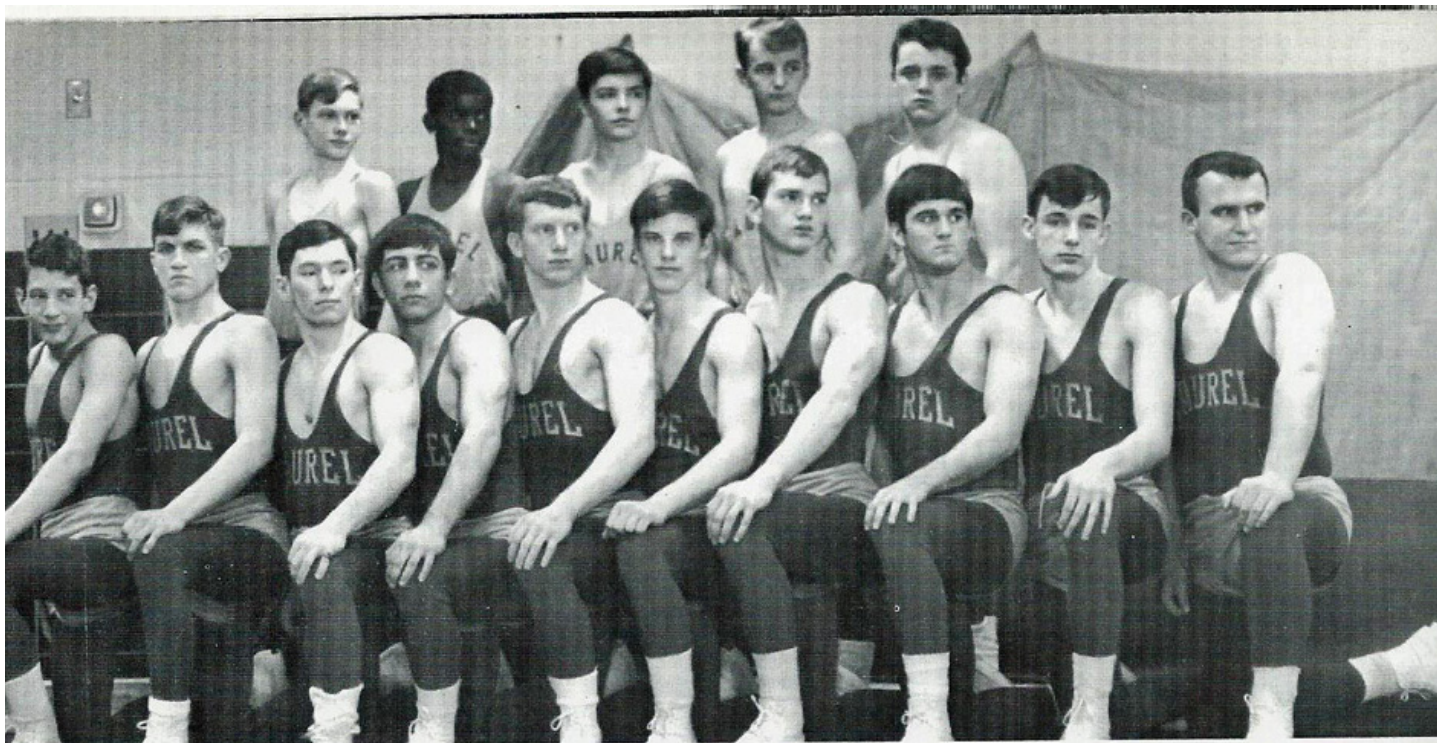


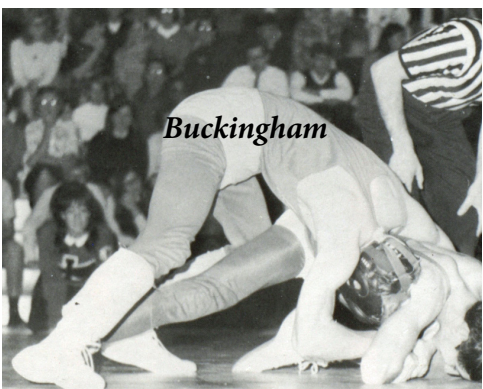


# 1967 -- 1968 Season

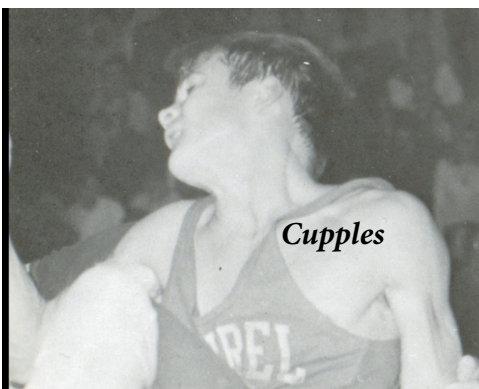


*Kneeling:* R. Meister, K. Buckingham, R. Fochler, S. Zook, E. Dannels, B. Nutzback, D. Hanlon, M. O'Dell, J. Casey, Nutzhorn. *Standing:* G. Creitz, B. Marshall, D. Crews, C. Palmer, J. Tucker.

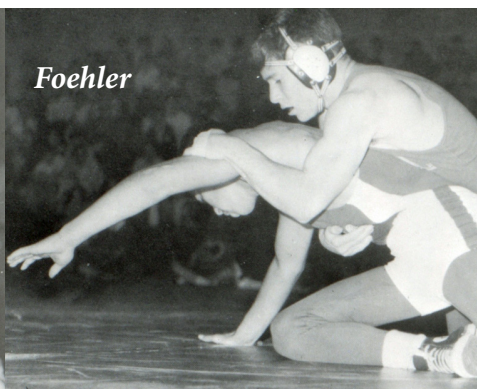
**4 Wins -- 4 Losses**



*Buckingham*



*Cupples*

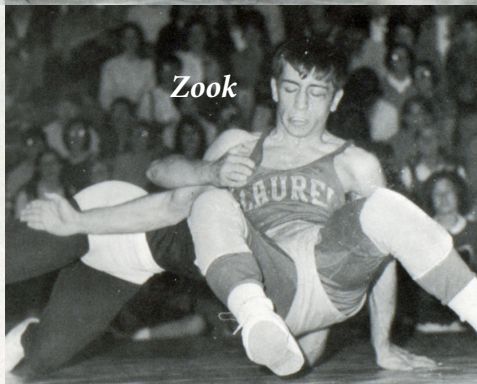


*Fochler*



*McMannus*

Laurel	Opponent	Score
37	Pikesville	9
26	Central	19
31	Northwestern	19
11	Surrattsville	36
9	Bowie	41
33	Oxon Hill	11
20	Suitland	22
10	DuVal	35



*Zook*





# 1967 -- 1968 Season

## LHS Wrestlers Maul Pikesville, 37-9

By RON LADUE

In a spirited show of grit and determination, Laurel High's Spartan wrestlers defeated Pikesville of Baltimore County Friday night before a small crowd of 300 in the Laurel gym.

