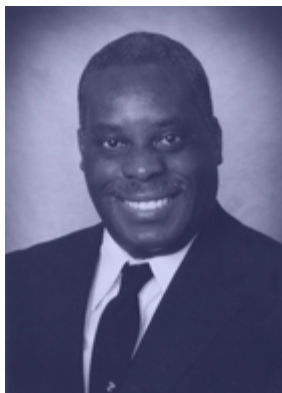


Inductee Biographies



George A. Maier Jr. (Class of 2006) Haddon Heights High School

A 1975 graduate of Haddon Township High School, Maier was a Christmas Tournament champion three times, was second in District 29 in 1973 and third in District 29 as a junior and senior in a 46-18-4 career. A versatile scholar-athlete, Maier earned three varsity letters in football and track and field, in addition to wrestling. Maier was All-Group II Offense selection in 1974 and All-Colonial in 1975 in football. He also was a Football Scholar-Athlete selection three times. Maier went on to compete in wrestling at Gettysburg College (45-22 record) where he was a four-time qualifier for the Division III Nationals. He won silver, bronze and gold medals in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Tournament in successive years. He also was a member of the varsity football team at Gettysburg in 1979. He served two years in the US Army and earned a spot on the All-Army European wrestling team while stationed in Germany. Following two years in the business world, Maier returned to wrestling with a job as a teacher and coach at Haddon Heights in 1983. He took a struggling program and developed the school's first junior high program and got the community involved in starting a midget program. A Region 7 Coach of the Year selection and four-time District 28 Coach of the Year, Maier compiled a 154-112-2 record from 1984 through 1997. He then stepped down to concentrate on his educational duties and spend additional time with his family. He passed away on Nov. 30, 2003.



Frank Major (Class of 2008)
Toms River South High School

A 1977 graduate, Major was third in District 25 as a freshman and then won three consecutive district championships. After a second-place finish in the 1975 Region 7 championships, Major won the next two regional titles at 115 pounds. He finished fourth in the state as a junior and then capped a 91-16-4 career with a state title his senior year after a pulsating 4-2 win over unbeaten and returning state champion Tom Sloand of Roxbury. Major went on to Morgan State University (1977-79) before joining the United States Marines. Major earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Florida Metropolitan University in 1988 and was inducted into the Shore Conference Hall of Fame in 1993.



Bobby Malatesta (Class of 2006)
St. Augustine High School

A 1985 graduate, Malatesta was in on the ground floor of the program started by his father Bob in 1982. During his sophomore through senior years, Malatesta anchored a team that won the South Jersey Parochial B title three times, the state Parochial B title twice, District 32 twice and the Cape-Atlantic Division II championship twice (including a three-way tie for the title in 1985). A four-time Christmas Tournament and three-time District 32 and Region 8 champion, Malatesta finished 4th in the state at 101 pounds as a sophomore, third at 108 as a junior and culminated a 111-6-1 career with a state title at 122 pounds in 1985. Malatesta, who also lettered in cross-country and soccer at St. Augustine, was a four-time USWF state champion in both freestyle and Greco Roman (1981-85). He was an age group World Champion in Freestyle (1980, Stockholm) and Greco (1981, Mexico City). He attended Northern Iowa (32-5 record) but left to enter the Marine Corps (1987-91). He was a member of the All- Marine team 1988-90 and is a veteran of Desert Shield and Desert Storm (1990-91). Malatesta, who considers the highlight of his athletic career winning the state championship with his father (and coach) in his corner.



Alan C. Maloney (Class of 1989) Edgewood High School

A 1974 graduate of Edgewood, Maloney stepped on the mat for the first time as a sophomore and started a brilliant career. He became a three-time Region 8 champion, compiling an impressive 65-10-2 career record. A two-time All-South Jersey selection, Maloney decisively defeated John Rodriguez of Manasquan 5-2 to place third in the state at 98 pounds in 1972 after losing 7-2 to Washington Township's Steve Smith in the District 30 finals before coming back to win his first regional title with a 13-3 win over Millville's John Williams. He finished that season 18-6-2. A year later Maloney won his first District 30 98-pound title, beating Steve Smith 7-2, then won his second Region 8 title a week later with an 8-1 win over Smith. But his dreams of a state title vanished with a loss to eventual state bronze medalist Bill Alberts of Middletown in the state quarterfinals and he ended his year with a 22-2 record. A tri-captain at Edgewood his senior year, Maloney capped his outstanding career by pinning his way to the 101-pound title and gaining the outstanding Wrestler Award in District 30 after a 4:36 fall over Williamstown's Bill Kinard, won his third straight regional title with an 11-0 win over Camden Catholic's Brian Ahern and finished fourth in the state to finish the season 25-2. Maloney continued his love affair with wrestling as one of South Jersey's finest officials and an active member of the Southern Chapter of the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association since 1976.



Mark Manchio (Class of 2014)

Sterling High School

A 2001 graduate of Sterling High School, Manchio won four district titles: three in District 30 and one in District 28 and four Region Titles: three in Region 8 and one in Region 7. These titles resulted in Manchio making four N.J.S.I.A.A. State Final appearances, where he won three State Championship Titles. Manchio's only State Final loss came in '98 at 112 pounds to two-time defending State Champion, Joe Alexander of Delsea by a 4-2 decision. In '99, competing at 119 pounds, Manchio began the year by winning the prestigious Beast of the East Tournament. This set the stage for Manchio to reel off victories of 9-5, a 2:47 fall and a 6-4 decision in the semi-finals, putting him in the position to avenge his prior loss to Alexander, which he did, besting him 6-5 for his first State Title. In '00, at 130 pounds, Manchio rolled to the State Finals with wins of 13-5, 7-1 and a fall in 3:22. Manchio's second State Title came via a 4-3 win over Delbarton's Antonio Mangione. In '01, at 135 pounds, Manchio once again reached the finals, only this time his opponent was Kittatiny's Mike Weber, whom he defeated by decision, 5-4. Manchio's third State Title pushed his high school record to 125-2, the best winning percentage of any wrestler in South Jersey and to date the only four time S.J. State Finalist. Upon graduating from Sterling in '01, Manchio wrestled for the University of Northern Iowa, where he won the Harold Nichols Open, was a two-time winner of the University of Northern Iowa Open and a West Region Conference winner in '02, qualifying him for the NCAA Tournament. Manchio amassed a collegiate record of 37-19 before an injury sidelined him at the conclusion of his sophomore year. Manchio states the most memorable moment of his career was his upset victory by fall in overtime in the Region 8 Finals in '98 over defending two-time State Champion, Joe Alexander of Delsea. Manchio credits his parents, Mike and Sue and his brothers, Mike and Joe for supporting his career in wrestling. After graduating from UNI in '05 with a BS in Education, Manchio earned a second BS in History from Rutgers-Camden in '10 and a Master's Degree in Special Education in '12 from Wilmington University. Currently, Manchio works at The Yale School in Audubon where he is a teacher of special needs students. Single, Manchio lives in Stratford.



Mac Mancuso (Class of 2022)
Holy Spirit High School

A 2009 graduate, Mac was a three-time District 32 and Region 8 Champion who placed in all three of his trips to the state championships in Atlantic City. Mac got his high school career off to a great start by placing 6th at the prestigious Beast of the East Tournament in Delaware, where he would add a 4th and a 6th place finish in the same tournament prior to graduating. After his first district and region titles, Mac made his debut in the NJSIAA Tournament as a freshman in a predominately upperclassman's weight class (189), where he rattled off wins of 13-7 and 6-1 before dropping his semifinal match and finishing 6th. As a sophomore, Mac enjoyed his best ever finish by capturing a NJSIAA State Championship. Mac won by a 6-1 decision over Joe Bozzomo of Middlesex, an 8-7 decision over Anthony LiSanti of Westwood and a 3-1 victory over Central Regional's Nick Tenpenny in the semifinals. Mac pulled off his state title by defeating Tyler Smith of Belvidere via a 7-1 decision in the championship match. As a junior, Mac had an undefeated dual meet season going, but two weeks prior to the post season, he sustained a season-ending injury and was unable to compete until his senior year. In 2009, Mac returned to Atlantic City after winning his third district and region titles and was rolling along with a technical fall over Jared Holliday of Burlington Twp. (17-1, 4:36) and a pair of decisions, both by 3-1 verdicts (AJ Mott of DePaul and Nick Vetterlien of Don Bosco). This year Mac was denied a second championship when he dropped an exciting 10-7 match to defending state champion, Andrew Campolattano of Bound Brook. Mac closed out his high school career with a record of 130-9, but was not yet done competing. He entered West Virginia University in 2009, and under head coach, Craig Turnbull, acquitted himself well, placing 5th in the Eastern Wrestling League and earning 3rd place honors in the Big 12 Tournament (when WVU switched conferences). After graduating from WVU in 2014, Mac coached for six years as an assistant coach at Holy Spirit where he was named District 29's Assistant Coach of the Year in 2018. Mac cites defeating two-time Delaware State Champion, Jamelle Jones (a transfer to Winslow) 5-3 in the Region 8 finals as a most memorable moment. Jones had been nationally ranked at the time Mac defeated him. Mac also recalls vividly having never lost a dual meet match and his NJSIAA Championship his sophomore year.



Arthur O. Marinelli (Class of 1989)
Oakcrest High School

A 1956 graduate of Washington High School (now Warren Hills Regional) in northern New Jersey's Warren County, Marinelli was the 168-pound state champion in 1955 and 1956. He was the recipient of the school's Most Outstanding Athlete award and was team captain his senior year. Marinelli then moved his career to the University of Maryland, where he won the Atlantic Coast Conference championship his sophomore year and was a team captain and coached the freshman team to a 9-1 record his senior year. Marinelli arrived at Oakcrest High School in 1962 where he started a brilliant high school coaching career. He compiled a sparkling 92-30-2 record, including six District 32 team championships. He produced 27 district champions, five regional winners and one state champion. He also was chairman of the Health and Physical Education Department at Absegami High School and served as assistant wrestling coach four years. Marinelli also found the time to become one of South Jersey's most respected wrestling officials, serving as an official for 28 years and helping start the Southern Shore Chapter of the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association where he served as the Chapter's first president. Marinelli then became the athletic director at Egg Harbor Township High School. Always active, Marinelli has also helped start several midget and high school programs in the South Jersey area and serves on the Wrestling Committee of the State athletic association.



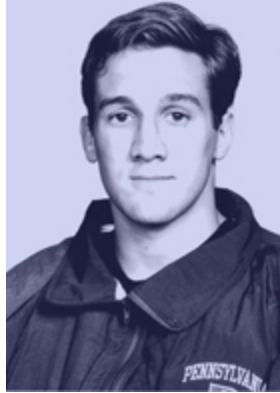
John Marinelli (Class of 2013)
Clearview Regional High School

A 1983 graduate of Absegami High School, Marinelli amassed a career record of 53-17-1 before he began his post high school education at Trenton State College where he graduated in 1987 with a degree in Industrial Arts and Technology. In 2001, John added a Master's degree in Education from MaryGrove College to his resume. By that time John had begun his teaching and coaching career at Clearview High School, where he still works as a technology teacher. Aside from being the head wrestling coach at Clearview for 21 years, Marinelli also served as assistant girl's field hockey coach, assistant boy's tennis coach and assistant girl's tennis coach. Marinelli's coaching record at the helm of the school's wrestling team was 248-184-2, during which time he coached 19 District 29 Champions, 3 Region 8 Champions and 1 State Champion, Hall of Famer, Billy Gibbs. Marinelli also provided Clearview with its only Tri-County Royal Division Championship in 1999. Along with his wrestling coaching successes, Marinelli has been active in the wrestling community, serving on the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association, the NJ chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame, and the President of Region 8. Marinelli's most memorable moments in wrestling include his Absegami High School winning the conference title and going undefeated his senior year, cutting weight, helping coach Billy Gibbs to a State Title, winning Clearview's first-ever conference title, and working with his friends and coaches to build a successful program at Clearview. He notes the life-long friendships he has made through the sport with wrestlers, fans, officials and rivals as being an integral part of the wrestling fraternity. Marinelli continues to teach at Clearview, where he also serves as Assistant Athletic and Activities Director.



Johnny W. Martin (Class of 2007)
Absegami High School

A 1992 graduate, Martin compiled a 123-8-2 record at 135 pounds in four years of varsity competition. A four-time Oakcrest Christmas Tournament champion, Martin won four District 32 and two Region 8 titles. He culminated his scholastic career by going 32-0 and defeating previously unbeaten Jason Nase of Pt. Pleasant Boro 6-4 for the state title in 1992. He also was a 1990 Greco-Roman champion at 135 pounds and represented New Jersey on the U.S. Olympic Team that competed in Hungary and finished 4th in a tournament there. In 1990, he was 2nd in the Cadet Freestyle and in 1991 2nd in the Junior Freestyle. He lost both times to Cary Kolat. Martin, a wrestling fanatic since the age of 4, established a personal goal when he was 7-years-old. That is when Bobby Malatesta, who won a state title for St. Augustine Prep, gave his medal to Johnny. He asked Johnny to return it to him when he won his own state title. He did, walking over to Malatesta's father and giving it to him for his son (who was in the Persian Gulf at the time). During his high school years, he was a volunteer coach for younger wrestlers in Mullica Township and spent summers tutoring others while with the Seagull Wrestling Club. Personally recruited by Oklahoma State Coach John Smith, from 8th grade on, Johnny chose to go west. He was a redshirt his first year at Oklahoma State and then wrestled at 135 pounds on and off the next three seasons when he was slowed by various injuries. He was 19-5 for the OSU varsity. He transferred to Clarion, where he was a coaching assistant in 1997-98. Johnny was slowed by several severe medical issues. Those issues eventually took his life on December 3, 1999.



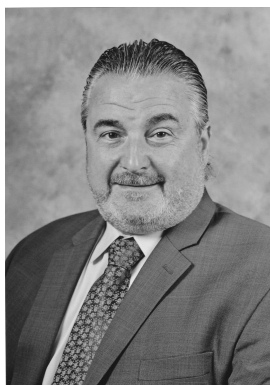
Brett Matter (Class of 2008)
Delran High School

A 1995 graduate, Matter was a four-time District 27, three-time Region 7 and two-time state champion. As a freshman, he placed third in Region 7 and went 2-2 in his first state tournament. As a sophomore, Matter was awarded a 5th-6th place finish with Paul Castellini of Buena before the state expanded the tournament to wrestle through eight places. A 32-0 junior campaign culminated with a 6-3 win over Jon Frent of Ocean Township. Matter repeated as a state champion in 1995, capping a 32-1 campaign with a 4-3 win over previously unbeaten Corey Posey of Westfield to finish with a 125-9 career record and leading Delran to four consecutive district titles. Matter went on to the University of Pennsylvania where he compiled a career record of 128-17. He was a four-time EIWA Champion and in 1999 was fifth in the Division 1 NCAA Tournament. In 2000 Brett went 5-0, including a 4-2 win over Larry Quisel of Boise State in the finals, to win the NCAA Championship.



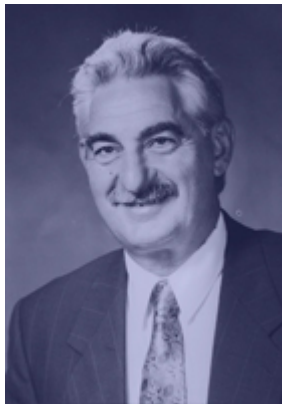
Clinton Matter (Class of 2015) Delran High School

A 1992 graduate of Delran High School, Matter was a four year varsity letter winner in cross country and wrestling and was a District 27 Champion his senior year; however, a season-ending injury kept him from improving upon an impressive 93-18 career record after he won his District 27 Title. Upon graduation from Delran, Matter enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania where he excelled both academically and athletically. At the University of Penn, he was a two-time Keystone Open Champion in '95 and '96, a Cyclone Open Champion in '96 and a two-time E.I.W.A. Champion in '96 and '97. Ranked as high as #2 in the country in Division I, Matter capped off his college wrestling career with an 82-17 record. In '97 he was named as the University's of Penn's Class of 1915 Award, which is presented to the top student athlete. Matter graduated with degrees from both The Wharton School and The College of Arts and Sciences in '97. Matter attributes much of his academic success to having met his future wife, Kourtney ('98) while attending the U of P. He cites being able to passionately pursue a set of team and individual goals, through the help of his family and a wonderful group of coaches and teammates, as a career highlight. He points to being the recipient of Penn's Class of 1915 Award as another highlight of his career. A co-founder of Philadelphia's Beat the Streets program, Matter remains active in that endeavor as well as serving on the University of Penn's Board of Overseers. He is currently a board member of the Pennsylvania Regional Training Center and is president of the U of P Grappler's Club. Matter considers being able to compete with his younger brother, Brett, as a memorable moment in his career, along with having his father, Andy, a two-time Division I NCAA Champion at Penn State University, as a workout partner. Perhaps more than anything in wrestling, Matter considers his continued success in serving others through Philadelphia's Beat the Streets program as his most endearing moment. Currently a portfolio manager for George Weiss Associates in New York City, Matter lives in Summit, NJ with his wife, Kourtney, and their four children: Grace (10), Mackenzie (8), Andrew (6) and John (4).



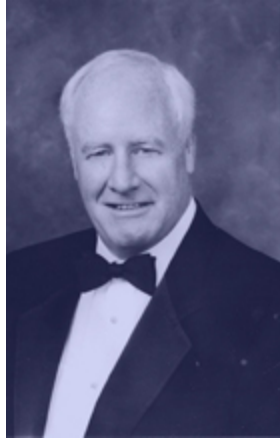
David Mauriello (Class of 2025)
Hammonton/Edgewood High School

This 1988 graduate was a successful three sport letter winner for Edgewood, but it was in the area of coaching where he made his mark. Dave's father, Paul, ('92 Hall of Fame inductee) surely had an influence on Dave's decision to enter the ranks of coaching, so after completing high school, Dave attended Temple University and graduated in '93 with a degree in Athletic Training. Dave's first job in education was as the Athletic Trainer at Old Bridge, and after spending two years there ('93-'95), Dave signed on as the Athletic Trainer at Hammonton High School and remained in that position until 2005. In '05 he assumed the head wrestling coaching position and became a Physical Education Teacher. His teams began to prosper as they racked up wins and began qualifying for the post season. During his tenure there, his teams have appeared in the South Jersey sectional championships a total of sixteen times, reached the SJ Group finals four times and won the Group IV SJ Championship and District 30 Championship in '09. To date, Dave has coached seventy-five Holiday Tournament champions, twenty-seven District 30 champions, eight Region 8 champions, and three state-place winners. His wrestlers have also accounted for a total of thirty-nine individual Cape Atlantic League/Tri-County All-Conference Awards. On his way to being named District Coach of the Year five times, Dave was named Region 8 Coach of the Year, and the Atlantic City Press Coach of the Year in 2009. Dave's contributions surpassed coaching by aiding the N.J.S.I.A.A. as an athletic trainer at the state tournament for nine years, serving as a district representative since 2006 and a member of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Committee since 2011. Dave recalls his most memorable moment as seeing two of his undefeated wrestlers (Phil Backuckas and David Williams) both advance to the state finals ('11 and '12) where they both fell victim to Bergen Catholic's #1 nationally ranked wrestler, Johnny Sebastian. He cites his career highlight was seeing his team winning the District 30 title and the SJ Group IV ('09) championship. Still employed at Hammonton, Dave lives in Hammonton with his wife, Gia and their son, Brock.



Paul E. Mauriello (Class of 1992)
Overbrook High School

An Edgewood High School graduate, Mauriello became the school's first wrestler to reach a district final when he placed second his senior year ó Edgewood's first year with a varsity program. A varsity performer with the football and baseball teams, Mauriello went on to Temple University, where he was a member of that school's wrestling team. Following graduation he became an assistant under Jim Ingles at Edgewood. Two years later he was the head coach at Overbrook. In the next 26 years as head coach he compiled a 280-136-5 record, fourth on the all-time win list in South Jersey behind Highland's Ralph Ross, Haddon Township's Miller Preston and Eastern's John Sanders. Mauriello's teams won eight Christmas, six district, five Olympic Conference division and two South Jersey group championships. He coached 74 Christmas Tournament, 56 district, 13 regional and three state champions. His dedication to the sport was reflected in his off the mat contributions as an officer with the Coaches Association and the Hall of Fame, his work with clinics throughout the state and participation as tournament helper and official.



**Spencer V. Maussner (Class of 1994)
Collingswood High School**

A 1960 graduate, Maussner went from third in the districts as a junior to first in the districts and South Jersey and third in the state as a senior. He compiled a 41-11-1 record in high school and added another 38 wins at Winona (MN) State University, where he graduated in 1964. He also played two years of varsity football at Collingswood, including being a member of the school's famous undefeated Golden Eleven, and was a member of the golf team three years. One of his most memorable moments in his scholastic career was winning his bout against Woodbury to help secure a one-point team victory and preserve an unbeaten season for Coach Sam Coursen. He selects the highlight of his schoolboy career his third-place finish in the 1960 state tournament. His connection with wrestling continued after college as he helped with the Collingswood community's midget program for 11 years and has been a constant supporter of his high school's wrestling alumni. Maussner has served on the Board of Trustees of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame and has been the No. 1 financial supporter over the years, personally accounting for one full scholarship awarded each year.



Alan E. Maussner (Class of 1988)
Collingswood High School

A 1959 graduate of Collingswood High School, Maussner was a two-time South Jersey champion at 157 pounds ó decisioning Jim Gorman of Paulsboro 4-3 in 1958 and decisioning Tony Maccarella of Overbrook 2-0 in 1959. Coached by the legendary Sam Coursen, Maussner was the captain of Collingswood's first championship team. A three-year letter winner for Coursen, Maussner capped a brilliant career by going unbeaten in dual meets his senior year before finishing fourth in the state. Maussner continued his wrestling career at Valley Forge Military Academy and later at Winona (MN) State, where he graduated in 1961. One of the highlights of his career at Winona State was wrestling 157, 177 and heavyweight his senior year.



Clarence "CJ" Mays III (Class of 2022) **Oakcrest High School**

A 2003 graduate, CJ was a four-time District 32 and four-time Region 8 Champion. In CJ's freshman year, after winning his district and region, he qualified for the NJSIAA Wrestling Tournament in Atlantic City, but did not place. The following year at the same weight (103 pounds), CJ was on his way to the best state finish of his high school career. He reeled off a fall in 0:49 over Dave Tomasette of Washington Twp and followed with a 1-0 decision over Brian Nunziato of Bergen Catholic in the quarterfinals. In the semifinals, CJ outscored longtime friend and rival, Ivan Wiggins (Sterling) via an 8-1 decision. A heartbreaking 4-3 loss to Patrick Dattalo of Randolph left CJ with runner-up honors. During his junior campaign at 112 pounds, CJ once again, as a result of winning district and region titles, found himself in Atlantic City vying for the elusive state championship. CJ won by a 3:29 fall in the first round of states and added an 8-2 decision in the quarterfinals, but found heartbreak in the semis when he lost a squeaker (6-4 overtime) match to Zack Tanelli of Millburn. In the wrestle backs, CJ went 1-1 to finish in 4th place on the podium. As a senior, wrestling at 125 pounds, CJ impressed in Atlantic City, notching a 16-0 technical fall (6:00) over Matt Button of West Morris and scoring a fall in 1:51 over Sean Cullen of Cinnaminson before once again bowing out of the championship round when he lost to Zack Cunliffe of Howell, 3-0 in the semifinals. CJ ended his high school career by decisioning Matt Kaplan of Randolph (15-3) and upending Derek Francavilla of Scotch Plains by fall in 3:01 to come away with the bronze medal and a career record of 122-10. CJ stated that winning his first District 32 Championship, a 3-1 overtime decision, over Brian Dempsey of Absegami was one of his career highlights, but quickly added that his silver medal finish at the end of his sophomore year also stood out. CJ is quick to point out that his long history of matches against Absegami's Nick Bridge and his many matches against Sterling's Ivan Wiggins will remain life-long memories. CJ said his career may well have stalled had it not been for his father's coaching and the love and understanding of his Uncle Chris, who was always in his corner and a constant reminder of steadfast love of family. Before working for Community Options in Manahawkin as a support advocate in charge of the well-being of his clients, CJ served two tours in Iraq during his eight year tenure in the United States Army.



