

DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER • 58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

GEORGE WAH  
SCHOLAR  
LEADER  
ATHLETE  
AWARDS DINNER



MARCH 8, 2020 • PRINCETON MARRIOTT



**American International Group, Inc.**

# Congratulations to

Robert F. Casciola Distinguished American Award Winner

**WAYNE DeANGELO**

*and*

George O'Gorman

Contribution to Amateur Football Award Winner

**HEATHER ANDERSEN**

Best Wishes to all

**Scholar  
Leader  
Athletes**



## 58<sup>TH</sup> GEORGE WAH SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020 PRINCETON MARRIOTT

22 Schools representing Burlington, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean Counties  
\$5,000 Jack Stephan Scholarship • \$2,500 Ron Rick Sr. Scholarship • \$1,500 Ed Cook Scholarship

### 2019 CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

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Casciola, Sunshine Classic, Gunnell Family, In Memory of TSC Coach Robert E. Salois & Stanley Harris

### 2019 CHAPTER AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### **Robert F. Casciola** **Distinguished American**

Wayne P. DeAngelo,  
Assemblyman,  
14th Legislative District

#### **George O'Gorman** **Contribution to** **Amateur Football**

Heather Anderson,  
President & CEO, SONJ

#### **Hank Johns Coach Award**

Sean Clancy,  
Notre Dame High School

#### **Jack Millard Officials Award**

Eugene Ferguson

#### **Contribution to** **Youth Football**

Brian Caloiaro, Northern  
Burlington Jr. Greyhounds

#### **Delaware Valley Chapter** **Little Scholar**

Kole Briehler, Hopewell Valley  
Youth Football Organization

#### **Eunice Kennedy Shriver** **Champion Award**

Casey Mann

#### **TCNJ Earl H. Dean** **Scholar-Leader-Athlete**

Erik Graham

#### **Princeton University** **Judge Arthur Lane** **Scholar-Leader-Athlete**

Andrew Griffin

#### **Tony Persichilli** **Meritorious Service Award**

Mike Holcombe

#### **Nick Gusz Good Guy Award**

Brian DeAngelo

#### **Silent Auction** **Sports Memorabilia**

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#### **Commemorative** **Dinner Journal**

Nassau Communications

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J & V Trophies • 609-882-2922

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**Presented by PSE&G**

## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

# ROBERT F. CASCIOLA DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN AWARD **WAYNE DeANGELO**



Wayne DeAngelo grew up a soccer guy.

He's still a soccer guy today. But he is also a supporter of youth sports. And it is his role as a leader in not only athletics, but in his union and in the New Jersey State Assembly and how it relates to the student-leader-athletes that makes him an ideal choice as this year's honoree with the Robert F. Casciola Distinguished American Award.

A Steinert High graduate, DeAngelo has been around the sport his whole life and is currently President and youth soccer coach for the Hamilton Wildcats and Hibernian Athletic Association.

But he's also supportive of all sports as a state assemblyman, where he is serving his seventh term and serves as Deputy Speaker; chairman of the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee; vice-chairman of the Assembly Military and Veterans Committee; member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee; and member of the New Jersey Council on Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs.

"I'd like to thank Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation for this incredible honor," said DeAngelo. "It truly means a lot to be recognized by an organization that does so much in encouraging young people to study hard and serve their community."

In addition to his assembly and soccer duties, DeAngelo is also president of the Mercer County Building Trades and serves as a member of Hamilton's Planning Board. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Mercer County ARC, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Hamilton Elks Club #2262 and the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh.

The assemblyman has received honors including Legislator of the Year by the New Jersey Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), New Jersey State Police Fraternal Association of New Jersey, the Library Association of New Jersey and the Legislative Leadership award from the New Jersey Association of Community Providers. DeAngelo has been named by Irish Echo as a Top 50 Irish Labor Leader in 2011. Earlier the same year, DeAngelo was chosen to serve as the Grand Marshall of the Hamilton St. Patrick's Day Parade. He also has been recognized with the Distinguished Citizenship Award by the Elks Lodge.



### Past Distinguished American Award Recipients

2018 Angelo J. Onofri	2007 Chris Vernon	1996 Tim Losch	1985 Robert Casciola	1974 Al Neuschafer
2017 Michael J. Renna	2006 Marc Edenzon	1995 Bob Prunetti	1984 Roy Schleicher	1973 Dr. Joseph Zawadsky
2016 Richard Freeman	2005 Cathy DiCostanzo	1994 Bill Granville	1983 Jake McCandless	1972 R. Kenneth Fairman
2015 Bernard M. Flynn	2004 Christy Stephenson	1993 Cosmo Iacavazzi	1982 Earl H. Dean	1971 Sen. Richard Coffee
2014 Jeff Perlman	2003 Sen. Peter Inverso	1992 George Chandler	1981 William Pierce	1970 Bert Gulick, Jr.
2013 Jesse Armstead	2002 Patrick L. Ryan	1991 Alfred Bridges	1980 Nicholas Gusz	1969 Robert Cox
2012 Frank J. Lucchesi	2001 Maurice Perilli	1990 Eugene A. Renna	1979 William McGuire	1968 James Kerney, Jr
2011 Eric Hamilton	2000 Jay Destribats	1989 Len Rivers	1978 Richard Landis	Fred Schluter
2010 Richard P Lisk	1999 William Faherty	1988 Capt. Harry Masterson	1977 Francis McManimon	1967 Don Ehret
2009 Glenn K. Rieth	1998 Thomas Bracken	1987 Lawrence Tiihoonen	1976 Royce Flippin	
2008 Kelly Myers	1997 Win Headley	1986 Albert DiMartin	1975 Crosby Copeland	

## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### GEORGE O'GORMAN CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR FOOTBALL AWARD **HEATHER ANDERSEN**

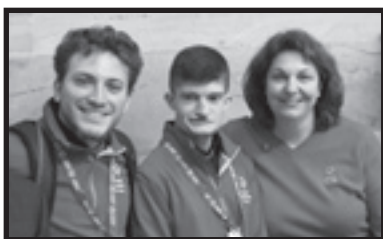
Heather Andersen was appointed President and CEO of Special Olympics New Jersey (SONJ) in June of 2015. With over 25 years of experience working within the Special Olympics movement, Andersen has worked for SONJ since 1996, serving in various roles including VP of Corporate Development and Chief Marketing Officer. Prior to her arrival, she previously worked with Special Olympics Ontario and Special Olympics Florida. Andersen's varying roles have given her a strong command of all facets of Special Olympics.

Heather grew up with the understanding of the importance of acceptance, respect and inclusion for all. Her younger brother Derek, an individual with Down Syndrome has always been an integral part of her life. Watching Derek participate in Special Olympics from an early age has given Heather the appreciation of how sports can showcase a person's ability, and not the disability.

Flag Football is one of 24 sports SONJ offers free of charge to individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID). Flag Football became an official sport for SONJ in 2008 and New Jersey sent a Flag Football team to the 2010 Special Olympics USA Games in Lincoln Nebraska. Over the past several years, the sport continues to attract new teams both in traditional divisions (all individuals with ID) along with Unified divisions (players with and without ID playing alongside each other as teammates).

In 2020, SONJ's goal is to promote the Flag Football in schools as a fall Unified sport, with a season end tournament offered at SONJ's Fall Games Unified Cup. Through a grant from the NFL Foundation, SONJ also provides equipment to middle school age players to support house leagues. Special Olympics New Jersey provides year-round sports training and competition in 24 sports to over 26,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities. In addition, SONJ supports Unified sports opportunities in several sports in over 200 school districts across New Jersey, as well as in many local community programs for SONJ.

During her time with Special Olympics, Heather has been afforded the opportunity to work hands on in the field, provide administrative support to communities and local programs, oversee volunteers, work with corporate sponsors and take charge in the execution of enhanced communications marketing and leadership strategies. Heather Andersen is a special person. Holding a MBA in Sports Administration from the University of Ottawa and a BS in Kinesiology from McMaster University in Canada, she continues to lead SONJ into the new decade. She is a resident of Brick with her husband and is the proud mother of two 18 year old daughters. The entire Andersen family supports her and the efforts of Special Olympics.



As the only Chapter in the country that recognizes Special Olympics AND flag football, we are proud to present the 2019 George O'Gorman Contribution to Amateur Football Award to Heather Andersen.

*(The Special Olympics New Jersey Sport Complex is an inclusive facility located in Lawrenceville, New Jersey and hosts the Chapters Media Day)*

#### Past Contribution to Amateur Football Award Recipients

2017 Charles R Thompson	2005 John Curtis	1992 Edward Naylor	1979 Ed Cook
2017 Dan Klim	2004 Steve Gazdek	1991 Roger Hendler	1978 Jack Stephan
2016 Ken Fisher	2003 Vince Reed	1990 George Sperling	1977 Steve Muench
2015 Dr. William Gomez	2002 Scott Brunner	1989 Ed Farley	1976 Dr. Paul Checbro
2014 John Law	2001 Sam Jefferis	1988 Burtis "Bunker" Hill	1975 Jack Petrone
2013 Rob Radice	2000 Troy Vincent	1987 Joseph Fruscione	1974 Fred Holmes
2012 Rich Fisher	1999 Wes Kirkpatrick	1986 John Morris	1973 Roy Van Ness
2011 Paul "Bones" Vichroski	1998 David "Poppy" Sanderson	1985 Eric Hamilton	1972 John Gorman
2010 John D. McKenna	1997 Ron Rick, Jr.	1984 Jack Rafferty	1971 Robert Sinkler
2009 Steven J. Timko	1996 The Santuzza Oilers	1983 Ron Rick	1970 Pete Morgan
2008 Tom Murray	1995 Tony Persichilli	1982 Harold "Bus" Saidt	1969 Fred Schluter
2007 Jim Fisher	1994 Harley Gaskill/Fred Stives	1981 Ken Kueffel	1968 Ed Zanfrini
2006 Jim Griffin	1993 Bob Jaroni	1980 George O'Gorman	

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## PAST SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

### Year Winner / High School / College / Award

2018	Nick Campbell / Allentown / Navy / \$5,000 Michael Quigg / Hightstown / Monmouth University / \$2,500 John Woolston / Florence / Rowan University / \$1,500
2017	Erik Dehkes / North Hunterdon / Carnegie Mellon / \$5,000 Mark Pacini / Florence / TCNJ / \$2,500 Patrick Holly / Hun / Harvard / \$1,500
2016	Richard Mottram / Allentown / Bucknell / \$5,000 Isaiah Wingfield / Lawrenceville / Harvard / \$2,500 Taylor Twamley / Robbinsville / Penn State / \$1,500 Thomier Richardson / Trenton / Gettysburg / \$1,500
2015	CJ Markisz / WWP-North / Bowdoin / \$5,000 Frank Lucchesi / Steinert / Muhlenberg / \$2,500 Xavier Lezynski / Notre Dame / Notre Dame / \$1,500
2014	Michael Curry / Allentown / Johns Hopkins / \$5,000 Brady Hudik / Bordentown / Wagner / \$2,500 Micheal Whittington / Trenton / Georgetown / \$1,500 Matt Semple / Hopewell / Elon / \$1,500
2013	Nicholas DeMarie / Nottingham / Pennsylvania / \$5,000 Sam Follansbee / North Hunterdon / Pennsylvania / \$2,500 Kurt Frimel / New Egypt / Cornell / \$2,500
2012	Brian Schoenauer / WWP-South / Pennsylvania / \$5,000 Jadaen Bernstein / Voorhees / Naval Academy Prep / \$2,500 Nick Palladino / Allentown / Muhlenberg / \$2,500
2011	Chris Evans / WWP-South / Harvard / \$5,000 Richard Levy / Trenton / University of Connecticut / \$2,500 J. Walker Kirby / Lawrenceville / Harvard / \$2,500
2010	Ross Scheuerman / Allentown / Lafayette / \$5,000 Matt Berry / North Hunterdon / Johns Hopkins / \$2,500
2009	Bradford Bormann / Hunterdon Central / Lafayette / \$5,000 Douglas Bryant / Princeton / University of Michigan / \$2,500 Sean Eccles / Allentown / Ramapo / \$2,500
2008	Anthony Russ / Lawrence / Harvard / \$5,000 Brian Reilly / Peddie / Harvard / \$2,500 Jeffrey Riemann / WWP-South / Williams / \$2,500
2007	Daniel Fitzsimmons / Hunterdon Central / Princeton / \$5,000 Andrew Bourassa / Delaware Valley / Cornell / \$2,500 Douglas Borchert / Princeton / Lafayette / \$2,000 Eldred Richards / WWP-South / Albany / \$2,000
2006	Ryan Lupo / WWP-South / Williams / \$5,000 Joshua Scassero / Florence / Stockton / \$2,500 Nick Lezynski / Notre Dame / Notre Dame / \$2,500
2005	Imaniborn Etukeren / Lawrenceville / Arizona State / \$5,000 David Blitzer / Princeton Day / Williams / \$2,500 Gabriel C. Plumer / Delaware Valley / Johns Hopkins / \$2,500
2004	Andrew Riexinger / Notre Dame / TCNJ / \$5,000 Vincent G. Giacalone / Princeton / Carnegie Mellon / \$2,500 Matthew Ordog / Florence / Muhlenberg / \$2,500
2003	Brian Raike / Ewing / Pennsylvania / \$5,000 David Mosteller / Princeton / Wesleyan / \$3,500 Brian Waller / Hightstown / Coast Guard / \$2,500
2002	Robert Toresco / Hunterdon Central / Princeton / \$5,000 Stephen Ordog / Florence / Ursinus / \$3,500 Jay Graber / Notre Dame / Hofstra / \$1,250 JT Hutchinson / WWP-South / Pennsylvania / \$1,250
2001	Alexander Brun / Hamilton / Rutgers / \$5,000 Charles Nagy / Bordentown / Wagner / \$3,500 Jonathon Johnston / Peddie / US Naval Academy / \$2,500