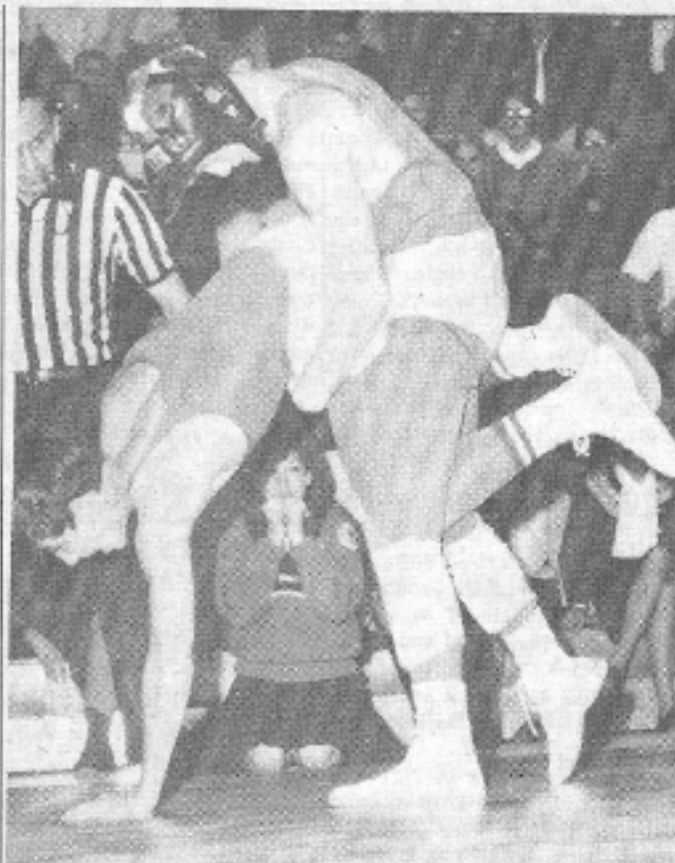
The victory was particularly sweet for wrestling coach, Beryle Cohen coming as it did on the heels of a disappointing start which saw several of Cohen's "regulars" from last year quill the team in deference to the hard work which the coach demands from all his wrestlers.

In addition, the victory supplied a eye-opening surprise to much of the student body, who had obviously expected a poorer Spartan showing and stayed away from the match.

The Spartans, coping the first three matches, and showing an obvious edge in wrestling skill and physical conditioning over their opponents were never threatened. Spartan wrestlers won nine of the 12 individual matches, four of them by pins, in spite of the fact that only two of the grapplers had wrestled any significant time in varsity competition prior to this contest.

Team scoring depends on the individual matches. A wrestler who wins by a pin over his opponent scores five points for his team; if he wins by a decision, the team scores three points, and a draw counts two points for each team.

Freshman, Barry McManus, wrestling his first varsity match at 95 lbs., scored a near fall in the second period, and aided by two penalty points when his opponent tried illegal holds squeaked out a narrow 5-4 decision over what appear-



**OUTSTANDING WRESTLER**--Kit Buckingham, named the match's outstanding wrestler, is about to take his opponent down to the mat, as Mary Jane Cross, LHS cheerleading captain, watches apprehensively. Buckingham won the match 4-0.

ed to be a more experienced man, Laurel led 3-0.

One hundred-three pounder, freshman Richard Meister, also wrestling his first match scored a takedown in the first period, and leading 2-0, pinned his man with 1:32 left in the second. The score then read Laurel, 8 - Pikesville, 0.

Senior Kit Buckingham at 112 lbs. faced the strongest of the Pikesville opponents, a Panther who had finished second in the Baltimore County tournament

last year. Yet the aggressive Spartan senior dominated his match, finally winning by a 4-0 margin and being named the outstanding wrestler of the meet for his effort. At the end of his match Laurel led 11-0.

Sophomore Frank Cuppels dropped a tough 2-0 decision to give Pikesville its first points of the night, but then, Ray Fochler and Sidney Zook at 127 and 133 lbs. each decimated their man by a close score, Fochler by 8-5, and

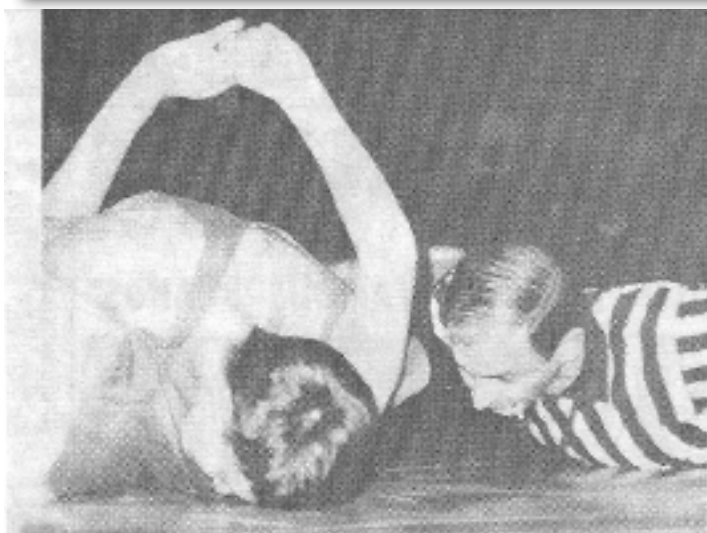


# 1967 -- 1968 Season

## LHS Wrestlers Maul Pikesville, 37-9

By RON LADUE

*Continued*



THE PIN--Freshman Richard Meister puts the finishing touches on a Spartan win as the referee's hand slams to the mat.

