

# Wrestling starts season with 38-4 win

By Nick Phillips  
Asst. Sports Editor

The UNCP wrestling team kicked off its 2009-2010 season by hosting Belmont Abbey in the English E. Jones Center on Nov. 3.

Nine Braves, including two freshmen, recorded wins in the 38-4 victory.

UNCP totaled 34 takedowns and three near falls in the match, as they now have won nine of their last 10 season opening matches.

Junior Russell Weakley, ranked fifth in the region in his weight class, started the match off quickly for the Braves, recording seven takedowns in the first period before earning a 21-6 technical fall victory in the 125-pound weight class.

Two freshmen recorded back-to-back wins to earn their first collegiate victories at the 133- and 141-pound weight classes.

First, Timarius Thurston recorded a 5-2 win and then Dorian

McDougald recorded a pin 4:44 into his match.

In the 149-pound match, senior Brandon Bradley, ranked fifth in the region in his weight class, recorded a pin 26 seconds into the second period before juniors Rashaad Saunders and Derving Rios each earned decision victories to stretch out the Braves lead.

Senior J.J. Davis, ranked first in the region and fifth in the nation, totaled nine takedowns in the match on his way to a 20-8 in the 184-pound match and sophomore Shane Nolan recorded a 12-3 major decision victory of his own in his 197-pound matchup.

In the final match of the night, senior Erik Stancil earned an 8-0 victory in the heavyweight match.

The Braves will be back in action at home on Saturday, November 14th, when they host the Pembroke Classic. Action is set to begin at 9 a.m. in the English E. Jones Center.



Freshman Timdarius Thurston takes down Belmont Abbey's Graceson Pastirlik in a 5-2 decision.

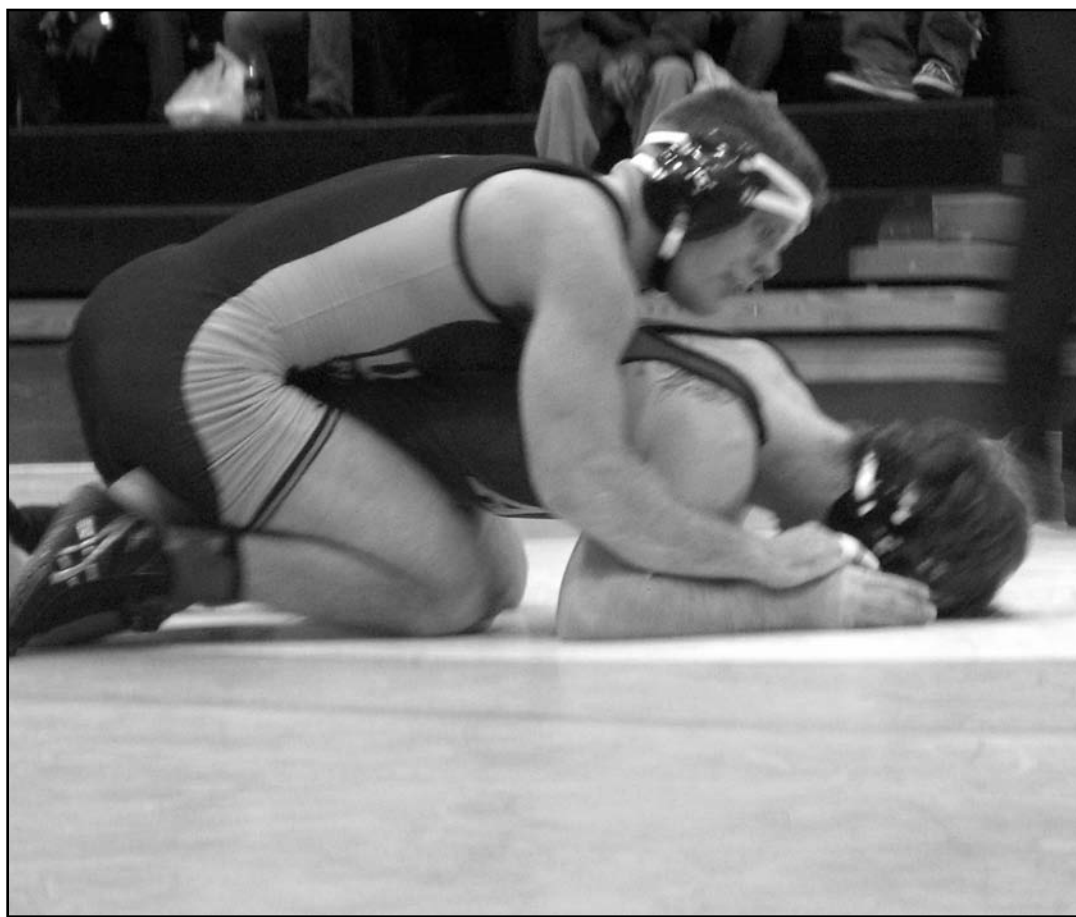
Photo by Stephanie French



Photos by Stephanie French  
Derving Rios, far left, grapples with his opponent in the Braves' win over Belmont Abbey.

Junior Brandon Bradley, left, holds Belmont Abbey's Peter Petties down to the mat in matchup. Bradley won his match by pinfall.

No. 5 ranked junior Russell Weakley, below, attempts to flip his opponent to his back. Weakley won his matchup 21-6 by technical pinfall.



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### Belmont Abbey Results

UNCP 38, Belmont Abbey 4

- 125 - #5 Russell Weakley (UNCP) tech. fall Shane Summerlin (BAC) TF 21-6; 3:39
  - 133 - Timdarius Thurston (UNCP) dec. Graceson Pastirlik (BAC) D 5-2
  - 141 - Dorian McDougald (UNCP) pinned Tashawn Takeall (BAC) F 4:44
  - 149 - Brandon Bradley (UNCP) pinned Peter Petties (BAC) F 3:26
  - 157 - Rashaad Saunders (UNCP) dec. Ross Patterson (BAC) D 10-4
  - 165 - Derving Rios (UNCP) dec. Adam Phillips (BAC) D 9-2
  - 174 - Jake Varilek (BAC) maj. dec. John Henry Clemmer (UNCP) M 11-0
  - 184 - J.J. Davis (UNCP) maj. dec. Ryan Gregory (BAC) M 20-8
  - 197 - Shane Nolan (UNCP) maj. dec. Tom McGee (BAC) M 12-3 (UNCP 34-4)
  - 285 - Erik Stancil (UNCP) maj. dec. Kyle Spar (BAC) M 8-0
- Records: BAC 0-1; UNCP 1-0