

Long Island Achiever.....

BILL FARRELL

GUIDED THE UNITED STATES, TO
THREE GOLD, TWO SILVER AND
ONE BRONZE MEDAL IN 72 OLYMPIC GAMES.

Without benefit of high school or college wrestling, Bill Farrell enjoyed an unparalleled career as a wrestler and coach for the New York Athletic Club. But it was as World team and Olympic coach that he led his country to it's best performance in nearly half a century.

Farrell took over the national freestyle team in the late 1960s. He was known for his ability to blend individuals with diverse personalities and techniques, obtaining maximum effort from each without conflict.

Farrell's 1969 team placed second in the World, the highest U.S.

finish to that time, with Rick Sanders and Fred Fozzard winning our first two gold medals. All 10 wrestlers placed in the top six. A year later, the U.S. placed second, with Wayne Wells as champ among five medalists.

In the 1972 Olympic Games, Bill guid-

ed the U,S, to an unexpected six medals. gold for Wells, Dan Gable and Ben Peterson, silver for Sanders and John Peterson and bronze for Chris Taylor.

As a wrestler, Bill chalked up more than 300 victories, gaining All-America stature, winning the Canadian nationals and placing sixth in the 1962 Worlds. He was NYAC coach from 1960 through 1972.

He was secretary of the Olympic wrestling committee and president of the New York Athletic Club. He was also the first "Marlboro Man" of advertising and is a successful business man.

For bringing new concepts to national wrestling programs and for showing the way to international success, Bill Farrell was inducted, in 1987, as a Distinguished Member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame

