



Mr. Corsor
E. Jednat

Mr. Patterson
W. Bierl

Mr. Steislinger
M. Abt

Mr. Lattimer
R. Valentine

R. Guard
C. Schneckenberger

C. Foucha
F. Marcheson

F. Van Sickle
R. Rudich

G. Fargo
A. Hill

Iroquois' championship wrestling team poses with faculty members

Iroquois Chiefs' Matmen Establish New National Wrestling Mark

By TONY BUSSMAN
Iroquois Central

GOES WAY BACK — Jan. 16, 1957 marked the beginning of a new era of high school sports. On that night Iroquois Central's wrestling team started what proved to be an assault on the state and national records for consecutive wins.

This goal was finally reached after nine years of extensive training, practice, brilliant coaching, and team spirit. Iroquois' matmen finally broke the

national record held by Appalachian High, of Boone, N.C., on Feb. 8, 1966 with a 26-16 victory over a visiting Grand Island team before a crowd of nearly 1,200.

No one present at the match could help but feel the emotions in the air, especially after Grand Island took an 11-3 lead.

MADE STRONG FINISH — However, with a strong finish, Iroquois accomplished their purpose and that, of course, to

bring the consecutive win record to Iroquois.

Whenever someone mentions the Iroquois wrestling team, they cannot help but bring up the name of Norm Foster. Coach Foster started the record back in 1957 and, when he was succeeded by present coach Duane Patterson this year, Coach Foster had 129 consecutive wins under his belt.

However, let us not forget Coach Patterson's accomplish-

ment. This year will always be regarded as a rebuilding year. Eleven seniors were lost last June, but thanks to the excellent coaching and experience of Coach Patterson and assistant coach Bob Steislinger, Iroquois continued its unbeaten streak.

NO SECTIONAL MARK — However, this season was the first since 1957 that the wrestling team did not win the sectional title. A strong Niagara-Wheatfield team prevented the Chiefs from winning their ninth consecutive sectional title.

On the bright side, Iroquois had two sectional winners in Bill Bierl and Mike Abt. Abt, a sophomore, went on to win the intersectional 183 - pound class and competed last Saturday at Huntington Station, L.I., for the state meet. It is interesting to note that Mike is close to 10 pounds underweight.

WILL LOSE SOME — Naturally, the team will lose a number of boys due to graduation, so that next year's team will be minus Ray and Rod Rudich, Al Hill, Craig Foucha, Fran VanSickle, Gary Fargo, Eric Jednat, and Bill Beril.

Fortunately, these boys are backed up by experienced underclassmen, such as Bob Valentine, Ron Guard, Fred Marcheson and Charlie Schneckenberger. As a result, the future looks bright for next year's wrestling team and we at Iroquois are confident that the matmen will continue to remain unbeaten for seasons to come.

