



# FULTON WRESTLING



*Proud of the Past - Working for the Future*

September 18, 2015

## Summer Wrestling Ends - Pre-Season Program Begins

*State Fair Challenge Marks End Of Busy Summer Wrestling*

**Fall Program Intended To Give Team Head Start**

Fulton's busy summer program ended with wrestlers competing in the two-day State Fair Challenge. Led by captains Tim Holden, Vic Runeare and Wyatt Willis, the boys competed in a folkstyle takedown tournament, free-style tournament and Greco tournament.

The fall program is already underway as the team hits the pre-season schedule. Weightlifting at the high school and pool work at Granby at 6:00 am plus practice at 5:30 pm at the Club. On Sundays, kids are traveling to Cornell to work out with the Finger Lakes Wrestling Club.



Wyatt Willis it's a near perfect headlock at the State Fair Challenge while Coach Cam Mills looks on.



Senior captain Tim Holden throws his opponent at the State Fair Challenge.

## Remembering Don Smith

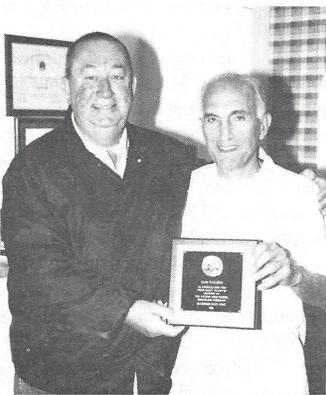
*Founder Of Mat Pac Passes Away At 79*

A lot of people loved Fulton Wrestling but you would be hard pressed to find someone who could top Don Smith's affection for the program. Don was much more than a dedicated fan. For more than twenty years he was an essential part of Raider Wrestling's success.

Founder and long-time leader of the Mat Pac, Don's work on behalf of Fulton Wrestling started with Coach Wayne Bleau in the early 80's. Bleau wanted a weightlifting program for his wrestlers. The young coach believed it was essential

to the future success of his rising program but the school had neither the weights nor the funds to buy the equipment. Smith took on the challenge and within weeks raised the money to buy the equipment Bleau wanted for the team. That was just the beginning.

Don turned his fundraising into an annual event to help buy more equipment and pay for the wrestlers "off-season" competitions. He helped fund the trips to the

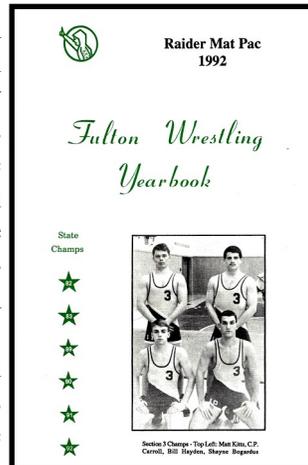


Don Smith presenting a plaque to Sam Galizia for his long-time support of Fulton Wrestling. This was just one of many such presentations Don would do every year.

AAU Junior Olympics so Fulton could compete against the best in the country. He went on as many of these trips as he could to—as he put it—"be there in case the kids needed anything". If you watched Don closely at these events, you could catch him quietly slipping ten bucks to a kid who needed it.

When each season ended, Don would celebrate with the seniors by taking them out to dinner. He would insist they order whatever they wanted and as much as they wanted while they shared stories about the season and their careers as Fulton Wrestlers. Those dinners were special to him and the kids.

Don Smith was dismissive of credit sent his way for all that he did over nearly two decades but you knew how much it all meant to him when his face lit up as he talked about "little Fulton" knocking off those "bigger schools", winning state titles and appearing in the national rankings.



Don's Mat Pac published a yearbook detailing the team's accomplishments and local businesses supported by the wrestling program by buying ads in the booklet.

## Huge 50-50 Raffle To Raise Money

*Buy Tickets From Any Coach or Wrestler*

Fulton Wrestling Club

# 50/50



**WIN up to \$5,000.00 CASH**

\$10 donation

Drawing Nov. 24, 2015 6pm  
at the Red/Green Scrimmage  
*Need Not Be Present To Win*

## Wrestlers Help With Donations To Catholic Charities Food Pantry



Fulton's wrestlers recently pitched in donating turkeys and assisting with pickup and delivery of non-perishable food items to Catholic Charities donated by Callahan, Flanagan, Smith and Stock Orthodontics. Coordinated by wrestling club mom Janet Woodworth, in the picture are Tom Hughes, Corey Pipher, Joe Coccozza, Wyatt Willis, Coach Waldron and Travis Race.

**Donate Your Returnable Bottles & Cans To The Wrestling Club**  
at  
**Three Little Pigs**  
West Broadway