he and his rooters were when Arnie pinned his arm in exactly one second. Like the lumberjack and the cowboy, this Oregon champion hasn't been back.

The most anxious man to enter this tournament was a doctor from Oregon. This doctor was late, so he caught an airplane, flew to San Francisco, then took a taxicab to Petaluma. He made it in time to enter and went on into the finals before being defeated.

The man who has competed in the most World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournaments — A. Dado of Petaluma, and we sure hope he's in the competition this year.

Petaluman Bill Barella is probably the oldest competitor in this tournament, and we also hope he will make the scene this year.

At 5-foot-6 and 200 pounds, Earle Hagerman is the shortest man to win the unlimited division in the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament, and 6-foot-4, 350 pound Larry Finley is the biggest man to win this title.

Although there have been competitors from all over the country, all eight

world's Champion wristwrestling hailed from California.

This year things could be different, because some of the strongest men in the world are coming from other parts of the country.

It's also interesting to note that last year's world's champion, Duane 'Tiny' Benedix, hails from a town smaller than Petaluma that has produced 3 world's champions.

Duane's home town is Livermore, California, and the other world's champions produced by this town include Max Baer, who held the heavyweight boxing championship of the world, and Johnny Schneider, a world champion cowboy.

An unusual coincidence — Buddy Baer, Tiny Abbott and Chet Shandell have all been special guests at the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament. All three of these fellows are former heavyweight boxers, and all of them tip the tape measure at 6 feet, 6 inches.

The best known entry in the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament is a beagle dog named Snoopy — and he brought this tournament international publicity.

Snoopy's entrance into the 1968 World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament made people all over the world aware of the fact that there is a city named Petaluma, and that Petaluma is now the Wristwrestling Capital of the World.