### Year Winner / High School / College / Award

2000	Jason Vida / Pennsbury / William & Mary / \$5,000 Joe Crupi / Hamilton / US Marine Corps / \$3,500 John Brodowski / Bordentown / Muhlenberg / \$2,500 Matthew Krantz / Allentown / Wake Forest / \$2,000
1999	Brian Lyons / Hamilton / Post Grad / \$5,000 Isaac Bethea / Trenton / Pennsylvania / \$3,500 Adam Allen / Nottingham / Lafayette / \$2,500
1998	Alex Wade / Council Rock / Duke / \$5,000 Jamal Lundy / Florence / Lehigh / \$3,500 Adrian Wall / Lawrenceville / Harvard / \$2,500
1997	Mike Azzara / Lawrence / Middlebury / \$5,000 Brian White / Hamilton / Villanova / \$3,500 Dave Czehut / North Burlington / Princeton / \$2,500
1996	Buck Adams / Hightstown / West Point / \$5,000 Brett Martz / North Burlington / Pennsylvania / \$3,500 Don Povia / Nottingham / Monmouth / \$2,500
1995	Joe Andolina / WWP / Princeton / \$5,000 Hank Johns, Jr. / Pennsbury / Georgetown / \$3,500 Greg Gorla / Steinert / Johns Hopkins / \$2,500
1994	Anthony Apicelli / Ewing / Princeton / \$5,000 Brian Vannozzi / Notre Dame / Johns Hopkins / \$3,500 Rick Dittman / Pennsbury / Brown / \$1,500
1993	Matt Rader / Pennsbury / Duke / \$5,000 Ian Halpern / Princeton Day / Brown / \$2,500 Dan Schramek / Council Rock / Penn State / \$1,500
1992	Ricky Durst / Pennington / Middlebury / \$5,000 Noah Harlan / Princeton / Williams / \$2,500 Gus Burmeister / Florence / Lafayette / \$1,500
1991	Rob Beetel / North Burlington / Trenton State / \$5,000 Greg Coleman / Steinert / Trenton State / \$2,500 William Warrick / Lawrenceville / North Carolina / \$1,500
1990	Todd Luyber / Florence / Rutgers / \$5,000 Terrance Stokes / Trenton / Pennsylvania / \$2,500 Ron Duld / Council Rock / Pennsylvania / \$2,500
1989	William Buffaloe / Bishop Egan / Yale / \$5,000 Adam Warcholak / Lawrence / Franklin & Marshall / \$2,500 James Renna / WWP / Princeton / \$2,500
1988	Scott Schienvar / Hightstown / Washington / \$5,000 Russell Player / Burlington Twp. / Holy Cross / \$2,500 Tom Falkowski / Allentown / Bucknell / \$2,500
1987	Paul Evans / Hamilton / Pennsylvania / \$5,000 Scott Snyder / Council Rock / Virginia Tech / \$2,500 Eric Smith / Lawrence / Cornell / \$2,500
1986	John Kleinman / WWP / Lehigh / \$4,000 Scott Miller / Princeton Day / Brown / \$2,000 Jesse Klingbiel / Princeton / Bucknell / \$2,000
1985	Todd Ortman / Pennsbury / Princeton / \$2,000 CJ Cunningham / Council Rock / Pennsylvania / \$1,000 Charles McCall / WWP / Pennsylvania / \$1,000
1984	Galen Beske / WWP / Lafayette / \$1,500 Eric Hovanec / Princeton Day / Princeton / \$750 David Nitti / Ewing / Villanova / \$750
1983	Ed Hudson / Lawrenceville / Harvard / \$1300 Mike Schnoering / Nottingham / NJ Tech / \$650 Darren Doherty / Notre Dame / Swarthmore / \$650
1982	Nathan Thompson / Lawrence / William & Mary / \$800 Mike Druckman / WWP / Harvard / \$400 Richard Guinness / Steinert / Rider / \$400

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## PAST SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS (CONTINUED)

### Year Winner / High School / Head Coach

1981	Douglas Paul / Princeton / Bill Cirullo Larry Ostema / Lawrenceville / Ken Keuffel
1980	Albert Yunkus / Peddie / Bob McClellan Mark Tagliaferri / WWP / Tom Stuart
1979	L. Hunninghake / Princeton / Jim Beachell John Freda / Princeton Day / Jim Walker
1978	Roncalli-Amici / Peddie / Duke Oxford Jeffrey Guzy / WWP / Rex Walker
1977	Donald Gips / Princeton Day / Bob Hoffman Joe Garefino / South Hunterdon / Sam Jeffris
1976	Darren Ford / Pennington / Bill Long James Annett / Council Rock / Walt Snyder
1975	Mark Blaxhill / Princeton Day / John Boneparth Rich Hagen / Hamilton / Bill McEvoy
1974	Wayne Buder / Pennsbury / Chuck Kane W. Ellsworth / Princeton Day / John Boneparth
1973	Brian Bestwick / Delhaas / Bob Hart David Ballard / Lawrenceville / Ken Keuffel
1972	Harold Brown / Lawrence / Ed Shirk

### Year Winner / High School / Head Coach

	Stuart Gordon / Lawrenceville / Ken Keuffel
1971	Andrew Varga / Morrisville / Ray Feldman Alan Chalifoux / Hun / David Leete
1970	Richard Ziegler / Hun / David Leete Jerome Varcallo / Woodrow Wilson / Lou Sorrentino
1969	Lewis Bowers / Princeton Day / Dan Barren James Boyle / Bishop Egan / Dick Bedesem
1968	Edward Hryn / Hamilton / Dave Bryan Paul Dahlman / Pennsbury / Ernie Baugher
1967	Tom Butterfoss / Princeton / Dick Wood Mike Drulis / Notre Dame / Walt Porter Robert Krugler / Peddie / Edmund Paul
1966	Sylvester Micir / Bishop Egan / Dick Bedesem Stephan Kessler / Pennington / Howard Poore
1965	James Colbert / Neshaminy / John Petercuskie Warren McManus / Peddie / Edmund Paul
1964	Mark Savidge / Hun / Hawley Water
1963	Will Dickey / Lawrenceville / Jack Reydel
1962	Pat Ryan / Notre Dame / Walt Porter

## Delaware Valley Chapter Officers and Committees:

### Officers:

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Dr. Jim Ball  
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John Terry  
Steve Tuckerson

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Jay Destribats  
Nick Gusz  
Win Headley  
Ron Rick  
Pat Ryan

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Robert Casciola  
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Robert Faherty  
Dr. William Gomez  
Larry Gunnell  
Scott Heiser  
John McKenna  
Mike Olshin  
Merkle Cherry  
Jim Wilno



## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### HISTORY OF THE SCHOLAR-LEADER-ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

The first Scholar/Athlete dinner hosted by the Delaware Valley chapter was a lot like a small family get-together as a group of prominent area business leaders and sportsmen, brought together by local sportswriter Jimmie McDowell gathered at The Carteret Club in Trenton to honor a high school senior football player who had been even more successful in the classroom. In 50 years, that small gathering to honor Notre Dame senior Pat Ryan has grown to become the most prestigious football dinner in the Delaware Valley, possibly in the entire Garden State.

No longer is it just one player being saluted and receiving a certificate. Now the Delaware Valley chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame honors graduating senior football players from 30 schools in six Central Jersey counties, each of them receiving at least a \$1,000 scholarship with money raised from various businessmen and women throughout the area.

Just as the great game of football has grown over the last 50 years, so has the Delaware Valley chapter dinner, which awards a scholarship pot of \$50,000—largest in the nation. The chapter is also the oldest in the U.S. with an honor roll of Distinguished American and Contribution to Amateur Football award winners that is a ‘Who’s Who’ of the football world.

Co-sponsored by the Trenton Times and later the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce, the Scholar/Athlete program grew from the cozy surroundings of the Carteret Club to venues like Barrett’s El Condado Restaurant in Ewing, the Colonial Firehouse Ballroom in Hamilton and the West Trenton Ballroom Ewing to the Princeton University campus and eventually to the grand ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Princeton.

The tradition of bestowing the Distinguished American Award on prominent area business leaders like Don Ehret, Times publisher James Kerney Jr. and Fred Schluter eventually saw political leaders Sen. Franny McManimon, Mercer County executive Bob Prunetti—a scholar/athlete at Trenton High in 1972—Sen. Pete Inverso, former Hamilton mayor Maurice Perilli and New Jersey banking legends Bill Faherty, Tom Bracken and Tim Losch headline the top dias. Educational leaders Dr. Crosby Copeland of the Trenton Public Schools and Al DeMartin of Hamilton, athletic leaders Ken Fairman, Royce Flippin, Jake McCandless and Bob Casciola of Princeton University, Coca Cola president Bill Pearce of Princeton, NJSIAA executives Roy Schleicher and Steve Timko and lifelong football men and prominent coaches Win Headley, Len Rivers and Cosmo Iacavazzi were among the honorees named Distinguished Americans for having taken the lessons learned on the gridiron to become prominent area leaders.

Baseball Hall of Fame sportswriter Harold ‘Bus’ Saidt of the Times, former NFL stars Troy Vincent (Eagles) and Scott Brunner (Giants), popular area radio sports broadcasters Vince Reed and Roger Hendler, the father-son tandem of Ron Rick and Ron Jr., and local coaching legends Dr. Ken Keuffel (Lawrenceville), Eric Hamilton (College of NJ), Steve Muench (Ewing), Sam Jefferis (South Hunterdon), John Curtis (Princeton) and Jim Griffin (Hightstown) helped add to the DelVal chapter’s reputation for saluting the best of the best and continue the reputation the Delaware Valley chapter has always held for being the first—and the most successful—of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame chapters.

### THE SELECTION PROCESS

The name of the young man selected as the top Scholar-Leader-Athlete was not pulled out of a hat. He has gone through a rigorous screening process. His credentials on the field, in the classroom and in the community have been scrutinized and discussed many times over by the members of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame’s Scholarship Committee. The scholarship committee is made up of several members of the Delaware Valley Chapter who have a deep and abiding respect and love for scholastic football. What the scholarship committee is looking for is someone with:

**1. Outstanding academic application and performance – a Scholar**

He doesn’t necessarily have to be the smartest student in his school, but he should be a good, solid student. He doesn’t have to be a “book worm” or even a straight-A student, but he should be studious, persevering, dedicated and have a proper knowledge of what study means to the value of education. He should be a better than average student who is genuinely interested in his studies without a serious subject weakness.

**2. Outstanding school leadership and citizenship – a Leader**

He doesn’t necessarily have to be involved in every club or program at his school, but he should have a well-rounded approach to his extracurricular activities. He doesn’t have to be the president of his class, but he should be a leader, someone who is looked up to. He doesn’t have to be the most popular student in his school, but he should be well-respected by his classmates, teammates and opponents.

**3. Outstanding football ability and performance – an Athlete**

He doesn’t necessarily have to be the best football player in the area, but he should be a good one with a proven record of performance. Ideally, he should be a player who is more concerned with team accomplishments than his personal statistics. He should display courage, persistence and sportsmanship and an overall feeling for the game of football as well as have respect for his coaches, teammates and opponents.

*It’s the combination of all of these attributes that make the winner, and all the young men honored, a true Scholar-Leader-Athlete.*



## *Congratulations to*

Robert F. Casciola Distinguished American Award Winner

**WAYNE DEANGELO**

*and*

George O'Gorman Contribution to Amateur Football Award Winner

**HEATHER ANDERSEN**

*Best Wishes to all*

**Scholar • Leader • Athletes**



## MICHAEL ABELOWITZ EWING

A three-sport captain, Michael has set himself apart from others through his hard work and dedication.

