

Cornell Big Red
1962-1963 Wrestling

The first Barton Hall match found Cornell hosting Rochester Institute of Technology. The Big Red blanked RIT 32-0, scoring four pins in eight bouts. In the shortest match of the contest, Cornell Captain Pete Cummings pinned his man in 2:43. Jim Meldrim at 130 pounds, Mike Wittenberg at 177, and heavyweight Joe Bruchac also scored pins. Cornell then dropped a real close one to Springfield, the defending New England Champion, 14-11. The match was decided when Springfield sopho-

In their Ivy League opened at Barton, the Red downed Yale 20-13 by winning the first four bouts and clinching the victory on another win by Captain Cummings. The grapplers then went on to give Lehigh, defending EIWA Champions, a spirited battle. Cornell led 9-3, when a sudden Engineer rally led them to a 20-9 victory. Jim Meldrim kept up his winning way by upsetting EIWA Champion Pat Smartt, 6-2. Cornell went back to the League for its next two encounters. Penn fell to the Red, 27-7, with Meldrim and DeMeo improving their personal records to 5-0 each, while Carl Capra was



A Yalie gets a ride.

close behind with a 4-0 slate. The 19-14 defeat of Harvard was the tenth Ivy League win in a row for the Big Red, giving them a 4-2 record for the progressing season.

In a match which began with a pin by Neal Orr and ended with one by Joe Bruchac, Cornell defeated the Red Raiders of Colgate, 26-5. Penn State then challenged the Big Red, and won 21-10. Captain Cummings kept his undefeated string alive, but four decisions, a default, and two draws still gave the Nittany's the win. The Big Red then took off on a successful midwestern invasion, winning two of three. In the first meet, Cornell defeated Winona State, 14-11, and then traveled to play the other Cornell, Cornell College of Iowa. The Redmen won, as the university beat the college, 15-11. The closing meet of the tour was with Iowa State, who defeated Cornell 17-8, giving them a 10-1 record. In a match with Syracuse, the Red lost soundly, 28-5, their only points coming on a default at 167 pounds. Cummings rival from Syracuse, Gary Sirota, was too ill to wrestle, and the fans were unable to see what would have been a great match.

The grapplers wound up the season with vic-

tories over Brown, 36-3, Columbia, 26-9, and Princeton, 29-6. The defeat of Princeton gave Cornell a 6-0 Ivy League record, and another Ivy Crown. In the same meet, Pete Cummings defeated Jim Ruchenbuch for a perfect 11-0 season record. This win gave Cornell a 46-2 record against Ivy League opponents since the formation of the league.

In the first round of the Eastern Championships at Annapolis, Cornell was very impressive indeed, placing seven of nine men in the quarterfinals. However, after these, the Red was left with only two semifinalists, Cummings and Bush. Cummings, who finished fourth last year, to third by edging his old nemesis, Sirota. Bush lost in the semifinals, but Jim Meldrim, wrestling 130 pounds, took a fourth. Cornell finished with sixteen points for an eighth place finish in the Championships. Syracuse, with 70 points, easily won.

On January 19, Joe DeMeo, who finished the regular season with a 9-0 record, competed in the Eastern AAU Wrestling Championships in New York. By decisioning Lee Azin, national champion of Iran, 2-0, in the finals, Joe became the Eastern AAU Champion.

"Down!"