Hank Mazzoni (Class of 1981)
Vineland High School

A three-year varsity wrestler under Coach Tony DiTomo from 1957 to 1959, Mazzoni lost only one bout in South Jersey during his high school career. Mazzoni enjoyed a fine rookie season in 1957. Advancing to the South Jersey Tournament finals before losing a one-point decision to eventual state champion Tony Gentile of Paulsboro. A state runner-up in 1958, Mazzoni won his second consecutive South Jersey Tournament title, then the 135-pound state title and was South Jersey's second consecutive recipient of the Outstanding Wrestler Award in 1959. Mazzoni followed his scholastic career by wrestling three years varsity at Rutgers University. Mazzoni returned to the sport in 1973 as a coach in the East Windsor junior wrestling program.



Frank J. McAleer (Class of 1996)
Woodrow Wilson, Cherry Hill West & East High Schools

A 1963 graduate of Haddon Heights High School where he participated in football, wrestling and baseball, McAleer is a 1968 graduate of Temple University. He started his head coaching career in wrestling at Woodrow Wilson in 1971. He was also head coach at Cherry Hill West for seven years, compiling a school record 75 wins, and at Cherry Hill East for eight years, compiling a school record 107 wins. His 19-year record of 212-102-1 ranked him 14th on the all-time win list in South Jersey history when he retired as head coach. His teams at West and East won South Jersey Conference Northern Division titles in 1977 and 1982, respectively. His teams were District 27 champions in 1982, '87, '88 and '89. He coached two state champions (Tom Nugent and Greg Casamento) and had six regional and 35 district champions. McAleer became the Region 7 Tournament director in 1981 and the Super Regions director in 1992. McAleer was inducted into the South Jersey Coaches Association of Boys Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989 and was honored for his work in wrestling by the NJSIAA and the S.J. Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association. Among the most memorable moments in his career were a victory over Paulsboro in 1982 that severed the state's longest winning streak at 96, his regional champions (John Browning and Kevin Castagnola), state championships by Nugent and Casamento, and coaching his sons Mike and Matt.



Daniel H. McCullough (Class of 1994)
Brick Township High School

A 1974 graduate, McCullough finished second at 168 pounds in Region 7 to Deptford's Jerry Villecco in 1972, then won consecutive Region 7 and state titles at 178 and 188, respectively, his last two years in high school. A winner of three district titles, McCullough compiled a 78-3-0 record in high school where he excelled in football and baseball, in addition to wrestling. McCullough also wrestled at the University of Oklahoma, where he graduated in 1980. He was the head wrestling coach for two years at Central Regional High School and an assistant coach at Brick Memorial for four years. He became a physical education teacher and wrestling and baseball coach at Veterans Memorial Middle School in Brick Township. McCullough said winning the state title the second time around was the highlight of his athletic career.



Michael McGinley (Class of 2025)
HighlandRegional High School

A 1998 graduate, Mike accumulated four District 30 and four Region 8 titles on his way to four state appearances for the N.J.S.I.A.A. Championships in Atlantic City. As a 145 pound frosh, he went 2-2 and finished in 7th place. The following year, again at 145 pounds, he pinned Wayne Fraznee (Lenape) in 3:43, then suffered a quarterfinal 8-6 loss to Tim Pitta of Johnson Regional, forcing him into the wrestle backs where he rattled off wins of 4-3, 9-7 (overtime) and avenged his loss to Tim Pitta, downing him 4-3 to take home the bronze. His junior year, up two weights to 160 pounds, Mike opened his bid for a state title with a major decision (12-2) over Cherokee's Doug Easlick, but once again the quarterfinal round was his undoing as he bowed out of the winner's side of the bracket to Dave Bautis (Lyndhurst), 7-6. On a mission to gain a second bronze medal, Mike dispatched Aaron Freer of Phillipsburg, 3-1 before triumphing with a 12-4 major decision over Lenape's Wally VanHorn. In his third wrestle back, he flattened Karl Norgaard (St Joe's) in 2:16, then once again avenged an earlier round loss in the quarters to Dave Bautis, defeating him (4-2) and capturing his second bronze medal. In his final campaign, his senior year, (171 pounds) Mike was back at Boardwalk Hall where he started strongly, winning by a major decision over Absegami's Chris Carlino (15-3) and packing Aaron Morton (Plainfield) in 1:11; however, a 6-5 semifinal loss to P'burg's Aaron Freer left Mike unable to continue, forcing him to forfeit out of the competition, though having attained the semifinal round, Mike earned 6th place honors. Mike finished his career with a record of 131-9, and was an integral part of Highland's Group State Championships in '95 and '96. He cites being Highland's leading all-time wins leader at the time as being one of his most memorable moments and states that placing all four years in the N.J.S.I.A.A. State Championship tournament was a career highlight. Upon graduating in '98, Mike went into his family's business and today is the owner of Total Linen. He lives in Franklinville with his wife, Candice and their two children, Michael and Macey.



Jim McNelis (Class of 1987)
Rancocas Valley Regional High School

A native of Kingston, Pa., McNelis was one of four brothers to take up the sport of wrestling. A 1946 graduate of Kingston High School, McNelis earned two varsity letters before going on to Kings College (Wilkes Barre, Pa.). A veteran of the Korean War, McNelis moved to South Jersey in 1955 and started his teaching career in the Lumberton elementary school. He moved to Rancocas Valley Regional High School in 1960. He spent 20 years coaching at Rancocas Valley Regional with the focus mainly on the school's freshmen sports programs. McNelis never had ambition to move to varsity sports. He always enjoyed working with and teaching the younger athletes. When Rancocas Valley Regional was among the top wrestling schools in the state in the 1960s and 70s, McNelis was one of the major contributors. Working with Hall of Famer Tony Petrillo in the wrestling program, RV continually fielded top-notch, championship teams. At one point, McNelis' freshmen reeled off 51 straight victories during a four-year stretch. His freshman wrestling teams won five Burlington County Scholastic championships and his baseball teams won nine titles. He was also successful with RV's freshman football programs. McNelis received many honors throughout his career, including the prestigious contribution to Wrestling Award from the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association in 1981. After retiring from coaching in 1981, McNelis helped with the RV midget program and helped run the District 26 championships. He also was a charter member of the Executive Committee of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization.



TJ McStravick (Class of 2022)

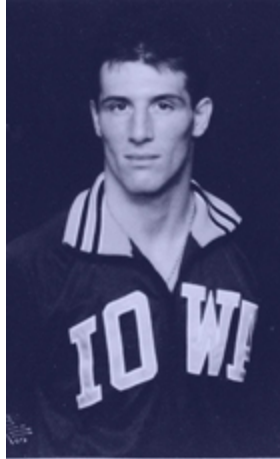
Cinnaminson High School

Unlike many of his contemporaries, TJ did not arrive in high school as a heralded wrestler; however, after he earned a pair of District 27 silver medals and a pair of bronze finishes in Region 7, and a qualifying spot at the NJSIAA Tournament, he served notice about his potential to do big things. TJ really got things rolling once he graduated from Cinnaminson in 1985. He enrolled at Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) and demonstrated that he was a bonafide threat to earn All American honors. In 1990, TJ rolled to a Division III National Championship finish. He began the tournament by racking up decisions over Rich Pawlewicz of Lawrence (5-2) and Craig Wagner of Augustana (8-6) before upending Tim McMillen, the number 2 seed from Wisconsin (5-3) in the semifinals. In the finals TJ scored a 9-4 decision over Dave Buckiso of John Carroll to come away with the title. In 1991, as a senior, TJ once again earned All American honors when he captured the bronze medal. TJ ended his college wrestling career with a record of 104-27-1, 53-7-1 in dual meets, undefeated in the 89-90 season. His junior year he was 33-1 and 67-5 over the last two years. Not ready to walk away from wrestling, TJ began his coaching career by stepping in as a graduate assistant at TCNJ (formerly Trenton State College). Following a one year stint at TCNJ, TJ began an odyssey that would take him to a total of nine different SJ high schools, junior high schools and area clubs. TJ's biggest success would come at his alma mater, where in 2000, he was named the Coach of The Year in District 27, the COY in Region 7 and was named the Burlington County Times COY. TJ's accolades include being inducted into the Cinnaminson Sports Hall of Fame and the Glassboro/Rowan Athletic Hall of Fame. Prior to TJ's current coaching position at Pennsauken, he worked in various positions at the Brookfield School for twenty years, where his duties created a hiatus in his coaching. During his years in the sport, TJ cites his Glassboro State College team's 18-15 upset over Trenton State as a most memorable moment for himself, his teammates and his head coach, Mel Pinckney. TJ also fondly recalls the legendary all-time college pins leader and Division I National Champion, Wade Schalles (Clarion University), who was broadcasting the 1990 Division III National Tournament, cite TJ as being the odds on favorite in the tournament. TJ added that winning a National Title was the highlight of his career. Currently employed by Pennsauken High School as a guidance counselor, TJ has served as a volunteer assistant coach under John Chisolm before taking over as the head coach for the school's girls wrestling team.



Ken Melchior (Class of 2005)
West Deptford, Bridgeton & Haddonfield High Schools

A 1965 graduate of Lindenhurst (NY) High School, Melchior was a two-time New York state champion, a two-time state Section XI champion and three-time league champion in a 95-4 career. Melchior then wrestled for the fabled Gray Simons at Lock Haven State University compiling a 98-6 record. He won three NAIA and three Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference championships, and received the Outstanding Wrestler award as a senior. Melchior also was a three-time NCAA All-American and won the 115-pound NCAA Division I championship in 1968. Melchior served 21 months in the military and was a three-time US Military champion (1971-72-73). Melchior also competed on the AAU level and finished second at 125.5 pounds in 1972. Melchior's coaching career has included stops at Wilton, CN; Johnson City, NY; and Lower Dauphin in Hummelstown, PA. before becoming head coach at West Deptford High School in 1977. He was the head coach 11 years and compiled a 114-63 record that included two Olympic Conference titles and four District 29 runner-up finishes. Melchior took several years off from coaching to follow his children's scholastic careers. Melchior then coached three years in Bridgeton before joining the staff at Haddonfield as an assistant. In addition to coaching, Melchior also has served as a clinician. He has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of Lindenhurst High School, Lock Haven University and the NAIA. At the time of his induction he was still employed as a teacher at West Deptford High School.



