

Photo by Kim North

Wheeling Park's Austin Loew, left, battles Parkersburg South's Dalton Fullerton during their 195-pound match at the OVAC Bill Hinegardner Class 5A Duals Championship on Friday night in Moundsville. Loew won, 5-0.

South Captures 5A Crown

Banged-up Park finishes runnerup

By KIM NORTH
For The Intelligencer

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County Patriots a quick 6-0 lead when he recorded a first-period pin of Devin Easton. However, by the next time a Wheeling Park wrestler had his hand raised, the score had mounted to 58-6 as Parkersburg South displayed its strength.

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Please See SOUTH, Page 10

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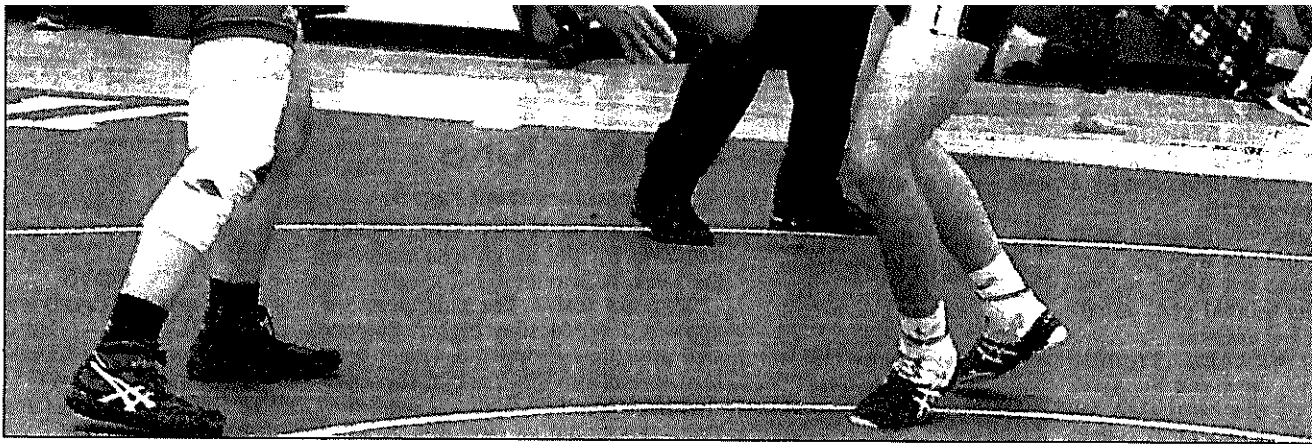


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However, this time the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Bill Hinegardner Duals Class 3A championship was on the line and the Shamrocks weren't about to settle for another runnerup finish this week. Barnesville, aided by four forfeits, claimed its third title since 2005 with a 41-23 verdict inside the John Marshall Fieldhouse. The Shamrocks also defeated Magnolia, 61-15, in one semifinal.

"I think the kids felt confident they could win," Barnesville coach Jayson Stephen said. "We got a quote out of the

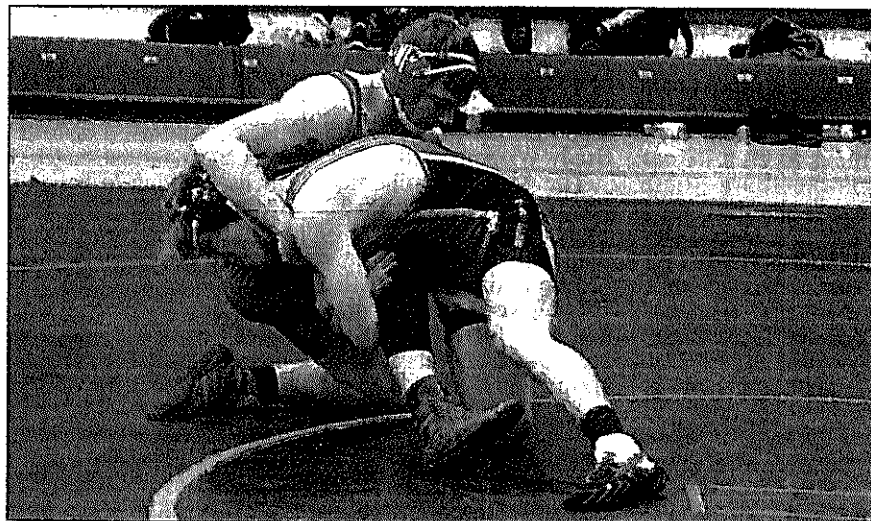


Photo by Kim North

Bellaire's Cody Albaugh tries to take down Barnesville's Owen Oliver during their 152-pound bout Friday night at the John Marshall Fieldhouse.

paper from the last time we met, and we put that up on the scale. The kids kind of liked that. After staring at it for a couple of weeks, they wanted to come down and make up for the time we fell short.

"We made up for it and it feels good, but it's not over yet. We've still got to

continue getting better. We're still a young team and that's no excuse. Injuries and sickness have taken their toll, but every team has that this time of year."

Please See SHAMROCKS, Page 10

from Darian Dziurzynski but Josephs answered 38 seconds later with a backhanded goal in the slot for a 4-2 advantage.

Francis kept pace with his teammate with just over a minute left in the second for his second goal, creating a 5-2 cushion.

In the third, Freddie Tiffels amassed his fifth goal of the campaign for Wheeling and Dziurzynski collected his second of the game, before Josephs capped off his memorable night with his ninth of the season.

The Nailers outshot the Fuel 40-29 and 11 players finished with at least one point.

"We had a lot of chances," Christian said. "We talked about capitaliz-

ing and lead and play with it.

Brown also moved his point streak to nine games with a pair of helpers.

Wheeling 7, Indy 3

Indy 1 1 1-3
Wheeling 3 2 2-7

1st Period-1, Wheeling, Francis 7 (Gardiner, Wydo), 5:42 (PP). 2, Indy, McInnis 12 (Miskovic, Seckel), 8:17. 3, Wheeling, Schulze 5 (Francis, Sorkin), 16:46 (PP). 4, Wheeling, Josephs 7 (Beirnes, Fick), 17:53. Penalties-Clarke Ind (tripping), 4:09; Gardiner Whl (hooking), 14:14; Burton Ind (hooking), 16:18; Milan Whl (holding), 19:56.

