

Wrestling: Danbury reclaims State Open championship; Foran's Luth, Ross and Xavier's Devivo are champs

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NEW HAVEN – Entering the 2017 State Open, Danbury coach Rick Shook was hoping to get a pair of wrestlers into the finals. When the Hatters put seven wrestlers in Saturday evening's finals at the Floyd Little Athletic Center in New Haven, Shook was beyond happy.

Foran's Ryan Luth was named the State Open's most outstanding wrestler (Photo via @ForanWrestling)

Danbury went on to dominate the Open with six victors, running away with the team title with 212.5 points. Newtown, which had a wrestler place in each of the first three spots, was second 90 points,

Fairfield Warde was third with 86.5 points, Southington was fourth with 85.5 points, and Ellis Tech rounded out the top five with 84.5 points.

“Six champions, I believe, is a state record,” Shook said. “We brought eight here which is our most ever. I did not expect this. We were talking about it earlier and were looking to get two finalists and see what we can get. We just wrestled really good today.”

Danbury, which won its second Open title in the last four years, has a two-time champion as junior Jakob Camacho won at 120 pounds with a pin of Shelton’s Chandler Duhaime with 26 seconds left in the second.

Senior Jake Constantine took home his first tournament victory at 182 pounds with a 9-5 decision over Fransisco Jiminian of East Hartford, and the Class LL and State Open titles won by senior Michael Gaboardi were his first two tournament victories. Gaboardi defeated New London’s Renel Michel 6-4 at 285 pounds.

The Southern Connecticut Conference represented well in the Open with a pair of teams in the top 10. Xavier was eighth with 65 points as Ryan Devivo needed extra time at 160 pounds before defeating Southington’s Paul Calo, 5-3.

Foran was tenth with 60.5 points and had two wrestles take home Open titles. The stellar showing in the finals by the Lions continues a run which has seen Foran impress.

“Winning a State Open championship is one of the hardest things to do in our sport,” Foran coach David Esposito said. “It is a two day marathon. It’s amazing to win one State Open championship. But to win two, back-to-back, not many teams can say that. I am very proud of these guys.”

The Lions won consecutive titles as junior Ryan Luth defeated New Fairfield's Avery Shay at 145 pounds, 7-6, and senior Michael Ross topped Tolland's Michael Angers in impressive style by technical fall, 15-0, at 152.

"I have dedicated my whole life to this sport," Ross said. "It is a surreal feeling. I have been dreaming of this moment since I was younger. I still want the New Englands and the Nationals. This is a great stepping stone."

Luth had to battle in his match as he led early, then recorded four points in the third, before holding off Shay at the end.

"This feels awesome," Luth said. "I have looked forward to this ever since I saw my brother (C.J.) win this a few years back," Luth said. "I have wanted to do it since then. When it is that exciting, you don't pay attention to how tired you are."

The weekend belonged to the Hatters with their six Open champions.

Ryan Jack won at 106 with a 5-0 victory over Bristol Central's Christopher Trelli, Camacho took home the 120 pound title, sophomore Kyle Fields won 5-2 at 126 pounds over New Canaan's Tyler Sung, while Constantine was a victor at 182. Senior Andrew Marquis won 6-5 over Newtown's Thomas Long at 220, and Gaboardi pulled out the win at 285 by a narrow margin.

Freshman Alan Kovacs fell at 138 to Fairfield Warde's Timmy Kane by a 6-5 decision.

Ellis Tech's Baltazar Gonzalez topped Montville's Joel Morth 5-3 at 132 pounds, Newtown's Joe Accousti won at 170, and Jackson Rheault of Somers won 7-3 over Lyman Memorial/Windham Tech's David Verizzi.

Team Scores

1. Danbury 212.5; 2. Newtown 90; 3. Fairfield Warde 86.5; 4. Southington 85.5; 5. Ellis Tech 84.5; 6. Montville 83; 6. New Milford 83; 8. Xavier 65; 9. Trumbull 63.5; 10. Foran 60.5; 11. Ledyard 53; 12. Bristol Eastern 52; 13. Shelton 51; 14. Somers 49; 15. Simsbury 48.5; 16. Windham 45; 17. Fitch 43.5; 18. Tolland 43; 19. Daniel Hand 40; 19. Granby Memorial 40; 19. New London 40; 22. Berlin 39; 23. Platt 36.5; 24. Northwestern 36; 25. Killingly 33.5; 26. Masuk 32.5; 27. Lyman Memorial/Windham Tech 32; 28. Ridgefield 31.5; 29. East Hartford 31; 29. Middletown 31; 31. Haddam-Killingworth 30.5; 32. New Fairfield 30; 33. Wilton 29.5; 34. Bethel 29; 34. Conard 29; 36. Bristol Central 24.5; 37. E.O. Smith 23; 38. New Canaan 22; 38. Pomperaug 22; 40. Branford 20; 40. Hall 20; 42. South Windsor 18; 42. Terryville 18; 44. Greenwich 17; 44. Guilford 17; 44. Suffield 17; 47. New Haven Wrestling 13; 48. Jonathan Law 12; 48. Maloney 12; 48. Notre Dame-Fairfield 12; 51. Nonnewaug 11; 51. Staples 11; 53. Cheshire 9; 53. Bunnell 9; 53. Manchester 9; 56. East Windsor 8; 56. Fairfield Prep 8; 58. Immaculate/Joel Barlow 7; 59. Harding 6; 59. Morgan 6; 59. Rham 6; 59. St. Bernard/Norwich Tech 6; 59. East Haven 6; 59. Weston 6; 65. Darien 5; 65. Waterford 5; 67. Derby 4; 67. East Catholic 4; 67. Fairfield Ludlowe 4; 67. New Britain 4; 67. Notre Dame-West Haven 4; 67. Oxford 4; 73. Newington 3; 73. Norwalk 3; 73. Stamford 3; 76. Westhill 2.5; 77. Rocky Hill 2; 77. Canton 2