Zook by 7-6, and the Spartans had run their lead to 17-3.

Brendon Nuzback, a first-year sophomore wrestler, and a doubtful starter for Friday's match next pinned his 138 lb. opponent in 1:17 of the second period, executing so well that it seemed like a practice drill. But then Gene Dannels at 145 and Doug Kidwell at 154 each lost to strong opponents, 0-7 and 0-5, and as the 165 pounders took the mat, the Spartan lead had been cut to 22-8.

Pikesville, however, had finished scoring for the night, as both Danny Hanlon at 165 lbs., and John Casey, 180 pinned their opponents, and heavy-weight, Eric Nuzhorn, won by forfeit.

Hanlon completely dominated his man, leading 9-0 with 58 seconds left in the third and final period, when he finally gained a pin.

Casey also led his man going into the third period, and then completed the pin with 1:18 remaining.

These final three matches added 15 points to the Spartan score, and the final read Laurel 37, Pikesville 9.

Asked about the match, Coach Cohen indicated particular pleasure with Buckingham and Meister, both of whom he felt wrestled very strong matches.

The Spartan coach called the match "exactly what we needed."

"This will go a long way toward making us ready for Central," the coach added, unable to control enthusiasm for meeting the Falcons.

The Spartans will take on Central this Friday afternoon

*The Leader*  
*December, 1967*

Season Highlights

P.G. County Champion

• Kit Buckingham (120)



# 1967 -- 1968 Season

Disdainful of their lack of wrestling experience, and apparently set on "proving" themselves to the student body and especially the early-season wrestling drop-outs, Laurel High School's varsity wrestlers added Central and Northwestern to their ever-increasing list of victims last week, stopping Central 26-19 and Northwestern's Wildcats 31-19.

The victories, in addition to rallying the students around the spirited grapplers team, were particularly sparkling to L.H.S. fans, considering that Central has dominated Laurel for the last several years in all sports, and Northwestern, of the "AA" league, is one the largest schools in the county - three times the size of Laurel.

That the Spartans gained these victories at all (when one considers the adversity that confronted them) is a tribute to the spirit and attitude with which this young team is possessed.

Faced with thinning ranks and illness from the flu epidemic, the Spartans were forced to juggle weight classes and even forfeit in some classes where no one could fill in.

Central, a physically stronger team than the Spartans benefited from a forfeit in the 180 lb. class because of John Casey's illness and used its strength to muscle to an early 14-3 lead, before the Spartans, who do not "quit," could catch fire and pull the match out

As if the illnesses and subsequent weight juggling were not enough, Laurel arrived at Northwestern to discover that a questionable set of scales showed six Spartan wrestlers "overweight." Since the home team is the final authority on the reliability of the scales, Coach Beryle Cohen was forced to move everyone "up" a weight class. Angered, the Spartans responded by overcoming a slow start, and manhandling the Wildcats for their third victory.

Wrestling at home against Central, the Spartans seemed headed for a long afternoon of anguish as the Falcons jumped to their early lead.

Barry McManus at 95 lbs. was the only early bright spot as he decisioned his opponent 5-2, again aided by penalty points, as the Central wrestler "locked hands," an illegal maneuver while riding on top of an opponent.

Bruce Marshall, lucky not to be pinned, Richard Meister, and Frank Cuppels each

**Laurel 26 -- Central 19**

**Laurel 31 -- Northwestern 19**

*The Leader*  
*December, 1967*





# 1967 -- 1968 Season

## Laurel Beats Central In Prep Wrestling

Laurel, Md., Dec. 16 (Special).  
Laurel High defeated Central of  
Seat Pleasant, Md., 26 to 19, in  
wrestling today.

- 95—McManus, Laurel, decisioned De-  
riza, 5-4.
- 103—Farrarr, Central, decisioned Mar-  
shall, 8-1.
- 112—Lewis, Central, decisioned Meister,  
6-2.
- 120—Galemore, Central, decisioned  
Cupples, 5-4.
- 127—Fochler, Laurel, pinned Mann, 2.58.
- 130—DeJarano, Central, decisioned Nuz-  
back, 7-6.
- 133—Zook, Laurel, decisioned Hall, 5-3.
- 145—Dannels, Laurel, pinned McPeters,  
8.41.
- 154—Henlon, Laurel, pinned Furr, 0.29.
- 165—O'Dell, Laurel, drew with Mueller,  
0-0.
- 180—Henry, Central won by forfeit.
- Heavyweight—Nutzhorn, Laurel, deci-  
sioned Mattia, 3-0.

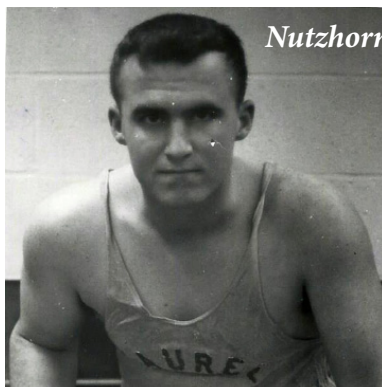
*The Baltimore Sun*  
December 17, 1967

## Northwestern Loses To Laurel Wrestlers

Laurel High wrestlers defeat-  
ed Northwestern on the latter's  
mats yesterday, 31 to 19. The  
victory was Laurel's third in  
three meets and the loss left  
Northwestern with a 1-1 record.

- 95—McManus, Laurel, drew with White,  
5-5.
- 103—Batten, Northwestern, pinned Mar-  
shall, 2.50.
- 112—Meister, Laurel, pinned Woodson,  
2.29.
- 120—Buckingham, Laurel, pinned Cronin,  
2.26.
- 127—Bickley, Northwestern, pinned Stet-  
ka, 4.25.
- 133—Fochler, Laurel, decisioned Salami,  
2.00.
- 138—Zook, Laurel, drew with Burgess,  
6-6.
- 145—Nezback, Laurel, decisioned John-  
son, 5-2.
- 154—Dannels, Laurel, decisioned Wal-  
ters, 11-7.
- 165—O'Dell, Laurel, pinned Esworth,  
2.33.
- 180 — Douglas, Northwestern, pinned  
Alexander, 3.25.
- Heavyweight — Nutzhorn, Laurel, de-  
cisioned Parker, 2.00.