2nd Period-5, Indy, Dziurzynski 11 (Sweeney, Neal), 12:00. 6, Wheeling, Josephs 8 (Taylor, Brown), 12:38. 7, Wheeling, Francis 8 (Meurs), 18:47. Penalties-Josephs Whl (tripping), 5:37; Rupert Ind (tripping), 15:58.

3rd Period-8, Wheeling, Tiffels 5 (Fick, Taylor), 3:11. 9, Indy, Dziurzynski 12 (Neal), 14:08. 10, Wheeling, Josephs 9 (Schulze), 19:11. Penalties-Gardiner Whl (hooking), 5:07; Seckel Ind (cross-checking), 7:56.

Shots on Goal-Indy 7-14-8-29. Wheeling 14-11-15-40.

Power Play Opportunities-Indy 0 / 4; Wheeling 2 / 5.

Goalies-Indy, Carlson 1-2-1-0 (25 shots-20 saves); Dodds 1-0-0-0 (15 shots-13 saves). Wheeling, Morrison 10-7-1-0 (29 shots-26 saves).
A-3,019

SOUTH

(Continued from Page 9)

is a kid in the state that is going to out-tough Austin. He's a hard-nosed wrestler who is hard to beat. He showed it."

Wheeling Park competed without injured senior standouts John Nash (160) and OVAC champ Kaleb Simpkins (170), while classmate Calvin McGaha (285) was sick.

Tucker is hopeful all three will be back for the Class AAA regionals at Brooke a week from today.

Wheeling Park rallied past John Marshall in the semifinals to earn its date with Parkersburg South, which won its third duals title, and first since 2014. The other came in 2010.

"I knew it was going to be a close match with as short-handed as we were," Tucker noted of the victory over John Marshall, 41-33. "Everybody is a little banged up, but we sucked it up and were able to beat

John Marshall for the second time this year. They've got a good team, but we were a little better."

Collecting wins against the Monarchs were Maison Richardson (120), Billy Gooch (132), Stevie Mitchell (138), Daniel Skelton (152), Axel Gebhart (182), Lowe and Dylan Wood (220).

JM winners were Ethan Gray (113), Peyton Shook (126), Jordan Wood (145), OVAC champion Anthony Carman (160), Jacob Berisford (170) and Brady Williams (285).

The Monarchs claimed third place with a 58-22 decision over Brooke.

In Parkersburg South's blowout of Brooke, the Patriots recorded 10 pins and four forfeits in tallying 80-plus points for the sixth time this season. It was the third time they've reached the maximum point total.

SHAMROCKS

(Continued from Page 9)

When asked if this championship made up for the tough loss earlier in the week, he was straight forward.

"No, not really. The kids were disappointed Wednesday night," Stephen said after they dropped a 42-33 decision to Nelsonville-York in the Division III, Region 22 finals. "I think they knew we should've won that match. I broke it down the next day on a dry erase board, subtracting a point here and there and I think they visually got to see that.

"They came out (Friday) and battled tough in every match. I am proud of them."

Barnesville's Caeddon Yager (106) and Brayden Reynolds (113) received forfeits to make it 12-0 before Bellaire pulled to within 12-11 on a pin from Joseph Bonfini (120) and a technical fall by Clayton Moore (126). That, however, was as close as the Big Reds got as the Shamrocks reeled off six straight victories to pull away.

Jacob Boulet (132) won by forfeit to start the streak and Dylan Glotfelty (138) followed with a first-period pin in 41 seconds. Cameron Woods (145) and Owen Oliver (152) posted back-to-back decisions before a double forfeit at 160. Brylan Clouse (170) earned a technical fall and Kevin Perdue (182) pinned his opponent, making it 38-17. Zack Meade (220) earned a decision to conclude the Barnesville scoring.

Bellaire's Cole LaRoche (195) won by pin and Joseph Hoepfner (285) received a forfeit.

"Right now we're pushing for the sectional tournament and trying to get some of our kids healthy," Bellaire coach Andrew LaMotte said. "This was an important match, but our main focus is trying to get as many kids to Columbus.

"The four forfeits really hurt, but you've got to play the hand you're dealt."

Bellaire received a bye to the finals after Crestview, which won the Class 3A crown at the OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament last month, pulled out of the event earlier in the week. There were no other teams qualified for filling the void.

Continued from Page B1

ented Wheeling Park (10-5) awaits. The Patriots, who rolled past Parkersburg South for the title last year, have also won three titles on the OUE court. In its history, Park has won 13 OVAC titles, which trails only St. John Central's 15 for the most of any school.

The other half of the bracket finds what will be a rematch. Two Rivers Athletic Conference foes Brooke and Parkersburg South will clash on the Bruins court in Wellsburg for the second time in three days. South comes north on Saturday for the regular-season meeting.

Brooke earned the two seed at 12-3. The Bruins have never played in the championship game and have only escaped the consolation pool in the inaugural season of the event.

As for South, the Patriots are a solid 13-3 on the season. They've been to OUE on the regular, qualifying four times for the final in their relatively short history with the OVAC. However, South has just one title (2014) to show for it.

CLASS 4A

Cambridge, which dropped down to 4A this school year, wrapped up the top seed on the strength of an impressive 14-2 record. The Bobcats, who are led by standout senior Lily Ritz, have never won an OVAC title in girls' hoops. This is only the second time the Guernsey Countians have qualified for the top four.

To get to its first title game, they'll need a victory against fourth-seeded St. Clairsville. The Red Devils got into the field Monday evening with their win over Steubenville and Harrison Central's loss to Brooke. Coach Stacey Agnew's team, which is the only team of the 20 to reach the semifinals to have a sub .500 record, reached the 4A final last season, falling to Union Local. St. C., which hasn't won an OVAC title since 2007, has played in three finals.

