



NEWS FROM THE DRAGON'S DEN

REMINDERS:

- **RED TEAM ONLY** Birth Certificates and Report Cards are required for every wrestler who competes at the State Duals Tournament. Please bring or send copies of both items to Coach DeLois **by 12/22**.
- Don't want to take 3 weeks off? Check [Track Wrestling](#) for local meets before Duals State. There are instructions for navigating Track Wrestling in the Dragons Wrestling 101 manual posted on the DWC [home page](#).
- **Please don't forget to perform routine skin checks on your wrestlers!** Ringworm, warts, staph, cellulitis and other nasty infections are quite common during wrestling season, but can be caught and eliminated quickly if you remain diligent. When in doubt, seek a second opinion.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Whiteland Open 12/30
Optional for both teams

ISWA State Finals Red Team on 01/07

Click [here](#) to find more information about these and other events.

12/17 JV RESULTS

The White Team dominated their brackets on their home mats this weekend. The depth of our program rests with this group of young wrestlers, and we couldn't be more excited about their future.

Wrestling isn't a sport where you can hide behind a dominant teammate, or show up for only a portion of the event. These young men and women have learned so much over the past 7 weeks. They stand tall, battle hard, and handle both victory and defeat with grace. DWC coaches have only a few short weeks to teach a few moves and encourage young men and women to go out onto a mat in front of a gymnasium full of people and put their hearts on the line. We're asking a lot from them, and our White Team filled us with pride and exceeded all our expectations on Sunday. Thank you for the opportunity to work with such incredible young men and women!



Left: Wade Ball finishes the day on top.
Right: Wyatt Ball plans his escape.

12/17 VARSITY RESULTS

The Red team stepped up to challenge some incredibly difficult teams and walked away with a 4th place finish. The strength of our little club from a town of ~3,000 people is astounding. We had a slow start, but picked it up and finished strong against a fierce opponent from Maugher Coughlin. Many wrestlers faced opponents who had years of experience to their advantage. It didn't show.

As it is the end of our regular season, we would like to recognize the following accomplishments from the past 6 weeks:

23 Duals Team Matches Wins: 14 Losses: 9
Total DWC Team Points: 1,059 vs. Opponents: 884

Most Wins: Connor Maddox (22-1)

Most Pins: Gunner Butt (16)

Most Improved: Blake Dammann



Above: Gunner Butt provides yet another blurry photo because he is constantly moving at warp speed.

Left: Warren Sanford shares a moment with the ref.

State is just around the corner!
Get fired up!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! NO PRACTICE ON 12/25 & 01/01. DO SOME PUSH-UPS!

"It simply isn't an adventure worth telling if there aren't any dragons."

J.R.R. Tolkien

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COACH'S CORNER: A Clan of Dragons

"Alexa, what is a group of dragons called?"

"A group of dragons is known as a 'Clan.' This is due to the fact that Dragons were believed to be sentient creatures, thus if they travelled together it was because they chose to be a part of that clan for more reasons than just being in a group."

You really couldn't ask for a better definition for our team of dragons this past weekend. Although wrestlers, like dragons, are individual competitors, we have all chosen to be a part of something bigger than the individual. The strength of our clan was incredible to witness this past weekend and our list of people to thank is almost endless, but we'd like to take a stab at it anyway.

The High School & Middle School Wrestlers: What an incredible group of young men. You were there setting up, working tables, mentoring, tearing down and making sure there were little to no leftovers to carry out of the hospitality room. Thank you for your willing hands and great attitudes.

The Parents: We couldn't ask for a better group to work with. Whenever we needed a body, we had two. When issues arose, they were handled without question or complaint. When our team was on the mat, there was an army cheering them on. It's incredible to see the friendships forming between and around our young men and women and their families. The future of our club is very bright.

The Grandparents: So many of you traveled from far away, took the time to bake homemade treats, rolled up your sleeves to work, and cheered on your grandchildren and their teammates. Your support means the world to all of us.

The Siblings: We saw so many of you hauling stuff, asking if anything was needed, setting up, tearing down, cleaning up, and patiently supporting your wrestling siblings and their teammates. We love you all!

The Board Members: The amount of preparation that goes into a weekend we just wrapped up is enough to make one's head spin. Couple that with the physical, mental and emotional challenges of navigating four separate meets in one weekend, and you're looking at a potential nervous breakdown! Our board members put together an absolutely incredible weekend for us all with a smile on their face and love in their hearts. It's never easy or perfect, and we are so very grateful for your dedication and hard work.

The Community: Did you know there were many people from the community working without even having a wrestler on the mats to watch? From the legacy DWC parents and wrestlers, to our hard working sheriff, to the friendly faces in concessions and the world's most patient janitor, the extended circle of support we had was enormous. A special note of appreciation to Jen Lavin, Tim Lavin and Frank Pine who volunteered to be our on-site trainers, along with the referees who gave us a break on their pricing and put up with some very enthusiastic "recommendations" from spectators.

Our Coaching Team: Lastly, we'd like to thank all of our coaches. In case you were too busy working to notice, there are young men and women growing up around you. The changes you've made in their lives may not always be apparent to you, but they are blinding to anyone who is able to step back and take a look over time. The hours you've invested will pay off not only during wrestling season, and not only for the club. You are truly making a long lasting, far reaching difference in the lives of many families within our community.

[queue the award ceremony exit music]

If we've left anyone off this list, please forgive us! We know there are more people working that we may not always see. Please know that you are appreciated even if you've not been named.

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK:

Carter Sanford is in the 2nd grade at SCE. He's been wrestling for the past three years and has already placed second at state. His goals this year is to beat Max Stevens and win state. Based on what we've seen him do so far, we'll



Carter poses with his #1 coach.

be shocked if he didn't hit that goal! Carter's hero remains his Papaw Sanford who recently passed away. He also looks up to Chad Red. When he's not on the wrestling mat, Carter enjoys playing on his iPad, Yahtzee, baseball, swimming, drawing, watching American Ninja Warrior, and just relaxing with his very close knit family.

Charlie May is a 4th grader at SCE. He comes from a family of wrestlers and has been wrestling himself for 4 years. Charlie's favorite part of wrestling is making friends and supporting his team. His signature move is the unbreakable bridge (just ask for a demo). Outside the wrestling



Charlie(left) with the youngest May family wrestler, Oliver and their Dad.

room, Charlie enjoys the Robotics Club, Pokemon, Minecraft, and anything involving the Great Outdoors. Charlie's brothers both wrestle and the family can always be found mat side cheering him on. When asked who his heroes are, Charlie promptly listed each and every DWC coach.

TEAM ROSTERS:

Weight	Red Team Wrestler	White Team Wrestlers
40	Warren Sanford	Cooper Price
45	Connor Maddox	Paxton Babcock
50	Carter Sanford	Jordan Lebron, Logan Soskre
55	Cohen Wuethrich	Jackson Lavin, Ryan Cain, Morgan Hutchinson, Joey Dawson, Tucker Harbert
60	Brysen Wood	Emmit Abernathy, Ryker Yonts, Charlie May
65	Gunner Butt	Aiden Olson, Colt Pratt
70	Cole Vandygriff	Tyler Lavin
75	Blake Dammann	Brantley Minchin, Preston Boyd, Brad Tully
80	Daysen Wood	Nathan Hartinger, Jack Kessinger
85	Connor Shatz	Zeke Jefford
90	David Pack	
95		
105	Sydney DeLois	Anthony Clevenger
115	Gavin Wilcher	Carter Simpson
130		
150	Damon Mink	
HWT		

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