

West Brunswick Clinches County Wrestling Title

BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick clinched the regular-season county high school wrestling championship last week with back-to-back road wins at South Brunswick and North Brunswick.

The Trojans, winners of the 1992 county title, defeated North Brunswick 40-29 Friday night at Lincoln Primary School, one night after beating the Cougars 49-24 at Boiling Spring Lakes.

West Brunswick Coach Joe Noble said Monday he was surprised by the ease with which his team won this year's championship. The Trojans have outscored county foes by an average of 44-27 in three matches.

"I knew we had a shot at winning it, but I didn't know it was going to be as easy as it was," Noble said.

"I knew South lost a good bit from last year and they had some people who didn't come back this year," Noble said. "North having only nine wrestlers really hurt them because they've had to forfeit a lot of weight classes."

North Brunswick forfeited four divisions to the Trojans last Friday night in West Brunswick's 11-point win.

Winners for West included Dexter Cokeley at 112 pounds, Al Johnson at 140, Eric Andreis at 152 and William Stanley at 160. Chris Jackson, Wayne Stanley, Ja Mitchell and Steve Brooks won by forfeit.

Winning for Coach Mike Dumas' North Brunswick Scorpions were Walter Burckhalter at 103 pounds, John Bullock at 119, Mike Ganey at 135, Shannon Dorsey at 171 and Adam King at 189.

Last Thursday at South Brunswick, nine of 13 weight classes were decided by pinfall.

Recording pins for West Brunswick were Cokeley at 112, Barry Johnson at 130, Mitchell at 145, Andreis at 152, William Stanley at 171 and Kwabena Green at heavyweight.

Other winners for the Trojans were Jackson at 125 pounds and Al Johnson at 140. West's Otis Brooks won

by forfeit at 135.

Winning by pinfall for South Brunswick were Dale Linkous at 103 pounds, Derrick Cordle at 119 and Mike Bethel at 189. Adam Frazier was a winner by forfeit at 160 pounds.

West's William Stanley had the quickest pin of the night, defeating Ralph Morin in 32 seconds. Cokeley, Cordle, Mitchell, Andreis, Bethel and Green also had first-period pins.

The Trojans (4-5) were swept in a non-conference, tri-match last Tuesday in Shallotte. Dixon defeated the Trojans 45-21, and White Oak edged West Brunswick 39-33.

West Brunswick had two road matches scheduled this week. The Trojans were expected to travel to West Carteret on Tuesday and Dixon on Wednesday. West will host South Brunswick next Tuesday, Jan. 18.

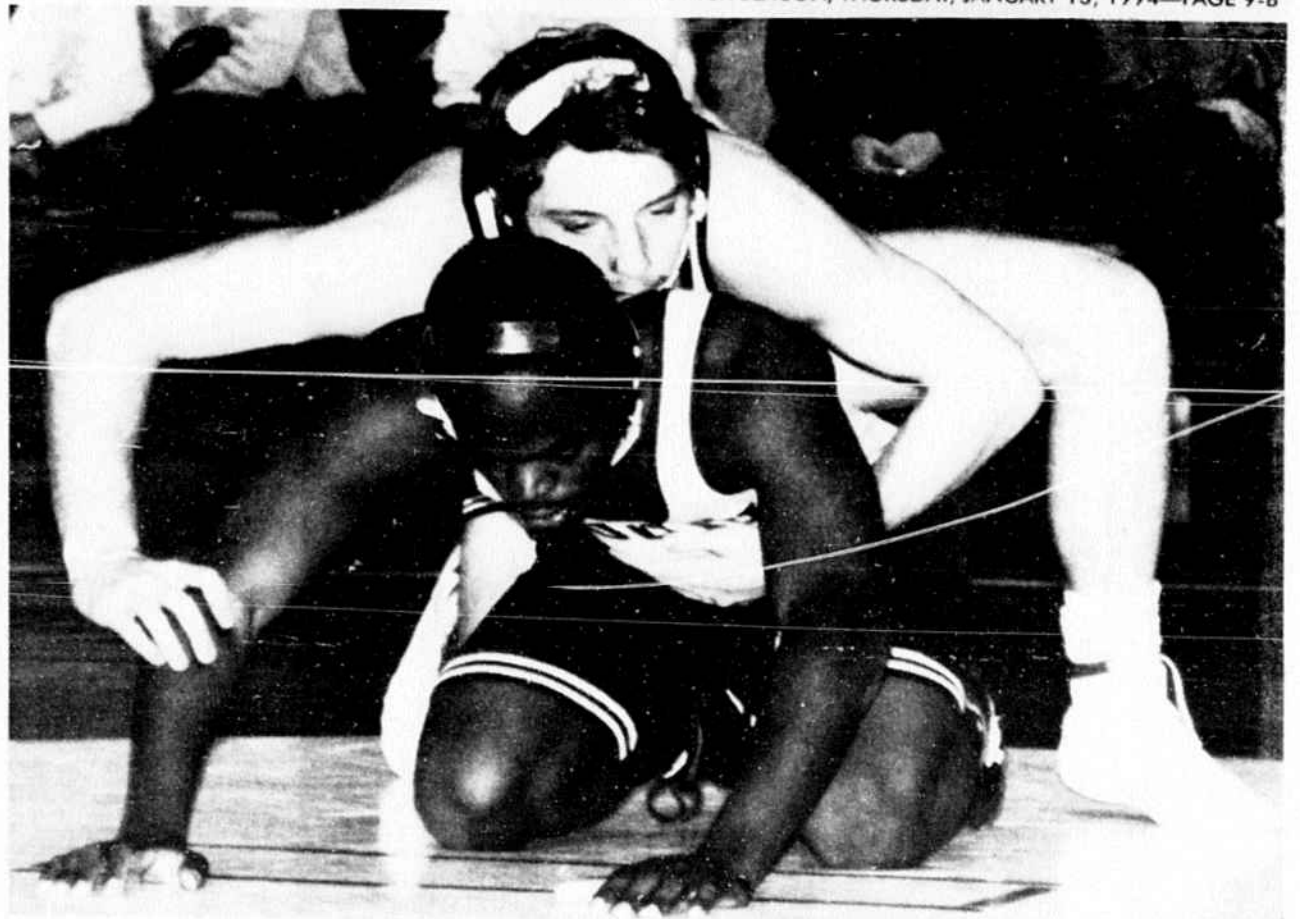
Two West Brunswick grapplers, Mitchell and Jackson, entered this week's action with individual records of 11-1.