Second-seeded Buckeye Local is aiming for its second trip to OUE. The Panthers, who are led by their dynamic back-court duo of Emily Holzopfel and Alaire Destifanes, are currently 11-6 on the season. Buckeye won its only title in 1992.

A semi-final date with Steubenville awaits the Panthers. Big Red is currently 8-8 on the season and is coming off the aforementioned loss to St. Clairsville on Monday. They have claimed five OVAC titles, including one in the playoff format in 2013.

CLASS 3A

Arguably the strongest field in the OVAC resides in this class with all four teams having at least 11 victories.

For the second straight season, Bellaire is the top seed. The Big Reds have been impressive, posting an 18-2 mark en route to a point average of 63.2, which trailed only Indian Creek in the entire conference.

Coach John Farrier's team was upset by Linsly in the semifinal last season. The Big Reds haven't won an OVAC title since 2006 and have never played in the championship game.

The path to a crown isn't easy once again. Buckeye Trail, which knocked off the Cadets in that title game last season, qualified for the tournament after Union Local fell to John Marshall Monday night. The Warriors are 11-5 and have played a challenging schedule inside the Inter-Valley Conference as well as against its OVAC opponents. All told, Trail owns three OVAC titles.

Wheeling Central – the reigning 2A champion – is the second seed. The Maroon Knights, despite dealing with injuries and illness, have been impressive with a 15-2 record. Coach Penn Kurtz's teams have won three conference titles in the playoff format and the school owns 10 titles in all.

A perennial playoff entrant awaits, however, in Fort Frye. Coach Dan Liedtke's well-drilled squad is the third seed at 14-3. The Fort owns five tournament OVAC titles

CLASS 1A

A new champion is guaranteed in the small-school division since Frontier failed to qualify.

Cameron grabbed the top seed thanks to an impressive 14-1 record. The Dragons haven't reached the semi-final round of the OVAC since 2010 and have never won a conference title.

The Dragons will host Madonna, which is 8-9 on the season. The Blue Dons own 11 championships, but they won only once in the new format despite four title-game appearances.

The other half of the bracket finds Beallsville as the two seed. The Blue Devils have a solid 11-5 mark and are seeking their fourth trip to OUE. Of the six pennants they've claimed in hoops, two have come under this format. They went back-to-back in 2009 and 2010.

A challenging task with 8-8 Trinity Christian awaits the Monroe Countians. Trinity won its only OVAC title in 2012.

Complete consolation pairings can be found on Page B4 of today's edition.

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CLASS 2A

With Wheeling Central having moved up a class, 2A will also have a new champion.

Steubenville Central, which has been ranked in the Division IV Associated Press Poll most of the season, garnered the top seed with a 15-3 record. The Crusaders are seeking their first OVAC title since 1989. They fell to the Maroon Knights in last season's title game. That was their second appearance in the final.

To make it a third trip to OUE, the Crusaders will have to contend with River, which has gotten hot late to propel itself into the field as the fourth seed. The Pilots are 10-7 and fought off Clay-Battelle for the final bid. River, which hasn't won an OVAC title since 2004, has come up empty in three trips to the title game.

Shenandoah pocketed the second seed after completing the pre-OVAC portion of its schedule with a solid 13-5 mark. The Zeps won their only OVAC title in 2006 and have never played in the conference final in three appearances in the top four.

The Zeps' path to St. Clairsville won't be easy as Shadyside earned the third seed with a 14-5 record. The Tigers own seven OVAC titles and claimed hardware twice under the current format (2011 and 2013).

Neither of the semifinal matchups in this class occurred earlier this season.

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OVAC Wrestling

CLASS 6-A					
School	W	L	TG	CP	AVE.
Wheeling Park	11	2	13	850	65.385
* Unkversity	9	1	10	600	60.000
Parkersburg South	11	2	13	770	59.231
* Beaver Local	3	1	4	190	47.500
John Marshall	9	6	15	645	43.000
Brooke	8	7	15	535	35.667
Warren Local	4	3	7	220	31.429
Indian Creek	1	2	3	75	25.000
Weir	5	8	13	275	21.154
* Morgantown	2	12	14	130	9.286

CLASS 4-A					
School	W	L	TG	CP	AVE.
Staubenville	12	0	12	845	70.417
St. Clairsville	2	0	2	110	55.000
Oak Glen	9	4	13	670	51.538
East Liverpool	9	7	16	655	40.938
Harrison Central	1	3	4	75	18.750
* Cambridge	2	3	5	90	18.000
* Buckeye Local	3	6	11	180	16.364
Edison	0	3	3	0	0.000
Martins Ferry	0	0	0	0	0.000
Meadowbrook	0	4	4	0	0.000

CLASS 3-A					
School	W	L	TG	CP	AVE.
Bellaire	6	0	6	350	58.333
Magnolia	6	2	8	285	35.625
Barnesville	2	1	3	90	30.000
Crestview	3	5	8	125	15.625
* Fort Frye	0	0	0	0	0.000
* Monroe Central	0	0	0	0	0.000
* Union Local	0	2	2	0	0.000

CLASS 2-A/1A					
School	W	L	TG	CP	AVE.
Weirton Madonna	3	0	3	185	61.667
Toronto	2	0	2	85	42.500
Caldwell	4	1	5	200	40.000
Linsly	3	1	4	125	31.250
* Wellsville	1	1	2	50	25.000
* Southern Local	1	1	2	40	20.000
Shadyside	1	1	2	40	20.000
Cameron	5	9	14	220	15.714
Shenandoah	2	2	4	60	15.000
* Paden City	2	8	10	80	8.000
* Beallsville	0	7	7	0	0.000
* River	0	0	0	0	0.000
Bridgeport	0	4	4	0	0.000
Clay-Battelle	0	2	2	0	0.000
Steubenville Cath	0	2	2	0	0.000

