

The Fourth Tier 2001-02 to 2015-16

There was a mix of good and not so good seasons during this second segment of Coach Capozzoli's tenure as head coach. Twelve of the fifteen seasons saw winning dual meet records, culminating in an 18-3 campaign in 2015-16. Newport won its first Tri-Valley league championship since 1984 that season and crowned its first District 3 champ (Brady Herr) since 2000, also finishing in the top five as a team for the first time at districts since 1985. The team qualified for the District 3 dual meet tournament six times; and ended as the kings of Perry County by winning the Perry County dual meet tournament in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 to go along with their championship in 2009-10 when they had an excellent 18-6 season record. Four wrestlers made the state tournament during the fourth tier years, with Travis Young placing seventh in 2003 to become Newport's first state place winner from Greenwood High School under the co-op program.

After having been constant for almost 20 years, the Tri-Valley league went through substantial changes during the fifteen fourth tier seasons. When Newport first entered the league for the 1966-67 season, there were eight teams: Newport, Juniata Joint, Middleburg, West Snyder, Sugar Valley, Lewistown, Chief Logan and Kichacoquillas. It was composed of from seven to eleven teams from 1968-69 through 1983-84. The same nine teams were in the league from the 1984-85 season through 2003-04: Newport, Juniata, Middleburg, West Snyder, Line Mountain, Halifax, Upper Dauphin, Millersburg and East Juniata. In 2004-05 Millersburg dropped out and Middleburg and West Snyder joined in a co-op program called Midd-West, resulting in a seven-member league. Midd-West left the league for the 2008-09 season, reducing the number of teams to six. Juniata dropped from the league (and transferred to District 6) for the 2010-11 season, leaving only five teams. Juniata returned in 2012-13, but East Juniata did not have its own squad, keeping the league at five teams. Susquenita joined for the 2014-15 season, resulting in the six-team league line-up that still stood in 2019-20: Newport, Juniata, Line Mountain, Halifax, Upper Dauphin and Susquenita.

Newport continued to participate in a variety of individual and dual meet tournaments during the fourth tier years. The Newport holiday tournament was a constant, as was participation in the Bedford tournament. The team stopped attending the Brandywine tournament after the 2006-07 season. Participation in dual meet events increased dramatically. For the first three seasons, only the Perry County dual meet tournament and the Canner Duals in Biglerville were on the schedule. In 2004-05 the Canner Duals were dropped and the Inter-league and Daniel Boone Duals added for two seasons. In 2007-08 the Interleague Duals were not on the schedule, but the Daniel Boone and Juniata Duals were - along with the Perry County tournament of course.

Newport had its own dual meet tournament at the beginning of 2008-09, starting a string of four seasons in which it participated in five dual meet tournaments - Perry County; Juniata; District 3; Daniel Boone (2008-09 and 2009-10) or Canner (2010-11 and 2011-12); and Newport (2008-09), Midd-West (2009-10 and 2010-11) or Upper Dauphin (2011-12). A full 18 of the 24

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dual meets during the 2011-12 season were at team dual events. The Buffalo Duals came back for the 2012-13 season, but the only other two were the Perry County and Juniata duals. This was the dual meet tournament schedule for three years until the ELCO Duals were added for the 2015-16 season. Including a match in the District 3 duals, 16 of the 21 dual meets in 2015-16 were at dual meet events.

The records used for the annual and other statistics for this time period were year-end team statistics of the Newport coaching staff for the 2001-02 and 2008-09 seasons; sports reporter John Alvanitakis' Newport season recaps in the News-Sun, which he did for every season of the fourth tier period; archive records of John Alvanitakis that include information not published; the pa-wrestling.com and Triple J Bout Master websites; official dual meet scorebooks; the school yearbook (the Blunita); tournament programs; Newport holiday tournament records; the Off the Mat publication; and some newspaper and internet research other than that just listed.

Few of the available year-end team statistics for this period include dual meet records or the number of falls, although some do. Information was, however, obtained from archive records (mostly boxscores) of John Alvanitakis for 2001-02 through 2004-05; official dual meet scorebooks for the 2005-06 season and from 2008-09 through 2015-16; and boxscores and tournament results on the pa-wrestling.com and Triple J websites starting with the 2004-05 season. This combination of information, along with newspaper resources, has allowed for the compilation of dual meet, fall and team point records for many of the seasons during the fourth tier years. Individual dual meet information for most wrestlers is missing for three duals in 2003-04 and two for 2006-07.

2001-02 and 2002-03

The team and several individuals saw success during this two-year period. Dual meet records were 10-5 in 2001-02 and 10-7 in 2002-03 (with a seven-match win streak to close the season). As during the year before, a 6-2 league record was achieved in the 2001-02 season, with losses only to Juniata and Halifax. A loss also to Upper Dauphin the next season saw the league mark fall to 5-3.

The team took third place at Newport's holiday tournament in 2001-02, with one champ (Tyler Harris) and a runner-up (Travis Young). Clayton Fisher had a 14-1 dual meet record, while Jost Otstott went 13-2 and Travis Young 12-3. All three had over 25 total wins (Young 29-14; Fisher 26-11; and Otstott 26-13). Clayton led in dual meet team points with 68, followed by Jost (59) and Travis (55). Travis Kratzer had the most dual meet (8) and total (12) falls. Clayton and Tyler Harris both had ten overall pins.

Travis Young won both the Newport and Bedford tournaments in 2002-03. He had placed second at Bedford the previous year; and was also runner-up at Brandywine with Clayton

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Fisher in 2002-03. Three wrestlers went 16-1 in dual meets during the 2002-03 season - Tim Miller, Travis Young and sophomore Wade Meck. Freshman Zach Harris was 10-2; sophomore Luke Benner 12-4; and seniors Clayton Fisher 14-3 and Steve Rudy 12-3. Young logged in at 37-7 overall; Meck 27-9; Miller 27-10; Fisher 26-14; and Rudy 25-8. Travis led in dual meet team points (88), with Tim (72) and Clayton (71) next. Reuben Krepps matched Fisher and Young with seven dual meet falls. Young had the most total falls (14), with Fisher and Miller both at 11. Clayton, Tim and Travis all received honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team.

The team finished fourth in 2002 and third in 2003 at the section tournament. There were two runner-ups and four third-place finishers at the former and two champions (Tim Miller and Travis Young) to go along with three runner-ups and two third placers at the later. Travis placed fourth at the 2002 District 3 tournament and Jost Otstott took fifth. Travis went on to take a fifth place at the southeast region tournament and earn a trip to states, where he won one and lost two.

Travis Young advanced to the finals of the district tournament in 2003, where he was defeated by the slightest of margins 3-2 on an escape with 27 seconds remaining. Clayton Fisher finished sixth. Travis took a fifth at regions, earning his second trip to states. At states he lost his first match, but then won two to earn a medal. Travis ended his high school career with a 6-2 decision to take seventh place - the first state medal won by a student from Greenwood wrestling for Newport under the co-op program.

Jost Otstott graduated in 2002. He placed fifth in the district, third at sections and was a runner-up at the Newport holiday tournament as a senior, with a 26-13 record. Jost had a career record of 66-46, including a junior season of 20-10. His dual meet record as a senior was 13-2, with 59 dual meet team points for second on the team.

Clayton Fisher and Travis Young both graduated in 2003. Clayton finished with three section runner-up trophies and a sixth place at districts his senior year. He was also runner-up and fourth at the Brandywine and Bedford tournaments, respectively, that final season, as well as being honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team. As a freshman Clayton went 10-3 in dual meets, had the second most dual meet team points, was runner-up at the Newport holiday tournament and placed fourth at Brandywine. He was also fifth at Bedford his junior campaign. His overall record was 89-48, with three seasons in which he won more than 20 matches. Clayton won 28 dual meets his final two season against only four losses, going 14-1 as a junior when he led the team in dual meet team points.

Travis Young ended his career with a seventh-place state medal, two fifth-place region finishes (both earning him a trip to states), three District 3 top honors (a silver and two fourths), and two section titles to go along with two runner-up finishes. He is one of only ten Newport wrestlers to reach the section finals four times. Travis also placed all four years at the

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Brandywine, Newport and Bedford tournaments - a feat no other Newport wrestler accomplished while the team was participating in those three tournaments. He was runner-up at Brandywine his senior year after previously taking a third and two fifths; won Newport twice to go along with runner-up and third place finishes the other two years; and won the title at Bedford his senior season after a runner-up finish the year before and fifth and eighth place finishes his first two seasons. Travis was named the outstanding wrestler at the Newport tournament his sophomore campaign and was twice given honorable mention on the Patriot-News all-star team. He was 28-4 in dual meets his last two seasons, going 16-1 as a senior when he led the team in dual meet team points and overall falls as well as having as many dual meet pins as anyone else. Travis' overall record was 114-46, placing him eighth on the Newport all-time win list. He was the third Newport wrestler to reach the century mark.

