Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Leadership a trademark for grappling Braves
By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Leadership a trademark for grappling Braves
By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Leadership a trademark for grappling Braves
By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Leadership a trademark for grappling Braves
By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Leadership a trademark for grappling Braves
By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Leadership a trademark for grappling Braves
By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

Leadership is a quality that cannot be taught. A player is born with leadership qualities. It is a trait that festers deep within a competitor’s soul until at one moment it emerges to lead others to victory.

So coming into the 2008 season, UNCP wrestling coach Jamie Gibbs knew he had a major task to accomplish. He needed to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.

Humble beginnings
In 2007, as a sophomore, Mike Nash showed great promise. The 133-pounder ended the season with a 34-9 overall record and had four first place finishes during the season.

Nash said that he was introduced to wrestling at a young age and ever since he saw the sport, he couldn’t get enough of it.

“I was introduced to wrestling when I was 12 years old,” Nash said. “A guy was starting up a [wrestling] program for the Fayetteville Recreation Department and was looking for kids that would try the sport.

For senior Erik Stancil, wrestling has been a part of his life for over eight years.

“Tried to find a leader. Thankfully for the grappling Braves and Gibbs, he found two.