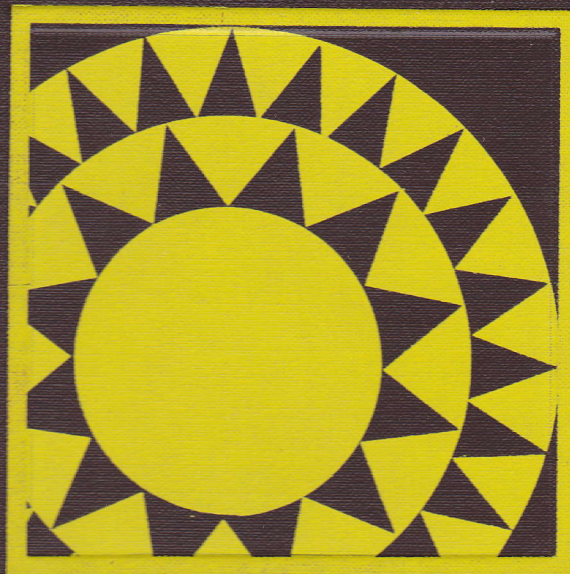


ROCHORD 1969



Fulfilling Potential

Wrestlers Post Best Season With Big Nine, District, Region Titles

Early in the season, Coach Ron White stated, "We could have our best season ever; we have the potential." This proved true as the wrestling team began with a first place finish in the Carlton Invitational and finished the season as the Big Nine, District and Region Champions.

Among the nine returning lettermen who built the team, many had two previous years of varsity experience. As a result the squad was highly favored throughout the season and was rated second in the state for many weeks.

JM finished in first place at the Carlton Invitational in late November. Although competing against many "outstanding" Minneapolis teams, the Rockets won five individual championships.

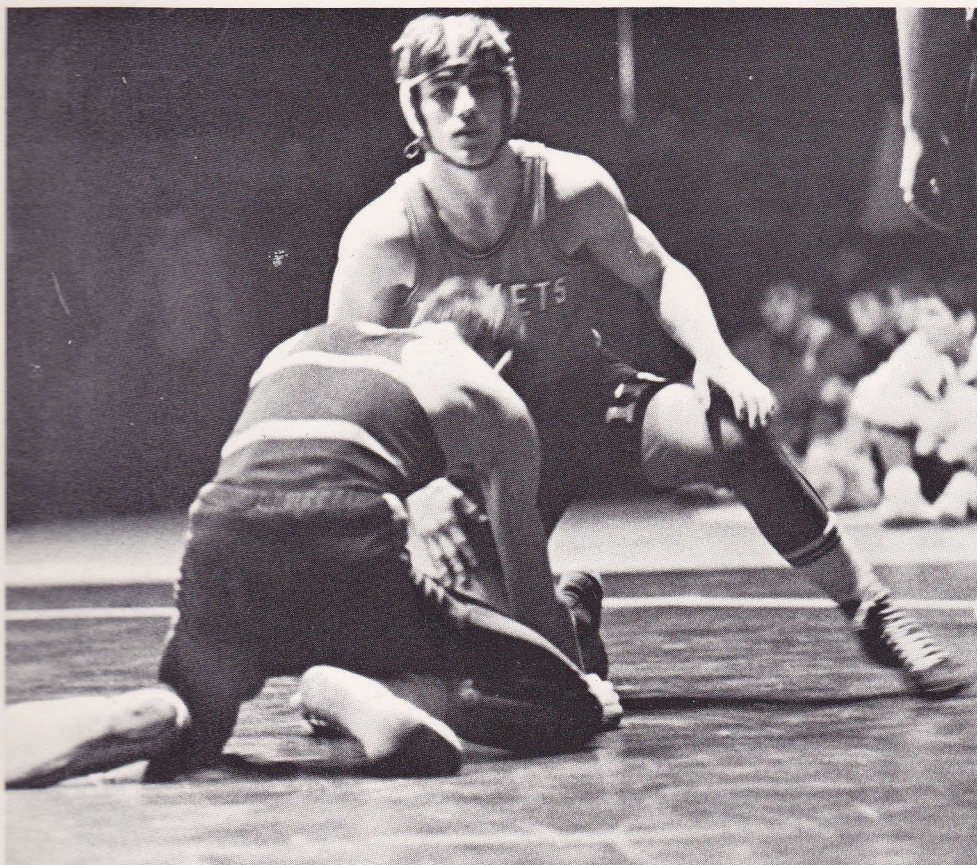
Coach White's squad began the conference schedule with a close victory over Albert Lea, 20-19. But they recorded a