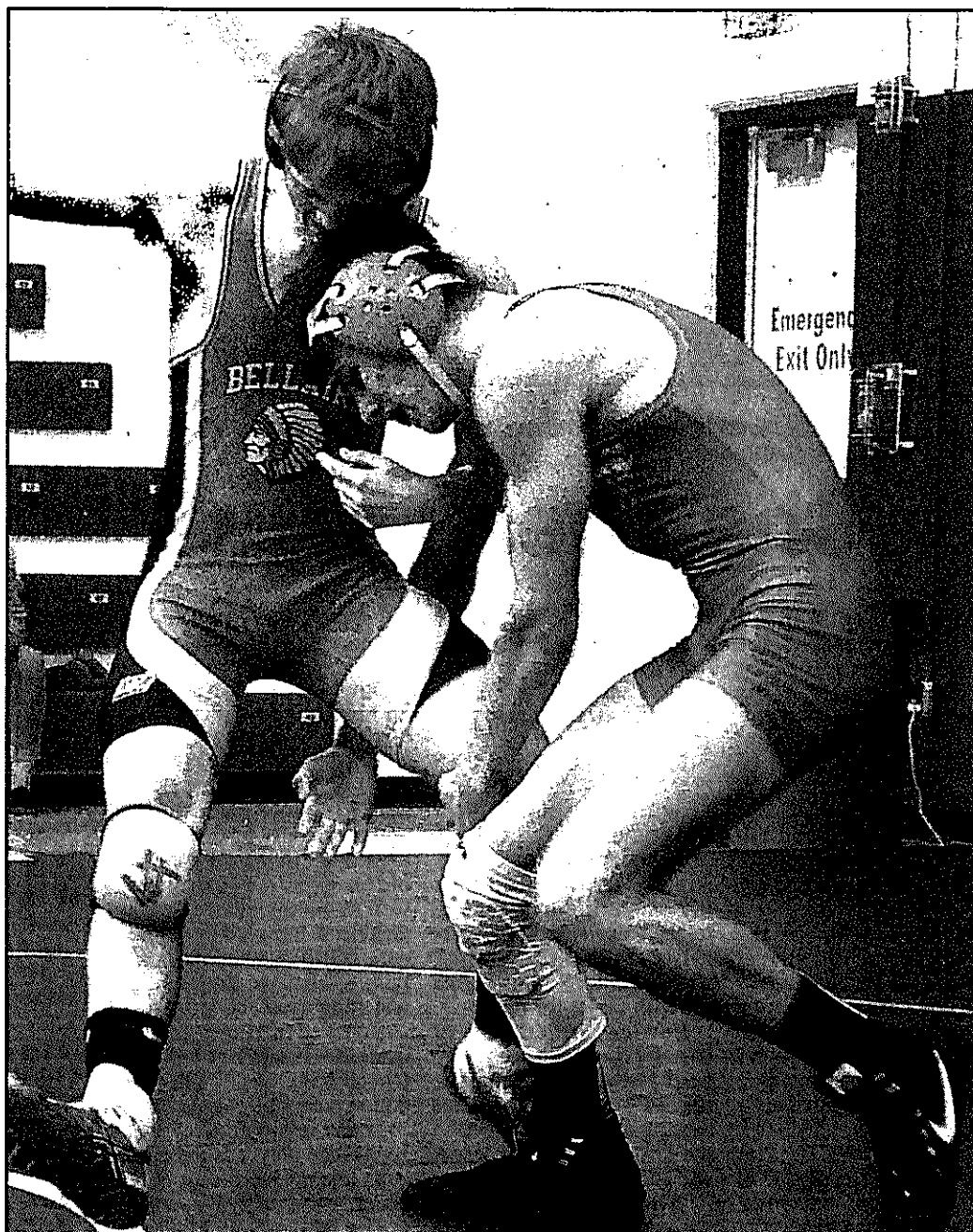
Teams with * are not eligible for the 2018 OVAC "Bill Hinagardner" Wrestling Dual Meet Championships.

SPORTS

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Saturday,
February 3, 2018

OVAC Bill Hinegardner Dual Tournament



South powers way to 5-A title

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Sports Writer

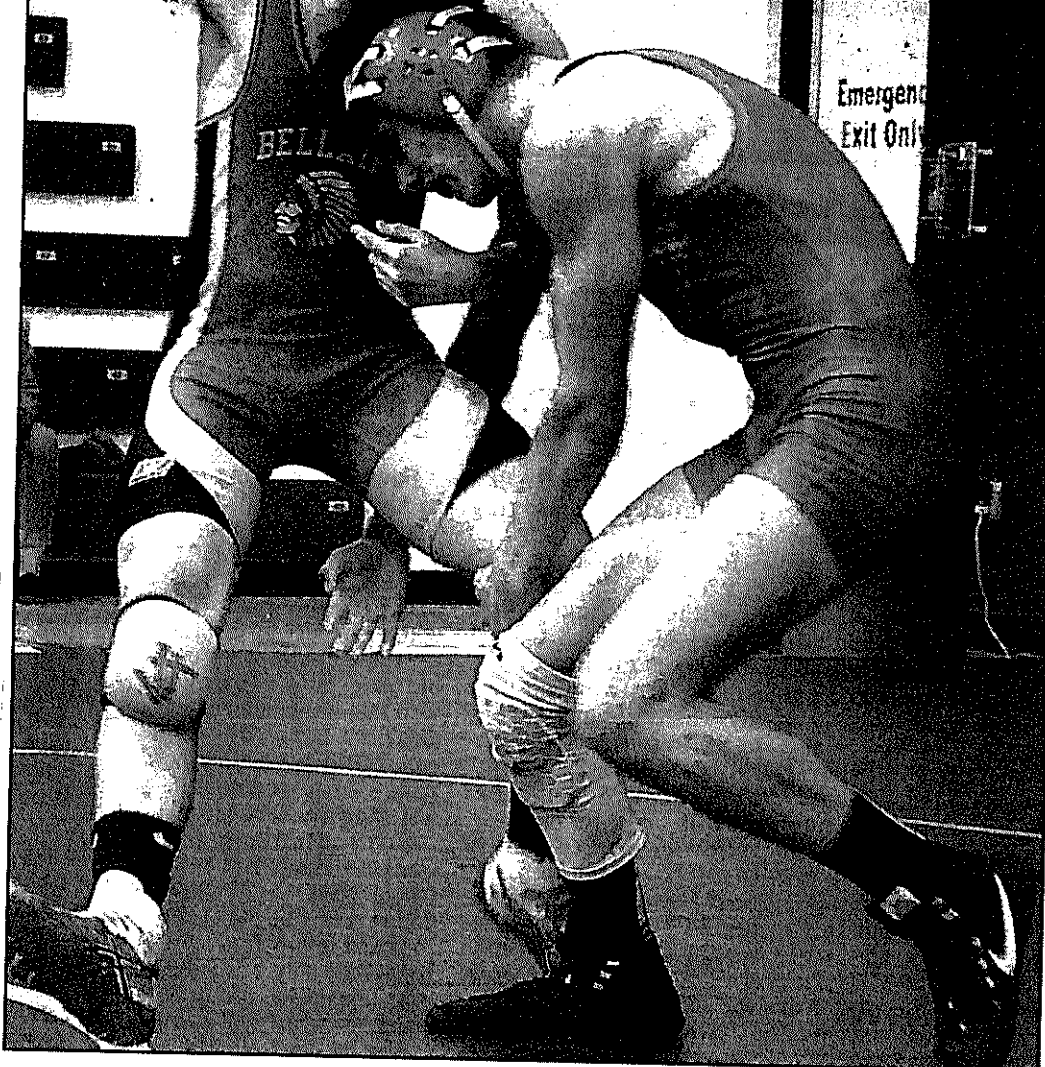
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T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

