



**1989 Boys Volleyball Team
League Champions
Division I State Semi-finalist**

Back Row: Craig Jannell, Adam Trotta, Lenny Smith, Andy Skola, Ryan Abraham, Peter DelVecchio, Capt. Chris Luke, Ed White, Capt. Steve Mantegani, Jeff Grote, Capt. Chris Ridolfi, Coach Linda Zacchilli
Front Row: Adam Miller, Josh Korpi, Brian Waller, Tom Burns, Keith Herrick

Just three short years after becoming a varsity sport at Milford High, the 1989 Boys Volleyball team would find themselves among the best teams in the state. Started as a club team in 1985 by Hall of Fame Coach Linda Zacchilli, the program gained varsity status in 1986, and the seniors on this team were truly the pioneers of the sport.

In its third year of varsity competition in 1988, the team competed in the Independent League against the largest schools in Eastern Mass, including Newton North, Brockton, and Weymouth, and finished with a record of 13-5, placing them at the top of the league standings. With boys volleyball in its infancy in Massachusetts, there were no sectional or state tournaments. During the 1989 season, after dropping two early matches, the team won 15 straight, to rank them third in the state. This was the first year that the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association would crown a true state champion in the sport. The Scarlet Hawks found themselves in the Final Four after capturing the league title with a record of 16-2.

Milford was led by MVP middle hitter Chris Luke. Jeff Grote and Andy Skola did the setting and seniors Chris Ridolfi, Ryan Abraham, and Steve Mantegani were the other starting attackers. Lenny Smith, a reserve outside hitter, helped anchor the backcourt. Craig Jennell, Peter Delvecchio, Keith Herrick, Josh Korpi, Adam Miller, Ed White, Tom Burns, Adam Trotta, and Brian Waller rounded out the core group that brought the team to the state semi-finals. In a hard-fought battle that could have gone either way, Milford lost the two-out- of- three game match to eventual champion Brookline High School.

The 1989 squad was instrumental in laying the foundation and setting the standard for a program that is still very successful today.