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WHY I'M NOT CLAPPING

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# **WARNING:**

The following content may contain elements that are not suitable for some audiences.

Viewer discretion is advised.

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# THE GENESIS OF STOP MAKING IT WEIRD

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- 2015 Conference Panel Session... and Why We're not Clapping

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# CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

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# IS THIS WEIRD?

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- Find a partner (or two) who have a phone/laptop
- Go to [www.stopmakingitweird.com](http://www.stopmakingitweird.com). Click on “Is This Weird?” tab.
- Read “Norton High School wrestler no longer undefeated, but still a winner”
- Discuss your initial reactions to this story.
  - How does it make you feel/what’s your unfiltered reaction based on the work you do?
  - How do you think people outside the field (the “general public”) would react to this video?
  - Where else have you seen stories like this?

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# FALTRUISM

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Faltruism: /'faltrō,izəm/ (n). The belief in or practice of selfless concern for the well-being of others while consciously or subconsciously doing so for the benefit of oneself.

We Can be Heroes

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# SO WHAT'S **NOT** MAKING IT WEIRD?

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# Norton High School wrestler no longer undefeated, but still a winner

Posted: Tuesday, January 26, 2016

**BY RICK FOSTER SUN  
CHRONICLE STAFF**

Norton High wrestler Deven Schuko was no match for special needs wrestler Andrew Howland from Dighton-Rehoboth who pinned him during a meet on Saturday. Howland's win ended Schuko's undefeated streak but garnered Schuko a victory in good sportsmanship.

(Staff photos by Mark Stockwell)



When special needs wrestler Andy Howland from Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School went up against Norton High School's undefeated, 27-0 senior Co-Captain Deven Schuko, something happened that neither of their teammates or coaches expected. Howland, a 21-year-old transition student with Down syndrome, pinned one of the state's top Division 3 high school wrestlers to earn a victory in the triangular meet Saturday featuring Norton, Dighton-Rehoboth and Bristol Plymouth/Coyle-Cassidy High Schools.

Video of the match showing a triumphant Howland, captured by Norton's Anthony Pucino, quickly went viral. Norton coach Pat Coleman said he was pleased the NHS senior put aside natural competitiveness to enable his opponent to claim a thrilling victory.

"I'm proud of him," Coleman said. "He's a real squared-away kid." Schuko said the matchup was unplanned, but when he heard Howland was looking for an opponent, he volunteered. "I asked the coach, and he said he thought that would be a great idea," said Schuko, an honor student and member of the Spanish National Honor Society. "We just wanted to make his day."

The win was far from the first victory for Howland, a Dighton resident who has been wrestling for seven years. "He's strong as a bull," said his mother Debbie, who along with her husband Jim attend all of Andy's matches. She said her son has been captivated by wrestling since he was a little boy, and almost never misses a pro wrestling tournament on TV. Debbie Howland said her son works hard at practice and has a good relationship with coaches, teammates and opponents.

"They always treat him with respect," she said. Andy said he's enjoying the attention, including several TV interviews, that came with his weekend victory. He says he likes the competition and camaraderie with other athletes around the mat. "Wrestling's my favorite sport," he said. The high-profile win came in Andy's third-to-last meet, since he'll soon be turning 22.

He said he'll miss the heart-pounding challenge of competing, but hopes to remain involved in wrestling as an assistant coach.