



2021 Yearbook



Yearbook Information



Due to the current pandemic situation, we did not have a “normal” wrestling season. Therefore our awards were not presented in a normal fashion, nor as abundant. However, thanks to the contributions and hard work of Rachel Daddio and Luca Rispoli, we were still able to present some awards and more importantly award two \$500 scholarships.

The following pages contain all the recognition the 2021 Greater Middlesex Conference Wrestlers, Teams and Individuals received, both from the conference (All-Conference and All-Divisions) and from the Wrestling Coaches Association (Seniors, All-Stars, Special Awards).

This yearbook is intended a small replacement for our usual dinner program. I thank the wrestling coaches for their contributions.

***Enjoy,
Ron Mazzola***

Class of 2021 **SENIORS**

Received Special GMCWCA Certificates

Carteret

Umar Khawaja
Matthew Palmer
Manjot Parmar
Josh Ramkissoon
Justin Reveron

Colonia

Joseph Caroscio
Jibreel Abdulal
Victor Perosi

East Brunswick

Anushka Karande
Ethan Keith
Daniel Metz
Andrej Schon
Justin Scott
Spencer Longo
Kyle Zielinski
John Anderson
George Bassal

Edison

Mohammed Abdullah
Nick Almonte
Alejandro Avellan
Juan Betances
Jack Bills
Bryan Blanchette
Henrique Dasilva
Kevin Luna
Matthew Hazy
Michael Maybin

Highland Park

Moysha Alhasov
Angelo Botteon
Josh Lopez
Rimervi Mendez
Edwin Rojas

John F. Kennedy

Ben Fluet
Vikram Iyer
Joseph Small
Kush Patel

JP Stevens

Shlok Majmundar
Matthew Wu
Akshaj Kammari
Sathya Gopinath Thangamani
Surya Gopinath Thangamani

Metuchen

Jaedon Kearns
Jake Lepinski
Tyler Haynes
Brandon Kick
Karim Khan
Koby Williams
Dean Serio

Middlesex-Dunellen

Tyler McCrimmon
Declan Swain
Jordan Campbell
Donovan Quinn
Trevor Adams

Monroe Township

Michael Mustillo
Anthony Motard
Anthony Ceras
Chris Fanelli
Joseph Oresto
Nico Sta. Anna
Tyler Boyum
Nick Fehl
Manager Samantha Turner

New Brunswick

Jarazell Bull
Hugo Alexis Martinez Cuevas
Donna Walker
Amaris Mercado

North Brunswick

Omar Shehabeldin
Ariana Kravitz

Old Bridge

Austin Berry
Vincent Nadera
Emily Labour Manager

Class of 2021 **SENIORS**

Received Special GMCWCA Certificates

Perth Amboy

Victor Adebola
Wilver Almonte
Johan Coria
Joseph Dorville
Christopher Fariman
Omar Feliciano
Dariel Lantigua
Aaron Llanas
Randy Moricete
David Otano
Anthony Peralta
Oswaldo Ramos
Stephano Rivera
Jeiro Ruiz
Kelvin Santos
Managers Ashley Collado
Manager Shativia Perkins

Piscataway

Desmond Pleasant
Deon Pleasant
Alvaro Turci
Manager Delia Allwood
Manager Sophia Williams

St. Joseph

Gianni Principato
Donny Stralkus
Mike Cansfield
Adam Herban
Garret Bolton

Saint Thomas Aquinas

Luke Franczak
Connor Doherty
Dosiah Chantelier
Jose Martinez
Joe Schroll
Yyamilka Pichardo
Gabby Shevlin

Sayreville

Dylan Acevedo
Zach Indrawis

South Brunswick

Zain Ahmad
Adrian Gaspar
Matthew Carlson
AJ Anderson Thomas

South Plainfield

Kenneth Clevenger
Thomas Renna
Xavier Santos
Austin Scott
Anthony White
Jocelyn Mortensen Manager

South River

Steven Baszak
Brian Silva
Gideon Dias
Daniel Soares
Jesus Osario
Joseph Barrios
Ashley Sporer Manager
Camila Lucas Manager

Spotswood

Kevin Platt
Bobby Wehrle
Zach Weiner
George Marakis
Steve Melillo

Woodbridge

Alexis Irizarry
Justin Langan
John Kubis-Badilla
Tyler Job
Raymond Mellett
Zach Smolder
Andre Nesbit
Manager Melissa Ristaino
Manager Tatiana Torres

Seniors Listed were Provided By Head Coaches

2021 GMCWCA All-Star Wrestlers

For this year only, these wrestlers will receive All-Star Wrestler Certificates.

*They will be awarded to any wrestler who was **SELECTED** (Seeded 1-16) to Participate in the Region Tournament.*

Those who were seeded (1-16) and withdrew and those who were replacements were all included.

Additionally, and wrestler receiving a Special Award (i.e. Anthony White) will NOT receive a certificate.

BOYS - All-Star Wrestlers

Edison: Ben DiCocco (106), Julien Dawson (113), Alejandro Avellan (195);

J.F. Kennedy: Giovanni Maglione (126);

Metuchen: Francesco Rossiter (132), Jack McGowan (138), Tyler Haynes (145);

Middlesex: Kevin Beck (106), Nick D'Alessio (160);

Monroe: Michael Mustillo (106), Anthony Ceras (145), Anthony Profaci (152), Nick Sta. Ana (220);

North Brunswick: Hans Tejada (195),

Old Bridge: Logan Roman (113), Vincent Nadera (120)

Piscataway: Deon Pleasant (126);

Saint Joseph: Anthony Bistany (120), David Rosenfarb (126), Vincent Genna (138), Richard Davis (145), Gianni Principato (285);

Saint Thomas Aquinas: Joey Ortega (138), **Connor Dougherty (145)***, Joe Schroll (182), Steve Cohan (285);

Sayreville: Dylan Acevedo (120), Ryan Bouchard (220);

South Brunswick: Jackson Ratcliffe (132), Matthew Carlson (195);

South Plainfield: **Jeff Jacome (106)***, Jacob DeVecchio (120), Julian Irizarry (132), Andrew Loniewski (138), Nicholas Campagna (152), Tyler Balent (160), Xavier Santos (170),

South River: Marcus Granadeiro (220);

Spotswood: Zach Weiner (138);

Woodbridge: Zach Smolder (220)

BOYS TEAM MVP (Special Certificate): JP Stevens - Matthew Yu (170)

GIRLS - All-Star Wrestlers

East Brunswick: Sai Siri Dasari (114), Kaleigh Duffy (121), Frankie Distel (128), Sofia Sepulveda Pizarro (135)

North Brunswick: Dianelys DeJesus (180)

Old Bridge: Mandy Gavares (100), Jillian Parrino (107)

Saint Thomas Aquinas: Isabella Garcia (121), Melissa Martinez (128), Yamyka Pichardo (135), **Gabby Shevlin (151)*, Apryl Coffman (215)***

Spotswood: Melissa Wehrle (143)

*** = Certificate will include State Qualifier designation**

2021 GMCWCA

Girls Special Awards

These wrestlers will receive awards.

Wrestler of the Year - Gabby Miller, Old Bridge,
State Champion

Senior of the Year - Donna Walker, New
Brunswick, 4th in the State

Junior of the Year - Kerly Borbor, New
Brunswick, 3rd in the State

Sophomore of the Year - Julianna VanNess,
Saint Thomas Aquinas, 4th in the Region, State
Qualifier

Read more about these 4 special young ladies on the following pages.