Place Winners

106 LBS

1st Ryan Jack (Danbury) DEC Christopher Trelli (Bristol Central), 5-0
3rd Jarod Kosman (Fitch) DEC Benjamin Smart (Ridgefield), 4-0
5th Steven Reyes (Shelton) DEC Travis Longo (Wilton), 2-1 SV

113 LBS

1st Nick Arborio (Berlin) DEC Sean Johnson (Ellis Tech), 4-3

3rd Alejandro Garcia (Windham) DEC Devon Schoenberger (South Windsor), 13-7
5th Robert Hartling (E.O. Smith) DEC Matthew Ryan (Trumbull), 1-0

120 LBS

1st Jakob Camacho (Danbury) F Chandler Duhaime (Shelton), 3:34
3rd Collin Lindner (New Milford) F Michael Fedorko (Masuk), 2:28
5th Mark Hartmann (Daniel Hand) MD Bo Nguyen (Ledyard), 11-2

126 LBS

1st Kyle Fields (Danbury) DEC Tyler Sung (New Canaan), 5-2
3rd Mel Ortiz (New Milford) DEC Tristan Haviland (Trumbull), 4-3
5th Noah Caskey (Montville) MD Jesse Walker (Ridgefield), 15-6

132 LBS

1st Baltazar Gonzalez (Ellis Tech) DEC Joel Morth (Montville), 5-3
3rd Ryan Angers (Tolland) M FOR Patrick Moynihan (Xavier)
5th Demetre Carnot (Maloney) DEC Alex Steele (Fairfield Warde), 7-5

138 LBS

1st Timmy Kane (Fairfield Warde) DEC Alan Kovacs (Danbury), 6-5
3rd Charles Schultz (New Milford) DEC Joshua Kowalski (Simsbury), 4-3
5th Cole Blair (Ellis Tech) FOR Hunter Adams (Suffield)

145 LBS

1st Ryan Luth (Foran) DEC Avery Shay (New Fairfield), 7-6
3rd Edward Lovely (Newtown) DEC Michael Mirmina (Trumbull), 8-2
5th Samuel Kury (Montville) DEC Cooper Fleming (Granby Memorial), 3-2

152 LBS

1st Michael Ross (Foran) TF Michael Angers (Tolland), 15-0 3:40
3rd Austin Abacherli (Southington) DEC Tom Gatti (Middletown), 6-1
5th Mathew Pangle (Pomperaug) DEC Jeffrey Suschana (Somers), 8-4

160 LBS

1st Ryan Devivo (Xavier) DEC Paul Calo (Southington), 5-3 SV
3rd Michael Barrett (Bristol Eastern) DEC Michael Ceci (Greenwich), 5-3 SV
5th Gino Baratta (Danbury) DEC Jacob Millbach (Ledyard), 1-0

170 LBS

1st Joe Accousti (Newtown) F Benjamin Kibby (Granby Memorial), 5:51
3rd Collin Crader (Ledyard) DEC Zach Caffrey (Killingly), 6-4 SV

5th Matheus Ribeiro (Fairfield Warde) F Mason Laflam (Lyman Memorial/Windham Tech), 1:54

182 LBS

1st Jake Constantine (Danbury) DEC Fransisco Jiminian (East Hartford), 9-5

3rd Emanuel Diaz (Montville) DEC Michael Sullivan (Ledyard), 7-4

5th David Wyzkowski (Haddam-Killingworth) DEC Brett Nutter (Trumbull), 10-4

195 LBS

1st Jackson Rheault (Somers) DEC David Verizzi (Lyman Memorial/Windham Tech), 7-3

3rd Gabriel Schwartz (Northwestern) DEC Ray Weiner (Shelton), 5-4

5th Dakota Grover (Fitch) F Kevin Brocksom (Jonathan Law), 1:33

220 LBS

1st Andrew Marquis (Danbury) DEC Thomas Long (Newtown), 6-5 TB2

3rd Nicholas Cote (Bethel) DEC Dillon Forstberg (Conard), 3-2

5th Richard Rivera (Southington) DEC Renelson Michel (New London), 3-1 TB2

285 LBS

1st Michael Gaboardi (Danbury) DEC Renel Michel (New London), 6-4

3rd Michael Burchell (Daniel Hand) M FOR Nicholas Martone (Platt)

5th Jasper Stone (Simsbury) DEC Jacarie Houston (New Haven Wrestling), 2-1