*The Baltimore Sun*  
December 22, 1967



Nutzhorn



## Grapplers Lose 17-3 Lead

Laurel High's Spartan wrestlers traveled to Suitland Thursday afternoon to do battle with the "AA" Vikings, and dropped a heartbreaking decision in the process.

Leading 17-3 at the halfway point of the match, the Spartans then lost five straight bouts, two of them by surprise pins, before Eric Nutzhorn could win his heavyweight match. But even though Eric was able to win a 3-0 decision, it was not enough for a Spartan victory as Suitland prevailed 22-20.

The loss was a particularly bitter one for Coach Beryle Cohen, for it would have assured a winning season for the varsity grapplers. As it stands now, the Spartans must whip one of the two top teams in the league, either High Point or Duval, along with less-powerful Andover of Arundel County in order to attain their successful year. The Spartans meet Duval's Tigers this week at the Bengal's home mat.

Laurel did well in the lower weights, where they have been strong all year. Bruce Marshall, who has been battling freshman Barry McManus for the right to wrestle at 95 lbs, won his first match of the year 10-2 over a much less aggressive opponent.

Richard Meister continued his domination over league 105 pounders winning by decision 6-2 before Suitland gained its first points when

114 pounder, Frank Stetka lost an 8-3 decision.

Kit Buckingham wrestled a top Viking opponent and dominated the bout into the third period, where with 44 seconds left Bucky pinned his man to win the bout and the outstanding wrestler award in addition, making it the third time in six matches this year he has won that honor.

Ray Fochler, the strong, senior, 130 pounder wrestled a grudging battle before finally edging his man 4-3, and Sid Zook snapped a three match losing streak winning a 3-0 decision to put the Spartans out in front 17-3.

Then the roof caved in! Gene Dannels, one of the more knowledgeable Spartans, didn't last the first period, as his bout went only 45 seconds before he was pinned. It was a stunning loss, and a key one in the final outcome.

Brendon Nuzback, Danny Hanlon, and John Casey each lost by decisions. Nuzback, who has a penchant for close bouts, lost 2-0, and Hanlon who was leading with eighteen seconds left suddenly was reversed to lose 6-4. This was to be another important loss for the Spartans. Casey was simply unable to work against his opponent and finally succumbed 2-0.

Freshman strongman, Mark O'Dell lost the final of the key Suitland victories, slipping into a pin with 1:08 left in the second period. Nutzhorn

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# 1967 -- 1968 Season



## High Point-

(Continued from Page A-18)

but surprised Zook with a takedown to insure the three point victory.

The Spartans began to cut into the lead with the next match as Jeff Phillips, a very pleasant surprise to this year's squad, registered two reverses and a near fall to take 7-4 win from previously undefeated David Strauss. Phillips, who seems to improve with each match, is now the only Spartan with a perfect record after seven matches and is just one point shy of Richard Meister's 26 team point total. The Arundel transfer was named the Spartan's outstanding wrestler of the day.

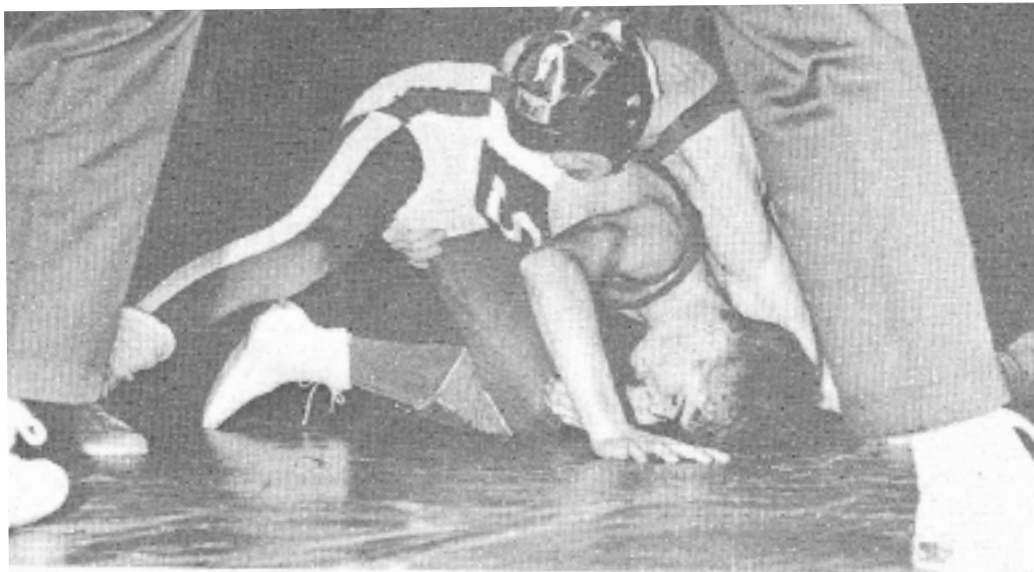
Brendan Nuzback brought the Spartans to within 12-9 by completely outclassing High Point's Bruce Eisman, 11-0. The 140-pound Nuzback scored two near falls in registering his fifth win in six starts.

*The County News*  
January 11, 1968

The surprise and possible turning point of the afternoon, according to High Point coach Bob Smith, came when once-defeated Bruce Reid blanked Laurel's previously undefeated 147-pounder, Gene Dannels, 5-0. Reid registered two predicament points with 1:26 left in the third period of an otherwise listless match. He was in command most of the way and was awarded three points riding time for his control of Dannels.

In reviewing the results of the match, Spartan coach Beryle Cohen indicated there were many things his squad should have done to pick up vital points, "but," he commented, "we just lost the match on our feet. They had eight takedowns to our three."

97-pound — Tom Hirsch (L) dec. Pat Rowan (HP), 11-4.  
105-pound — Bruce McConkey (HP) dec. Mike Whittek (L), 3-2.  
114-pound — Steve DiCarlo (HP) dec. Everett Hicks (L), 13-0.  
122-pound — Chuck Friday (HP) dec. Richard Meister (L), 12-2.  
129-pound — Steve Dever (HP) dec. Sidney Zook (L), 4-1.  
135-pound — Jeff Phillips (L) dec. David Strauss (HP), 7-4.  
140-pound — Brendan Nuzback (L) dec. Bruce Eisman (HP), 11-0.  
147-pound — Bruce Reid (HP) dec. Gene Dannels (L), 5-0.  
156-pound — Mark O'Dell (L) pinned Gary Gallo (HP), :54.  
167-pound — Danny Hanlon (L) dec. Pat Shuster (HP), 8-3.  
177-pound — John Casey (L) drew with Warren Swetnam (HP), 2-2.  
Heavyweight — Price Gielen (HP) dec. Warren Swetnam (L), 3-2.



