

Wally Cummins Leads Fulton Grapplers In Section 3 Tournament

Sophomore Wally Cummins turned in a superb performance last Saturday in the Section 3 tournament, as he placed second in the 91 lb. weight class. Cummins, only a sophomore, reached the finals via a pin and two decisions. He lost in the finals to New Hartford's "Mighty Mite" senior, Brett Cook, who is favored to win the state tournament at that weight class.

Sophomore Lelan Rogers upped his season record to 26 wins and only 4 losses as he placed third in the 177 lb. weight

class. Rogers won two matches by a pin and two matches by decision.

Senior Mark Shortsleeve won the 126 lb. title for the second consecutive year. Shortsleeve's "biggest" match of the year came in the semi-finals as he faced Cazenovia's undefeated (28-0) and all-time Section 3 win leader (112 wins) Mark Nourse.

Both wrestlers were cautious at the start, but after a minute or so, Shortsleeve "opened-up" and showed Nourse

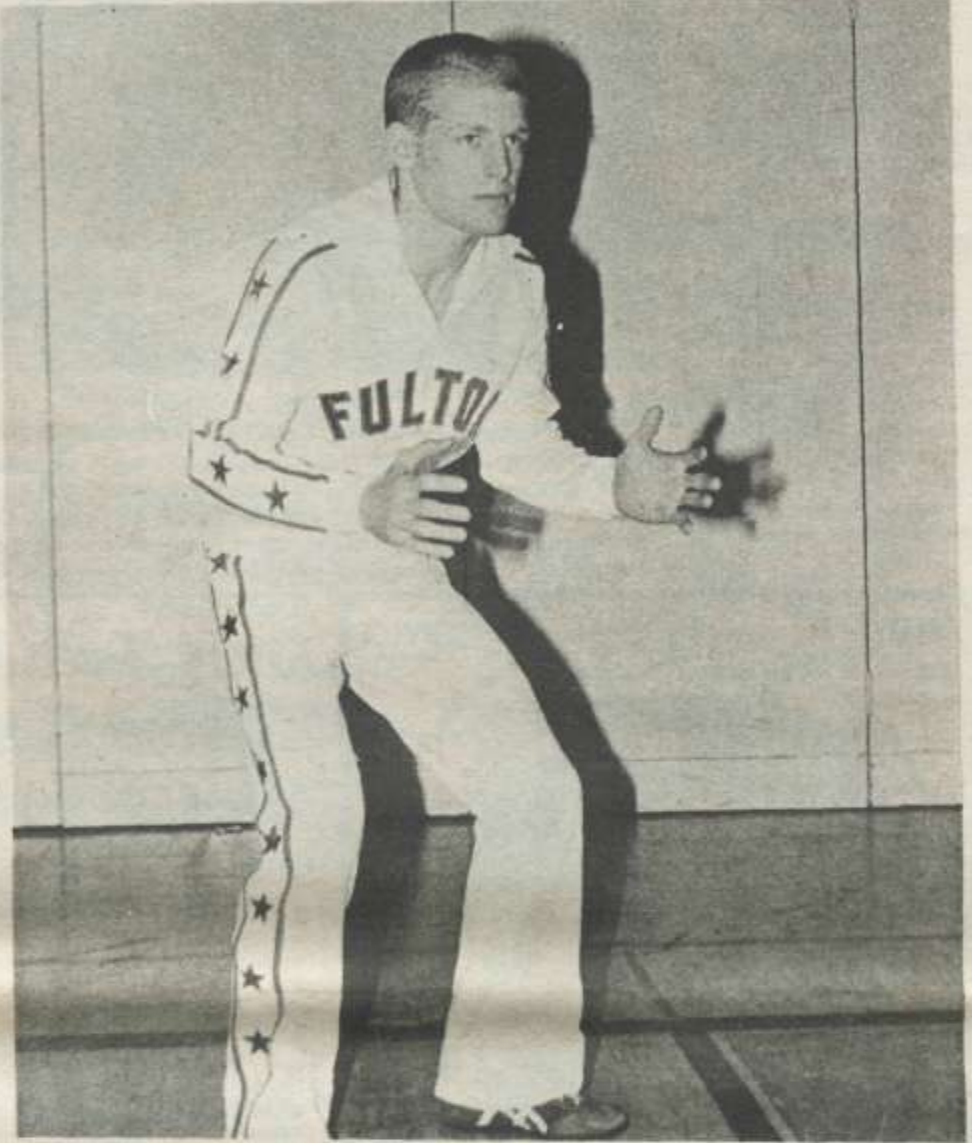
the Syracuse War Memorial lights. All through the second and third periods, Nourse continued to "check the lights out" as Shortsleeve won by a 12-3 score. Shortsleeve breezed through the finals match 14-2 to earn the right to represent Section 3 in the state tournament this weekend at the Syracuse War Memorial.

