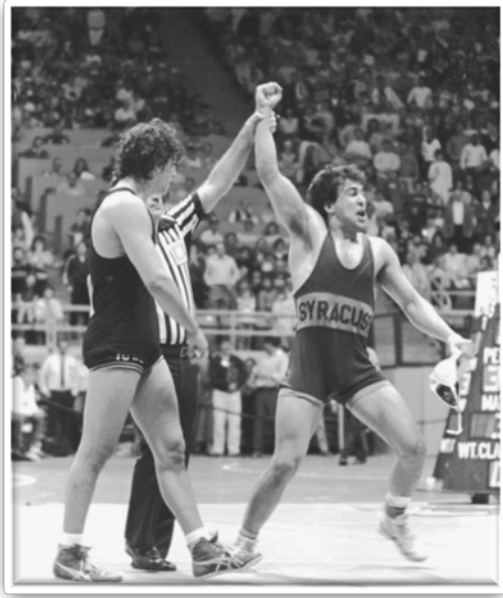


Wayne Catan

Bellport High School Class of 1981



Wayne Catan, Bellport, Class of 1981, was Bellport High School's first-ever Suffolk County champion in wrestling. He also won the New York State Freestyle Championships, the East Coast Championships, Empire State Games, and was a high school All-American. He achieved his All-American status by placing third in the National Freestyle Championships in Iowa City, Iowa during the summer of his senior year of high school.

Catan graduated from Syracuse University with a B.S. in rhetoric and advertising. Wayne wrestled for the Orange and was a three-time NCAA Division I All-American (two-time NCAA finalist), Olympic alternate, and a member of several world and national teams. He is enshrined in both the New York State Wrestling Hall of Fame and the Eastern Intercollegiate Association Wrestling Hall of Fame. He holds a master's degree in English literature and is currently completing his second master's degree from the University of Arizona. Wayne is currently a full-time English teacher and coach, but prior to teaching English, Mr. Catan was a communications professional for which he earned many awards including *PRWeek's* Solo PR Practitioner of the Year honor in 2001, in which he defeated former White House Press Secretary Judy Smith. He has always been involved with wrestling. In fact, Catan helped lead Blair Academy (of New Jersey) to more than 10 (consensus) No. 1 national rankings. At Blair Academy, Catan coached more than twenty NCAA Division I All-Americans, five individual NCAA Division I champions, and Steve Mocco—2008 Olympian for the United States at heavyweight. Additionally, Mr. Catan held coaching positions at Columbia University and Lehigh University. He resides in Gilbert, Arizona with his wife Jessica, two children Nico and Francesca, two dogs, and the family cat-Delilah.