decisive 35-8 win over Mayo the next week.

In further Big Nine competition, JM recorded victories over Mankato, Red Wing, Austin and Winona before suffering a two point loss to Owatonna. Following this, they closed the regular season with wins over Faribault and non-conference Foley.

Despite losing to Owatonna, JM finished with a 8-1 record and in a tie with Mankato for the Big Nine Championship.

Tournament competition highlighted the season. JM wrestlers captured the District crown at Pine Island and qualified four wrestlers for Regional competition. The Rockets won the Region I championship at Winona a week later. Although Keith Christensen and John Leach finished in fifth place at the state meet, the team finished in twenty-first place.



ABOVE: As his opponent pounds the floor in defeat, senior Cliff Hewitt looks at the scoreboard at

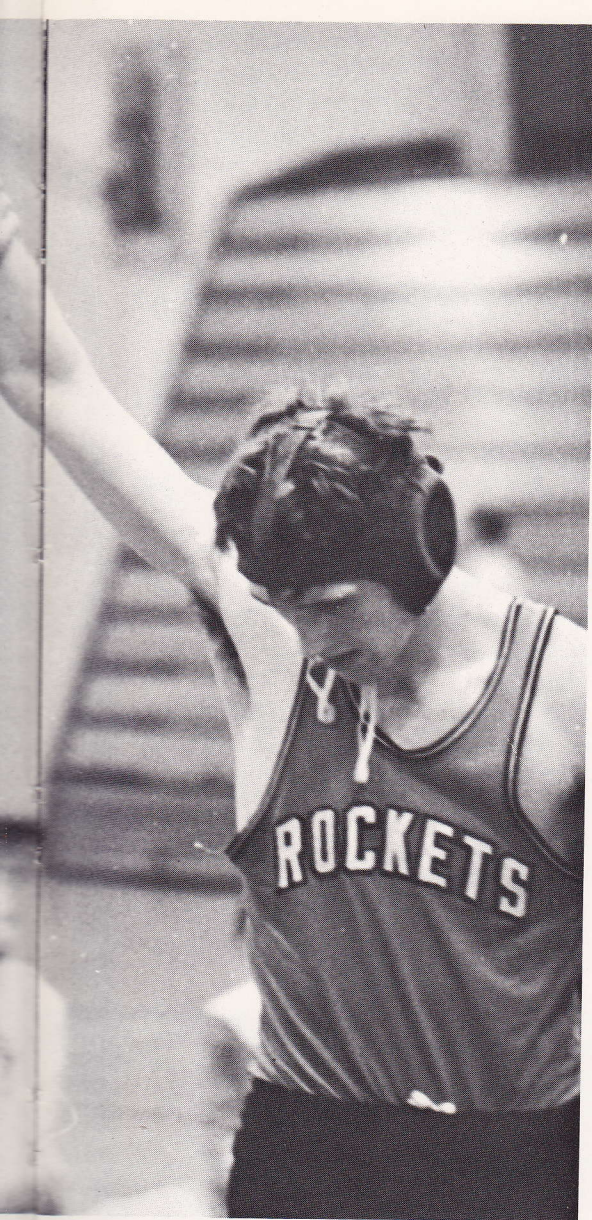
the end of a match in the Regional meet. His win aided a Rocket victory.

