



**ANNUAL ALL-STAR
AWARDS PRESENTATION
MONDAY, April 20, 2026**

IMPORTANT DATES 2026-2027 SEASON

GMC GIRLS TOURNAMENT 1/18 @ Churchill
Boys GMC Tournament 1/22 and 1/23 @ Piscataway

	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
MAAC Tournament Start - Thursday	Mar. 4	Mar. 2	Mar. 1	Mar. 7	Mar. 6
MAAC Tournament End - Tuesday	Mar. 9	Mar. 7	Mar. 6	Mar. 12	Mar. 11
Individual State Championships - Thursday	Mar. 11	Mar. 9	Mar. 8	Mar. 14	Mar. 13
Individual State Championships - Friday	Mar. 12	Mar. 10	Mar. 9	Mar. 15	Mar. 14
Individual State Championships - Saturday	Mar. 13	Mar. 11	Mar. 10	Mar. 16	Mar. 15
B Region - Friday	Mar. 5	Mar. 3	Mar. 2	Mar. 8	Mar. 7
B Region - Saturday	Mar. 6	Mar. 4	Mar. 3	Mar. 9	Mar. 8
G Region - Sunday	Mar. 7	Mar. 5	Mar. 4	Mar. 10	Mar. 9
B District - Saturday	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 24	Mar. 2	Mar. 1
G District - Sunday	Feb. 28	Feb. 27	Feb. 25	Mar. 3	Mar. 2
B/G Team State Championships - Sunday	Feb. 21	Feb. 20	Feb. 18	Feb. 24	Feb. 23
B/G Team State Tournament Cutoff - Saturday	Feb. 6	Feb. 5	Feb. 3	Feb. 9	Feb. 8
Competition Start Date - Monday	Dec. 7	Dec. 6	Dec. 4	Dec. 3	Dec. 9
Season Practice Start Date - Monday	Nov. 30	Nov. 29	Nov. 27	Nov. 26	Dec. 2
Thanksgiving - Thursday	Nov. 26	Nov. 25	Nov. 23	Nov. 22	Nov. 28
Regular Season No. of Weeks*	11	11	11	12	11

Option 1: Same as this year
33 Matches

*Season practice start date through team tournament cutoff date.

Option 2: Normal Start
Season one week shorter
30 Matches

Option #3

NJSIAA Wrestling - Summary of Future Tournament Dates
 Bowling/Ice Hockey/Swimming Start Date - State Tournament Precedes MAAC Tournament
 Regular Season Match Limit - 30 matches

	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
MAAC Tournament Start - Thursday	Mar. 4	Mar. 2	Mar. 1	Mar. 7	Mar. 6
MAAC Tournament End - Tuesday	Mar. 9	Mar. 7	Mar. 6	Mar. 12	Mar. 11
Individual State Championships - Thursday	Feb. 25	Feb. 24	Feb. 22	Mar. 1	Feb. 27
Individual State Championships - Friday	Feb. 26	Feb. 25	Feb. 23	Mar. 2	Feb. 28
Individual State Championships - Saturday	Feb. 27	Feb. 26	Feb. 24	Mar. 3	Mar. 1
B Region - Friday	Feb. 19	Feb. 18	Feb. 16	Feb. 22	Feb. 21
B Region - Saturday	Feb. 20	Feb. 19	Feb. 17	Feb. 23	Feb. 22
G Region - Sunday	Feb. 21	Feb. 20	Feb. 18	Feb. 24	Feb. 23
B District - Saturday	Feb. 13	Feb. 12	Feb. 10	Feb. 16	Feb. 15
G District - Sunday	Feb. 14	Feb. 13	Feb. 11	Feb. 17	Feb. 16
B/G Team State Championships - Sunday	Feb. 7	Feb. 6	Feb. 4	Feb. 10	Feb. 9
B/G Team State Tournament Cutoff - Saturday	Jan. 23	Jan. 22	Jan. 20	Jan. 26	Jan. 25
Competition Start Date - Monday	Nov. 30	Nov. 29	Nov. 27	Nov. 26	Dec. 2
Season Practice Start Date - Monday	Nov. 16	Nov. 15	Nov. 13	Nov. 12	Nov. 18
Thanksgiving - Thursday	Nov. 26	Nov. 25	Nov. 23	Nov. 22	Nov. 28
Regular Season No. of Weeks*	10	10	10	11	10

*Season practice start date through team tournament cutoff date.

	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031
MAAC Tournament Start - Thursday	Mar. 4	Mar. 2	Mar. 1	Mar. 7	Mar. 6
MAAC Tournament End - Tuesday	Mar. 9	Mar. 7	Mar. 6	Mar. 12	Mar. 11
Individual State Championships - Thursday	Feb. 25	Feb. 24	Feb. 22	Mar. 1	Feb. 27
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B Region - Saturday	Feb. 20	Feb. 19	Feb. 17	Feb. 23	Feb. 22
G Region - Sunday	Feb. 21	Feb. 20	Feb. 18	Feb. 24	Feb. 23
B District - Saturday	Feb. 13	Feb. 12	Feb. 10	Feb. 16	Feb. 15
G District - Sunday	Feb. 14	Feb. 13	Feb. 11	Feb. 17	Feb. 16
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B/G Team State Tournament Cutoff - Saturday	Jan. 23	Jan. 22	Jan. 20	Jan. 26	Jan. 25
Competition Start Date - Monday	Dec. 7	Dec. 6	Dec. 4	Dec. 3	Dec. 9
Season Practice Start Date - Monday	Nov. 30	Nov. 29	Nov. 27	Nov. 26	Dec. 2
Thanksgiving - Thursday	Nov. 26	Nov. 25	Nov. 23	Nov. 22	Nov. 28
Regular Season No. of Weeks*	8	8	8	9	8

*Season practice start date through team tournament cutoff date.

Option 3: Regular season length
Earlier start and earlier end
30 Matches



GREATER MIDDLESEX CONFERENCE WRESTLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

2026 All-Star Wrestlers

CARTERET

Salam Eazaldeen
Jaelyn Villalongo
Wilfredo Villalongo

COLONIA

Joshua Parks
Zoe Poznanski
Anthony Reinoso

EAST BRUNSWICK

Amal Aboud
George Crostewitz
Jake Gujski
Leilanni Huggins
Anna Kripak
Gavin Lezark
Olivia Mitchell
Adriane Patino
Shawn Riley
FaithMarie Soto

EDISON

Ali Altairi
Fernando Avellan
Jeremy Negron
Tyler Northern

HIGHLAND PARK

Emy Reyes-Enriquez

JOHN F. KENNEDY

Evangelia Kotsonis
Armani Maglione
Sheraj Salman
George Vittitoe

JOHN P. STEVENS

Kailei'a Tang-Sinad

METUCHEN

Celeste Falkovich
Daniel Montemurno

MIDDLESEX

Madison Clark
Sophia Lasala
Aubrey Ramos

MONROE

Hayden Cannon
Kyle Capodanno
Anthony Caponegro
Nate Caponegro
Nick Cavallo
Luke Pawliczak
Yidan Wong

NORTH BRUNSWICK

Sean Cannon
Kaylee Chiapa Bendito
Kelin DeJesus
D'Atra Dorismond
Mahwish Khan
Joldin Miranda
Janiya Orihuela
Francis Peraza
Alexandra Reyes
Zaire Romero

NORTH PLAINFIELD

Alexander Kruszczyński
Fergie Perez Martinez
Amaree Walker

OLD BRIDGE

Julia Berk
Isabella Bonilla
Zachary Florio
Lorenzo Granato
Ryan Hoey
Yuliana Hryn
Viktor Ilnytskyi
Alex Kay
Isabella Kay
Landin Lazoja
Madison Magrino
Abby McSorley
Griffin Nugent
Temiloluwa Odumbo
David Peoples
Sofia Sousa
Gavin Young

PERTH AMBOY

Leeah Gutierrez
Kevin Alba Hernandez
Aaliyah Matias
Jaelys Peralta
Estrella Rijo Brito
Jaylynn Rodriguez
Sarisbel Rodriguez
Gabriel Roman III

PISCATAWAY

Sean Love
Jane Rodrigues
Talon Summonte
Vincent Williams

SAINT JOSEPH METUCHEN

Julian Arango
Levi Bobadilla
Nico DeRado
Jason Gross
Morgan Schwarz
Tyler Whitford

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

Nikolas Rivas
Nicholas Campanelli
Hudson Platt

SAYREVILLE

Kiana Sherwood
Kacper Trzeciak

SOUTH BRUNSWICK

Isabella Biviano
Sruthi Murugan
Jayden Williams

SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Justin Culver
Aaron Everitt
Ava Fusaro
Joseph Stanzione

SOUTH RIVER

Felipe Grandeiro

SPOTSWOOD

Valerie Cicero

WOODBIDGE

Genesis Cruz
Noah Perez

Team MVP - Amairani Marin Juarez, New Brunswick



GREATER MIDDLESEX CONFERENCE WRESTLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

2026 *Special Awards*

Courageous Wrestler

Adriana Maria, Old Bridge

Tom Flanagan Memorial Scholarship Award

Mahwish Khan
Jane Rodriguez
Julian Arango

Wrestlers of the Year

157 Sean Love, Piscataway
165 Morgan Schwarz, Saint Joseph
175 Tyler Whitford, Saint Joseph
235 Amaree Walker, North Plainfield

Senior of the Year

120 Jane Rodrigues, Piscataway
165 Aaliyah Matias, Perth Amboy

Junior of the Year

126 Nico DeRado, Saint Joseph

Sophomore of the Year

126 - Nick Campanelli, Saint Thomas Aquinas
126 - Zoe Poznanski, Colonia

Freshman of the Year

106 - George Vittitoe, JFK
100 - Leianni Huggins, East Brunswick

Top Team

Boys - Old Bridge
Girls - North Brunswick

Best Team

Girls - East Brunswick
Group I, II, III - Saint Joseph
Group III, IV, V - Monroe

Most Improved Team

Group I, II, III - Middlesex
Group III, IV, V - Perth Amboy

Coach of the Year

Dan Grasso, Colonia
Rachel Daddio, East Brunswick

Assistant Coach of the Year

Shane Raymond, South Plainfield

Coaching Recognition Award

Mike Monaco, Woodbridge - 100 wins
Dan Smith, Piscataway - 100 wins

Man of the Year

Craig Girvin, Highland Park

Media Man of the Year

Dan Rispoli

Cliff Loysen Official of the Year

Carlos Gonzalez



GREATER MIDDLESEX CONFERENCE WRESTLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

STATE TOURNAMENT TEAM

Colonia

North Jersey Section 2 Group 3 Quarterfinalist

East Brunswick

Central Jersey Group 5 Quarterfinalist

Girls South Quarterfinalist

Edison

Central Jersey Group 5 Sectional Semifinalist

Highland Park

Central Jersey Group 1 Quarterfinalist

Monroe

Central Jersey Group 5 Semifinalist

Old Bridge

Central Jersey Group 5 Sectional Champions

Group 5 Finalist

Girls South Quarterfinalist

Perth Amboy

Central Jersey Group 5 Quarterfinalist

Piscataway

North Jersey Section 2 Group 5 Semifinalist

North Brunswick

Girls South Semifinalist

Saint Thomas Aquinas

Non Public B Quarterfinalist

Sayreville

North Jersey 2 Group 4 Quarterfinalist

South Plainfield

North Jersey 2 Group 3 Quarterfinalist



GREATER MIDDLESEX CONFERENCE WRESTLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

STATE TOURNAMENT INDIVIDUAL

Boys Wrestling

3rd

157 - Sean Love, Piscataway
165 - Morgan Schwarz, Saint Joseph
175 - Tyler Whitford, St Joseph

Top 12

126 - Nicholas Campanelli, St Thomas Aquinas
285 - Jason Gross, Saint Joseph

Top 16

106 - Kyle Capodanno, Monroe

Top 24

106 - David Peoples, Old Bridge
126 - Nico DeRado, Saint Joseph
132 - Jeremy Negron, Edison
144 - Fernando Avellan, Edison
285 - Kacper Trzeciak, Sayreville

State Qualifier

113 - Gabriel Roman III, Perth Amboy
120 - Julian Arango, Saint Joseph
120 - Tyler Northern, Edison
138 - Anthony Caponegro, Monroe
138 - Armani Maglione, JFK
144 - Joseph Stanzione, South Plainfield
190 - Temiloluwa Odumbo, Old Bridge
215 - Daniel Montemurno, Metuchen
215 - Zachary Florio, Old Bridge

Girls Wrestling

3rd

235 - Amaree Walker, North Plainfield

4th

132 - Aubrey Ramos, Middlesex

6th

235 - Jaelyn Villalongo, Carteret

7th

107 - Olivia Mitchell, East Brunswick

8th

120 - Jane Rodrigues, Piscataway
126 - Zoe Poznanski, Colonia
132 - Janiya Orihuela, North Brunswick
165 - Aaliyah Matias, Perth Amboy

Top 12

107 - Isabella Bonilla, Old Bridge
126 - Kailei'a Tang-Sinad, JP Stevens
132 - Ava Fusaro, South Plainfield
145 - Kaylee Chiapa Bendito, North Brunswick
145 - Abby McSorley, Old Bridge

State Qualifier

100 - Leilanni Huggins, East Brunswick
126 - Adriane Patino, East Brunswick
152 - Madison Clark, Middlesex
165 - Sofia Sousa, Old Bridge
185 - Sruthi Murugan, South Brunswick



100



Leilanni Huggins, East Brunswick

- See Freshman of the Year -

Evangelia Kotsonis, JFK

A four year starter for JFK-Iselin, Eva was a captain from JFK for her junior and senior seasons. Eva consistently worked hard at practice and led by example for her teammates. Eva started off very strong this season and was wrestling for podium positions in every tournament. Eva placed in the Lady Bear Invitational, Lady Minutemen Tournament to start the season. Eva continued to compete at a high level into the GMC Tournament where she placed 3rd. Eva then placed 2nd at the District 6 wrestling tournament qualifying for regions. She had 28 wins this season while wrestling a very difficult tournament schedule with only a few dual matches. JFK will miss Eva next season as she continues her wrestling career next season at Kean University.

Madison Magrino, Old Bridge

Madison Magrino put together a strong junior season, leading the team with 31 victories while consistently competing against some of the toughest competition in the conference. Her ability to battle through a demanding schedule made her a key contributor in both dual meets and tournaments. Madison placed fourth at the GMC Tournament and advanced to the District 7 Finals, continuing to prove herself as one of the team's most dependable performers. As part of a core group of underclassmen, Madison has shown tremendous growth as both a competitor and teammate, and she has a very bright future ahead as she enters her senior season.

Sarisbel Rodriguez, Perth Amboy

In just two seasons at the varsity level, Sari put together a remarkable year, finishing with an impressive 30–10 record and 54 career victories. She made her presence felt throughout the season with a runner-up finish at the Bloomfield Tournament, a fourth-place finish at District 6, and ultimately capturing the GMC Championship. Sari etched her name into Perth Amboy history by joining her brother, James Rodriguez—a three-time GMC Champion—as the first brother-and-sister duo to both earn GMC titles. This milestone reflects not only her talent, but her dedication, great work ethic and championship mindset. Her bright smile and positive attitude will be missed by all. Sari will carry that same drive to Middlesex College, where she plans to pursue a degree in nursing



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Isabella Bonilla, Old Bridge

Isabella Bonilla had an outstanding junior campaign, establishing herself as one of the top wrestlers in the region. She compiled an impressive 31-6 record and consistently performed at a high level throughout the season. As a transfer into the program, Isabella brought immediate leadership and valuable experience that helped elevate the entire team. Her postseason run included a trip to the District 7 Finals, a fourth-place finish in the Central Region, and qualification for the state tournament. Her toughness and presence in the room have made a lasting impact, and she will be a key leader moving forward.