Joe Melchione (Class of 1990) Highland Regional High School

Melchione rewrote the high school wrestling books in South Jersey under Coach Ralph Ross. Melchione compiled a then-state record 125 wins, including 99 consecutive victories and 91 falls, during a brilliant career that featured three consecutive state titles. Melchione never lost a dual meet and his team was 82-4-0 and ranked 6th, 2nd, 1st and 5th in the state, respectively in his four varsity seasons. He lost three times his freshman year: to Pemberton's Jeff Washington up a weight at 108 during the Group IV sectionals; in the Region 8 101-pound finals to Millville's Doug Taylor; and to Manalapan's Tom Falsano in the state quarterfinals. He never lost in again in high school. Melchione won the 101-pound state title in 1982, 7-3 over Tim Jacoutot, Madison Central; the 1983 108-pound title, a 1:31 fall against Jeff Bowyer, Phillipsburg; and the 1984 122-pound title, 4-2 over Rich Widmer, Bridgewater-Raritan East. One of 12 four-time district champs and 14 three-time regional champs in South Jersey history by the time he graduated, Melchione was the first wrestler from South Jersey to win three state titles. Melchione, who won the Outstanding Wrestler Award in the state after his four pins in an accumulated 11:46 in 1983, never missed a beat in college. A four-time All-America selection, Melchione was 32-10, 1st in the Big 8 and 4th in the NCAA tournament as a freshman and 38-10-1, 2nd in the Big 8 and 7th in the NCAA as a sophomore at Oklahoma. After a year in junior college, Melchione was in the second semester varsity lineup for Iowa where he went 13-5-1, finished 3rd in the Big 10 and was national runner-up to defending champion John Smith of Oklahoma State in 1988. Melchione capped a 115-32-2 collegiate career in 1989 with a 32-7 record, 2nd in the Big 10 and 3rd in the NCAA after losing to eventual national champ Sean O'Day of Edinboro in the national semifinals. Following college Melchione won the U.S. National tournament and put on a super exhibition in the Palestra to lock up the top spot at 125.5 on the USA Freestyle Team that competed in the Goodwill Games in Seattle and World Championships in Tokyo. Melchione defeated Ruslan Karaev of the Soviet Union 3-0 to help the United States defeat the Soviets 17-13 for the team gold medal in the Goodwill Games and finished seventh in the World Championships.



Michael Mendenhall (Class of 2025)

Paulsboro High School

Paulsboro's multiple-sport athlete captured four District 29 titles and two Region 8 titles on his way to earning three places on the podium at the N.J.S.I.A.A. State Wrestling Tournament in Atlantic City. As a 189 pound sophomore in '00, Mike opened the state tournament with a win by decisioning Alexis Aquino of Deptford (6-5) in the pre-quarters, but dropped into the wrestle backs after suffering a loss to Joe Chiaravello (Bloomfield). In his first wrestle back match, Mike decisioned Josh Costantino of Belvidere via a 9-5 verdict; however, a razor-thin 7-6 loss in his following match forced him to settle for 7th place. Not satisfied with his finish, Mike returned to Atlantic City in '01 (up a weight class to 215 pounds) where he began with a 6-0 win over Russ Fennimore (Audubon) in the pre-quarters. However, the quarterfinal once again proved problematic as eventual runner up, Adam Cooney, (Holy Cross) outlasted Mike, 3-0. In the wrestle backs for the second time in as many years, Mike was determined to finish higher on the podium. He began his assault by pinning Shawnee's Evan Gilman (5:52), decisioning Chris Cuitan (Montville), 4-2, before winning by major decision (10-0) over Bob Stanley of Belvidere. This win propelled Mike into the consolation round for the bronze medal with Billy Wilbart (Toms River South), a match Mike won, 5-2. In '02 at 215 pounds, seeking to improve his place on the podium, Mike began with a 12-0 pre-quarter final major decision over Delaware Valley's Jeremy Wurst, then followed with an 8-3 ousting of Ocean Township's Tom Rant. In the semis for the first time, Mike didn't disappoint as he survived a tough match with Greg Donofrio (Cranford) in overtime (7-5). The finals proved to be too much as Mike dropped a narrow 3-2 decision to Adam Cooney (Holy Cross), the state's runner-up from the previous year. Mike recalls his team defeating Phillipsburg in a dual meet his freshman year and earning the state's #1 ranking as the most memorable moment of his wrestling career and cites his silver medal finish as his career highlight. Mike finished his high school career in '02 with a record of 110-15 and an offer to play his chosen sport (football) at Temple University. Having spent his entire four years at Temple on the gridiron, Mike graduated in '06. He spent 16 years coaching college football at the division one level, the last 9 years at Princeton before recently stepping away to pursue a career in real estate. Mike lives in Mt Royal with his wife, Kristy and son, Eric, and daughter, Devon.



Jarred Mercado (Class of 2026)

Pitman High School

A member of the Class of 2003, **Mercado** established himself as one of the most accomplished wrestlers in program history through determination, consistency, and excellence on the mat. A two-time District 29 Champion and two-time Region 8 Champion, he was a three-time NJSIAA State Tournament place winner and capped his remarkable high school career as a state finalist. Mercado first reached the podium as a sophomore in 2001 at 125 pounds, battling through the wrestlebacks to earn a sixth-place finish in Atlantic City. The following season, wrestling at 130 pounds, he continued his ascent by advancing to the state semifinals before placing fourth, demonstrating the resilience and competitive spirit that defined his career. His senior season in 2003 was the culmination of years of dedication. Mercado dominated his early-round opponents with an 18-3 technical fall in the prequarterfinals and a pin in the quarterfinals before earning a hard-fought 4-2 semifinal victory to secure a place in the state championship match. He finished as the NJSIAA State Runner-Up after a razor-thin 4-3 decision in the finals, concluding his outstanding high school career with a record of 106-19. Following graduation, Mercado continued his wrestling career at Northwestern University, where he was a two-year letter winner before being injured, ending his career, further exemplifying his commitment to excellence both on and off the mat. Among the many memories from his wrestling journey, one stands above the rest for its humor and perspective. At the state tournament, Mercado accidentally forgot his singlet and was forced to compete in a borrowed uniform. After winning his match, the local newspaper captured the moment with the memorable headline: "Mercado forgets singlet, but remembers to win." When reflecting on his career, Mercado points not to an individual victory, but to the fulfillment of seeing the countless hours of work he shared with his high school coaches culminate in a trip to the state finals. Their guidance, combined with his relentless work ethic, helped shape one of the finest careers in the program's history. Today, Mercado resides in Redondo Beach, California. His achievements, perseverance, and lasting impact on the program make him a most deserving inductee into the Wrestling Hall of Fame.



Charles S. Miller (Class of 1989)
Rancocas Valley Regional High School

A 1963 graduate of Rancocas Valley Regional High School, Charles "Chip" Miller capped a brilliant senior year by winning district and regional titles before placing second in the state at 168 pounds. Miller defeated Robert Schuld of Toms River 4-0 to win Region 4 honors and was a sparkling 18-0 entering the state finals before losing to Plainfield's Bill Petties, 6-2. The first of many outstanding wrestlers to be coached by Hall of Famer Tony Petrillo, the Rutgers-New Brunswick graduate was co-captain of the team his senior year and the first wrestler from Burlington County to advance to the state finals. Miller had 11 pins during his two-year varsity career at Rancocas Valley Regional and compiled an overall record of 27-6. Miller, who worked for Miller Ford/Miller Leasing in Mount Holly, said the most memorable moments in his scholastic career were winning the District 14 and Region 4 titles on the way to his second-place finish in the state tournament at Rutgers University.



Dennis Miller (Class of 1999)
Vineland High School

A graduate of Bald Eagle Nittany (PA) High School (1961) and Lock Haven University (1965), Miller served as head coach in Vineland from the 1979-80 season through 1995-96. In those 17 seasons his teams compiled a 172-113-4 record and won five Egg Harbor Township Christmas Tournaments, five conference championships and three district championships. He coached 25 individual district and five Region 8 champions and had 10 wrestlers place in the state tournament. Vineland wrestlers won 50 individual Egg Harbor Township titles - the most all-time number of champions in that tournament. Miller was selected Region 8 Coach of the Year in 1985 and was named in 1990 Coach of the Decade by The Atlantic City Press. Miller counts as the highlight of his career winning the Group IV South Jersey title and beating rival Highland, ranked No. 1 in the state, in 1988. He was involved in numerous wrestling functions, including the AAU and New Jersey Wrestling Federation affairs. Miller co-authored the United States Wrestling Federation Junior Division by-laws and co-founded and directed NJWF Junior State Championships. He coached numerous Junior Wrestling Regional, State and National champions and a Junior World Champion. Two of his scholastic wrestlers were Freshman NCAA All-American and one of his scholastic wrestlers was an NCAA Division III All-American. He founded the Association for the Promotion of Wrestling and directed 13 annual APWSJ tournaments. The APWSJ Wrestling Hall of Fame was created in his honor. After retiring as head coach at Vineland, he started the community's middle school program.



Dave Miller (Class of 1990)
Shawnee High School

Few South Jersey wrestlers had the success Miller experienced over the final two years of a career. A 1974 Shawnee graduate, Miller capped a brilliant 23-3 junior year by winning 15-8 and 8-7 decisions before notching the 136-pound state title with a 10-0 victory over Rich Hicks of Haddon Township High School. Miller was 24-0, with 21 wins by fall, when he lost 8-7 in overtime to Tom Rowands of West Morris High School in the state quarterfinals as a senior. The two wrestlers were tied 13-13 after regulation and finished with the highest combined score in state tournament history. After compiling a 48-4-1 record in high school, Miller attended East Stroudsburg University and Camden County College where he wrestled briefly. He got involved in the community wrestling program in high school. He helped found the Grapevine League in Burlington County when he was involved in the Willingboro Recreation Association and is president of the Southampton Twp. Recreation Association in the Vincentown area. Winning the state title in 1973 and wrestling against the visiting Polish International Team are among career highlights.



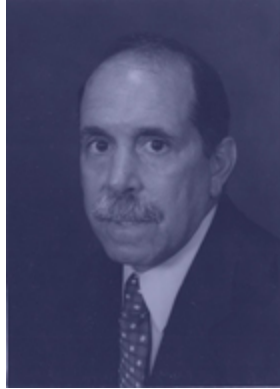
David M. Miller, Jr. (Class of 2014)
Lenape High School

A 2001 graduate of Lenape High School, Miller was a three-time District Champion and a three-time Region 7 Champion. As a four-time N.J.S.I.A.A. qualifier, Miller captured 3rd place honors at 125 pounds his freshman year by defeating Gary Mikolay of Lenape Valley via a 4-3 decision in the consolation finals, then repeated the same finish at 135 pounds the following year by winning his consolation final match over Justin Lijo of Hopatcong, 6-5. These successful outings set the stage for Miller's first State Title in 2000 at 140 pounds. On the way to his first State Final appearance, Miller won matches by fall in 1:18 in the pre-quarter round, by tech fall in the quarter-finals (15-0 in 2:20), and by an 11-6 decision in the semi-finals. This set up his first State Final match with defending State Champion, Chris Bittetto of Hackensack. Trailing 3-0 with only thirty seconds remaining, Miller scored an escape, a takedown, then turned Bittetto to his back to win his first State Title by a 6-3 score, earning him the tournament's OW award. At 145 pounds, the following year in '01, victories by both Miller and Bittetto from the pre-quarter rounds to the semi-finals produced Miller-Bittetto II, a highly anticipated match. Once again, during a battle which rivaled their first encounter, Miller emerged with his second State Title, besting Bittetto, 11-9. Miller finished his high school career with a record of 138-5, then was off to wrestle one year at North Carolina State, where he earned runner-up status in the ACC Tournament. Following a year at NC State, Miller transferred to Rider University. There Miller won the CAA Tournament and qualified for the NCAA Division I tournament twice. Unfortunately, injuries took their toll on Miller, and he was forced to the sidelines before graduating in 2006 from Rider. Miller cites his first State Title as the highlight of his wrestling career, and claims his most memorable moment came only moments later when he and his dad, Hall of Famer and former State Champion, Dave, Sr. embraced in the tunnel at the Meadowlands. Miller works for the Meyer Insurance Agency, Inc. and owns and operates The Wrecking Crew Wrestling Academy and runs the CrossFit Medford Gym with his wife Kristen. Miller lives with his wife, Kristen, and their infant daughter, Jayne, in Marlton, NJ.