SCOREBOARD A SQUAD

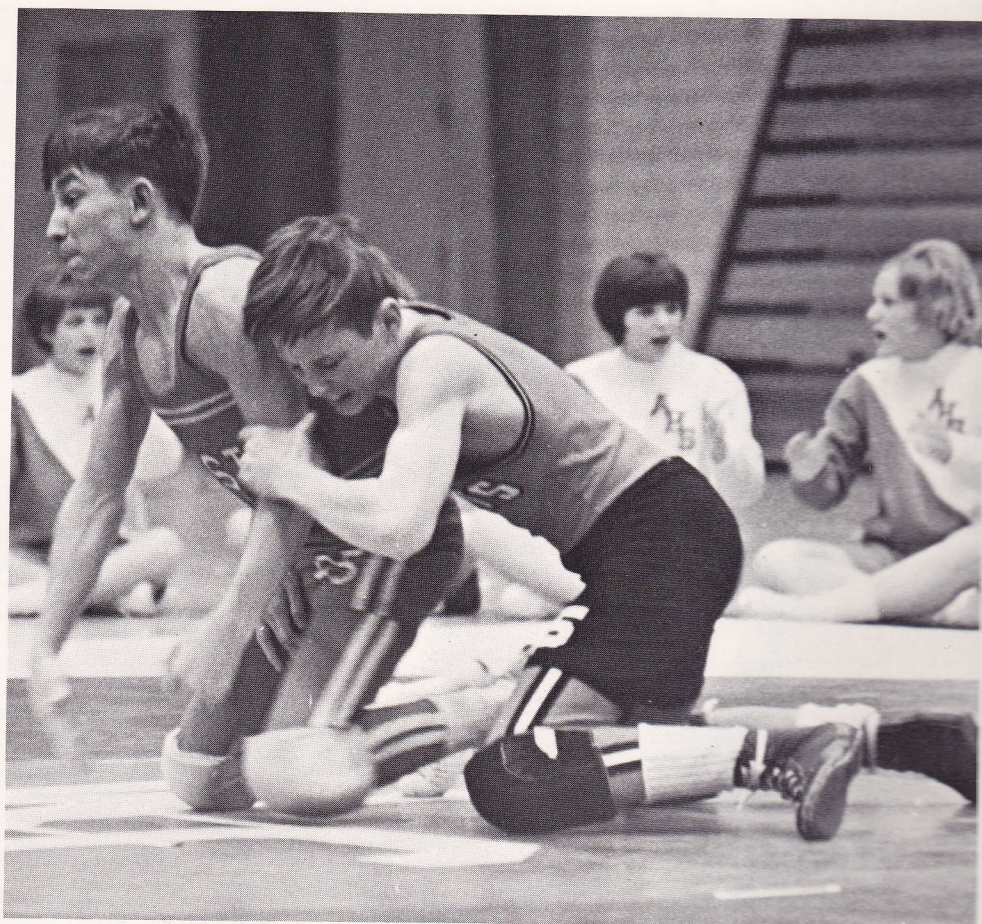
1st		Carleton Invitational
20	19	Albert Lea
35	8	Mayo
23	19	Mankato
JM 44	5	Red Wing
24	14	Austin
28	16	Winona
18	22	Owatonna
33	10	Faribault
30	23	Foley