Leeah Gutierrez, Perth Amboy

Leeah will go down as one of the most accomplished wrestlers in Perth Amboy history. During her senior season, she posted an outstanding 29-7 record and made history as the first female wrestler to win a District Championship. While a State title remained just out of reach, her perseverance and resilience over the past two years defined her greatness far beyond medals. Leeah closed out her high school career with an incredible 104 victories, becoming the first female wrestler in Perth Amboy history to reach the 100-win milestone. Her résumé includes being a two-time Bloomfield Champion, two-time GMC Champion, two-time State Qualifier, and earning a 5th-place State medal in 2023. Equally impressive off the mat, Leeah maintains a 3.6 GPA and has been accepted to Kean University, Montclair State University, and several other colleges, where she plans to major in nursing. Beyond the wins and accolades, Leeah is an exceptional teammate, a true leader, and a role model within the program and wrestling community. We are incredibly proud of her and wish her nothing but continued success in the next chapter of her journey.

Olivia Mitchell, East Brunswick

Olivia Mitchell is someone we have come to expect greatness from, and this season did not disappoint. Olivia is a 3x GMC champ, 2x GMC Outstanding Wrestler, first 107lb District 7 champ and Outstanding Wrestler, 2x Region Finalist, 3x State Qualifier, and 2x State Place Winner. This season alone, Olivia amassed 39 wins, including 6 wins over state place winners, a 22 match win streak and an undefeated January. At the Region tournament, Olivia became the first female wrestler at East Brunswick to reach 100 wins. With another year left, we look forward to all the records Olivia still has time to shatter, as she will likely break the all time win and pin records for our school. Despite preferring to fly under the radar, Olivia has become a wrestler with statewide notoriety. She will certainly be one to watch next year on her final run.

Jaylynn Rodriguez, Perth Amboy

With only two years of wrestling experience, Jaylynn distinguished herself as one of just two Perth Amboy underclassmen named to the GMC All-Star Team. Despite having her season cut short by injury, she finished with a strong 12-4 record and earned her first GMC Tournament medal with a fourth-place finish. Jaylynn's early success is a testament to her potential, and the coaching staff is excited about the next two years as they continue to develop her skills and help her reach the next level.



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Valerie Cicero, Spotswood

Val wrapped up an outstanding four-year career as a member of the Chargers wrestling program. Over the past three seasons on the girls' side, she compiled an impressive 64–30 record, establishing herself as one of the team's most consistent and reliable competitors. Earlier in her career, Val also stepped into the boys' lineup at 106 pounds during her freshman and sophomore seasons, contributing to a combined total of over 85 career victories. With the continued growth of girls' wrestling, this marked Val's second full season competing in a full girls' schedule—and she made the most of the opportunity. This year, she placed 4th at the East Brunswick Tournament, 2nd at the GMC Tournament, and 3rd at the district tournament. She closes out her career as a multiple-time county and region place winner. Val's toughness, experience, and willingness to compete in any situation have made her an important part of the program's success. She will certainly be missed both on and off the mat.

Francis Peraza, North Brunswick

Francis Peraza Perez, a Senior, placed at GMCs for the first time and made it unforgettable by becoming a champion. She credits much of her success to her teammates, who pushed her to improve all season long, especially during the summer and spring training sessions. Their constant support and competitive spirit helped shape her into the athlete she is today. As captain, Francis leads by example, consistently putting the team before herself. She makes sacrifices not only in competition but also in practice. Her commitment, resilience, and selflessness have had a lasting impact on the team, making her success a shared victory for everyone around her.

Emy Reyes-Enriquez, Highland Park

Emy Reyes-Enriquez has been a dedicated starter for Highland Park wrestling for the past two years. In her first season, she was the only girl on the team, finishing with an impressive 5–5 record. This year, Emy took a major step forward, finishing 12–7 and becoming the first girl in school history to place in the top four at the GMC Tournament. As a leader of the Lady Owls, she has helped mentor six freshmen and sophomores entering the program this season. Off the mat, Emy gives back to the community by volunteering with local wrestling recreation programs and supporting all-girls wrestling clinics. Emy truly represents toughness, dedication, and hard work. We are excited to see her continued success next year as she helps lead the Lady Owls in building a strong and lasting wrestling program.

Estrella Rijo Brito, Perth Amboy

As one of the smallest competitors at 114 pounds, Estrella wrestled with incredible heart and determination over the past two seasons. She capped off her senior year with a strong 17–11 record, earning a third-place finish at the GMC Tournament and a runner-up finish at District 6. Although she has transferred to Bridgewater, Estrella will always be a Perth Amboy Lady Panther. She will continue her academic journey at Rutgers University, where she plans to major in Information Technology. Her grit and pride in the Panther program will always be remembered.



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Julia Berk, Old Bridge

Julia Berk turned in a strong junior season, showing steady improvement and consistency throughout the year. Her 24 wins reflect her ability to compete and succeed against quality opponents. Julia earned third-place finishes at both the GMC Tournament and the District 7 Tournament, demonstrating her ability to perform in postseason competition. Like many on this team, Julia has continued to grow as both a competitor and teammate, contributing to the overall success and culture of the program.

Sophia Lasala, Middlesex

Sophia Lasala made an immediate impact in her freshman season, showing both skill and experience beyond her years. She finished the season with an impressive 24-11 record while competing in a tough field throughout the year. Sophia's hard work and determination were on display at the GMC Tournament, where she earned a 4th place finish. With a strong background in the sport and a commitment to improving each day, Sophia has already established herself as a valuable member of the Middlesex lineup. As she continues to develop, Sophia's future in the program looks very promising.

Alexandra Reyes, North Brunswick

Alexa Reyes, a junior competing at 120 lbs, had an impressive season, showcasing skill and determination on the mat. Alexa is one of the few girls on our team who practices both in our room as well as outside in a club room. She battled through tough competition to earn the title of GMC Finalist and secured a District Finalist finish. With each match, Alexa continues to refine her technique and prove herself as a rising star in high school wrestling.

Jane Rodrigues, Piscataway

- See Senior of the Year and Scholar Athlete -



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Janiya Orihuela, North Brunswick

Janiya Orihuela, a junior from NBTHS, came into this season strong, quickly capturing the Ron Mazzola Memorial Tournament championship at 132 lbs. Her momentum continued as she entered GMCs as the top seed, but an unexpected setback left her with a 4th-place finish. She used that disappointment as fuel, pushing herself even harder for the remainder of the season. Orihuela responded in a big way at districts, winning the championship at 132 lbs, qualifying for the Region III Tournament, where she continued her run by becoming a Region Champion and punching her ticket to Atlantic City in just her second year wrestling. She went on to place 8th in the state of New Jersey, capping off an impressive season with over 50 career victories. Janiya wrestles with confidence and grit, staying composed and aggressive in tough situations. She continues to train with clear goals in mind and, as a team captain, sets a standard with her work ethic and leadership.

Adriane Patino, East Brunswick

At the end of last season, after not winning a post-season match, Adriane set some big goals for herself and did everything in her control to accomplish them. Adriane was on the mat as much as possible, whether it was in club, privates, or jamborees. All her hard work in the off-season was evident as soon as the season started. She was someone that could always be counted on to wrestle a tough match and was always willing to move wherever was best for the team. Adriane's season culminated on her first State Tournament appearance, satisfying the goal she had set for herself one year prior. To get here, Adriane upset the 1 seed in the District to make the finals and wrestled her way from the 8-seed to a 4th place finish in the Regions, amassing 33 wins in her season along the way. Win or lose, Adriane always walked off the mat the same way: level headed and ready to get back to the drawing board. Adriane's potential and dedication are a dangerous combination, and I think we will see the same jump in her skill for her Junior season.

Kailei'a Tang-Sinad, JP Stevens

Kailei'a Tang-Sinad was JP Stevens' all-around best wrestler in both the boys and girls programs this season. She was the Hawks' hammer on the mat, finishing with an outstanding 29–4 record. Her 4 losses this year were to all place finishers (1st, 3rd, 6th, 8th). She captured a winter break tournament championship, a GMC County championship, and a District championship, where she earned Outstanding Wrestler honors. Kailei'a also placed 2nd in the Region and finished among the top 12 wrestlers in New Jersey. Her commitment, attitude, dedication, and hard work went above and beyond all season. The HAWKS look forward to her making even bigger strides her sophomore year and continuing to set the pace next season.

Zoe Poznanski, Colonia

- See Sophomore of the Year -



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Ava Fusaro, South Plainfield

Ava had a tremendous sophomore season for the Tigers. After a freshman year that showed flashes of her growing into a solid wrestler, those expectations were blown away. Her attitude and work ethic is truly astonishing. Everything she does, she does in service of becoming a better athlete and better person. She started off the year by placing third at the Lady Lions Classic at North Hunterdon, but what was probably even more telling of how much Ava improved from last year was her semi-final loss to a wrestler that placed 6th in the state tournament the previous year as Ava would lose 3-2 in tiebreakers. The next weekend Ava would really put the state on notice as she won the Bloomfield Girls Tournament defeating returning state place-winner Molly Smythe of Mt. Olive in the finals 10-9. Ava would continue to impress throughout the later part of December and early January as she would go on to defeat multiple Region 4th place finishers. As the GMC Tournament approached, Ava was excited to compete and it showed as she was dominant in capturing her first GMC Championship with two pins and a tech fall in the finals. After the GMC, Ava continued her winning ways and she would defeat a wrestler who made it to the bloodround in Atlantic City the previous year 18-6. Ava was primed for a successful postseason run as she placed 2nd in both the District and Region tournaments qualifying her for the State Tournament for the first time in her career. She went 1-2 in the state tournament finishing top 12. The coaching staff feels that with her dedication to the sport, she will continue on her rapid ascent in wrestling. While she is also an incredible Softball player, Ava knows the importance of making time for both sports and is hungry to get back on the mat and hone her wrestling skills as well! We are incredibly proud of everything Ava has accomplished this year and are very excited to have her back for two more seasons in a Tiger singlet! Congrats on an outstanding sophomore season!!

Mahwish Khan, North Brunswick

- See Scholar Athlete Award -

Fergie Perez Martinez, North Plainfield

Fergie Perez Martinez, a varsity starter for North Plainfield as a sophomore, finished the season with a 21-17 record. Fergie placed 4th in the Girls GMC Tournament and 4th in the Girls District 5 Tournament. We are excited to see her continued growth and development as she returns for two more years of wrestling.

Aubrey Ramos, Middlesex

Aubrey Ramos has made history at Middlesex High School as the program's first ever female wrestler, and she has quickly established herself as one of the top competitors in the area. As a junior, Aubrey continued to build on her already impressive career by capturing the 2025 GMC Championship, becoming the school's first GMC Champion. She followed that performance with another strong showing this season, placing 3rd in the GMC Tournament. Aubrey went on to win a District Championship, taking 3rd at the Region Tournament, and capped off her outstanding season by becoming a state placewinner, finishing 4th in the state. Aubrey's determination, work ethic, and trailblazing success have set a new standard for Middlesex wrestling, and her impact on the program will be felt for years to come.



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Isabella Biviano, South Brunswick

Isabella hit a trifecta of championships, those being in the GMC, Districts, and Regions. This year she received 30 wins on this season and zero losses at the 138lbs weight class (her 3 losses came at 145lbs). In her career so far she has qualified for states twice and only as a junior has made her way to the top 20 all-time wins list in South Brunswick Wrestling History, and currently holds the most wins and pins in South Brunswick Girls Wrestling History.

Kelin DeJesus, North Brunswick

Kelin DeJesus, Just a freshman, already stacked up 20 hard-earned career wins and fought her way all the way to the GMC finals. She's been putting in relentless work every single day, and it showed when she battled through districts to earn a 4th-place finish. That performance punched her ticket as a Region qualifier—proving she's not just rising, she's coming with intensity, heart, and something to prove. We can't wait to see what she does next.

Anna Kripak, East Brunswick

Anna Kripak put together an impressive comeback season, proving her resilience and determination every step of the way. After facing a challenging year prior, her return to the mat was already a victory—but she didn't stop there. Anna consistently showed up ready to work, bringing effort, toughness, and a competitive mindset to every practice and match. A true "dark horse," she exceeded expectations by finishing with 16 varsity wins, earning a 3rd-place finish at the GMC Tournament, and delivering several crucial victories, especially against Old Bridge that helped secure a narrow team win. Anna's grit and commitment made her an invaluable part of the team's success this season. She will be greatly missed next year.

Jaelys Peralta, Perth Amboy

Jaelys had a breakout season, finishing with an impressive 23–12 record. She placed 4th at the Elizabeth Tournament, 3rd at the GMC, and captured 1st place at District 6. She narrowly missed qualifying for the State Tournament, finishing 5th at the North 2 Regional. With continued hard work in the weight room, gaining strength, and competing in club wrestling, Jaelys is poised to lead next year's young team. Her goals for her final season are ambitious but reaching the top of the GMC podium and qualifying for the State Tournament are well within her reach.



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Kaylee Chiapa Bendito, North Brunswick

Kaylee Chiapa Bendito, a senior and one of only two Lady Raider wrestlers to compete all four years of high school, capped off her remarkable career leaving a lasting mark on the program. As team captain, Bendito secured over 50 career wins, highlighted by strong finishes including 2nd at Ron Mazzola, 2nd at Rebel Rumble, 2nd at GMCs, 3rd at Districts, and 3rd at Regions, earning her long-awaited ticket to Atlantic City. Her leadership, resilience, and consistency have set the standard for future Lady Raiders, and her year-round involvement and love for the sport is evident in every match she wrestles.

Genesis Cruz, Woodbridge

A three year starter for Woodbridge High School, Genesis has been a captain for her Sophomore and Junior seasons. Genesis started the seasons with a 3rd place finish at North Hunterdon Lady Lions Classic. Genesis was consistently in podium contention throughout the season. Genesis had a tough early loss in the GMC tournament but wrestled back and beat the same wrestler to earn 3rd place in the GMC. For the districts Genesis put together a great tournament and won each match by fall to place 1st. Genesis had 25 wins this season, her highest single season mark so far. We expect a big season from her next as a senior leader

Abby McSorley, Old Bridge

Abby McSorley had an outstanding sophomore season, quickly establishing herself as one of the top wrestlers in the lineup. She captured a championship at the Ron Mazzola Memorial Tournament and carried that momentum into the postseason. Abby advanced to the District 7 Finals, placed fourth in the Central Region, and qualified for the state tournament. Her composure, skill, and ability to compete in big matches have made an immediate impact. Abby has a very bright future ahead and will continue to be a major piece of the program's success.





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Amal Aboud, East Brunswick

Amal started wrestling this year as a senior and although she had no experience and little time, she certainly made a name for herself. Even though Amal was unable to wrestle past January, she amassed 14 varsity wins, including a 21 second pin over a returning Region 4th. Amal's best day of her season was definitely the GMC tournament, where she came in as the 7 seed and upset the 2 and 3 seeds to make the GMC finals and earn her status as an All Star Wrestler. Amal was also All Red Division at 152. Although her season was short, Amal definitely made it memorable. Although she is graduating, her no-fear attitude and willingness to go after her opponents will hopefully leave a lasting impression on her teammates.