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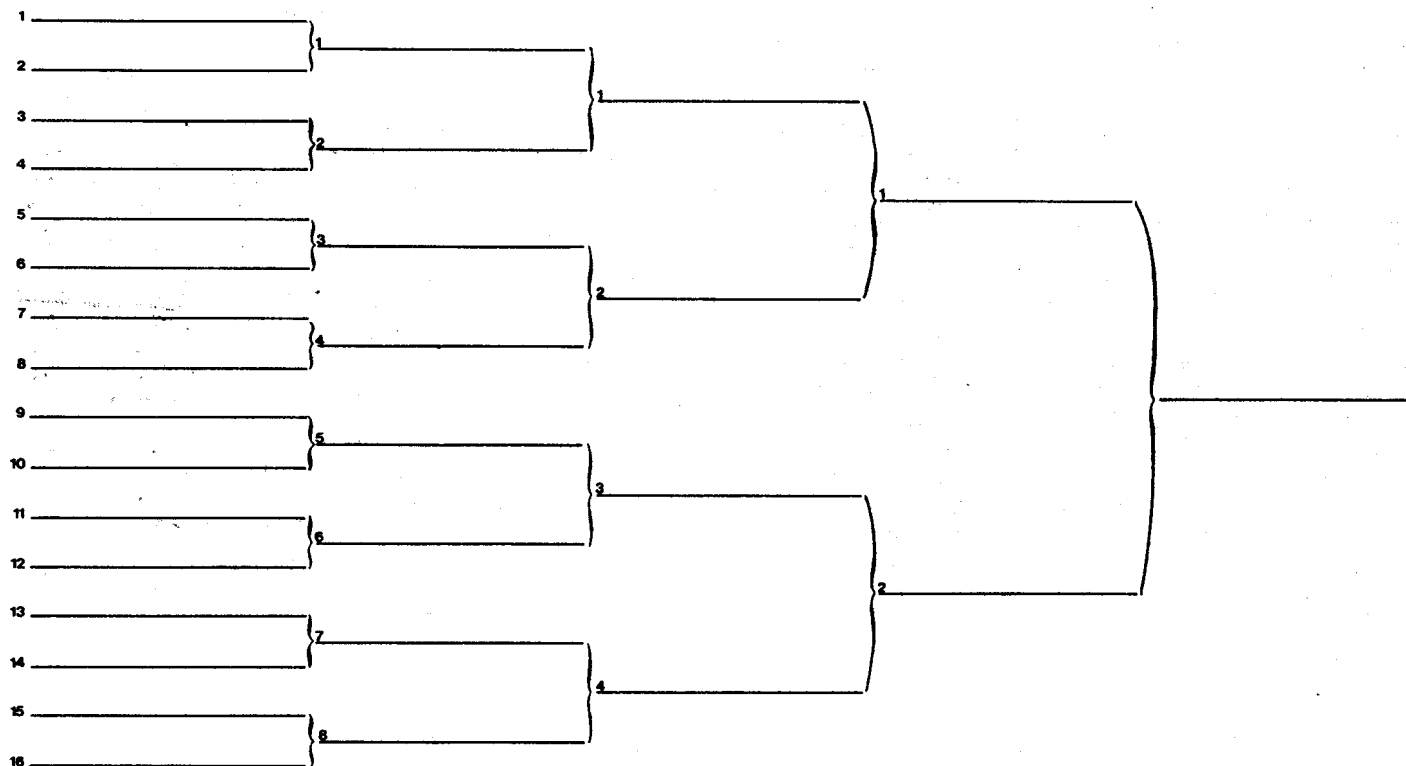
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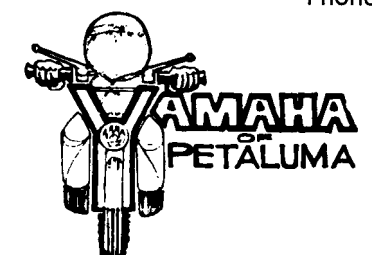