2003-04 and 2004-05

The 2003-04 season was a low point for the team, but two wrestlers excelled and the team came back stronger the next season. According to a January 2004 article in the News-Sun, there were only 15-16 young men in the room. Experienced wrestlers expected to be on the team didn't show up for the first practice; defections after practice started cost more experience and talent; and then injuries and illnesses sapped the lineup. But despite the mounting dual meet losses, the team continued to improve and stayed positive. As Coach Capozzoli commented on wrestling Blair Academy at the Canner Duals: "They thought it was great to wrestle the best team in the country. How can you not appreciate that kind of attitude? I love working with the kids we have."

The overall dual meet record for 2003-04 was 4-13 and the league mark 3-5. There were only two seniors in the starting lineup. Shane Amsler won the Newport holiday tournament and Wade Meck took a fourth place at Bedford. Both went on to win sections and place at districts: Wade finishing fourth and Shane fifth. Meck led the team in dual meet team points (57), with Luke Banner (53) a close second. Wade had the most dual meet falls (6) and Amsler the most total falls (14). All three juniors had more than 20 overall wins, with Meck and Benner logging 25 and Amsler 21. Luke was 12-2 in dual meets and Wade 10-2. Meck was honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team.

The team improved to an overall record of 10-9 in 2004-05, with a 3-3 league mark. Wade Meck had a dual meet record of 9-1, while Luke Benner was 12-2 and three wrestlers came in at 13-4 (Shane Amsler; junior Zach Harris, and sophomore Tyler Eisenhart). Shane had the most dual meet team points (52), with Tyler just off the pace (51) and Luke (48), Zach (46) and Wade (46) not far behind. Benner had the most overall falls (15), while Amsler, Eisenhart and Harris tied with seven dual meet pins each. Wade Meck won the Bedford tournament and three wrestlers won sections (Benner, Meck and Eisenhart). Both Luke and Wade took third places at districts and Wade was region runner-up, earning him a trip to states. Amsler, Benner and Meck were all recognized with honorable mentions on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team.

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Luke Benner and Wade Meck graduated in 2005. Luke won a third-place District 3 medal his senior year to go along with a section title that season and runner-up finish the year before. He was a two-time runner-up at the Newport holiday tournament and placed three times at the Bedford tournament. In addition to his postseason run, Luke placed high on the medal stand at all three other individual tournaments his senior year: third at Brandywine, second at Newport and fifth at Bedford. His overall record was 88-43 (25-11 and 29-8 his final two campaigns) and his dual meet record 46-13 (10-5 as a freshman, 12-4 as a sophomore and then two 12-2 seasons). In his final season Luke was third in dual meet team points, had the most total falls on the team and received an honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team.

Wade Meck ended his career with a regional silver medal and a trip to states; a third and a fifth place at districts; and two section titles to go with runner-up and third place finishes. He was on the medal stand at Brandywine and Bedford three times each, taking gold at Bedford his senior campaign. Wade's overall record was 98-39, with a 45-9 dual meet tally (10-5 as a freshman, 16-1 as a sophomore, 10-2 as a junior and 9-1 as a senior). He led the team in dual meet team points and dual meet falls his junior year. Wade was named honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team twice and stands twelfth on the Newport all-time win list.

2005-06 through 2007-08

Newport continued with dual meet seasons just over even, with limited individual tournament success, in 2005-06 and 2006-07. But the dial was turned it up a notch in the 2007-08 season when the Buffaloes qualified for the District 3 team duals, placed well at sections and had another wrestler reach the state tournament.

Major facility changes took place during these years. The old Art Lesh furniture warehouse on east Mulberry Street close to the Juniata River owned by former Newport wrestlers Steve Peters and Clyde Cressler was used for practices while the new gym was constructed at the high school. The wrestling/weight room constructed as part of the new gym project came into use for the 2007-08 season. Matches switched from the now-old gym to the new gym at this time. The new scoreboard in the gym was sponsored by Steve Peters Inc., the 1st National Bank of Marysville and Medicine Shoppe. The Owls Club sponsored a new scorer's table.

Overall records of 11-8 (2005-06) and 11-9 (2006-07) were had before a 16-7 campaign in 2007-08. Tri-Valley records of 3-3 were recorded the first two years before a win over Halifax resulted in a 4-2 league record and qualification as the Tri-Valley representative to the District 3 dual meet tournament for just the third time since the district duals were initiated in 1990. Juniata and Line Mountain continued to dominate the league, although Newport fell to Juniata in 2007-08 only on criteria after a 33-33 tie. The team won its holiday tournament during the 2007-08 season with three champs (Justin Willi, Glenn Kemble and Kyle Parrish) along with two runner-ups, three thirds and three fourths.

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Seth Davenport led the team in dual meet team points (45), dual meet falls (10) and total falls (15) during the 2005-06 season. Travis Lowe was second in team points (43) and total falls (11), while Mike Talton was second in dual meet pins (8). Glenn Kemble had the most dual meet team points (78), dual meet falls (11) and total falls (17) in 2006-07; and was 17-3 in duals. Kyle Parrish was second in team points (67), and Leon Rauch was second in both dual falls (8) and total pins (12). Kyle was 18-2 in duals, while Jared Seaman was 14-3. Parrish had 32 total wins; Kemble 27 and Tyler Eisenhart 25. In 2007-08 Kyle Parrish was first in team points (95) with a 20-3 dual record. David Good and Glenn Kemble had the most dual meet falls (11), while three wrestlers had nine. Glenn had the most total pins (19) and Justin Willi was second (17). Justin had a dual meet record of 19-3, Jared was 18-5, and both David and Glenn were 17-6.

There was one section champion (Tyler Eisenhart) and two runner-ups in 2006. Kyle Parrish, a junior transfer from Middletown, was the sole section finalist and champ in 2007. Kyle followed that title up with a District 3 runner-up finish, but did not advance out of regions. Tyler Eisenhart also collected a district medal for fourth place.

Kyle Parrish repeated as section champion in 2008 and was joined at districts by six teammates (three section runner-ups, a third place and two fourth place finishers). These contributions resulted in a fourth place finish for the team, its first top five finish at sections since 2003. Two wrestlers placed at districts - Kyle took third and Glenn Kemble fourth. Kyle went on to take a fourth at regions and earn a trip to the state tournament. Both Glenn and Kyle were given honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team.

Tyler Eisenhart graduated in 2007 with two section titles and a fourth place finish at districts as a senior. He took a sixth place at Bedford that senior season, and was fifth at Brandywine and a runner-up at the Newport tournament as a junior. He won twenty or more total matches and over twelve or more dual meets in each of his last three seasons. Tyler's overall record was 70-43 and his dual meet record 42-18. He had 18 total falls his last two seasons and was second in dual meet team points as a sophomore and third as a senior.

Jared Seaman, Glenn Kemble and Kyle Parrish graduated in 2008. Jared was a two-time section runner-up with dual meet records of 14-3 and 18-5 and overall records of 21-11 and 24-9 his final two seasons. He was a runner-up at the Newport holiday tournament and took a fourth place at Brandywine his junior year.

Glenn Kemble took a fourth place at the district tournament his senior season, was a section runner-up, won the Newport holiday tournament and was third at Bedford while winning 30 matches and having a 17-6 dual meet record. He led the team in dual meet team points (78), dual meet falls (11) and total falls (17) his junior campaign, with a dual record of 17-3. He also led the team in total falls (19) and was tied for dual meet pins (11) his senior year. Glenn finished with a career record of 85-55. In his final two seasons Glenn had a dual meet record of 34-9,

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including 22 falls, and a total record of 57-24, including of 36 pins. He was named honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team his senior year.

Kyle Parrish's two seasons at Newport were outstanding. He won silver and bronze medals at the District 3 tournament to go along with two section titles and a fourth place regional finish his senior year to earn a trip to states. Kyle's dual meet record was a fine 38-5 and his overall record 69-18, with two 30 match-win seasons (32-9 and 37-9). He led the team in team points his senior campaign (95) and was second his junior year (67). He won the Newport holiday tournament his senior year, placed third at his only Brandywine tournament his junior season, and placed fourth and third at Bedford. Kyle was honorable mention on the Patriot-News Big 14 all-star team his senior year. He is the grandson of Newport born JoAnn (nee Bonn) Parish and son of Susquenita state champ Dave Parrish.

2008-09 through 2010-11

This three-year segment of seasons started out relatively uneventful, but 2009-10 and especially 210-11 brought significant team improvement and achievements. Newport made the District 3 dual meet tournament all three years; were champions at the PECO tournament in 2009-10; and in 2010-11 were Tri-Valley runner-ups, won the Newport holiday tournament, took fourth place at sections, had three district place winners, two regional place winners and another wrestler qualify for the state tournament.