Madison Clark, Middlesex

In her first year on the mat, sophomore Madison Clark showed tremendous growth throughout the season. After improving steadily with each match, Madison finished the year with an impressive 29-11 record. Her hard work paid off in the postseason, where she earned a 2nd place finish in the District Tournament and followed it up with another 2nd place finish at the Region Tournament. Madison's performance qualified her for the State Tournament, marking a highly successful debut season. With her rapid development and commitment to improvement, Madison has positioned herself as a key part of the Middlesex wrestling program's future.

Celeste Falkovich, Metuchen

A fixture on the girls wrestling scene, Celeste Falkovich saved her best season for last, pinning her way to victory earning her second consecutive coveted County Championship. A four time county place-winner, Golden Eagle runner up, 2 time region placer and state qualifier, Celeste has plenty to brag about. She accumulated 70 victories across her 4 year road to glory as a Bulldog. Celeste's legacy will not be forgotten in the culture of girls wrestling at MHS.

Isabella Kay, Old Bridge

In her first varsity season, Isabella Kay made an immediate impact with 25 wins while competing in a deep and competitive weight class. She showed toughness and resilience throughout the season, gaining valuable experience with each match. Isabella placed fourth at both the GMC and District 7 Tournaments, establishing a strong foundation for her high school career. As part of a talented young group, Isabella has a bright future ahead and will continue to develop into a key contributor for the team.

Zaire Romero, East Brunswick

Zaire Romero, a senior wrestling at 152 lbs, is the other half of being a four-year wrestler. Her dedication and grit were on full display this season as she placed 3rd at GMCs and qualified for Region III. Romero capped her season by earning a District VII bronze medal, showcasing her consistency and toughness on the mat.



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Aaliyah Matias, Perth Amboy

- See Senior of the Year -

Kiana Sherwood, Sayreville

Kiana is a three-year wrestler who played a key role in the growth of our girls' wrestling program. A tireless worker, she consistently supported her teammates and the overall success of the program. Kiana made a lasting impact on our coaching staff while continually pushing herself both academically and athletically. All of the coaches are extremely proud of her accomplishments.

Faith Marie Soto, East Brunswick

Faith Soto quickly emerged as one of the most exciting wrestlers in the lineup. As a first-year wrestler, she immediately became a fan favorite, known for her high-energy, action-packed matches. In just her second season, Faith took a major leap forward, showcasing her strength and natural talent against top competition. She opened the year by reaching the quarterfinals of the Beast of the East, setting the tone for an outstanding season. A key contributor all year long, Faith lost only three dual meet matches and proved to be a reliable force in the lineup. Her most memorable moment came in the Old Bridge dual, where she pinned an opponent she had lost to twice the previous season, clinching the team victory in dramatic fashion. Faith also continued her postseason success, earning 3rd place at the District 7 Tournament to qualify for regions, while placing 3rd at the GMC Tournament for the second consecutive year. Her growth, toughness, and competitive spirit make her a cornerstone of the program and she will be greatly missed next year.

Sofia Sousa, Old Bridge

Sofia Sousa capped off an outstanding career with a dominant senior season, leading the team with 32 wins and establishing herself as one of the top wrestlers in the area. She captured a championship at the Ron Mazzola Memorial Tournament and followed that with a strong postseason run. Sofia advanced to the finals of both the GMC and District 7 Tournaments, placed fourth in the Central Region, and qualified for the state tournament. Along with fellow senior Yuliana Hryn, Sofia's guidance and leadership over her four years in the program have helped elevate the girls team to be among the best in the state. We are proud of her efforts and the legacy she leaves behind, having helped build the program into what it is today.



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D'Atra Dorismond, North Brunswick

D'Atra Dorismond, an accomplished wrestler, had an impressive season, wrestling up nearly 20 lbs and earning multiple high-level awards. She became a High School All-American, placing 6th at the Beast of the East Tournament in Delaware, reaching the finals in the Ron Mazzola Tournament, competed as a GMC finalist, and captured a District Title. Although she fell just short of some of her goals, D'Atra's determination and skill allowed her to reach for the moon and land among the stars. With over 50 career wins, she has left a lasting mark on the mat and sets a high standard for those who follow.

Sruthi Murugan, South Brunswick

Sruthi reclaimed her County title this year becoming a back-to-back GMC champion. She also earned her spot in the state tournament after placing second in her district. Sruthi is a Senior and has wrestled at the varsity level in all of her four years here, in her four years she has had 3 different coaches, but still continued to create an incredible career at South Brunswick in the midst of multiple coaching changes.





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Yuliana Hryn, Old Bridge

Yuliana Hryn put together an impressive senior season, earning 27 victories while competing with consistency and confidence. She proved to be a reliable contributor in both dual meets and tournament competition. Yuliana placed third at the GMC Tournament and went on to capture a District 7 Championship, highlighting her ability to perform at her best in the postseason. Along with Sofia Sousa, her leadership and commitment over the past four years have played a major role in elevating the girls program to one of the top teams in the state. We are proud of everything she has contributed, and she has helped leave the team in a stronger position for the future.

Jaelyn Villalongo, Carteret

A junior and second-year varsity starter for the Ramblers girls wrestling program, Jaelyn delivered an incredible performance this season. Known for her strength, determination, and technical ability, Jaelyn consistently surprised her opponents and proved herself as one of the top competitors in the state. Jaelyn began her postseason run by earning 2nd place at the GMC Girls Tournament, followed by an impressive District Championship. She continued her success with a 4th place finish at the Region Tournament, qualifying for the NJSIAA Girls State Championships. At the state level, Jaelyn made Carteret wrestling history by becoming the first female wrestler in program history to qualify for, compete in, and place at the NJSIAA Girls State Tournament, finishing an outstanding 6th in the state. Her historic season has helped pave the way for the future of girls wrestling at Carteret High School, and the program looks forward to seeing her continue to lead the Ramblers next season.

Amaree Walker, North Plainfield

- See Wrestler of the Year -



TEAM MVP'S



Amairani Marin Juarez, New Brunswick

Amairani was a three year starter for the zebras and She was a captain for her senior year . Who was well respected by her peers and teammates. She led by example and was always helpful, a perfect leader and one of the hardest working people in the room. Many of the girls looked up to her. Her hard work and dedication took her to a fifth place finish at the district tournament. This hard work and effort will help her as she plans on studying to be a pediatric doctor.



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Kyle Capodanno, Monroe

Kyle Capodanno put together an outstanding sophomore season for Monroe Wrestling. He continued to establish himself as one of the program's rising stars, winning the GMC championship at 106 pounds for the second straight year and earning his first district title. His strong postseason run continued with a runner-up finish in the region tournament and a trip to the Round of 16 at the NJSIAA State Wrestling Championships. Capodanno separated himself this season through his focus, toughness, and consistent drive to improve. The success he achieved on the mat gave Monroe a major boost and helped set the tone for the team throughout the year. Already building an impressive resume early in his career, he has shown that he can be counted on in big moments and has the potential to remain a key piece of Monroe Wrestling moving forward.

Gavin Lezark, East Brunswick

If the Bears needed a fast start to a dual meet, Gavin Lezark was the guy you wanted on the mat. Gavin wrapped up a standout season with a 24-10 record, proving week in and week out that he was one of the most reliable hammers in our lineup. He stayed busy on the podium all year, taking 4th at the Ron Mazzola. Followed by winning the Bears Invitational. Then went on to grinding his way to a 3rd place finish at the GMCs. More than just the individual medals, Gavin was a massive part of our team's success. He was a huge factor in helping the squad lock down our 4th Brunswick Brawl Title, showing up exactly when the team needed him most. Gavin is the definition of driven. Whether it was the first whistle of a Wednesday night dual or the final round of a tournament, you knew exactly what you were getting: a kid who was going to push the pace and fight for every inch. He was the spark plug for this team.

David Peoples, Old Bridge

David Peoples continued to establish himself as one of the top underclassmen in the conference with an outstanding sophomore campaign. He opened the season by capturing a title at the Ron Mazzola Memorial Tournament and carried that momentum throughout the year, consistently producing big wins in key dual meets. David's postseason performance was equally impressive, earning a spot in the GMC Finals and advancing all the way to the Region 5 Finals to secure a berth in the state tournament. A tough, composed competitor, David has quickly become a cornerstone of the program and will be a major force for Old Bridge moving forward.

George Vittitoe, JFK

- See Freshman of the Year -



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Nate Caponegro, Monroe

Nate Caponegro competed with toughness and determination throughout his freshman season for Monroe Wrestling. Despite being young and still gaining experience at the varsity level, Nate never backed down from competition and was willing to battle in every match. His season was highlighted by a fourth-place finish at the GMC Tournament at 113 pounds, an accomplishment that reflected the effort and grit he showed all year. What stood out most about Nate this season was the way he competed in difficult positions and wrestled through tough situations without giving in. Nate's toughness, attitude, and willingness to compete made him an important part of the team this year and give Monroe a strong foundation to build on moving forward.

Noah Perez, Woodbridge

Noah enjoyed a fantastic sophomore season in 2026. Noah recorded 33 victories this season and now has a career (62-15) record in just two seasons. Noah took 4th place at the prestigious Sam Cali Invitational, and won 27 of his 33 matches by pin. This season Noah became the first GMC Champ for the Barrons since 2018 after taking 3rd as a freshman. He was also named the lower weights OW. Noah added his second District title to his resume this season becoming the District 18 champion at 113lbs. Noah had another fantastic season and his goals are set even higher for his junior campaign. Great Season, Noah!

Talon Summonte, Piscataway

Talon Summonte kicked off his high school career in explosive fashion. As a freshman, he posted an impressive 23–7 record and earned a 3rd-place finish at the GMC Tournament. A dependable competitor all season long, Talon secured bonus points for the team in more than 80% of his victories. He was battle-tested throughout the year, facing four state qualifiers, two region qualifiers, and a region alternate. While his season may not have ended the way he hoped, it has only fueled his hunger for what's ahead. Piscataway is proud to support and follow Talon's wrestling journey over the next few years.

Gavin Young, Old Bridge

Gavin Young put together an exceptional junior season, solidifying himself as one of the most reliable wrestlers in the lineup. He captured a title at the Ron Mazzola Memorial Tournament and followed that with a strong run to the GMC Finals. Gavin's postseason was highlighted by a District 19 Championship, showcasing his ability to rise to the occasion in big moments. As one of our team captains, Gavin played a major role in our team's success this season. His leadership in the practice room and in big matches helped carry the team to new heights. A consistent performer with a high wrestling IQ, Gavin will enter his senior season on the verge of reaching the 100-win milestone.



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Julian Arango, Saint Joseph

- See Scholar Athlete Award -

Tyler Northern, Edison

The incredibly popular Candi Northern is a Junior from Edison High School with a 34-9 record. Candi finished 4th in the GMC, 2nd in the District 19 tournament and 4th in Region 5 to earn his first trip to the prestigious State Tournament. Edison is looking forward to a big senior year from Candi who also closes in on his 100th win.

Nikolas Rivas, Saint Thomas Aquinas

A junior captain in his third year with the program, Niko continued to be a consistent leader for the Trojans. He won the Ricky I Invitational, placed 2nd at the Ron Mazzola Memorial, and finished 2nd at the GMC Tournament. Niko followed that up with a 3rd-place finish at Districts and a 5th-place finish at Regions, continuing his track record of postseason success.

Gabriel Roman III, Perth Amboy

After missing all last season, we weren't sure what to expect from Gabe. He kicked off his high school career with an inspiring first win and never looked back. With his calm, cool demeanor, Gabe turns on the intensity the moment the whistle blows, always looking to score points. His relentless effort led to an outstanding 30-5 record, a 3rd-place finish at the GMC, 2nd at Districts, and 3rd at Region 5—earning him a trip to the State Tournament. While his run at States didn't end exactly as he had hoped, it gave him invaluable experience and exposure for future success. Beyond the mat, Gabe is also a talented trumpet player. He electrified the Atlantic City crowd by performing the National Anthem at the opening of the State Tournament. What a remarkable season for a wrestler and student-athlete who continues to inspire both on and off the mat.



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Nicholas Campanelli, Saint Thomas Aquinas

- See Sophomore of the Year -

Nico DeRado, Saint Joseph

- See Junior of the Year -

Lorenzo Granato, Old Bridge

Lorenzo Granato had a breakout sophomore season, leading the team in wins while competing in one of the toughest weight classes in the conference. His 31 victories reflect both his consistency and willingness to compete against top-level competition. Lorenzo earned a third-place finish at the GMC Tournament and advanced to the District 19 Finals before placing sixth in Region 5. His toughness and steady improvement throughout the year made him a key contributor to the team's success, and he is poised for even greater accomplishments in the years ahead.

Joshua Parks, Colonia

Josh had an outstanding senior season for the Patriots marked by determination, skill, and relentless drive on the mat. Josh is a four year starter for the Patriots. He kicked off the year with a commanding performance at the Rahway Wrestling Tournament, claiming first place and setting the tone for a remarkable season. Joshua continued to showcase his technical prowess and competitive spirit by finishing 4th at the highly competitive Greater Middlesex Conference Wrestling Tournament. His hard work and perseverance culminated in a stellar postseason, as he earned the distinction of District finalist and captured 5th place at the Region tournament. With a career total of 89 victories, Joshua's impressive record now places him 6th all-time in wins in the storied history of Colonia High School Wrestling. Known for his relentless effort and balance on the mat, Joshua embodies the heart and dedication of a true wrestler and leaves a lasting legacy for future athletes to aspire to.



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Kevin Alba Hernandez, Perth Amboy

As a three-year varsity starter, Kevin entered this season with high goals. While he didn't quite reach them, he made remarkable improvements and finished his senior season with a 21-7 record and 4th-place finishes at both the GMC and District tournaments. Kevin served as team captain and is truly one of the best athletes I've had the privilege to coach. His incredible work ethic, confidence, dedication to the team, and love for wrestling define him as a champion, on and off the mat. Kevin plans to continue wrestling at the next level and has been accepted to NJIT, Bridgeport, and Rowan University, where he will major in Computer Engineering. Although he has not yet decided which school he will attend, we know he will be successful in anything he pursues. We wish him all the best and we will deeply miss his leadership, talent, and spirit.

Nick Cavallo, Monroe

Nick Cavallo put together an outstanding senior season for Monroe Wrestling and continued to show the results of his hard work and dedication. One of the hardest workers in the room, Cavallo earned his first GMC title at 132 pounds and captured his second district championship, with his first coming all the way back during his freshman season. He continued his strong postseason run by placing fifth in a highly competitive region tournament, adding another impressive accomplishment to an already successful career. Nick's commitment, toughness, and steady approach helped make him an important leader for Monroe this season. He set a strong example through the way he worked every day and the way he competed in big moments. His success this year reflected the time and effort he consistently put in, and his accomplishments played a major role in the team's success throughout the season.

Viktor Ilnytskyi, Old Bridge

Viktor Ilnytskyi capped off a strong senior season with 30 wins, providing stability and production in the middle of the lineup. He consistently delivered in important dual meet situations and proved to be a dependable presence throughout the year. Viktor placed third at the GMC Tournament and advanced to the District 19 Finals, closing out his career on a high note. We are proud of Viktor's efforts over his years in the program, and he has helped leave the team in better shape for those who follow. His dedication and leadership will be missed next season.