TOURNAMENTS

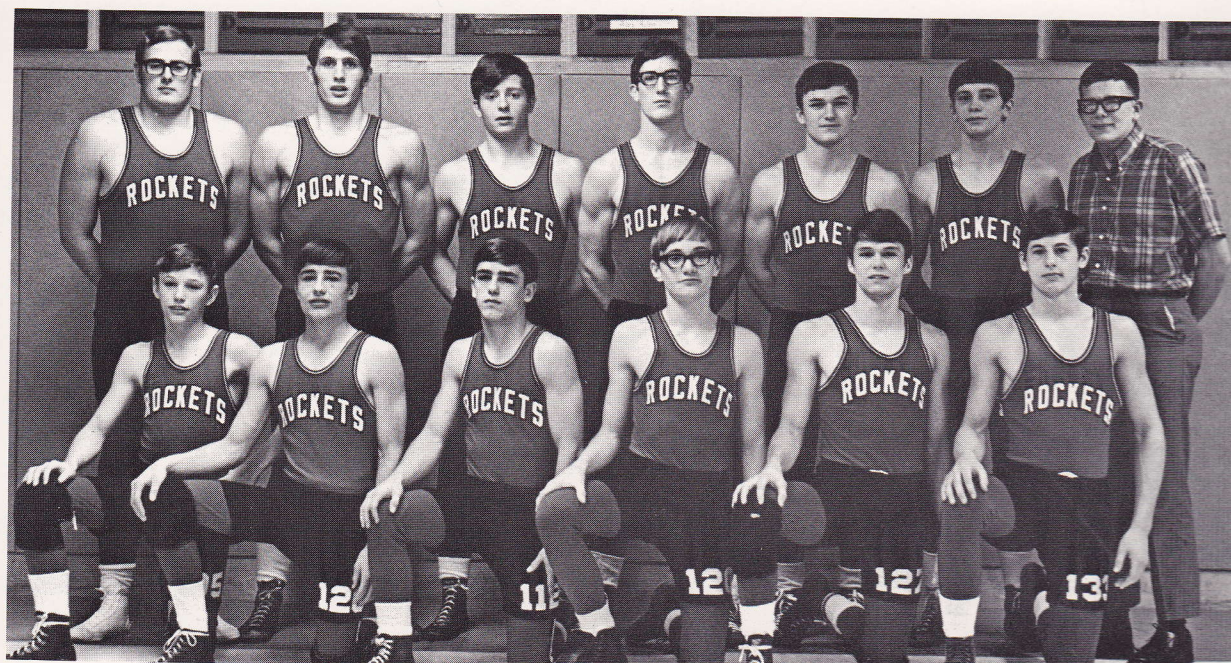
1st		District III
JM 1st		Region I
21st		State



LEFT: Lifting tri-captain Pete Ward's arm, the referee signals a victory after a match with an Austin wrestler.



BELOW: Sophomore Jim Wellner strains to prevent his Austin opponent from gaining a one-point "stand-up."



FRONT ROW: Jim Wellner, John Leach, Cliff Hewitt, John Riese, Jon Johnson, Kent Biel. **SECOND ROW:** Mark Lamphere, Pete

Ward, Chris Stapleton, Keith Christensen, Greg Koelsch, Rich Hargrove, Bob Johnson, Manager.

During '69 Season

B Squad Posts 3-5 Record, Improves Through Varsity Matches

Under the direction of Coach John Drews, the B squad provided an opportunity for underclassmen to gain experience. Competing in wrestle-offs every week for varsity positions, many B squad members wrestled on A squad during the year.

Among those who recorded encouraging A and B squad records were sophomore Wally Pike, and juniors Curt Buck, Bob Rossi, and Phil Beighley.