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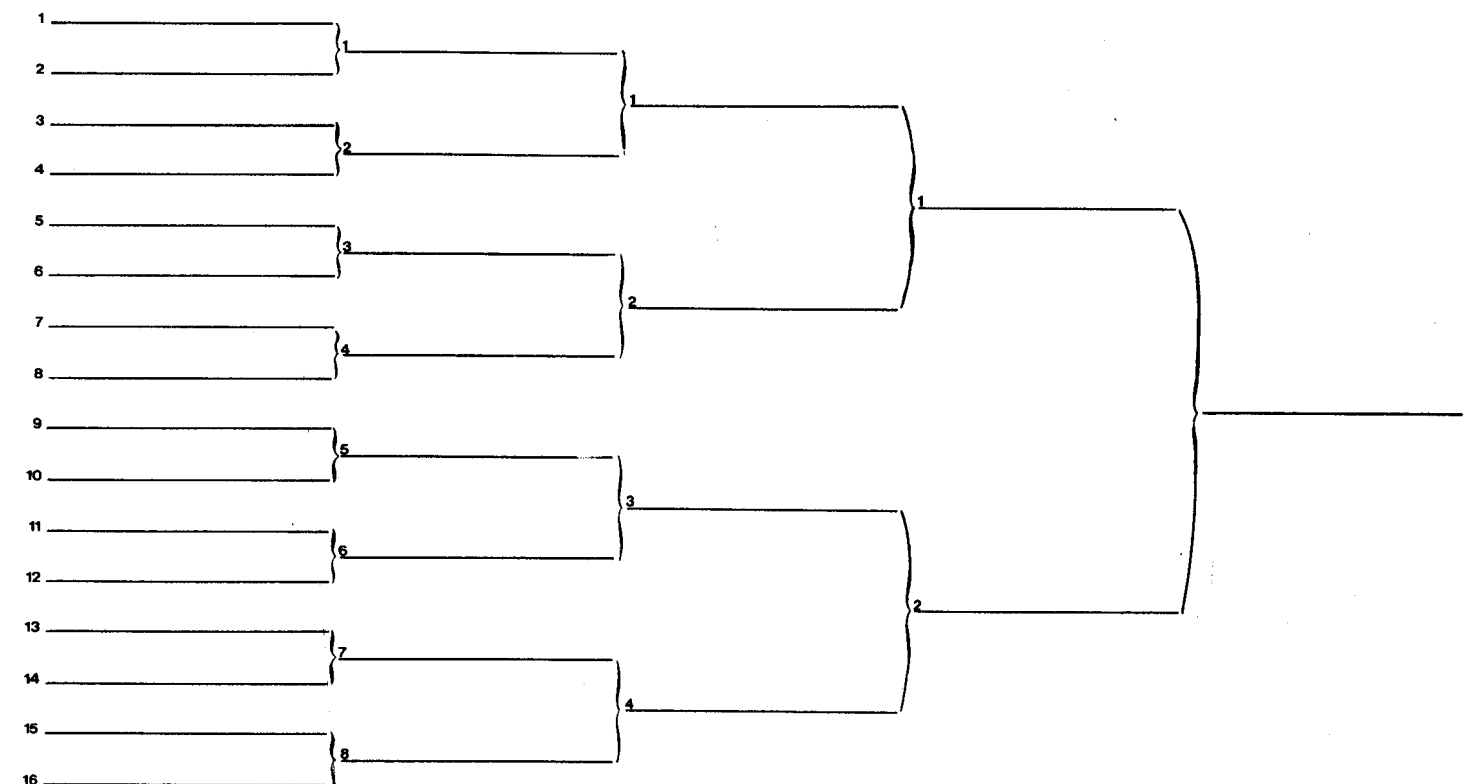
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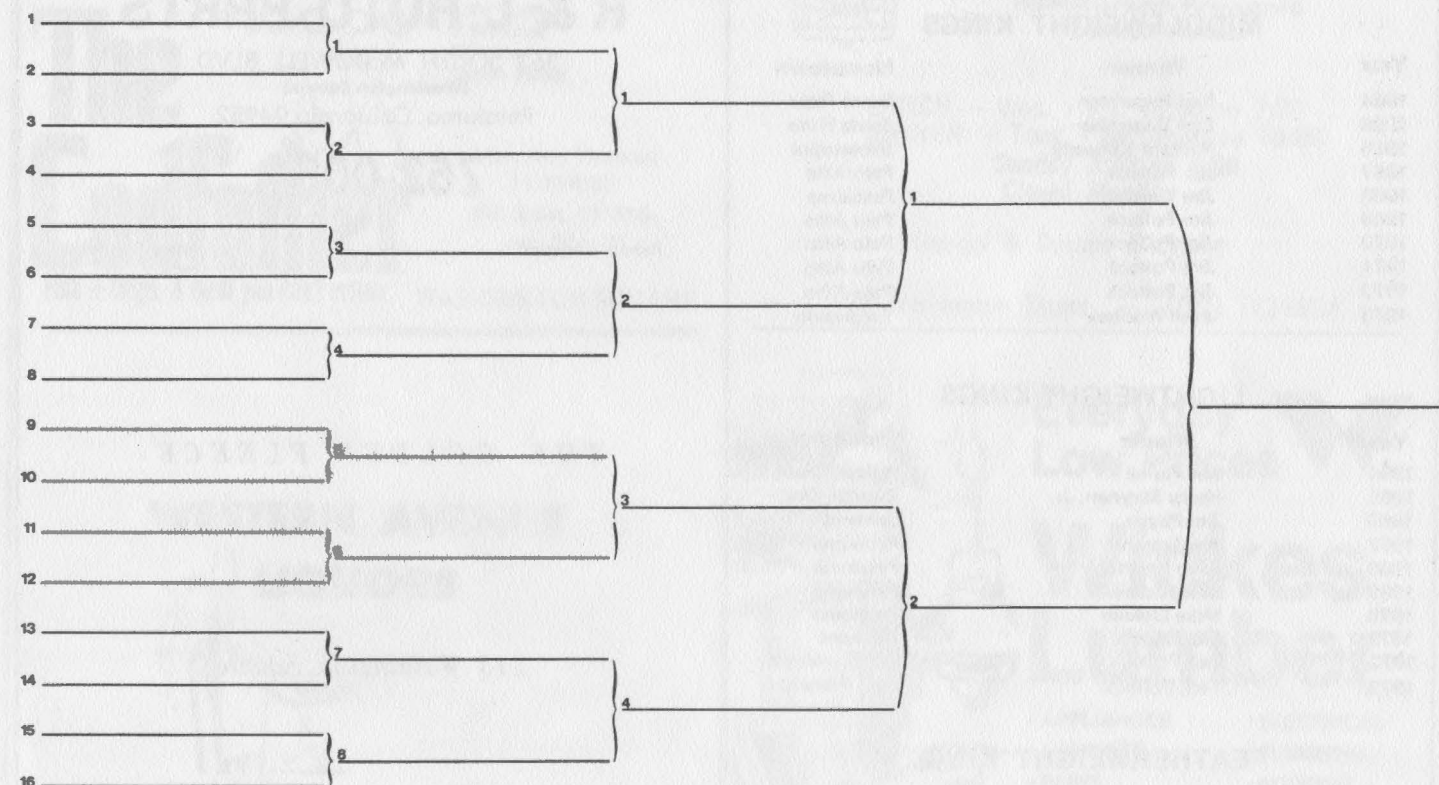