Shortsleeve was voted the "Most Outstanding Wrestler" in the tournament by the coaches.

The Fulton team placed fourth in the team standings out of the 76 teams that wrestle in Section 3.



LELAN ROGERS— Lelan was third in Section Three at 177 pounds. The 16 year old sophomore had an overall record of 24-4, with 16 pins.



MARK SHORTSLEEVE— Senior Shortsleeve is this year's Section Three 126 pound champion. Mark is 18 years old and had a 22-0 season this year. His career record is an outstanding 109-6.



WALLY CUMMINS— Wally placed second in the Section Three tournament, at 91 pounds. He is a 15 year old sophomore.

Fulton Winter Sports Wrap-Up

By George F. Weske

Without a doubt, the most successful boys winter sports team was the Varsity Wrestlers, coached by Wayne Bleau. The wrestlers finished the season with a 13-1 record in dual meets, good enough to end up ranked eighth in state.

"Eight out of 510 schools, I think that's pretty good. I didn't expect that much success because two of my best wrestlers (Brad Distin and Ron Cotton) went out for basketball. But we replaced them," Bleau said.

"We ended last season with an 11-match win streak and we won our first 11 this year for a 22-match win streak going into the Baldwinsville match. They had won 59 straight," explained Bleau. B'ville prevailed 34-16 in that match.

"There's not much you can say," commented Coach Bleau. "They are the best." That was evident as the top-ranked Bees rallied for an early deficit to win.

"We had four pins in under 30 seconds, and each wrestler's name was placed on a trophy. Mark Caza, Barry Distin (twice), and Lelan Rogers (fastest pin, :20) were the new wrestlers who had their names placed on the :30 second club trophy."

As for best records: "Mark Shortsleeve's record is 22-0 going into the states, Lelan Rogers finished at 25-4, Wally Cummings 24-4, and Barry Distin was 22-6. We had eight wrestlers with 20 or more victories," said Bleau.

The Fulton wrestlers won the Fulton Christmas Tourney, as well as the Section 3, Class B Championship. This fine wrestling squad will go down in the record books as one of Fulton's strongest ever.

Boys Gymnastics

The boys gymnastics squad, coached by Bruce Kilhefner, just missed the .500 mark. Juniors Mark Clark, Rich Somers, and Roger

Allen all did yeoman work for Fulton, and they will return next year.

Indoor Track

The indoor track team enjoyed one of its finest seasons ever (no won-loss record is kept), led by Dan Yager (shotput) and Wendy Johnson (60 yard dash). Other personal bests in their events were accomplished by Duane Messerschmidt, Jim Munber, Danny Carroll, Bob Savage, Joe Langlois, Paul Foster, Eric McIntyre, Jeff Cray, Dave Tice, Bill Ryan, Kris Hoffman, and Cathy Sone. The fine indoor season will hopefully aid this spring's outdoor team.

Hockey

Don Unger's varsity hockey team finished its first season ever with a 3-15-2 record. The Raiders recorded a thrilling 5-1 victory over Solvay (first win ever), and a big win over Bishop Cunningham.

Dave Krom, Bill Bonnie and goalie Paul Phillips (all-star) paced the hockey team.

Bowling

The varsity bowling team had a respectable season, finishing with a 4-5 record. High game was rolled by Mike Guernsey (246). Fine three-game totals were recorded by Dennis Trexler (602), Randy Towsley (613), and Dave Viscome (580). Shawn Cole also put in a sturdy performance for Bill Fisher's squad. Dave Viscome and Dennis Trexler placed first in doubles at the county tournament as the team placed seventh in sectionals. Guernsey will trek to Long Island as a member of the all-star team.

Lacrosse, Baseball, Golf

The lacrosse, baseball, and track teams will hopefully be able to play on the new athletic fields this spring. The golf team will play at Battle Island. Dale Tomb's varsity baseball team will begin practice this week (indoors).