TJ Miller (Class of 2026)
Camden Catholic High School

A member of Camden Catholic High School's Class of 2013, T.J. Miller distinguished himself as one of the premier wrestlers in the program's storied history. Over the course of an extraordinary four-year varsity career, he captured four District 27 championships, four Region 8 titles, and earned four podium finishes at the N.J.S.I.A.A. State Wrestling Championships in Atlantic City, establishing a legacy defined by consistency, resilience, and excellence. As a freshman competing at 125 pounds, Miller demonstrated remarkable determination by rebounding from a semifinal defeat to secure a third-place finish. One year later, wrestling at 135 pounds, he advanced to the state finals with impressive victories of 3-1, 14-3, and 4-2 before defeating Tyler Scotton of Willingboro, 4-1, in a tiebreaker to claim his first N.J.S.I.A.A. state championship. During his junior season at 145 pounds, Miller suffered a heartbreaking one-point semifinal loss to Ken Theobald of Toms River South. Refusing to let the setback define his tournament, he responded by pinning Northern Highlands' Nick Gravina in 3:38 to earn the bronze medal. In his final appearance on the state stage, Miller narrowly fell in the semifinals, 4-3, before once again displaying his trademark resilience by pinning High Point's Jason Gaccione in 3:16 to capture another third-place finish. He concluded his remarkable high school career with an outstanding record of 159-9, including an incredible 110 victories by fall. Miller's success extended well beyond the state championships. He captured championships at the prestigious Escape the Rock Tournament and Liberty Hurricane Tournament in 2011, and added another signature achievement by winning the nationally renowned Beast of the East Tournament in 2012. Following graduation, Miller continued his wrestling career at the University of Virginia, where he claimed titles at the National Collegiate Open, the Clarion Open, and the Appalachian State Open before transferring to Rowan University, where he graduated in 2018. Committed to giving back to the program that helped shape him, Miller returned to Camden Catholic as a coach and has spent the past eight seasons mentoring the next generation of wrestlers. His dedication to the sport and his student-athletes earned him recognition as the District 30 Assistant Coach of the Year. Among his proudest coaching accomplishments is Camden Catholic's victory over St. John Vianney in the Parochial B State Group Tournament. Yet, he considers watching his wrestlers compete—especially under the bright lights of Atlantic City—to be the most rewarding and memorable part of his coaching career. Today, Miller and his wife, Sam, reside in Southampton with their daughters, Eliza (3) and Maisie (1), where family, service, and the enduring traditions of Camden Catholic wrestling continue to define his legacy.



Russ Minuto (Class of 2004)
Lenape High School

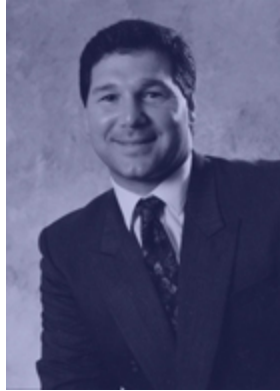
A 1969 graduate of Rancocas Valley Regional High School, Minuto was a three-year varsity wrestler who won the 123-pound District 26 championship as a senior over Brian Faulkner of Lenape. Minuto went to Kutztown University where he wrestled three years varsity and graduated in 1973. He served 10 years as an assistant to Hall of Famer Sam Evangelista at Lenape before taking over the head coaching position. During his 20 years as head coach at Lenape, his teams compiled a 303-57-2 record to rank ninth in South Jersey history. His teams won 13 district, 13 league and three SJ Group IV championships along with seven holiday, five Neptune Classic and 15 Burlington County titles. His teams appeared in the sectional playoffs 18 times. A six-time district Coach of the Year, he was selected Region 7 Coach of the Year twice and was selected National Federation of Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 2002-2003 and New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Coach of the Year in 2004. He produced 76 district, 30 regional and 60 holiday tournament individual champions and had 20 state place winners, including two-time state champion Dave Miller, the son of 1990 Hall of Fame inductee Dave Miller.



Charles Moorer (Class of 2013)

Penns Grove High School

Moorer, a 1989 graduate of Penns Grove High School, was two-time District 31 Champion and a two-time Region 8 Champion. In 1987, Moorer earned a trip to the State Tournament at 148 pounds where he won by disqualification in the pre-quarters and won by fall in 5:59 in the quarter-finals before dropping an 11-5 decision to eventual State Champion, Brian Wells of Pascack Hills. That year, Moorer earned 4th place honors. The following year at 152 pounds, he reeled off a win by fall in 0:21 in the preliminary round, an 11-4 decision in the pre-quarters, and a 6-1 decision in the quarter-finals before losing a 6-2 decision in the semi-final round. This was the year Moorer avenged his Region 8 final loss to Hall of Famer, Pat Lynch of Ocean City via a 3-2 decision in the wrestle backs on his way to his second 4th place finish. Ironically, both of Moorer's 3rd place losses came to the same wrestler, Randy Eno of Ridge. Moorer's senior year, he went undefeated at 36-0, wrestling at 160 pounds. At the State Tournament, Moorer won his pre-quarter final match 8-3 over Christian Tirone of Fair Lawn, by a fall in 2:27 over John Martin of Haddon Township, by a 15-1 decision in the semi-finals over Bob Waldron of Roxbury before then capturing the State Title via a 9-0 decision over Kevin Sheridan of Columbia, finishing his high school career with a record of 120-15. Upon graduation from Penns Grove in 1989, Moorer enrolled at George Mason University where he compiled a career record of 76-21 and earned 2nd place honors in the Colonial Athletic Association. Wrestling for Hall of Fame coach Fred Renner, Moorer considers winning a State Title as the highlight of his wrestling career. Fond memories also include being named "Outstanding Wrestler" in 1990 at the "Choppin State Tournament" where he pinned two Division II All-Americans. Moorer was also named "Wrestler of the Year" in 1989 by "The Philadelphia Inquirer" and represented Team N.J at "The Pittsburgh Press Wrestling Classic the same year.



Carmel M. Morina (Class of 1992)
Paulsboro High School

A 1975 graduate, Morina was the second wrestler in South Jersey history ever to win four district titles, behind Deptford's Jerry Villecco. Morina was the third of 15 wrestlers in South Jersey history, behind Carlos Fontanez of Freehold and Alan Maloney of Edgewood, to win three regional titles. Morina beat Chris Moffa of Deptford 3-1 to win the Region 7 148-pound title in 1973 but lost in the first round up state. Morina won the Region 7 158-pound title in 1974, 3-1 in over Terry Longmore of Cherry Hill West, then lost in the second round up state to eventual champion Brad Castner of Warren Hills. He capped a 94-6-0 career with an unbeaten season and the 188-pound state title in 1975. A 5-4 win over Reggie Woods of Camden in Region 7 was followed by decisions of 8-3 and 9-4 and an overtime default win before an 11-4 victory over Hugh Albora of Pope John XXIII in the state finals. Morina had a 105-15-3 record at Temple University, was selected to the freshman All-America team, and was a 2-time EIWA runner-up and 2-time Lock Haven Tournament champ. Morina was head wrestling coach at Woodbury High 1980-1983 and has been an assistant coach at Paulsboro. Morina became a varsity wrestling official in 1987 and has officiated on the group, district, regional and state tournaments level.



Paul Morina (Class of 1996)
Paulsboro High School

A 1977 graduate, Morina was twice a district champ (158 in 1976 and 1977), a Region 8 champ in 1977 and second in the state in 1977 during a 67-11-1 career. He wrestled two years at Temple University and two years at James Madison University. He was twice an Eastern Regional Champion, a one-time Virginia Intercollegiate champion and team captain his junior and senior years at JMU during a combined 108-25-1 college career. Morina was selected College Wrestler of the Year by the SJWCOA in 1982. He succeeded Bob Fredrick as head coach at Paulsboro in 1985-86. His teams have compiled a 226-4-2 record, 12th on South Jersey's all-time win list, and have had seven undefeated seasons (four seasons with 1 loss). Morina's teams have won 11 Colonial Conference; 11 South Jersey Group 1 and State Group 1; and 11 District 29 Championships. In state individual competition, he has had 19 place winners: five firsts, six seconds, one third, three fourths, three fifths and 1 sixth through 1995.



William D. Morro (Class of 1998)
Woodbury & Sterling High Schools

A graduate of Memorial High School in West New York, New Jersey, Bill spent four years in the United States Air Force, and then graduated from Gettysburg College in 1956. He participated in football, basketball and baseball in high school, football in college, and basketball in the service. His first contact with wrestling came when he arrived at Woodbury in 1956-57 and was appointed junior varsity coach under Clark Donlin, who resurrected the program in 1954 after an 8-year hiatus. Morro took over as head coach for the 1957-58 season and went 6-4 with his first varsity team. His Thundering Herd went 8-0 the next season and was District 7 dual meet champion and shared the District 7 Tournament title with Collingswood. A string of 14 straight wins was severed the following season with a 26-25 loss to Collingswood. The team finished 9-1 and was second to Collingswood in the District 7 Tournament. Morro served as head coach through the 1964-65 season, compiling a 65-20 record. His teams finished second to Paulsboro in District 15 four consecutive seasons starting in 1960-61. Morro was appointed head football coach in 1965 and had to step down as wrestling coach since his schedule also included the job of Director of Athletics. Morro, who served at Woodbury for 15 years, was a teacher, coach and athletic director at Sterling High School for 12 years. Morro, who coached against Hall of Famers Ed Pszwaro, Sam Coursen, Bill Frantz, Sam Evangelista, Hank Schnepf, Tony Petrillo, Joe Foulk and Tony DiTomo, helped present one of the first wrestling clinics in South Jersey along with Pszwaro and Jack Welch in 1965. He has been inducted into the Woodbury High School Sports Hall of Fame (1975), New Jersey Interscholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame (1990), South Jersey Coaches Association Hall of Fame (1991) and the Gloucester County Sports Hall of Fame (1995).



Samuel B. Muni (Class of 1985)
Washington Township High School

A 1967 graduate, Muni was his school's first state champion ó capping a fine 45-4 career (21-0 senior season) by winning the 167-pound state championship under Coach Lou Guidi with a 4-3 decision against Tim Gordeuk of Westfield. As a junior, Muni was the District 30 167-pound champion before losing in the opening round of the Region 4 tournament. Muni may best be remembered as the "Wrestler behind the mask," a competitor who wrestled with his face protected because he was very involved in the fine arts and was looking forward to a career in music and/or acting. Muni attended Temple University, graduating in 1971, and eventually became conductor of the South Jersey Symphony Orchestra.



Pete Munyan (Class of 1980)
Paulsboro High School

Pete wrestled three years varsity. 1941-42-43 under coach Norman Hangen. He was South Jersey runner-up at 95 pounds in 1941 and won the South Jersey 103-pound championship the next two years. He was South Jersey's first individual state champion in 1942. After the 1943 season, Munyan entered the Air Force. He resumed wrestling at the University of Pennsylvania shortly after the war. On May 20, 1950, Munyan was killed in an airplane crash outside Swedesboro, NJ, while flying on weekend Air National Guard duty out of Willow Grove, PA.



Robert W. Munyan (Class of 2005)
Paulsboro High School

A 1944 graduate, Munyan had two undefeated regular seasons at Paulsboro under Coach Norman Hangen in the program's infant days. Munyan twice advanced to the state finals, losing by fall to Robert McKeeby of Newton at 112 pounds in 1942 and to McKeeby at 120 pounds in 1943. Munyan's practice partner in high school was his brother Pete, the first individual state champion from South Jersey. The brothers were unbeaten against all South Jersey competition for two years. After serving in the US Navy from 1944-46, Munyan later attended the State University of New York where he graduated in 1952. He became president of Munyan's Fuel, Inc. and retired in 1977. His son David wrestled for Paulsboro High School and the University of Pennsylvania.



Wayne M. Murschell (Class of 1999)
Paulsboro & Pitman High Schools

A 1965 graduate of Paulsboro High School, Murschell participated all four years in football, winter track and spring track. He gained 2nd team All-Colonial recognition in football his senior year and was the Colonial Conference 100-yard dash champion as a senior. He also was class president his sophomore and junior years and a member of the Student Council. He graduated from East Carolina University, where he was a four-year participant in track and field, in 1970. From 1970-90 he was a teacher and coach at Paulsboro before moving over to Pitman High School as a head wrestling coach and later athletic director. At Paulsboro he was an assistant in football five years, assistant in wrestling 10 years, assistant in track 5 years, head track coach 6 years and an assistant athletic director 5 years. Murschell's jayvee wrestling team at Paulsboro established a national record for consecutive wins, going eight years without a loss (4 losses in 10 years). He also coached three state champions in track and field at Paulsboro. When he became head-wrestling coach at Pitman, he coached his teams to 116 career victories and produced eight district champions and one state champion. Murschell's teams won two conference championships and he was selected District 29 Coach of the Year in 1989. He was a 1994 inductee into the South Jersey Coaches of Boys Athletics Hall of Fame. His most memorable moments in wrestling included his son Wayne winning the Eastern Regional and qualifying for the NCAA Division I tournament and coaching John Barcelo to a state title in 1989. The highlight of his coaching career was being in the corner when his son Wayne won four district titles.



