By Nick Phillips

Brendon Parker-Risk grabbed the 157-pound championship as he led the UNCP wrestling team during the 31st annual Pembroke Classic inside the English E. Jones Center on Nov. 19.

Overall, 11 of the 14 Braves wrestlers matched at least one win, with eight grabbing multiple victories on the afternoon.

Parker-Risk finished off his undefeated run through his weight class with a third period pin of N.C. State’s Cohan Palmer to give him his first tournament title in his two years at UNCP. It was his fourth career top-six finish overall.

Shane Nolan captured runner-up honors for the second consecutive tournament in the 197-pound bracket, while James De La Riva (285 pounds) and Daniel Ownbey (141 pounds) both finished third in their weight classes.

Shawn Topper grabbed a fourth place finish for the Black and Gold in his 123-pound bracket, while Shih-chen Bryant finished sixth in the 184-pound division.

Parker-Risk had little trouble handling a 14-1 major decision win over Limestone’s Jeremy McPherson and a first period pin over St. Andrews’ Caleb Mitider in his first two rounds before he pulled through a 4-3 victory over Newberry’s Taylor Knapp to head into the champion-ship matchup and his third period pin of Palmer.

Nolan fought for three straight decision victories, over Duke’s Robby Mello in his first two rounds before he pulled through a 4-3 victory over Newberry’s Taylor Knapp to head into the championship matchup and his third period pin of Palmer.

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