**SPARTAN SAVE** — Kit Buckingham of Laurel High (in headgear) struggles for a grip against Don King of Surrattsville as the referee's legs provide a frame for the pic-

ture. Buckingham won the 122-lb. match, but only two other Spartans were victorious as the Surrattsville grapplers won their fourth straight match. The loss was Laurel's first.

# 1967 -- 1968 Season



## Laurel Grapplers Drop Match To Surrattsville

Laurel High's matmen met head-on with Surrattsville last Thursday in a battle of the undefeated, but when the afternoon was over the Spartans had lost their first match, 36-11.

The Hornets chalked up 13 points on two pins and a decision before Kit Buckingham of Laurel scored a 2-0 decision over Don King. With a 0-0 tie going into the final period, Buckingham, scored two points on a reverse and kept King on the mat for the rest of the period for the victory.

In the next match, Laurel's Sidney Zook broke away from pinning situations five times against Russ Divvens in the first period, but Divvens came back for a pin in the next frame.

Ray Fochler of Laurel came back from the bottom to score one point on an escape in the third period of his match with Dean Wicklane and held on to win by that margin.

In the 140-lb. match, Brendan Nuzbakk and Lee Hesberg wrestled to a 2-2 draw. The pair was even through the first period, with Nuzbakk gaining two points on a take-down in the second frame and Hesberg gaining a point on an escape.

In the final period, Hesberg was given one point for riding time and the match was declared a draw after time ran out.

Surrattsville scored four consecutive wins, two of them on pins, before Eric Nutzhorn of Laurel managed to get the Spartans on the board for the last time with a 4-2 decision over Joe White.

Laurel is now 3-1 for the season; Surrattsville is 4-0, with a tough match against undefeated DuVal High slated today.

### RESULTS

98 lbs.—Gary Funkhouser (S) pinned Bruce Marshall, 3:18.

105 lbs.—Don Large (S) decisioned Richard Meister, 4-0.

114 lbs.—Jim Austin (S) pinned Frank Steckka, :37.

122 lbs.—Kit Buckingham (L) decisioned Don King, 2-0.

129 lbs. — Russ Divvens (S) pinned Sidney Zook, 3:03.

135 lbs.—Ray Fochler (L) decisioned Dean Wicklane, 1-0.

140 lbs.—Brendan Nuzbakk (L) and Lee Hesberg (S), 2-2 draw.

147 lbs.—Dave Rappe (S) decisioned Eugene Dannels, 4-1.

156 lbs.—Al Boswell (S) pinned Danny Hanlon, 5:18.

167 lbs.—Pat McCall (S) decisioned Mark O'Dell, 3-2.

182 lbs.—Mike Tabor (S) pinned John Casey, 2:50.

Hwt.—Eric Nutzhorn (L) decisioned Joe White 4-2



# 1967 -- 1968 Season



## Wrestlers Overwhelmed By Bowie

Laurel's varsity wrestlers are beginning to face the reality of meeting the "AA" schools in their powerhouse county league, and with disastrous results. Last Thursday, they traveled to Bowie to face the Bulldogs, considered one of the weaker county teams, and came limping back, the victims of a 41-9 licking.

So complete was the Bowie victory that only one Spartan wrestler, 103 pound Richard Meister, managed a victory.

Meister, one of Coach Cohen's freshman hopefuls, pinned his man 48 seconds into the final period to give Laurel five of its nine points for the day. Two other Spartans, senior Kit Buckingham, and Sophomore Danny Hanlon managed draws for the only other Laurel points.

It was the completeness of the bulldog victory that was most surprising, as the Spartans, who have now suffered two overwhelming losses in a row, had their "darkhorse" image dealt a devastating blow. Laurel's record, 3-0 before the holiday break, has now regressed to 3-2, and no Spartan wrestler is left with an unblemished individual record. Only Buckingham is without a loss, with three wins and a draw in four matches.

Freshman, Barry Mc Manus lost his first match at Bowie, dropping a decisive 10-1 bout before Meister put the Spartans ahead (for the only time all day) with his pin. Frank Stetka at 112 was pinned for the second time in two matches, but Buckingham drew with his man 8-8, and after four matches, the score was 5-4 Bowie, with no hint of the devastation that was to follow. The next five Spartans lost their bouts before Hanlon could draw his match and finish Laurel's scoring for the meet.

Frank Cuppels at 127 was decisioned 4-0, and Ray Fochler, undefeated prior to this match, was pinned in 1:35 of the third period of his 133 lb. bout. Sidney Zook lost an action-packed 12-9 decision for his second loss of the year, and Brendon Nuzback, at 145 was pinned in 1:07 of the first period of his match.

Gene Dannels, wrestling at 165 for the first time this year lost a 6-4 decision, and after Hanlon had wrestled a draw, Ray Alexander and Eric Nutzhorn, another previously unbeaten Spartan, were both pinned.

It must be said for Nutzhorn, however, that the Spar-

# 1967 -- 1968 Season



## Bowie Trounces Laurel Matmen At Home, 41-9

Bowie High brought its wrestling record to 3-2 for the season with a 41-9 trouncing of Laurel on the Bulldog mats last week.

Flyweight Jim Springman of Bowie began the day with a decisive 10-1 victory over Barry McManus. Richard Meister of Laurel came back with a 5:13 pin over David Cusach to give the Spartans a brief 5-3 lead in the scoring.

Jack Hoang, using swift counters, jumped to a 6-0 lead over Frank Stetka, then outclassed Stetka for the remainder of the match before finally scoring a pin with 10 seconds left.

The 122-lb. match between Phil Yoder of Bowie and Kit Buchanan of Laurel ended in an 8-8 tie as Buchanan scored a point on riding time in the last period.

With Bowie ahead 10-7 in the series, the next four Bulldogs won matches, on three decisions and pins by Barry Weidmaier and Barry Riefler, to put victory

out of reach for the Spartans. Riefler scored the fastest pin of the day, a 53-second victory over Brendan Nuzback.