“Michael is truly a great kid, and he is one of the hardest working student-athletes I’ve had the pleasure of coaching in my tenure at (Ewing),” said head coach Matt Dalessio. “Michael is not only hard working, but he is also a natural leader, filling the role of captain for multiple teams.”

Abelowitz is a leader on and off the field. He was a no-brainer selection as a member of the Ewing Peer Leadership program, whose primary purpose is to mentor freshmen students. Michael is a volunteer firefighter with the Prospect Heights Fire Company, an Altar Server at the Church of St. Ann in Lawrenceville, and nearing Eagle Scout status. He was a graduate of the New Jersey State Police Trooper Youth Academy.

“Michael has always strived his hardest to deliver the best effort he could provide,” Dalessio said. A member of the National Honor Society, Michael also participates in Youth Against Tobacco. He is a captain for the Ewing wrestling and lacrosse team in addition to football.

Abelowitz has long had a goal of pursuing a career in law enforcement, with a focus on community safety. He intends to earn a degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Management from the University of New Haven. “Michael is a diligent worker who takes pride in his grades and puts in the effort needed to be successful,” said teacher and coach Kyle Miller, who was Ewing’s scholarship recipient at the 2002 dinner. “Michael’s work ethic, strong morals, and willingness to help others will serve him well.”



## QUENTIN AUTRY NOTRE DAME

One of the best teams in school history didn’t just happen without superior talent and superior leadership. A first-team, all-area, and third-team, all-Non Public selection, Quentin Autry filled both buckets for the Irish, who went 10-1 before falling to eventual state champion Saint Peter’s Prep in a thrilling state semifinal.

“Quentin is a truly remarkable young man who commits fully to all that he does because he is driven to be a success,” Notre Dame head coach Sean Clancy said. “Humble, kind, and fiercely competitive are adjectives that aren’t often thrown together, but they describe Quentin perfectly. He is destined to achieve at the highest level.”

Quentin has taken advantage of the wide range of classes available at Notre Dame and loaded up with Advanced Placement courses in Science, Math, and Social Studies. Combine that with participation in the school’s Service

Learning program, and the result is someone truly invested in the community. “I have witnessed his 6-foot-5 frame cramped into a tiny chair as he tutored reading to elementary school students with great joy and kindness,” Clancy said.

President of the school’s student government, Quentin is a member of the W.E.B. DuBois Scholars Institute at Princeton University. He is part of the school’s SHADES club, a Peer to Peer tutor, and part of the Catholic Athletes for Christ.

Autry has attended the Yale University Summer Academy. He is part of the Spanish Honor Society and participated on the FINCC Robotics Team.

“Quentin is well liked by faculty and peers and it has been a pleasure to watch him grow into a young man,” Clancy said.



## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### **RYAN BLANCHARD** BORDENTOWN

Adversity often reveals character. And while Bordentown's football team struggled on the field in 2019, Ryan Blanchard stood tall as a leader.

"Ryan was selected to be a team captain for his leadership qualities and his compassion for his fellow teammates," head coach Skip Edwards said. "He was also chosen due to his strong work ethic in all team activities. Ryan took that responsibility very seriously. He was the last player to leave the practice field every day. Ryan will be a great contributor to the college that accepts him and will pay dividends for a bright future."

A recipient of the Gordon Masters Scholar-Athlete award, Ryan earned first team all-conference as an offensive player and was named to the Burlington all-academic team. Ryan was recognized by the NJCFA Super 100 and was a star receiver and outside linebacker for the Scotties.



Blanchard is a New Jersey State Police Trooper youth week graduate, where he earned recognition with the Top Physical Challenge award. A starting varsity wrestler, Blanchard has also played drums for four years and is in the school's drum line.

His all-around attitude made him a natural choice for Bordentown's nominee.

"I have had the opportunity to observe Ryan interact with his fellow teammates and lead by example," Edwards said. "Ryan comes from a steady home with two parents and a sister who support his achievements in academics, athletics, and everyday activities. He has a great foundation for his life and to be a star in our society."

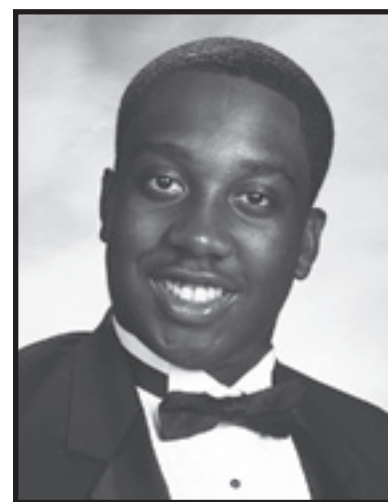
### **JACOB DARBY** HAMILTON

Hamilton's best season in a decade came about because of a lot of special players. Jacob Darby stood out among this great group.

"Jacob's elite work ethic in all aspects of life is evident to those lucky enough to come in contact with him," head coach Mike Papero said. "Upon facing a potentially season-ending injury, Jacob rose to heights unseen by working hard and overcoming adversity in order to become a key component in our season."

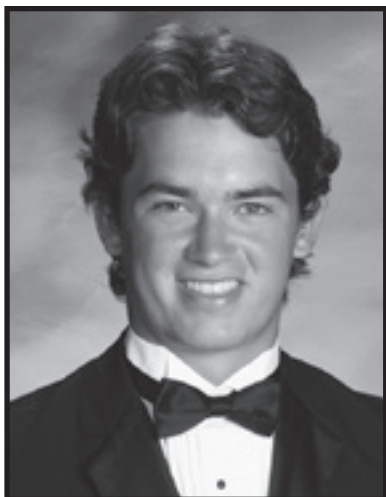
"Jacob was undoubtedly the heart and soul of our team and in many ways the moral compass of our program," Papero continued. "There is not a teacher, administrator, or student in our school that has ever voiced anything but positive comments about him."

The Hornets won eight games for the first time since 2010 and that speaks volumes about Darby's leadership on the field. But there's much more to what Darby brings to the community.



A two-time recipient of the program's Academic Award and part of the school's Talented Tenth program, Jacob has been a leader throughout his time at Hamilton. He volunteers with the Sigma Beta Club and is part of the Positive Coaching Alliance at the school.

"Rarely have I coached a student-athlete who is such a genuine and caring person off the field while being so ferocious on it," Papero said. "He is someone who others look to for guidance because he dedicated himself to his team and always had the best of the program in mind. He worked year-round to make himself the best he could be. Any coach would dream of having a team full of players just like Jacob."



### **JACK DEVINE** NEW EGYPT

Jack Devine was a leader on the football field, but describing him as a football player would be far too limiting for what this young man has accomplished.

While Devine was a second-team, all-BCSL selection as a senior, he has had great success in so many areas. "Jack is able to set his goals high and do his utmost to achieve them," head coach Steven Fence said. "He certainly is not afraid of any challenge that presents itself to him and can often think outside the box to find a solution to attain his goal. I feel very confident that Jack's success at New Egypt will translate to continued success after high school."

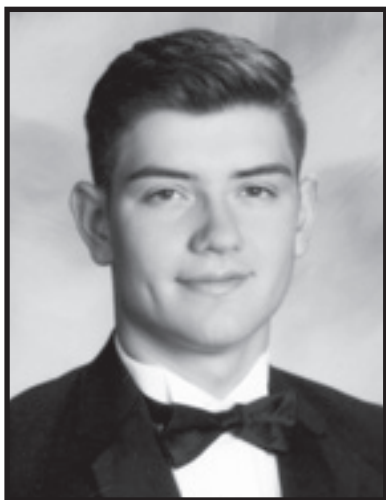
Devine is a high achiever in the classroom, among the top students in the Class of 2020 at New Egypt. He also participates in numerous activities in the school and in the community. Captain of the Lacrosse team, Devine is a two-year member of the National

Honor Society, President of the school's Environmental Club, treasurer of the FBLA, a peer leader, and Vice President of PYNE (Plumsted Youth for Nature and Environment).

Jack is part of the Heroes and Cool Kids group, a national club that mentors middle school students. He was chosen to be an intern for the Superintendent of Plumsted Township Schools and been honored for his community service work.

Among his many community service endeavors, Devine helped start and organize a program called Fresh Start, which offers free laundry services and haircuts for the homeless once a month.

"Jack personifies what a teammate and a leader should be," Fence said. "He is a pleasure to spend time with both on and off the field."



### **JAYSON EMERY** FLORENCE

Head coach Joe Frappolli has always been about building an incredible team culture. As he enters his sixth decade at the helm of his alma mater, Frappolli is one of the great ambassadors the game has at the high school level.

So it's no surprise that Frappolli speaks glowingly of Jayson Emery. Last season's captain did a bit of everything for the Flashes and didn't miss an important play all season. "Jayson played with such a high level of intensity," Frappolli said. "He invested the time, energy, and drive over the past several years to grow and mature and make himself the outstanding man and player that he is today. (Jayson) excelled on both sides of the football and on special teams, especially as our long snapper."

Emery has also excelled in the classroom. A constant on the Honor Roll, Jayson is a National Honor Society member, has a weighted GPA over 4.0, and is a two-time, all-

academic honoree by the Gordon Masters Football Club. He is part of a small group of students who excels both academically as well as athletically.

Emery is a member of the Science League and Environmental Club at Florence. He has organized blood drives, has been an American Legion Boys State delegate, attended Youth Leadership Conferences in Washington, and served as an anti-bullying student ambassador. Jayson has helped the Florence community by delivering Thanksgiving turkeys and food baskets for the needy. He has also read to elementary school students as part of Read Across America.

Frappolli noted that when Florence High became involved with the New Jersey Special Olympics to start a local chapter of the "Unified" sports program, one of the first people at the school to volunteer was, of course, Jayson.



## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### **RICKEY ENG** THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL

When Rickey Eng is all in, he's all in. A three-sport varsity captain at Pennington, Eng is known throughout campus for his leadership.

"On the field, in the classroom, and in our community, Rickey exemplifies what it means to be a great student-athlete," veteran head coach Jerry Eure said. "Faculty, coaches, and fellow students all admire and respect Rickey for who he is and what he has done. We will all miss Rickey Eng and we know he will be successful in whatever he chooses in life."

Eure certainly will miss Eng on the football field. With 1,715 receiving yards, Eng will graduate as the school's all-time leader, not bad for a program that began in 1880.

Away from football, Eng is a premier student at Pennington and frequently finds himself on the High Honors and Dean's List. Rickey is a campus guide, a member of student government, and served as a Junior Proctor.



A former counselor at Hopewell Elementary Safety Town, Eng is a Peer Leader and writer for the Penntonian Newspaper on campus. As a peer leader, he has volunteered for many events, such as Run for the Cure and the Homefront Holiday party. Peer leaders also meet daily and go on retreats to develop their leadership skills. They are responsible for planning an activity that will be run during the second semester of school.

An outstanding baseball player, Eng has been recognized for his proficiency on the diamond, earning state all-Prep honors. "Rickey led by example and was an outstanding role model for the younger athletes," Eure said. "We could always count on him."

### **DYLAN FARINA** NORTH HUNTERDON

Kevin Kley was anxious. Dylan Farina was having none of it. Kley was returning to North Hunterdon to take over the football program after a year at a rival school and he was worried about buy-in from the senior class.

"I was anxious they might have viewed me in a negative light because I left the year before," Kley said, "but after I got the job, one of the first people to reach out was Dylan. He was extremely excited and assured me the whole team would be on board. He was a leader during spring weight room and summer workouts both by example and through consistent encouragement of his teammates to attend."

Of course leadership is great – but so are results. Farina backed up his leadership with his play on the field and earned first-team, all-area honors on both sides of the ball. Dylan finished with 558 yards receiving and another 100 on the ground. Add in five interceptions,



nine pass deflections, two forced fumbles, and two fumble recoveries, and it's pretty easy to see why Farina was named Team MVP.

A four-year Honor Roll student who is a member of the National Honor Society, Dylan was just as valuable in the classroom. An executive member of the school's Interact and Able Club, Farina has been a Special Olympics trainer, a Relay for Life volunteer, a Spike for a Cure volunteer, and a Blood Drive volunteer. He assists and interacts with special needs students during lunch through the North Hunterdon Lunch Buddies program.

"Dylan," Kley said, "is without question the definition of a scholar, leader, and athlete. As for his legacy at North, he has helped set the foundation for North Hunterdon football that many student-athletes will build upon for years to come."





## CONNOR FITZSIMMONS

### ROBBINSVILLE

Two years removed from an 0-9 season, Connor Fitzsimmons' leadership was a main reason for the best season in Robbinsville's school history. The Ravens finished 9-1 and qualified for the state playoffs.