The team's overall record was 12-8 in 2008-09, 18-6 in 2009-10, and 17-7 in 2010-11. League records were 3-2 in 2008-09 and 2009-10, and 3-1 in 2010-11. All league dual meet loses were to Line Mountain and Juniata. Juniata left the league for the 2010-11 season, when Newport moved up a notch to second place. The Perry County championship in 2009-10 was the first stand alone title for Newport in the 20-year history of the tournament to that point. The team had several good finishes at other dual meet events, but was winless at the district duals.

David Good led the team in dual meet team points during the 2008-09 season (76), with Justin Willi second (67). Both David and Justin had nine dual meet falls; Eric Kemble led with 14 overall pins. David had the best dual record at 17-3. Justin Willi pulled the trifecta in 2009-10, leading in dual meet team points (128), dual meet falls (18) and overall falls (25), with a dual record of 23-1; his only loss being to returning state runner-up Zach Beitz of Juniata. Eric Kemble was second in team points (104) with a 22-2 dual finish. Eric compiled an identical 22-2 dual meet record in 2010-11, leading in team points (120) and dual pins (17). Bryce Mullen also had a 22-2 dual record and was second in team points at 105. Ian Clay and Austin Clegg were pin machines at tournaments, having nine each to compile 21 and 20 total falls respectively, to out distance Eric and Bryce's 18 total falls.

Dylan Shoop was a champion at the Newport holiday tournament in 2008-09 and Eric Kemble took titles in both 2009-10 and 2010-11. The team placed third in 2009-10 with the one

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champ and three other finalists, and won the tournament in 2010-11 with the one champ, two other finalist and seven third-place finishers. Justin Willi placed fourth at Bedford in 2009-10 and Bryce Mullen was runner-up at the 2010-11 tournament, where Newport had four wrestlers make the podium.

Seven wrestlers qualified for the district tournament in 2009 when four placed third and three placed fourth at sections. In 2010 Newport had a section runner-up to go along with third and fourth place finishers. A much improved postseason showing was had in 2011 when the team was fourth at sections with a champion (Bryce Mullen), three runner-ups, a third and two fourths to send seven to districts again, with three of those seven advancing to regions. Eric Kemble had the best district tournament when he reached the finals, dropping a 3-1 decision to a future state champion, but Austin Clegg also placed fourth and Bryce Mullen fifth - the first time there had been three district medalists since 1990. Eric went on to place fifth at regions to qualify for states and Austin came up just one win short when he placed sixth. Eric lost two close matches at states (6-8 and 5-9) to eventual place winners.

Dave Good graduated in 2009. He finished with a dual meet record of 58-22 (17-6 and 17-3 his final two seasons); and an overall record of 84-55, with 24 wins as both a junior and senior. Dave placed third at sections as an eleventh grader and fourth as a sophomore and senior. H was third at the Newport holiday tournament as a twelfth grader and fourth his other three years. He was in the top four in dual meet team points and falls and total pins his freshman, junior and senior seasons, leading the team in dual meet team points (76) and falls (9) as a senior and tying for the most dual pins (11) as a junior.

Justin Willi graduated in 2010 with a significant four-season dual meet record of 70-14 (13-5, 19-3, 15-5 and 23-1 as a senior). He led the team in dual meet team points his senior year (128) and was second his junior (67) and sophomore (78) campaigns. Justin had the most total falls his senior season (25), and was second his junior (13) and sophomore (17) years. He was also first in dual meet pins his senior year (18) and tied for first his junior season (9). Justin won the Newport tournament as a sophomore, having the most falls in the least time, and was runner-up his final two seasons. He placed fourth at Bedford as a senior and eighth as a sophomore. Justin qualified for the district tournament three times with two thirds and a fourth at sections, and finished with a 98-43 overall record. He had at 38 dual meet pins and 59 total falls. His 25 total falls in his final campaign were the most for any Buffalo up to that time based on available records. Justin's 59 career falls stood as the most for any Newport wrestler until 2018 and is still third best in Newport wrestling history based on available records.

Bryce Mullen, Austin Clegg and Eric Kemble graduated in 2011. Bryce won a section title and took fifth place at the District 3 tournament his senior year. He was also runner-up at the Bedford and Newport tournaments that season. He had also placed eighth at Bedford as a junior. Bryce was a top scorer in dual meets his junior and senior seasons, finishing second in team points (105) as a senior and third (81) as a junior, when he was also second in dual meet falls

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(11) and total falls (15). His dual meet record was 48-17 (41-6 his final two seasons with records of 19-4 and 22-2) and his overall record was 65-33 (57-18 his final two seasons with records of 24-10 and 33-8). Bryce ended with 25 dual meet and 38 overall pins.

Austin Clegg was a section runner-up, took fourth place at districts and was seventh at Bedford his senior season. He finished with a dual meet record of 44-20 and a total record of 62-34. He was second and third at the Newport tournament his final two years. In his final season Austin was second in total falls (20), third in dual meet pins (11) and fourth in dual meet team points (57). He finished with 26 dual meet and 40 total falls.

Eric Kemble gained a silver medal at the District 3 tournament his senior campaign as a prelude to a fifth place finish at regions and a trip to the state tournament. He was a two-time section runner-up as well as a third-place finisher as a sophomore; won the Newport tournament twice and was runner-up twice; and placed sixth at Bedford his final season and fifth his sophomore year. Eric led the team in dual meet team points as a senior (120) and was second as a junior (104). He also led the team in dual meet falls his senior season (17) and in total falls his sophomore year (14). Eric's dual meet record was 68-23 (44-4 his final two years with records of 22-2 both seasons) and his overall record 102-48 (64-18 his final two seasons with records of 30-7 and 34-11). He had 39 dual meet and 54 total pins. Eric became just the fifth member of Newport's 100 career win club. His 102 wins is currently eleventh on the all-time Newport win list.

2011-12 through 2015-16

This five-season period of the fourth tier picked up where the team ended the last segment - with a strong season - but then trailed off for two season with young teams before coming back strong in the final two years. The last three seasons saw Newport win PECO championships; and in the last two had multiple district medalist both seasons, sent another wrestler to states, took a Tri-Valley league title, won its holiday tournament twice, and crowned its first District 3 champ since 2000 while finishing in the top five as a team for the first time since 1985. Newport had announced its reemergence as a presence on the district scene in a sign of things to come.

Newport had a 16-8 overall record during the 2011-12 season, with a 2-2 league mark. The league loss to Upper Dauphin was by criteria (most takedowns) after a 39-39 finish in the final match of the Upper Dauphin Duals, where the team won its other four matches - ironically the one just before the Upper Dauphin match over Harrisburg by the identical score (39-39) and criteria (most takedowns). Four dual wins were also achieved at the Juniata Duals, the only loss of the day being to the host. The team was second at its holiday tournament with ten wrestlers taking top four places and Daniel Altemus winning gold. Ian Clay's silver medal and five wrestlers placing third led to a fourth place at the section tournament. Chris Eisenhart took a sixth place at districts, one spot short of advancing to regions.

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Zach Huss had the most dual meet team points (98) in 2011-12, with a 21-3 dual meet record; and Daniel Altemus was second (89) with a 20-4 dual record. Ian Clay (15) and Huss (14) led the team in dual meet falls, as well as over all pins: Huss (21) and Clay (20). Matt Huggins (17-5) and Colin Schaeffer (18-6) also had fine dual meet seasons.

Ian Clay and Zach Huss graduated in 2012. Ian was a two-time section runner-up and a two-time fifth place finisher at the Bedford tournament. He was also twice runner-up at the Newport tournament. His dual meet record was 47-25 and his overall record 66-41. He was a top producer his final two seasons, having the most total pins his junior year (21) and the most dual meet falls his senior session (15). Ian was second in total pins (20) that final season and second in dual meet falls his junior campaign (12). He was third in team points (58) as a junior and fourth (66) as a senior. Ian finished with 37 dual meet and 52 total falls. He was only the third Newport wrestler to have over 20 falls in a season up to that point based on available records.

Zach Huss had an outstanding senior season, leading the squad in dual meet team points (98), total falls (21) and dual meet record (21-3), as well as having the second most dual meet pins (14). He was second at the Newport tournament, third at sections and sixth at Bedford. He had also taken a third at sections and Newport his junior year. Zach finished with a dual meet record of 48-23 (36-12 his final two seasons) and an overall record of 70-42 (55-25 his final two years). He had 25 dual meet and 37 total pins. His 21 falls in his final campaign puts him high on the Newport all-time list for pins in a season based on available records.

The overall team dual meet records in 2012-13 and 2013-14 were 7-13 and 9-10, respectively, with league marks of 0-4 and 2-2. The 0-4 record is deceptive, as the losses to Line Mountain and Upper Dauphin were 40-39 and 42-36. And the loss to Upper Dauphin in 2013-14 was also a close 42-39. There was only one full-time senior varsity wrestler on the 2012-13 team and only two on the 2013-14 team. The 2013-14 team won the PECO championship for only the third Newport county title; and was third at its holiday tournament, crowning one champ (sophomore Colby Stroup). The team was 8-5 before attrition led to five losses in the last six duals; by the final match eight wrestlers who had been starters were missing from the roster according to the News-Sun. Sophomore Dalton Klinger logged an undefeated dual meet season at 17-0.