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1964	Joe Schuler	Oakdale
1965	Arnie Klein	Los Angeles
1966	Mike Rowe	San Gabriel
1967	Larry Finley	Penngrove
1968	Duane Benedix	Livermore
1969	Duane Benedix	Livermore
1970	Jim Dolcini	Petaluma
1971	Jim Dolcini	Petaluma
1972	Maurcie Baker	Bristol, Conn.
1973	Bill Harrison	San Jose

## MIDDLEWEIGHT KINGS

Year	Winner	Hometown
1964	Earl Hagerman	Santa Rosa
1965	Earl Hagerman	Santa Rosa
1966	Richard Kennedy	Sebastopol
1967	Jim Pollock	Palo Alto
1968	Jim Dolcini	Petaluma
1969	Jim Pollock	Palo Alto
1970	Jim Pollock	Palo Alto
1971	Jim Pollock	Palo Alto
1972	Jim Pollock	Palo Alto
1973	John Woolsey	Escondido

## LIGHTWEIGHT KINGS

Year	Winner	Hometown
1964	Jim Payne	Walnut Creek
1965	Harry Staynen, Jr.	Eugene, Ore.
1966	Jim Payne	Oakland
1967	Joe Tresch	Petaluma
1968	John Brayton	Petaluma
1969	Mike Dolcini	Petaluma
1970	Mike Dolcini	Petaluma
1971	Bill Rhodes	Belmont
1972	Ted Pollock	San Francisco
1973	Ted Pollock	San Francisco

## FEATHERWEIGHT KING

Year	Winner	Hometown
1973	George Boucher	Michigan

## THE QUEENS

Year	Winner	Hometown
1964	Barbara Soppington	San Francisco
1965	Barbara Soppington	San Francisco
1966	Susan Dior	Penngrove
1967	Mickie Novis	Oakland
1968	Mickie Novis	Oakland
1969	Mickie Novis	Oakland
1970	Linda Iverson	Boyes Springs
1971	Emily Matterazzo	Boston, Mass.
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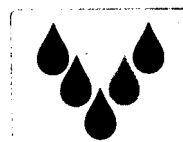
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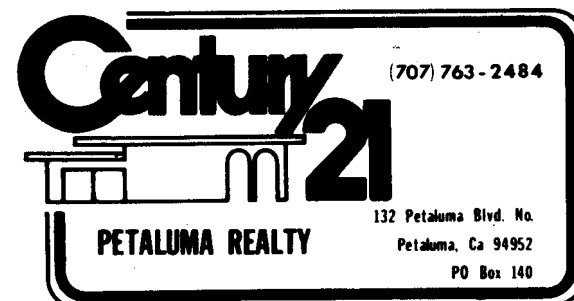
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2. Picturing your opponents arms going down for many days prior to the championships.

3. Being totally convinced in your own mind that you cannot be beaten.

4. Training your mind so it will function perfectly under the tension of competition.

The physical training involves the following:

1. Running or bicycling every other day to improve your overall conditioning, stamina and wind.

2. Practicing wristwrestling on a regulation table with strong opponents for months prior to the championship: including practicing the fast start, for long periods of time to increase endurance, and the technique which best suits your wrestling style.

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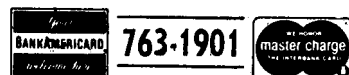
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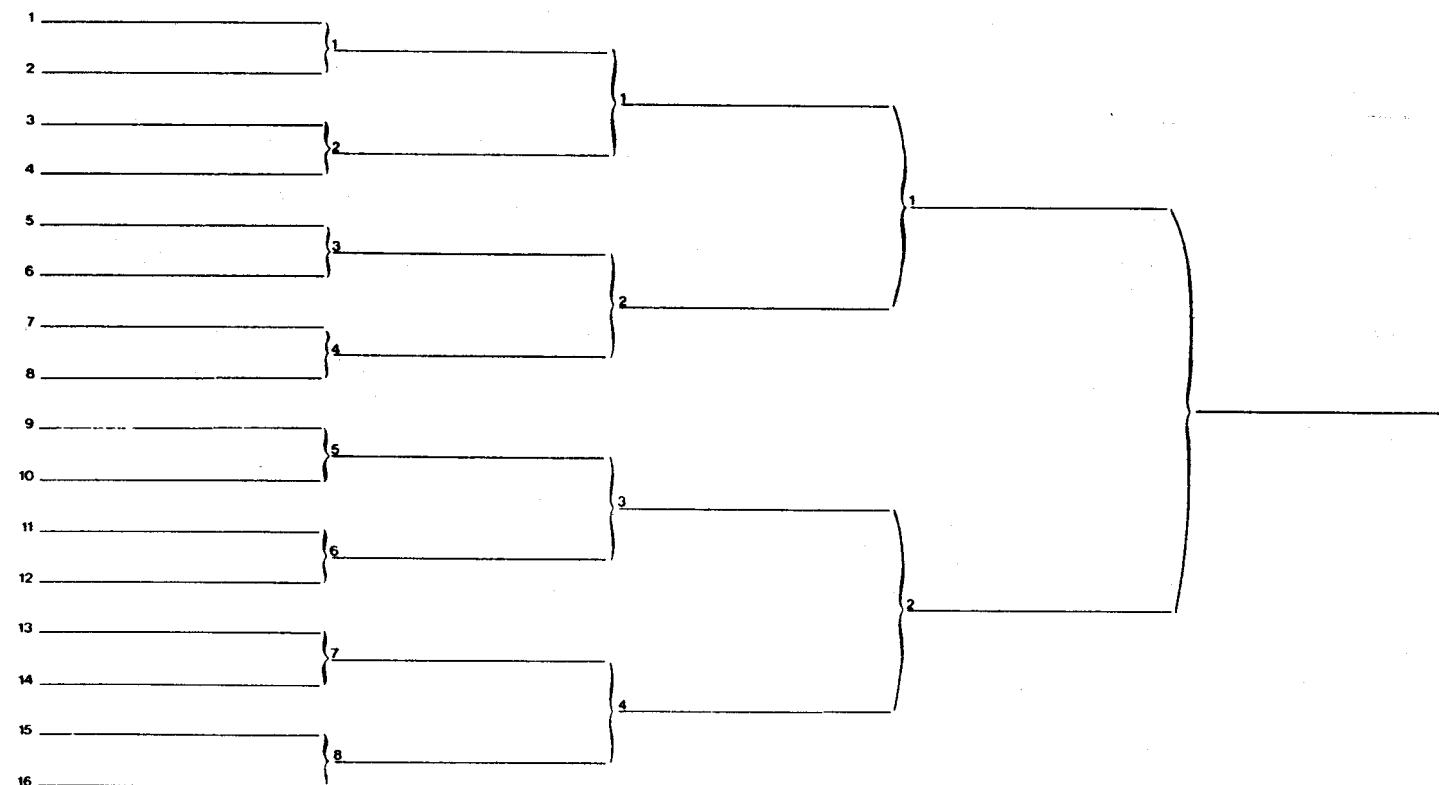
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# HOW THE WRISTWRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP STARTED