Hudson Platt, Saint Thomas Aquinas

A junior captain, Hudson played a major role in leading the Trojans this season. He won both the Ricky I Invitational and the Ron Mazzola Memorial, and added a 2nd-place finish at the GMC Tournament. Hudson's postseason was highlighted by a District Championship and a 5th-place finish at Regions, solidifying his status as one of the team's most consistent performers.



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Anthony Caponegro, Monroe

Anthony Caponegro put together an exceptional senior season and made a major impact for Monroe Wrestling. Caponegro continued to show his ability at a high level by successfully defending his GMC title at 138 pounds. His strong season also included runner-up finishes at both the district and region tournaments, which earned him a spot in the NJSIAA State Championships for the second straight year. Throughout the year, Caponegro provided Monroe with experience, consistency, and strong results in one of the team's key weight classes. Reaching the state tournament again is a reflection of the work he put in and the level he competed at all season long. His accomplishments this year added to an impressive career and helped strengthen Monroe's lineup throughout his senior season.

Justin Culver, South Plainfield

Justin had a breakout year for South Plainfield in his final season with the Tigers. He started off the year winning his first Morris Knolls Tournament title and helped the Tigers capture the team championship at the event. His win in the finals was impressive as it was over a wrestler who was a returning Region 5th place finisher. The coaching staff always knew Justin had the potential to make it to the state tournament and compete at that level and it was a great start to see him gain confidence and believe he had that ability as well. Justin would navigate through a tough division schedule as well going 4-2 in GMC Reddivisi on matches. At the GMC Tournament, Justin would once again qualify himself as a GMC All-Star by finishing 4th at a weight that featured three other state qualifiers. He battled through nagging injuries through the later portion of the season and won a key match in the Tigers opening round sectional match which almost helped the team pull off the upset. As the postseason approached Justin was primed to make another run at reaching the state tournament. He finished 2nd at the district tournament and would go on to place 5th in the regions narrowly missing out on a trip to Atlantic City. Throughout the year, Justin would rack up wins over Region 5/6 wrestlers as well as state qualifiers. The coaching staff will miss his fire and dedication to South Plainfield as he was a leader both in and out of the wrestling room as a Senior Captain. Congratulations on a tremendous senior year and career for us. We would like to thank Justin for his hard work over these past four years and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors!

Armani Maglione, JFK

Armani Maglione delivered a standout season on the mat, earning All-Division honors and establishing himself as one of the area's top wrestlers. He compiled an impressive 38-7 record, consistently competing at a high level throughout the year. Armani placed 3rd in the GMC Tournament and followed it up with a strong 2nd place finish at District 15. Continuing his postseason success, he earned 4th place in Region 4, securing a qualification to the State Tournament in Atlantic City. His toughness, consistency, and big-match performances made this a truly memorable season.

Jeremy Negron, Edison

Jeremy Negron became the 4th winningest wrestler in the history of Edison High School with 134 wins. Jeremy was a 2x GMC finalist and a 3x District finalist before becoming a District champ and Edison's First Region Champion in 11 years while qualifying for his first state tournament. But when one thinks of Jeremy Negron they must think of PINS. Jeremy's 113 pins make him the 13th person in NJ history to have over 100 pins and he is 3rd on the NJ All Time Pin List. Good luck continuing your career at Castleton Vermont.



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Fernando Avellan, Edison

Fernando Avellan concludes his illustrious career at Edison High School as the school's 2nd All Time Win Leader with 143. Among his many accomplishments were 2 District Titles, 3 GMC County Titles, 2 of which he also was the MVP, and his first trip to the State Tournament in Atlantic City. "Nandos" overall career record was 143-22 with an astounding 109 pins. We are proud that Nando chose to represent his hometown and become one of the greatest Edison wrestlers of all time. He will be attending Millersville University in Pennsylvania.

Levi Bobadilla, St Joseph

Levi came into the season as the full time starter for the first time in his career and immediately entered a gauntlet of opponents. Levi saw 3 state placers, 5 state qualifiers, and 3 region top six placers in his matches leading up to the GMC Tournament. By the time Levi entered his first GMC Tournament he was more than battle tested. Over the course of the weekend he would go 4-1 and knock off multiple higher seeds, only losing to the eventual GMC Champion along the way. Levi would take that same mentality into the District tournament where he would grind out wins throughout the tournament despite entering the District as the 5 seed he would place 3rd and qualify for the first Region tournament of his career. Sky's the limit next year for the junior who is starting to tap into the potential that he has.

Jake Gujski, East Brunswick

Jake capped off an incredible high school career with a sharp 16-5 senior season, but his impact goes way beyond just one year of stats. This season, Jake hit a milestone that very few wrestlers ever reach: joining the elite 100-Win Club, finishing his career with a massive 104 total victories. He was a model of consistency for four straight years, becoming a 4x GMC All-Star and reaching the GMC Tournament finals three times. This year, he added more hardware to the trophy case with a 3rd place at the Bears Invitational and a gritty 2nd place finish at the GMCs. Jake's value wasn't just in the points he scored—it was in the way he led. As a senior leader, Jake was the guy you could always count on to step onto the mat and take care of business, no matter the pressure. Off the mat, he was basically an extra coach in the room. Shouting instructions from the corner or helping with scouting reports Jake was always invested in making the guys around him better. While his time competing in a Bears singlet has come to an end, his influence on this program is just beginning. We're already looking forward to having him back in the room to help coach the next generation of Bears.

Anthony Reinoso, Colonia

Anthony put together an outstanding season, demonstrating dedication, resilience, and leadership every time he stepped onto the mat. A.J. is a three year starter for the Patriots. He began the year with a strong performance, earning a second-place finish at the Rahway Tournament and setting the tone for the rest of his season. Anthony continued to compete at a high level throughout the year, highlighted by an impressive fourth-place finish at the GMC Championships. He further solidified his success by becoming a District 15 Finalist, proving himself among the top competitors at his weight. Anthony is also a standout on the football field, earning All- White Division honors this season. Beyond his accomplishments Anthony's dedication, skill, and sportsmanship leave a lasting impact on the team and set a high standard for future wrestlers



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Ryan Hoey, Old Bridge

Ryan Hoey put together a solid sophomore season, showing significant growth and resilience throughout the year. Competing in a deep weight class, Ryan battled through a demanding schedule to earn 26 wins. He placed fourth at the GMC Tournament and advanced to the District 19 Finals, proving his ability to compete with the top wrestlers in the area. Ryan's work ethic and determination point to a very bright future as he continues to develop within the program.

Shawn Riley, East Brunswick

Shawn put together a massive 31-6 record this season, earning a reputation as a total hammer on top. It didn't matter the score or the situation—if Shawn got on top there was a good chance he was going to get a pin. He kicked things off with a strong 2nd place at the Ron Mazzola Tournament, followed it up by taking 1st place at the Bears Invitational, and grabbed 3rd at the GMCs. When the postseason started, Shawn kept his foot on the gas, battling his way to 2nd in Districts and a tough 5th place finish in the Region. Aside from his obvious talent, Shawn is a hard-nosed wrestler through and through. He didn't care who was across from him; he just went out there to dominate. Whether it was a regular-season dual or a high-stakes regional bout, Shawn's aggressive style and ability to hunt for the pin made him one of the most feared guys in the lineup.

Joseph Stanzione, South Plainfield

Justin had a breakout year for South Plainfield in his final season with the Tigers. He started off the year winning his first Morris Knolls Tournament title and helped the Tigers capture the team championship at the event. His win in the finals was impressive as it was over a wrestler who was a returning Region 5th place finisher. The coaching staff always knew Justin had the potential to make it to the state tournament and compete at that level and it was a great start to see him gain confidence and believe he had that ability as well. Justin would navigate through a tough division schedule as well going 4-2 in GMC Red division matches. At the GMC Tournament, Justin would once again qualify himself as a GMC All-Star by finishing 4th at a weight that featured three other state qualifiers. He battled through nagging injuries through the later portion of the season and won a key match in the Tigers opening round sectional match which almost helped the team pull off the upset. As the postseason approached Justin was primed to make another run at reaching the state tournament. He finished 2nd at the district tournament and would go on to place 5th in the regions narrowly missing out on a trip to Atlantic City. Throughout the year, Justin would rack up wins over Region 5th and 6th wrestlers as well as state qualifiers. The coaching staff will miss his fire and dedication to South Plainfield as he was a leader both in and out of the wrestling room as a Senior Captain. Congratulations on a tremendous senior year and career for us. We would like to thank Justin for his hard work over these past four years and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors!!



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Ali Altairi, Edison

Ali Altairi is one of the best stories in all of GMC wrestling. Ali jumped from 1 win as a junior to an astounding 27 wins as a senior to become a GMC All Star. Along the way Ali placed in the East Brunswick Invitational and defeated several region qualifiers. Ali earned his invitation to the All-Star dinner the hard way proving that with work and toughness all things are possible. Great job. Ali will be attending Rutgers this fall.

Sean Love, Piscataway

- See Outstanding Wrestler Award -

Griffin Nugent, Old Bridge

Griffin Nugent delivered an outstanding junior season, leading the team with 34 wins while consistently competing at a high level. He captured a championship at the Ron Mazzola Memorial Tournament and carried that success into the postseason. Griffin earned runner-up finishes at both the GMC and District 19 tournaments and went on to place fifth in Region 5. A tough and aggressive competitor, Griffin has been a key contributor to the team's success and will be a major leader heading into his senior year.





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Landin Lazoja, Old Bridge

In his first year in the lineup, Landin Lazoja made an immediate impact with an impressive 30-win season. His ability to step in and perform at a high level was a major boost to the team. Landin placed fourth at the GMC Tournament before capturing a District 19 Championship and finishing fifth in Region 5. His toughness and rapid development have made him an important part of the program's success, with even more potential ahead.

Luke Pawliczak, Monroe

Luke Pawliczak put together a strong junior season for Monroe Wrestling and played an important role in the team's lineup throughout the year. Competing at 165 pounds, Pawliczak finished as the runner-up in both the GMC Tournament and the District Tournament, showing his ability to compete at a high level against strong competition, finishing the season with a 27-12 record. Throughout the season, Luke gave Monroe valuable experience and consistency in a key weight class. His effort and competitiveness helped the team in important situations, and his accomplishments this year reflected the work he put in over the course of the season. With another year still ahead of him, Pawliczak will look to build on this year's success and continue making an impact for Monroe Wrestling.

Sheraj Salman, JFK

Shehraj Salman put together an impressive junior campaign, competing at 165/175 lbs for JFK. He finished the season with a strong 33-8 record, bringing his career mark to an outstanding 77-30. Shehraj proved himself against tough competition all year, earning a 3rd place finish at the GMC Tournament and another 3rd place medal at Districts. He continued his postseason run with a 5th place finish in Region 4, solidifying his reputation as a consistent and battle-tested competitor.

Morgan Schwarz, Saint Joseph Metuchen

- See Outstanding Wrestler of the Year -



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George Crostewitz, East Brunswick

George put together a dominant 23-3 senior season, but his legacy at East Brunswick is measured by years of consistent excellence. This year, George reached the 100-Win Club, finishing his career with an incredible 105 total victories. A naturally talented athlete with a never back down attitude, George was the veteran the Bears could always count on to secure a win, no matter how much pressure was on the line. He was a constant presence on the podium throughout the season, taking 2nd at the Ron Mazzola Tournament, 2nd at the GMC Tournament, and standing at the very top as the 1st Place Champion at the Bears Invitational. George's style was defined by a gritty, do whatever it takes mentality. He didn't care about the name on the opponent's singlet; he just went out and dictated the pace from the whistle. As a senior leader, he set the standard for what it means to be a Bear—combining raw talent with a hard-nosed work ethic. Losing George's presence in the lineup leaves a massive hole to fill, but his 105 wins and championship mindset have left a permanent mark on this program.

Alex Kay, Old Bridge

Alex Kay's record doesn't fully reflect the impact he had on the team this season. Competing against some of the toughest wrestlers in the area, Alex showed resilience and toughness every time he stepped on the mat. He earned fourth-place finishes at both the GMC and District 19 tournaments, contributing valuable points in critical moments. Alex's willingness to battle and compete wherever the team needed him made him an important part of this year's championship run.

Tyler Whitford, St Joseph

- See Outstanding Wrestler of the Year -

Yidan Wong, Monroe

Yidan Wong put together an outstanding sophomore season for Monroe Wrestling and established himself as one of the team's biggest success stories this year. After going 3-22 as a freshman, Yidan made a tremendous jump by finishing this season with a 23-17 record. His improvement was clear all year, as he earned third-place finishes at both the GMC Tournament and the District Tournament at 175 pounds. Based on the progress he made from last season to this year, Yidan has to be considered one of the most improved wrestlers in the GMC. A big reason for that growth was the work he put in during the offseason, and it clearly paid off once the season began. Yidan is one of the hardest workers in the room, always willing to push himself and never looking to take a day off. His commitment, attitude, and steady development made him an important part of Monroe's lineup this season. With the progress he has already made and the work ethic he continues to show, there is a lot to be excited about when it comes to his future in Monroe Wrestling.



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Salam Eazaldeen, Carteret

A varsity starter for the Ramblers, Salam's wrestling journey is one that truly represents the spirit of hard work and perseverance. Salam began wrestling only last year with no prior experience in the sport. After gaining valuable experience at the JV level, he eventually earned a varsity spot toward the end of the season. Determined to improve, Salam dedicated himself fully during the offseason, training relentlessly and committing himself to becoming a better wrestler. His hard work paid off in a big way this season as he went from a newcomer to placing 3rd at the GMC Tournament. Salam continued to compete at a high level throughout the postseason and finished 4th place at the District Tournament, proving that dedication and persistence can lead to success. Salam's journey serves as an inspiration to all incoming wrestlers, showing that it is never too late to try something new and commit yourself to improvement. After graduation, Salam plans to attend Kean University, where he hopes to continue wrestling while pursuing a career in the Physical Therapy field

Felipe Grandeiro, South River

Filipe Granadiero was a four-year starter, three-year captain for South River High School wrestling, and one of the hardest workers we've had in the room. He took advantage of every opportunity to improve from coming in early on Saturdays, showing up to every offseason practice, and staying late to get extra work in, whether it was on the mat or on the row machine room with the coaches. His work ethic showed in his results. Filipe was a three-time East Brunswick Tournament finalist, a Roselle Park Tournament champion, a GMC finalist, and a two-time Region Qualifier. He finished his high school career with 97 wins, which is a reflection of his consistency and dedication over four years. More than anything, Filipe was a great leader and teammate, someone who led by example and made everyone around him better. It's truly been a pleasure having him in the room all these years.

Temi Odumbo, Old Bridge

Temiloluwa Odumbo had a senior season to remember, highlighted by a dominant performance at the GMC Tournament where he captured the championship and was named Outstanding Wrestler. He elevated his performance in the biggest moments and played a key role in the team's success. Temi went on to reach the District 19 Finals, place fourth in Region 5, and qualify for the state tournament. We are proud of Temi's efforts throughout his time in the program, and he has helped leave the team in better shape than he found it. His leadership, energy, and ability to rise to the occasion made him an invaluable member of the team.

Jayden Williams, South Brunswick

Jayden is a phenomenal multi-sport athlete and a key member of the South Brunswick Wrestling Team. For the last 3 years Jayden has been a cornerstone in our line-up holding down the 190lbs weight class and also going 8-0 within the White Division marking him as the 2025-2026 All-White Division leader. Jayden this year captured 27 wins while wrestling about 10lbs under the weight class.