2021 **Wrestler of the Year**

GABBY MILLER **OLD BRIDGE**

Gabby Miller moved to Old Bridge this year after two very successful years with the Monroe Falcons. Having known Gabby through the wrestling community, we understood that we were getting not only a great wrestler, but a great leader as well. Her impact was immediately felt in the practice room, as she pushed her teammates to train and drill at a sustained high level. Gabby showed no trepidation when she signed up for wrestle-offs on varsity, and earned her starting spot. She competed with boys varsity, wrestling to a 4-5 record. Against female competition, Gabby went undefeated on the year, wrestling to a record of 7-0, winning her first Region Championship, and her second State Championship at the 128 lbs weight class. She became the first Girls' State Champion in school history, and we look forward to her continuing to improve on her successes next season.



2021 *Senior of the Year*

DONNA WALKER **NEW BRUNSWICK**

Donna Walker finished off a stellar career in 2021 by placing 4th in New Jersey at 161 pounds. By finishing in the top 6 in 2021, Donna leaves New Brunswick High School as a 3x state medalist. She is also the only 3x region finalist in school history. Over the last three years, Donna has built a reputation as one of the toughest female upperweights in the state. After placing third as a sophomore at 161 pounds, Donna moved up to heavyweight as a junior and medaled 6th in the state tournament. During her junior campaign, she also placed second at the Queen of the Beast tournament, which was a showcase of 40 teams in South Jersey. Donna consistently made each match a battle of toughness and grit, and there were not many females in the state that could maintain the pace that Donna set. Donna started her freshman year as the team's manager, and leaves her senior season as one of the most accomplished student athletes in New Brunswick High School history. Donna completes her career as 3x state medalist, and a 2x GMC/County Champion.



2021 *Junior of the Year*

KERLY BORBOR NEW BRUNSWICK

Coming off of a State Championship in 2020, Kerly Borbor put together a sensational season in her junior year campaign. Kerly placed 3rd in New Jersey in 2021, and tied teammate Donna Walker as the first 3x state medalists in New Brunswick history. As a freshman, Kerly Borbor placed third at the State Tournament in 2019, and along with the two other females, became New Brunswick High School's first state medalists. In her sophomore campaign, Kerly Borbor elevated her wrestling to the next level. Kerly posted an undefeated season, compiling a 17-0 record on her way to a State Championship. Kerly's State Championship was the first State Title won by a New Brunswick wrestler. Kerly will have one more season to cement her legacy as one of the best wrestlers to lace them up in GMC history, as she will look to climb the top of the podium once more.



2021

Sophomore of the Year

JULIANNA VANNESS
SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

Julianna "bussin" Van Ness used a combination of strength, technique and toughness to finish her sophomore campaign with a 10-6 record competing against the top competition in the state. With her competitive fire she was able to place in every tournament she was in finishing third in the Middlesex County Invitational, 4th in the North Region and competed in the New Jersey State Tournament. With a continuously improving work ethic and the ability to listen to her coaches the sky's the limit for how high Julianna can climb on the podium next season .Her coaches are excited to be a part of her continued success in wrestling . Way to go and good luck Julianna .

2021 GMCWCA Boys Special Awards

These wrestlers will receive awards.

Wrestler of the Year

ANTHONY WHITE, South Plainfield

Junior of the Year

NICO CALELLO, Saint Joseph

Sophomore of the Year

TYLER SAGI, Old Bridge

Freshman of the Year

BRIAN CHRISTIE, Saint Joseph

Tom Flanagan Memorial Scholar Wrestler Awards (\$500 Scholarships)

ANTHONY WHITE, South Plainfield
DESMOND PLEASANT, Piscataway

Read more about these 5 fine young men on the following pages.



2021

Wrestler of the Year and Tom Flanagan Memorial Scholar Wrestler Award

ANTHONY WHITE **SOUTH PLAINFIELD**

Anthony entered his senior season coming off a very successful Junior campaign that saw him place 4th in the NJSIAA State Tournament. While the world seemed to shut down due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, Anthony did not slow down his training. He found creative ways to improve at the sport he loved. Anthony would show just how much he improved by placing 4th at the prestigious Super 32 pre-season tournament and defeated multiple nationally ranked wrestlers during the tournament. While tasting some national success, Anthony did not rest on his laurels. He continued to improve and prepare himself for the upcoming wrestling season. As a two-time captain, he also continually reached out to wrestlers on the team and make sure they were working out on their or own they could join his workouts. With the uncertainty that this season could bring, Anthony made sure he would take full advantage of his final season in a Tiger uniform.

Anthony would go 7-0 in dual meet competition scoring bonus points in six of his seven dual meet wins. The only match that he did not score bonus points was a huge 6-2 decision over eventual state runner up at 138lbs. Eddie Hummel of Southern which helped vault the Tigers to their biggest and most impressive win of the shortened season. As the team and Anthony prepared for the individual portion of the season, Anthony had one thing on his mind. Redemption. Being placed into the loaded North 2 Super Region with the likes of Delbarton, North Hunterdon, Phillipsburg, St. Peter's Prep, Watchung Hills among others, presented a very difficult challenge for a lot of wrestlers. Anthony would go on to dominate his way to finals of the Super Region where he would meet a familiar foe in Simon Ruiz of Delbarton. The two battled for six minutes and at the end of regulation the score was knotted at 1-1. After a scoreless overtime period, the match would continue into tie-breakers where Ruiz would earn the decisive reversal for a 3-1 victory. The loss did not deter Anthony though and he went back to the practice room as ready as ever.

Continued on next page ...



2021

Wrestler of the Year and Tom Flanagan Memorial Scholar Wrestler Award

ANTHONY WHITE **SOUTH PLAINFIELD**

Anthony would earn the second seed at the state tournament while Ruiz would be on the opposite side as the top seed. Anthony would draw Donovan Destefano of Wall and win via a first period fall in 1:37. In the quarterfinals, Anthony was matched up against Logan Waller of Colts Neck and would dominate his way to a 10-0 major decision victory putting him into the semi-finals against highly touted Michael Cetta of St. Joseph's Montvale. Cetta would earn the first takedown, but Anthony battled back and controlled the remainder of match for a 6-3 decision sending him to the State Finals for the first time in his outstanding career. Waiting for him in the finals was Ruiz from Delbarton. Entering this match with nothing to lose and an entirely new game plan, the first period would end scoreless. Ruiz would choose down to start the second period and earn a quick escape to take a 1-0 advantage. Anthony would score a quick takedown, but Ruiz would follow with another quick escape tying the match at 2-2 at the end of the second period. White chose bottom to start the third period and earned a quick escape, but that lead was short-lived as Ruiz was in on an attack almost immediately after for a takedown to take a 4-3. White would tie the score up at 4-4 with another escape at the 1:00 mark. Ruiz got in on his final attack, but White was able to defend and score a takedown with about 25 seconds left for a 6-4 advantage. Anthony would surrender a late escape and fend off Ruiz for a 6-5 victory becoming the 13th State Champion in South Plainfield history.

Anthony is not only an outstanding wrestler, but he is a great student as well. Anthony has taken multiple Advanced Placement and Honors courses throughout his high school academic career and currently has a cumulative GPA of 3.54, which ranks him in the top 33% of his graduating class. As if being an outstanding wrestler and student wasn't enough, Anthony was still able to find time to volunteer as a flag football and recreation basketball referee. Congratulations Anthony on being named the GMCWCA Wrestler of the Year and Tom Flanagan Memorial Scholarship recipient! You will be missed and the coaching staff wishes you the best of luck as you continue your academic and wrestling careers at Rutgers University.



