

ALL EYES ON THE MAT With both wrestling teams closely watching, Landon Richter (8) works a front headlock from neutral position. Richter was an eighth grade senior captain for the team this season. *photo by Riley Malloy*



HOLD ON TIGHT With his Chelsea opponent struggling, Jacob Clauser works on locking up a tripod-front headlock. Clauser finished the season with an 8-3 record including eight takedowns and eight pins. *photo by Riley Malloy*



BATTLE IT OUT As he tries to pin his opponent and win the match, Jackson Hamilton (7) looks to the referee to see his ruling. Hamilton finished the season undefeated with five wins, five takedowns, and four pins. "The thing that drives me the most to win is that I want to prove people wrong and set new records," Hamilton said. *photo by Riley Malloy*



PINS AND WINS In the middle of a double leg blast, Blake Blackburn (8) elevates his opponent from Chelsea to get more control on his way to victory on January 30. With a rank value of 0.933, Blackburn finished the season with a 3-1 record, five takedowns, and three pins. The thing that inspired him the most to win and be better was his brother. "The greatest thing I have accomplished this year is raising my rank value," Blackburn said. *photo by Riley Malloy*

TAKE HIM DOWN Fighting for hand control, Christian Rice (7) tries to set up his next move against the Chelsea opponent on January 30. Rice had a strong season with a 9-6 record, seven takedowns, and seven pins. *photo by Riley Malloy*



NEVER QUIT Transitioning into a half nelson, Anthony Calati (7) tries to win his match against the Chelsea opponent on January 30. Calati finished the season with a 5-5 record including five takedowns, three pins, and a victory over a talented Bedford wrestler. Coach Harrison and Coach Roy-Borland played a major role in Calati's season. "[My coaches] always thought I could be the biggest guy on the mat while also being the smallest," Calati said. *photo by Riley Malloy*



power THROUGH

content by Riley Malloy and Neil Sachdeva

Wrestlers create memories with their teammates, push through challenges along the way

Stomp! Stomp! Feet bounced up and down, on and off the mat, as the team got ready to wrestle. With the gym buzzing with encouragement from parents, coaches, and teammates, the wrestlers all found their own way to get ready. For Ahmin Embil (8), it was the quick 30 minute practice before the meet that got him ready.

"Pre-match routines were quite challenging, it was basically one whole practice squeezed into 30 minutes," Embil said. "I wasn't very nervous before a match because I knew that the team never doubted me."

For away matches, the players had a bit of a different routine including finding ways to spend time on the bus ride.

During these rides, players mentally prepared and also used the time to enjoy a fun time and to make memories with friends.

"The bus rides were always more fun than you would expect, because it was full of friends," Jacob Schuehrer (7) said.

Not only can this sport give you positive memories, but it can teach you valuable and important life lessons. Daniel Nollar (7) learned the lesson of never quitting, even in hard times.

"I learned that pain is temporary and quitting lasts forever, like when I had a concussion it didn't last forever, but if I quit it would last forever and I would want to come back to the sport because it's such a fun sport," Nollar said. "Also, coaches are there for you when you need them, not to just teach you the sport."

don't give UP

Wrestlers show grit, determination on the mat



Throughout the season, the wrestling team consistently proved their toughness against their opponents. Whether it was Sam Harbach (8) showing true character against a heavier Ypsilanti opponent, Dan Nollar (7) getting a big overtime win against Lincoln, or the whole team coming together to rally against a tough Manchester team. In these photos, Brandon Scott-Luke (6) defends against a single leg takedown and Ayden Burton (7) finishes a stand-out escape in order to try to win their matches.