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Hayden Cannon, Monroe

Hayden Cannon put together a strong junior season for Monroe Wrestling, overcoming significant adversity along the way. His sophomore season came to an end in the region semifinals last year when he suffered a season ending knee injury that sidelined him for most of the offseason. Despite that setback, Hayden returned and delivered an impressive season, improving from 19-21 last year to 34-8 this year. He also earned a third-place finish at the GMC Tournament at 215 pounds and captured his first district championship, marking an important milestone in his career. Hayden's season was a great example of resilience, hard work, and determination. Coming back from an injury and still performing at such a high level says a lot about his toughness and commitment to the sport. His growth throughout the year gave Monroe a big boost in the upper weights, and his success this season showed how much progress he made both physically and mentally. With the way he battled back and competed this year, Hayden proved himself to be an important part of Monroe Wrestling's success.

Zachary Florio, Old Bridge

Zachary Florio capped off an outstanding career with a dominant senior season, emerging as one of the top wrestlers in the conference. He captured both the GMC and District 19 Championships and advanced to the Region 5 Finals to earn a berth in the state tournament. As one of our team captains, Zach was a major reason behind our team's success this season. His leadership in the practice room and in big matches helped carry the team to new heights. Approaching the 100-win milestone, Zach has been a consistent and dependable leader for the program. We are proud of everything he has contributed over his career, and he has helped leave the team in better shape for the future.

Alexander Kruszczyński, North Plainfield

Alexander Kruszczyński, a varsity starter and team captain for North Plainfield as a junior, finished the season with an outstanding 31–7 record and surpassed the 75-win milestone for his career. Alex placed 2nd in the Rahway Holiday Tournament, 4th in the GMC Tournament, and 2nd in the District 15 Tournament. We are excited to see his continued growth, leadership, and success as he returns for his senior year of wrestling.

Daniel Montemurno, Metuchen

A three year start for Metuchen, Daniel also served as one of the Bulldogs Captains. Daniel led by example, battling through injury most of the season. He captured the 190 pound championship New Providence Pioneer Classic. Daniel then placed for the third time at the prestigious GMC tournament. He then entered the District tournament up a weight class, pinning his way through the tournament, to earn Metuchen's first district title in 4 seasons. Daniel entered the Region tournament as an 8 seed, he placed 4th qualifying for the state tournament, defeated the #4 and #3 seeded wrestlers. Daniel's vocal leadership and on the mat toughness will be missed.

Wilfredo Villalongo, Carteret

A four-year varsity starter for the Ramblers, Wilfredo has been one of the leaders of this team since his sophomore year and truly grew into his role beginning his junior season. Known for his dedication and leadership, Wilfredo frequently organized and led captain's practices and served as an inspiration to the younger members of the program. Wilfredo began the season in impressive fashion by winning the Roselle Park "A-Nice Holiday Tournament", earning Outstanding Wrestler honors. His tournament success continued throughout the year as he helped lead the charge for the Ramblers. Wilfredo finished 2nd place at the GMC Tournament, a testament to his constant pursuit of improvement and passion for the sport. Serving as an anchor for the team, Wilfredo helped hold the Ramblers together through the challenges of the season. He went on to finish 2nd at the District Tournament and 5th place at the Region Tournament. During that tournament run he displayed tremendous character and composure, handling a controversial call with the utmost respect and sportsmanship, a moment that exemplified the kind of athlete and person he is. Beyond the mat, Wilfredo is an intelligent and hardworking student. He plans to attend Kean University in the fall where he will pursue a degree in Accounting. The Carteret wrestling family looks forward to seeing his future success and hopefully welcoming him back one day to help coach the next generation of Ramblers.



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Aaron Everitt, South Plainfield

Aaron had a great season for the Tigers in his final year with us. The coaching staff always knew Aaron had the ability to have success in wrestling and that rang true as his very first varsity win as a freshman was against a returning state qualifier. Unfortunately the next couple years Aaron was hampered with a serious injury that would have probably ended the careers of many, but he was determined to get back on the mat. As many know, having a solid heavyweight that the team can rely on is very important in wrestling and Aaron was just that in his Senior year. He finished with 20 wins for the first time in his career and was clicking on all cylinders. Aaron started off the year by finishing 4th at the Morris Knolls Tournament and would go on to be 2-0 in GMC Red division matches as we wrestled him on a limited basis to keep him healthy for the end of the season. At the GMC Tournament, Aaron really opened some eyes in the county as he placed 4th coming out of the 10th seed as he used his devastating bodylock to upset the 7 and 2 seeds respectively. Aaron also came up big in the sectional and almost helped the Tigers pull off the upset over Morris Hills by earning a pin at heavyweight. After suffering a knee injury in one of the final duals of the season, it was even questionable if he was going to compete in the district tournament, but he wanted to give it a try. Aaron entered the districts as the three seed and was able to accomplish his goal of making the region tournament by placing third. The coaching staff is extremely proud of everything Aaron has accomplished with the Tigers. We will miss his presence in the line-up and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors!!

Jason Gross, Saint Joseph

Jason Gross was arguably the most improved wrestler in the entire State of New Jersey. Jason went from District quarterfinalist to the State bloodrounds in the course of one year. The dramatic jumps that Jason took this year happened on the football field and then translated to the wrestling mat. His devastating spear double now had multiple other attacks that he developed this year, as well as control and poise throughout the match. For the St. Joe's wrestling team Jason offered senior leadership in a line up that was very young and he provided constant bonus points picking up 24 pins and 3 tech falls this year out of his 34 wins. On top of helping the team this year Jason picked up his own individual accolades this year. He won his first career County title, his first career District title, placed in his first career Region tournament, and won 3 matches down in Atlantic City. The amount of progress that Jason made this year was immeasurable for himself and the St. Joe's wrestling team.

Kacper Trzeciak, Sayreville

A two-year starter for Sayreville, Kacper also served as a team captain. He put together an impressive all-around season, winning the Morris Knolls Tournament, the Holmdel Holiday Tournament, and the Elizabeth Minuteman Tournament. Kacper followed those performances with a second-place finish at the GMC Tournament and was instrumental in Sayreville's strong dual-meet record. He consistently demonstrated the work ethic and mental toughness required to compete at the highest level.

Vincent Williams, Piscataway

Vincent started his junior campaign with a 1st place finish at the Middlesex Mike Dessino Invitational with a solid win over a state qualifier in the finals. He followed that up with a strong showing at the Sam Cali- Battle for the Belt with a 4th place finish! He continued to secure many valuable bonus point victories for the Chiefs in dual meets. He found himself on the GMC podium for the first time this year with a 3rd place finish avenging a loss he took earlier in the tournament. Vincent qualified for the region 5 tournament for the second year in a row. He is a pinning machine as he finished his season with an impressive 26 falls! The team will look to Vincent for his leadership again his senior year in his role of captain to motivate and push his teammates to be the best that they can be. His coaches are excited to see him improve and make a run for the state tournament to finish out his high school career. Vincent has the ability to be a very well rounded wrestler and has all of the tools in his arsenal to put Piscataway on the map among the heavyweights and compete at the states in Atlantic City.



FINAL GMC STANDINGS

Red Division Division Overall

1)	St Joes	6-0	13-8
2)	Old Bridge	5-1	22-7
3)	Monroe	4-2	18-12
4)	South Plainfield	3-3	17-11
5)	Edison	2-4	16-13
6)	East Brunswick	1-5	11-9
7)	Sayreville	0-6	13-11

White Division Division Overall

1)	Colonia	8-0	12-7
2)	Perth Amboy	7-1	15-5
3)	JFK	5-3	18-10
3)	Piscataway	5-3	11-11
5)	Middlesex	4-4	19-8
5)	Woodbridge	4-4	13-12
7)	St Thomas Aquinas	2-6	7-17
8)	South Brunswick	1-7	6-23
9)	Metuchen	0-8	9-16

Blue Division Division Overall

1)	North Brunswick	7-0	11-25
2)	Spotswood	5-2	13-13
2)	JP Stevens	5-2	8-18
4)	North Plainfield	4-3	15-13
5)	Highland Park	3-4	8-25
6)	New Brunswick	2-5	7-24
6)	Carteret	2-5	6-24
8)	South River	0-7	1-28





AII Conference



Conference Champion: Old Bridge

Conference Runner-Up: Saint Joseph

- 106: Kyle Capodanno, Monroe
- 113: Noah Perez, Woodbridge
- 120: Julian Arango, Saint Joseph
- 126: Nico DeRado, Saint Joseph
- 132: Nick Cavallo, Monroe
- 138: Anthony Caponegro, Monroe
Jeremy Negron, Edison
- 144: Fernando Avellan, Edison
Jake Gujski, East Brunswick
- 150: Joseph Stanzione, South Plainfield
Joldin Miranda, North Brunswick
- 157: Sean Love, Piscataway
- 165: Morgan Schwarz, Saint Joseph
- 175: Tyler Whitford, Saint Joseph
George Crostewitz, East Brunswick
- 190: Temiloluwa Odumbo, Old Bridge
Felipe Grandiero, South River
- 215: Zachary Florio, Old Bridge
Wilfredo Villalongo, Carteret
- 285: Jason Gross, Saint Joseph
Kacper Trzeciak, Sayreville

Coach of the Year: John Post, Old Bridge



All Conference



Conference Champion: North Brunswick

Conference Runner-Up: East Brunswick

- 100: Sarisbel Rodriguez, Perth Amboy**
- 107: Olivia Mitchell, East Brunswick**
Leeah Gutierrez, Perth Amboy
- 114: Francis Peraza, North Brunswick**
Valerie Cicero, Spotswood
- 120: Jane Rodrigues, Piscataway**
- 126: Kaylei'a Tang, John P Stevens**
- 132: Ava Fusaro, South Plainfield**
Mahwish Khan, North Brunswick
- 138: Isabella Biviano, South Brunswick**
- 145: Abby McSorley, Old Bridge**
Kaylee Chiapa Bendito, North Brunswick
- 152: Celeste Fakovich, Metuchen**
- 165: Aaliyah Matias, Perth Amboy**
Sofia Sousa - Old Bridge
- 185: Sruthi Murugan, South Brunswick**
D'Atra Dorismond, North Brunswick
- 235: Amaree Walker, North Plainfield**

Coach of the Year: Rachel Daddio, East Brunswick



All Red Division



Division Champion: North Brunswick

- 100: Sarisbel Rodriguez, Perth Amboy
Leilanni Huggins, East Brunswick
- 107: Olivia Mitchell, East Brunswick
Leeah Gutierrez, Perth Amboy
- 114: Francis Peraza, North Brunswick
- 120: Jane Rodrigues, Piscataway
- 126: Adriane Patino, East Brunswick
- 132: Janiya Orihuela, North Brunswick
Mahwish Khan, North Brunswick
- 138: Kelin DeJesus, North Brunswick
- 145: Abby McSorley, Old Bridge
Kaylee Chiapa Bendito, North Brunswick
- 152: Amal Aboud, East Brunswick
- 165: Aaliyah Matias, Perth Amboy
Sofia Sousa - Old Bridge
- 185: D'Atra Dorismond, North Brunswick
- 235: Amaree Walker, North Plainfield
Yuliana Hryn, Old Bridge

Sportsmanship Award: Saint Thomas Aquinas



All Red Division



Division Champion: Saint Joseph

- 106: David Peoples, Old Bridge
Kyle Capodanno, Monroe
- 113: Gavin Young, Old Bridge
Logan Stoeckel, South Plainfield
- 120: Julian Arango, Saint Joseph
- 126: Nico DeRado, Saint Joseph
- 132: Nick Cavallo, Monroe
Viktor Ilnytskyi, Old Bridge
- 138: Anthony Caponegro, Monroe
Jeremy Negron, Edison
- 144: Fernando Avellan, Edison
Jake Gujski, East Brunswick
- 150: Joseph Stanzione, South Plainfield
- 157: Griffin Nugent, Old Bridge
- 165: Morgan Schwarz, Saint Joseph
- 175: Tyler Whitford, Saint Joseph
George Crostiewitz, East Brunswick
- 190: Temi Odumbo, Old Bridge
- 215: Zach Florio, Old Bridge
- 285: Jason Gross, Saint Joseph
Kacper Trzeciak, Sayreville

COACH OF THE YEAR: John Post, Old Bridge

Sportsmanship Award: Monroe



All White Division



**** GMC Champs, Senior Finalists, and State Qualifiers****

114: Valerie Cicero, Spotswood

**126: Kailei'a Tang-Sinad, JP Stevens
Zoe Poznanski, Colonia**

**132: Ava Fusaro, South Brunswick
Aubrey Ramos, Middlesex**

138: Isabella Biviano, South Brunswick

**152: Celeste Falkovich, Metuchen
Madison Clark, Middlesex**

185: Sruthi Murugan, South Brunswick

235: Jaelyn Villaongo, Carteret

Sportsmanship Award: John P Stevens



All White Division



Division Champion: Colonia

- 106: George Vittitoe, JFK
- 113: Noah Perez, Woodbridge
Talon Summonte, Piscataway
- 120: Gabriel Roman III, Perth Amboy
Lucas Perez, Woodbridge
- 126: Nick Campanelli, Saint Thomas Aquinas
Josh Parks, Colonia
- 132: Hudson Platt, Saint Thomas Aquinas
Mazen Marghany, Colonia
- 138: Armani Maglione, JFK
Jayden Carabello, Middlesex
- 144: Anthony Reinoso, Colonia
- 150: Lukas Valentin, Woodbridge
- 157: Sean Love, Piscataway
- 165: Shehraj Salman, JFK
- 175: Ricardo Henriquez, Perth Amboy
Kenneth Mongelli, Woodbridge
- 190: Jayden Williams, South Brunswick
Daniel Montemurno, Metuchen
- 215: Seah Hughes, Middlesex
- 285: Fernando Grande, Perth Amboy

COACH OF THE YEAR: Dan Grasso, Colonia

Sportsmanship Award: South Brunswick



All Blue Division



Division Champion: North Brunswick

- 106: Christopher Lopez, North Brunswick
- 113: Alexander Amaya, North Plainfield
- 120: Darien Alvarez, North Brunswick
- 126: Ethan Chamberlain, South River
- 132: Malcolm Ballard, Spotswood
Alex Martinez, New Brunswick
- 138: Rashad Walters, Highland Park
Mekhi Ford, North Brunswick
- 144: Joldin Miranda, North Brunswick
Jordaniz Quinonz-Guerra, North Plainfield
- 150: Elijah Hunter, North Plainfield
- 157: Alexander Reyes, North Brunswick
Sean Cannon, North Brunswick
- 165: Joe Stanaway, Spotswood
Jacob Quiros Porras, Highland Park
- 175: Phil Palmer, Spotswood
- 190: Filipe Grandiero, South River
Salam Eazaldeen, Carteret
- 215: Wilfredo Villalongo, Carteret
Alex Kruszczyński, North Plainfield
- 285: Aiden Best, Carteret

COACH OF THE YEAR: Jim Miller, North Plainfield

Sportsmanship Award: South River

COURAGEOUS WRESTLER AWARD



Adriana Maria Old Bridge



Adriana Maria's journey is one that has come to embody the very definition of courage, resilience, and the unbreakable spirit of a wrestler. On January 31, 2026, during a match against Perth Amboy, Adriana suffered a traumatic spinal cord injury in what was a routine and legal wrestling sequence. There was nothing dangerous or malicious about the situation—just a tragic and unforeseeable moment that changed everything in an instant. As Adriana later described, she felt immediate and severe pain in her neck and quickly realized she could not move.