BARNESVILLE'S Cameron Woods, right, battles Bellaire's Nick Beckett in the 145-pound match Friday night in the OVAC Bill Hinegardner Duals inside the Moundsville Junior High Fieldhouse. Woods earned a 7-0 decision and the Shamrocks won the Class 3A title, 41-23, over the Big Reds.



Emergency Exit Only

T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

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5-A title

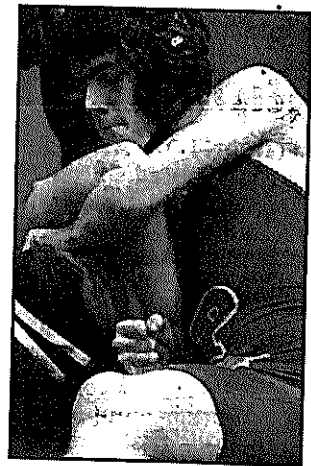
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See, 5A, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

WHEELING PARK'S Izaak Murphy has Parkersburg South's Devlin Easton in a death grip during their 106-pound match Friday night in the OVAC Bill Hinegardner Duals inside the Moundville Junior High Fieldhouse.

Continued from Page B1

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Continued from Page B1

"They came out tonight and battled tough in every match," he noted. "I am proud of them."

Barnesville's Caeddon Yager (106) and Brayden Reynolds (113) received forfeits to make it 12-0 before Bellaire pulled to within 12-11 on a pin from Joseph Bonfini (120) and a technical fall by Clayton Moore (126). That, however, would be as close as the Big Reds would get as the Shamrocks reeled off six straight victories to pull away.

Jacob Boulet (132) won by forfeit to start the streak and Dylan Glotfelty (138) followed with a first-period pin in 41 seconds. Cameron Woods (145) and Owen Oliver (152) posted back-to-back decisions before a double forfeit at 160. Brylan Clouse (170) earned a technical fall and Kevin Perdue (182) pinned his opponent, making it 38-17. Zack Meade (220) earned a decision to conclude the Barnesville scoring.

Bellaire's Cole LaRoche (195) won by pin and Joseph Hoepfner (285) received a forfeit.

"Right now we're pushing for the sectional tournament and trying to get some of our kids to make it."

he recorded a first-period pin of Devin Easton. However, by the next time a Wheeling Park wrestler had his hand raised, the score had mounted to 58-6 as Parkersburg South displayed its strength.

"They are the best team in the OVAC and the state," Wheeling Park head coach Clay Tucker said of Parkersburg South. "I thought we wrestled hard. We've still got some things to work on. Hopefully, we'll get healthy come time for regionals and we'll have a good state tournament."

"Izaak has been getting better all year. He's definitely one of the hardest working kids I've ever come across," Tucker said of his flyweight. "I don't think there is a kid in the state that is going to out-tough Austin. He's a hard-nosed wrestler who is hard to beat. He showed it tonight."

Wheeling Park competed without injured senior standouts John Nash (160) and OVAC champ Kaleb Simpkins (170), while classmate Calvin McGaha (285) was sick.

Tucker is hopeful all

... and first since 2014. The other came in 2010.

"I knew it was going to a close match with as short-handed as we were," Tucker noted of the victory over John Marshall, 41-33. "Everybody is a little banged up, but we sucked it up and were able to beat John Marshall for the second time this year. They've got a good team, but we were a little better tonight."

Collecting wins against the Monarchs were Maison Richardson (120), Billy Gooch (132), Stevie Mitchell (138), Daniel Skelton (152), Axel Gebhart (182), Lowe and Dylan Wood (220).

JM winners were Ethan Gray (113), Peyton Shook (126), Jordan Wood (145), OVAC champion Anthony Carman (160), Jacob Berisford (170) and Brady Williams (285).

The Monarchs claimed third place with a 58-22 decision over Brooke.

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• 3A

Continued from Page B1

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Bellaire's Cole LaRoche (195) won by pin and Joseph Hoepfner (285) received a forfeit.

"Right now we're pushing for the sectional tournament and trying to get some of our kids healthy," Bellaire head coach Andrew LaMotte said. "This was an important match, but our main focus is trying to get as many kids to Columbus."

"The four forfeits really hurt, but you've got to play the hand you're dealt."

Bellaire received a bye to the finals after Crestview, which won the Class 3A crown at the OVAC Ron Mauck Tournament last month, pulled out of the event earlier in the week. There were no other teams qualified for filling the void.