2021 *Junior of the Year*

NICO CALELLO **SAINT JOSEPH**

Nico Calello came in as a junior transfer from Watchung Hills to St Joe's and had to sit his first 7 matches due to the transfer rule. From there Nico went on a tear helping the Falcons finish the season 9-3 overall and end the season with a top 3 ranking in the County. Once the Super Region came Nico went on a tear, allowing 0 points in all 4 of his matches and gathering 3 Falls along the way. Once into the State tournament Nico found himself on the right end of 2 dominating performances guiding him into the semi-finals and ensuring that he would become the first wrestler in St. Joe's history since 1977 to place in the State tournament. In the semi-finals in an absolute battle Nico fell to Daniel Jones from Delbarton in Ultimate Tie Breaker 3-2. As devastating a loss as that was, Nico turned around and turned in 2 more dominating performances beating Bastarikka from Mount Olive 5-1 and then Jeff Jacome from South Plainfield 7-0 to take 3rd in the state tying the highest finish ever from a St. Joe's wrestler. Despite missing half the season and the season being shortened Nico is well on his way to 100 wins as he sits at 86 for his career with 1 more season left to go.



2021 Sophomore of the Year

TYLER SAGI OLD BRIDGE

Tyler Sagi came off of a strong freshman campaign that saw him win the OB Ice Breaker, the GMC tournament, and Districts, eventually qualifying for the State Tournament. Tyler finished his first year 39-3 and dedicated himself to a strong off season. However with the uncertainty of 2020-2021, Tyler was not immune to setbacks. He discovered that he had a condition with his heart in the fall of this season, and opted for therapy to compete in the shortened season, rather than surgery and the potential forfeiture of his sophomore year. Competing at 145 lbs. for most of the year before dropping to 138 for the post season, Tyler led the team in wins (13), pins (9), and furthest post season advancement. Tyler won Old Bridge's first Region Championship since 2010, before going 0-2 against two eventual place-winners at the state tournament. He enters his junior year at 52-7 with the continued goal of winning a state championship. The Knights are very proud of their young captain.



2021 *Freshman of the Year*

BRIAN CHRISTIE SAINT JOSEPH

Not many individuals as a freshman can wrestle at 182 pounds and have a successful season but Brian Christie this year managed to not only have a successful season but found 14 wins by pin against almost entirely upperclassmen. Compound that with the fact that Brian tore his Achilles Tendon in St. Joe's first football game of the year in October and somehow wrestled an entire season that started in March and his season becomes even more remarkable. Brian's losses all came to state qualifiers this year, and in the Super Region tournament Brian pinned 3 individuals that were all seeded higher than him to take 5th overall; the 8 seed O'Connor from Point Pleasant, the 5 seed from Colts Neck Bradford Zajac, and the 3 seed from Holmdel Luke DuPont. Brian's amazing season in any other year would have ended up in an Atlantic City appearance but this year due to the new format Brian ended up being 1 win shy of going to the round of 16. Expect big things from this individual going forward as he not only develops and gets better but heals from an injury that generally takes 9-12 months to recover from. The future is bright for this St. Joe's freshman.



2021

***Tom Flanagan Memorial
Scholar Wrestler Award***

***DESMOND PLEASANT
PISCATAWAY***

Coming off a 3rd place finish at the Region 5 tournament in 2020, Desmond kept that momentum and finished this season with a 13-3 record. Desmond was selected to participate in the Region tournament this season, making him a three time qualifier, and finished 5th. He will go down as one of Piscataway's hardest workers and finished his career with 79 wins, a three time District 19 third place finisher, and a 3rd place finisher at Region 5, qualifying for the state tournament. Desmond is in route to graduate with a 96% GPA and will continue his education and wrestling career next year at Drexel University.

ALL GMCWCA TEAM

106 - Nico Calello, Saint Joseph, 3rd State

113 - Giovanni Alejandro, Saint Joseph, 6th Central Region

120 - Desmond Pleasant, Piscataway. 5th Central Region

126 - JJ Giordano, South Plainfield, 5th North 2 Region

132 - Kendall Jordan, Saint Thomas Aquinas, 7th/8th North 2 Region

138 - Tyler Sagi, Old Bridge, Central Region Champion, State Participant

145 - Anthony White, South Plainfield, North 2 Region Runner-Up, State Champion

152 - Owen Disbrow, Saint Thomas Aquinas, North 2 Region 3rd Place, State Participant

160 - Jarazell Bull, New Brunswick, 5th Central Region

170 - Chris Fanelli, Monroe, 6th Central Region

182 - Brian Christie, Saint Joseph, 5th Central Region

195 - Thomas Renna North 2 Region Runner-Up, Withdrew from State Tournament Injured

220 - Bryand Garcia, New Brunswick, 5th Central Region, Late Replacement Entry into State Tournament

285 - Austin Scott, South Plainfield, 6th North 2 Region

Read more about these 14 young men on the following pages.

All GMCWCA Team and Home News Tribune's All-GMC Selections

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

106 - Nico Calello, Saint Joseph, Jr.

14-1, 1st Central Region, 3rd State

Calello put his name in the St. Joseph record books with his outstanding season. The junior became the Metuchen school's second state placewinner and the first since 1977. He was also the program's first state qualifier since 1988 and region champ since 1977. In the shortened season, he had five pins and gave up five points the entire season. Calello's only loss was 3-2 UTB in the state semifinals against the eventual winner, Delbarton's Daniel Jones.

113 - Giovanni Alejandro, St. Joseph, So.

13-4, 6th Central Region

Alejandro formed a tough lower weight duo with Calello for the Falcons. The sophomore went 11-1 in the regular season and entered the Central Region seeded 11th, but upset the sixth-seed by fall in 4:43 en route to a sixth-place finish. He won 11 matches with bonus points, including eight pins.

120 - Desmond Pleasant, Piscataway, Sr.

14-3, 5th Central Region

Pleasant capped a terrific career with a fifth-place finish in the region and went 11-1 in the regular season. In the fifth-place match, he avenged two earlier defeats this spring to Howell's Colin Bradshaw. In 2019-20, Pleasant was the lone GMC wrestler to qualify for the state tournament at 113. His twin brother Deon also had a storied career for the Chiefs, including winning a GMCT title in 2020 at 120.

All GMCWCA Team and Home News Tribune's All-GMC Selections

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

126 - JJ Giordano, South Plainfield, So.

10-2, 5th North 2 Region

As a freshman, Giordano captured a GMCT title and earned 24 wins at 106. The bigger Giordano followed that up with a 7-0 regular season (5 pins or technical falls). He reached the region quarterfinals and then dropped two decisions en route to a fifth-place finish.

132 - Kendall Jordan, St. Thomas Aquinas, Jr.

10-3, 7th/8th North 2 Region

After a breakout sophomore season for Piscataway in which he won a district title, Jordan went 9-1 in the regular season. He reached the region quarterfinals and was right there with some great wrestlers. He lost by decision to St. Peter's Prep Sean Rendeiro (who placed 4th in the state) and 1-0 to North Hunterdon's Conner Quinn in the consolation match.

138 - Tyler Sagi, Old Bridge, So.

13-4, 1st Central Region

Sagi broke out as a freshman, including winning a GMCT title. This season, he followed it up as sophomore with a region gold medal. Sagi wasn't afraid to test himself with some difficult matches during the regular season and looked dominant at times. That included having seven pins in the regular season

All GMCWCA Team and Home News Tribune's All-GMC Selections

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

145 - Anthony White, South Plainfield, Sr.

14-1, 2nd North 2 Region, 1st State

White concluded his outstanding career with a state championship. He defeated Delbarton's Simon Ruiz 6-5 in the final, avenging a 3-1 overtime loss a week earlier in the region final. In the state semifinal, White beat St. Joseph-Montvale's Michael Cetta 6-3 (a two-time state placewinner). For more information, please read this article.

