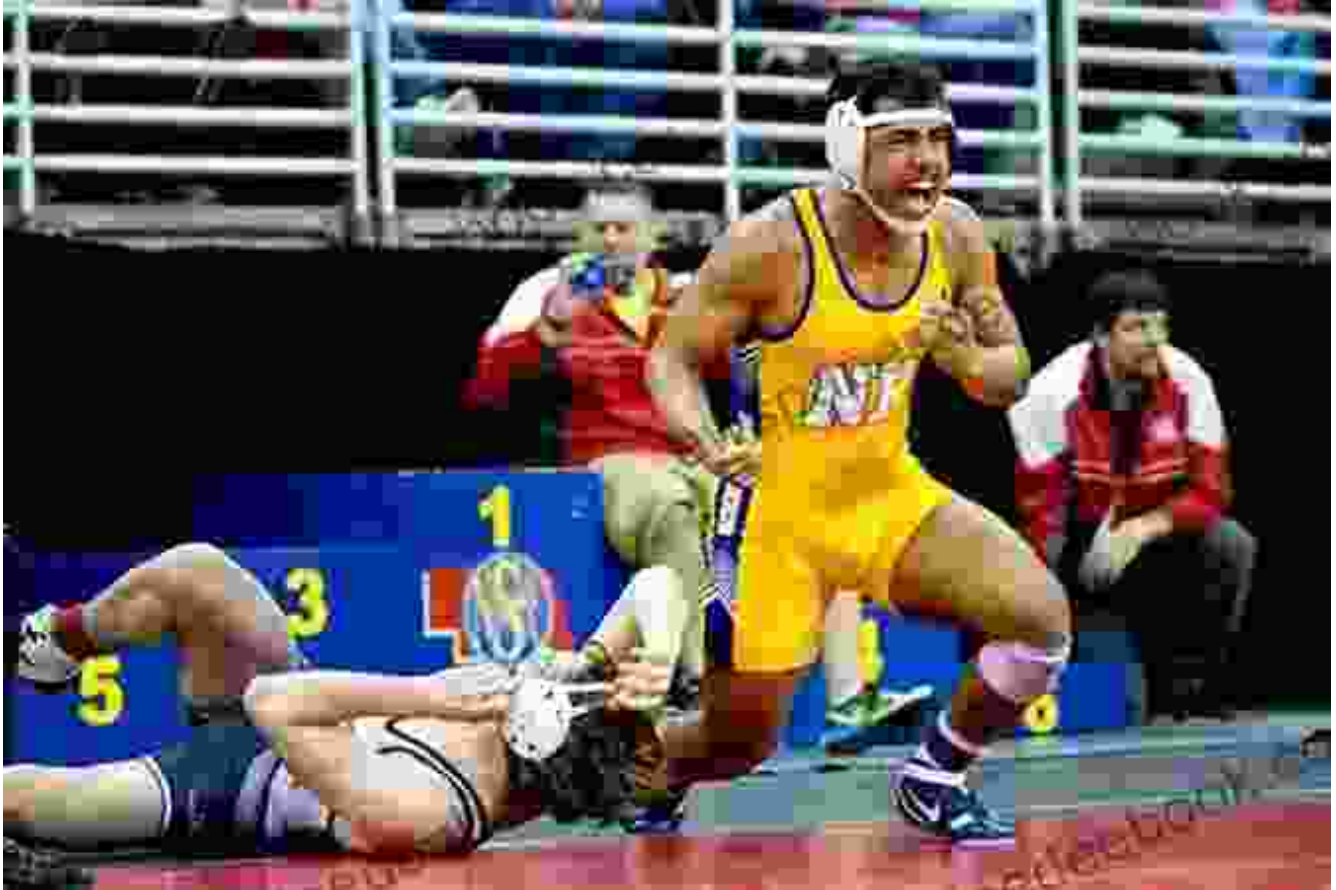


Wrestling in Nebraska: A History Through the Eyes of a Superfan



The state of Nebraska has a rich history of wrestling, dating back to the early 1900s. The sport has been popular in the state at all levels, from high school to college to the professional ranks.



Matsider: A History of Wrestling in Nebraska through the Eyes of a Superfan by Ross Halford

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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In this article, we will take a look at the history of wrestling in Nebraska through the eyes of a lifelong fan. We will explore the state's most famous wrestlers, the biggest wrestling events that have taken place in Nebraska, and the impact that wrestling has had on the state's culture.

The Early Days of Wrestling in Nebraska

The first recorded wrestling match in Nebraska took place in 1891, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The match was between two students, Gus Peterson and John Pettijohn.

Peterson won the match, and he went on to become one of the most successful wrestlers in Nebraska history. He won the NCAA heavyweight championship in 1894, and he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1997.

In the early 1900s, wrestling became increasingly popular in Nebraska. The sport was introduced to the state's high schools in 1903, and the first state wrestling tournament was held in 1913.

The Nebraska State High School Athletic Association (NSHSAA) has sponsored the state wrestling tournament since its inception. The

tournament is held each year in February, and it brings together the best wrestlers from all over the state.

Nebraska's Most Famous Wrestlers

Nebraska has produced a number of famous wrestlers over the years, including:

* Gus Peterson: The first NCAA heavyweight champion from Nebraska. * Bob Kurland: A two-time Olympic gold medalist and a member of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. * Dan Gable: A two-time Olympic gold medalist and the head coach of the University of Iowa wrestling team for 21 years. * Kenny Monday: A two-time NCAA champion and a member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. * Jordan Burroughs: A two-time Olympic medalist and a four-time World Champion.

These are just a few of the many great wrestlers that Nebraska has produced. The state's wrestlers have competed at the highest levels of the sport, and they have helped to make Nebraska a wrestling powerhouse.

The Biggest Wrestling Events in Nebraska

Nebraska has hosted some of the biggest wrestling events in history, including:

* The NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships: The NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships have been held in Nebraska nine times, more than any other state. The tournament was last held in Nebraska in 2019, and it will return to the state in 2023. * The USA Wrestling National Championships: The USA Wrestling National Championships have been held in Nebraska twice, in 2015 and 2017. The tournament is one of the

most prestigious wrestling events in the United States, and it brings together the best wrestlers from all over the country. * The Big Ten Wrestling Championships: The Big Ten Wrestling Championships have been held in Nebraska four times, in 1993, 2002, 2011, and 2020. The tournament is one of the most competitive wrestling tournaments in the country, and it features the best wrestlers from the Big Ten Conference.

These are just a few of the many big wrestling events that have been held in Nebraska. The state has a long and storied history of hosting major wrestling events, and it is a popular destination for wrestlers from all over the world.

The Impact of Wrestling on Nebraska's Culture

Wrestling has had a significant impact on Nebraska's culture. The sport has helped to create a sense of community and pride in the state. It has also helped to teach young people the importance of hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship.

Wrestling is a popular sport in Nebraska, and it is a source of great pride for the state's residents. The sport has helped to shape Nebraska's culture, and it continues to be a popular pastime for people of all ages.

Wrestling is a sport that has been a part of Nebraska's culture for over a century. The state has produced some of the greatest wrestlers in history, and it has hosted some of the biggest wrestling events in the world. Wrestling has had a significant impact on Nebraska's culture, and it continues to be a popular sport in the state today.



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