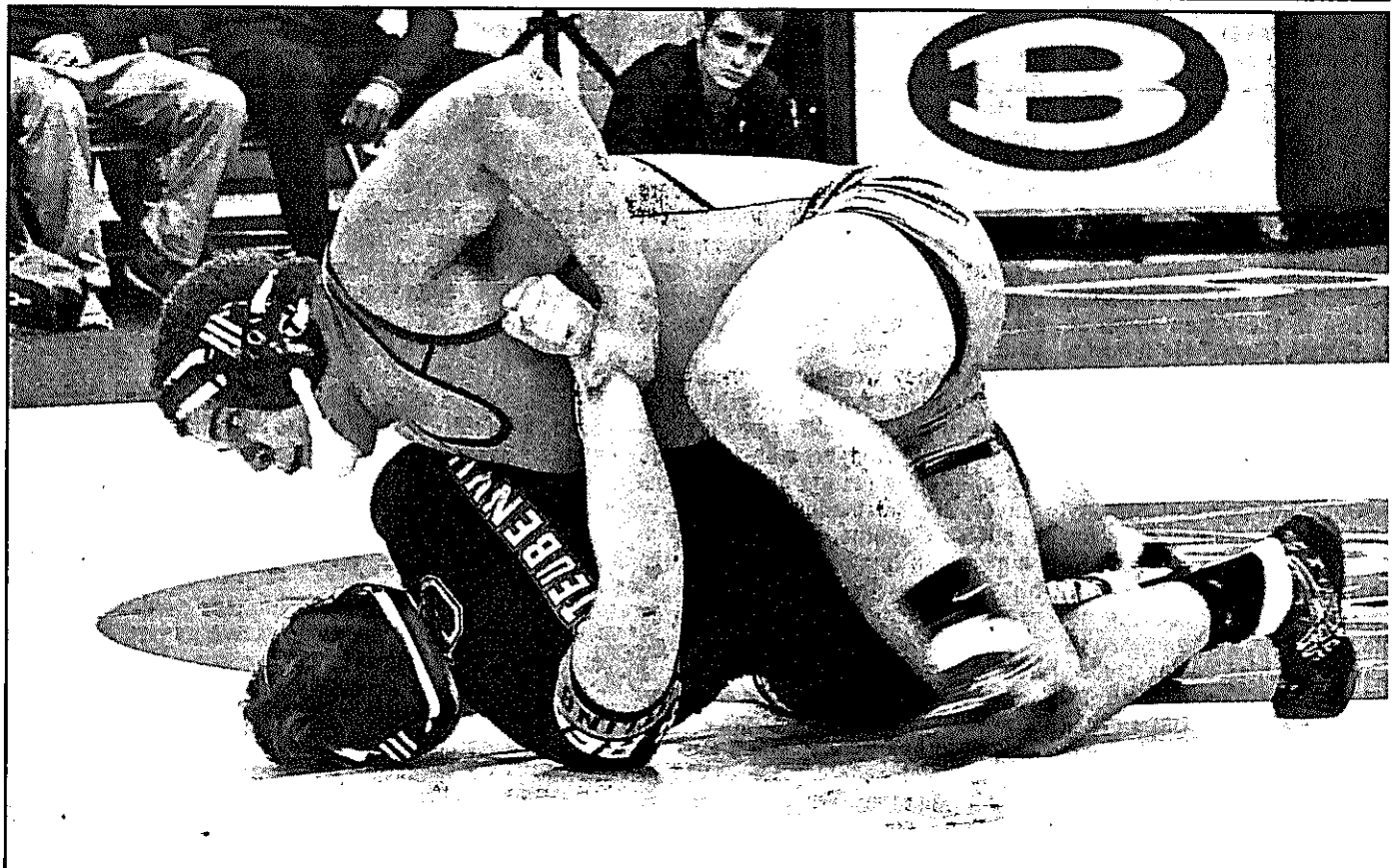
Barnesville also won titles in 2005 and 2016.

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T-L Photos/KIM NORTH

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Justice McCamick works towards a pin during Thursday night's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Bill Hinegardner Class 4A Dual Tournament championship match with Steubenville's Anthony Boley. McCamick won in 1:59, but Big Red won the title, 54-12.

Bill Hinegardner OVAC Dual Tournament

Steubenville tops St. C. for 4A title

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

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Following Wednesday night's elimination from the Ohio High School Athletic Association Division II Wrestling Dual Team Tournament by nemesis Claymont, top-seeded Big Red took no prisoners in repeating as Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 4A champions Thursday night

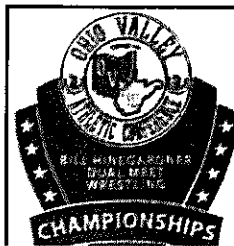
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The championship was the eighth for Steubenville, with two of those coming in

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Indeed they did. After yielding a forfeit at 106 to St. Clairsville's Josh Denoble, Big Red ran off 11 straight victories —

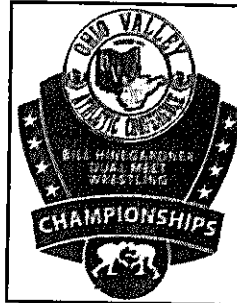
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See, 4A, Page B2