Three freshman led the team in dual meet points and win-loss record during the 2012-13 season: Dalton Klinger (54) (14-4); Colby Stroup (51) (13-5); and Patrick O'Toole (43) (15-5). Klinger also had the most dual meet pins (10) and overall falls (11). Curtis Mather was second in dual meet falls (7) and Daniel Altemus second in overall pins (10). Dalton Klinger's undefeated 2013-14 dual meet season resulted in the most team points (90) by far. He also led in dual meet falls (11), although Josh Bower and Colby Stroup scored the most total pins for the season (13). Klinger (12), Jordan Frey (11) and Patrick O'Toole (11) were not far behind. In addition to Klinger, O'Toole (15-4), Stroup (15-4), Bower (15-4) and Ben Clay (12-3) all had

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fine 2013-14 dual meet records. Bower (62) was second to Klinger in team points, with Stroup (56) and O'Toole (55) just behind him.

District 3 changed the postseason tournament set up in 2013 from having three sections to only two, and several of the teams in Newport's section were tops in the district (e.g. Boiling Springs, Bermudian Springs and Biglerville). Newport qualified three to advance in 2013 and improved to seven in 2014. Colby Stroup advanced with a third place showing at sections in 2014 and then moved on to regions with a fifth place District 3 finish. At regions Colby placed sixth, one shy of advancing to the state tournament.

Daniel Altemus graduated in 2013, ending his career with a dual meet record of 42-17 and an overall record of 59-33. As a junior he had a dual meet record of 20-4, scoring the second highest number of team points, and won the Newport holiday tournament. Daniel won more than 20 matches both of his final two seasons, posting a 25-8 mark as an eleventh grader.

The 2014-15 team went 14-5 in dual meets and were runner-ups in the league with a 4-1 record, losing to Line Mountain only 39-32 and scoring over 60 points against Susquenita, over 50 against Juniata and Upper Dauphin and over 40 against Halifax. Another PECO crown was taken with the blowout of a depleted Susquenita (eight forfeits) and a convincing 55 to 15 win over West Perry. The team also won its own dual meet tournament championship with three wins and no losses and its holiday tournament with eight champs (Isaiah Bryner, Jordan Frey, Aaron Finicle, Josh Kline, Colby Stroup, Dalton Klinger and Josh Bower). The team climbed the ladder to a thirteenth place finish at Bedford, with four place winners including a gold medal captured by Colby Stroup.

Senior 285 pounder Josh Bower ran the table in 2014-15, leading the team in dual meet points (78), dual meet falls (12) and total pins (24) with his very effective wing roll and body press. Colby Stroup was second in team points (72) and total falls (18). Freshman Walker Klinger was second in dual meet pins (11). Six wrestlers had impressive double digit dual meet wins with four or less losses: Colby (16-2); Dalton Klinger (15-2); Josh (16-3); Walker (15-3); Isaiah Bryner (15-4); and Patrick O'Toole (10-3).

The going was still rough at the super-section tournament in 2015, but Newport advanced eight to districts, with freshman Isaiah Bryner being a runner-up. Districts went pretty well with two fourth-places (Colby Stroup and Josh Bower), a fifth (Isaiah) and a sixth (Patrick O'Toole). The first three advanced to regions, where Colby took a fifth place to qualify for states. He won his first match at states before falling to the eventual third-place finisher and then being eliminated in the consolations.

Josh Bower graduated in 2015. He started with rough freshman and sophomore years, but finished with a bang this senior campaign, leading the team in dual meet team points (78), dual meet pins (12) and total pins (24), while collecting a fourth place district medal, a title at the

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Newport tournament and a sixth at Bedford. Josh was also second in team points (62) and tied for total falls (13) and dual meet pins (9) his junior season. He collected fourth place finishes both of his two final seasons at the super-section and had also won the Newport tournament as a sophomore. Josh ended his career with a 46-33 dual meet record (30-7 his junior and senior seasons, with 15-4 and 16-3 finishes) and an overall record of 68-59 (49-23 his final two years). He had 29 dual meet and 48 total falls. His 24 total falls as a senior was the second most of any Newport wrestler in a season up to that point based on available records.

In 2015-16 the team compiled an 18-3 overall record and won the Tri-Valley league for the first time since 1984 with a convincing 5-0 sweep, scoring over 60 against two league opponents, over 50 against another two and defeating Line Mountain 42-27. They won the PECO's and their own dual meet tournament again, as well as the ELCO Duals with a 5-0 performance. Their record earned them a spot in the eight-team District 3 dual meet tournament, where they fell to perennial power Bermudian Springs 39-30. The other two losses were at the Juniata Duals to state power Saucon Valley and longtime state presence Phillipsburg-Osceola. The victory over Line Mountain was the Mounties only dual meet loss during the regular season.

The 2015-16 team won the Newport holiday tournament again going away with a top four place winner in each weight class and eight champions (Mason Kauffman, Isaiah Bryner, Jordan Frey, Aaron Finicle, Michael Capozzoli, Drew Paden, Colby Stroup and Thad Rhinehart). Thad won the award for the most falls in the least time (3 falls in 3:12). Sophomore Brady Herr placed third and sophomore Isaiah Bryner fourth at the Bedford Tournament.

Dalton Klinger (99) led the 2015-16 team points parade with an impressive dual meet record (20-1), while six other wrestlers compiled more than 70 points and fine dual records: Isaiah Bryner (90, 19-2); Patrick O'Toole (90, 18-3); Michael Capozzoli (85, 18-3); Mason Kauffman (84, 17-4); Brady Herr (76, 18-3); and Colby Stroup (74, 15-2). Jordan Frey also went 15-4 in duals. Capozzoli (13) and O'Toole (13) led in dual meet falls, with five others logging eight or more. Capozzoli (21) edged out Stroup (20) in total pins for the season, with six other wrestlers having a dozen or more total falls. Quite a team achievement in the number of falls.

The final year of the two-section setup saw the team take a fourth place in 2016, with nine wrestlers placing in the top six to advance to districts and Brady Herr taking first place. Brady went on to win a District 3 title with two falls and a 15-0 tech, to become Newport's first district champ since 2000. His fall by throw in the finals was typical of his style, one that would stay with the Buffaloes for the next few years. The team finished in fifth place for its first top five since 1985 on the strength of Brady's title, a fifth-place finish by Isaiah Bryner and sixths by Mason Kauffman, Aaron Finicle and Colby Stroup.

Patrick O'Toole, Dalton Klinger and Colby Stroup, all four-year varsity staples, graduated in 2016. Patrick had a dual meet record of 58-15, with season records of 15-5, 15-4, 10-3 and 18-3. He was third in dual meet teams points (43) as a freshman, fourth (55) as a

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sophomore and tied for second (90) as a senior, when he was also tied for most dual meet falls (13). Patrick took a sixth place at districts his junior year, was a three-time top six finisher in the super-section tournament, was runner-up twice and third twice at the Newport tournament, and placed seventh and eighth at Bedford his sophomore and junior campaigns. He finished with an overall record of 86-44, including 29 dual meet and 47 total falls.

Dalton Klinger ended his career with an outstanding dual meet record of 66-7, including an undefeated sophomore campaign of 17-0 to go along with freshman, junior and senior seasons of 14-4, 15-2 and 20-1. He led the team in dual meet team points as a freshman (54), sophomore (90) and senior (99). Dalton was also first in dual meet pins his first two seasons (10 and 11), topped the team in total falls (11) his freshman year and won a title at the Newport tournament as a junior. Dalton finished with an overall record of 83-24 that included 35 dual meet and 45 total pins.

Colby Stroup was a three-time District 3 place-winner (fifth, fourth and sixth) and a two-time regional placer (sixth and fifth), advancing to the state tournament his junior year. He won the Bedford tournament that year and placed eighth both as a freshman and senior. Colby won the Newport tournament three times and was runner-up his freshman season. He was second in dual meet team points as a freshman (51) and junior (72), and third (56) his sophomore year; tied for the most total falls (13) and for second in dual meet falls (9) as a sophomore; and had the second most overall falls as a junior (18) and senior (20). Colby had a final dual meet record of 59-13 and total record of 105-45, with 34 dual meet and 58 overall falls. His 105 career wins placed him fourth on the Newport all-time list up to that point. He is still tenth.

Perry County Dual Championships

Newport started out slow at the PECO tournament during the 15 fourth tier years but ended with a bang - three titles. The team did not log a victory until besting Susquenita 53-21 at the 2005-06 season event, where it also only narrowly lost to West Perry 27-35. A win over West Perry was achieved in 2007-08 but Susquenita scored convincing victories over both local rivals that season.

