



Letter of Reference,

Greg Warren, Entertainer (Comedian)

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Like many of you, it is imperative for us to fundraise additional revenue to support our student-athletes and for our programs flourish at the collegiate level.

When it comes to fundraising, it is always a nice gesture to find ways to make a donor feel like they get something in return for their support. That means we want to provide a service or product that adds value to our fundraising efforts. We want people to remember our events and look forward to the next one we host.

In 2012, one of our former wrestlers qualified for the Olympics and our program needed to help support his family. Hosting a benefit to raise support was the best thing we could do with such short notice. We decided that we wanted to do more than just ask people to donate money or have a silent or live auction. We wanted to add entertainment value to our benefit. Fortunately for us, we had seen Greg perform at the U.S. Olympic Trials, and we thought we might be able to get him to Kearney to help support one of our Olympians.

Greg agreed to help support our Olympian and perform at one of our local theaters. The show was a huge success! The evening packed the lower portion of the theater, and Wes Wesley took the stage and won the hearts of our crowd. Our crowd included people that were not necessarily wrestling enthusiasts, and Wes Wesley had them rolling. Greg's performance was a buzz all over town with the hopes that we might see a return performance in the future.

The evening's events raised a little over \$20,000, which allowed us to provide significant support for our Olympian and his family. Plus, the crowd left with a strong sense of fulfillment. Everyone in attendance got more than they bargained for. The entertainment that Greg provided helped turn the evening into a memorable event.

Several members of our athletic department administration were in attendance, including our athletic director and his wife. Our athletic director was impressed with Greg's performance. He felt the content of Greg's performance was appropriate, well received, and did not offend anyone.

When it comes to finding humor in wrestling, which a lot of people don't know much about, Greg's simple and honest take on our sport will keep everyone, both young and old, laughing. For those of you looking to add entertainment value to a banquet or benefit, Greg Warren will give you and your crowd something to laugh about. "RED ALERT!"

Marc Bauer
Head Wrestling Coach

University of Nebraska at Kearney



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