A wristwrestling match at Mike Gilardi's Petaluma Saloon 20 years ago was the start of something phenomenal for Petaluma. On hand to cover this match, was Petaluma Argus-Courier Columnist Bill Soberanes, and this turned out to be a milestone in his then new journalistic career.

After the match, Soberanes discussed with Mike Gilardi the possibility of making this event an annual affair, and what was eventually to become the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament came into existence.

In the years that followed more and more strong men entered the Petaluma Wristwrestling Championship, and it was eventually renamed the Sonoma County Wristwrestling Championship. As the years passed, the contestants started to come in from all over Northern California, and the tournament was renamed the Northern California Championship.

With contestants showing up from all over California the tournament was billed as a California Championship, and contestants from other states came to enter.

The avalanche of out-of-state contestants caused those in charge of this event to sit down and evaluate what they had on their hands.

A study committee, headed by Bill Soberanes, came up with these conclusions—There was no official World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament, Petaluma had already become the center for wristwrestling, and the time was right to start an official World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament.

The first official World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament was held eleven years ago, and many of those who supported the previous tournaments shook their heads and said—"It will never go outside of a barroom."

By 7:45 that night it looked as though they were right. The big empty auditorium echoed their scoffing remarks. Back in the dressing room, a half dozen local boys, coats off, were flexing their muscles and laying odds as to which one would carry off the single trophy.

Then, as though every tavern in town had tipped over its stools, the crowd pressed in, sending its cigarette smoke to the rafters, jarring the floor with relentless stamping of feet.

"Bring on your wristwrestlers," one little guy kept yelling, and the chant was taken up by hundreds, as chart men feverishly arranged the matches for the sudden onslaught of contestants.

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There were fifty strong men entered in that first World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament at Petaluma, California, but in the closing seconds the crowd could remember only two. Earl Hagerman, 5-8 and so compactly built as to appear smaller, had ripped through a dozen challengers. Now he approached the table to meet his final opponent, his face gaunt, his lips set in a tight line, his eyes expressionless.

Duane Benedix, 6-4 and weighing 270 pounds, had traveled from Livermore, California for a match he knew he could win. Standing opposite Hagerman, he slouched ever so slightly, a relaxing Goliath facing a tense and weary David.

Referee Jack Homel started the contest by placing the right elbows of each man in a stationary foam rubber cup. The fists of their right hands grasped, while their left hands were clasped across the table. At a signal Hagerman's strength came through to Benedix like an electric shock, even as Benedix powered his own arm. The big man uttered a sound of dismay. Hagerman's teeth were clenched, and the blood vessels bulging in his forehead as he forced the giant's fist closer and closer to the table.

For a moment, Benedix rallied, holding his own and even raising his fist in a fleeting and futile gesture. With relentless strength Hagerman sent it crushing down again, flesh and bone cracking against the table with an explosive sound that resounded throughout the hall. Four seconds had passed and Earl Hagerman of Santa Rosa, California was Wristwrestling Champion of the World.

The following year Duane Benedix returned to win the heavyweight wristwrestling championship of the world.

After that Joe Schuler took the big title, then it went to Arnie Klein, a former top football player. Klein lost his title to Mike Rowe of Los Angeles, and the next year a Larry Finley, a 6-4, 335 pound giant from Cotati, California took the heavyweight title. Benedix, who had gone into retirement, returned to re-win the title in 1968 and 1969.

In 1970 a young Petaluman named Jim Dolcini walked off with the heavyweight wristwrestling title, and he repeated again in 1971.