152 - Owen Disbrow, St. Thomas Aquinas, Jr.

14-3, 3rd North 2 Region Place

After earning 66 career wins in his first two seasons, the junior went 10-0 in the regular season (5 pins, 5 forfeits). In the postseason, he lost three matches by a combined six points -- in other words, he was right there. Disbrow reached the region semifinals en route to the third-place finish.

160 - Jarazel Bull, New Brunswick, Sr.

6-2, 5th Central Region

As a junior, Bull had one of the best seasons in program history with a team-high 36 wins. Bull, along with senior teammate Keshon Davila, became the first New Brunswick wrestlers to ever win a GMCT title. This spring, he went 3-0 in the regular season and reached the region semifinals, falling to eventual state champion Hunter Mays of Howell. Bull then lost by a point in the consolation semifinals and earned an exciting sudden-victory win to take fifth place.

All GMCWCA Team and Home News Tribune's All-GMC Selections

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

170 - Chris Fanelli, Monroe, Sr.

12-4, 6th Central Region

Fannelli made a name for himself as a junior by breaking 25 wins and reaching the GMCT final at 160. This spring, he went 10-1 with six pins in the regular season and earned a bid to the region tournament, where he advanced to the quarterfinals with a gutsy sudden victory win en route to a sixth-place finish.

182 - Brian Christie, St. Joseph, Fr.

14-3, 5th Central Region

Christie erupted onto the varsity scene by going 11-1 in the regular season with 10 pins. His only loss was to returning state placewinner Norman Cella of Hunterdon Central. In the region tournament, he reached the quarterfinals, losing to Rumson-Fair Haven's Jack Kelly (third in state). In the region as the ninth seed, he scored three pins, including over the third, fifth and ninth seeds.

195 - Thomas Renna, South Plainfield, Sr.

8-2, 2nd North 2 Region

In 2020, Renna made his mark in the storied South Plainfield program by placing seventh in the state and capturing district and region titles. This spring, Renna went 5-1 in the regular season (three quick pins and two forfeits). He took second in the region losing 3-1 in sudden victory to Seton Hall Prep's Jack Wilt, who took third in the state. Renna, too, would have been a state title contender, but unfortunately withdrew from the state tournament because of injuries.

All GMCWCA Team and Home News Tribune's All-GMC Selections

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

220 - Bryand Garcia, New Brunswick, Jr.

6-4, 5th Central Region

(Replacement Entry into State Tournament)

After winning over 30 matches as a sophomore, Garcia was primed for a big junior season. He went 3-0 in the Zebras' three dual meets. He reached the region quarterfinals and scored a pin in the fifth-place match. That proved crucial as Garcia earned a spot in the state tournament after a wrestler withdrew during the week. He's just one of a handful of wrestlers in school history to reach the state tournament.

285 - Austin Scott, South Plainfield, Sr.

8-4, 6th North 2 Region

The undersized heavyweight battled with the biggest of them and reached the North 2 Region semifinals. He went 6-1 in the regular season and five of his eight victories were by pin. In 2020, Scott had a memorable run in Region V. As the 12th seed, he placed fourth to qualify for the state tournament.

All GMCWCA Team and Home News Tribune's All-GMC Selections

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

HONORABLE MENTION/GMC All-Stars

(Criteria: all other wrestlers who qualified for the region tournament)

Central Region

Edison: Ben DiCocco (106), Julien Dawson (113), Alejandro Avellan (195); Metuchen: Francesco Rossiter (132), Jack McGowan (138), Tyler Haynes (145); Middlesex: Kevin Beck (106), Nick D'Alessio (160); Monroe: Michael Mustillo (106), Anthony Ceras (145), Anthony Profaci (152), Nick Sta. Ana (220); North Brunswick: Hans Tejada (195); Old Bridge: Logan Roman (113), Vincent Nadera (120); Piscataway: Deon Pleasant (126); St. Joseph: Anthony Bistany (120), David Rosenfarb (126), Vincent Genna (138), Richard Davis (145), Gianni Principato (285); Sayreville: Dylan Acevedo (120), Ryan Bouchard (220); South Brunswick: Jackson Ratcliffe (132), Matthew Carlson (195); South River: Marcus Granadeiro (220); Spotswood: Zach Weiner (138); Woodbridge: Zach Smolder (220)

North 2 Region

J.F. Kennedy: Giovanni Maglione (126); Saint Thomas Aquinas: Joey Ortega (138), Connor Doherty (145), Joe Schroll (182), Steve Cohan (285); South Plainfield: Jeffrey Jacome (106), Jacob DelVecchio (120), Julian Irizarry (132), Andrew Loniewski (138), Nicholas Campagna (152), Tyler Balent (160), Xavier Santos (170)

Home News Tribune's Wrestler of the Year

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

South Plainfield's Anthony White

Courier News/Home News Tribune Wrestler of Year

by Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

Anthony White took a step forward when he learned to take a step back.

In previous offseasons, the South Plainfield wrestler would go all out in his training. Sure, that dedication is certainly desirable for an elite athlete.

But White realized that remembering your purpose for all the sweat was just as important as putting the time in.

"I'd say this year I actually improved the most," he said. "This summer, I was training real hard, but I was focusing more. Like past years, I was just training as hard as I could and just trying to everyday push myself to the limit and, you know, destroy my body. I realized late last year that that's not the way to do it.

"And so this summer, I was just focused on getting better everyday at wrestling and not just going in there and trying to kill myself and go as hard as I could. I was taking a step back and thinking, 'Oh, why do I love this sport so much? What are some positions I can get better at?' And I was just having more fun with it. I think that's how I was able to stay so consistent during the summer and even throughout the winter."

White's new approach paid off en route to capturing the 145-pound state championship in a 14-1 season.

The senior has been named the Courier News and Home News Tribune Wrestler of the Year for his efforts. He's the storied South Plainfield program's 13th individual state champion and has a 135-10 career record.

South Plainfield Anthony White defeats Delbarton Simon Ruiz 6-5 in their 145 lbs final. NJSIAA State Wrestling Championships at Phillipsburg High School on April 24, 2021.

Continued on next page ...

Home News Tribune's Wrestler of the Year

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

White, who has signed to wrestle at Rutgers, took fourth in the state as a junior.

His accomplishments include winning three district, Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament and Morris Knolls titles in three tries (this season, those tournaments were not held).

He also captured two region championships.

In this shortened season, White took second in the North 2 Region after an overtime loss to Delbarton's Simon Ruiz. In 2020, the two split overtime matches in the state tournament with White winning in the quarterfinals and Ruiz taking the third-place match.

After the region defeat, White simply went back to training, looked at video of the match and decided to have a more open style if they met again.

A week later, both advanced to the state final at Phillipsburg High School. This time, White didn't hold anything back and scored a takedown with about 30 seconds left for the 6-5 win.

"He deserves it," South Plainfield coach Steve Johnston said after the final. "He absolutely deserves this state title. He's worked his tail off. He's done everything the right way and that's what it takes to be a state champ. You got to be doing everything the right way and he did that. It's something I'll never forget as a coach, that's for sure."

On his car ride home, White said he received a congratulatory FaceTime call from some of the past South Plainfield legends who were at an event together, including Anthony Ashnault, Scott DelVecchio and the Heilmann brothers.

"They were all going crazy for me," he said. "That was probably the coolest thing on the night."

White knows all about the passion for wrestling found in South Plainfield. He remembers getting a flyer for youth wrestling in kindergarten, thinking it would be like WWE. No one in his family had wrestled before and his dad was a basketball player.

