

When first starting, the idea of joining Terrapins was daunting to me. I had always tried to stay where I felt comfortable, Terrapins was a new environment with new people. Although my time with the Terrapins swim team has been one I am very grateful for. It was not long before I felt like part of the team. One of the first people who welcomed me was Suzanne. She would always talk to me, we would have our conversations about swims, and the next open water race she has. I want to say thank you Suzanne for welcoming me with open arms.

She was not the only one who helped me very early on. Both Coach Dan and Doug were there to support me throughout my entire time on Terrapins. From all of the highs of swimming to the lows. They taught me to process my emotions in order to not be just a better swimmer, but also handle situations that arise in my everyday life. Swimming has not always been easy but they have been there as a helping hand through it all. On top of that pushing me to become a better swimmer that I didn't believe I could be. Thank you for always striving for the best out of me.

The Concord Community pool was not just a place I went to after school but was my second home. It was a safe place where I could be myself and enjoy my time spent with my friends. The people I saw almost everyday of the year became some of my best friends. Terrapins and the Senior group became a community I looked forward to being a part of. I was proud to wear the terrapins cap behind the blocks; Terrapins represented not only fast swimmers with a history of success, but a supportive community.

With this came all of the memories created within those four years. From the little things like getting through a tough set together or after practice bagel runs where we would talk for hours. There were always funny moments during practice, especially in the locker room. One of my favorite times was when we would play ultimate frisbee and overall could almost get too

competitive. Then the big events, such as the team travel meets or the Halloween party. The many team travel meets never had a dull moment, always goofing off in the hotel. Then going fast in the pool that same day. The annual halloween party the team hosted is another strong memory, there was constant laughter, goofy costumes, and so much sugar eaten those nights. There are so many memories I will cherish throughout the rest of my life.

My time on Terrapins is one that I will never forget. This team has made me a better person both in and out of the pool. I am more prepared for what life throws at me and know I can face the world with the Terrapins motto: desire, dedication, and determination. Looking back on this time, these will be some of the best memories I have with lifelong friendships to go with it. Thank you Terrapins swim team for all that you have done for me. This will always feel like my second home. Go Terps. #terpnation