The final match of the 1971 tournament saw Jim Dolcini facing Maurice Baker, of Bristol, Conn. considered by many to be the greatest wristwrestler of all time. Baker had toured the United States, and after 15 years of wristwrestling, had never lost a match. At the referee's go signal, Baker brought Jim's arm crashing down to within an inch of victory. Then, as if he had been prodded by some unknown force, Jim brought the audience to its feet as he turned Baker's arm back to an upright position, then proceeded to crush it to the table.

For the next 5 minutes the crowd gave Jim and Maurice a standing ovation—and all that Jim could say after this sensational victory was—"I felt like my back was to the wall and I was fighting for my life, and it was that tremendous desire to live that brought me victory."


After the victory Keith Jackson of the American Broadcasting Company's Wide World of Sports TV show said—"I don't believe that any man who ever lived would have beaten Jim at that particular moment."

In 1972 Maurice Baker came roaring back, and the final match of the night was him again facing Jim Dolcini. Maurice started Jim's arm down, then Jim started Maurice's arm back, and for a few fleeting seconds it looked like the 1972 championship would be a repeat of the previous year. Jim's move failed to bend Maurice's arm very far, and a few seconds later, Maurice sent Jim's arm crashing to the table, and Maurice Baker became the new Heavyweight Wristwrestling Champion of the World.

The 1973 tournament was Bill Harrison defeating Maurice Baker in an early match, then going on to pin the Mighty Pete Nistok in the final match.






  
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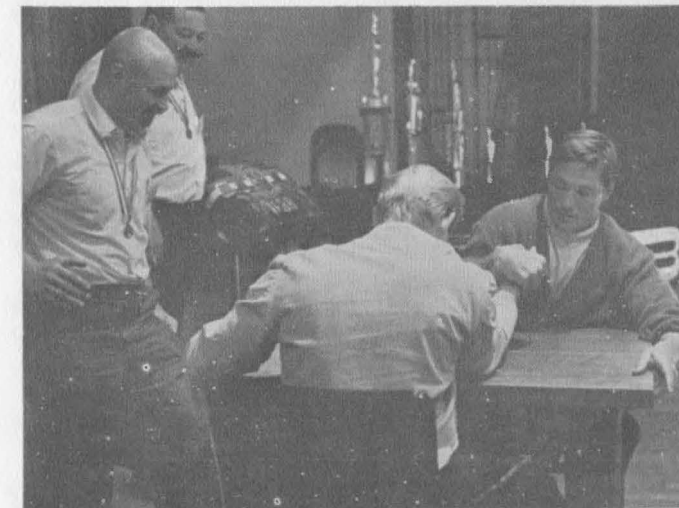
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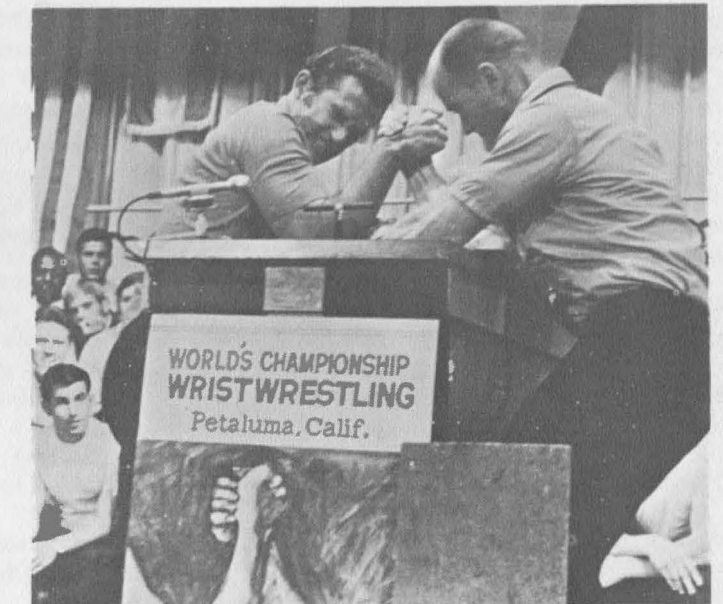
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TEXAS RANGER POWER " William Smith, Star of NBC-TV's "Laredo" the world Motion Picture-TV Industry Wristwrestling Champion is seen here in action. Looking on are Mac Bachelod and Bert Elliot. Elliot will referee at WWC.



Bill Rhodes, 1971 Lightweight Champion, on left.



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**EVERYBODY WRISTWRESTLES - EVEN BING CROSBY** - And here you see Bing Crosby wristwrestling with Columnist-Peopleologist Bill Soberanes while Dave Devoto stands between them to make sure they are using the official grip.