Continued on next page ...

Home News Tribune's Wrestler of the Year

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

It turns out, he liked the amateur brand, as well, and won youth championships and continued to get better.

In fact, he's wrestled with most of his high school teammates since they were little kids. They still give back and occasionally help with middle school and youth practices.

"The last four years wrestling for South Plainfield, it's been like," White said, "I don't want to sound like too cliché, but it's been my dream, especially being able to start four years for them."

White recalled as a sophomore watching Zach DelVecchio win a 220-pound state title as a senior.

"I remember him telling me after I lost that year in the blood round at states, he was like, 'You're going to do this one day,'" White said. "And then having it come to fruition this past season and finishing first, it was definitely a great feeling. I'll know in a few years from now I'll look back and my name's going to be up on that wall with all the select few state champs."

During the season, though, there was some uncertainty as the COVID-19 pandemic still raged. At first, wrestlers didn't know if there would even be a season or an individual state tournament.

White simply continued his consistent training and competed in tournaments, such as placing fourth in the prestigious Super 32 tournament in the fall.

Once the season got underway, the Tigers wrestling team was shutdown for 10 days into early April.

In a normal season, there's only a day off here and there from November to early March -- not much time to enjoy holiday cookies. There's the constant weight cutting and grind of tough matches.

This season, the unexpected break was a time to recover and refresh, refocus for the postseason. White said he did running and weight training, but there was no hard contact.

Continued on next page ...

Home News Tribune's Wrestler of the Year

Courtesy of; Andy Mendlowitz, MyCentralJersey.com

"Obviously, we were upset we got shutdown, but looking back at it now, it wasn't the worst thing that could have happened to us, you know," White said. "And we got lucky. too. You always got to look at things like, if we got shutdown a week later none of us would have ever got to wrestle at the region tournament and we would have never got to states."

"When I got back it was like everyone, not just me, like everyone on the team was as good as new. We were all fresh. Our bodies were right. Nothing sore. No injuries were nagging us anymore. So it wasn't bad."

As his high school wrestling career wrapped up, White thanked the South Plainfield coaching staff for helping him reach his goals, especially head coach Steve Johnston, as well as the head coach his freshman season Bill Pavlak.

The assistant coaches helped mold him and would often wrestle with him, including Mike Jakubik, John Nye and Shane Raymond.

Next up is Big Ten wrestling at Rutgers and White will certainly be bringing his new mindset to the Scarlet Knight singlet, just like he did this past season.

"You got to always give yourself time to refocus and you got to always try to enjoy it," White said. "So that's what I did. I just found a way to really enjoy the grind and embrace it."

my central jersey.com

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



New Jersey State Champions from Middlesex County



<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>WT. CL.</u>
HENRY MACK	1962	PISCATAWAY	141
RICH AIELLO	1963	EAST BRUNSWICK	141
STEVE POVOLAC	1964	EDISON	141
ED TOMKIEWICZ	1964	EDISON	198
JOE LEMMO	1965	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	106
MAX GUIDOBONI	1965	EAST BRUNSWICK	115
JOHN SMITH	1965	PISCATAWAY	168
LEN CASSIDY	1966	EAST BRUNSWICK	130
GERRY NISIVOCIA	1970	J.P. STEVENS	115
MARIO IANNI	1970	EDISON	130
GERRY NISIVOCIA	1971	J.P. STEVENS	123
JOE NISIVOCIA	1972	J.P. STEVENS	115
JAY STUART	1972	PISCATAWAY	136
BARRY DRILL	1975	J.P. STEVENS	101
JOE DOUGHERTY	1975	MADISON TOWNSHIP	108
JOE DRAIN	1977	COLONIA	158
MIKE DOUGHERTY	1978	MADISON CENTRAL	108
KEVIN JACOUTOT	1980	MADISON CENTRAL	115
JACK WILSON	1980	MIDDLESEX	HWT
KEVIN JACOUTOT	1981	MADISON CENTRAL	129
TED SLIWINSKI	1983	EAST BRUNSWICK	159
TIM JACOUTOT	1984	MADISON CENTRAL	116
DARREN SCHULMAN	1986	EAST BRUNSWICK	123
JOE DUHIGG	1989	EDISON	119
STEVE GIORDANO	1989	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	145
KEVIN MCCANN	1991	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	135
SCOTT KAMMERER	1991	EAST BRUNSWICK	HWT
FERMAN CRISCO	1992	PERTH AMBOY	152
BRIAN BRADY	1994	MADISON CENTRAL	152
TOM NOTO	1998	SOUTH RIVER	103
TOM NOTO	1999	SOUTH RIVER	103
MATT ANDERSON	2000	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	103
ED GUTNIK	2001	JOHN F. KENNEDY	130
JIMMY CONROY	2004	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	103
ANTHONY ASHNAULT	2010	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	103
ANTHONY ASHNAULT	2011	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	112
ANTHONY ASHNAULT	2012	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	126
SCOTT DELVECCHIO	2012	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	132
SCOTT DELVECCHIO	2013	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	132
ANTHONY ASHNAULT	2013	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	138
JONATHAN SCHLEIFER	2014	EAST BRUNSWICK	160
ZACH DELVECCHIO	2019	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	220
JOHN POZNANSKI	2020	COLONIA	182
ANTHONY WHITE	2021	SOUTH PLAINFIELD	145

2021 GMCWCA SPECIAL AWARDS

Top Team - South Plainfield

Most Improved Team - Metuchen

***Coach of the Year -
Steve Johnston, South Plainfield***

***Assistant Coach of the Year -
Nick Zaneto, Metuchen***

Man of the Year - Ron Mazzola

***Media Man of the Year -
Rachel Daddio, Instagram***

***Cliff Loysen Memorial Wrestling Official of
the Year - Tim Flynn***

***Legacy Award -
Greg Tufaro, my central jersey .com***

***Special Coaching Achievement Award -
Nick Tonzola, Saint Thomas Aquinas
300th Career Victory***

Read more about these award winners on the following pages.



2021 Top Team

SOUTH PLAINFIELD TIGERS

The South Plainfield Tigers were voted the Top Team by the GMCWCA. After a disappointing 2019/2020 Season the Tigers were chomping at the bit to get back onto the mat for the 2021 wrestling season. The team put the work in during the off-season and made sure they were as prepared as possible to start the season. Their hard work paid off as they finished their shortened dual meet season 7-0 and once again were dominant against the GMC. Perhaps their most impressive win came on the last weekend of March at Southern Regional where they dominated the Rams 40-19 which vaulted the Tigers to the #6 ranking in the State by NJ.com. The Tigers also defeated East Brunswick (72-9), Scotch Plains (68-9), Piscataway (69-9), J.P. Stevens (82-0), Monroe (53-19), and Old Bridge (65-9). Unfortunately, the dual meet season was cut short due to COVID-19 Protocols. \The Tigers entered the post season with all 14 of the wrestlers being selected to be seeded in the Super Region and of those 14 wrestlers, 11 were seeded in the top 16 of their Super Region. Of those 11 seeded wrestlers, the Tigers had three state qualifiers in Jeffrey Jacome, Anthony White, and Thomas Renna. They also 11had 3 wrestlers narrowly miss becoming a state qualifier as Jason Giordano and Nicholas Campagna finished 5th in their weight class and Senior Austin Scott finished 6th. All three of the Tiger state qualifiers were seeded in the top five of their weight classes, and the Tigers earned two state place winners as Jeffrey Jacome placed 4th at 106lbs. and Anthony White would go on to finish as the 145lb. State Champion. Thomas Renna had to withdraw from the tournament due to a series of injuries. The South Plainfield High School wrestling staff would like to congratulate the 2021 wrestling team especially seniors, Kenny Clevenger, Thomas Renna, Xavier Santos, Austin Scott, and Anthony White on an outstanding season and career. Coach Johnston would also like to congratulate his coaching staff of John Nye, Shane Raymond, and Craig Salvatore along with volunteer coaches Bill Hamilton, Tyler Hunt, and Adam Kaplan as well previous head coaches Al Ranger, Tom Baker, Mike Buggiey, Bill Pavlak, and Kevin McCann as none of this would be possible without your support and dedication to the program. Congratulations to the 2021 South Plainfield High School Wrestling Team and South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling Program and Community on being named the GMCWCA 's Top Team!!



Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament Champions



**1986 - MADISON CENTRAL
1987 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1988 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1989 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1990 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1991 - MADISON CENTRAL
1992 - MADISON CENTRAL
1993 - EAST BRUNSWICK
1994 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1995 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1996 - SOUTH RIVER
1997 - SOUTH RIVER
1998 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
1999 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2000 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2001 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2002 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2003 - EAST BRUNSWICK
2004 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2005 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2006 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2007 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2008 - SAYREVILLE
2009 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2010 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2011 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2012 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2013 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2014 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2015 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2016 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2017 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2018 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2019 - SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2020 - MONROE TOWNSHIP
2021 - NOT CONTESTED**

***South Plainfield
26 Titles***

***Madison Central
3 Titles***

***East Brunswick
2 Titles***

***South River
2 Titles***

***Monroe Township
1 Title***

***Sayreville
1 Title***



2021

Most Improved Team

METUCHEN BULLDOGS

Metuchen wrestling has climbed the ladder the past four years. Each year becoming more experienced, showcasing a deep roster of talented wrestlers this past season. The Bulldogs finished the season with a 9-2 record, they won 6 bouts in each of their close losses vs. #2 St. Thomas and #3 St. Joe's Metuchen. The back to back Blue Division runner-ups have a combined dual meet record of 38 wins and 14 losses the past three seasons.

This year's team and individual achievements marked a pinnacle of hard work, technical wrestling, positive attitude and great team chemistry. The 2021 season was highlighted by a #5 GMC team ranking, 5 district place-winners, 3 seeded super region wrestlers and 5 All Blue Division honors.

Seniors Jaedon Kearns, Jake Lepinski, Tyler Haynes, Brandon Kick, Karim Khan, Dean Serio and Koby Williams led the way with leadership and poise as the second smallest team in the county earned the respect of their opponents. Juniors Dan Capron, Bryan McCarthy, Jack McGowan, Marvin Malino, Kevin Stoecker and Matt Bianchini anchored the line-up with gutsy performances all year. Sophomore standout Francesco Rossiter showed what the future potential of the program looks like.



2021 Coach of the Year

STEVE JOHNSTON SOUTH PLAINFIELD

This year's GMCWCA's and GMC Conference Coach of the Year is South Plainfield Head Coach Steve Johnston. Steve has just finished his third year as Head Coach after spending 10 years as an assistant under outstanding coaches Kevin McCann and Bill Pavlak. A graduate of South Plainfield High School and alumni of its wrestling program, Steve was part of the Tigers first two Group State Championships in 2000 and 2001. He would also go on to win two Morris Knolls Tournament Titles, one district title after being runner up in three previous attempts, one GMC Tournament Title, and placed 2nd in the region qualifying him for the State Tournament in 2003. This year, the Tigers finished 7-0 this year under his tutelage and earned the #6 ranking in the State by NJ.com. They finished 5-0 in the Red Division and had two out of conference wins against Scotch Plains - Fanwood and Southern Regional. Unfortunately, the Tigers dual meet season was cut short due to COVID-19 protocols. The Tigers entered the post season with all 14 of the wrestlers being selected to be seeded in the Super Region and of those 14 wrestlers, 11 were seeded in the top 16 of their Super Region. Of those 11 seeded wrestlers, the Tigers had three state qualifiers in Jeffrey Jacome, Anthony White, and Thomas Renna. They also had 3 wrestlers narrowly miss becoming a state qualifier as Jason Giordano and Nicholas Campagna finished 5th in their weight class and Senior Austin Scott finished 6th. All three of the Tiger state qualifiers were seeded in the top five of their weight classes, and the Tigers earned two state place winners as Jeffrey Jacome placed 4th at 106lbs. and Anthony White would go on to finish as the 145lb. State Champion. Thomas Renna had to withdraw from the tournament due to a series of injuries.

During Steve's tenure as Head Coach, the Tigers have won a Group 2 State Championship in 2019, two Central Jersey Group 2 Sectional titles, one Greater Middlesex Conference - Red Division title, one Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament title, two District Team Championships, one Morris Knolls Tournament Title, and one Virginia Duals - National Division Tournament title. His current dual meet record stands at 50-10. Individually, he has coached 7 Morris Knolls Tournament Champions, 9 Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament Champions, 12 District Tournament Champions, 7 Region Champions, 15 State Qualifiers, 7 State Place-Winners including two State Champions in Zach DelVecchio in 2019 and Anthony White in 2021. Steve would like to thank and congratulate all the wrestlers, parents, and coaches of the South Plainfield Wrestling Program as this truly is a shared award.



2021 Assistant Coach of the Year

NICK ZANETO METUCHEN

Nick Zaneto is a former head coach of the Bulldogs, former Grapplers Wrestling recreation president, a collegiate competitor at the University of Springfield, a graduate of Metuchen High School and a current teacher at MHS. Nick is a certified Athletic Trainer and holds numerous strength training and fitness certifications.

Nick is an essential component to the team's success the past few years. He is a dedicated educator and coach, believes passionately in the sport of wrestling and the work ethic it instills in young student-athletes.

Nick educates the team on proper fitness, strength, conditioning and nutrition. His emphasis on top leg riding has helped the team become more well-rounded wrestlers. Nick wrestles with the kids daily, giving them a good feel for high level competition.

Nick takes part in scheduling and planning for both in season and off season. He is the tournament director of teams JV tournaments. He breaks down film with kids, handles track wrestling, cleans mats, is an excellent recruiter and overall champion of the program. The turn around and success of Metuchen wrestling would not be possible without Coach Zaneto's passion, dedication and commitment to the team.



2021 *Man of the Year*

RON MAZZOLA

I get asked a lot about how I got involved in wrestling. would you believe through baseball and basketball? I could count on one hand the number of wrestling matches I watched while in high school.

I've always been a "sports junkie". I was a longtime coach and board member with many sports leagues in Old Bridge. It wasn't until 1987, when Brian Brady, a 6th grader at Jonas Salk Middle School, joined the wrestling team that my connection to wrestling was made. Along with the Brady's, having know each other since 1981, in 1988 we helped run the head table at the Middle School Tourney. In 1996, along with Judy and Frank Brady, we ran the "unofficial Big East Tournament" at Rutgers.

I became involved with OBHS when Brian went to high school and forged an immediate bond with Hall of Fame coach Ken Scott. I helped at OB more as a coaches assistant. I basically did things to take pressure off the coaching staff, stats, filming etc.

My involvement with the GMCWCA began in 1995 when I was first asked to emcee the All Star Banquet. Since then I have continued to emcee, I also organizes the dinner, create the dinner book and I even produces the awards (part of my real job!). I am always assisting or running any and every tournament I attend from the Bayonne to New Providence to Old Bridge to East Brunswick to Hunterdon Central. My favorite is the GMC Tournament. I have been doing the Districts, the Regions and the NJSIAA State Tournament in Atlantic City for a very long time.