Don Hanlon of Laurel was tied by Steve Wiley in the 167 lb. match, after losing a 7-2 lead in the final period. Wiley came back for eight points, including riding time, for the 10-10 tie.

David O'Bryan and Lou Kreitzer, heavyweight finished out the scoring for Bowie with pins.

### RESULTS

98 lbs. — Jim Springman (B) decided Barry McManus, 10-1.

105 lbs. — Richard Meister (L) pinned David Cusach, 5:13.

114 lbs. — Jack Hoang (B) pinned Frank Stetka, 5:50.

122 lbs. — Tie between Phil Yoder (B) and Kit Buchanan (L) 8-8.

129 lbs. — Mike Bray (B) decided Frank Cupples, 4-0.

135 lbs. — Barry Weidmaier (B) pinned Ray Fochler, 4:35.

140 lbs. — Charles Jurgenson (B) decided Sidney Zook, 12-9.

147 lbs. — Barry Riefler (B) pinned Brendan Nuzback, :53.

156 lbs. — Bob Johnson (B) decided Gene Dannels, 6-4.

167 lbs. — Tie between Don Hanlon (L) and Steve Wiley (B), 10-10.

182 lbs. — David O'Bryan (B) pinned Ray Alexander, 5:20.

Hwt. — Lou Kreitzer (B) pinned Eric Nutzborn, 3:57.



# 1967 -- 1968 Season



SPARTAN SPORTS



## Spartan Teams Resume Winning Ways

BY RON LADUE

### Wrestlers Swamp Oxon Hill, 33-11

Wrestling in their proper weight classes for the first time in two matches, and before an enthusiastic crowd that applauded their every move, Laurel High School's varsity wrestlers easily defeated out-classed Oxon Hill for their fourth victory of the season, 33-11. Oxon Hill is now 0-5. The Spartans sport a 4-2 record.

On a day when Coach Beryle Cohen termed his grapplers "flat," it nevertheless took little effort for the Spartans to demolish the Clippers.

Cohen appeared concerned over the inability of the team to "get up" for the match, and their dull, sluggish performance on the mat. Without offering it as an excuse, the Spartan coach pointed to the fact that the grapplers had to push hard in practice the night before in order to make weight.

"We missed practice on Monday because of the snow, and that set us back a day," the coach related. "In addition, we were trying to get the boys down to the weight class where

they belong."

Despite their sluggishness, however, the Spartans won nine of the twelve individual matches enroute to their victory. Only Barry McManus at 97 lbs., Sidney Zook at 135, and John Casey at 167 were unsuccessful.

McManus simply started too late. Losing 4-0 with thirty seconds left in his match, the freshman lightweight picked up three points, but fell short of a victory as time ran out, and the Clippers scored three team points.

Richard Meister quickly erased the Clippers' lead. The freshman 103 pounder who seems to improve with each match pinned his man in the second period, and after Frank Stetka won by forfeit, the Spartans led 10-3.

Kit Buckingham wrestled to a 14-1 lead in the second period, of his match before becoming ill, but the game Spartan captain held on for the victory, 14-6, and the Spartan lead increased three points.

Ray Fochler, back down to 129, faced the strongest of the Oxon Hill wrestlers, their captain and only senior returnee on the squad. In a well-wrestled bout, Ray easily out-pointed him to score a 7-3 victory and be named the outstanding wrestler of the match.

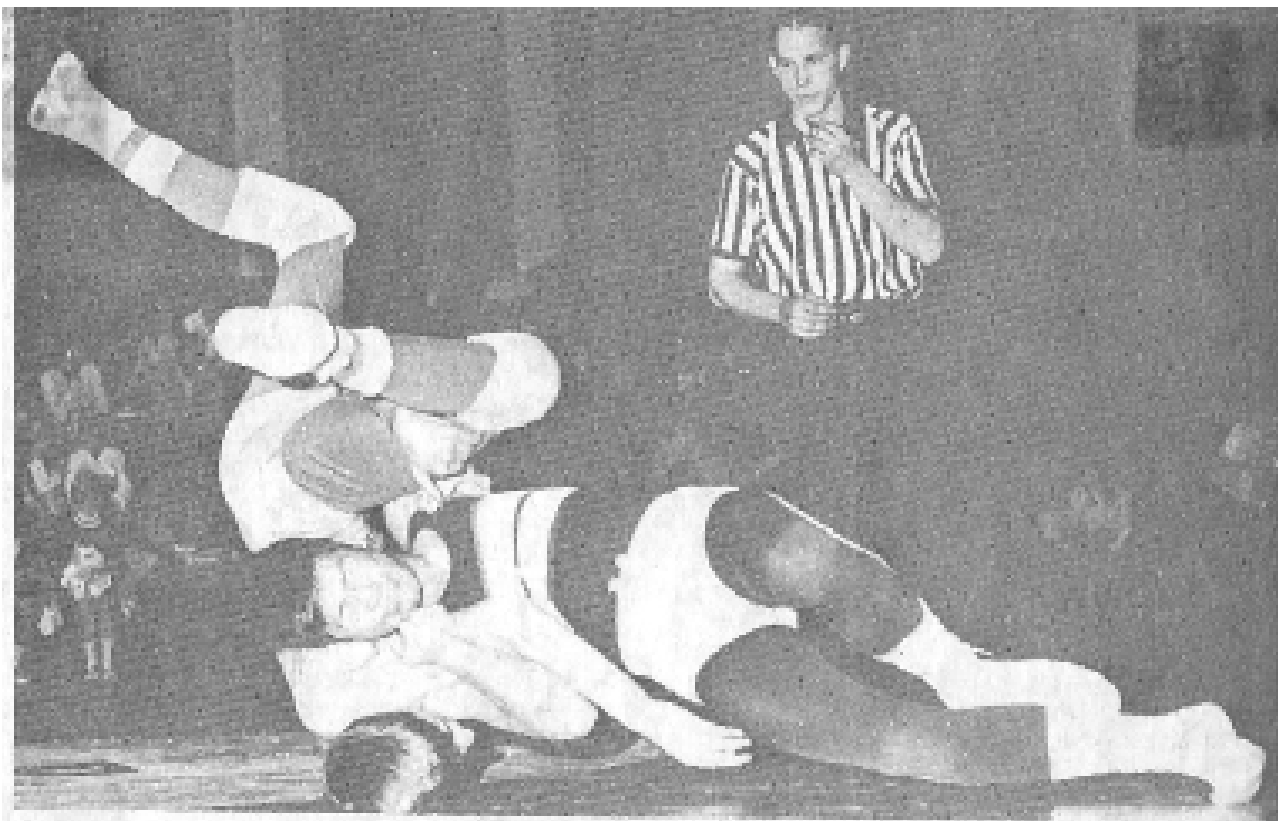
Sid Zook was pinned for his third loss in a row before Gene Dannels, Brendon Nuzback, and Danny Hanlon decisioned their opponents, each by a shut-out.