Bill Neal (Class of 1990)
Shawnee High School

A 1954 graduate of Scranton Technical High School and 1958 graduate of East Stroudsburg University, Neal got his baptism in wrestling under Hall of Famer Hank Schnepf. After a stint in the Army Neal, who never wrestled in high school or college, took a teaching job at Lenape High School and started learning the basics from Schnepf. Before long Neal was one of the most successful coaches in Burlington County history. Neal started the program at Shawnee High School in 1970-71. Beginning with the junior class, in 1972-73 Neal's Renegades won the Edgewood Christmas and District 26 tournaments, went unbeaten, and were ranked No. 2 in South Jersey behind Paulsboro. During his nine-year career at Shawnee, Neal's teams won two Burlington County League and three District 26 championships. Neal compiled a 90-34-4 record and coached 24 district champions, two regional champs and 1973 state champion Pave Miller. Neal left the active ranks but never severed his ties with the sport. He was a charter member of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization Executive Committee, spent five years on the SJWHFO selection committee and received the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association Contribution to Wrestling Award.



Alex Neiman (Class of 1986)
New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association

A 1950 graduate of Northeast Public High School in Philadelphia and a 1954 graduate of West Chester University, Neiman was a successful coach on the high school and college levels in South Jersey and one of the most prominent officials throughout the state before actively retiring from on-mat activities. After leaving the Army in 1957 Neiman became active in coaching a short time later as head football coach at Collingdale (PA) High School, where he started that school's wrestling program. His next move was to South Jersey and Delaware Township (eventually Cherry Hill West) High School where he took over a one-year-old wrestling program and compiled a 46-28-2 record in five seasons, including a District 27 championship team in 1966, and coached 18 district champions. While active as one of the most sought-after officials, Neiman found time to start the wrestling program at Rutgers University, Camden campus. His teams compiled an 80-72-1 record and won two NAIA District championships before he retired from the coaching ranks in 1982. He was an active on-mat official for 15 years before an injury forced him off the mat. He was President of the Delaware Valley Coaches Association 1966-68 and was very active as a member of the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association and the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization.



John W. Nemetz (Class of 1991)
Toms River North High School

A 1949 graduate of Shamokin (PA) High School where he was a three-time district champion in wrestling, Nemetz is retired from coaching at Toms River North High School. A 1955 graduate of Bloomsburg University, Nemetz served from 1955 through 1957 in the United States Army. He later earned his master's degree from Montclair State and in 20 years as varsity wrestling coach in Toms River was 212-62-8. His teams won 58 consecutive Shore Conference meets at one point. His teams never had a losing season and three finished with perfect records. His teams won seven district championships and finished second seven times. Nemetz coached one state, nine regional and 52 district champions and had two seconds and two thirds in state individual competition. Nemetz received the Harry E. Lake Award for contributions to New Jersey Wrestling in 1981, the same year he was honored at the Regions 7-8 banquet with the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association's Contribution Award.



William D. Nickles III (Class of 2022)

Ocean City High School

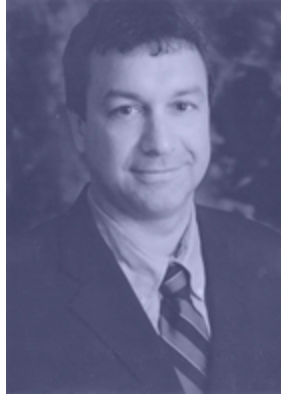
As a 1970 honors graduate of Ocean City and a 1974 cum laude graduate of Millersville University, Bill Nickles had no idea that his pursuit of knowledge would lead him to the heights he achieved as a high school wrestling coach. Upon graduating from Millersville University, Bill accepted a position at his alma mater as an industrial arts instructor, and in 1977, was appointed as the school's head wrestling coach. Having never wrestled, Bill immersed himself enthusiastically with the task of learning as much as he was able through reading and attending as many clinics as possible. He gladly accepted the tips his fellow Cape Atlantic Conference coaches had to offer him and, particularly, benefited from the influx of wrestlers from his area's youth program (Upper Twp), which was coached by Tony Galante, who became his long-time assistant at Ocean City. An innovator by nature, Bill quickly became an excellent strategist who studied his opponent's lineups and their strengths and weaknesses and was quick to learn how to motivate the ever-changing personalities of his wrestlers. Bill was a pioneer of the new wave of coaches who played the popular music of his team's choosing during team practices and prior to home wrestling meets. His individual charts of expectations and personal gains motivated his charges and gave him great rapport in gaining higher numbers in the wrestling room. Bill always seemed to find new and effective ways to keep his wrestlers focused and optimistic about their time in the sport. Bill's tenure, from '77 to '08, led to over 310 wins, as his teams finished in the top five in District 32 twenty-one times, winning the District 32 title one season and qualifying for the South Jersey Group Championships on two occasions. Along with the team's successes, Bill coached forty-one District 32 Champions, six Region 8 Champions and six state place winners. His two-time state champion, Patrick Lynch ('89 and '90), and state finalists, Greg Austin ('99) and Joe Galante ('02) aided in bringing notoriety to the Ocean City program. Bill was named District 32 Coach of the Year on one occasion, and he was inducted into the Ocean City Sports Hall of Fame in 2021, an honor he cites as being a highlight of his career. Of his years in the sport, Bill enjoys reminiscing with former wrestlers and coaches in what he calls our "special fraternity."



Chris Notte (Class of 2022)

Holy Cross High School

A 2006 graduate, Chris was a four-time District 26 and a three-time Region 7 Champion who made four trips to the NJSIAA State Championships in Atlantic City, placing three times. As a freshman at 119 pounds Chris dropped his first two matches and did not place. More determined his sophomore year, Chris returned at the same weight and won his first two matches by decision (8-6 and 10-9) before coming up short in the semifinals against Darrion Caldwell of Rahway and wrestling back to a 6th place finish. The following year, up at 125 pounds, Chris won his first match by a 12-4 major decision then lost a 3-2 squeaker to Jordan Burroughs of Winslow Twp. Chris followed with a major decision (9-0) and a fall (4:32). A very exciting 10-8 loss forced Chris into the consolation match for 5th/6th, which he won, earning 5th place honors. In his final bid in Atlantic City in 2006, Chris entered the tournament at 130 pounds and duplicated his previous 5th place finish by decisioning Aaron Wilcox of Schalick. Also, during his High School Career Chris was a football standout, a 1,000 yard rusher with a 6.2 yards per carry average at running back. He served as Captain his junior and senior seasons. After Chris graduated in 2006, he took his high school record of 138-22 with him to Nassau Community College where he wrestled for Paul Schmidt for two years and was a two-time All-American (JUCO) wrestler, placing 3rd in '07 and winning the title in '08. He also was a bronze medalist at the New York State Collegiate Championships in '07 and was a Champion in '08. Upon graduating from Nassau, Chris made his next stop in Stillwater, Oklahoma (Oklahoma State University), where he competed for the legendary John Smith. At OSU, Chris was an Oklahoma Central University Open Champion in '08 and a 3rd place finisher in '07. He also racked up a 2nd place finish in the Central Missouri Open and two 2nd place finishes at the Reno Tournament of Champions in '09 and '10. In OSU's NCAA qualifier, the Big 12, Chris took runner-up honors in '09 and was a 3rd place finisher in '10. Chris made two Division 1 appearances, but did not place. Chris was named team captain at OSU in '10 and earned Academic Dean's List honors in '11. Chris graduated from OSU in '11 with a combined (Nassau/Oklahoma State) record of 122-29. Chris cites his 3rd place finish in the prestigious Beast of the East Tournament and his three state finishes in Atlantic City as most memorable moments of his high school career, and adds that his successes at both Nassau and Oklahoma State were standout experiences. Chris states that his mom (Theresa), with her undying support and guidance, aided him in becoming the man he is today. Chris is quick to point out that coaches Mike Berger and Jim Mullarkey were men who kept Chris focused on life both on and off the mat and were the men who encouraged him to enter the ranks of coaching wrestling. Chris coached for two years at Palmyra High School before being hired as an academic advisor and wrestling coach at Saint John Vianney in Holmdel, NJ



Thomas R. Nugent (Class of 2005)
Cherry Hill East High School

A 1983 graduate, Nugent finished second in District 27 as a junior before unleashing a 26-1 senior All-South Jersey season which included a District 27 and Region 7 championship before beating John Donnelly of Emerson 5-3 to win the 148-pound state title in Princeton University's Jadwin Gymnasium. Nugent then went on to wrestle at Duke University where he was recognized as a Freshman All-American by *USA Wrestling* magazine. The winner of several smaller tournaments during his career at Duke, Nugent qualified for the NCAA Division I National Tournament before graduating in 1987. Nugent gave back to his sport by serving as an assistant coach at Cherry Hill East High School and Beck Middle School in Cherry Hill. Nugent became a physician and was employed by Delaware Valley Pulmonary at the time of his induction.



Harold E. "Howie" O'Neil Jr. (Class of 1998)
Coach, Official & Contributor

A 1966 graduate of Edgewood High School where he was a four-year varsity letter winner in wrestling (captain his senior year) and three-year letter winner in varsity baseball and cross-country, O'Neil wrestled on the freshman team at the University of Oklahoma and three years varsity with the University of Connecticut (1970 graduate). A freshman football and jayvee baseball coach several years, O'Neil was the varsity wrestling coach from 1970-80 at Woodbury High School. His memorable moments included Paul Gehring winning a regional championship in 1974 and Howard Pendleton bouncing back from a loss in the regional finals to go unscored on in winning a state title that same year. He was an assistant wrestling coach for two years at Temple University under Hall of Famer Jerry Villecco. O'Neil, who has served as a school business administrator at Woodbury High School, has been very active in many areas of wrestling throughout South Jersey and the state. He's been with the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame since its inception (vice-chairman 1986-89, chairman 1989-1997) And was the originator and president of the South Jersey Wrestling club. He has been a member of the Executive Committee of the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association for the past 27 years, and a member of the New Jersey Wrestling Coaches Association (vice president four years). He developed the ranking system, served as Ranking Chairman of Regions 7 and 8 for six years and has been the NJWCA Treasurer the past 16 years. He is on the History of New Jersey Wrestling Advisory Committee, and has been a high school wrestling official since 1971 (served the Southern Chapter as President and Vice-President). An Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Official since 1983, he was active in the development of the Gloucester County Junior Wrestling League, was the originator of the Woodbury Midget Wrestling Team and developed the Woodbury Wrestling Booster Club. The prestigious Harry E. Lake Award for contributions to wrestling in New Jersey presented at the 1997 state tournament in Atlantic City is just one of many individual awards he has received in his career.