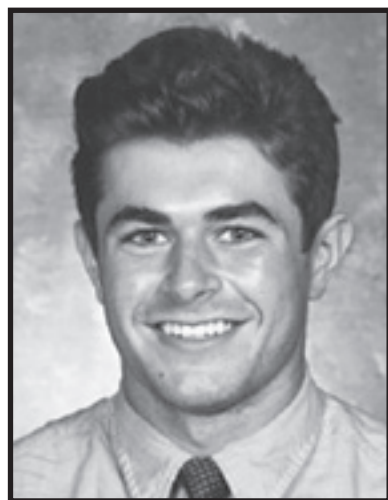
"Connor has the ability to elevate his peers' level of play and commitment," head coach Andrew Patterson said. "His innate leadership abilities and intrinsic passion are some of the reasons that our football team completed a dramatic turnaround. With his actions, Connor sets a clear example of what leadership looks like."

Connor is one of the top students in Robbinsville's senior class. He is Executive Secretary on the school's Student Council and a leader of the school's efforts in charitable functions and other student activities. He is a three-year Model United Nations member and part of the school's Track and Field team.

Fitzsimmons has twice participated in Project Appalachia. This is a week-long trip to West Virginia to repair and sometimes rebuild decks, ramps, and windows of trailers belonging to impoverished families. Connor served as a team spokesperson to thank the community for their donations that funded the trip.

"Connor is a ubiquitous presence on our campus at nearly every school event," Patterson said. "He is one of the public faces of our high school. There is no doubt that having someone like him in a classroom setting, athletic team, or extracurricular affair is a point of pride for teachers, coaches, and event advisors in our school community."

No doubt, Fitzsimmons and his memorable senior class will be tough to replace. They left an indelible legacy on Robbinsville football.



## IAN FRANZONI

### THE HUN SCHOOL

It is something that not enough people practice anymore, but Ian Franzoni proved that good things, indeed, happen to those who wait.

Franzoni spent the first three years of his Hun career behind now-UNC tailback Josh Henderson. But rather than sulk, Ian got bigger, faster, and stronger every day. Given his chance to shine this year, the nephew of long-time Hun head coach Dave Dudeck did exactly that. In just seven games, Franzoni rushed for almost 1,200 yards, added another 300+ through the air, and scored 16 TDs.

Ian had his biggest games in the team's biggest games, including 300 total yards against Peddie and 78 alone on the final drive against Life Christian Academy. "Ian was often the best player to step on the field no matter who we played," head coach Todd Smith said, "but it is without question that Ian is one of the greatest human beings off the field."

Smith said that early in Ian's freshman year, he and the other coaches knew that Franzoni would be a Hun captain some day. And they were right. Franzoni carried that same level of performance into the classroom, where a load full of Honors and AP courses and a rigorous curriculum caught the attention of many elite colleges and universities. Ian will be headed to Brown University next year and figures to make an impact there as well.

"His intangibles are off the chart," Smith said. "Ian is a pure leader. He's a role model for his teammates and has set the bar for all future Hun captains. He led with his words, his actions, and his work ethic.

"(Ian's) main goal was to keep the program in better shape than when he found it," Smith continued. "Mission accomplished. Ian Franzoni is an all-time great."



## CHRISTOPHER HOLLANDER HOPEWELL VALLEY

Chris Hollander gave his Hopewell Valley teammates a lesson about being tough in the face of adversity. Hollander entered high school with high expectations from both himself and the coaches at Hopewell. But as he transitioned into the high school, Chris was diagnosed with a rare esophageal disorder called Achalasia. It is a condition that hinders someone's ability to eat and requires multiple surgeries and procedures per year.

Not once did Hollander use that as an excuse. Not only did he never miss a practice or a game, but Chris played at such a high level. He was a team captain, and all-conference linebacker, and rightful winner of the HV Football Perseverance Award.

All of which is pretty impressive for someone whose best sport is probably lacrosse. Hollander will continue his education and play lacrosse for Ohio Wesleyan University.



"Chris serves as an inspiration to all of us,"

HV coach Dave Caldwell said, "who strive to be strong-willed in the face of adversity, challenges, and opportunities. He will continue to be a trustworthy friend, loyal teammate, and inspirational leader."

Hollander is a member of multiple national organizations that provide support for people with rare diseases. He is a peer leader, a Special Olympics volunteer, a Hopewell Valley Arts Council volunteer, a youth football coach, and a group leader for Hopewell Valley Clean Communities. Chris is a four-year Honor Roll member who has taken more than a dozen Honors and AP courses and is a 2018 DECA State Finalist. As a lacrosse star, Hollander has been ranked among the top 50 players in the state from the moment he started high school. "Chris," Caldwell said, "is a model of school standards, positive attitudes, and dependability."

## LUCAS JOHNSON THE PEDDIE SCHOOL

Lucas Johnson proved his leadership abilities long ago, the way he came back from a torn ACL suffered in 2017. This fall, he showed he was one of the best players in the state.

An imposing 6-foot-5, 280-pound lineman headed to the University of Virginia, there weren't too many around who could match up with Johnson, and that's a major reason the Falcons won the Mid-Atlantic Prep League title with an undefeated record.

But Johnson is known as one who is more than comfortable letting his play speak for itself.

"Luke will never tell you how good he is," said Lisa McClellan, the school's Assistant Director of college counseling. "That's just not his style. His talent on the football field is obvious; everyone can see him make play after play on Saturday afternoons in the fall. But unless you are fortunate enough to sit with him in class, share space in his dorm,



or grab a meal with him in the dining hall, you might never fully appreciate the range of his abilities and interests."

Those interests are many. Johnson transferred to Peddie from his home district in Virginia before the 2018-19 school year. A top-notch student whose main interests are Economics and Medicine, Luke thrived in the challenging Peddie academic environment. He's a standout lacrosse player and wrestler, a member of Peddie's Young Entrepreneur's Club, and someone who has participated in an annual mission trip each of the last four years.

Luke has served as buddy for young athletes with Down Syndrome, earned the rank of Life Scout in Boy Scouts of America, and served as a volunteer in the Food for Others program.



### **MATTHEW KILDEA** LAWRENCE

Rob Radice knows that as a coach, he hit the jackpot with Matt Kildea.

“Matt is the type of person you want your son to be like,” Radice said. “One of the most well rounded student-athletes I have had the pleasure of coaching and teaching in my career. High character, outstanding work ethic, strong values, great leader, compassionate, committed, respectful to others – these are just a few of the traits that Matt possesses.”

A standout at tight end and linebacker, Matt was one of the top players in the West Jersey Football League, where he received first-team honors. He led the team in receptions on offense and impact plays on defense. He won the Iron Cardinal Award, the top team award given by the coaching staff for his outstanding play, commitment, and dedication to the team.

He might be even more impressive in the classroom, where he takes numerous Advanced Placement classes, maintains a weighted GPA above 4.0, and plans to major in computer science in college.

Highly involved in the community, Matt is a Peer Counselor, participates in Read Across America, and volunteers with the Special Olympics. He was a leader in the team’s “Pink Out” fundraiser and volunteers at the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. He participated in the school’s Science Olympiad and is a member of the National Honor Society.

“Matt ranks as one of the top student-athletes that I have had the opportunity to coach and be associated with,” Radice said. “He is well respected by everyone. He makes the people around him work harder and is a true leader.”



### **MATTHEW LAMBERT** STEINERT

Veteran head coach Dan Caruso knows how invaluable players like Matt Lambert really are.

“His presence is similar to having another coach on the field,” Caruso said. “Matt is always willing and eager to help younger players to better understand the game. Beyond this, he is the type of young man who the other players look up to – not only on the field, but in his personal life as well. He is willing to play any position or fill any role I ask of him. His enthusiasm for the game is contagious and he makes his teammates better. It is because of this that I consider Matt one of the best leaders I’ve ever coached.”

Steinert’s senior co-captain has made his impact felt in many ways. A four-year Academic Award winner, Matt is a two-year member of the Future Business Leaders of America, and named Vice President of the school’s chapter for his senior year. He is also a member

of the National Honor Society.

Locally, Matt is a member of the Campfire organization. He is involved in the “Teens on Fire” program which volunteers in the community and works on group service projects. Matt has also been part of the Hamilton NEWS program since ninth grade.

“In my years of high school coaching,” Caruso said, “I have found Matt to be one of the most well-rounded and respected players I have had the pleasure of working with. He typifies all of the attributes that this award embodies.

“I am so proud,” Caruso said, “to have played even a small part in helping develop such a fine young man.”



## CHRISTOPHER MCCREA

### ALLENTOWN

Chris McCrea will be tough to replace because he has excelled in so many areas at Allentown. A star in the classroom and in the community, he's been a mainstay for head coach Andrew Lachenmayer's squad all over the field.

"I was able to work with him at the varsity level for football all four of his years at Allentown," Lachenmayer said. "His attention to detail in the way he prepares himself for assessments and activities are second to none. He has been a positive role model for younger student-athletes and possesses many leadership qualities that will help him become a successful young man."

A star wide receiver, safety, and kicker, Chris was a three-time all-area selection and received first-team, all-division honors all four years. As a freshman, he was a key player on one of the best teams in Mercer County history, as Allentown won the Group 4 Central title in dominating fashion.



Chris is a well-rounded student who has participated as a Day of Dialogue participant. He has volunteered as a counselor for a local recreational basketball camp, served as a referee for youth basketball, and helped with construction clean-up activities.

"Chris works well with others, leads discussions, and is a positive contributor in class," Lachenmayer said. "Chris demonstrates a desire to be successful by putting extra time and effort into everything that he does. Chris is passionate about succeeding and his attitude about his grades directly translates to what he has accomplished in the classroom as well as the athletic field."



## JAZZIR MERRICKS

### TRENTON

Jazzir Merricks revealed his character under adversity this year and passed that test with flying colors. One of the top players in the area, Merricks was an all-county player as a junior and worked hard to be ready for a strong senior season. However, a knee injury suffered in a scrimmage ended things before they got started.

"The entire Tornado football family was devastated," said Trenton coach Greg Hyslop. "But there was one person who didn't see it that way. And that person was Jazzir. His outlook on the entire situation became the same as it's always been. The hard work doesn't stop."

"I have never witnessed someone with such talent become so humble to turn this misfortune into a positive," Hyslop said. "Jazzir is one of the highest character young men I have ever coached."



A Merit Honor Roll student at Trenton High, Jazzir participates in the Beyond the Walls Outreach Ministries. Jazzir's leadership abilities were apparent early in his career. Hyslop took over the program when Merricks was a sophomore and it was clear that the coach had something special.

"He had all the intangibles and maturity it takes to play on the varsity level as a sophomore," Hyslop said. "What struck me the most was his knowledge for the game and his care for his classwork. He really understands that you have to work the same if not harder in the classroom as he does on the football field."

Hard work. It's been a constant during Merricks' time at Trenton and there's no doubt it will continue to be after graduation. That's why Hyslop has no doubt that big things are ahead for Jazzir.





### **FREDRIK OTTE** PRINCETON

There's the usual path to becoming a high school football captain. And then there's the one that Fredrik Otte took as a transfer, coming to Princeton High before his sophomore year.

From the football hotbed of Denmark.

"Frederik was relatively new to the game," Little Tigers head coach Charlie Gallagher said, "but he was very eager to be a part of it. He had experience in a variety of sports including track and field, swimming, and rugby. And he was very excited to play football."

That attitude – along with an innate desire to work hard and a helpful attitude – made it clear that Fred was going to be a positive influence on the team. He became the starting center before his junior year and a captain before his senior campaign.

"He was all in during the entire offseason," Gallagher said. "He recruited new players, he

organized car rides for guys who needed them, he coordinated many of the messages from head coach to the players via social media. He again anchored our offensive line, played on most special teams, and was a big part of the defensive line as well. He never asked to come out and always competed to the final horn."

Fred fully integrated himself into one of the most rigorous academic programs in the state as well as into the Princeton community. He created the PHS Transfer Student Club, using his own experiences to help students coming in from other districts to adjust to their new surroundings. He participated on the school's Green Team to promote recycling and Operation Smile Club. Fred also volunteered with the school's PTO New Family Initiative.



### **LOUIS PASCULLI** NOTTINGHAM

Strong leadership is always important, but maybe never more so when you are replacing one of the legendary coaches in Mercer County history.

Milo McGuire's first year at the helm of the Northstars program went that much smoother because of Louie Pasculli. McGuire took over for Jon Adams, who bumped up to athletic director after leading the program for 29 seasons.

"Louie is an unselfish teammate and a high character young person," McGuire said. "He is a young man with impeccable character. As a player, he embraced the overachiever attitude. Even when he sustained a season-ending knee injury, he never complained and was supportive of the guys every day. He is a role model for his teammates and for his peers."

The winner of the team's Unsung Hero Award, Louie is an Honor Roll student nominated as President of the school's National Honor Society chapter. A state qualifier with the DECA club, he has spent two years as part of the school's Newspaper Club where he is co-social media manager.