Although beginning the season with a disappointing two point loss to Albert

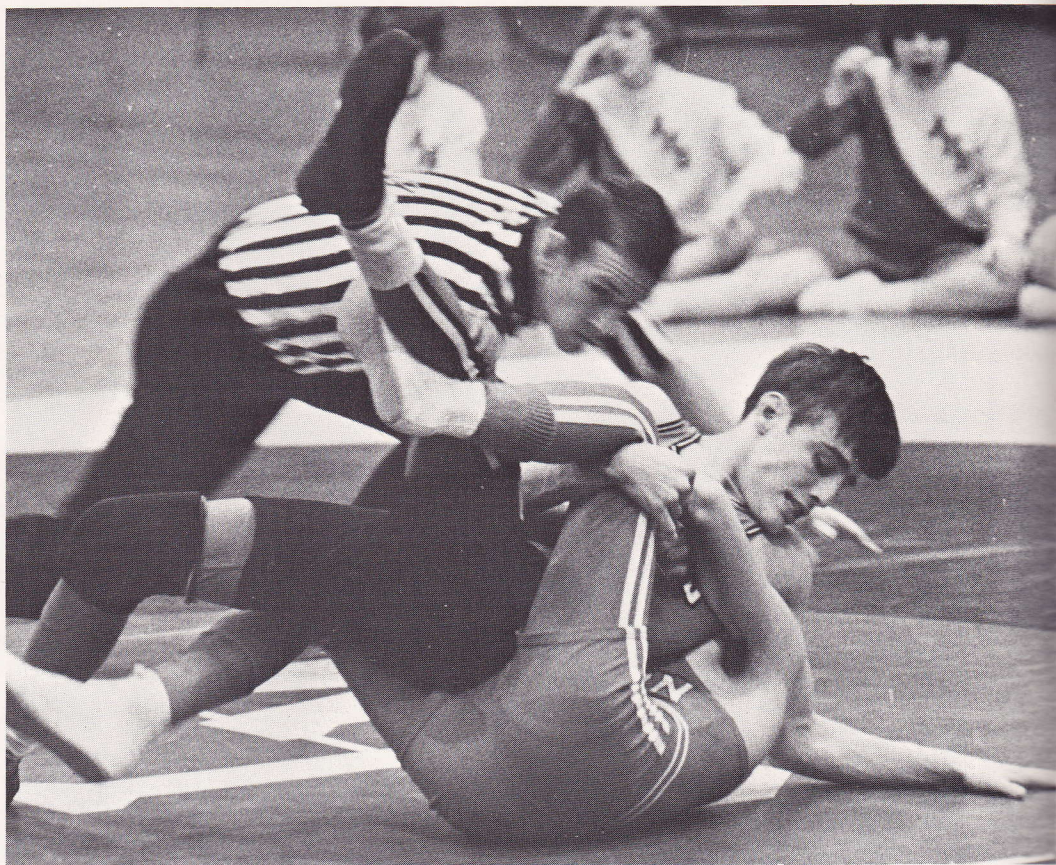
Lea, the team won by a wide margin over Mayo the following week. They out-pointed the Spartans, 31-18.

In the next five meets, their only victory was against Red Wing. JM won the meet with a one point edge, 26-25. The B squad closed the season with a 31-18 victory over Faribault.

After finishing their regular season, B squad members continued practice. They wrestled with varsity members in preparation for tournaments.

SCOREBOARD B SQUAD

JM	26	24	Albert Lea
	31	18	Mayo
	9	39	Mankato
	26	25	Red Wing
	16	28	Austin
	19	30	Winona
	13	35	Owatonna
	31	18	Faribault