Late pin lifts Shenandoah by Linsly in 1A/2A

By **KIM NORTH**

Times Leader Sports Writer

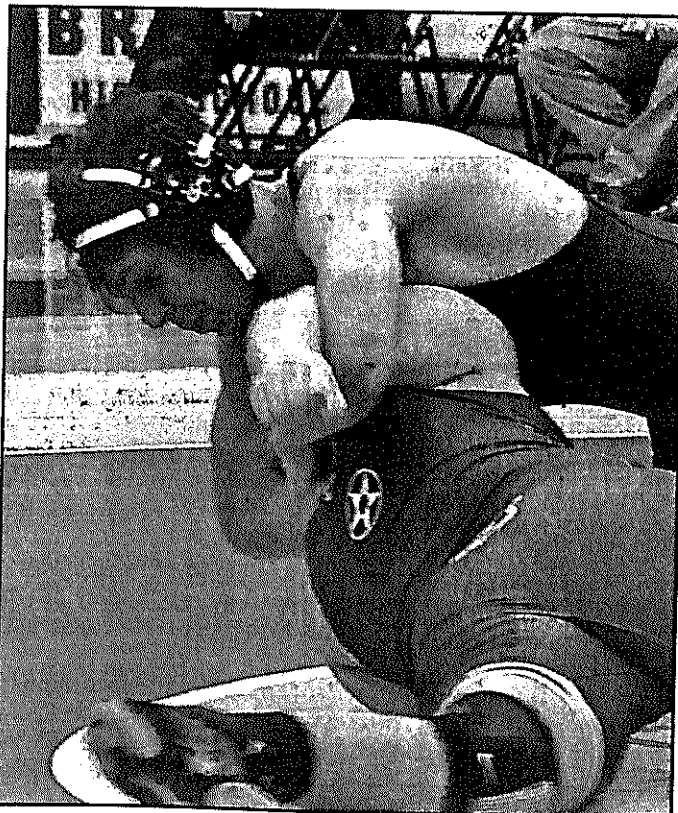
WELLSBURG — Shenandoah had never won an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference wrestling championship. The key word being never.

Thursday night inside Brooke High School, the third-seeded Zeps claimed their first title by rallying past top-seeded Linsly, 39-33, in the Bill Hinegardner Class 1A/2A championship match. The title came less than 24 hours after they were knocked out of the Ohio High School Athletic Association's Division III Region 22 Team Duals by OVAC rival Barnesville.

"We've had a rough week with a lot of travel," Shenandoah head coach Jesse Wells said. "We went an hour-and-45-minutes south to Nelsonville-York Wednesday night and

See, SHENANDOAH, Page B2

LINSLY'S Manuel Suita pins Shenandoah's Chandler Warner in the 182-pound match Thursday night during the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 1A/2A championship match. However, the Zeps slipped past the Cadets, 39-33, for the title.



• 4A

Continued from Page B1

would of been happy with him placing sixth, but he came back and wrestled hard.

"He's starting to believe he can beat anybody that steps on the mat with him," Sansone added. "That's the key to success."

Winning by decisions were Peyton Blasko (113), Zane Minella (132), David Tuttle (170) and Keith Bodnar (195), while OVAC Tournament titlist Anthony Rice (145), Michael Gray (152), Ohio State University recruit Jashon Hubbard (160) and Tyler Ely (285) all pinned their opponents. Receiving forfeits were Tyler Muldrew (120), Bill Murray (126) and Hezekiah Scurry (182).

"Hopefully, tonight prepared us some for the upcoming postseason," Blackburn said. "We've got a rough road ahead of us."

Meanwhile, Sansone is hoping his young squad uses the loss as a learning device.

"We're here to get better," I told them. "There's a couple of guys that competed, but there's a few that didn't and we'll talk about that in practice. All I want them to do is go out there and compete. This isn't sectionals, districts or states. This is the time we've got to harder and get better."

St. Clairsville defeated third-seeded Martins Ferry, 48-28, in the semifinals before the Purple Riders lost to Oak Glen, 50-29, in the third-place match.

• Shenandoah

Continued from Page B1

then came an hour-and-45-minutes north to wrestle a good Caldwell and Linsly teams. We're very happy. I'm very proud of our kids."

Linsly, which was the Class 3A event a year ago for its first-ever OVAC mat crown, led 33-27 after Chance Knight pinned his opponent at 195 pounds, but back-to-back pins by Dalton Rice (220) and Easton Hitchens (285) powered the Zeps to the title.

"Our big guys are really good, but so are our little guys," Wells noted. "We've got a good all-around team."

Linsly head coach Brian Valentine, despite the loss, was happy with his team's performance.

"It was a great match. The kids fought hard all the way," he said. "They (Shenandoah) have a solid team. They moved their lineup around just enough to beat us. They came out on top."

Victor Giovengo (170) received a forfeit that jump-started the Cadets' late rally. That was followed by pins by Manuel Suita (182) and Knight.

"We were a little short-handed tonight, but the kids wrestled their butts off. That's all I can ask for," Valentine added.

In the semifinals, Linsly dispatched Cameron, 48-21, while Shenandoah repeated a win over Caldwell from the OHSAA Team Duals, 42-36. The Redskins topped the Dragons for third, 42-24.

