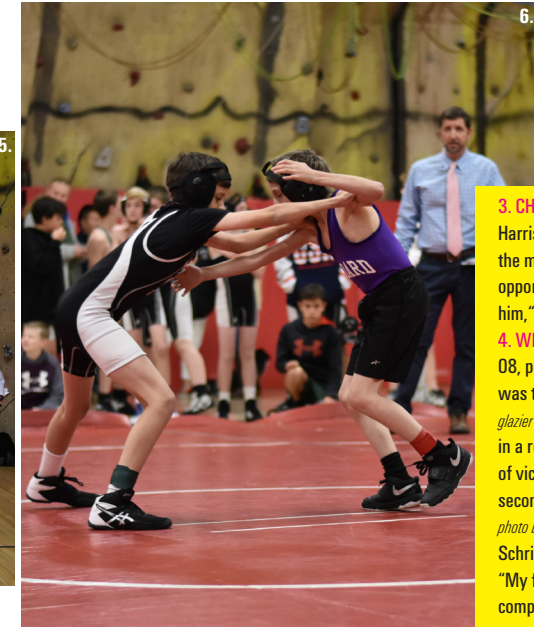


**1. DOMINATING**, Benjamin Barbour, 08, squeezes his opponent for the pin. Barbour won his weight class in the District competition by pin in both matches. At the end of the season, Coach Wallis Sprague named Barbour one of the toughest wrestlers on the team. *photo by s. skamal*

**2. TAKING THE LOWEST WEIGHT CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP HOME**, Merek Mangers, 07, battles for the win. Mangers won two matches against his fellow wrestlers to earn the Varsity position. "Working for the spot on Varsity took a lot of time, but I was able to do it by working out a lot. Coach Sprague also helped me because he taught me all I know," Mangers said. *photo by a. glazier*



**3. CHAMP OF THE 130 POUND WEIGHT CLASS**, Harris Fulkerson, 08, throws his opponent to the mat to help gain points for his team. "My opponent was tough, but I was able to overpower him," Fulkerson said. *photo courtesy of h. fulkerson*

**4. WITH THE PENETRATION STEP**, Conall Liburdi, 08, practices the fundamentals. "The conditioning was the hardest part," Liburdi said. *photo by a. glazier*

**5. EARNING THE TROPHY** for the fifth year in a row, the Wrestling Team enjoys the glory of victory. "I enjoyed holding the trophy for the second year in a row," Colin Lovett, 08, said. *photo by s. skamal*

**6. IN A CLOSE BATTLE**, Michael Schriefer, 08, wrestles a tough Goddard opponent. "My favorite part about wrestling was the competitiveness," Schriefer said. *photo by a. glazier*

# WRESTLERS NEVER QUIT

DESIGN BY CALLAHAN DAVIS  
PAGE BY DYLAN DAVIS, TATE MITCHELL & MAX RATOJIFF

## DOMINATING AT DISTRICTS



**THERE'S NO STOPPING JACKSON**

I WAS THROWN DOWN ON MY FINGERS AND WHEN I GOT UP, THEY WERE BENT AWKWARDLY AND BROKEN. I TOLD COACH SPRAGUE THAT I COULDN'T WAIT TO WRESTLE AGAIN.



**JACKSON PUMPHREY, 08**

**BRAVING THE HIGH STAKES**, both 7th and 8th grade wrestlers competed for a 5th straight wrestling championship at Districts. Motivated, the wrestlers came through, dominating 11 of the 17 total weight classes. Dominant performances by beast wrestlers earned the Wrestling Team the District trophy once again. Outstanding pin performances by Benjamin Barbour and Anthony Salazar, 08, garnered two weight classes.

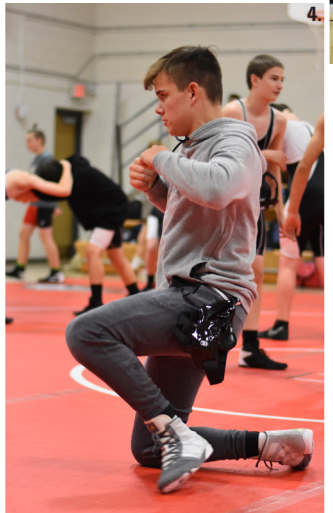
Coach Wallis Sprague, science, was pleased with how his team performed under pressure. "It is not exaggerating to say that these wrestlers will have stories for the rest of their lives from these matches," Sprague said.