Newport won its first outright PECO title in the 20-year history of the tournament during the 2009-10 season. The championship was built on a 57-19 blow-out of Susquenita and a 40-36 win over West Perry, when the team came back from a 24-12 deficit to win six of the final eight matches. Newport defeated West Perry the next two tournaments, but could not best Susquenita either year - although it came within two points (37-39) in 2010-11.

The 2012-13 tournament saw Newport start its first string of dominance in the county since the pre-tournament 1960s and early 1970s. All but one of the six wins in the 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 championships were substantial - 51-16, 55-15 and 53-21 against West Perry, and 45-34, 61-14 and 61-14 against Susquenita. Two Buffaloes (Isaiah Bryner and Walker

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Klinger) started undefeated PECO win streaks in their first two tournaments. Only two other Newport wrestlers (Adam Smith and Craig Hockenberry) were undefeated at the tournament up to this time, both at 6-0.

Susquenita led in PECO championships during the fourth tier years with seven. Newport and West Perry both won four. In addition to the four championships, Newport finished second four times, having an overall record of 12-18 (7-8 against West Perry and 5-10 against Susquenita). The Newport-Susquenita match at the PECOs became a league dual when Susquenita joined the Tri-Valley league for the 2014-15 season.

District 3 Dual Tournament

The District 3 dual meet tournament had an eighth-team bracket from its start in 1990 through the 2002 tournament. Qualifications was through leagues, with the Tri-Valley league having one representative. From 2003 through 2005 the tournament had a 12-team bracket. In 2006 a 16-team bracket was initiated, with the Tri-Valley having two representatives. A major adjustment was made in 2011 when the number of qualifiers was again reduced to eight, with qualification being based on power ratings rather than by league.

Newport had qualified for the D3 duals twice when the Tri-Valley had one representative (1997 and 1998). It qualified three times (2008, 2009 and 2010) during the 16-team bracket years. The team picked up its second tournament win in 2008 when Colton Riley had a walk off fall in the last match of the round of 16 meet to defeat Hamburg 31-26. Newport made the tournament in 2011 when it was ninth in the power rankings, but number eight Susquenita decided not to participate. The team also qualified in 2012 and 2016, dropping first round quarter-final matches each year to perennial top District 3 teams Boiling Springs and/or Bermudian Springs. The 2016 match with Bermudian was a close 30-39.

Other dual meet tournaments

Newport has attended quite a variety of dual meet tournaments other than the PECOs and D3s over the years. Some of these events are round robins, while others are bracketed with placements. Available information is sketchy at times on which type of event it was, and if a tournament with placement, what place Newport took.

As previously indicated, during the next generation years in the 1989-90 and 1990-91 seasons the team attended the Chocolatetown Duals in Milton Hershey, one of the first dual meet tournaments in District 3. In 1993-94 they attended the Roller duals in Hershey; and in 1995-96 and 1996-97 the Mt. Lebanon duals in the Pittsburgh area. And finally, the team participated in the Danial Boone duals during the 1999-2000 season and the Canner duals at Biglerville in 2000-01.

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The Canner duals remained on the schedule for the first three seasons of the fourth tier years, through 2003-04. The competition at these duals was always good. In 2000-01 Newport lost its first match to Phoenixville (District 1), but came back to win against West York and Octoraro (District 1) to gain fifth place. The next season they defeated Oley Valley in the quarters, but then dropped matches to state powerhouse Juniata and then to Conrad Weiser by criteria to place fourth. The Biglerville event appears to have been expanded or re-structured during the 2002-03 and 2003-04 seasons because Newport had five matches each year, winning two (Oley Valley and Conrad Weiser) in 2002-03, but dropping all five the next year. One of the matches in 2003-04 was against national power Blair Academy from New Jersey. Newport returned to the Canner Duals for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 seasons, going 3-2 in the prior and 2-3 in the later. Participating teams over the years other than those already mentioned were from (Spring Ford and Wissahickon (District 1); Littlestown, Trinity, Reading, Wyomissing and Donegal (District 3); Mt. Carmel (District 4); and Pine Grove (District 11)).

In 2004-05 the team returned to the Daniel Boone Duals (also known as the Blazer Duals) and attended the Inter-League Duals. Newport's return to the Daniel Boone Duals lasted six years, through the 2009-10 season, and was very successful. Most of the teams competing were from District 3's Berks (Daniel Boone, Tulpehocken, Fleeetowod), York (Northeastern, York Suburban, Hanover, Eastern York) and Lebanon (ELCO) counties. The team won four of five matches during the 2004-05 event, which had a round robin format. The next year the event became a tournament with placements. A fourth place was taken in 2005-06 with three of five wins, one over Pottsgrove of District 1's Montgomery County. The team improved to a third place finish in 2006-07, winning three of five matches again - one against Twin Valley of Chester County (District 1). Newport also took third places their final three trips to Daniel Boone (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10), all with four wins against a single loss. The seven total appearances at the Daniel Boone Duals produced 25 wins against just eight losses.

The Inter-League Duals were at Juniata and appears to have been a round robin event. It was renamed the Inter-League Rumble in 2005-06. During the first event in 2004-05 Newport won three of four matches against Mid-Penn League teams and lost to District 1 interloper Pennsbury (District 1), which Coach Capozzoli said was the best team Newport had wrestled in his tenure next to Blair Academy. Newport won four of five matches at the 2005-06 Rumble, losing only to Camp Hill in a squeaker 30-31. Teams from the Mid-Penn and Tri-Valley participated, with Northeast Bradford (District 4) and Twin Valley thrown in for good measure. The successful four-win day was repeated in 2006-07 at the final Rumble; the only loss being to Mid-Penn Camp Hill again, with wins against the same four teams - East Pennsboro, James Buchanan, Palmyra and Twin Valley. Newport's final record at the inter-league event was 11-3.

Juniata hosted a dual event during the 2007-08 season, but renamed it the Juniata Duals and upped the geographic scope as well as the quality of the teams participating. The event had a combination pool competition and placement format. Newport attended nine straight Juniata Duals, through 2015-16. Participating teams during this time were from District 1 (North Penn);

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District 3 (Juniata, Susquehanna Township, Lancaster Catholic, Trinity, Exeter and Millersburg); District 4 (Selinsgrove, Lewisburg and Midd-West); District 6 (Juniata after they transferred, Penns Valley, Phillipsburg-Osceola, Tyrone, Moshannon Valley, Huntingdon and Southern Huntingdon); District 7 (Penn Trafford); District 9 (Clarion); District 11 (Saucon Valley); and the state of Alabama (Alabama-Central).

Three years in a row the team won four of five matches at the Juniata Duals for very good third place finishes (2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12). Three of five wins was enough at the 2015-16 duals to take fourth place. Three other seasons Newport went 3-2 but did not place (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2014-15). In 2012-13 and 2013-14 the team went 2-3. The overall record during the nine events was 28-17.

The 2008-09 season was the first in which Newport attended three dual events in addition to the PECO tournament and the District 3 duals (when the team qualified, as it did in 2009). The extra dual was a round robin meet held at Newport at the beginning of the season. The team won both matches at these first Newport Duals against Susquehannock and West York handily. The Juniata and Daniel Boone Duals were later in the season.

Newport did not host a dual event again until the 2012-2013 season, but did maintain the rigorous five dual meet tournament schedule through 2011-12. In 2009-10 and 2010-11 the team attended the round robin Midd-West Duals (also known as the Mustang Duals). Teams at this event were from District 2 (Elk Lake and Wallenpaupack); District 3 (East Juniata); District 4 (Midd-West, Montgomery and Muncy); and District 11 in the second year (Lehighon and Schuylkill Haven). Newport went 3-2 the first year of attendance and won four of five the second year, for an overall record of 7-3. The other non-PECO and District 3 duals in 2009-10 were Juniata and Daniel Boone and in 2010-11 the Juniata and the Canner duals.

During the 2011-12 season Newport attended a new dual event for one season - the Upper Dauphin Duals - in addition to the PECO tournament, the Juniata and Canner Duals and the District 3 duals. Upper Dauphin appears to have been a round robin event. The team won four of five matches, with the loss being to the host 39-39 by tiebreaker criteria 8 (most takedowns). Newport ironically also won its match against Harrisburg 39-39 by tiebreaker criteria 8 (most takedowns). It also defeated Coatesville (District 1), Shamokin (District 4) and Columbia.

For the 2012-2013 season Newport scaled back to only two dual tournaments in addition to PECO for three seasons - the Juniata Duals and its own Buffalo Duals. The latter were/are a good opening day to measure the strength of the team against District 3 competition. Newport won two of three matches at the the 2012-13 and 2013-14 duals, losing only to big school Carlisle and perennial rival Camp Hill. The team revenged the Camp Hill set back in 2014-15, winning all three matches that event as well as in 2015-16. Newport wrestled/defeated Lebanon County's Cedar Crest all four years; Halifax twice; and three schools once - Southern

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Huntingdon, Trinity and Columbia. Counting the two wins during the Newport Duals held in 2008-09, the team's record at its own duals through 2015-16 was 12-2.