Pasculli is a Peer Leader and has participated in the American Legion Boys State program. A two-year member of the Yearbook Club, Louie is Nottingham's student representative at school board meetings, founder of the Nottingham Chess Club, and a Lector at his local parish. Louie has spent three straight summers working at a summer camp that helps children with special needs.

"During his time in our program," McGuire said, "he has demonstrated strong leadership skills and a wonderful work ethic that was unmatched by anyone on our team. He has always been a positive influence on the younger players in the program."



## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### KYLE REISS HIGHTSTOWN

On the field, on the court, in the classroom, in the community – it doesn't matter. Kyle Reiss is a leader. And it didn't take long for Hightstown head coach Ryan Fullen to notice.

"Kyle mentored our younger teammates, including his brother Keenan who is a freshman in our program," said Fullen, who went on to note that Reiss's leadership went beyond the football field. "He has also donated his time to the RISE Foundation in Hightstown, where he has helped pass out turkeys to less fortunate families at Thanksgiving, and handed out Christmas presents to children in need during the holidays, while encouraging his teammates to aid in similar services."

Reiss is a two-year member of the National Honor Society and also been named to the National Math Honors Society. He maintains an elite GPA with a course load full of Honors and Advanced Placement classes and is a four-year member of the school's Honor Roll.



Kyle loves to give back to others. He has been a freshman tour guide since he was in 10<sup>th</sup> grade and is a member of the school's Senior Leadership Group. He volunteers his time to the Hightstown Soup Kitchen as well as his town's football and basketball programs as a youth volunteer coach.

"Kyle prides himself on being dedicated, driven, tough, and charitable in his everyday life," Fullen said. "His self-determination is evident in his exemplary academic performance. Given these characteristics that he so readily embodies, Kyle is an ideal candidate to represent our program as a Scholar-Leader-Athlete."



### CLAUDE VILFORT LAWRENCEVILLE

Quiet, steady, and determined, C.J. Vilfort leaves behind quite a legacy at one of the nation's most prestigious prep schools.

"In his time here," head coach Harry Flaherty said, "C.J. has demonstrated outstanding competitive character, true academic commitment, and steady leadership – as much as any student-athlete with whom I have worked."

Those who know Vilfort feel he is at the top of the chart when it comes to being a scholar, a leader, and an athlete. He will take those traits to Williams College starting in the Fall.

Academically, Vilfort is a High Honors / Dean's List student who has made an impact with his observational skills, consistent work ethic, and introspective nature. With a strong GPA in a challenging curriculum, C.J. will further that intellectual spirit at one of the top liberal arts institutions in the country.



Vilfort is a "lead by example" kind of player. His full investment in the weight room, at practice, and in the heat of battle made him a natural to be elected as a captain. Most notably, C.J. is also a Prefect in the Lawrenceville housing system. That is a prestigious role where seniors live with underclassmen, serving as mentor at all times.

C.J. did a great job on the field as well. He developed into a top defensive lineman and was recognized as all-MAPL following his junior and senior seasons.

"Consistently," Flaherty said, "C.J. graded out the best out of any player on our defensive film, and he never backed down from a challenging one-on-one matchup. It became apparently early in his time at Lawrenceville that he would be impactful throughout his career."





## MAJOR WILBUR WEST WINDSOR-PLAINSBORO

Jeff Reilly has a rare perspective when it comes to Major Wilbur, first having to coach against the talented linebacker and then having him on his own squad as a captain.

Wilbur is a star senior at WW-P South, while Reilly coached the program at WW-P North until the two schools unified before Wilbur's junior campaign. His efforts as captain helped West Windsor improve from 0-9 to 4-5 last season with much bigger things on the horizon.

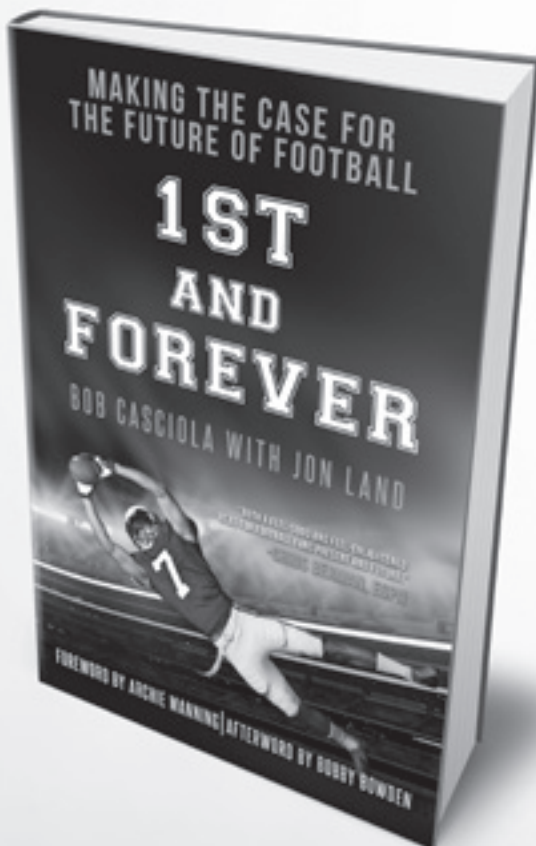
"When coaching against Major I had known him as an athletic linebacker and fullback who was a sure tackler and a presence on the defensive side of the ball," Reilly said. "Now I have had the distinct privilege of working closely with a young man who was one of the most respectful and responsible student-athletes I have ever come in contact with."

Wilbur has become the "coach on the field" making all the calls for our defense, bringing younger players under his wing, and helping build

a culture necessary when you combine players from rival schools.

Major's leadership skills should come as no surprise as he is active both in the community and at WW-P South. He is the Co-Founder of Learn Grow Lead and a volunteer at youth football camps in West Windsor. A youth leader at the Nativity of Our Lord church, Major is a volunteer for the Chinese Club and with Education for Success.

"Now," Reilly said, "it is an honor to know him and cherish the bond we have developed. Major will always be remembered for the impact he had on West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South."



## 1ST AND FOREVER

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the lives of 23 highly successful Americans.

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER LITTLE SCHOLAR **KOLE BRIEHLER**

It hasn't taken long for Kole Brierhler to establish himself as a scholar and an athlete, which makes him an idea choice for the Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame's Little Scholar Award.

An eighth grader at Timberlane Middle School in Pennington, Brierhler played six years of Pop Warner football for Hopewell Valley Youth Football as a running back and a defensive end. He was also the recipient of the Central Jersey Football Academic Achievement Award this past fall.

In nominating Brierhler, his youth coach David Caldwell said: "Being Kole's youth football coach for the past five years gives me great insight into not only his ability to play the sport but his overall character and leadership abilities. Kole plays with a contagious energy that displays a passion to compete at a high level. He is one of the more gifted athletes on our team, but he couples this athleticism with an energy to succeed on every play. This positive energy is what makes Kole a leader by example.

"As he continues to mature he will no doubt continue to find his voice as a leader. This past pre-season, Kole was made aware that he would be sidelined with a knee/hip injury that required surgery and months of recovery missing both the fall and winter seasons. As a young man of character, Kole continued to attend practices and games to encourage and support his teammates."

Prior to this season, which he missed with his injury, Brierhler was the starting power forward for both Timberlane Middle School and in the Pennington Basketball Association and Hopewell Basketball Recreation leagues. The all-around athlete was a member of Penn Brook swim team from second to sixth grade and was named 10-and-under Most Valuable Swimmer.

Added Caldwell: "Kole has earned high academic honors throughout his middle school years. He was most recently honored



by the Hopewell Valley Youth Football and Cheer organization as its top scholar/athlete. Kole Brierhler is an outstanding student-athlete. Kole has great potential and a promising future ahead of him."



### Past Delaware Valley/Pop Warner Little Scholars

2018	Jack Rice West Windsor Wildcats	2012	Will James Hamilton PAL	2006	Burlington County Pop Warner	2001	Daniel Clark Hillsborough Dukes
2017	Jayson Jenkins West Jersey Youth Football League	2011	Kyle Liedtka Hamilton Pop Warner	2005	Connor McElwee, West Windsor Wildcats	2000	Bassil Salmon East Windsor PAL
2016	Alfred Woods Florence Flashes	2010	Carson Vey Hopewell Valley Pop Warner	2004	Michael Garofola Hamilton Pop Warner	1999	Robert Damiano Hamilton Pop Warner
2015	Kyle Dowgin Bordentown Bulldogs	2009	Harvey E. Butler III, WW-P Pop Warner	2003	Ryan McDermott Hamilton Pop Warner	1998	Ryan Biolsi Flemington Pop Warner
2014	Joseph Brown Warrior PAL	2008	Brian Schoenauer, WW-P Pop Warner	2002	James Bea Hillsborough Dukes	1997	Jason Auletta Hamilton Pop Warner
2013	Nick Kloutis	2007	David Dudeck III,	2001	Marc Zamarin Hillsborough Dukes	1996	Michael Taylor Hamilton Pop Warner

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## EARL H. DEAN SCHOLAR-LEADER-ATHLETE ERIK GRAHAM • THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Erik Graham has been playing football for the last 12 years.

He plays for his school, The College of New Jersey, his coaches and most of all his plays for his teammates.

Now, the game is giving something back to the defensive lineman as he has been named the recipient of the Earl Dean Award by the Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation.

"I am extremely honored and grateful to continue my representation of TCNJ football," said Graham. "The fact that I am one of the 2 award winners at the collegiate level gives me great pride."

Graham brought that pride to the field every practice and every game as one of the captains and leaders of the Lions.

He started all but one game – and that was as a freshman – at TCNJ and during those four years he amassed 116 tackles, including 20 for a loss, he had six fumble recoveries, 12 career sacks and was an All-New Jersey Athletic Conference performer.

Besides a ton of talent Graham brought plenty of character to the campus.

"Throughout my years here at TCNJ, I have learned lessons of integrity, work ethic, and real life experience," said Graham. "These are values that I am going to be carrying with me for the rest of my life and they have helped me succeed in all facets of my life."

An academic All-America student, he has been a perennial member of the Dean's List with a 3.83 GPA. A Finance major he is looking toward a career in the wealth management/financial services industry.

Graham is a worthy recipient of the Earl Dean Award and a credit to his family, his school and his team.



### Past Trenton State/The College of New Jersey Scholar-Athletes

Year	Nominee/Coach	Year	Nominee/Coach	Year	Nominee/Coach
2018	Max Busca/Casey Goff	2003	Scott Paterson/Eric Hamilton	1987	Joe Clifton/Eric Hamilton
2017	Trevor Osler/Casey Goff	2002	Tim Kosuda/Eric Hamilton	1986	Ernie Liberati/Eric Hamilton
2016	Tom Cilla/Wayne Dickens	2001	Mike Wendell/Eric Hamilton	1985	John Papa/Eric Hamilton
2015	Andrew Lachawiec/Wayne Dickens	2000	Curt Monday/Eric Hamilton	1984	Jim Ball/Eric Hamilton
2014	Joe Urciuoli & Jake Weiss/ Wayne Dickens	1999	Richard Falletta/Eric Hamilton	1983	Bruce Peditto/Eric Hamilton
2013	Chris McLaughlin/Wayne Dickens	1998	Michael Feeney/Eric Hamilton	1982	Sam Miserendino/Eric Hamilton
2012	Greg Burns/Eric Hamilton	1997	Joe Sciarra/Eric Hamilton	1981	James Carvalho/Eric Hamilton
2011	Jay Donoghue/Eric Hamilton	1996	Joe Scaravaglione/Eric Hamilton	1980	Ron Anello/Eric Hamilton
2010	Andrew Mason/Eric Hamilton	1995	Steve Guidette/Eric Hamilton	1979	Steve Butfilowski/Eric Hamilton
2009	Colin Weber/Eric Hamilton	1994	Scott Dickson & John Reising/ Eric Hamilton	1978	Tom Hendricks/Eric Hamilton
2008	Marc Fabiano/Eric Hamilton	1993	Tom Maxwell/Eric Hamilton	1977	Tom Thompson/Eric Hamilton
2007	Dan Dornacker & Andy Larkin/ Eric Hamilton	1992	Corey Landing/Eric Hamilton	1976	Keith Waters/Carmen Piccone
2006	Ryan Ross/Eric Hamilton	1991	Chris Shaw/Eric Hamilton	1975	Doug Prefach/Carmen Piccone
2005	Leeaire Brown/Eric Hamilton	1990	Mike Tierney/Eric Hamilton	1974	Eric Hamilton/Dick Curl
2004	Jim Dabrowski/Eric Hamilton	1989	Bob McGinty/Eric Hamilton	1973	William Paskewich/Pete Carmichael
		1988	Mike Wargo/Eric Hamilton	1967	Robert Taylor/Bob Salois
				1965	George Strattman/Bob Salois

## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

# JUDGE ARTHUR LANE SCHOLAR-LEADER-ATHLETE ANDREW GRIFFIN • PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

When it comes being a leader and a strong student, Princeton University head football coach Bob Surace has come across few that fit the role better than Andrew Griffin.

