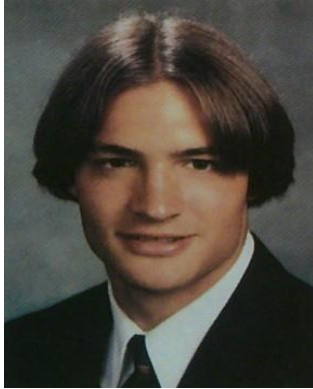




**Terry M. Claypool '96** stands among the most decorated wrestlers in Greenville High School history — a two-time PIAA state champion and three-time regional champion who put together one of the finest careers the program has ever seen before going on to compete collegiately at Rider University and building a life in education.

On the mat, Terry was as dominant as any Trojan before or since. He compiled a career record of 115-8, including a remarkable streak of 72 consecutive victories, and led his team in points for three straight years. His 38 wins in a single season and 115 career wins both stood as school records at the time of his graduation, and his two state titles tied the program's career mark. Of his 115 career wins, 55 came by pin, along with 13 technical falls, 15 major decisions and 26 decisions.

Terry's list of titles reflects that consistency across every level of competition. He was a two-time PIAA Class AA State Champion, a three-time Northwest Regional Champion, a two-time District 10 Champion and a three-time Section 2 Champion. He collected championships at some of the region's premier events as well, winning the Redbank Valley Christmas Tournament four times and the Saegertown and Fred Bell Tournaments twice each. He earned All-Mercer County Athletic Conference Wrestling Team honors three times and was a three-time selection to the PIAA Class AA All-Pennsylvania Wrestling Team.

His senior year, 1996, brought a cascade of individual recognition. Terry was named Outstanding Wrestler at both the District 10 and Northwest Regional tournaments, was selected to wrestle in the prestigious Pittsburgh Wrestling Classic, and received the Wentling Award. He was also honored as the Most Valuable Wrestler by the Mercer County Athletic Conference coaches.

Terry continued his wrestling career and his academic success at Rider University, where he was recognized with the Academic Achievement Award from the Rider University Athletic Department in 1997 and was named an All-American Collegiate Scholar by the U.S. Achievement Academy in 1998.

Today, Terry is an English teacher at North Forsyth High School in North Carolina, where he has also coached soccer and wrestling — passing on to a new generation of athletes the same lessons his own coaches instilled in him. Looking back on his time in Greenville, Terry credits coaches Miller, Vargo and Stephens, along with his father, for running tough, demanding practices while keeping the atmosphere light and fun. He recalls Coach Miller meeting him at 6:00 a.m. the week before the state tournament so the two could wrestle and Terry could grow accustomed to early matches. Above all, he remembers coaches who cared about their wrestlers and motivated them to be better in school and in life.

Terry and his family reside in Lewisville, North Carolina. He is the proud father of three children: Ayla, a teacher with a theater background; Alexander, a high school sophomore who loves music and plays in the band; and Liliana, a high school freshman who is a cheerleader and gymnast.