Newport added another dual tournament in 2015-16 to join their participation in the PECO's and the Buffalo and Juniata Duals - the ELCO Duals. These duals appear to have been a round robin event. Newport decisively won all five of their matches against fellow District 3 teams Palmyra, Susquehannock, Pequea Valley and ELCO, as well as District 11's Schuylkill Haven.

Newport holiday tournament

Juniata continued their dominant ways at the Newport holiday tournament during the first two seasons of the fourth tier years, winning both, the former with eight champs and the latter with six. They won the District 3 individual tournament both years, the southeast regional tournament in 2002-03, and also both the District 3 and state AA dual meet championships that latter season. The 2002-03 tournament was their last, having won seven times to go along with four runner-up and four third-place finishes in 18 tournaments.

Warrior Run (District 4), which had started attending the tournament in 1999-2000 took over for Juniata. They won seven championships during the fourth tier years (2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2009-10, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14) to accompany two runner-up, one third place and two fourth place finishes before ending their participation after the 2013-14 season. Counting the two tournaments they attended during the next generation years, Warrior Run won seven of the 15 tournaments they attended, were runner-ups three times, third twice and fourth twice. They also took home six outstanding wrestler awards and six trophies for most falls in the least time during their time at the tournament.

Warrior Run may have placed third or fourth in the other year (2006-07) of their attendance; available records only indicate the champion, runner-up and Newport's placement. Available records for 2003-04 also only indicate the champion, runner-up and Newport's placement. Those for 2005-06 include only the top three teams, but not Newport's placement. The ten teams that attended the 2000-01 tournament also participated in 2001-02, with the addition of West Snyder and Susquehanna Township. All returned for the 2002-03 tournament except West Snyder and Bowling Brook (MD). Records indicate that nine of these ten participated in 2003-04, and it is likely Camp Hill also did. Complete records show the tournament included only eight teams from 2006-07 through the end of the fourth tier years in 2015-16, with incomplete records reflecting there were likely eight teams in 2004-05 and nine in 2005-06.

The only team other than Juniata and Warrior Run to win more than one Newport tournament during the fourth tier years was the host, which kept the championship at home in 2007-08, 2010-11, 2014-15 and 2015-16. And the only other teams to win championships were

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Camp Hill (2006-07) and West Perry (2008-09). West Perry also took five runner-up trophies back to Ellitsburg, as well as finishing third and fourth each once in 12 tournaments during the fourth tier years after coming to their first tournament during the 2004-05 season. Camp Hill attended at least 13 and likely all 15 tournaments during the fourth tier years, adding two runner-up and two fourth-places finishes to their single championship.

Four other teams had success during the fourth tier tournaments. Penns Valley (District 6) was runner-up three times, third three times and fourth once before ending their tenure at the tournament after 2012-13. They had also placed fourth at their first tournament in 2000-01. Halifax, which started attending during the 2004-05 season had three third place finishes and a fourth during this period. Muhlenburg had a third and two fourths during their short six-year participation from 2006-07 to 2011-12. And Williamson (District 4) was runner-up twice and fourth once during their four appearances at the end of the fourth tier years.

There was more multiple district representation at the tournament through 2005-06. Five of the ten teams were not from District 3 through 2003-04 - three from District 4 (Warrior Run, Sayre and West Snyder and two from District 6 (Penns Valley and Southern Huntingdon). And four were non-District 3 the next two years: Warrior Run and Sayre of District 4 and the two District 6 teams in 2004-05 and Warrior Run and Lewisburg of District 4 and the two District 6 teams in 2005-06. After that there were usually only two teams not from District 3 - Warrior Run and Penns Valley for the next six seasons and Williamson and District 4's Sugar Valley Charter School in the last two seasons of the fourth tier. In between there were three - Warrior Run, Penns Valley and Williamson in 2012-13 and Penns Valley, Williamson and Sugar Valley in 2013-14. District 3 teams other than those more successful ones already mentioned that participated in the tournament were Cedar Crest (the first four years of the tier, when they did take a third and fourth place), Daniel Boone (the first three), Lebanon (2005-06 and 2006-07), Pequea Valley (2007-08 and 2008-09), East Juniata (2009-10 through 2011-12), Tulpehocken (2012-13 through the end of the tier) and Columbia (2013-14 through the end of the tier).

The make-up of the tournament became different in 2013-14. Although Muhlenburg had ceased attending after the 2011-12 tournament, Williamson took their spot the next year. Williamson had top-five finishes in the Northeast regional tournament in both 2013 and 2014. But then Penns Valley (which had top-five finishes at the District 6 tournament in 2003, 2005, 2006 and 2013) ended their participation after the 2012-13 tournament and Warrior Run (which had top-ten finishes at the Northeast regional tournament in 2009 and 2010) ended their tenure after 2013-14 - two teams, which along with West Perry and Newport, accounted for many championships and top-four finishes during the first 14 tournaments during the fourth tier years. The teams participating in the final two tournaments of the fourth tier in addition to Newport were Camp Hill, Columbia, Halifax, Sugar Valley, Tulpehocken, West Perry and Williamson.

In addition to its four team championships, Newport was runner-up once and third three times during the fourth tier years. In 2001-02 it took third place to Juniata and Warrior Run with

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one champion - Tyler Harris three runner-ups, a third placer and two fourth place finishers. The following season Travis Young won a title and the team placed fifth with another wrestler in the finals, three thirds and three fourths. Shane Amsler won a title in 2003-04 but the team fell to seventh with two runner-ups, a third and a fourth placer. There were no champions for the next three tournaments, when the team placed seventh again in 2004-05 (one second, one third and three fourth places), out of the top three in 2005-06 (two seconds, three thirds and two fourths), and fifth in 2006-07 (three finalists, two thirds and three fourths).

Newport won the tournament title in 2007-08 for the second time since the tournament began in 1986-87 with three champs - Justin Willi, Glenn Kemble and Kyle Parrish. The team also had two other finalists, three thirds and three fourths — 11 of 14 in the top four. Sophomore Willi also took home the trophy for most falls in the least time. Newport fell to sixth in 2008-09, but crowned a champion in Dylan Shoopy and had two runner-ups, a third and a fourth. In 2009-10 the team climbed back into the top four with a third place. Eric Kemble won his first of two titles, accompanied by three others in the finals, two third-place and five fourth-place finishers - another total of 11 wrestlers in the top four.

Newport won its third tournament team title in 2010-11 with a champ (Eric Kemble), two runner-ups, seven third placers and 2 fourths - 12 in the top four. The Buffaloes were runner-up in 2011-12, with Daniel Altemus taking a first along with two other finalists, three thirds and four fourths. The string of years with a champion continued in 2012-13 when the team placed fifth, and Josh Bower took gold. There was also a runner-up, three third and two fourth-place finishers. During the 2013-14 season Newport advanced to a third-place finish with Colby Stroup winning in the finals and 11 wrestlers again placing in the top four - three runner-ups, three thirds and four fourths to go along with the champ.

Newport not only won but completely dominated the tournaments in 2014-15 and 2105-16. The team outscored second-place Camp Hill by over 50 points in 2014-15, with half the team (yes, seven wrestlers) winning championships - Isaiah Bryner, Jordan Fry, Aaron Finicle, Josh Kline, Colby Stroup, Dalton Klinger and Josh Bower. Four others were in the finals and another took third place. At the 2015-16 tournament Newport increased its final count over second-place Camp Hill to over 60 points, with eight (yes, over half the team) taking gold - Mason Kauffman, Isaiah Bryner, Jordan Frey, Aaron Finicle, Michael Capozolli, Drew Paden, Colby Stroup and Thad Rhinehart. Thad also won the trophy for the most falls in the least time. There were also a runner-up, four thirds and a fourth. These were two good Newport teams that foreshadowed even more to come.

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Other in season individual tournaments (Brandywine and Bedford)

Newport attended the Brandywine tournament six times into the fourth tier years, ending their ten-year tenure in 2006-07. They were unable to reach the top five again as they had done two of their first three appearances but finished in the top ten four of the six years, highlighted by a sixth place finish in 2005-06.