William Stanley is 6-1, and Andreis and Barry Johnson are 8-4. West's two heavyweights, senior Steve Brooks (9-1) and sophomore Kwabena Green (5-0), are a combined 14-1.

By winning the county title, West Brunswick is assured of the Waccamaw Conference's number one seed in the state dual team playoffs. The Trojans will face the second seed from the Triad Conference in the first round Feb. 1.

West Brunswick-North Brunswick

103 pounds: Burckhalter (NB) pinned Doughty, :27; **112:** Cokeley (WB) pinned Alston, 1:15; **119:** Bullock (NB) pinned Livingston, 1:20; **125:** Jackson (WB) won by forfeit; **130:** Wayne Stanley (WB) won by forfeit; **135:** Ganey (NB) dec. B. Johnson, 25-12; **140:** A. Johnson (WB) dec. Rivenbark, 20-7; **145:** Mitchell (WB) won by forfeit; **152:** Andreis (WB) dec. McBride, 10-5; **160:** William Stanley (WB) dec. Chadwick, 9-4;



STAFF PHOTOS BY DOUG RUTTER

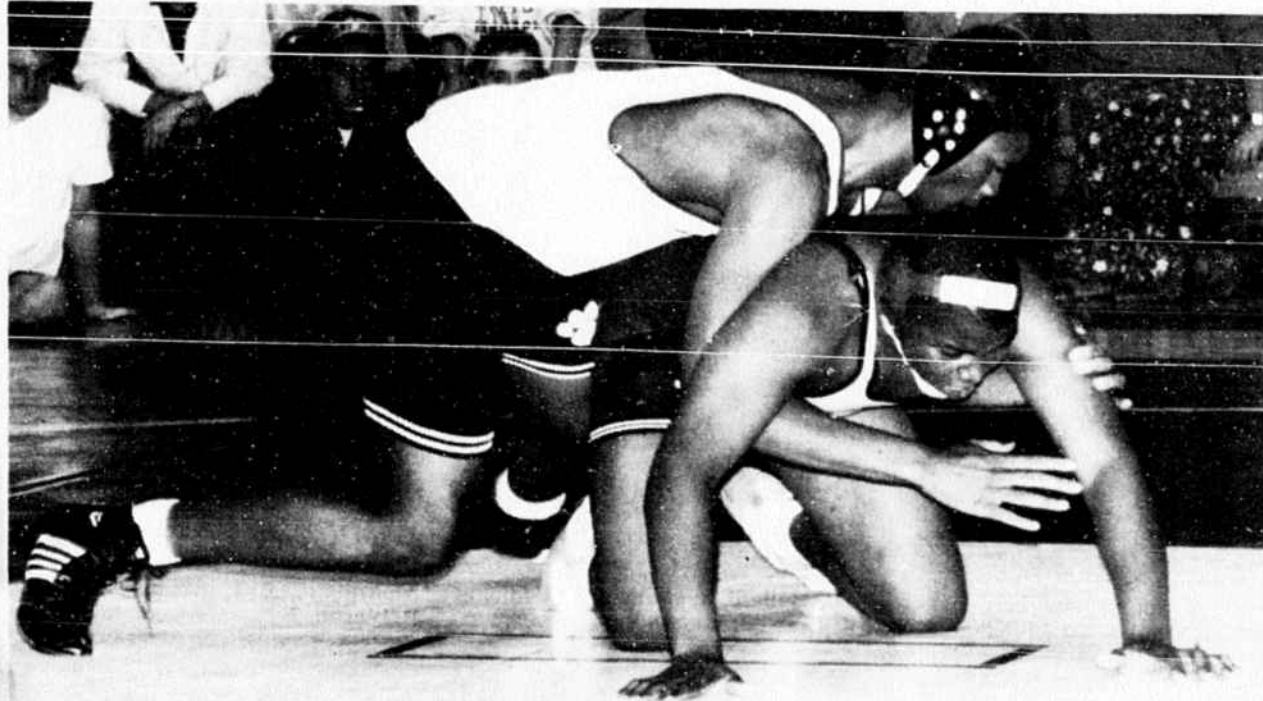
WEST BRUNSWICK'S ERIC ANDREIS (top) pinned South Brunswick's Carnell Jones to win the 152-pound match last Thursday at Boiling Spring Lakes.

