Braves ease past Spartanburg Methodist

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

Two quick pins by UNCP All-Americans Russ-sell Weakley and Mike Williams and four forfeits by visiting Spartanburg Methodist Helped push the UNCP wrestling team to an easy, 47-6 win on Feb. 3 inside the English E. Jones Center. The Braves, ranked 10th in the country for the second week in a row, needed only 46 seconds to pin Andrew Tillman in the night’s opening match, and gave UNCP a 6-lead while bumping his individual record to 18-1. The Braves doubled their lead moments later when Tindarius Thurston earned a forfeit win at 133-pounds.

In the 141-pound matchup, one of the few actual matches, UNCP’s Joe Figueroa topped a 14-11 decision win before Spartanburg Methodist earned its only forfeit and open points of the night at 149-pounds. Another actual match that took place was in the 157-pound matchup, where the Braves’ Chinh Foy faced off against Nick Voss. Foy earned himself some late points and held for the 8-7 decision victory. At 165-pounds, Williams, also ranked No. 1 in the country at his weight class, tallied a first-period pin in his matchup, finishing off Dallas Phillips in 1:45 of match time to improve to 18-3 this year.

In the night’s final matchup, UNCP’s Jordan Ford earned a 15-point, tech fall victory over St. Andrew’s Timdarius Thurston as the 17-2 improved Ford’s record to 19-7. Shiehme Bryant, Shane Nolan and Jan Lee De La Riva finished off the night with three forfeits in the 184, 197 and 285-pound matchups, respectively.

The Braves improves the overall Braves record to 13-4 and within a win of matching their team’s score from last season. The Braves wrestling team will finish out its home season on Feb. 10, when regional rival Limestone comes to town. Prior to the match, the UNCP wrestling team will celebrate senior night for Weakley and Den-nis Fix.

Braves wrestling stopped cold against Newberry

By Kelly Mayo
Sports Writer

After forfeiting the night’s opening match, the UNCP wrestling team took seven of the final nine matches to beat regional rival St. Andrews 32-15 at Harris Court Jan. 28.

Knick’s Eric Brown won via forfeit in the 125-pound match against the Braves, who had no entry in the matchup. However, the Braves answered by winning the next five matches, two of them via technical falls.

UNCP won two of the next four rounds to finish the contest. UNCP sophomore Tinda-rius Thurston beat St. An-drews’ Sterling Perry with a 22-7 technical fall in the 133-pound match before Braves freshman Tyquan Easton beat Knights’ Matt Fletcher in a 14-6 major decision in the 141-pound matchup.

Braves junior Brendon Parker-Risk had an impres-sive match, as he pinned St. Andrews’ Baison Lee in the first 22 seconds of the 149-pound matchup. UNCP All-American Mike Williams, ranked first in the country in his weight class, scored a 23-6 technical fall against Knights freshman Caleb Mitler in the 155-pound match. In the 197-pound match, UNCP junior Shane Nolan won his pin of St. Andrews’ Josh Ford to prove to 18-3 this year.

The Knights won just two more matchups after their opening forfeit victory. St. Andrews’ Rich Manwaren handed an in-jury defeat to UNCP red-shirt-junior DIs in the 174-pound match.

St. Andrews’ Justin Hoover topped Braves freshman Seth Stewart in the 285-pound match.

Moore leads women’s golf to fourth place finish

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

Sophomore Megan Moore picked up first place medalist honors for the UNCP women’s golf team on Feb. 5 and 6 at the Tuscu-lum College Kwaibah Island Inter-collegiate.

As a team, the Lady Braves two-round total was +41, one shot behind third-place finisher Belmont Abbey.

Sophomore Shauna Walter fla-tered her two rounds with a total score of 156, placing her in a tie for 16th. Senior Karl Dammann shot 158 over the two rounds and placed in a tie for 25th overall.

UNCP freshman Dana Watkins and Kelly Sumner finished with rounds of 161 and 163, respectively, and tied for ninth place. Watkins fin-ished tied for 37th overall while Sumner finished tied for 41st.

The Lady Braves, currently ranked 12th in the Golfstat.com computer head-to-head ranking rankings, will be back on the course Feb. 14 and 15 at the Newberry College Invitational.