Full team standings for only three of the ten Brandywine tournaments attended by Newport have been located (2002-03, 2005-06 and 2006-07). Partial standings and the names of all or some participating teams are known for other years. Perennial District 3 and 11 powerhouses Brandywine and Northern Lehigh remained at the top of the heap throughout the fourth tier years, placing first and second in three of the four tournaments for which I have located full or partial team standings and second and third in 2006-07. This last tournament was won by AAA Lower Dauphin, with AAA Northern York making an appearance the year before with a third-place finish. Participating teams throughout Newport's tenure in addition to the host and Northern Lehigh appear to have been District 3's Manheim Township (AAA) and Oley Valley and District 11's Pottsville (AAA) and Southern Lehigh. Other teams participating in at least two tournaments over the years, in an order reflective of how many times I could confirm they attended, were Emmaus (District 11, AAA), Abington (District 1, AAA), West York, Wilson West Lawn (AAA), Lehigh (D11), Panther Valley (D11), Pen Argyl (D11), Salisbury (D11), St. Pius X (D11), Hamburg, Lampeter-Strasburg, Palmyra, Parkland (D11, AAA), Northern Lebanon and Red Lion (AAA),

Wade Meck placed fourth in 2001-02 while two other wrestlers took fifths and one sixth. Both Clayton Fisher and Travis Young were runner-ups in 2002-03, when Steve Rudy took a third, two wrestlers placed fifth and one sixth. There was only one fifth and one sixth in 2003-04, but the next season Luke Benner placed third, Zach Harris and Shane Amsler both fourth and Wade Meck was forced to default to sixth from the semi-finals. The sixth place team finish in 2005-06 was accomplished by Zach Harris' third place finish along with three fifths and three sixths. Kyle Parrish took a third and Jared Seaman a fourth in 2006-07, when two others placed sixth.

Just as Brandywine provided a good measure of future competition in the district and region, Newport's annual trip to Bedford exposed it to valuable statewide competition. The team attended Bedford all 15 of the fourth tier years, and continues to make the trek each season. A seventh-place team finish was achieved in 2002-03, the best from Newport's first appearance in 1998-99 through 2015-16. Available records are sketchy for the early fourth tier years, but are good starting with the 2006-07 tournament except for missing team standings from 2015-16. The formal name of the tournament appears to have changed from the Thomas Chevrolet Tournament to the Thomas Subaru Tournament in 2014, and is now generally called just the

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Thomas Tournament (although programs still refer to it in some places as the Thomas Chevrolet Tournament or Thomas Subaru Tournament).

The number of team at Bedford fluctuated from 21 to 29. Many of the teams still attending in 2015-16 were at all or most of the 18 tournaments Newport attended in the last three seasons of the next generation years and throughout the fourth tier years: District 5's Bedford, Berlin Brothersvalley, Chestnut Ridge, Conemaugh Township, Northern Bedford, North Star, Somerset and Tussey Mountain; District 6's Cambria Heights, Central Cambria, Claysburg-Kimmel, Penn Cambria, and Richland; District 7's Beth-Center, Fort Cherry and Jefferson-Morgan; District 11's North Schuylkill and Tri-Valley; and Maryland's North Garrett. Teams that started attending seven to ten years before 2015-16 are District 5's Everett; District 6's Tyrone and West Branch; District 7's Mount Pleasant; and District 10's Greenville. Also participating as of 2015-16 were District 4's Athens and Central Columbia; District 5's Meyersdale; District 7's Burrell and South Fayette (AAA); and District 10's Greenville. Early on fellow District 3 teams Lampeter-Strasburg and New Oxford (AAA) attended, but Newport has been the only D3 since the 2000-01 tournament. Other teams that participated during this 18 years were Blairsville (D6); Forest Hills (D6); Huntingdon (D6); Kittanning (D7); Maplewood (D10); Penns Valley (D6); and Portage (D6).

The quality of Bedford is reflected in numerous ways. Nineteen tournament participants won 27 state titles during the 15 fourth tier years, including Nick Roberts of North Star (three state but only two Bedford titles), John Rizzo of Richland (three state and Bedford titles), Max Murin of Central Cambria (two state and only one Bedford titles), Mike Carr of South Fayette (two state and three Bedford titles), Brian Courtney of Athens (one of his two state titles but none at Bedford; he did not graduate until 2017) and Gavin Teasdale of Jefferson-Morgan (two of his four state and Bedford titles; he did not graduate until 2018). Three participants went on to win state titles later in the season in 2001-02; four in 2015-16; and a whopping six participants at the 2014-15 tournament won state titles in 2015. The number of participants who placed at states later in the season according to Bedford tournament record is also impressive: 2002 (19), 2003 (13), 2004 (13), 2005 (10), 2006 (7), 2007 (7), 2008 (12), 2009 (15), 2011 (12), 2012 (12), 2013 (17), 2014 (20), 2015 (26) and 2016 (18).

The strength of the teams that won Bedford during the fourth tier years is also noteworthy. Forest Hills not only won the District 6 tournament in 2002 and 2003, but was third at the southwest regions in 2002 and won it all in 2003, along with placing sixth in the state in 2002 and 14th in 2003. North Star won the District 5 tournament in 2004 and 2006 and was seventh and third in the southwest region, respectively. Chestnut Ridge was second to North Star at the District 5 tournament in 2005. Bedford was second and then first for three seasons at the District 5 tournament when they won four of their own tournaments from 2007 to 2010. They were sixth in the southwest region in 2008 and third in 2009. Somerset took third place at the District 5 tournament when it won Bedford in 2011. Tri-Valley was fourth at the District 11 tournament when it won Bedford in 2012 and then followed that up with a third place at the

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southeast region and a tenth place state finish. Berlin Brothersvalley was second at the District 5 tournament to Chestnut Ridge when BBV won Bedford in 2014. Chestnut Ridge was the top team at Bedford and the District 5 tournament in 2013, 2015 and 2016. They also won the southwest region in 2015, were second in 2016 and fifth in 2013. Chestnut Ridge placed fifth at the state tournament in both 2015 and 2016.

Newport placed fourteenth at the 2001-02 Bedford tournament and seventh in 2002-03. Travis Young was runner-up in 2002 and won gold in 2003 to become the team's second Bedford champ. Other team members placed fifth, sixth and two eighth in 2002. In 2002 Steve Rudy took third, Clayton Fisher fourth and two others eighths. The team did not do well the next three tournaments, but Wade Meck excelled in two of them. He took fourth in 2004 and won a title the next year as a senior; Newport's third champ. Two other team members took sevenths in 2004 and one a fifth in 2005, but no Buffaloes placed in 2006.

The best team finishes in the ten final Bedford tournaments during the fourth tier years were elevenths during the 2010-11 and 2011-12 seasons. In 2006-07 Kyle Parish placed fourth and two others placed sixth. The next year Kyle moved up a notch to third and was joined at that height by Glenn Kemble. Two others took eighths. No one placed in the top four in 2008-09, but one Buffalo took fifth and one seventh. In 2009-10 Justin Willi placed fourth and two others took eighths. Bryce Mullen made the finals in 2010-11 for a runner-up finish while there were also fifth, sixth and seventh placers. The next three years saw a fifth, a sixth and two eights in 2011-12; one eighth in 2012-13; and a sixth and seventh in 2013-14.

Respectable thirteenth and fifteenth team finishes were accomplished in 2014-15 and 2015-16 when the competition at Bedford seemed to increase (six state champs and 26 total place winners in the former year and four champs and 18 place winners in the latter). Junior Colby Stroup struck gold in 2015 to become Newport's fourth champion when another Newporter took sixth and two eighth. In 2016 three sophomores made the podium (Brady Herr placed third, Isaiah Bryner fourth and Walker Klinger seventh), and returning champ Colby Stroup settled for eighth while competing under the weather. The sophomores were setting the table for future team successes.

Uniforms and Mat

Several uniform changes occurred over the fourth tier years. The solid blue uniforms with a buffalo emblem on the back were replaced with two-tone uniforms for the 2002-03 season. The front and tops were white and the bottom and back blue, with Newport on the right pant leg. In 2003-04 new warm-up jackets replaced those with the buffalo emblem on the left chest. The new ones were also solid blue, but had Newport across the front in large letters. Long-sleeve tee-shirts with a psychedelic design were also available during this time.

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The 2005-06 season saw a return to solid blue uniforms with white trim, a white stripe/belt at the waist and Newport across the front. Two-tone uniforms were back in 2008-09; this time with blue in the front and white backs and shoulder straps, and Newport still across the front. New warm-ups were also purchased with two white stripes down the arms rather than two white stripes around the collar and wrists.

Predominately white uniforms came back in 2010-11 with blue Newport lettering across the front and blue stripes/belts at the waist. Wrestler's names were located on the back of the uniforms. Solid blue uniforms appeared again in 2012-13 with white Newport lettering across the front and white trim. The word Buffaloes went down the back with no stripes/belt at the waist. A new mostly blue uniform with a white N on the front was introduced in 2015-16. It had white strips along the side and over the shoulder straps; and no strips around the legs.

In 2014-15 camouflage long-sleeve tee-shirts were worn rather than warm up jackets. White warm up shorts with a blue N on the left leg and a blue Newport on right leg front were also available at this time. The 2014-15 season also saw the addition of a new dual meet mat sponsored by Triple J Bout Master LLC, owned by Demonte "Spike" Temple and Todd Stine.

