

NR-W Crushes Mynderse Academy

By Michael Tellier

The North Rose-Wolcott Cougars wrestled their final home meet of the season on January 14th against Mynderse Academy. Currently riding a perfect 3-0 record in the Finger Lakes Central division, the Cougars showed why they are in first place by winning 11 out of 14 matches and cruising to a 58-18 win over the Blue Devils.

Ryan Howes was one of the 11 winners on the night, posting a 6-3 decision over Kyle Bush. "I was so happy to see Ryan get the win because Bush is ranked in Section Five and I have said all along that our guy should be ranked, however we know now that he can compete with the guys who are ranked, and we feel really good about that," said Coach Decausemaker.

Out of the 11 victories that the Cougars had, five of them resulted in pins including senior Greg Shove who put on one of his best performances of the year against ranked opponent Anthony Davis. The match was neck-and- neck throughout and, as the third period began, it was all knotted up 5 to 5.

Shove would eventually score another takedown and then, after going out of bounds, Davis made the crucial mistake of asking for his second injury time. Shove then had choice of whether he wanted to go top or bottom and, after choosing down, Davis only had 1:15 left on the clock. After several seconds of scrambling around trying to gain the upper hand on each other, Davis forced the issue with a power-half and was inches away from having Shove on his back. However, Shove was able to scramble out and reverse Davis to his back and seconds later secured the pin.

"I had no idea that if I took a second injury time that I would give Shove the option to pick our position. It was a huge mistake on my part, and I feel as though it forced me to push the issue, and I made a mistake and paid for it," said Davis. Shove, on the other hand, was thankful not only because he had won the match but also because he had finally gotten some competition "I'm thankful that he made the mistake that he did but most importantly I am glad that I had some competition. I would love to have several more matches like that before Sectionals," said Shove.

Corey Youlles, Charles Small, Rob Mourey, and Brian Galuski also collected pin falls for the Cougars, helping to secure themselves as Finger Lakes Central champions. "We are technically League champions at this point because Penn Yan is in second place right now. and we have already beat them. However, we still have to beat Sodus. I don't want to leave doubt in anyone's mind who the best team in our league is," said Decausemaker. The Cougars have now improved to 4-0 in their division and will travel to Hilton High School on January15th and 16th for the annual Clayton Barnard Memorial Wrestling Tournament.