STILES STEPS AWAY

Union Local football coach Bruce Stiles has announced his retirement/12

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Zeps Secure 1A/2A Crown

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Please See ZEPS, Page 8

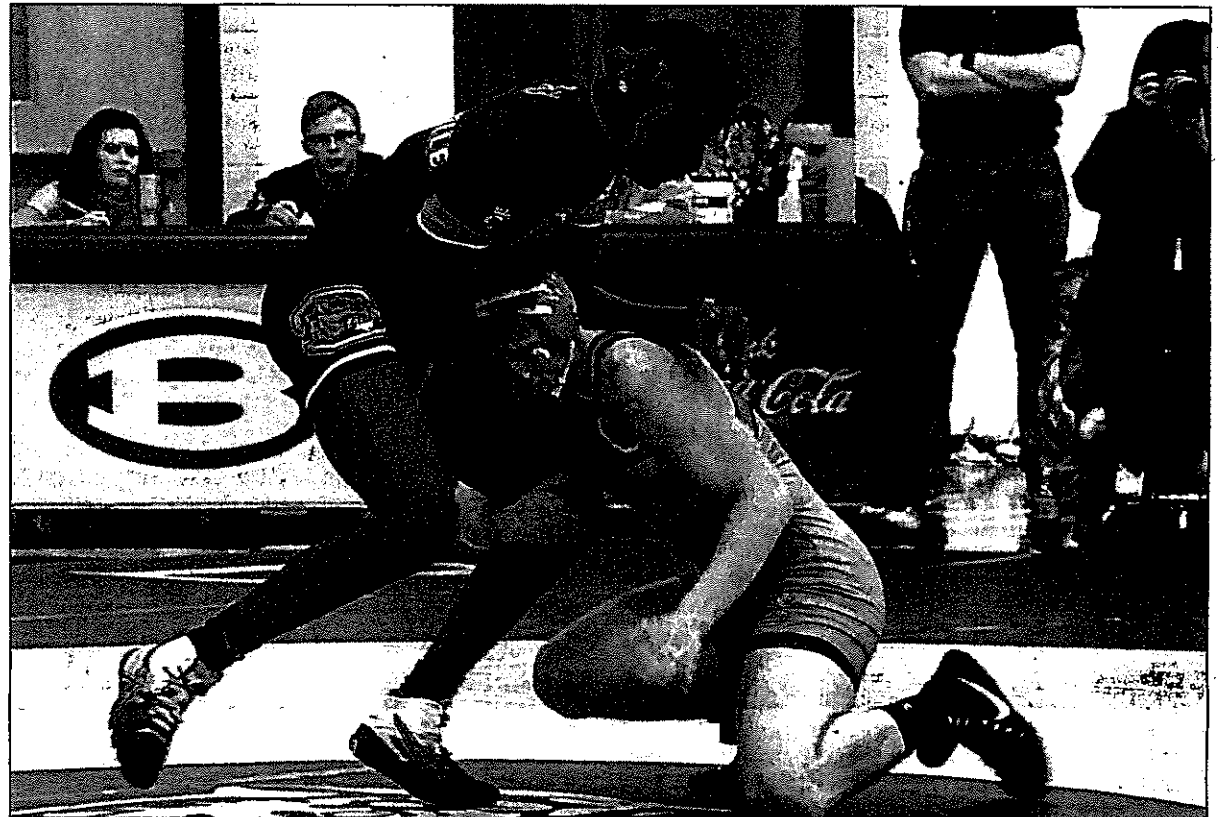


Photo by Kim North

Steubenville's Anthony Rice defends against St. Clairsville's Corey Naylor during their 145-pound match at Thursday night's OVAC Bill Hinegardner Dual Meet Wrestling Championship in Wellsburg.

Steubenville Cruises To Dual Meet Championship

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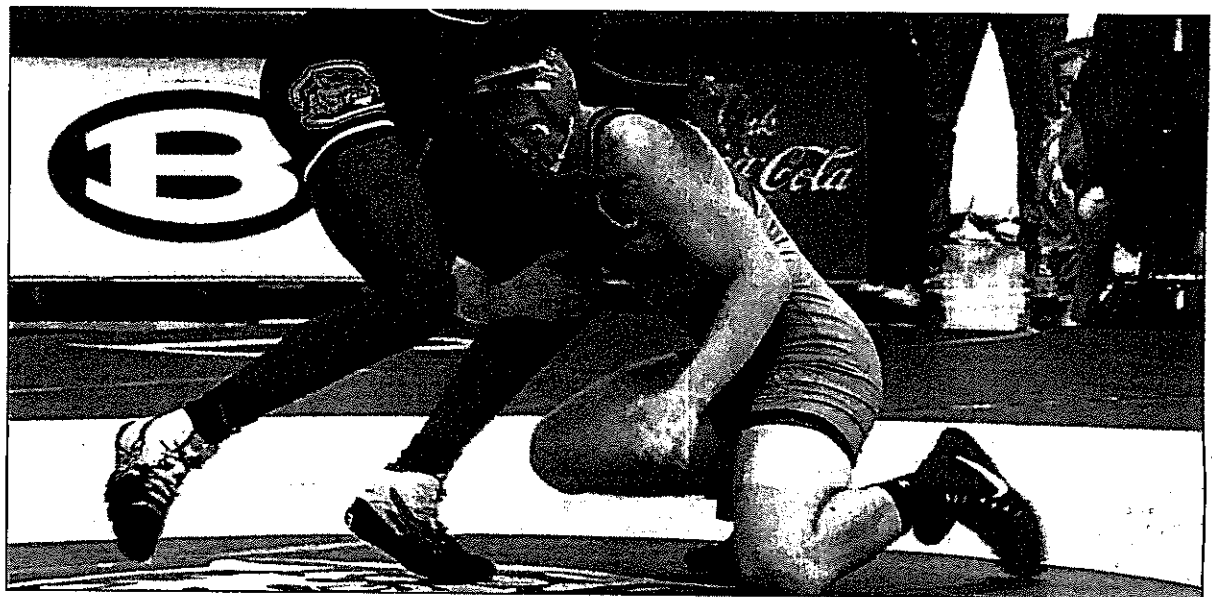


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Please See STEUBENVILLE
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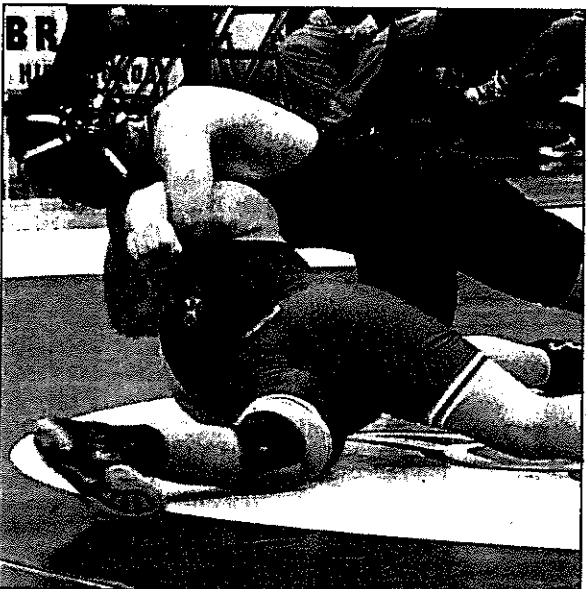


Photo by Kim North

Linsly's Manuel Suita earns a pin in the 182-pound weight class against Shenandoah's Chandler Warner on Thursday night.

ZEPS

(Continued from Page 7)

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