Anthony Orio, MD (Class of 2022)

Eastern Regional High School

A 2004 graduate, Anthony was a three-time District 26 Champion and a two-time Region 7 Champion while competing for coaches John Sanders and Gary Worthington. Along the way to a career record of 88-9, Anthony made three trips to the state championships in Atlantic City. As a freshman in an overwhelmingly upperclassman's weight class (160 pounds), Anthony failed to place, but was encouraged by his razor-thin loss in his first match. He acquitted himself well the following year at 171 pounds when he earned victories of 3-1, 9-2, and 8-7 before dropping his semifinal match and finishing in 6th place. In 2003, Anthony took a year off from wrestling to concentrate on football, his number one love. The year off seemed to have invigorated Anthony, because he returned to the mat in grand fashion, winning his third district title and his second region title. Finding himself in Atlantic City his senior year at 215 pounds, he reeled off a fall in 1:25 over James Cullere of Indian Hills before winning a tight 6-5 decision over Brandon Perez of Pope John and a close 3-2 victory over Bill Beiermeister of Boonton, thus setting up a finals match with Zeb Davis of Lenape, an opponent Anthony had beaten in the Region 7 finals the week before. This time the outcome was the same, with Anthony sealing a 3-1 decision and the NJSIAA State Championship. Anthony cites being nationally ranked 15th at 215 pounds, his state championship and his first District 26 Championship as highlights in his high school wrestling career. Upon graduating in '04, Anthony received a full scholarship to Northeastern University where he was the school's starting quarterback four years running. His academic and athletic accolades at Northeastern are staggering. He was twice a semifinalist for the nation's top scholar athlete (Vincent de Paul Draddy Trophy), was named four-time FCS Academic All-Conference. He was also a three-time FCS All Star, the winner of the 2008 Herbert W. Gallagher Award for Male Scholar Athlete of the Year, the Brooks Irvine FCS Player of the Year the same year, as well as the 2008 Touchdown Club FCS Player of the Year and was recognized as the 2009 National Football Hall of Fame Hampshire Honor Society. Upon graduation from Northeastern, Anthony furthered his education by attending what is now Rutgers Medical School, then spent five years completing his orthopedic surgery residency at Boston University, followed by a one year fellowship in adult reconstructive surgery.



Nick Orio (Class of 2024)

Eastern Regional High School

A 2005 graduate, Orio notched three District 26 and three Region 7 titles and qualified to make four trips to compete in the N.J.S.I.A.A. tournament in Atlantic City. Not satisfied with his outcome at the state tournament in '02 and '03, Orio was determined to attain his goal of standing on the podium in the next two years, and he did not disappoint. In '04, wrestling at 135 pounds, Orio seemed to hit his stride, as he reeled off decisions of 5-2, 12-7 and 4-1 to make the finals; however, the gold medal eluded him as Jefferson's Dan Vallimont edged him in a close 7-5 match. The silver medal only stiffened Orio's resolve to attain a higher goal the following year. In his senior year, again in the 135 pound weight class, Orio opened with a fall in 1:06 over Rob Klein of Beckton and followed that with a nip-tuck 2-1 decision against a tough Daryl Coccozzo (River Dell). In the semifinals, Orio decisioned Hunterdon Central's Nick Alperone, 3-1 to once again reach the state finals. This year things went Orio's way as he ground out a solid 7-3 win over Dave Greenwald of St. Mary's to come away with the gold medal. Along the way to his gold and silver medals in Atlantic City, Orio captained his Eastern team for two years ('04 and '05), led his team in most wins in a single season (37), career wins by fall (80) while not-so-quietly racking up a career record of 127-8. Upon graduation, Orio continued his wrestling career at The Citadel, where as a freshman at 149 pounds, he amassed a record of 16-8 before suffering a career-ending shoulder injury his sophomore year. At the conclusion of his freshman year, Orio transferred to the University of Pittsburgh and graduated in '09. Orio cited wrestling with coach McConnell for two years as his practice partner was one of his most memorable moments in wrestling and stated that appearing in the state finals in '04 with his brother, Anthony, was the highlight of his career. Currently the vice president of Global Sales in Washington DC, Orio lives in Ashburn, Virginia with his wife, Janine, and their two children, Nicholas and Cecilia.



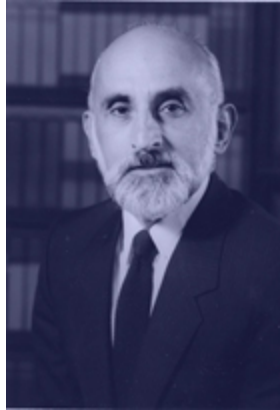
Christopher W. Ormsby (Class of 2015)
Maple Shade High School

A 1989 graduate of Maple Shade High School, Ormsby was a three-sport athlete, earning two varsity letters in both soccer and track, and a four varsity letters in wrestling. Before graduating, he won more than fifty matches for the Wildcats. Upon graduation, Ormsby attended Chowan College for one year and Gloucester County College for one year. At Gloucester CC, he won more than ten matches wrestling between the 126 pound and 134 pound weight classes before transferring to Glassboro State College (now Rowan University). Ormsby's career on the mat was over when he left GCC, due to Glassboro having dropped its wrestling program prior to his arrival. Ormsby considers his career highlight as coming from the fourth-seeded position to win the Collingswood Christmas Tournament at 119 pounds, which aided his team to claim first place honors in the tournament. Ormsby graduated from Glassboro in 1997 with a degree in health and physical education and has since added a master's degree in 2007 in education administration from National University. His most gratifying successes in wrestling came through coaching. Ormsby assisted Hall of Famer, Mike Schuld ('03) at Maple Shade H.S for six years before leaving to assume a position as a teacher of health and physical education at Haddon Heights and head wrestling coach. He remained as the Haddon Heights head coach from 2000 through 2012, departing in order to take over the principal's position at the Atlantic and Seventh Avenue schools in Haddon Heights. During Ormsby's coaching career at "Heights," he served as the District 28 representative for eight years, the Region 7 president for three years and has worked on the executive committee of the SJWHOFO for several years. Some of Ormsby's most memorable moments have come through his being able to coach Heights' first state place winner, Mel Leary (4th at 171 in '99), rebounding from a 32 point deficit to win the Paul Finn Duals by a score of 34-32 in the final match and for establishing school records for wins on three separate occasions. Ormsby was named the District 28 Coach of the Year in 2004 and again in 2012, and was named the Region 7 Coach of the Year in 2012. Though retired as a coach, Ormsby has been an active varsity wrestling official since 2012. Employed by the Haddon Heights Board of Education, Ormsby lives in Hainesport with his wife, Jillian and their son, Chase (7 months).



Michael P. Panarella (Class of 1993)
Pennsauken High School

This 1968 graduate won the 1967 Region 4 178-pound title by injury default over Norm Washington of Atlantic City and defended that title a year later with a 4-0 win over Ben Bivins of Lakewood. Panarella, nicknamed Caveman in high school, was 51-9-3 in his scholastic career. The first in Pennsauken High School history to win a regional championship, Panarella finished fourth in the 1967 state tournament and second a year later. Panarella was captain of his college team his junior and senior seasons and compiled a 68-13-5 record wrestling for Millersville (PA) State and placed three times, including second, in the Pennsylvania Collegiate Athletic Association championships. He gained All-America honors after a fourth-place finish in the NAIA nationals. He also played football four years in high school and college and was selected Collegiate Athlete of the Year as a senior at Millersville. Panarella coached at the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf three years (he coached four deaf Olympians) and Burlington County College.



Albert M. Paolone (Class of 1987)
Triton High School

A graduate of Upper Darby (PA) High School in 1951, Paolone started wrestling at Ursinus College. He capped his senior year in college with an undefeated dual meet season and a second-place finish in the Mid-Atlantic States championships in 1955. He was also third in that competition in 1953. Paolone, who graduated from Ursinus in 1955, was the team captain two years and was later inducted into the Ursinus Hall of Fame. After graduating from Ursinus, Paolone was a graduate assistant with Doug Parker at Springfield College in 1956. He then moved on to Triton High School where he started the wrestling program in 1958. His teams compiled a 70-61-2 record and won three Olympic Conference championships. Paolone became a member of the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association (1962-1978) and was instrumental in starting the South Jersey Chapter of the association, which he served as president for four years. He also served as vice president of the state officials association and officiated on both the district and regional levels in high school and in the collegiate ranks. After retiring from active officiating in 1978, Paolone assisted Hall of Famer Lou Coursen with the cadet program for two years. While at Triton, Paolone and Highland coach Ralph Ross ran a clinic for South Jersey wrestlers and started the South Jersey Invitational Christmas Tournament in 1963, the first of its kind in South Jersey. Paolone received his doctorate from Temple University in 1972 and became a professor of Exercise Physiology at Temple.



Gary W. Papa (Class of 1994)
Collingswood High School

A 1970 graduate, Papa was a two-time District 28 champ who won the Region 4 title and was a state runner-up his senior year. A team captain of the soccer and wrestling teams as a senior, Papa compiled a 45-6-2 record under Hall of Famer Sam Coursen. Papa continued wrestling at York College of Pennsylvania, compiling a 68-15-2 record. He was a two-time Lebanon Valley Invitational and York Open champ and four-time national qualifier. A team captain his senior year, Papa placed fifth in NAIA Tournament in 1974 to gain All-America status. He's been a head wrestling coach 14 years (12 at Paul VI, two at Camden Catholic) with a combined 221-56-1 record, four district, six conference, five holiday tournament, 11 Parochial A sectional and eight Parochial A state team titles. He has coached 38 district, 20 regional five state champs ó and nine additional state place winners. Twice named Region 7 and Courier-Post Coach of the Year, Papa started the South Jersey all-stars meets for the Wrestling Hall of Fame. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization seven years and is currently in his 11th year on South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association Executive Committee. Among his most memorable moments in the sport were reaching the state finals his senior year in high school and coaching his son Zac to a district championship in Zac's senior year.



Doug Parise (Class of 2006)
Lakewood High School

A 1976 graduate, Parise compiled a 70-14-1 record in his four-year varsity career. Parise was a Region 7 champion at 135 pounds in 1975 and 1976. He capped his varsity career with a 6-3 win over Jerry Gottlick of Westfield to win the 135-pound state championship in Princeton. Parise also wrestled at Temple University, winning the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association and Coast Guard Invitational titles in 1979 and 1980. In 1980 Parise gained All-American status with a fifth-place finish at 142 pounds in the NCAA Tournament. He also competed for the New York AC and the White Tower Wrestling Club in Freestyle and Greco-Roman. He was a national open runner-up three times and placed fourth and fifth in the AAU Nationals. Parise's scholastic coaching career included one year as assistant at Jackson Middle School, head coach at Pt. Pleasant Boro and Central Regional and 13 years as an assistant at Ocean Township. He also was head coach at Temple University three years where he produced an NCAA National Champion in Bill Hyman. Parise also served as a coach at the Top Gun School of Wrestling in Howell and the Hammer Wrestling School.



Jeffrey B. Parker (Class of 1993)
Toms River South High School

This 1977 graduate stepped on the wrestling mat for the first time as a freshman in high school and compiled a 17-1 freshman-jayvee record. Over the next three years he became a legendary performer under coach John DeMarco. He won District 25 championships three times and the Region 7 championship three times. He was recipient of the Outstanding Wrestler Award three times in the districts and twice in the regionals. Parker won back-to-back state championships his junior and senior years, winning the Outstanding Wrestler Award his senior year on the way to completing his scholastic career with a gaudy 92-3-0 record. Success followed Parker at Louisiana State University where, before the end of his freshman year, he won nine of the 10 tournaments he competed in, including three New Jersey state Federation qualifiers, MU Junior Olympic Nationals, East Stroudsburg Open, New York AC Open, New York-New Jersey All-Star meet and the Woodbury Open. He was second at the Junior National Federation Tournament. Parker compiled a 71-9-0 record before leaving college in 1981. He was a two-time Southeastern Conference champion and a Midwest Regional Conference champion, winning Outstanding Wrestler awards as a freshman in the Southeastern and as a junior in the Midwest Regional. He was a three-time Oklahoma Open champ who also won the Kentucky and Tennessee Opens. He won numerous off-season wrestling championships, including the prestigious Midlands, and was a regional Olympic qualifier competing for the New York AC, Sunkist Kids and Light Tower wrestling clubs and competed in the East-West meet. Parker coached with his LSU coach Larry Sciacchetano for two years and later ran a Youth Recreation wrestling program in Toms River and has helped coach at Toms River South High school. Parker also coached the Toms River Little Indians football team for four years during which time the team compiled a 53-0 record.



