

# Sports Roundup

BY Cory Clark

The year of 1956-1957 will be long remembered in WCS sports annals. During this year Ridge sports squads have set more records and turned in better performances than any other year in the immediate past; a generation of WCS students have seen no better WCS records than this year. It was truly a great year for the Ridgemen.

## King Football

Football is and has always been the king of Webster sports. In 1956 the gridiron squad for the school on the Ridge walked off with co-ownership of the Central Western Conference championship, the first football honor for Webster since 1952. The Blue and Gold racked up a 7-1 record for the season. Coached by Mr. Oscar Cochi and Mr. Colt Constant, the Ridgemen completely outclassed all their opponents in every phase of the game; the one loss came on a freak play—it was just one of those things.

The Websterites started off the season with a non-league tangle with Lyons. The halftime score read 27-0 in favor of Webster; at the end of the third quarter the second and third string squads had racked up a 46-0 score, and Coach Cochi finished off the game by putting everyone in, right down to the waterboy (almost). Riding high on their 46-0 massacre of the green Lyons squad, the Ridgemen ran into Fairport in the league opener, and disaster. The Reds scored to open the game after the Ridgemen held them off earlier in the game with a heroic goal line stand. In the second quarter the Ridgemen cut the Fairport lead to 7-6 and in the fading minutes of the third quarter the Ridgemen took a 12-7 lead after a long touchdown drive. But with five minutes remaining the Red fullback pranced through the line and secondary on a 55-yard rumble for a TD, and the undefeated season went down the drain, 14-12.

With one exception, no team in 10 years of Conference football ever won the championship with two losses. The Ridgemen had lost on their first conference outing; another loss would be fatal to their championship aspirations. From then on, the Blue and Gold was a rugged and determined squad; the loss to Fairport hung heavy on their hearts; they played with the determination of men who had to win.

East Rochester was first to feel their wrath, 20-0 worth of blood and sweat against a big, burly Bomber eleven. The Ridgemen simply ran wild around the ends, and the E. R. squad was dizzy when the game ended. Scratch one; five to go.

Leroy put up a fine first-half battle, scoring on a pass play in the first quarter and holding the Blue and Gold to a 6-6 deadlock at the half. But star halfback Dick Kleinhammer scored three times in the second half to spark a 25-6 decision over the Oatka Knights, and it was two down, four to go.

Irondequoit, early season corners, succumbed to the Webster attack on the fourth play from scrimmage when the WCS quarterback kept the ball for 54 yards and a TD. Seconds later they tied the game at 7-7 on a pass interception, then the Ridge meat-grinder started. Irondequoit next scored in the fourth quarter against the scrubs, making the 39-14 slaughter halfway respectable, at least. Scratch three; three to go.

Fresh from the Irondequoit playground, the Ridgemen found tough going against Newark's rugged Reds. A blocked punt, a breakaway run, a quick pass, a conversion, and Newark led 7-0 after five minutes in the first quarter. This was out to 7-6 at the half, and in the third quarter Kleinhammer saved the day with a great interception return and a TD from close in. The Ridgemen held on for the 13-7 triumph, and emerged shaking to check off the fourth, with two remaining—the BIG two.

## Toga Favorites

Canandaigua—preseason favorites for the CWC championship. A tough, fast squad with drive and determination. Fresh from a 22-21 decision over Brighton. A rough day for the Ridgemen—so said the experts. But experts aren't always right, and in the sweltering heat the Laker attack bogged down and the Blue and Gold gridironers started to roll. After a 13-13 halftime deadlock, a long pass from Kleinhammer to Burnett broke Canandaigua's back in the third quarter. The Ridgemen ground out two touchdowns over the Laker's burly but prostrate guards, and the 33-13 rout was complete. With five down, there remained only Brighton between WCS and the CWC title.

While Webster was rending the Lakers, the Barons were handing Fairport their first and only defeat of the season. This was the break Webster wanted—they had to beat Brighton. The Ridgemen scored quickly to make the score 7-0. Brighton tied the score in the first Ridge grappler in WCS second quarter on a freak passmat history to win a Sectional play, but another WCS TD madetitle. Rev Munson-paced the team

in the third quarter the Ridgemen upped the score to 20-7, and they completed the rout in the fourth quarter with another TD for a 27-7 triumph. A 7-1 season with 215 points against opponents' 51. The CWC championship (shared with Fairport); and a precedent at Webster; all this came out of football for 1956.

On the individual side, Dick Kleinhammer, halfback and star scorer for the past two years; Curt Higley, center and co-captain; and Cory Clark, guard and defensive quarterback, all made the first string All-Star County squad. Jerry Peck, tackle and defensive standout, placed on the second team, and Art Mundy, Dave Sweet, and Neil Van Horn received Honorable Mention. Cory Clark reigned as King of football, and Penny Farnham was elected Queen. There you have it—Football, 1956.

## Court Record Good

The Basketball squad for 1956-'57 was not quite so successful, but a 12-5 record is not exactly poor, either. Coached by William O'Rourke, the courtmen did not quite match last year's fine Varsity but ended up very close to the top of the County heap, as they have consistently ever since the beginning of the O'Rourke era at Webster.