Since its conception in Petaluma in the early 1950's wristwrestling has brought cheers, laughter, excitement and even tears to millions of people around the world.

Those who have taken part in the World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournament have felt the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. Who among those on hand for one

of the early World's Championship Wristwrestling Tournaments will ever forget the big lumberjack who strutted on stage, forgot to look where he was going and walked right off the elevated stage? The lumberjack wasn't physically hurt, but his pride was and he vanished into the audience.

For a sheer thrill and equally dramatic agony of defeat, the 1966 heavyweight championship match between Mike Rowe and Arnie Klein has few equals in the annals of sports.

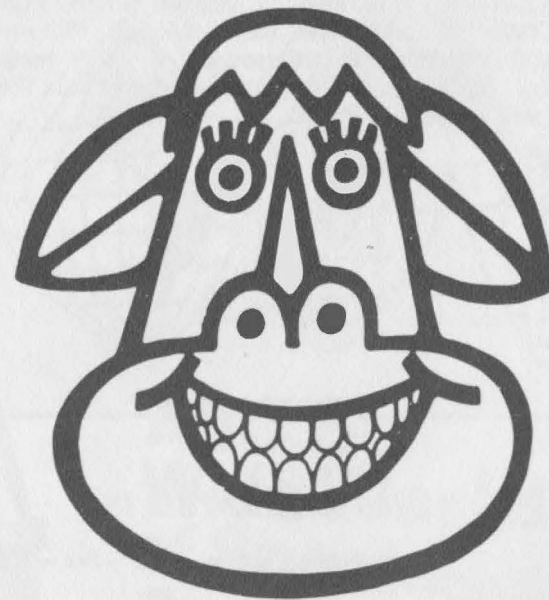
Arnie Klein, the defending heavyweight champion, had downed a half dozen strong arms, and all that stood between him and another year as champion was a newcomer named Mike Rowe.

The referee lined up Klein and Rowe, gave the ready go signal, and Klein started Rowe's arm downward. Just as it appeared Klein was about to be the victor, Rowe came forth with a mighty burst of strength and physically lifted Klein off the floor, then banged his arm down.

And there was the unforgettable match between Rod Koetz of Beverly Hills and Homer Keanu of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Homer, the Hawaiian Giant, was

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brought to Petaluma by Carl Lorenzen. Just prior to the tournament Carl had to go east on business, so he told his sister and father they would have to take care of his friend, Homer.

The Lorenzens did more than take care of Homer, they brought along their own rooting section and the most vocal member was Carl's sister, Margaret.

The match between Homer and Rod started on an even keel; then Rod would gain an advantage only to have Homer bring his arm back to an upright position.

As the match continued, Margaret Lorenzen became even more vocal, and her cries, "Get him, Homer," were picked up by the TV cameras and by Homer's opponent, Rod Koetz.

When the epic struggle finally ended in victory for Rod Koetz, he immediately jumped off the stage, gave Margaret a piercing look and asked, "Are you that big fellow from Hawaii's girl friend?"

When Margaret explained she wasn't Homer's girl friend, the piercing look in Rod's eyes turned to a twinkle.

After that Rod talked Margaret, whom he had never met before, into going on with him and Homer. This was the beginning of a romance that led to the marriage of Rod Koetz and Margaret Lorenzen - and today they

are living happily in the romantic city of Beverly Hills.

One of the most unusual sidelights in wristwrestling took place when Middleweight Champion Jim Pollock visited San Quentin Prison and actually took part in the prison tournament.

Just as Jim defeated his last official opponent, a giant of a man rose and shouted, "I want the hog."

Within a few seconds Jim learned that hog in prison lingo meant that man who had defeated everyone.

Although this giant weighed in the neighborhood of 300 pounds, and Jim was tired, he readily accepted the challenge.

Jim Pollock at 197 pounds stepped to one side of the table, and the giant prisoner stepped to the other. The referee lined their arms up, gave the ready go signal, and with the speed of lightning Pollock smashed the giant's arm to the table. This caused the prisoners to roar, and the giant to angrily protest about being caught off guard.

A re-match was set up, and this time the giant demanded the opposite side of the table.

With everyone sitting on the edge of their seats, the referee again gave the ready go signal, and Jim Pollock lowered his opponent's arm in a slower and easier manner that left no doubt as

to which was the real champion wristwrestler.

Wristwrestling is a sport that anybody with arms can take part in. It's a sport where you don't have to make a team in order to compete.

The tournament held annually in Petaluma is a true world's championship for the following reasons:

Anyone in the world can compete, and there's also a world's championship division for the ladies.

Yes, everybody can wristwrestle, and a grandmother can even wristwrestle with her grandson or granddaughter - so this is a sport for everyone in the world and all you need is a partner - or, should we say, opponent.