Kemal Pegram (Class of 2010)
Pemberton High School

A 1990 graduate, Pegram compiled a career record of 87-6 and was a three-time District 25 champion. Pegram followed a second-place finish in Region 7 as a sophomore by winning the next two titles. Pegram finished 6th in the State in 1989 and a year later won the 152-pound title to cap a 32-0 season. Ironically, Pegram's uncle was Herb Baptiste, a Woodbury High School heavyweight who was South Jersey's first two-time state champion in 1942 and 1943. Baptiste was an inductee into the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame inaugural class in 1980. Pegram followed his high school career as a four-time NCAA qualifier at Lock Haven University with a career record of 92-42-1. He led LHU in pins as a true freshman and was an Eastern Wrestling League and Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Champion during his career. He finished second all-time at LHU in Major Decisions. He was an assistant coach at Shippensburg University and was a head wrestling coach at Big Spring (PA) High School.



Mark Peiffer (Class of 2018)

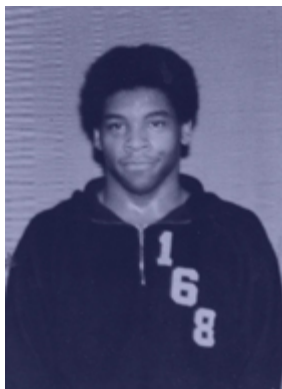
Overbrook High School

A 2005 graduate, Peiffer was a four-time District 30 Champion, a Region 8 Champion and a New Jersey State Champion who amassed a career record of 101 wins against only 11 losses in his four years of varsity wrestling. During his freshman and sophomore years, he just missed qualifying for the state tournament, but his campaigns his junior and senior years proved to be quite different. In '04, Peiffer earned the silver medal in Region 8 at 160 pounds and advanced to Atlantic City where he won his preliminary match, 10-5, over John Precopio of Indian Hills. Unfortunately, Mark dropped his pre-quarter final match by a narrow 7-6 decision to the eventual state champion, Mike Gatti (Watchung Hills). In the wrestlebacks, Peiffer won a 6-2 decision over Scott Van Peenan of Pequannock, but was eliminated by Lior Zamir of Fair Lawn via an 8-2 decision. Encouraged by his performance as a junior, Peiffer won the Region 8 Championship his senior year, made his second trip to Atlantic City, and went undefeated (33-0) at 171 pounds. In the preliminary round, he received a bye, then followed with a 6-0 decision over Randolph's Jared Platt, and a fall (5:14) over George Stanley of Middletown North. In the semi-finals, Mark picked up his 100th career victory when he won a decision over Nick Parisi of Marlboro. In the finals, Peiffer collected the gold medal with a 9-2 workmanlike decision over Jeff Siciliano of Ocean. Upon graduation, he took his N.J.S.I.A.A. Championship credentials to Gloucester County College where he earned All-American status twice at the Junior College Nationals (JUCOs). Upon graduation from junior college, Mark continued his college career at Dana College in Nebraska where he earned a silver medal at the Division II National Championships. In 2010, Dana College became defunct, and Peiffer transferred to Midland University where he graduated with a degree in education, in 2011. In 2013, he accepted a job teaching history in the Pine Hill Public School District. He also served as Overbrook High School's assistant coach for two years and as the school's head coach for the past four years. Peiffer states that wrestling on the Gloucester County College team the year they took 1st place team honors at JUCOs and coaching his first individual district champion were the most memorable moments in his career. At the conclusion of the 2018 season, Mark stepped away from teaching and coaching in order to pursue a career in law enforcement. As time permits, he will continue to work within the Overbrook wrestling program. Recently married in the Summer of 2018, Mark and his wife, Katie, live in Sicklerville.



Rich Pemberton (Class of 2006)
New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association

A 1965 graduate of Oakcrest High School, Pemberton became part of Art Marinelli's first team when he was a sophomore. Pemberton wrestled three years and along the way sustained two broken arms. Pemberton graduated from Trenton State College in 1969 and later earned a master's degree at Glassboro State. His first teaching job at Southern Regional gave him his first coaching experience as an assistant to Robin Leff (1969-72). In 1982 he became Absegami's first wrestling coach and compiled a 60-21 record in six years as head coach before turning the program over to Gene Barber. Pemberton's team won two District 32 titles, two South Jersey Association Eastern Division and two South Jersey South championships. His 1974-75 team was 18-1 and his entire team was in the finals and won the Cherokee Christmas Tournament in 1977. Pemberton was a varsity wrestling official over 20 years and he served terms as vice-president and president of the Southern Shore Chapter of the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association. He also served as a conference and Region 8 president. He organized and ran numerous mini tournaments and youth clinics. Starting in 2000, he became a volunteer TV commentator for the broadcast of Absegami wrestling on the local cable channel.



Howard M.J. Pendleton (Class of 1993)
Woodbury High School

A 1974 graduate, Pendleton was a two-time district champion, winning at 157 pounds in 1973 and at 170 pounds a year later. Pendleton sailed uneaten into the Region 7 championships in 1974 and was beaten 11-7 by Bob Wilkins of Rancocas Valley in the finals. But runners-up could advance to the state tournament and Pendleton made the most of his second chance. He won four straight bouts, never giving up a point, and annexed his state title with a 3:11 fall over Wilkins to finish his varsity career with a 62-12 record. Pendleton saw spot duty as a freshman and was third in the districts as a sophomore. His junior year, after gaining All-Colonial Conference recognition in football, Pendleton was 20-2 and a district champ. But a knee injury sustained in the semifinals of the districts required hospitalization the following week, ending his season.



Anthony M. Petrillo (Class of 1985)
Rancocas Valley Regional High School

A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Tony was the captain of his high school wrestling team and a standout in football. Following graduation in 1946, Tony attended Mansfield State where he was captain of the football team and competed in intra-mural wrestling. He also received his Master's degree from Rutgers University in 1962. Tony started an illustrious career as head wrestling coach at Rancocas Valley in 1961. Through the 1982 season, Petrillo compiled a 191-103-5 record. He produced 51 district and six regional champions and had four wrestlers finish second in the state. He was selected Burlington County Coach of the Year three times. His teams won five District 26 and six Burlington County Scholastic League championships. His 1970-71 team was undefeated. He was a recipient of the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association "Contribution Award" and was honored by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association for his contributions to wrestling. Always a coach who wrestled a "tough" schedule, Petrillo continued to stay active in wrestling after his retirement as head coach with his work for the SJWCOA and the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization where he served on the Executive Committee of both organizations.



Edward J. Poland (Class of 2001)
South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization, Inc.

This 1973 Collingswood High School graduate has been a familiar face in Collingswood and around South Jersey for nearly four decades. He has been extremely active in the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame Organization, Inc. since its inception. He also has been an active worker for many years with the South Jersey Wrestling Coaches and Officials Organization. He has served the SJWHFO and the SJWCOA as ticket chairman for several years and handles the immense responsibility of getting everyone properly seated at the annual banquet functions. Poland's dedicated work in both organizations has enabled them to be models for any group in the state that honors and supports the sport of wrestling. A four-year participant in athletics at Collingswood, the highlight of Poland's athletic career was going to and later working at the Pocono Sports Camp under Sam Coursen, Johnny Johnson and Clyde "Red" Whitman.



Howard Pomroy (Class of 1992)
N.J. Wrestling Officials Association

A 1963 graduate of Triton Regional High School where he wrestled three years varsity under Hall of Famer Al Paolone, Pomroy has been involved in the sport for over three decades. Twice a district runner-up in high school, Pomroy was 12-0 entering the district finals his senior year at Triton before his season ended with a loss to future Hall of Famer Tom Cabal of Woodbury, who went on to win the state title. He continued competing in wrestling as a four-year member of Doug Parker's New England champions at Springfield College. The New England AAU 155-pound champion in 1965 came back to South Jersey and started his teaching career at Haddon Heights where he compiled a 45-49 record as head wrestling coach from 1969 through 1975. He had five district champions and one regional champ. Pomroy was a registered varsity official from 1975 through 1985. He officiated on the group, district, regional and state levels, including the 1984 state finals. Currently the athletic director at Haddon Heights, Pomroy has turned to the administrative end of education but has continued to stay involved in wrestling as a member of the Executive Committee of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame. A charter member, he was the second treasurer of the SJWHOF and is past president of the Colonial Conference.



V. Miller Preston (Class of 1992)
Haddon Township High School

After five years as an assistant wrestling coach at Long Branch and a year as an assistant coach at Haddon Township, Miller took over the head coaching job at Township in 1964. The 1954 Manasquan High School graduate, who competed in track and wrestling at Ursinus College before graduating in 1959, has been the head coach the last 27 years and has compiled a record of 336-106-7, second on the all-time win list in South Jersey behind Hall of Famer Ralph Ross of Highland. Preston's teams twice won the Colonial Conference (the 1970-71 team was the last team to win the title other than Paulsboro through 1991-92) championship and have won eight Christmas Tournament titles. Preston's teams also have won 10 district titles and twice won South Jersey group championships. He has coached one state, 13 regional and 58 district champs. Miller was Region 7 president seven years, was a regional ranking chairman seven years and has been president of the South Jersey Coaches and Officials Association the last three years.



Edward J. Pszwaro (Class of 1980)
Paulsboro High School

Raised in Gibbstown, Ed graduated from Paulsboro High School and Gettysburg College. He started his coaching career in North Jersey in baseball and football. After the war, he restarted the wrestling program at Paulsboro coaching from 1947 to 1963. He was first South Jersey coach over century mark (134-18-1 career record) and had eight unbeaten seasons, including a 44-meet win streak from 1952 through 1957. He produced seven individual state champions and had 10 South Jersey and three district team titles. Was athletic director at Paulsboro and Sterling. He received the Coaches Contribution and Harry E. Lake Awards. He passed away in June at age 68.



Frank Pulio (Class of 1986)
West Deptford High School

A 1966 graduate, Pulio put West Deptford High School on the wrestling map when the school was in its infancy. He capped a brilliant sophomore campaign in 1964 by winning the district, regional and state championships at 98 pounds ó becoming the first and only state champion in the school's history. A three-year varsity starter, Pulio paid the price for the notoriety that comes with winning a state title during the next two years as he was constantly stalked by the opposition. Pulio was a regional runner-up his junior year and bronze medalist in the districts as a senior. He completed an outstanding scholastic career with a 50-3-1 record that included never losing a dual meet. The two-time team captain stayed right with the sport he learned to love so young over the next two decades. He served as head coach of the West Deptford Junior Wrestling program for a dozen years and played a major role in helping form the Gloucester County Junior Wrestling League. Pullo also became a wrestling official and has served over a dozen years as a varsity official on all levels of state competition. For more than two decades, Pulio's face has been a familiar one at all levels of wrestling competition ó as a competitor, coach, official and fan.



Roger Pullen (Class of 2000) **Shawnee High School**

A 1965 Burlington City High School graduate, Pullen's career as a coach started at the freshman level under Hall of Famer Bill Neal. A varsity performer in football and track at Burlington City, Pullen went to Glassboro State (now Rowan University) where he played varsity football four years. Pullen graduated in 1970 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education and earned his Masters degree in 1975. He started his teaching career in 1970 at Shawnee but was drafted into the Army in November of 1970. He spent 21 months in the service and returned to Shawnee following his discharge. Pullen coached wrestling at the freshman level three years before moving up to the JV level. He took over as head coach in 1979 and compiled a 209-113-4 record in 20 years as head coach. His team qualified for sectional playoffs seven times, won four District 26 titles, one Burlington County League Liberty Division title, four Edgewood Christmas Tournament and four Pine Barrens Wrestling Classic championships. Individually, he had three state place winners, 11 Region 7 champions, 52 District 26 champions and numerous Edgewood and Pine Barrens champs. He was twice selected District 26 Coach of the Year. Pullen was a District 26 representative several years and Region 7 ranking chairman for seven years. He has served as a Selection Committee member of the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame and has been involved in presenting clinics to junior wrestling programs in the Medford area.

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