



FULTON WRESTLING



Proud of the Past - Working for the Future

November 28, 2014

Anybody, Anytime, Anywhere **Intersectional Rival Canandaigua First Up** **Raiders Will Face Many Challenges In December**

Coach Jeff Waldron says he's not interested in scheduling weaker teams he can beat 84-0. He would rather risk losing and wrestle a full schedule of good teams. He does what he says.

His Raiders open the regular season tomorrow in a dual with intersectional rival Canandaigua. The always tough Braves return eight starters from last year's 12-6 team. These two programs have met 14 times and seven out of 14 were decided by a single bout. Fulton won last year's meeting 43-33. JV's hit the mat 3:30 pm with varsity to follow.

Fulton then travels to Cortland on Wednesday for the first league dual of the season. The 24-5 Purple Tigers return 11 of last year's 14 starters and expect to be in the hunt for league honors.

On Saturday, the 6th, Fulton will look to defend last season's Anderson Tournament crown at North Syracuse High School. The single day event with more than thirty teams and seedings for state and sectional place-winners only will be a real challenge for the Raiders. Winning the early rounds of the tournament is a must if Fulton expects to win the event as the tournament format offers a very limited opportunity to wrestle back after early round losses.

It Gets Tougher

Thursday, December 11th, Fulton's "road warriors" pay a visit to Ilion for a dual with Central Valley Thunder, last season's Division II Center State League Champions. The Thunder return nine starters from last season's 25-1 team

that finished the season ranked # 9 in the state.

Then it's off to Section II (Albany Area) on Saturday and Sunday for the Colonie Duals and a field that includes 8 teams that were state ranked last year including #6 Minisink (Section 9), Burnt Hills (Section II) and Hudson Falls (Section II).

Showdown

All eyes in the OHSL and most of Section III will be on Mexico as the defending OHSL Champions play host to the Raiders in an early season showdown on Wednesday, December 17th. Ranked # 15 in the state last season, the 13-2 Tigers boast four sectional champions in their line up. Mexico beat Fulton last year 36-30—recording their first win over the Raiders in 53 years.

Alumni Night

Canastota visits Fulton on Alumni Night, December 23rd, for the Raiders first home match of the season. 'Stota returns all but two starters from last year's 15-8 team ranked #27 in the state.

Reminder: Following the dual with Canastota, Fulton Alumni, family, friends and fans will gather at the Polish Home to renew and celebrate all things Fulton Wrestling.

The month of December closes with the 11th Annual Ken Haines Tournament on the 27th and 28th at Oswego State's Lake Hall. A preview of what has become one of the premier wrestling events in the state will be available in a later newsletter.



Photo by Gary Yablonski

Pictured are Fulton Wrestlers gathering for the traditional "Turkey Day Run". The event has been held on Thanksgiving morning without interruption for more than 25 years.