“Andrew was an amazing student, player and leader at Princeton,” said Surace, a Princeton grad himself. “As a student, he is as strong as any I have coached or played with at Princeton. As a player, he improved every year as a two-time Ivy Champion and eventually became an Ivy League record holder. As a leader, he mentored our young players often, setting the example with his incredible work ethic. He is truly a special person to coach.”

On the field, Griffin had a breakout season as senior, catching 34 passes for 490 yards and a team-high six touchdowns. He tied an Ivy League record with four touchdown receptions in the Tigers’ 56-23 win at Bucknell.

A graduate of Avon High School in Avon, Ind., Griffin’s uncle, John Lawrie, was a PU grad. At Princeton, Griffin was a 2019 first-team CoSIDA national All-America and was named to the FCS All-Academic team. He was an Academic All-Ivy selection and was a Campbell Award semifinalist for top scholar-athlete in college football.



In high school, Griffin served as captain for his football, basketball and baseball teams and lettered at least three times for each.

He was the recipient of the Blue Collar Award in basketball and helped the baseball team win two county titles. He also earned Academic All-State honors in both football and basketball.



### Past Princeton University Scholar-Athletes

Year	Nominee/Coach	Year	Nominee/Coach	Year	Nominee/Coach
2018	Tom Johnson/Bob Surace	2000	Mike Higgins/Roger Hughes	1982	Brent Woods/Frank Navarro
2017	Richard Bush/Bob Surace	1999	David Ferrara/Steve Tosches	1981	Scott Oostdyk/Frank Navarro
2016	Scott Carpenter/Bob Surace	1998	Alex Sierk/Steve Tosches	1980	Mark Bailey/Frank Navarro
2015	Matt Arends/Bob Surace	1997	Tim Greene/Steve Tosches	1979	Ted Soti/Frank Navarro
2014	Mike Zeuli/Bob Surace	1996	Mark Washington/Steve Tosches	1978	Andy Stephens/Frank Navarro
2013	Phil Bhaya/Bob Surace	1995	Carter Westfall/Steve Tosches	1977	Dave Powers/Bob Casciola
2012	Andrew Starks/Bob Surace	1994	Mark Berkowitz/Steve Tosches	1976	Kevin Fox/Bob Casciola
2011	Ivan Charbonneau/Bob Surace	1993	Keith Elias/Steve Tosches	1975	Robert Beible/Bob Casciola
2010	Matt Zimmerman/Bob Surace	1992	Steve Tufillaro/Steve Tosches	1974	Dale Spiegel/Bob Casciola
2009	Daniel Kopolovich/Roger Hughes	1991	Jonas Sheehan/Steve Tosches	1973	William Cronin/Bob Casciola
2008	Ryan Coyle/Roger Hughes	1990	Marin Graja/Steve Tosches	1972	John Bartges/Jake McCandless
2007	Rob Toresco/Roger Hughes	1989	Steve Hillgeist/Steve Tosches	1971	Paul Ondraski/Jake McCandless
2006	Colin McDonough/Roger Hughes	1988	Greg DiFelice/Steve Tosches	1970	Kirk Liddell/Jake McCandless
2005	Andrew Wilson/Roger Hughes	1987	David Wilson/Steve Tosches	1969	Keith Mauney/Jake McCandless
2004	Jon Veach/Roger Hughes	1986	Rob DiGiacomo/Ron Rogerson	1968	Richard Sandler/Dick Coleman
2003	Time Kirby/Roger Hughes	1985	James Petrucci/Ron Rogerson	1967	Robert Weber/Dick Coleman
2002	Cameron Atkinson/Roger Hughes	1984	Mark Berggren/Frank Navarro	1966	John Bowers/Dick Coleman
2001	Robert Ferrell/Roger Hughes	1983	Kevin Guthrie/Frank Navarro	1965	Richard Rogers/Dick Coleman

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## HANK JOHNS COACH OF THE YEAR SEAN CLANCY • NOTRE DAME



It was a couple of hours before Notre Dame's state quarterfinal game at top ranked Saint Peter's Prep, and the security guard outside Caven Point Stadium was having some fun with ND head coach Sean Clancy.

"Man, you guys are gonna cost me my overtime," the guard joked. "You guys are going to get pushed around and the game's going to end early. You're gonna cost me my overtime." Clancy smiled. "We'll see," he said on the way in. "Nobody thought we could play with them," Clancy said, "except the guys on the two busses." One play was enough to open everyone's eyes. Cole Williams went 85 yards to the house on the opening kickoff and the battle was on. "Every player made their blocks and Cole went exactly where he was supposed to," Clancy said. "All 11 guys did exactly what they were supposed to."

The Irish went back and forth with one of the best teams in the nation but eventually fell short, taking Saint Peter's to the limit but losing a 43-35 thriller. But even if you say that was the only time ND fell short of their goal in 2019, that still wrapped up an incredible season that earned Clancy well deserved recognition as the Hank Johns Coach of the Year in his inaugural season at the helm of the Irish. Or should we say inaugural half-season. Because there was nothing typical of Clancy's first campaign.

It started in late June when former Irish coach Marc Lordi left to take a business opportunity out of the area. ND athletic director Rich Roche immediately installed long-time assistant Clancy as interim head coach – there was little time to search with summer camps coming up, and frankly, at that point continuity was most important. "The kids found out at 3 pm that day," Clancy said. "I found out at noon. Wasn't exactly the traditional path to becoming a head coach."

Clancy, a Princeton native, Hamilton College alum, and football lifer who had been an assistant at ND since 2012 and Lordi's defensive coordinator, was now in charge. It turned out to be a perfect choice. A guidance counselor at the school, he provided the infrastructure to keep the Irish focused in a period of abrupt change. Lordi has left the program in great shape and the decision to stay status quo turned out to be a wise one. "Our focus every practice, every rep was to get better," Clancy said. "To be able to look in the mirror at the end of the day and say I got better athletically, academically, and spiritually."

The Irish ran through the regular season undefeated, earned their first playoff win in 15 years at Delbarton, then stood toe-to-toe with the champs because they followed Clancy's lead. A 10-1 inaugural campaign. Notre Dame hasn't won more games in a season since the 1980s. "We couldn't have played with them at the end of August," Clancy said. "Or the end of September. We just kept getting better."

In January, Roche removed the interim tag from Clancy's title allowing the coach the chance to run it back with another talented roster. He's already made a believer out of one North Jersey security guard. "You guys were great," the guard said as ND left Caven Point that November evening. "You got me my overtime."



### Past Hank Johns Memorial Coach of the Year Recipients

2018 Joe Frappolli, Florence High School	2008 Dave Caldwell, Hopewell Valley	1996 Keith Hartbauer, Hamilton	1986 Kurt Vollherbst, Princeton
2017 Jared Mazzetta North Hunterdon	2007 Matthew Perotti, Hunterdon Central	1995 Charlie Pirrello, North Burlington	1985 Bill Long, Pennington
2016 Drew Besler, Ewing	2006 Tom Hoglen, Hamilton West	1994 Jerry Eure, Pennington	1984 Mike Ortman, Morrisville
2015 Todd Smith, Hun	2005 Todd Smith, WWP South	1993 Ken Keuffel, Lawrenceville	1983 Chappy Moore, Notre Dame
2014 Jay Graber, Allentown	2004 Ken Mills, Lawrenceville	1992 Keith Wadsworth, Princeton	1982 Pete Quinn, Trenton
2013 Dave Caldwell, Hopewell Valley	2003 Joe Frappolli, Florence	1991 Joe Frappolli, Florence	1981 Bruce Martz, Ewing
2012 Jon Adams, Nottingham Joe Frappolli, Florence	2002 Kevin Kelly, Conwell Egan	1990 Harold Beatty, Trenton	1980 Jim Walker, Princeton Day
2011 Dan Caruso, Steinert	2001 Frank deLaurentis, Peddie	1989 Tim Hadden, Burlington Twp.	1979 Bruce Martz, Ewing
2010 Luke Sinkhorn, New Egypt	2000 Frank Gatto, Steinert	1988 John Mackay, Peddie	1978 Bill Long, Princeton
2009 Chappy Moore, Notre Dame	1999 Jon Adams, Nottingham	1987 Tom Stuart, WWP	1977 Bob Hart, Bensalem
	1998 Jim Meert, Hunt. Central		1976 Chappy Moore, Notre Dame
	1997 Len Weister, Lawrence		1975 Sam Jefferis, South Hunterdon

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## CONTRIBUTION TO YOUTH FOOTBALL **BRIAN CALOJARO**

When his son, Michael, was just five year old, Brian Caloiaro attended a meeting of the Northern Burlington Junior Greyhounds Football group and once he was thanked for attending it seemed like the only natural thing was to become one of the associations officers.

Well, 13-years later he is still involved and he's loved every minute of it.

"It's a great program for football and cheerleading," said Caloiaro. "It's great for the boys and girls and it's a great feeder system for the high school."

Certainly, a worthy recipient of the Contribution to Youth Football Award by the Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation Caloiaro has been the epitome of the work volunteer.

He's held several position positions in the organization, including coach.

"The most enjoyable thing is being out there with the kids every day," said Caloiaro.

"Coaching is a passion of mine, it's in my blood from my dad, Joe, to my brothers and now all three of my sons play football and it's their favorite sport. It has been rewarding coaching my sons, too."

Yes, it is in the blood as he father Joe was an All-County performer at Trenton High and Trenton State College, Brian played at Lawrence High where he was an All-Trentonian and Trenton Times as a center and defensive end. Then he was an All-Middle Atlantic Conference center at Wilkes, where he won four varsity letters.

His twin brother Scott and his other brother Joe also played football. "I have been involved with so many good people over the years," said Brian. "It's so rewarding seeing the kids move one to high and college."

He and his wife Tammy, whom he met at Wilkes, have three sons, Michael (17), Ryan (14) and Matthew (12). Brian is currently the Chief of Police in Lawrence Township.



### Past Contribution to Youth Football Award Recipients

2018	George Kloutis	2012	Terrance Stokes	2006	Dennis Todd	2000	Cindy Allen
2017	Eric Updegraff	2011	Jon Butler	2005	Paul Sumners	1999	Bud Ralston
2016	Mike Smith	2010	Andrew Aromando	2004	John Knapp	1998	Ferguson Reaves
2015	Fred Dunphy	2009	Fiore Masci	2003	Paul Fletcher	1997	Henry Cole
2014	Scott Stanton	2008	Charles "Chuck" Moon	2002	Mark Clements		
2013	Jim O'Rourke	2007	Mike Brodock	2001	Greg Neiderman		

# 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

## THE JACK MILLARD OFFICIALS AWARD **EUGENE P FERGUSON, JR**



The Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame, Inc. is pleased to recognize Eugene P. Ferguson, Jr. ("Gene") as its 2020 Jack Millard Official of the Year.

Gene, a long-time resident of Hopewell, NJ, has been connected to organized football for over 63 years. He began playing at the age of 7, and continued his involvement since as a player, coach, commissioner, and finally as an official. Gene was one of the first coaches for the Hopewell Valley Pop Warner program, served as commissioner during its inaugural 1999 season, and remained active with the Program through 2001. In early 2002, Gene was deployed to the Middle East as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, supporting the Global War on Terrorism. Upon his return in 2003, a friend and prominent Mercer County football official (Samuel Cortina) suggested to Gene that he try football officiating. As they say, "the rest is history!" Gene has been a member of the New Jersey Football Officials' Association - Central Jersey Chapter for the past 16 years, a varsity crew official since 2005,

and worked numerous NJSIAA playoff games. Of his field judge, referee Merkle Cherry says Gene has come a long way since the early days when he would throw flags from 40 yards away upon seeing an offensive tackle flinch, thus prompting Merkle to encourage Gene to "stop showing-off his Superman vision, and allow crewmates closer to the action to make the call." All joking aside, Merkle lauds Gene's "growth as an official, especially his hard work to learn and understand the rules and striving for constant improvement."