I also became a friend of the media, and am currently the president of the NJ Wrestling Writers Association.

I am very involved in the fall in girls gymnastics and in 2008 received the NJSIAA's Gymnastics Sports Award for the contributions I have made. I received the NJSIAA's Wrestling Sports Award in 2017, for my dedication to wrestling. I have been honored several times by the GMCWCA and treasure every one. Perhaps my greatest accolade was being inducted into the Old Bridge High School's Wall of Fame in 2019.

So it's because of the 3 B's ... Brady's, Basketball and Baseball that I have become so heavily involved in WRESTLING!!! And I love every minute!!!

I really appreciate and thank the GMC wrestling coaches, not only for presenting me with this award, but for their drive and dedication to wrestling in Middlesex County.



2021 *Media Man of the Year*

RACHEL DADDIO **INSTAGRAM**

Rachel has not only become a key member of the GMCWCA's leadership team, she has become an integral part of GMC girls wrestling, and girls wrestling statewide.

Last year, the GMCWCA awarded Rachel with the Pioneer Award for her leadership and promotion of girls wrestling conference-wide.

Rachel is a former wrestler for East Brunswick High School, from which she graduated in 2010, she is now an Assistant Coach at her alma-mater.

She is a mainstay at the head table of the GMC tournament and many other high school tournaments, handling computer and administrative responsibilities as needed. She created the off-season Chick Wrestler Classic and then in-season Middlesex County Classic Girls Wrestling Tournaments.

Rachel, however, is receiving this award for the tremendous amount of work she has done in promoting GMC wrestling with the Instagram page. She created the page and does a tremendous amount of work reaching out to wrestlers and coaches for their bio's and photos.

After graduating with her Bachelors Degree from Rutgers University, Rachel received a Masters of Science in Nutrition and is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. She currently works as a dietitian for the State of New Jersey.

Rachel is a longtime Rutgers wrestling season ticket holder, who also regularly attends college matches at Princeton and Rider, as well.

As you can see, she is truly a wrestling junkie!

The Greater Middlesex Conference Wrestling Coaches Association is extremely fortunate to have Rachel be a part of its team and is proud to award her the 2021 GMCWCA Media Man Award.



2021 *Cliff Loysen Memorial* *Official of the Year* **TIM FLYNN**

Tim Flynn is a 'wrestling lifer'. A graduate of John F. Kennedy Memorial High School in Iselin, he wrestled for the recently deceased Gary Kuzniak. Tim went on to Kean University, graduating with a degree in Political Science with a Certificate in Logistics.

Tim has been officiating for a total of 28 years, starting in 1988. A very experienced official he has officiated the GMC Tournament including the Finals, the Sectionals, the Districts and Regions. He has held office in the Central Chapter of the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association.

Tim also has an extensive coaching career at the Recreational level. He coached for 10 years for Woodbridge Recreation, and later coached for the Union Recreation program. Sandwiched between those coaching stints, he was one of the Co-Founders of the Fords Bearcats Rec Team, where he coached for 5 years.

Tim is currently the Director of Corporate Logistics at Turtle & Hughes, which is one of the nation's largest independent electrical and industrial distributors.

Tim lives in Warren with his wife of 28 years Sarah, and has a son Patrick and a daughter who will be attending Rutgers this fall.

Tim is very loyal to his roots and very committed to the Greater Middlesex Conference. He is always one of the friendliest faces in the gym.

The Greater Middlesex Conference Wrestling Coaches Association is proud to have named Tim Flynn as the winner of the 2021 Cliff Loysen Memorial Wrestler of the Year Award.



2021 Legacy Award

GREG TUFARO

A national award-winning journalist and co-founder of the New Jersey Wrestling Writers Association, Greg has been privileged to receive multiple Media Person of the Year awards from the Greater Middlesex Conference Wrestling Coaches Association. He has also been named its Man of the Year. The NJSIAA has honored Greg with its Service Award for commitment to high school student-athletes and with the Vogeding Award, presented annually to a media representative for his or her contributions to the sport of wrestling.

Greg covered scholastic and college sports for USA TODAY NETWORK New Jersey newspapers for 30 years before making a career change several months ago to become the Chief of Staff for State Senator Patrick J. Diegnan Jr., whose legislative district includes seven Middlesex County municipalities.

Greg and his wife, Cyndi, established The Marisa Tufaro Foundation in loving memory of their beautiful daughter, Marisa, who died four years ago at the age of 13. Marisa was born with a complex cardiac defect. She survived six open-heart surgeries and a heart transplant, but a rare form of cancer claimed her life following a valiant battle.

Since its inception, The Marisa Tufaro Foundation has donated more than \$200,000 to fulfill its mission of helping pediatric patients and other children in need throughout the greater Middlesex County area.

The tax-exempt nonprofit has received unwavering support from the scholastic wrestling community. The South Plainfield and Old Bridge high school programs have combined to donate nearly \$12,000 through an annual Marisa Tufaro Memorial Match. The GMC Wrestling Coaches Association has donated thousands more through other fundraising efforts.

The Marisa Tufaro Foundation has awarded 20 scholarships to high school student-athletes, several of whom were varsity wrestlers that helped fulfill the nonprofit's mission.



2021 "300 Wins"

NICK TONZOLA SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

On March 27, 2021, Nick Tonzola reached a very big milestone in his coaching career. His Trojans defeated Woodbridge 64-12, giving Nick 300 career victories.

Currently at 305 wins, Nick is the dean of coaches in the GMC having coached at Bishop Ahr/Saint Thomas Aquinas, his alma mater, for 31 years!

Nick joins a pretty exclusive list (see following page) as he becomes the only the 4th coach in Middlesex County history to reach 300 Wins.

To honor Nick, the GMCWCA presented Nick with a Special Coaching Achievement Award. Congratulations Nick on your 300th Career Victory.



200 & 300 Coaching Wins



300 WINS

Coach, School(s), Win Total, Final Season

Ken Scott, Madison Central/Old Bridge, 361, 2005

Joe Dougherty, South Brunswick, 306, 2012

Kevin Mc Cann, South Plainfield, 302, 2016

Nick Tonzola, Bishop Ahr/Saint Thomas Aquinas, 305*,
Active

200 WINS

Coach, School(s), Win Total, Final Season

Mike Giordano, Perth Amboy, 292, 2017

Gerry Bandola, Cedar Ridge & Woodbridge, 270, 1999

Bill Voliva, Piscataway, 246, 2006

Ken Pagach, Edison, 230, 1994

Bill Pavlak, South Plainfield & Piscataway, 205, 2018

Norm Winter, Piscataway, 201, 1979

Coached in the GMC, Majority of Time at Another School

Gerry Nisiviccia, Edison, 291

Rick Iacono, Middlesex/Dunellen, 335

Joe Nisivoccia, Metuchen, 407

2021 GMC FINAL RECORDS

Red Division	Division	Overall
1) South Plainfield	5-0	7-0
2) Monroe	5-1	10-2
3) Old Bridge	4-2	7-6
4) South Brunswick	2-2	6-4
5) East Brunswick	1-3	3-6
6) Piscataway	1-4	1-11
7) John P. Stevens	0-6	0-13
Perth Amboy	Opted out of 2021	

White Division	Division	Overall
1) Saint Joseph	4-0	9-3
2) Woodbridge	3-1	7-5
3) Edison	3-2	9-3
4) Colonia	2-1	7-7
5) John F. Kennedy	0-3	2-7
6) Sayreville	0-3	1-7
7) New Brunswick	0-1	0-4