She was rushed to the hospital, where doctors determined that her spinal cord had been displaced in her cervical spine at the C4, C5, and C6 levels—an injury that initially left her partially paralyzed and facing an uncertain future. What followed were two emergency surgeries and weeks of intensive medical care. In those early days, the outlook was daunting, with fears that she might never walk again.

But Adriana is a wrestler—and wrestlers fight.

Through more than a month in the hospital, followed by grueling rehabilitation, Adriana attacked her recovery with the same determination and toughness she showed on the mat. Step by step, movement returned. Strength followed. And in a moment that inspired not just her teammates, but an entire state, Adriana stood up and began walking again.

Today, Adriana has returned to Old Bridge High School, continuing her recovery while attending classes and working toward a full return to the life—and sport—she loves. Her mindset throughout has never wavered. Even in the hospital, she told those around her that she was going to walk again—and she did.

Just as powerful as Adriana's recovery has been the response from the wrestling community around her. The Old Bridge community immediately rallied behind Adriana and her family, organizing fundraisers, packing gyms, and showing unwavering support during her recovery. That support quickly spread throughout the Greater Middlesex Conference and across the entire New Jersey wrestling community. Teams, coaches, and families from across the state came together, demonstrating the unique bond shared within the sport. A GoFundMe established to support Adriana's recovery raised over \$135,000, while additional fundraising efforts—from matches to community events—continued to pour in from all corners of the wrestling world. The outpouring of generosity and compassion served as a reminder that wrestling is more than competition—it is family.

Adriana's story is not just about overcoming injury. It is about perseverance in the face of uncertainty. It is about a community coming together in support of one of its own. And above all, it is about the strength of a young woman who refused to let adversity define her.

The GMC Courageous Wrestler Award recognizes individuals who exemplify the highest qualities of our sport: toughness, heart, resilience, and an unwavering will to fight forward. Adriana Maria represents all of those qualities in their purest form. For her courage in the face of adversity, her relentless determination throughout recovery, and the inspiration she has provided to her team, her community, and the entire New Jersey wrestling family, Adriana Maria is a truly deserving recipient of the 2026 GMC Courageous Wrestler Award.

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TOM FLANAGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLAR WRESTLER AWARD

& Senior of the Year



Jane Rodrigues Piscataway

**63-9 career record (60-9 v girls and 3-0 v boys)
53 falls (51 v girls and 2 v boys)
2 GMC championships
2nd place District 6
1 Region championship, two 3rd place finishes
8th place NJSIAA State Tournament**



Jane Rodrigues began wrestling in second grade, following in the footsteps of older brother Gabriel. She immediately made an impact, beating both boys and girls regularly. By the time she graduated middle school, she had won a handful of girls state championships and placed in several national tournaments.

Jane's high school career in Piscataway was much more of a challenge than she faced in Rec and middle school. She missed her entire freshman season with an injury. She then missed significant time in each of the three subsequent years due to health issues.

After a late start to her sophomore year, Jane returned to action in time to compile a 14-5 record and a third-place finish at Regions, which qualified her for the State Tournament, the first Piscataway girl to do so.

In her junior year, Jane finally stayed healthy enough to show how good she really was. Her season record was 22-1 wrestling girls and 3-0 against boys. She won

the GMC and North II Region championships, pinning all her opponents in both tournaments. Each of those championships was the first for a Piscataway girl wrestler.

Jane's senior year began as her freshman and sophomore seasons had started, unable to compete due to health issues. When she finally returned, she continued the dominance she had displayed as a junior, winning her second GMC title, again with all pins. Jane then competed in the first Girls District 6 Tournament, placing second to a wrestler who eventually made it to the State finals. In the Region 2 Tournament, Jane placed third, qualifying for the State Tournament for the third straight season. Yet another injury knocked her out of the State tournament, but not before she secured an 8th place finish and a spot on the podium. Her overall record in her senior season was 24-3, 11-0 in dual meets, with 18 falls.

In addition to wrestling, Jane played field hockey and tennis. She is president of the medical club, health and wellness club, and Culinary Arts Club, which she also founded. Jane is also a LIFT mentor and a member of National honors society and French Honors Society. She is a longtime volunteer at Sunrise Day Camp, a camp for kids with cancer and their siblings. She also tutors at school and coaches with the Piscataway Recreational wrestling team. She currently holds a 4.0 unweighted GPA and hopes to attend Wilkes, Sacred Heart, or Alvernia, where she plans on continuing her wrestling career.

What stands out most about Jane is not just what she accomplished, but how she carried herself through every challenge. Even during the toughest moments of her career, she remained positive, coachable, and fully committed to improving. She never looked for excuses or attention, instead choosing to put in the work quietly and consistently. That mindset has earned her the respect of everyone around her and speaks to the type of person she is beyond the sport.

Those who have had the opportunity to be around Jane know the impact she has had goes far beyond wins and losses. She has a way of bringing people together, pushing her teammates to be better while always supporting them along the way. Her presence in the room has made a lasting impression across the entire program, impacting not only her teammates but also the coaching staff, who have witnessed firsthand her growth, resilience, and unwavering commitment.

Jane Rodrigues is a true pioneer of Piscataway girls wrestling and is the reason the program is what it is today. Her impact goes beyond her achievements on the mat. She helped build the foundation of the program and leaves behind a legacy that will continue to inspire the future of the program. Her career is a case of "What might have been" had she been healthy, but despite all, she deserves to be mentioned in any list of the top female wrestlers in Middlesex County history.

TOM FLANAGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLAR WRESTLER AWARD



Mahwish Khan North Brunswick



Mahwish Khan made her last season one to remember, not just because of her achievements, but because of the work she put in and how she was always trying to get better. She took 3rd at the Howell's Rebel Rumble and fought her way to being a GMC finalist, upsetting the first seed in her semifinals match. Even though she fell short of some of her goals this season, she still reached high and came down with something to be proud of. A lot of that comes from the offseason, where she was putting in work all spring, summer, and fall, sacrificing her time just to improve.

As captain, Mahwish leads by example, not just on the mat but in school too. She has earned Honor Roll for three years in all marking periods, including one year of High Honor Roll. She's taken over 10 AP and Honors classes combined and helps her peers with schoolwork, always willing to help others succeed. She understands the value of time and doesn't like to waste it. She understands that discipline cannot just be focused on one area like the mat, but must be applied to all aspects of her life; mentally, physically, and spiritually.

She is always putting the team first and pushing everyone to do better and be better. She is someone you can go to for help, whether it is schoolwork or learning new techniques she picked up in the offseason. She has also been a big part of growing women's wrestling in the GMC, helping bring more awareness through her work as a media athletic intern and showing what our team is doing. She is always coming up with ideas to make the team better, and her impact goes way past just wrestling. She has helped build something that is going to last

TOM FLANAGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLAR WRESTLER AWARD



Julian Arango **Saint Joseph**



Julian Arango finishes his career as a four-time top 4 finisher in the GMC, a County Champ, a three-time District Champion, three-time Region placer, and three-time State Qualifier. Julian also had a remarkable run as junior getting into the Bloodrounds at The Beast of the East and has excelled in multiple Holiday tournaments over the years at St. Joe's. After a scary injury this year which saw Julian stretched off the mat down in Delaware at Beast of the East this year there was anxiousness over whether Julian's season and possibly his career was over. Taking a month off and going religiously to physical therapy, acupuncture, and hyperbaric chamber therapy Julian was able to get back on the mat and dominated his first open Dante DePaul by major decision. This would start a stretch where Julian would beat two state placers and six state qualifiers over the course of two weeks leading into the County tournament where he would pick up his first GMC title in dominant fashion by score of 11-3 in the finals. A few weeks later Julian would pick up his third District title and the following week take 3rd in the Region. A crazy just a couple months after Julian had a serious neck injury down at Beast of the East.

Julian Arango exemplifies the true meaning of a scholar-athlete, demonstrating exceptional dedication both on the mat and in the classroom throughout his high school career. Maintaining an outstanding 4.1 GPA, Julian has consistently challenged himself with rigorous coursework, including AP European History and AP Psychology, while earning Honor Roll distinction every marking period for all four years. His academic excellence is further reflected in his 1100 SAT score and his induction into the National Honor Society.

Beyond academics, Julian has made a meaningful impact in his community through volunteer work with organizations such as Hands of Hope, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and Elijah's Promise. His commitment to service, leadership, and character has been recognized with prestigious honors including the Edison Rotary Club Senior Award and the Daniel Anderl Award.

Julian's ability to balance the demands of wrestling with such a high level of academic and community achievement speaks volumes about his discipline, work ethic, and integrity. As he looks ahead to continuing his education at institutions such as TCNJ, Shenandoah, Rutgers, or Johnson & Wales University, there is no doubt that he will continue to excel and make a positive impact wherever he goes. Julian Arango is truly deserving of the Scholar-Athlete Award, representing the very best of what it means to succeed in both athletics and academics.

OUTSTANDING WRESTLER AWARD

Amaree Walker North Plainfield



25-26 Record (32-5)
Career Record (52-15)
Girls GMC (1st place)
Girls District 5 (1st place)
Girls Region 2 (2nd place)
Girls NJSIAA State Championships (3rd place)

Amaree Walker has established herself as one of the premier wrestlers in the Greater Middlesex Conference, delivering an exceptional junior season defined by dominance, consistency, and leadership. As a varsity starter and team captain for North Plainfield, Amaree set the tone for her team through her work ethic, competitive drive, and commitment to excellence both on and off the mat.

Competing at 235 pounds, Amaree compiled an outstanding 32–5 record during the 2025–2026 season, surpassing the 50-win milestone for her career and bringing her overall record to an impressive 52–15. Throughout the regular season, she consistently performed at a high level against strong competition, placing 3rd at the Bloomfield Holiday Tournament and 2nd at the Lady Bear Invitational, while also capturing a 1st place finish at the Girls Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament. These results highlighted her ability to compete with—and defeat—top wrestlers across the state.

Amaree carried that momentum into the postseason, where she elevated her performance even further. She claimed 1st place at the Girls District 5 Tournament, demonstrating her dominance at the local level, and followed with a 2nd place finish at the Girls Region 2 Tournament, earning a spot at the NJSIAA Girls State Championships. Competing against the best wrestlers in New Jersey, Amaree finished an outstanding 3rd in the state, solidifying her place among the elite.

Beyond her impressive list of accomplishments, Amaree has been a cornerstone of the North Plainfield wrestling program. As a team captain, she has embraced a leadership role, motivating her teammates and helping to build a culture rooted in accountability, resilience, and hard work. Her dedication to continuous improvement and her ability to rise to the moment have made a lasting impact on her team.

Amaree Walker's exceptional season, combined with her leadership and competitive excellence, make her a truly deserving recipient of the Greater Middlesex Conference Junior Wrestler of the Year honor. With her senior year still ahead, the future remains incredibly bright, and we look forward to seeing her continue to build on this success.

OUTSTANDING WRESTLER AWARD



Sean Love **Piscataway**

Record: 33-3
Career: 115-23



Sean Love is one of the most technically sound and knowledgeable wrestlers we have ever had come through Piscataway. His attention to detail in our sport regarding why you do certain things on the mat and what makes specific techniques effective is amazing. He is the type of athlete who lives, eats and breathes wrestling. Sean's season started off by making the Sam Cali- Battle for the Belt finals. He was undefeated in dual meets and he also picked up his second GMC title in a dominating fashion. Sean started his post season run by winning his third district title then placed 3rd in region 5. Becoming a state champion was a realistic and attainable goal of his and he worked each day to make this dream come true. In the state semi finals he found himself tied at 1-1 in overtime which is where he suffered a heartbreaking loss to the eventual state champion. Sean, reluctantly, had to then set his sights on a new goal. In our minds, Sean did one of the hardest things a senior athlete could do. After making weight one last time, that final day he came back on a mission. You could see the confidence in his face. He went on to win his consolation semis and then his third place match avenging a loss he took in the region tournament. Finishing third in the state is hard enough, no less accomplishing that after your dreams have shattered in front of you.

In a leadership role Sean has been the best motivator and captain we have had in years. Every day in practice he is the first one on the mat and we typically have to pause rolling up the mats because he is still drilling or doing extra conditioning in the end. He has been the best example his teammates could possibly have observed regarding how to be successful in wrestling. Being vocal, enthusiastic, leading by example and holding his teammates accountable are all things that he has demonstrated for them in his 3 years as team captain. His love and passion for the sport is like no other. Whichever school he chooses to attend at the division 1 level will be very lucky to have him as a part of their team. Every day he strives to get better and we are very excited to see how far his talents can take him at the college level and wish him the best of luck!

OUTSTANDING WRESTLER AWARD



Morgan Schwarz Saint Joseph



Season Record: 41-4

Career Record: 132-27

Beast of the East: 6th (2025)

GMC Finishes: 1st (2026); 1st (2025); 2nd (2024); 3rd (2023)

District Finishes: 1st (2026); 2nd (2025); 1st (2024); 1st (2023)

Region Finishes: 1st (2026); 3rd (2025); 2nd (2024); 3rd (2023)

State Finishes: 3rd (2026); 6th (2025)

With a remarkable season and an even more impressive career, Morgan Schwarz has firmly established himself as one of the most accomplished wrestlers to come through the program. Finishing this season with an outstanding 41-4 record and closing his career at 132-27, Morgan's consistency, toughness, and drive have set the standard for excellence.

Morgan's leadership was on full display early in the season as he went into the final match at the John Goles Tournament knowing St. Joe's was trailing by 2.5 points in the team race and Tech Falled his opponent in the finals not just giving himself another gold medal but giving his team the Team title. The Red Division title would come down to Morgan as well as he was the final match as St. Joe's found itself trailing 36-33 going into the final match where Morgan would find a first period pin and give St. Joe's its 4th consecutive Red Division title. The senior leader stepped up in big moments for the team match after match.

As an individual, Morgan reached the pinnacle of success at multiple levels. He captured his second consecutive GMC Championship, adding to a string of podium finishes that includes four straight top-three placements. His dominance continued into the postseason, where he secured his third District title in four years and followed it up with his first career Region Championship. His 132 wins are good for second place in the St. Joe's all time wins record, and his 41 wins are the second most wins in a single season by a St. Joe's wrestler.

At the state level, Morgan capped off his career with a 3rd place finish, improving upon last year's 6th place medal and solidifying his status among the elite in New Jersey. He also proved himself on a national stage with a 6th place finish at the prestigious Beast of the East tournament. Morgan has committed to continue his academic and wrestling career at Bloomsburg University where we look forward to following his college career.

What truly separates Morgan, however, goes beyond the accolades. His leadership, work ethic, and commitment to the sport have made a lasting impact on his teammates and coaches. He has been a model of perseverance, continually pushing himself to improve and competing with pride every time he stepped on the mat. Morgan Schwarz's legacy is one of excellence, resilience, and leadership. It is with great pride that we recognize him as this year's Wrestler of the Year.