John Casey at 167 lost 6-0, but Ray Alexander picked up his first victory of the year at 180 winning 8-0, and Eric Natzhorn upped his season's record to 4-1 with a pin in 1:15 of the third period.

The victory put the Spartans back on the winning track after two successive losses to Sarrattsville and Bowie, and made the prospects of a winning season a little brighter as the grapplers face their final four matches.

This week, Laurel travels to "AA" Suttland, a team that has been surprisingly strong against the better league teams. Victory for the Spartans won't come if they're "flat."

# 1967 -- 1968 Season



**GRIMACE FOR GLORY** — Jackie Hoang of Bowie High (in black uniform) struggles with Frank Stetka of Laurel High in their 114-lb. match last week in the Bulldog gym. Hoang's speed was largely responsible for the 16-4 point lead he built up before pinning

Stetka with 10 seconds left in the match. Bowie won all but two matches and gained a tie in one match for a 41-9 victory over the Spartans. Bowie's record is now 3-2. Laurel has lost two straight.

(Staff Photo by Andy Keen)

*The Leader*  
*February 20, 1968*



# 1967 -- 1968 Season



## Duval Mauls Grapplers 35-10

"AA" Duval High School of Greenbelt, one of the top contenders for county league honors, showed its class last Thursday by stopping Laurel's varsity wrestlers with a convincing 35-10 victory.

For the Spartans it was a case of too little strength and too little wrestling experience, as the larger Duval squad won nine of the twelve individual matches for the easy win.

So complete was the Duval win that the Spartans only scored one take-down the entire match. It was the Spartan grapplers' inability to wrestle well from their feet and from the bottom position that was responsible for their poor showing.

The Tigers' domination started with the first match as Barry McManus suffered a 4-1 loss. The freshman 97 pounder started slow, gave up a take-down in the first period and a reverse in the second to lose the match.

Richard Meister, 105 pound freshman, continued to show remarkable wrestling ability despite his inexperience, by registering his sixth victory of the season in eight starts.

with a convincing pin in 1:15 of the second period of his match. The aggressive freshman was ahead 7-4 when the pin came.

Frank Stetka at 115 was a match for his opponent losing a decision 12-1, and Kit Buckingham, despite the fact that he did not lose, was disappointing, as he suffered his second draw of the year in a match with little action that ended 2-2.

Ray Fochler, senior 135 pounder, who has been battling Kit for outstanding wrestling honors the entire year was the man of the hour again as he registered a 3-0 win over a well-schooled opponent. The cagey senior, whom Coach calls his most aggressive wrestler, and who appears to be the strongest wrestler on the squad scored a first period takedown and later picked up a penalty point for the win.

No other Spartan won a match! Sid Zook at 136 lb suffered his third pin of the year as he succumbed at 1:50 of the second period.

Gene Dannels, who has been sluggish in practice, and appears to be physically fatigued

(continued on page 10)

# 1967 -- 1968 Season



wrestled a sluggish match that saw both men able only to score one point apiece on escapes. But for Dannels, a draw was not possible, for he lost one more point as his opponent picked up riding time and won the match 2-1.

Both Brendon Nuzback, who has since departed the squad with grade eligibility problems, and Danny Hanlon were pinned. Nuzback at 148 was behind 7-0 in the third period when he fell, and Hanlon failed to last the first period, as his opponent came to the mat, scored a takedown and the pin after only a minute and forty seconds of action.

Freshman, Mark O'Dell, wrestling better than last week, nevertheless, came out on the short end of a 6-3 score. Again it was a Duval wrestler's skill on his feet

that paid off, as O'Dell's mat scored two takedowns and an escape on the way to his win.

John Casey at 183 and Eric Nutzhorn at heavyweight were the last victims of the Tigers' rout. Casey lost 4-0 and Nutzhorn, suffering only his second loss of the season lost 4-1.

The completeness of the Duval victory left the possibilities of a winning season for the Spartans somewhat dimmer, as they now must beat High Point which mastered Duval in order to attain it.

Between now and then, however, the Spartans face Andover High of Anne Arundel County. The Spartans might once have been conceded victory in that match, but in the light of recent performances, it may just turn out to be quite a battle.



# 1967 -- 1968 Season



Laurel High School's varsity wrestlers got within six points of a successful season this year only to see it slip from their grasp as six straight wrestlers lost individual bouts and Andover High of Glen Burnie pulled out a 25-19 victory Thursday night at Andover.

Through the first six bouts the Spartans had built a 19-5 lead, and victory seemed assured, but as in the last three matches, no-one in the upper weight classes showed the form or aggressiveness of Laurel's "small-men," and victory remained one individual bout win away.

Barry McManus started Laurel off to its quick lead winning 5-0 over a small and obviously inexperienced opponent. Bruce Marshall, usually battling McManus for the 95 lb. spot mauled his man 14-0 into the third period when he scored a pin with forty seconds left in the bout.

Richard Meister the phenomenal freshman 105 pounder continues to be amazingly effective. Wrestling up at 115 he used strength and intelligent moves to carry a 4-1 lead into the second period on two takedowns, before scoring another pin at :35 of the second period.

Courtney Palmer, another of Coach Cohen's freshman hopefuls, wrestled his first varsity match, succumbing to a pin with 59 seconds left in the second period. All-in-all it was a creditable performance against an older, more-seasoned opponent.

Kit Buckingham tied up with the Andover captain, and though not wrestling at his best, was still able to win 7-6, as he picked up a extra point for riding time. Named the out-

standing wrestler for the fourth time this year, Bucky exchanged takedowns in the first period and added an escape for a 3-1 lead. But in the second period, after riding for most of the two minutes, he gave up a reverse, escaped, and was taken-down to fall behind 6-4. In the third period, however, Bucky scored a quick reverse and rode out his man to gain the time advantage.