The Ridgemen started off with four straight decisions, all non-league games. Brockport fell 53-42; Penfield toppled 51-41; Hilton lost 54-37; and McQuaid went down in a 54-52 thriller. In the next game Brockport came back for a 51-40 triumph over Webster, but the Ridgemen atoned for this with a 78-34 slaughter of Penfield and a 52-50 decision over Lyons. Brighton then came on to top the Websterites, 62-53, and Irondequoit scored a 52-50 decision over Webster in a really tight tilt.

The Ridgemen won four straight again following this, toppling E. R., 53-49; whipping Fairport by 61-48; thumping Hilton by 75-67, and edging the fine Canandaigua squad, 62-61. Brighton then edged the Ridgemen, 73-61, but Webster whipped Irondequoit, 62-45; to avenge the earlier loss. East Rochester came up with a 66-62 win over the Blue and Gold, and the Webster squad closed out the season with a fine 73-72 decision over Fairport.

Individual honors went to Neil Sweezey and Curt Higley. Sweezey made first team All-County, and Higley placed on the second team. Curt also reigned over basketball in the Sports Mixer, with Alice Feucht as his queen.

## Grapplers Surprise

The Ridge wrestling squad, faced with an 'impossible' schedule, came up with the best season in the wrestling books as the Blue and Gold matmen racked up a 10-4-1 record. Wrestling, coached by Mr. Robert Terbush and in its third year as a Varsity sport at WCS, attracted a great number of both participants and spectators, and achieved full status as a representative sport at Webster.

The wrestling Ridgemen had a great year in '56-'57. At first the schedule looked just too tough to maintain the winning tradition of the mat squad, but the veteran grapplers came through to make this year a memorable one for Coach Terbush and his charges. Alexander fell to the Websterites, 22-18, in the opening match, and Batavia was swamped 35-13 in the next meet. Ernie Tack pinned his man in 20 seconds in the final match of the meet with Myanderse Academy to give the Ridgemen a 19-19 deadlock with the host squad, but then ill luck befell the team.

Wayne Central, never defeated by Webster in three years of dual meet competition, racked the Ridgemen 21-16 in their first visit. Geneva's powerful eleven came up with a 20-16 decision over Webster, and the Ridgemen hit their season low mark as Spencerport trimmed the Blue and Gold by 28-14.

But a fast finish is a trademark of WCS teams, and the mat squad carried out this tradition in its very embodiment, winning eight of the remaining nine matches on their schedule. Jefferson fell, 23-20; Rush-Henrietta went down 38-14; powerful Charlotte received a 25-12 belting; and East's unbeatable eleven came up with a 26-11 triumph over Webster to round out two-thirds of the schedule.

Then came the heyday of the matmen. The Ridgemen finally beat the Wayne jinx, whipping them by 22-14. Monroe went down 27-12; Edison fell 23-20; Brockport was humbled by 41-15; and in the season finale proud Franklin crumbled beneath a 32-13 massacre. Then came the County Tournament, and six Websterites took All-County titles. Winners were Bill Kehrig, 112; Ron Holtz, 145; Barry Swift, 154; Rev Munson, 165; Cory Clark, 175; and Ernie Tack, 190. Ernie Tack went to the finals of the Sectionals after all other Ridgemen had bowed out, scored quickly to make the score 7-0. Brighton tied the score in the first Ridge grappler in WCS second quarter on a freak passmat history to win a Sectional play, but another WCS TD madetitle. Rev Munson-paced the team

in most departments, recording a 15-2 record with nine pins to his credit; Rev was also crowned King of Wrestling by Mr. Terbush. His choice for Queen of Wrestling: Mrs. Terbush!

## Volleyball Winners

And so sports has progressed this year at Webster, down to the final seasons of baseball and tennis. One extra point to throw in: Webster's volleyball squad swept to the Monroe County championship, gained the Monroe-Wayne County toga, and then bowed out in the Sectional semi's after a hard fight. To Mr. Eggleston and his boys go the praises of an appreciative student body. Also warranting spotlight review is the WCS bowling squad, which won the Monroe County team championship for '57.

There you have it: another saga in the ageless drama of Webster sports. Baseball and tennis are not yet over, but both teams are progressing well and should maintain the Webster tradition of 'at least, close to the top, if not on it.' From the teams of the departing class to the future Varsity squads goes the best of luck, and the Webster spirit that has ever nursed victory in the breasts of the Ridgemen.

## School Schedules Year's Last Meet

Saturday, June 8 is the date set for the final meeting of the year for the Webster Cooperative Nursery School. The informal dessert meeting will be held in the class room at the Church of the Good Shepherd, corner of Webster-Fairport Road at 8:15 p.m.

Anyone interested in nursery education is cordially invited to attend. Miss Dickinson of the Webster Central School faculty will speak on "Kindergarten Education and What Nursery Schools Can Do To Help The Kindergarten Child."

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