OUTSTANDING WRESTLER AWARD



Tyler Whitford **Saint Joseph**

Season Record: 43-3

Career Record: 152-24

Beast of the East: 7th (2025)

GMC Finishes: 1st (2026); 1st (2025); 1st (2024); 2nd (2023)

District Finishes: 1st (2026); 1st (2025); 1st (2024); 1st (2023)

Region Finishes: 1st (2026); 1st (2025); 3rd (2024); 3rd (2023)

State Finishes: 3rd (2026); 5th (2025)



Tyler Whitford closes out his career as one of the most dominant and consistent wrestlers in program history. With an exceptional 43-3 record this season and a remarkable career mark of 152-24, Tyler has been a cornerstone of success and a model of excellence on and off the mat. His 43 wins this season set a single season record at the school, and his 152 career wins easily puts as the career win leader in St. Joseph's history.

Throughout his career, Tyler has demonstrated unmatched consistency at the conference level, capturing three consecutive GMC Championships and reaching the finals all four years. His dominance extended into the postseason, where he achieved a rare feat—becoming a four-time District Champion, a testament to his focus, preparation, and ability to perform under pressure.

At the Region level, Tyler continued to separate himself from the competition, earning back-to-back Region Championships to close out his career, while also placing in every appearance. His ability to rise to the occasion on the biggest stages defined his senior campaign.

At the state tournament, Tyler cemented his place among New Jersey's elite. After earning a 5th place medal last season, he elevated his performance even further with a 3rd place finish this year, showcasing his growth, determination, and resilience against the state's toughest competition. A testament to just how tough Tyler is after he lost in the quarterfinals he would win four straight matches to take 3rd place including avenging his only loss in the state tournament during his placing match. He also proved himself on a national level with a 7th place finish at the prestigious Beast of the East tournament.

Beyond the accolades, Tyler's leadership, discipline, and relentless work ethic have left a lasting impact on the program. He led by example every day, pushing his teammates to be better while holding himself to the highest standard. Tyler will continue his academic and wrestling career at Clarion University where we are excited to see the success he has at the collegiate level. It is with great pride that we recognize him as this year's Wrestler of the Year.

Senior of the Year



Aaliyah Matias **Perth Amboy**



In my 30 years of coaching, I have never had anyone quite like Aaliyah—goofy, intelligent, and one of the most inspirational people I have ever known. She has had an unbelievable career and will go down as one of the most accomplished wrestlers in Perth Amboy history. It has truly been a privilege to coach her over the last four years, during which we created countless unforgettable memories.

Aaliyah was a four-year varsity starter and Captain of the Girls Wrestling Team. As a freshman, she placed 3rd at the GMC, followed by an outstanding sophomore season where she finished 25–11, placed 2nd at the GMC, and became a North 2 Region Champion. She went on to the State Tournament, wrestling with confidence and heart, finishing 6–2, avenging multiple losses from the season, and earning 4th place in the State, losing only to the eventual 2024 State Champion.

Then came the heartbreak of her junior year. Aaliyah wrestled just six matches before suffering a devastating, season-ending injury. Watching her endure that setback—unable to compete with her teammates or pursue her goals—was one of the most difficult moments I’ve experienced as a coach. But she persevered, committing herself fully to rehabilitation, and by July, she was back on the mat.

Her senior season did not start as planned, with 3rd-place finishes at both the Bloomfield and Elizabeth tournaments. The past two seasons brought many tears and moments of doubt, including a time early in the year when she questioned whether to continue wrestling. But Aaliyah found her way back. She rediscovered her love for the sport—her outlet—and reminded everyone who she truly is.

She went on to have an outstanding senior season, finishing with a 30–6 record, 70 career victories, winning her first GMC Championship, and was voted Most Outstanding Upper Weight Wrestler. Alongside her teammates Leeah and Jaelys, she became one of Perth Amboy’s first Girls District Champions. She placed 2nd at the North 2 Region and earned her second State medal with an 8th-place finish, becoming just the fourth wrestler (and third female) in school history to earn two State medals.

Aaliyah’s name is now etched across nearly every Perth Amboy wrestling banner. Her career was historic. Her impact and our friendship will last forever. She will continue her education at Kean University, where she plans to major in Art Education. She wants to become the best art teacher in the world—and I have absolutely no doubt that she will.

JUNIOR OF THE YEAR



Nico DeRado **Saint Joseph**



Season Record: 33-6

Career Record: 90-29

GMC Finishes: 1st (2026); 1st (2025); 2nd (2024)

District Finishes: 1st (2026); 1st (2025); 1st (2024)

Region Finishes: 2nd (2026); 2nd (2025); 6th (2024)

Nico DeRado had an outstanding season going 33-6 and boosting his career record to 90-29 as a junior. The junior was essential in St. Joe's success this year as he found bonus points in over 20 of his matches and he was constantly in a battle with what seemed to be the other team's best wrestler. In the John Gole's Christmas tournament Nico majored returning state placer Auggie Szamreta which helped the short-handed Falcons team knock off Delaware Valley for the team title and Nico was named Outstanding Wrestler for the second year in a row at the John Goles Tournament. As the season moved forward Nico started racking up the wins and entered the GMC Tournament on a hot streak and continued that streak by bonus pointing his way through the tournament. Towards the end of the season illness would start to creep in the St. Joe's team and it would force Nico to miss over a week of the season but he battled back strong and ended up getting his 3rd career District title once again bonus pointing his way through the tournament. Next year Nico aims to become the 3rd wrestler in St. Joe's history to win four District titles joining teammate Tyler Whitford and former teammate Zach Beadling. In the region tournament Nico had a rough path to qualifying but he major decisioned state placer Tristan Fearon in the region semi-finals paving his path to his second consecutive state tournament. In the finals Nico was barely nipped by returning state placer Matt Gould by the score of 4-3. Down in Atlantic City a tough path led to an untimely exit for Nico but the goal remains the same moving forward as next year he aims to get onto the podium at the state tournament. Nico was an integral part of another Top 20 team for the St. Joe's Falcons and next year as a senior Nico looks to become just the 7th wrestler in school history to get to 100 wins.

SOPHOMORE OF THE YEAR



Zoe Poznanski Colonia



Season Record: 26-12

Career Record: 50-23

GMC Tournament: 3rd 120 (2025); 2nd 126 (2026)

District Tournament: 2nd 126 (2026)

Region Tournament: 3rd 120 (2025); 3rd 126 (2026)

State Tournament: SWB1 120 (2025); State 8th (2026)

Zoe came into her sophomore season with bigger goals than her freshman year. Last season Zoe was just happy to find some success in the sport of wrestling. As a freshman she was glad to qualify for states. This season Zoe had the goal of making the podium at States. With Colonia not having enough girls for duals we knew the girls would have to compete in a lot of tournaments and jamborees. This meant that Zoe would be facing top competition each weekend to help her prepare for the state tournament run.

Zoe started her season strong with a 2nd place finish at the North Hunterdon Lady Lions Classic. She continued that success into the East Brunswick Lady Bear Invitational by placing 4th with the three place winners above her also being state medal winners this season. The following weekend Zoe wrestled at the Lady Minutemen Tournament in Elizabeth while feeling under the weather and missing several days of practice. She wrestled tough the entire day and finished 6th in another loaded bracket with only state place winners above her. In the GMC Tournament, Zoe continued to wrestle well, and in a close final match, came up short of a GMC title.

Zoe continued to work through the season and improve her wrestling abilities. She was always willing to learn a new technique and insert those skills directly into her matches. Zoe's goal was to make the podium in Atlantic City against tough competition. In her first match at the State Tournament, Zoe would face the wrestler that beat her in the GMC finals and District Finals, but went into the match with confidence. Zoe ended up getting the pin in the close match for her first win at the state tournament. She would lose her second match to the eventual state champion and then wrestled back in the blood rounds to earn her place on the podium.

Zoe had a successful season with 26 wins, all of which came with bonus points. She has 18 falls, 5 techs, and 3 major decisions.

Zoe finished the season with 50 career wins and an 8th place finish at the State Tournament. We believe that Zoe has the potential to add a lot more accomplishments to her already impressive high school career for only being a second year wrestler. We look forward to watching her improve and reach even higher goals over the next 2 seasons.

SOPHOMORE OF THE YEAR

Nicholas Campanelli **Saint Thomas Aquinas**



Season Record: 35–8
Career Record: 71–14
GMC: 2nd (2026), 2nd (2025)
District: 2nd (2026), 2nd (2025)
Region: 4th (2026), 5th (2025)



A sophomore captain, Nick was a key leader for the Trojans this season. He captured titles at both the Ricky I Invitational and the Ron Mazzola Memorial, and went on to place 2nd at the GMC Tournament.

Nick continued his strong postseason run with a 2nd-place finish at Districts and a 4th-place finish at Regions. He carried that momentum into the state tournament, where he came within one match of earning a podium finish, capping off an outstanding sophomore campaign.

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR



Leilanni Huggins **East Brunswick**



Season Record: 30-13
GMC 2nd Place
District 7 Champion
Central Region 4th place
State Qualifier

Leilanni Huggins made an unforgettable impact in her first season, earning GMC Freshman of the Year honors through a combination of grit, talent, and remarkable resilience. While the transition from middle school to high school wrestling is not always an easy one, Leilanni took the varsity mat like it had been waiting for her. Competing at 100 pounds while working hard to keep her weight up to 85–89 pounds, Leilanni consistently gave up size to her opponents—but never backed down from the challenge.

Her accomplishments speak volumes. Leilanni finished as a GMC finalist, became the first-ever 100 lb District 7 Champion, placed 4th in the region, and qualified for the state tournament—an impressive feat for any wrestler, let alone an undersized freshman. At States, she battled through the bracket and ultimately fell in a close wrestleback match to a Region champ who ultimately made the podium, showing she could compete with the best in the state.

What makes Leilanni's season even more inspiring is what she overcame off the mat. Facing personal challenges that would have derailed most teenage athletes, she showed incredible strength and maturity, refusing to let adversity define her season. Instead, she used it as fuel, continuing to show up, work hard, and compete at a high level.

Leilanni finished her freshman campaign on a high note, qualifying for her first state tournament and establishing herself as one of the most promising young wrestlers in the GMC. She finishes her season with 30 career wins, a district title, and a hunger for more next year. Her toughness, determination, and perseverance set the tone for what is sure to be an outstanding career ahead.

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR



George Vittitoe **JFK**

Record 34-8
GMC 4th
District 1st
Region 6th



George Vittitoe made an immediate impact in his freshman wrestling season, putting together an impressive 34–8 record (7-0 in division). He showcased both skill and composure beyond his years, capturing the District 15 championship and proving himself as one of the top competitors in his weight class.

George continued his strong performance into the postseason, earning a 6th place finish in Region 4 against tough, experienced opponents. His breakout season sets a strong foundation for what promises to be an exciting high school career. He finished the season as the GMC Freshman of the Year and All-White Division!

TOP TEAM



Old Bridge Knights



The Old Bridge Knights finished the 2026 varsity season with an outstanding 22-7 record, marking one of the most successful seasons in program history. Under the leadership of team captains Gavin Young (113) and Zachary Florio (215), the Knights reached new heights, capturing their first Greater Middlesex Conference Championship in school history and their first Central Jersey Group 5 Sectional Championship since 2002.

Throughout the season, Old Bridge proved to be one of the most complete and resilient teams in the state. The Knights consistently filled their lineup and relied on a balanced attack, with contributions coming from every weight class in both dual meets and tournaments. The team's ability to perform in high-pressure situations was on full display during their postseason run, highlighted by a signature victory over #12-ranked Jackson Township in the Central Jersey Group 5 Final. Along the way, Old Bridge secured key dual meet victories over strong programs including Kingsway, PCTI, Bridgewater-Raritan, Lacey, Ridge, and Monroe.

Among the team's many accomplishments, Old Bridge advanced to the Group 5 State Final for the first time in school history and finished the season ranked #25 in the final New Jersey Coaches Poll. The team also produced multiple conference place winners, district champions, and state qualifiers, reflecting the strength and depth of the program.

This year's success is a testament to the dedication and work ethic of the athletes, as well as the leadership provided by the senior class, who have helped elevate the program and leave it in a stronger position for the future. With a strong returning core and growing momentum, Old Bridge looks forward to building on this historic season in the years ahead.

TOP TEAM - *Girls*



North Brunswick Raiders



The North Brunswick Twp. Lady Raiders, led by head coach David J. Saley, are currently ranked #10 in NJ. The Raiders ended their season with an 18-5 record, with their only losses coming from close matches against the tough competitors like Kingsway, Howell, and Jackson. This season, the Lady Raiders were team runner-ups at the Ron Mazzola Tournament and the Rebel Rumble Tournament, while becoming undefeated champions at the Brunswick Brawl.

They continued to build on their success by becoming back-to-back GMC County Team Champions, producing 13 medalists, including 6 finalists with 1 champion, and earning back-to-back Division titles after being viewed by many as entering a rebuilding year. The team also produced 7 District VII placers/Region III qualifiers, including 2 champions, as well as 2 Region III placers who punched their tickets to Atlantic City. The team placed second overall at the District VII Tournament.

The team emphasizes hard work, accountability, and unity. In the wrestling room, the focus is not on boys versus girls, but on working as one group, pushing each other to improve. With leadership from captains Janiya Orihuela, Francis Peraza Perez, Kaylee Chiapa Bendito, and Mahwish Khan the Lady Raiders continue to move forward together as one unit, focused on wrestling and representing their program as a family.

MOST IMPROVED TEAM LARGE SCHOOLS



Perth Amboy Panthers



Perth Amboy (15-5) posted its first winning season since 2015-16 when that year's Panthers group went 14-10. It was also the team's first double-digit win season 2017-18 when they went 10-14 and they qualified for the team tournament for the first time since 2019-20. Finished second in the White Division. Individually, Gabe Roman III qualified for states with a third-place finish at Region 5. He's the program's first qualifier since 2020 and he made headlines there by playing the national anthem on his trumpet to kick off the tournament. In addition, the Girls team had a Historic year as well, going 14-4 in duals, 2 Individual GMC Champs and capturing the first District Team title. Team had 3 District Champs and advanced one wrestler to the State tournament where Aaliyah Matias earned an 8th place finish.

MOST IMPROVED TEAM SMALL SCHOOLS



Middlesex Blue Jays



The Middlesex Blue Jays finished their 2026 varsity season with a record of 19-8, a significant improvement from their 10-14 mark in 2025. This jump reflects the team's growth, depth, and commitment throughout the season.

The lineup was senior-heavy, led by Dominick McQuone (132), Jayden Caraballo (138), Lucas Blanco (120), Sean Hughes (215), and Dalton Michael (285). This group provided strong leadership and consistency, helping guide the team through a competitive schedule and key dual meet victories.

Middlesex had an impressive showing at the Pioneer Classic in New Providence, where the team placed 2nd overall, defeating several Group 4 programs and proving they could compete with larger schools. The team also demonstrated depth in tournament competition, consistently placing wrestlers on the podium.

Underclassmen also played a major role in the team's success. Charlee Ramos (106) and Robert Griffin (157) each earned 2nd place finishes in their respective districts, highlighting the program's promising future.

In postseason action, Middlesex had four district place winners, further showcasing the team's development and competitiveness.

With a strong senior class leading the way and talented underclassmen emerging, the Blue Jays took a major step forward this season and have built a solid foundation for continued success in the years ahead.

BEST TEAM - *Girls*



East Brunswick Lady Bears



The East Brunswick Girls Wrestling team proved this season that resilience defines success just as much as results. Entering the year with high expectations, the team faced immediate adversity, losing four returning starters to season- and career-ending injuries. What could have derailed the season instead became a turning point, as underclassmen and first-year wrestlers stepped up to fill critical gaps in the lineup.