Ray Fochler pushed Bucky for wrestling honors. Giving away an advantage in size and strength, Ray nevertheless was too quick for his opponent, racing to a 7-0 lead before tiring near the end and finishing with a 7-3 win.

Again, as with last week, no other Spartan managed a victory. Sid Zook and Gene Dannels lost decisions, Zook, never in the match, lost 8-2, and Dannels, who could not wrestle off the bottom, lost 7-4.

Danny Hanlon, who appeared to wish he was anywhere but on the mat, was pinned at :30 of the second period after little effort through the first period. Mark O'Dell, who is still trying to muscle his way to victory was out-wrestled and out-muscled for a 10-4 loss.

John Casey, who, it must be admitted, battled to the end, then lost a 9-2 decision, and as Eric Nutzhorn approached the mat, Laurel was behind for the first time all night, 22-19. Eric needed a pin for a Laurel win, and a decision for a tie. He could gain neither. Giving up about forty pounds, and wrestling below par, Eric lost a tough match 7-0.

The large Spartan following which had traveled to Andover for the match, sat awed as Nutz-

horn left the mat, and this Monday, students were still shaking their heads in bewilderment at the Spartan collapse.

The prospects for avoiding a losing season now seem very dim. The Spartans' final dual match will be this Friday night against High Point's Eagles at home, and the Eagles are perhaps the strongest league team. Off their last three performances, the Spartans will need a minor miracle to pull an upset.

# 1967 -- 1968 Season



Laurel High's varsity wrestlers gave it their best shot, but it wasn't good enough as High Point's Eagles wrestled to a 33-11 victory in the final dual match of the season for both squads.

The Eagles, with the aid of some questionable refereeing, captured nine individual bouts, three of them by pin, enroute to the victory.

Several times during the match coaches from both squads stopped the action to debate calls by the referee. The crowd, both Laurel fans and the large Eagle following alike continually voiced their disapproval over the handling of the match, but it was the Spartans who suffered most as result.

The first Spartan to suffer was Richard Meister. After Bruce Marshall had wrestled to a 4-0 decision to put the Spartans in the lead, Meister tangled with one of the 105 pounders in the county. Ahead 2-0 in the second period, Meister was in control when he suddenly got into trouble. Not yet out of control, but finding himself on his back,

Meister was forced to release his hold and scramble to his stomach to avoid being pinned. In the process, he gave up a reverse, but instead of losing two points, he suddenly found himself down 4-2, as the referee awarded two predicament points, and then, two reversal points, which appeared to be in violation of the rules which state that a wrestler must first gain control before he can be awarded predicament points.

No amount of argument was about to change the decision however, and Meister was to lose 7-4 after scoring a reverse of his own and giving up an escape and takedown as the bout ended. Had the referee not "given" the High Point wrestler the two points, Meister would have wrestled more defensively after giving up the escape, for he would have still been ahead 4-3, and conceivably he could have won the

High Point boy had a riding-time point coming, and it was going to end in a draw.

The next thing anyone knew, however, the referee was raising Matters' hand in victory! The High Point wrestler was given two points riding time (he was actually 2 seconds shy), and Spartan Coach Beryle Cohen was beside himself, again to no avail.

There was a short, noisy delay before Ray Fochler could begin the next bout, and by the time the senior 130 pounder took the mat he was psyched as high as the clichéd kite. Mercifully, the bout ended in two minutes, seventeen seconds as Ray scored the only Spartan pin of the evening.

## EAGLES TOO STRONG

The Eagle squad was just too strong for the Spartans. Hope for victory, however, Sld Zook lost to a probal county champ, 14-0. Gene Dannels, who wrestled one of his strongest matches, won 4-0 but then, Jeff Braunstein was pinned and Danny Hanlon lost 5-3 decision.

Two other potential county champions scored the



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## Spartan Sports—

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Eagle victories. Mark O'Dell lost at 165 lbs. 9-0, and John Casey was pinned after five minutes, three seconds of his bout. Eric Nutzhorn lost 6-2, but by that time the match was so far beyond doubt that the crowd only half-heartedly voiced its disapproval of the referees' decisions.

After the match, both Coach Cohen and the Eagles' Coach Smith seized the opportunity to argue wrestling rules with the referee, as the crowd left the gym with a bad after-taste, despite the efforts of both teams, which had wrestled well.

### CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY SCHEDULED

Two wrestling dates remain on the Spartans' calendar, and they represent a last chance for Laurel to salvage some semblance of success in an otherwise disappointing season. This Friday and Saturday night at High Point High School, all schools will meet in the county tournament to determine champions in each weight class, and a county championship squad as well.

### FOCHLER FAVORED

On March 1 and 2 the county winners will meet with Montgomery County to determine a district champion. Realistically, few Spartan wrestlers have much chance of getting that far. Perhaps Buckingham, who finished with a 7-1-2 record, and Fochler who finished 9-1, have the best chance, and if to anyone, the nod should go to Fochler who has been the far more aggressive wrestler.

In addition, it would be premature to count out Meister completely. The scrappy freshman who finished 7-3 could well place high in the tournament standings, as could

Marshall, Dannels, and Nutzhorn with a little luck.

The price for the opportunity to see the best high school wrestling in the area is quite reasonable, and the Spartans will need all the support they can get.

As for the team title, the

contenders seem to be High Point and Surrattsville, who scored the only victory over the Eagles all season. Despite that fact, however, High Point still remains the team to beat, and for the record, the one this reporter picks to take the title away from the defending Hornets.

All in all, it will be an exciting weekend of wrestling.

Charles Caldwell in the 175 pound class.

Heavyweights John Casey and Warren Tucker will battle it out in an elimination match to see which one will get the starting nod Friday afternoon at Central.

White coach Cohen demonstrated moves to his charges then watched them for execution in the warm confines of the wrestling room, he explained that Central was only a second year team with a new coach. "They should be a little improved over last year," he said.

"Our strong point this season will be overall team balance," added Cohen, who lost super-stars Ray Fochler and Kit Buckingham off last year's squad. "We still have a lot of work but should know more after the scrimmage against Sherwood."

Sherwood should provide the Spartans with a good test, being the reigning Montgomery County as well as District champions.

After traveling to Central to lift the curtain on the 1968 wrestling season, the Spartans return home next