Gene graduated from Bishop McDevitt High School (Wyncote, PA) in 1967, and earned an Associate Degree in Finance from Temple University. He served on active duty in the U.S. Army for 28 years and continued his military service with the U.S. Department of Defense for an additional 7 years, finally retiring in 2012. Gene proudly boasts 4 children and 7 grandchildren. His hobbies include growing Bonsai trees and model railroading. He also enjoys hiking, being outside and close to nature. In addition to his involvement with football, Gene is also certified lacrosse official and member of the New Jersey Interscholastic



### Past Jack Millard Officials Award Recipients

2017 Abraham Johnson	2012 Greg Bellotti	1999 Jim Cleary	1986 Jim Wilno, Jr.
2017 Sabrina Isom	2011 George Wah	1998 Tom McCreesh	1985 Jack Watro
2016 Hank Johns, Jr.	2010 James S. Moscarell	1997 Merkle Cherry	1984 Paul Chopko
2014 Scott Heiser	2009 Joe Shaw	1996 Larry Gunnell	1983 John Zorzi
2013 Tom Carr	2008 Raymond F. Stupinski III	1995 Barry Cicale	1982 Al Fullman
	2007 Jim Wilno, Jr.	1994 Tom Considine	1981 Vince Boccanfuso
	2006 Ed Harris	1993 Jim Wilno, Sr.	1980 Jack Millard
	2005 Karl "Tinker" Johnston	1992 Angelo Giambelluca	1979 George Wah
	2004 John Welling III	1991 John Terry	1978 Norm Van Arsdalen
	2003 Troy Stephenson	1990 John Sheets	1977 Chuck Schroeder
	2002 Al Verdel	1989 Byron Crammer	1976 Jake Bartolino
	2001 Vince Boccanfuso	1988 Ernie Coluccio	1975 Sam Cortina
	2000 Tim Teel	1987 Ron Hoehn	1974 Tony Mascherin



## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER AWARD **CASEY MANN**

The 2019 Delaware Valley Chapter Eunice Kennedy Shriver Award recipient is Casey Michael Mann. An Edison, New Jersey resident, Casey is a graduate of the Midland School in North Branch, Somerset County, NJ and is currently employed by ShopRite. Casey has been a Special Olympics participant for over 25 years. A multi-sport athlete, Casey has participated in swimming, soccer, golf, snowshoeing, softball, baseball, basketball, floor hockey, and flag football during his time involved with Special Olympics. A huge sports fan, sports have taken Casey to 34 different states and 25 different countries including being a part of Team New Jersey's Baseball Team in it's inaugural year and traveling to the 2014 USA Games. Being selected to receive the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Champion Award is a tremendous honor and is respected and deeply appreciated by Casey and his family.



#### Past Eunice Kennedy Shriver Award Recipients

2018 Brian Pitts

2017 Chris McCormac

2016 Kevin McCormac

2015 Steve Rodenbeck

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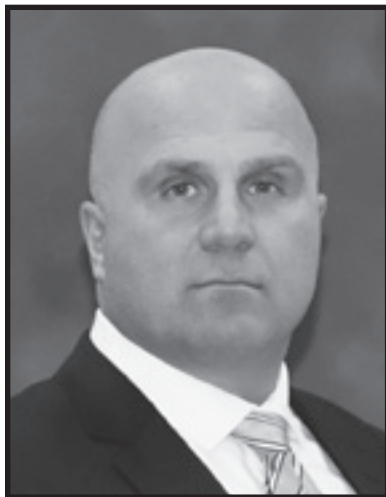
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## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### NICK GUSZ GOOD GUY AWARD **BRIAN DeANGELO**



Brian DeAngelo had a storied football career at Nottingham High as a three-year varsity player.

He even held the record for the most touchdowns in a single season with the Northstars and then it was on to Wilkes University where he was a preseason All-America selection and a team captain in his senior year and for eight years he held the single game rushing record at Wilkes.

But, that is just a small portion of why Brian DeAngelo is worthy of the Nick Gusz Good Guy Award.

I'm very proud and humbled to receive Nick Gusz Good Guy Award," said DeAngelo.

As a Lieutenant with the New Jersey State Police he has answered every call to duty no matter how critical the situation.

"I lead by example and always have the welfare of my troopers in mind when making decisions," stated DeAngelo. "I learned early in my career, that no one man can win a

war. I learned that teamwork, not men accomplish tasks."

Over the last six years Lt. DeAngelo has been assisting the Allentown High football and he not only imparting his football knowledge but bringing many life lesson as well.

"Goal is to develop not only better football player but better young men," stated DeAngelo.

During his time on the sidelines with the Redbirds they have made the playoffs all six season, won a state title in 2016 and have been to the state finals twice.

His brother Wayne is being recognized by the Delaware Valley Chapter as the Distinguished American.

"Sharing this day with my brother makes this day even more special," said Brian. "Lastly, Nothing is more important than family."

Brian and his wife Brandi have been married for 22 years. Their daughter McKinley, an Allentown graduate, is currently studying Nursing at James Madison University. Daughter Rylee is a student at Allentown High.



#### **Past Nick Gusz Good Guy Award Recipients**

2018 Sharron Grady

2016 Jim Kovalsky

2017 Constance Denicola Embley

2015 David S. Mcwilliam

## 2019 SCHOLAR LEADER ATHLETE AWARDS DINNER

### TONY PERSICHILLI MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD **MICHAEL HOLCOMBE**



Sharing several of the same positive traits as Tony Persichilli, Mike “Sid” Holcombe is a natural to receive the Meritorious Service Award named after the late, great “Perch.”

Similarities include a sarcastic-yet-affable sense of humor that makes Holcombe so endearing to talk with; a love of high school sports; and a desire to recognize many of the deserving athletes who make those sports great.

In a family filled with brothers of all shapes, sizes and professions, Holcombe stands alone as the resident scribe.

Two of those brothers – Chris “Barr” Holcombe and Keith “Hulks” Holcombe – were successful wrestling coaches at Steinert and Peddie, respectively. Although “Sid”, which friends and families know Mike better as, could not cover his brothers’ programs due to a conflict of interest, they enjoyed reading his prose on other teams in other sports.

“Sid doesn’t go crazy when he writes a story,” said Chris Holcombe, an English teacher who knows a little about writing. “He finds what is important to the story and has a simple way of telling it that people can understand and appreciate. He doesn’t try to show off his skills at the expense of the story, he just tries to make the game and the athletes the focus, which is how it should be done.”

Keith Holcombe, long a favorite among area sportswriters, also appreciates his brother’s qualities.

“Sid has always had a unique way about him,” Keith said. “People want to listen to what he has to say or write and never get tired of it. He’s kind of like a sage in that way. Sage Sid. It fits him.”

Holcombe was born in Trenton and raised in West Windsor before that town had a high school. He graduated from Princeton High, where he captained the wrestling team as a senior. He also excelled on the gridiron, playing for the old Blue & White League as a powerful running back.

While at still in high school, Holcombe began his career as a freelance sportswriter. Upon graduation he followed in his father’s footsteps. Bud Holcombe, Lehigh class of ’49, played football and wrestled for the university.

Mike Holcombe also attended Lehigh and after college became an award-winning sportswriter for the Packet in 1976. Holcombe’s familiarity with the town and ability to understand the important stories helped to boost the visibility of one of top weekly newspapers in the state. Holcombe received numerous New Jersey Press Association awards while enjoying a steady diet of Conte’s pizza throughout his tenure.

Sid took a break from journalism and East Coast weather for a few years, as he owned and operated a successful medical equipment company in Washington in the early 1980s. Upon coming home, Holcombe dove back into wrestling, serving as Keith’s assistant and Chris’s advisor.

The lure of sports writing proved too great to resist, however, and the Mercer County area was once again treated to Holcombe’s knowledge of sports and his special way of conveying it. Sid returned to writing in 2003, covering prep and public football, wrestling and softball for The Trentonian while gaining a whole new legion of local readers and admirers.

In 2017 he moved on to NJ.com, where he continues to be appreciated by area coaches, athletes and readers.

No doubt, Tony Persichilli would approve of this year’s choice for his award.

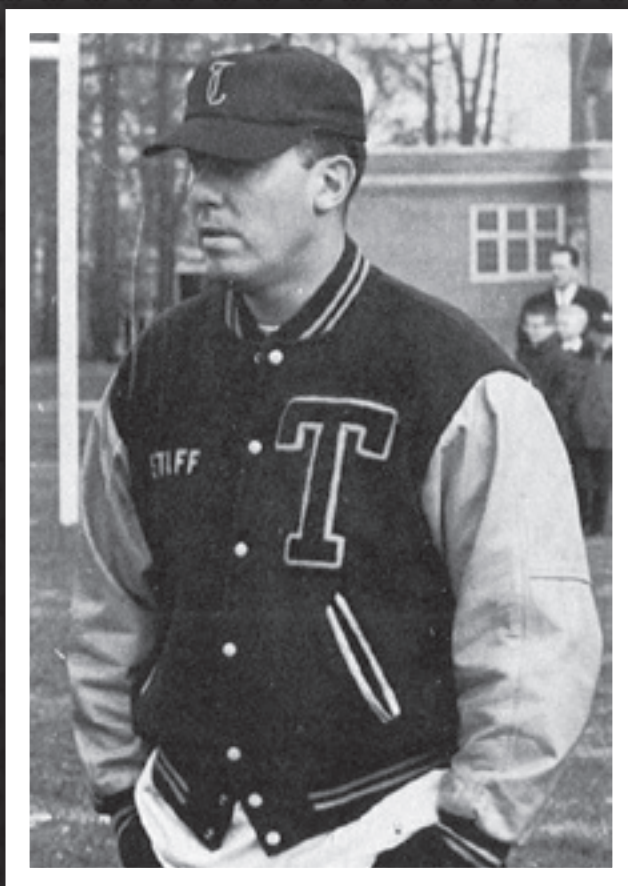
#### **Past Tony Persichilli Meritorious Service Award Recipients**

2018 Santuzza Oilers

2017 Bob Nuse

2016 Bill Rednor

2015 George O’Gorman



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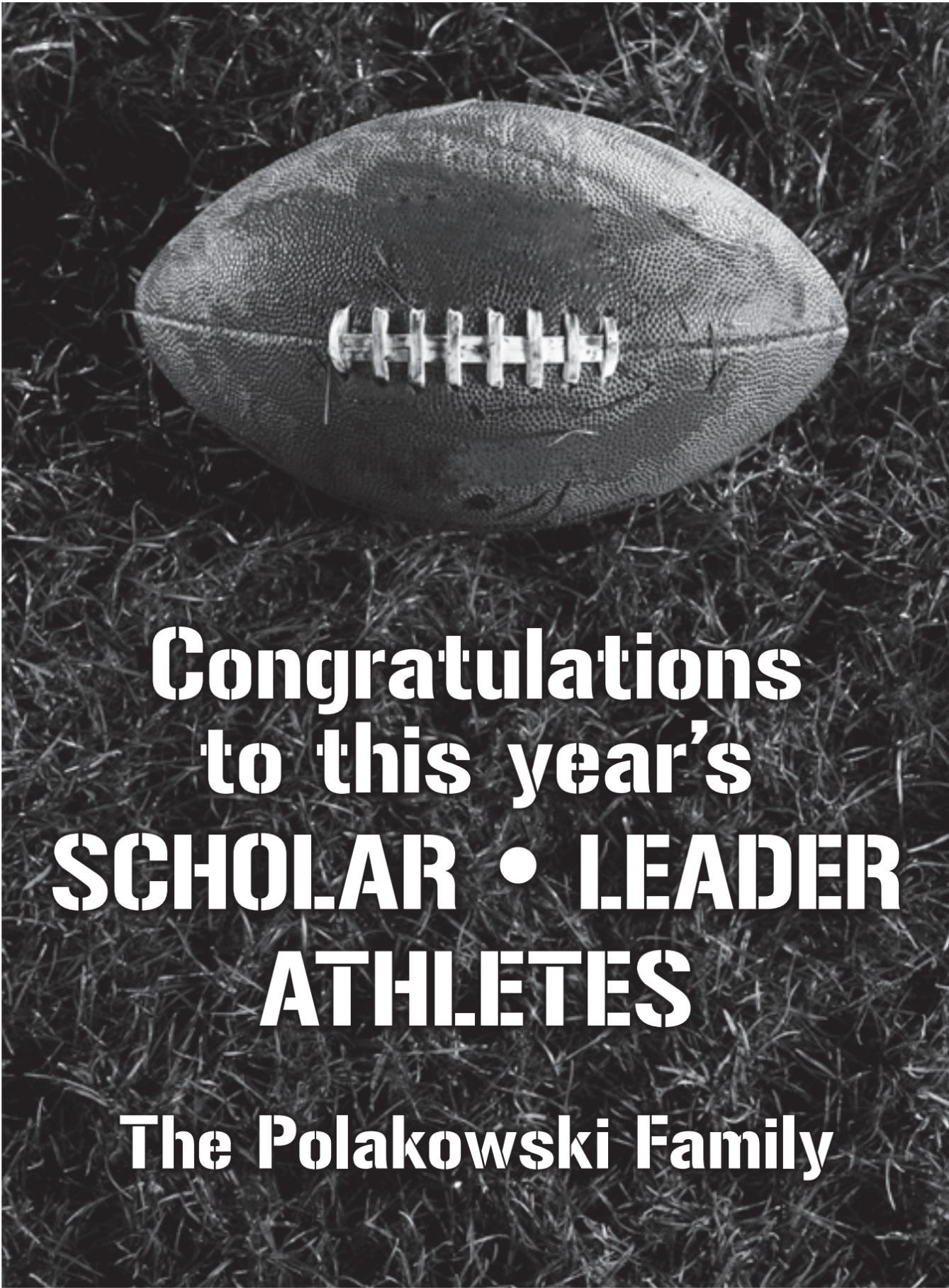