Despite not having the roster they anticipated, the Bears never lost sight of the goals they set before the season. Every athlete embraced the challenge, putting the team first and doing whatever was necessary to compete. Wrestlers consistently moved weight classes to strengthen the lineup, demonstrating a selfless, team-first mentality that became the foundation of their success.

East Brunswick battled through a demanding schedule that included tough Red Division opponents like North Brunswick and Old Bridge—programs that continually push the Bears to perform at their highest level. As the saying goes, “iron sharpens iron,” and that level of competition helped prepare the team for a strong postseason run.

The results speak for themselves. The Bears finished as GMC runners-up for the third time, claimed a division runner-up finish, and earned a spot in the first-ever girls team state tournament. Individually, the team qualified seven wrestlers for the region tournament and sent a program-record three athletes—all underclassmen—to the state tournament.

The future of the program is bright, led by emerging talents like freshmen Leilanni Huggins and Lizzy Moshos, along with returning state placewinner Olivia Mitchell. Key contributors Adriane Patino and Emily Valencia provided stability throughout the lineup, while seniors Olivia Belen and FaithMarie Soto could always be counted on to wrestle tough and lead by example.

At the heart of the team’s success were captains Marisol Torra and Emily Cuomo, whose leadership set the tone all season. Both made the selfless decision to change weight classes, with Emily dropping down to 114 pounds to fill a crucial need for the team, embodying the sacrifice and commitment that defined this group.

Though the season didn’t unfold as expected, East Brunswick Girls Wrestling once again demonstrated its strength, depth, and determination. With valuable experience gained and a talented core returning, the Bears look ahead to next season stronger—and hopefully healthier—ready to build on the momentum they’ve created.

BEST TEAM - LARGE SCHOOLS



Monroe Falcons



The Monroe Falcons finished the 2025-2026 varsity season with an impressive 18-12 record and continued to show the growth and competitiveness of the program throughout the year. Monroe put together a strong overall season that was highlighted by eight region qualifiers, three GMC champions, and three district champions. On the county level, Kyle Capodanno (106), Anthony Caponegro (138), and Nick Cavallo (132) each captured GMC titles, while Capodanno, Cavallo, and Hayden Cannon (215) went on to win district championships. The team also celebrated two major individual milestones, as both Nick Cavallo and Anthony Caponegro reached the 100-win mark for their careers.

What made this group stand out was its balance, toughness, and ability to compete across the lineup. Monroe consistently battled in big dual meets and tournaments all season long, and the team's success was a reflection of the work put in by the entire program. Having eight wrestlers advance to the region tournament speaks to the depth and commitment of the team, while the individual accomplishments helped set the tone for a successful year. With strong leadership, postseason success, and several wrestlers continuing to develop, Monroe Wrestling put together a season that the program can be proud of.

BEST TEAM - SMALL SCHOOLS



Saint Joseph Falcons



The St. Joseph wrestling team had a "down" year in terms of team accomplishments this year, but still collected some team hardware as well as had overwhelming individual success at multiple levels. St. Joseph went 13-8 this year with all 8 losses coming to teams that finished ranked in the state. On top of that St. Joe's spent over 4 weeks ranked inside the Top 15 and was at one point ranked as high as #11 in the state rankings polls. A win on #20 Old Bridge on January 19, 2026 gave St. Joseph a perfect record in the Red Division, it's 4th straight Red Division title, 6th straight Division title overall, and 42nd consecutive win in the GMC. St. Joseph also finished top 30 at the prestigious Beast of the East tournament and had a school record two placers with Morgan Schwarz placing 6th and Tyler Whitford placing 7th. A few weeks later, St. Joseph would find itself in a battle at the John Goles Tournament with #12 in the state Delaware Valley. Despite missing two starters the team title would come down to the finals where Tyler Whitford, Nico DeRado, and Morgan Schwarz would all win bonus point matches to give St. Joseph the team title by a score of 231.5 -229. Later in the season during the postseason St. Joseph would capture its 5th consecutive District team title and 6th overall, winning District 18 and producing five champions and nine region qualifiers.

On top of the team accolades St. Joseph would produce 5 GMC Champions, 5 First Team All-Conference Wrestlers, 5 District Champions, 9 Region Qualifiers, 5 State Qualifiers, and 2 state placers. One of the main goals for the coaching staff is to have individual success at the end of the year and none could have been more evident than the performances in the postseason. Despite losing both state placers, St. Joseph looks to still have a bright future ahead of itself next year with multiple tough incoming freshman and returning freshman starters coming back to the line up, as well some established wrestlers coming back from injury next year to bolster the line up. The team will aim to keep its status among the states elite in next years campaign.

Team Record: 13-8
Red Division Record: 7-0
John Goles Tournament Champions
District 18 Champions
#19 in State of New Jersey - Coaches Poll

COACH OF THE YEAR



Dan Grasso
Colonia



For more than two decades, Coach Dan Grasso has been a steady and respected presence at the heart of this wrestling program. Now in his 23rd year as head coach at Colonia, he continues to lead with the same work ethic, discipline, and commitment that have defined his career from the very beginning.

This season marked a truly special chapter in the history of the program, as Coach Grasso guided his team to the White Division championship — the first division title for Colonia in 36 years. It was an accomplishment built not on shortcuts or fanfare, but on months of hard work, preparation, and the daily commitment to doing things the right way.

Over the years, Coach Grasso has helped build a proud wrestling tradition at Colonia, earning more than 200 career victories while shaping the lives of countless young men and women both on and off the mat. Under his leadership, the program has celebrated county, district, and regional championships, and has also reached the highest level of individual success with a state champion.

Those who know Coach Grasso understand that his success has always been rooted in a simple philosophy:

“We are going to get a little better every day.”

That mindset has been the foundation of Colonia Wrestling for more than twenty years. It is a philosophy that speaks not only to wrestling, but to character, discipline, and growth — values that his athletes carry with them long after their final match. Just as importantly, Coach Grasso has always been quick to recognize the many assistant coaches, athletes, families, and supporters who have helped shape the program over the years. He has always understood that lasting success is built through loyalty, teamwork, and a shared commitment to the school and community.

For his years of dedicated service, his leadership, and the historic accomplishments of this season, Coach Dan Grasso is honored as the GMC Coach of the Year.

COACH OF THE YEAR-*Girls*



Rachel Daddio **East Brunswick**



Rachel Daddio's impact on East Brunswick Girls Wrestling—and the sport across New Jersey—has been nothing short of transformative. A proud East Brunswick alumna, Rachel's journey with the program began as a wrestler herself before transitioning into a coaching role shortly after graduation. Her dedication to the sport led to her becoming a full-time coach in 2019, and in the 2023–2024 season, she was officially named the program's first girl's head coach.

In that same season, Rachel earned recognition as New Jersey State Coach of the Year, a testament to both her leadership and the rapid success of the program under her guidance. This year, she added another milestone to her resume—being voted GMC Coach of the Year in the first year the honor has been awarded, making the recognition even more meaningful.

Rachel's coaching philosophy centers on resilience, accountability, and team-first commitment—values that were put to the test this season. Despite the team being plagued by injuries and losing several returning starters, she guided the Lady Bears to continued success. Under her leadership, underclassmen and new wrestlers stepped up, helping the team achieve a third GMC runner-up finish and qualify for the first-ever girls team state tournament. The team also qualified seven wrestlers for regions and sent three underclassmen to the state tournament.

Beyond East Brunswick, Rachel has been a driving force in the growth of girls wrestling statewide. As President of the New Jersey Girls Wrestling Coaches Association, she has played a key role in shaping the sport's future. Her contributions include helping establish the first recognized girls team state tournament, the implementation of girls Districts, and the expansion of the state tournament to include 16 qualifiers per weight class. Rachel's commitment extends even further through her work in tournament operations. She runs over 20 tournaments each season, including both the boys and girls GMC Championships, as well as multiple NJSIAA postseason events.

From her roots as an East Brunswick wrestler to her current role as a leader at both the program and state levels, Rachel Daddio continues to elevate everyone around her. Her passion, vision, and tireless work ethic have not only built a successful team but have also helped shape the future of girls wrestling in New Jersey.

ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR



Shane Raymond South Plainfield



Born and raised in Old Bridge (We try not to hold that against him), Coach Raymond wrestled for the Knights and Coach Garnett. He came to South Plainfield during the Covid Year of 2021 and quickly adapted to the South Plainfield style of wrestling and coaching. Coach Raymond has never once shied away from a challenge; whether it was having to wrestle Anthony White every day during and after practice in 2021 or running practice, scouting, setting our team up on Hudl, or tracking down wrestlers throughout the school day to check their weight on match days, he is always up for the task. Getting to see him grow and mature as he took on more and more responsibility has been a tremendous joy for me. He cares so much about the program and never has a problem putting the team and program above his own needs. He truly is a selfless coach. In his six seasons at South Plainfield he has coached two NJSIAA state champions, 7 state placers, 23 state qualifiers, 6 region champions, 10 district champions and 8 GMC county champions. He has also been a part of 2 Central Jersey Group 3 Sectional Championship Teams as well as GMC Team Tournament Champions in 2021/2022. He has been part of three top twenty teams including the #6 team in the state during the COVID shortened 2021 season. He also coaches football for the Tigers in the fall and volunteers as an assistant coach for our golf team in the spring. Coach Raymond is a true asset to our program and I am excited to see him grow and develop over the years to come. Congratulations on an outstanding achievement!!

COACHES AWARDS

NJWCA District Coach of the Year

**Rob Morales - Perth Amboy - D6 (girls)
and D18**

NJWCA District Assistant Coach of the Year

**Shane Raymond - South Plainfield - D14
AJ Hrabar - Piscataway - D18**

New Jersey Wrestling

NJWCA

**Coaches
Association**



MORE MEDIA & MORE ...

COACHES AWARDS

The Home News Tribune - All Area

John Post - Old Bridge

The Star-Ledger - Middlesex County

John Post - Old Bridge

COACHING ACHIEVEMENTS

Mike Monaco, Woodbridge - 100 Wins

Dan Smith, Piscataway- 100 Wins

Ron Mazzola

WRESTLING MAN OF THE YEAR

Craig Girvin



Coach Girvan has been a symbol of Highland Park and the Highland Park wrestling program. Coach Girvan has been in the education field for the past 30 years serving as a teacher, coach and athletic director. He has spent the last 25 years in Highland Park.

He and current Edison head coach Scott Gerba inherited a program with only four wrestlers back in 2000. Since then, Coach Girvan has coached one state place winner, four state qualifiers, two region champs and seven district champs. All of this coming from the smallest wrestling school in the Greater Middlesex Conference.

Although there have definitely been some lean years, Coach Girvan works very hard to ensure that wrestlers at Highland Park have an opportunity to reach their full potential. This year, we had one of the larger teams, and we had 6 girls who joined the team this year.

Coach Girvan has been in charge of running the Small School Greater Middlesex Tournament for several years.. For the past 20 years, all middle school and high school assistants have been program alumni. The program continues to benefit from an active alumni network.

MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR



Dan Rispoli

Dan is a 2003 graduate of Old Bridge High School. Dan started wrestling his freshman year for the Knights that was led by Hall of Fame coach Ken Scott, longtime coaches Bryan Garnett, Keith Cousens, & Mike Corrigan. He was always a tough match and ended his career as a District 20 champion. After high school, Dan pursued an education in communications with a major in digital filmmaking. After college he landed an opportunity working on the set of an episode in Syracuse of the hit Travel Channel show, Man v Food with Adam Richman.

Following that, Dan filmed a season for the women's professional soccer team, Sky Blue FC. He then landed a job for MSG Varsity where he had the chance to record the GMC Wrestling Finals in 2011. In 2015, Dan was presented with the opportunity to film Old Bridge Football games on a routine basis for Ron Mazzola. In 2016, Dan was recruited again by Mazzola to film the GMC tournament for the GMCWCA. He then created and managed the YouTube channel, GMC Wrestling Finals and does so to this day. He continued his freelance career traveling the country to film sports, weddings, dance competitions/recitals, 5K races, school board meetings, town council meetings, and graduations.

Dan has been a resident of Old Bridge for most of his life until purchasing a home in Colonia in 2020. Dan is the youngest of three brothers and has incredible family support: his parents Anne Marie & Agostino, brothers Tony (2001 Region 5 qualifier) & Luca, and most importantly his wife, Nancy, and his son Vincenzo. Dan was honored the Media Man of the Year in 2022.

He is currently employed by Tenafly Public Schools in the media center where he runs the public access station and librarymedia.net as well as helping students with special needs to video edit.

He also works for the Clark Township in "Our Clark Media TV 36", supporting town meetings and special events. He has recently created his own company, "Rispoli Productions LLC", where he films sports, weddings, and events.

Dan would like to thank his family for believing in him and the GMCWCA for recognizing his efforts to showcase GMC wrestling in the best possible angle for the past 10 years.

CLIFF LOYSEN MEMORIAL OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR



Carlos Gonzalez

Carlos Gonzalez just wrapped up his 18th season as an official, culminating in his first appearance in the NJSIAA Boy's State Finals in Atlantic City. This is definitely a memorable season, along with being selected as the Cliff Loyson Memorial Official of the Year by the Greater Middlesex County Wrestling Coaches Association. To be recognized by your peers, whether it is fellow officials or coaches, provides a positive feeling as we strive to do our best for our young athletes. Over my 18 year career, I have had the honor to officiate the semi-finals in Atlantic City for 2 years, and the quarter-finals during the last four years. In addition, it has been my privilege to officiate my first GMC Girls Finals in 2026, multiple GMC finals and state sectional finals, three group semi-finals, and one Parochial A Final. None of these would have been possible without the brotherhood of my fellow officials, the feedback of the evaluators to help us improve our craft in this sport, and the communication with coaches. It is imperative that there is an open dialogue between coaches and officials as we all just want the "right call" since the athletes put forth so much time and effort.

As a 1990 graduate of Central Regional High School in Bayville, NJ, Carlos was a 2 sport athlete in football and wrestling. He has had the memorable experience of being coached in wrestling by Pat Lynch and Michael Carter, who he thanked daily for helping instill the values, not only within the sport, but in life as well. Coaches leave a lasting impression on their athletes. The hard work and commitment by his coaches have left all the wrestlers with wonderful memories, values, and friendships.

Beyond the mat, Carlos is in his 29th year as a special education teacher in Jersey City Public Schools. He has been recognized as teacher of the year for his school three times (Public School 6 twice and Middle School 7 once). He has coached girls basketball for 8 years, in which most of his players went on to play in high school and a few in college. The biggest reward from my students and payers is years later where they will keep in touch.

Carlos is also a father of two young men, Carlos age 30 and Jayson age 23. He was actively involved in all their sports from a young age. Soccer, basketball, winter track, and baseball. Both boys excelled in high school academically and athletically, with Carlos making All-County recognition and Jayson making county and state recognition. Jayson went on to have a fine career at Iona University under Coach Burke, who Jay followed from the University of Maine.

I would like to thank the GMC coaches for this reputable recognition. In addition, a huge thanks to my son, Jayson, for his unwavering support with his words of encouragement, including forwarding videos to say he's watching. His determination to overcome obstacles and setbacks in his baseball career, such as injuries, have been an inspiration for me to strive to do the best I can. A son should always learn from a parent. In this case, dad has learned from his son