Blue Division	Division	Overall
1) Saint Thomas Aquinas	4-0	9-1
2) Metuchen	3-1	9-2
3) South River	2-1	5-4
4) Middlesex	2-2	7-7
5) North Brunswick	1-3	3-5
6) Spotswood	0-6	0-13
Carteret	Opted out of 2021	
Highland Park	Opted out of 2021	

2021 ALL GREATER MIDDLESEX CONFERENCE ALL-CONFERENCE WRESTLERS

106	<i>Nico Calello - St Joseph</i>
106	<i>Jeff Jacome - South Plainfield</i>
113	<i>Giovanni Alejandro - St. Joseph</i>
120	<i>Desmond Pleasant - Piscataway</i>
126	<i>J.J. Giordano - South Plainfield</i>
126	<i>Dylan Acevedo - Sayreville</i>
126	<i>Deon Pleasant - Piscataway</i>
132	<i>Kendall Jordan - St Thomas Aquinas</i>
138	<i>Tyler Sagi - Old Bridge</i>
138	<i>Zach Weiner - Spotswood</i>
145	<i>Anthony White - South Plainfield</i>
145	<i>Connor Doherty - St Thomas Aquinas</i>
152	<i>Owen Disbrow - St Thomas Aquinas</i>
160	<i>Jarazell Bull - New Brunswick</i>
170	<i>Chris Fanelli - Monroe</i>
170	<i>Xavier Santos - South Plainfield</i>
182	<i>Brian Christie - St Joseph</i>
195	<i>Thomas Renna - South Plainfield</i>
220	<i>Bryand Garcia - New Brunswick</i>
285	<i>Austin Scott - South Plainfield</i>
285	<i>Gianni Principato - St Joseph</i>

GMC Coach of the Year:

Steve Johnston - South Plainfield

2021 GMC Wrestling All Red Division

106, Jeff Jacome - South Plainfield
113, Logan Roman - Old Bridge
120, Desmond Pleasant - Piscataway
120, Jake DeVecchio - South Plainfield
126, Deon Pleasant - Piscataway
126, J.J. Giordano - South Plainfield
132, Julian Irizarry - South Plainfield
132, Jackson Ratcliffe - South Brunswick
138, Tyler Sagi - Old Bridge
138, Andrew Loniewski - South Plainfield
145, Anthony White - South Plainfield
152, Nicholas Campagna - South Plainfield
160, Tyler Balent - South Plainfield
170, Chris Fanelli - Monroe
170, Xavier Santos - South Plainfield
182, Yianni Panzarino - Monroe
195, Thomas Renna - South Plainfield
195, Matthew Carlson - South Brunswick
220, Nico Sta Ana - Monroe
220, Nicholas Wisbeski - South Brunswick
285, Austin Scott - South Plainfield

Coach of the Year:

Steve Johnston - South Plainfield

Sportsmanship Award:

East Brunswick

2021 GMC Wrestling All White Division

106, Nico Calello - St Joseph
106, Ben DiCocco - Edison
113, Giovanni Alejandro - St. Joseph
113, Julien Dawson - Edison
120, Dylan Acevedo - Sayreville
120, Anthony Bistany - St Joseph
126, Alexis Irizarry - Woodbridge
132, Dave Rosenfarb - St Joseph
132, Giovanni Maglione - John F Kennedy
138, Vince Gennai - St Joseph
145, Rich Davis - St Joseph
152, John Kubis Badilla - Woodbridge
160, Jarazell Bull - New Brunswick
160, Michael Feliciano - Colonia
170, Michael Torres - Colonia
170, Tyler Job - Woodbridge
182, Brian Christie - St Joseph
195, Alejandro Avellan - Edison
220, Bryand Garcia - New Brunswick
285, Gianni Principato - St Joseph
285, Andre Nesbit - Woodbridge

Coach of the Year:

Mike Carbone - St Joseph

Sportsmanship Award:

Sayreville

2021 GMC Wrestling All Blue Division

106, Dylan Soares - South River
113, Kevin Beck - Middlesex-Dunellen
120, Stephen Baszak - South River
126, Landon Kearnsi - Saint Thomas Aquinas
132, Fran Rossiter - Metuchen
132, Kendall Jordan - St Thomas Aquinas
138, Zach Weiner - Spotswood
138, Joey Ortega - St Thomas Aquinas
138, Jack McGowan - Metuchen
145, Connor Doherty - Saint Thomas Aquinas
145, Tyler Haines - Metuchen
152, Brandon Kick - Metuchen
152, Owen Disbrow - Saint Thomas Aquinas
160, Jose Martinez - Saint Thomas Aquinas
170, Nick D'Allesio - Middlesex-Dunellen
170, Kenny Cohgan - St Thomas
182, Koby Williams - Metuchen
182, William Wilson, North Brunswick
195, Hans Tejada - North Brunswick
220, Marcus Grandiero - South River
220, Omar Shelabelden - North Brunswick
285, Bob Wehrle - Spotswood

Coach of the Year:

Nick Tonzola - Saint Thomas Aquinas

Sportsmanship Award:

North Brunswick



Media "Top 10's"



Home News Tribune MyCentralJersey.com

- 1. South Plainfield (8-0)***
- 2. Saint Thomas Aquinas (9-1)***
- 3. Saint Joseph (9-2)***
- 4. Monroe (10-2)***
- 5. Woodbridge (7-5)***
- 6. Old Bridge (7-6)***
- 7. Metuchen (9-2)***
- 8. Colonia (8-6)***
- 9. Edison (9-3)***
- 10. South Brunswick (6-3)***

Star-Ledger nj.com

- 1. South Plainfield (8-0)***
- 2. Saint Thomas Aquinas (9-1)***
- 3. Saint Joseph (9-2)***
- 4. Monroe (10-2)***
- 5. Old Bridge (7-6)***
- 6. Woodbridge (7-5)***
- 7. Metuchen (9-2)***
- 8. Colonia (8-6)***
- 9. Edison (9-3)***
- 10. South Brunswick (6-3)***

2021-2022 IMPORTANT DATES

(As Always, Subject To Change)

Hydration: May begin on November 1, 2021

Wednesday, November 17th - GMC Pre Season Meeting 6:00pm, So. Plain. HS

Tryouts: November 22, 23, and 24, 2021

NOTE: No practices allowed on November 25, 26, 27 & 28

Official Practices Begins - Monday, November 29, 2021

Friday, December 17, 2021 - Opening Day

Thursday, January 27th - GMC Seeding Meeting

NO MATCHES ON THIS DAY

4:00 at the South Plainfield Italian American Club

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**Friday, January 28th - GMC Tournament at Piscataway**

**Saturday, January 29th - GMC Tournament at Piscataway**

## **GMC GIRLS TOURNAMENT**

**Monday, January 17, 2022 at Saint Thomas Aquinas**

**January 15th - +2 Pound Allowance**

**Saturday, January 29 - Team Playoff Cut Off**

**Tuesday, February 1st - Team Playoff Seeding Meeting**

**SECTIONALS, February 7th, Senis February 9, Finals February 11th**

**GROUP FINALS TBA**

**Tuesday, February 8th - Girls Seeding Meeting**

**Saturday, February 12th - GIRLS REGIONS**

**Thursday, February 17th - District Seeding Meetings**

**Saturday, February 19th - District Tournaments**

**Sunday, February 20th - GIRLS STATE TOURNAMENT**

**Monday, February 21st, Region Seeding Meetings**

**February 23th, 25th and 26th - Region Tournaments**

**Tuesday, March 1st - State Seeding Meeting**

**March 3ed, 4th, and 5th - State Tournament in Atlantic City**

**Wednesday, March 9th - Post Season Meeting 6:00pm, South Plainfield HS**