Rules

There were no known rule changes during the fourth tier years other than changes in weight classes and qualifications for the postseason dual meet and individual championships. The number of weight classes was increased from 13 to 14 for the 2002-03 season when the 215 pound class was added; all other weights stayed the same. In 2006-07 the 275 pound weight class was increased to 285 pounds.

As more fully explained above, the District 3 dual meet tournament had an eighth-team bracket from its start in 1990 through the 2002 tournament. In 2003 the tournament went to a 12-team bracket through 2005. A 16-team bracket was initiated in 2006. The number of qualifiers was again reduced to eight in 2011, with qualification being based on power ratings rather than by league as it had been hitherto.

The individual postseason set ups in District 3 AA have also changed over the years. There were four section tournaments from 1987 through 2008, with four wrestlers per weight class from each tournament qualifying for districts. From 2009 through 2012 there were three sections, with four still qualifying for districts. For the next four seasons (2013 to 2016), only two section tournaments were held. Six wrestlers per weight class from each super section moved on to districts.

Through 1998 the AA District 3 tournament, which was also the southcentral regional tournament, had 16-wrestler brackets with first and third place matches because only three qualified for states. Starting in 1999, when District 3 became part of the southeast region, fifth

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place matches were added because more than three moved onto to regions. Sixteen-man brackets were maintained through 2008, with five qualifying for regions in 1999 and 2000 (when the region was just Districts 1 and 3) and six from 2001 through 2008 (after District 11 was added to the region). From 2009 through 2016 the brackets were reduced to twelve wrestlers in each weight class with first, third and fifth place matches. Five wrestlers advanced to regions from 2009 through 2015 and six in 2016.

The southeast regional tournament in 1999 and 2000 had 8-wrestler brackets with four wrestlers in each weight class qualifying for states. Only first and third place matches were held. From 2000 through 2014 the region had 12-wrestler brackets with fifth place matches added because five at each weight advancing to states. In 2015 14-wrestler brackets were initiated when the number of state qualifiers from the region was increased to six because the number of wrestlers in each state weight class bracket was increased from 16 to 20.

Future college wrestlers

The only known fourth tier graduate who wrestled in college was Travis Young ('03; United States Army Military Academy) and Patrick O'Toole ('16; Ursinus).

Future coaches

Several Newport wrestlers who graduated during the fourth tier years helped out the home team by coaching after graduation, and some are still doing so. Kyle Parrish ('08) has been an assistant coach since the 2015-16 season (and also in 2013-14); and Jost Otstott ('02) since 2016-17. Travis Kratzer ('02) also helped Bart Campbell with the junior high program in the past.

Fathers and Sons/Daughters

Passing the benefits of athletic participation from parents to children goes back to the beginning of sports I suspect. Sometimes the child chooses the same sport as a parent; sometimes not. Newport has many father-son combinations and even a couple of situations where the grandson of a Newport wrestler has competed for the team. In a few families both generations had good success in more than one season. There are now even two father-daughter combinations.

The first two two-generation families were those of Kermit Harry and Earl Heisey. Kermit was a senior in 1957 when the program began and there was no dual meet season, but he logged Newport's first varsity win at the section tournament and went on to wrestle at Lycoming College. Step son Jay Wilson ('77) won two section titles, with another runner-up finish. His over-all record was 55-20 and his dual meet record 40-13. Jay won two Christmas tournaments and had 37 overall falls.

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Earl ('59), later Coach Heisey, was a district runner-up and section champ with an overall record of 27-7-1 and a dual meet record of 18-5-1. His older son Todd ('79) was a section champ and two-time runner-up with an overall record of 64-21-1 and a dual meet record of 49-9-1 (16-1 his senior season). Earl's second son Mike ('83) won a section title and finished with 48 overall varsity victories (35-9-2 his final two seasons) and 30 dual meet wins (22-6-2 his final two seasons).

The Dave Jones family accumulated the most accolades on a two-generation level. Dave ('64) was a two-time section champ and district runner-up with an overall record of 33-11-2 and a dual meet record of 23-8-2. His first son David ('89) was a section champ with 58 overall victories (43-13-1 overall his last two seasons); and his younger son Damian ('93) was a state champ, a fifth and sixth place state medalist, and a three-time section, district and region champ, with an overall record of 119-18-1.

The Hunter Smith family also had multiple-year success during two generations. Hunter ('74) finished with a 23-9-2 overall record and a 20-6-2 dual meet record. His son Adam ('01) was a state champ, a third and fifth place state medalist, a four-time section champ, a district champ, runner-up and third place medalist, and a three-time top-three region finisher, with an overall record of 132-14 and a dual meet record of 54-1.

Dan Niman and his son both did well more than one season. Dan ('75) had good freshman and sophomore seasons, finishing his career with a dual meet record of 25-6 and an overall record of 27-8-1. His son Nate ('98) was a district/region runner-up and third place medalist; a two-time section champion; reached the state quarter-finals his senior season; had a 17-0 undefeated dual meet record his senior year; and concluded with an overall record of 77-15.

And lastly, the Keith Mullen family had multiple-season success in two generations. Keith ('82) won a section title, was also a runner-up, and had an over-all record of 51-16-2 and a dual meet record of 33-7-2. Son Bryce ('11) won a section title and took fifth place at the District 3 tournament his senior year; had a dual meet record of 48-17 (41-6 his final two seasons with records of 19-4 and 22-2) and an overall record of 65-33 (57-18 his final two seasons with records of 24-10 and 33-8); and finished with 25 dual meet and 38 overall falls.

In addition to those noted above, available records reflect the following father-son wrestlers who logged varsity matches: Luther ('62) and Andy ('95) Fleisher; Galen ('64) and Corey ('91) Dorman; Steve ('64) and Stan Peters; Larry ('64) and Chris Reigle ('87); Bill ('66) and Tony ('88) Fleisher; Sherm ('66) and Ken ('82) Hostler; Mike ('66) and Mike ('84) McGowan; Craig ('67) and Sam ('91) Lowe; Charlie ('67) and Wes ('98) Smith; Dana ('68) and Shane ('93) McNaughton; Tim ('68) and Chris ('88) Noll; Mark ('72) and Warren ('01) Peters; John ('74) and Justin ('99) Paden; Steve ('74) and Steve ('03) Rudy; Don ('77) and Dan ('95) Barlup; Dale ('78) and Jon ('98) Clay; Ron ('79) and sons Tyler ('03) and Zach ('06) Harris; Ken ('82) and Scott ('13) Hostler; Dave ('84) and sons Ian ('12) and Ben ('14) Clay; Jim ('84) and

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sons Dalton ('16) and Walker ('18) Klinger; Steve ('85) and Nikoda ('12) Smith; Bart ('86) and Cody ('10) Campbell; Park (86) and Derek ('10) Cox; Mike ('87) and Josh ('17) Kline; Shane ('89) and Will ('21) Davis; Steve ('89) and Brady ('18) Herr; Bill ('89) and Sean ('21) Wilson; Randy ('91) and Ryan ('17) Smith; and Dylan ('93) and Tucker ('23) Otstott.

And just this past season, the first two father-daughter duos can be reported as having recorded varsity matches: Adam Smith ('01) and Adalynn Smith ('25); and Jost Otstott ('02) and Alexis Otstott ('23).

The following known grandfather-grandson wrestlers logged varsity matches: Ron ('60) and Wade ('05) Meck; Sherm ('66) and Scott ('13) Hostler; and Hunter Smith ('74) and Ryan Lawler ('25). And one grandfather-granddaughter combination: Hunter Smith ('74) and Adalynn Smith ('25).

Of course, there are some sons and grandsons of Newport wrestlers who did not wrestle at Newport because of moves out of town. Known father and son pairs are Gene ('59) and sons Rocky and Nate Hale (Garden Spot, '89 and '94), Clyde ('61) and Todd Cressler (Meadville, '88) and Jay ('77) and JJ Wilson (Cedar Cliff, '19). Rocky Hale, who now goes by his given name Andus, currently coaches high school wrestling in Alaska. Known grandfather-grandson pairs are Ron Taylor ('63) and Coy Wire (Cedar Cliff, '97); Kermit Harry ('57) and JJ Wilson (Cedar Cliff, '19); and Tony Maxwell ('75) and Carter Nace (West Perry '23). Coy and JJ were both three-time District 3 champs and two-time state place-winners.

In conclusion, the following father-son and grandfather-grandson combinations involving Newport coaches who did not wrestle at Newport are known. Coach Al Kline, who wrestled at Lewisburg and Lock Haven, had sons Al ('81) and Mike ('87), and then grandson Josh ('17). And Coach Mike Capozzoli, who wrestled at Mount Lebanon and the University of Pittsburgh, had sons Michael ('18) and Dan ('21).

Please bring any father-son and grandson situations that were missed or set out in error to my attention.