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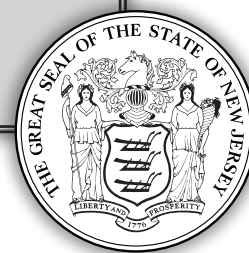
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*2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference LB*

*2-time Varsity Letter Earner*

*Attending Ohio Wesleyan to play Lacrosse*



**Congratulation as well to the Hopewell Valley  
Little Scholar Award winner and HV High School  
Class of 2024 Little Scholar Kole Briehler**

***Thank You Hopewell Valley Gridiron Club and Northfield Bank for your support!***

# CONGRATULATIONS RICKEY ENG

THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL - CAPTAIN #1



**We are so proud of your hard work and passion in all that you do!  
Family, friendships, school, sports...you give them all 100%  
Love, Mom, Dad & Dylan**

*Some people WANT it to happen, some WISH it to happen, others MAKE it happen.*

-MICHAEL JORDAN



**RICKEY ENG**  
**We love you!**

**YOU'RE #1**  
**YOU'RE #1**  
**YOU'RE #1**

**So proud of you  
and your amazing  
accomplishments!**

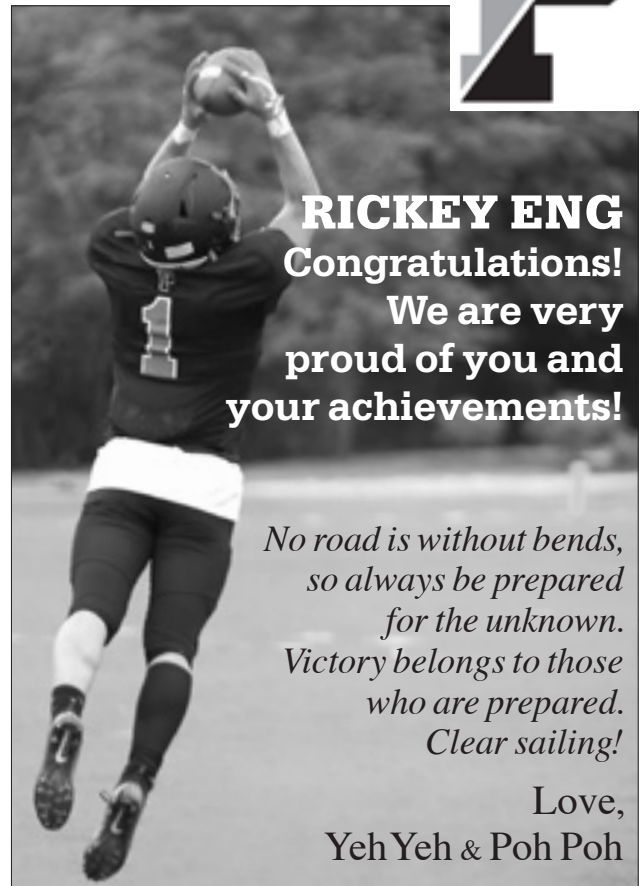
**Love, Goog**



**RICKEY ENG**  
**Congratulations!**  
**We are very  
proud of you and  
your achievements!**

*No road is without bends,  
so always be prepared  
for the unknown.  
Victory belongs to those  
who are prepared.  
Clear sailing!*

**Love,  
Yeh Yeh & Poh Poh**



# MATTHEW KILDEA

Lawrence High School



"Leaders are made, they are not born. They are made by hard effort, which is the price which all of us must pay to achieve any goal that is worthwhile."  
- Vince Lombardi



"There is only one way to succeed in anything & that is to give it everything." - Vince Lombardi



Matt,  
You were born our son but you have grown into a great leader both on the field of football and in the game of life. We are so proud of your perseverance, hard work, sacrifice & determination in all that you do. Congratulations on winning the Student-Leader- Athlete Award!

Love, Mom, Dad,  
Catherine, Jimmy, Grace,  
Stella & Cruz





# Congratulations

**Casey Mann**

*Eunice Kennedy Shriver Champion*

**and**

**Heather Anderson**

*George O'Gorman Contribution  
to Amateur Football Award*

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AT THIS YEAR'S  
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Congratulations to this year's  
**Student Leader Athlete Award Winners**



From  
**Greg and Lisa Bellotti**

**St. Peter's Prep '88**

**Florence Township Memorial '88**

**The College of New Jersey '92**



**Proud to Support the  
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**CONGRATULATIONS AND  
BEST WISHES TO ALL  
SCHOLAR-ATHLETES AND  
DISTINGUISHED HONOREES**

**CENTRAL JERSEY POP WARNER  
CONTRIBUTING TO THE SCHOLARSHIPS  
OF POP WARNER GRADUATES**



CONGRATULATIONS  
**Kole Briehler**

We are very proud of you for receiving the  
Delaware Valley Chapter Little Scholar Award and  
for your Academic & Athletic Accomplishments.

With our love and support,  
Mom, Dad, Cooper, Michael, Kelly & Harley

Congratulations to all Honorees and a special thank you  
to Kole's educators, coaches & the people at :



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# Congratulations to New Egypt's

## #53 Jack Devine Scholar. Leader. Athlete.

We are so proud of all you have accomplished on and off the field. A great athlete, but an even better person. Your future is bright!

Congratulations to all of the student athletes!

*Laurita*

Laurita Winery  
85 Archertown Road New Egypt, NJ



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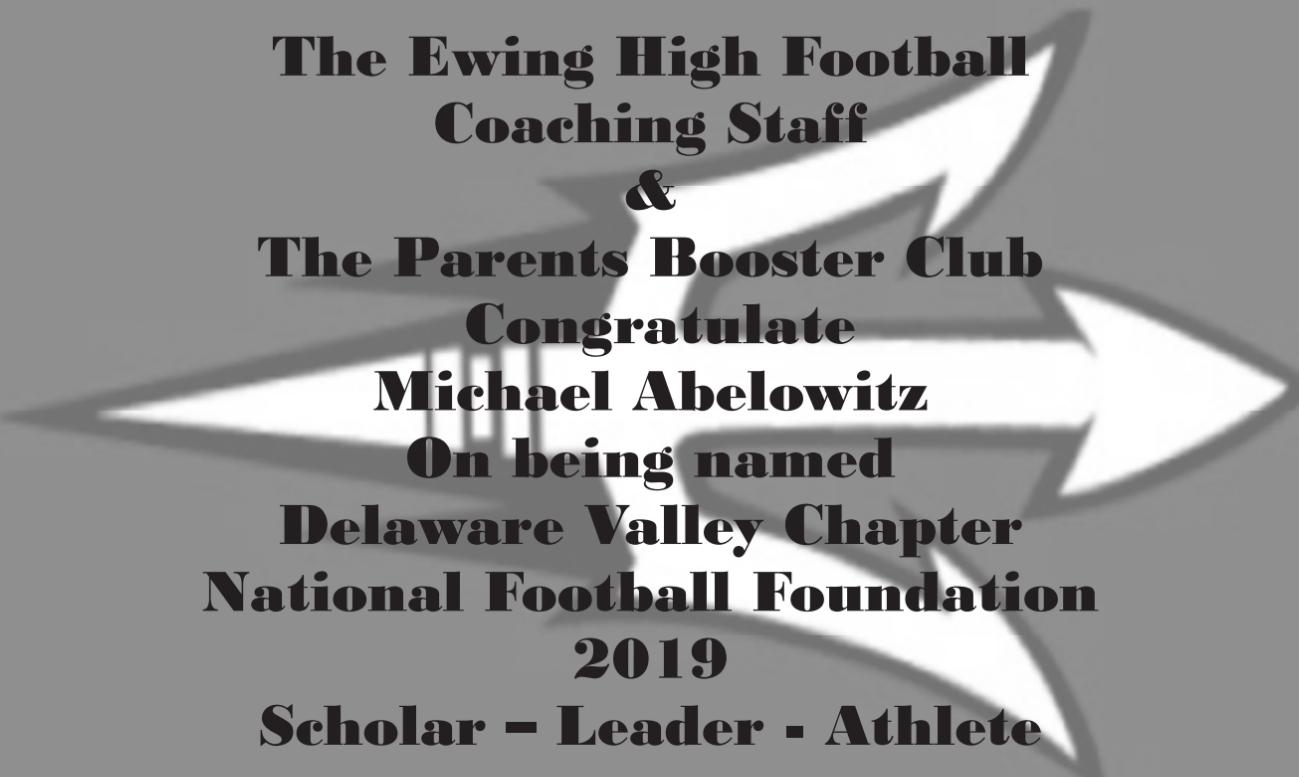


**Coach Sean Clancy**  
Hank Johns Coach  
of the Year Award

Notre Dame is proud to join the Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame in honoring our award recipients.



**Quentin Autry '20**  
Scholar-Leader-Athlete  
Honoree



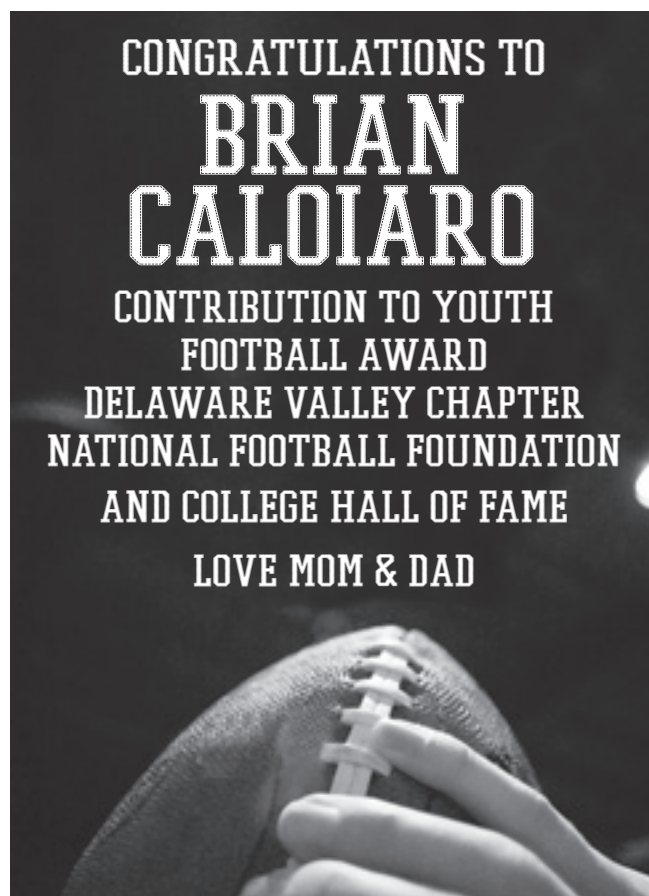
**The Ewing High Football  
Coaching Staff  
&  
The Parents Booster Club  
Congratulate  
Michael Abelowitz  
On being named  
Delaware Valley Chapter  
National Football Foundation  
2019  
Scholar – Leader - Athlete**

But as for you, be strong and do not give up for your work will be rewarded...2 Chronicles 15:7




**Congratulations**  
**WAYNE DEANGELO**  
*Recipient of the Robert F. Casciola  
Distinguished American Award !*






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**CJ VILFORT #52**

Congratulations on being named the  
 Lawrenceville School  
 Delaware Valley Chapter  
 National Football Foundation  
**SCHOLAR • LEADER • ATHLETE**

We wish you the best of luck in your  
 future college and football endeavors!

We are so very proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad, and the rest of your family

**Congratulations Michael**



Hard Work and Dedication Does Payoff !!!  
Love Mom and Dad



**Congratulations**  
**ERIK GRAHAM**  
**Well deserved!**



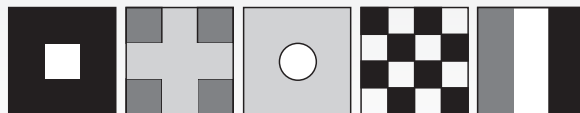
Thank you TCNJ for 4 terrific years.  
Proud of you! Mom and Joe

Congratulations to  
Robert F. Casciola Distinguished  
American Award Winner  
**WAYNE DEANGELO**

*and*

George O'Gorman Contribution  
to Amateur Football Award Winner  
**HEATHER ANDERSEN**

Best Wishes to all  
**SCHOLAR • LEADER  
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AND

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**SCHOLAR•LEADER•ATHLETES**

