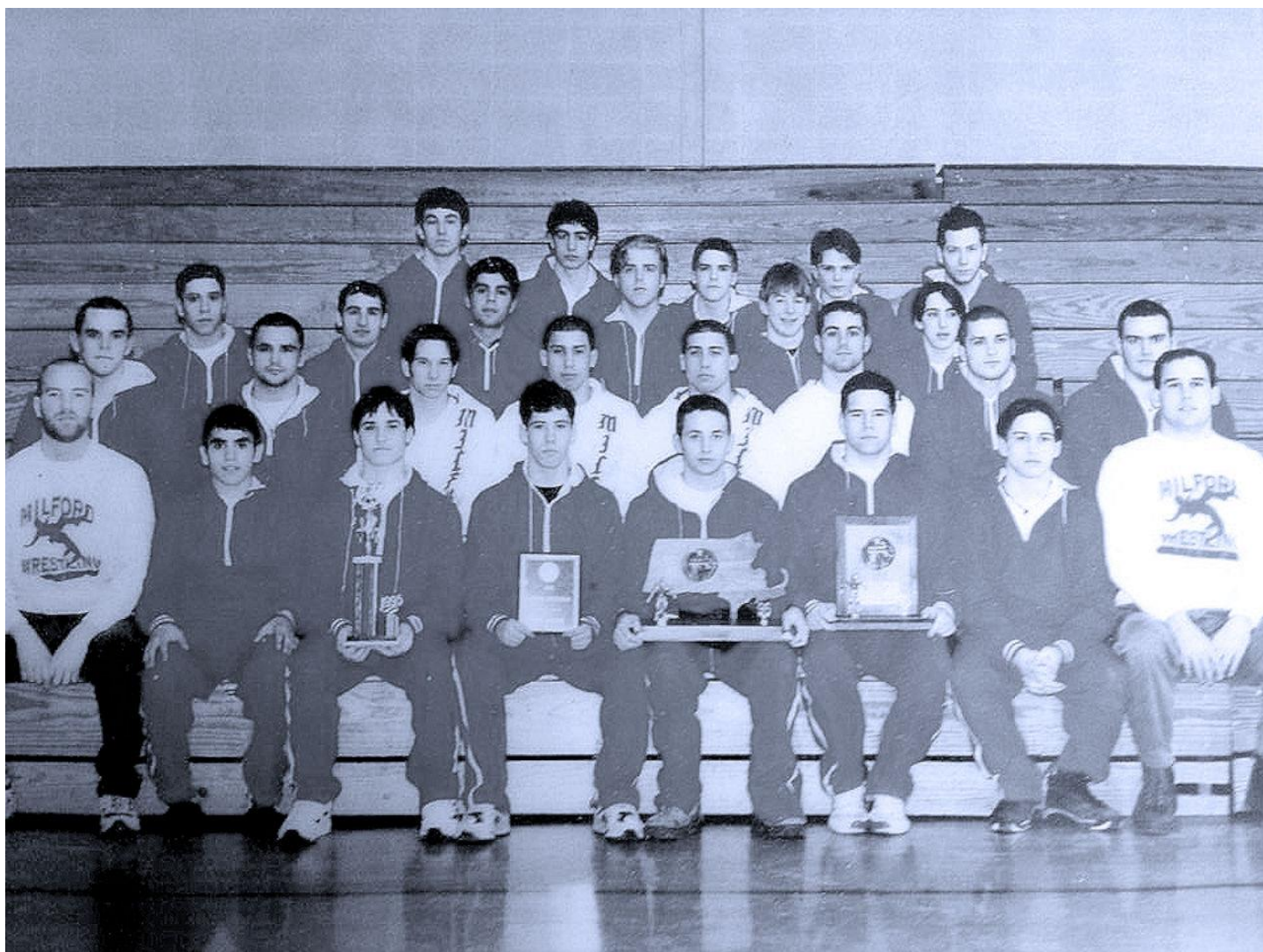




1996 State Championship Wrestling Team

The success of the 1995-96 Milford High School Wrestling Team was truly a team effort. Highlights of the season included capturing the following championships: Milford Invitational, Needham Tournament, Mid-Wach League, Division II Central Sectionals and Division II Massachusetts States.

Team members included Mike Annantuonio, P.J. Boccia, Dave Cedrone, Dave Claro, Kevin Driscoll, Justin Duft, Ryan Duft, Ryan Francy, Tim Francy, Mark Giampietro, Derek Halkett, Brain Kalet, Adam Konvalinka, Steve Linnell, Dave Mazzuchelli, Steve Massuchelli, Ben McKellick, Bob Nashawaty, Rick Nashawaty, Matt Noferi, Tim O'Neil, Jeff Stewart, Ron Syzmanski, Corey Testa, and Mike Zacchilli. The available talent, which provided the team with great depth, was unmatched by any of their opponents, and proved to be the winning combination that spelled VICTORY!

Individual highlights during the season included: Milford ruled the Division II Central Sectionals with three champions (Justin Duft, P.J. Boccia and Derek Halkett), one 2nd Place (Steve Mazzuchelli), six 3rd Place winners (Rick Nashawaty, Ben McKellick, Corey Testa, Ryan Duft, Tim O'Neil and Mark Giampietro), one 4th Place (Dave Cedrone) and two 5th Places (Steve Linnell and Brian Kalet). Having eight (Justin Duft, Champion; P.J. Boccia, 2nd; Steve Mazzuchelli and Derek Halkett, 3rd; Steve Linnell, Ben McKellick and Corey Testa, 4th; and Mark Giampietro, 6th) of these thirteen state tournament qualifiers place in the tournament gave Milford a decisive team-oriented victory in the Division II States. P.J. Boccia closed the season by winning the New England Tournament at 160 lbs., Milford's first New England Champion since 1978.

Head Coach Garth Yohn and Assistant Coach Jim Asam had high praise for the ongoing confidence, outstanding effort and the intense camaraderie that the team exhibited throughout the season. The 1996 Milford High Wrestling Team definitely had the time of their lives!