Every great heavyweight champion from Earl Hagerman to Maurice Baker has undergone the agony of defeat at least once, and the thrill of victory on numerous occasions - and all of these champions will tell you that wristwrestling is a true man to man sport, where the individual is on his own.

All of the champions and near champions will also agree with the wristwrestling motto - Raw Strength and Courage, but most of them will add, it takes a lot of skill, and it takes several years of actually competing in official tournaments to become a top wristwrestler.

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1964 Lightweight Champion Jimmy Payne, left, poses with 1964 Heavyweight Champion Joe Schuler.

World's most famous beagle "Snoopy" greeting people as they came to Petaluma to watch World's Wristwrestling Championship.

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National Champions at 1974 Tournament in Las Vegas, M.G.M. Grand Hotel (Left to Right) Top Row Tim Donovan, Lightweight Champion; Jim Woolsey, Middleweight Champion; Jim Dolcini, Heavyweight Champion (Bottom Row) Jimmy Payne, Featherweight Champion; Bill Soberanes, president and newspaper Columnist; Donna Meyers, Woman's Champion.

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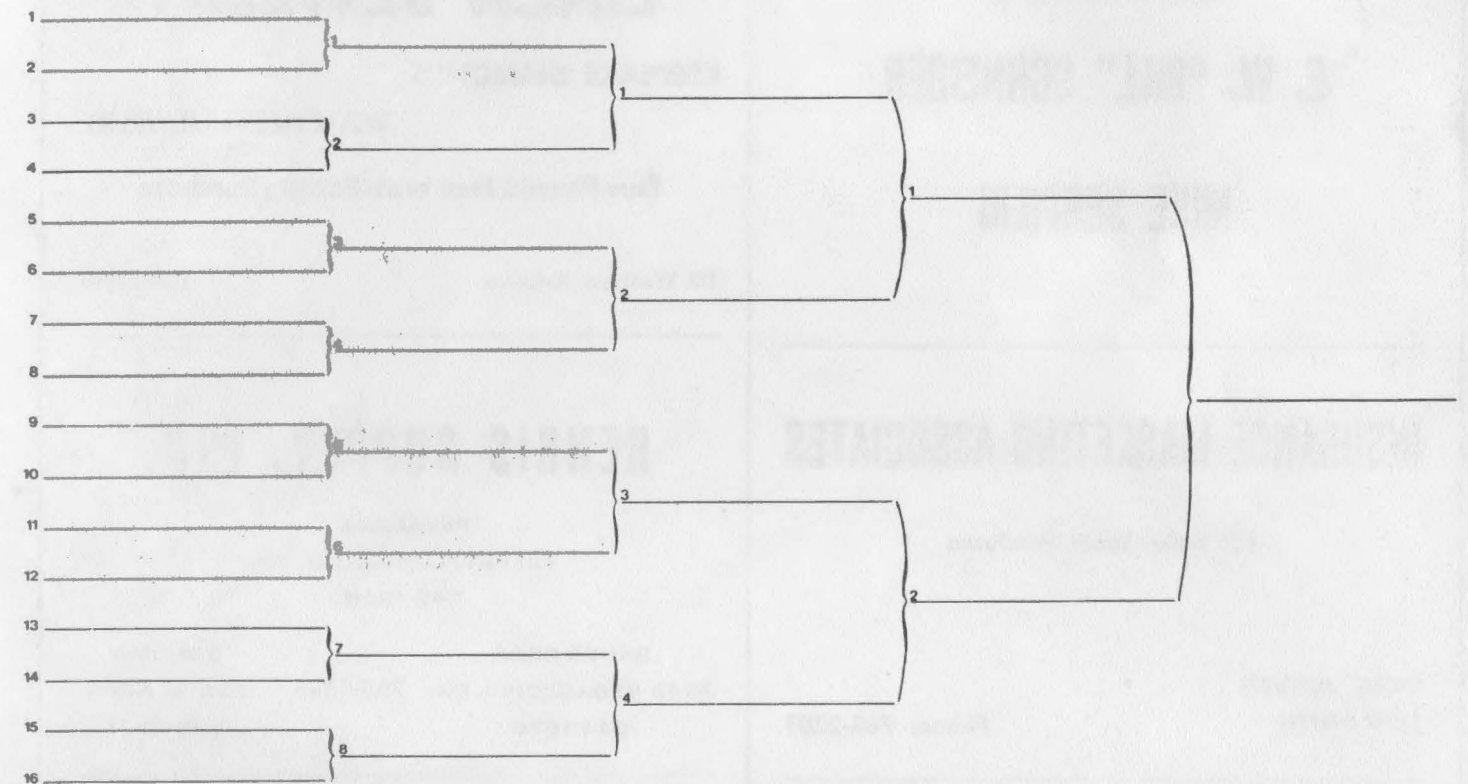
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