



Former OSU Wrestler Comes Back To Buckeye State As HTHS Head Varsity Wrestling Coach



OBETZ/HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, Ohio – Mr. Joseph Kikume has been announced as the new head coach of Hamilton Township High School's varsity wrestling program.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome Coach Kikume as our district’s head wrestling coach,” Superintendent Christopher Lester said. “His enthusiasm, work ethic, and extensive coaching and competitive knowledge of the sport were all important factors in making our decision to hire him.”

Joseph has been employed as a physical education teacher and assistant wrestling coach at Vista Ridge High School in Cedar Park, Texas since 2008. Coach Kikume was a four-year football letterman at Fairmont State University during the program’s national prominence in the mid-to-late 1980s. Following his stint at Fairmont State, Joseph transferred to The Ohio State University and earned a varsity letter with the wrestling team in 1989. That same year he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physical Education and Health K-12.

“I would like to personally welcome Coach Kikume to the Hamilton family and congratulate him on this great opportunity,” Director of Athletics Ryan Fitzgerald stated. “Our wrestling program has a storied past and I believe the future looks bright with Joseph leading the way. We will work together to make certain all of our wrestlers continue to see success on the mat and in the classroom.”

Joseph has compiled an impressive athletics resume. He earned 11 varsity letters at Waynedale High School in Apple Creek, Ohio. He is the former head wrestling coach at Carrollton and Caldwell high schools in Ohio. He has served as head wrestling coach, assistant wrestling coach, assistant football coach, and head softball coach for schools in Ohio, New Mexico, and Texas. He was an assistant football coach at the College of Wooster for two years. He has coached four state champions and 82 state, regional, and district placers and qualifiers in wrestling.

In addition to his wrestling position, Mr. Kikume will also be teaching health and physical education at Hamilton Middle School, and serve as an assistant softball coach at Hamilton Township High School.

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