

Two Newton wrestlers take home gold, another silver

BY CLINT HARDEN
FOR NEWTON NOW

Grant Treaster said after his state championship match that he spent all year thinking about state, dreaming of winning the title and working so hard to get there. But once the tournament arrived, “you can’t think about it.”

That’s the sentiment of the state tournament. You just have to put it out of your mind and focus on the task at hand, which is what the Railers did.

Four wrestlers finished in the top six to take home medals, three wrestled for a state title, and two finished with championships.

As a team, Newton finished sixth with 97.5 points. Goddard, yet again, asserted themselves as the dominant program as the Lions took home their fourth consecutive championship with 250.5 points, more than double second place Valley Center.

Maize, Mill Valley, and Blue Valley Southwest rounded out the top five.

Treaster follows in brother’s footsteps

Of all the Railers who made it to state, none had a better tournament than Grant Treaster at 113 pounds.

He started off the weekend with a pin in a match that lasted 12 seconds, then won by 10 points, and then by eight points in the next two rounds.

His state championship match lasted a total of one minute, 44 seconds, as he pinned Goddard’s Lucas Glover.

“It’s unbelievable,” Treaster said. “We worked the whole season. Since I was a little kid, I’ve dreamed of these moments, of coming here. Even before my brother was in high school. I watched my brother here.”

His brother Logan wrestles for the United States Naval Academy and also won a state championship his sophomore year, just like Grant.

“I’ll say following his brother’s footsteps, because he took third like his brother his freshman year, he won it like his brother his sophomore year, and just watching him grow from the beginning of the year to now. It is leaps and bounds,” head coach Tommy Edgmon said.

Treaster was in control from the beginning of the match. He moved around on the mat, wasn’t afraid to strike, and ended it with a cradle to show complete dominance of Glover.

The win moved his record to 40-2 on the season with a gold medal.

He celebrated by putting his hands together, kissing them, and point-

ing to the sky.

Hendrickson redeems runner-up finish

The Kansas State High School Activities Association did something a little different this year, and started the finals with the 195-pound weight class.

Typically, by the time the finals move into the heavier weights, the arena is all but empty.

This meant Wyatt Hendrickson kicked off the finals and took home a gold medal, redeeming last season’s runner-up performance.

Like Treaster, Hendrickson was in control of the finals the entire time.

Bishop Carroll’s Brady Bockover and Hendrickson had wrestled before, and Hendrickson used it to his advantage in the championship.

Hendrickson had already scored 10 points and essentially put the match out of reach for Bockover, who entered the tournament with just six losses on the year, when the Railer pinned Bockover just before the end of the second period.

“I’ve never won state, so it was nice, like, ‘This is cool!’” Hendrickson said.

He said his last match helped him prepare, and he felt good about the match going into it.

Going in, Edgmon said he knew Hendrickson could score takedowns throughout the match.

“I told him, ‘Hey, let’s put him away if we can. The longer we’re on the mat, the better chance there is of an upset.’ So that was our game plan,” Edgmon said. “Take him down, dominate on top, if he gets away, take him down again. [...] We had the opportunity to put him away, and we did.”

Hendrickson lost just one match on the season.

Gautschi comes up just short

Of the three Newton wrestlers, Cyle Gautschi pulled the toughest draw at 220 pounds.

Gautschi entered the finals with just four losses on the year and may have been good enough to win in any other weight class. His opponent for the final match of the year came against Cordel Duhart of Blue Valley Southwest, who was undefeated on the year.

Gautschi drew frustration from Duhart and the Southwest coaches with his unflinching patience and unwillingness to give an inch in the match.

“For us, we knew Cordel was very strong and very athletic and quick,” Edgmon said. “So we just tried to neutralize it, just slow him down a little bit.”

The plan worked for most of the match, and the two found themselves



CLINT HARDEN/NEWTON NOW
Grant Treaster sizes up Goddard’s Lucas Glover during the championship match at 113 pounds. Treaster won his first state title.



CLINT HARDEN/NEWTON NOW
Treaster and head coach Tommy Edgmon embrace following the state championship win. Treaster’s older brother Logan, is also a state champion.

in the sixth period tied at one. Both wrestlers almost scored numerous times to break the tie, until Duhart put up one point that decided the championship.

“It came down to sudden victory, and we rode, and he got away in that 30 seconds,” Edgmon said. “I think we had 15 seconds left on our feet to

try and initiate something, but we just didn’t get it done.”

Dante Harper finished on the medal stand with a sixth-place finish. He started the tournament with a win but lost his second match. He bounced back to win his next two matches before losing two in a row to take home a medal.

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Film looks at how culture disables men by damaging ability to empathize

—For Newton Now

NORTH NEWTON— Though the film was scheduled months ago, the topic of the final offering in this year’s KIPCOR Film Series could have been taken right out of today’s headlines.

The Kansas Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution at Bethel College concludes its 2017-18 Film Series on March 4 with The Empathy Gap: Masculinity and the Courage to Change.

The 70-minute documentary screens at 3 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center on the Bethel campus.

The film examines how American culture leaves men unable to empathize with and respect women — a major factor behind the current rise of the #MeToo and #TimesUp movements in response to sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Filmmaker Thomas Keith previously made The Bro Code and Generation M, in which he looks at the ways culture bombards young men with sexist and misogynistic

messages.

In The Empathy Gap, Keith takes a closer look at how these messages short-circuit men’s ability to empathize with women, respect them as equals, and take feminism seriously.

He begins by exploring some of the key messages about manhood that boys absorb from the culture — that they should acquire material wealth, meet conflict with aggression, harden themselves, suppress all human emotion except anger and view women primarily as sexual objects — then argues that these messages not only devalue women but also undercut men’s innate capacity for caring and empathy.

Along the way, Keith draws fascinating parallels between sexism and racism, spelling out how each is rooted in cultural norms that discourage empathy, and shows how men who break with these norms live happier and healthier lives.

Two local social workers will lead the post-film dis-

ussion: Stacey Mann, director of the Batterer Intervention Program at Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM) of Newton and a faculty member of the Wichita State University School of Social Work, and Ben Rudeen Kreider, director of Prison Ministries for OVM.

The event is free and open to the public, with a freewill offering taken to support the film series and the work of KIPCOR.

The KIPCOR Film Series is also funded in part through its Peace Lecture Endowment.

Bethel College ranks at No. 1 in College Consensus’ ranking of Kansas colleges and universities, and is the only Kansas private college listed in the Forbes.com analysis of top colleges and universities, the Washington Monthly National Universities-Liberal Arts section and the National Liberal Arts College category of U.S. News & World Report, all for 2017-18. The four-year liberal arts college is affiliated with Mennonite Church USA.

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