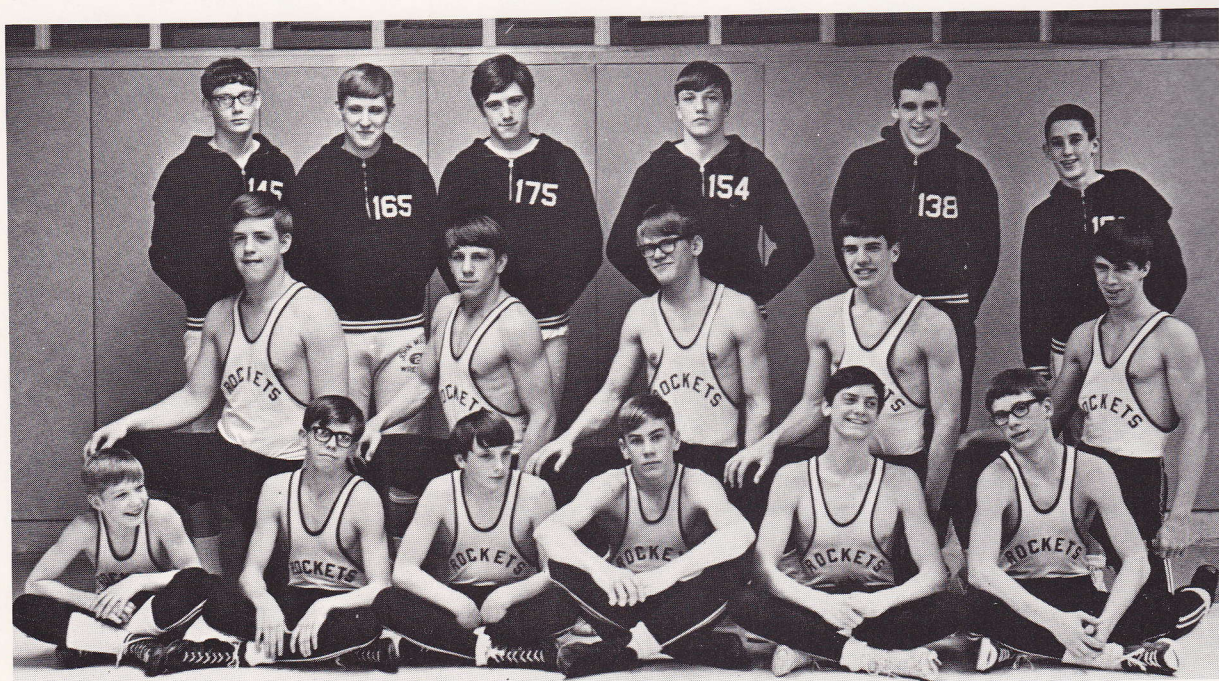
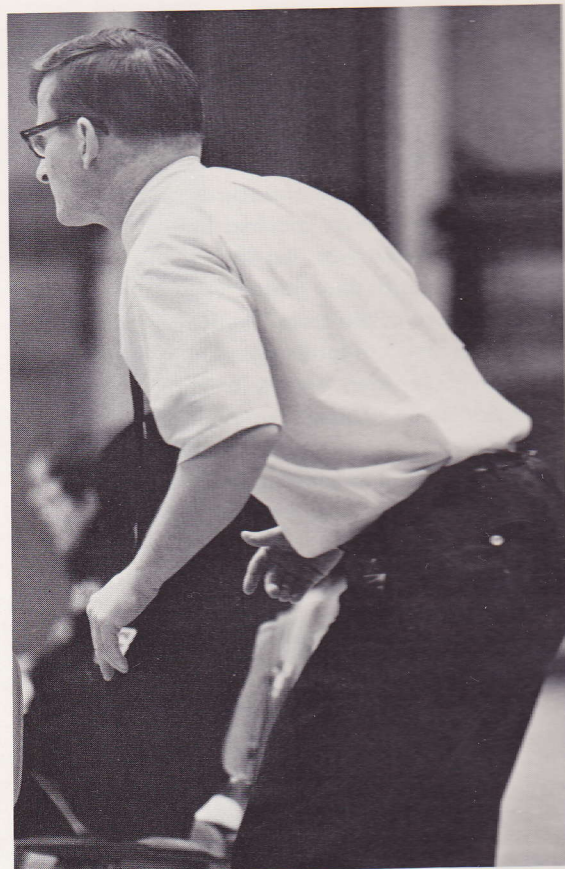


ABOVE: Competing against Austin, tri-captain John Leach, senior, maneuvers into position to pin his opponent.



LEFT: Senior Keith Christensen fights to gain control of his Mankato opponent. Keith won his match, 7-4.

BELOW: Coach Ron White watches the deciding match in the Albert Lea meet with unconcealed nervousness.



ABOVE, B SQUAD, FRONT ROW: Jerry King, Dan Hovel, Roy Castle, Bruce Kroening, Dan Moeller, Jim Olson. **SECOND ROW:** Wayne Pike, Phil Beighley, Curt Buck, Bill Hoffman,

Ron Gibson. **THIRD ROW:** Dan Jensen, Barry Olsen, Steve Stevenson, Dan Caberly, Dave Campion, Mike Toogood. **MISSING:** Bob Rossi.