Perhaps the most interesting match of all was "the match of the giants." Conall Liburdi,

08, wrestled one of his toughest matches against Goddard's biggest grappler. It was almost a stalemate the entire match, until Liburdi put the first points on the board.

Although Anthony Salazar, 08, was new to the team at the beginning of the season, by the end, he was arguably the most dominant. Undefeated and winning every match by a pin, Salazar was untouchable. "My parents were very inspiring and pushed me to my goals," Salazar said.

Also dominant, Jason Nelson, 08, went undefeated as well in his first ever season. "It felt really nice, like I actually did something," Nelson said. Sprague gave his champions a shout out at the end of the season, and a special one to Nelson.



## STRONG TO THE FINISH

NOVICE GRAPPLERS EXCEL AT 6TH GRADE WRESTLING FESTIVAL

**6TH GRADE WRESTLERS** took on three rival schools' athletes during the annual 6th grade Wrestling Festival.

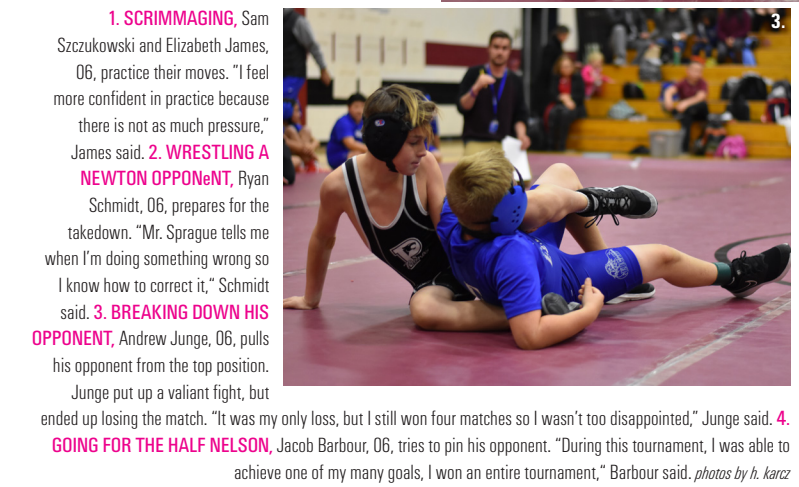
Andrew Junge, 06, crushed his Euclid opponent. "He swept behind my back and took me down, but I did get a takedown on him before that," Junge said.

The wrestlers won the second festival, winning 20 matches and losing only nine. Hosting the festival, the home crowd cheered on the athletes. Josephine Tiner, 06, won all of her matches in the second festival.

"It felt really good when I won all those matches to support our team," Tiner said.

Eight wrestlers won all of their matches. Guy Slaybaugh and Sam Szczukowski went undefeated. "My dad wrestled so he inspired me to do well," Slaybaugh said.

While the 6th grade wrestlers were not eligible to participate at Districts, Coach Wallis Sprague was proud of their accomplishments. "We have a great nucleus for the next two years because of these fine athletes," Sprague said.



WE'RE GOING FOR THE HALF NELSON SPORTS

WHAT PART OF WRESTLING IS YOUR FAVORITE?

"I liked the competition it provided because I've been competitive my whole life." DALLAS ROBINSON, 06

"Being in an intense match is always fun because it teaches you to think on your feet." CHARLES ROHLF III, 07

"I like learning new techniques that I can use to beat my opponents." MANUEL GALVAN, 08

"My favorite part was wrestling hard at practices." RODOLFO FLORES, 06

"Being able to hang out with the team and being able to practice." TANNER FISCHER, 07

"My favorite part is being able to get in good physical condition during school." KEIGEN RICHARDSON, 08

"It is a good way to see what you're made of and you get respected by teammates." MATTHEW HEATH, 08

6TH GRADE WRESTLING FESTIVAL & DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP **GAME TIME 385**

Job # 12449 School POWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

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