171: Dorsey (NB) pinned Everett, 2:45; **189:** King (NB) pinned Gore, 1:20; **Hwt:** Brooks (WB) won by forfeit.

West Brunswick-South Brunswick

103 pounds: Linkous (SB) pinned Doughty, 3:13; **112:** Cokeley (WB) pinned Jamie May, 1:50; **119:** Cordle (SB) pinned Livingston, 1:05; **125:** Jackson (WB) maj. dec. Cross, 21-4; **130:** B. Johnson (WB)

pinned Herzog, 2:26; **135:** O. Brooks (WB) won by forfeit; **140:** A. Johnson (WB) dec. Justin May, 13-9; **145:** Mitchell (WB) pinned Rohde, 1:12; **152:** Andreis (WB) pinned Jones, 1:53; **160:** Frazier (SB) won by forfeit; **171:** Stanley (WB) pinned Morin, :32; **189:** Bethel (SB) pinned Gore, 1:31; **Hwt:** Green (WB) pinned McLean, 1:09.



MIKE BETHEL (top) was one of three South Brunswick wrestlers to record a pin in last Thursday's home match. Bethel pinned West Brunswick's Cliff Gore in the 189-pound division.

North Scorps Slam Hoggard

North Brunswick's wrestling team defeated the Hoggard Vikings 42-27 last Tuesday in Wilmington to improve its record to 3-4.

It was the third win for North Brunswick in its last four dual matches and the second victory this season over the 4A Vikings. The Scorpions won the earlier match by an identical, 42-27 score.

Recording pins for North Brunswick last Tuesday were Dante Alston at 112 pounds, Casey McBride at 152, Josh Chadwick at 160, Shannon Dorsey at 171 and Adam King at 189.

Hoggard won five weight classes, including three by forfeit, but managed just one pin to North Brunswick's five.

Scorpion Coach Mike Dumas attributed his team's recent turnaround to a tough, early-season schedule. North Brunswick wrestled big schools like Laney and New Han-

over in December.

"We aren't having to go up against the big boys as much now," Dumas said. "We're not wrestling the 4A schools like we were in December."

North Brunswick had seven wrestlers place in the top five in their respective weight classes at a recent 16-team tournament in Pinecrest.

Finishing second were Alston at 112 pounds and Rivenbark at 140. Mike Ganey finished third at 145 pounds. Placing fifth were Walter Burckhalter at 103 pounds, Chadwick at 152, McBride at 160 and King at 189.

The tournament included schools from North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

"There was some good competition there, some real good competition. It was mostly big schools," Dumas said.

North Brunswick, which lost to

visiting West Brunswick 40-29 Friday night to fall to 3-6, was scheduled to battle South Brunswick Tuesday night in Boiling Spring Lakes.

The Scorpions also had a home match slated Wednesday against Lejeune. North Brunswick will wrestle at Pamlico on Friday night.

North Brunswick-Hoggard

103 pounds: Burckhalter (NB) won by forfeit; **112:** Alston (NB) pinned Deloreto, 5:29; **119:** Brooks (H) won by forfeit; **125:** Criswell (H) dec. Bullock, 12-8; **130:** Merriman (H) won by forfeit; **135:** Grchowski (H) pinned Graca, :56; **140:** Ganey (NB) dec. Lane, 15-2; **145:** Rivenbark (NB) dec. Roberts, 11-3; **152:** McBride (NB) pinned Fike, 1:25; **160:** Chadwick (NB) pinned Rawls, 1:22; **171:** Dorsey (NB) pinned Batuyias, 3:59; **189:** King (NB) pinned Philligin, 3:51; **Hwt:** Dye (H) won by forfeit.

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