

Wrestlers Pull Near Upset Finish Second In Tourney

St. Andrews College scored a dramatic win in the last match of the day to edge Wesleyan's Battling Bishops 37-33 for the team championship honors in the first Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference wrestling tournament held at Wesleyan February 11.

Four teams competed in the tourney in the Wesleyan gym, but it turned out to be a tense two-way struggle all the way between favored St. Andrews and the game Bishops. Lynchburg College and Methodist College were clearly outclassed, Lynchburg finishing a distant third with nine points and Methodist fourth with three.

The team championship trophy went to St. Andrews on the strength of Frank Greir's decision over Wesleyan's Leon Anderson in the unlimited match, the final bout of the tournament.

Heading into that final match St. Andrews led Wesleyan by 32-30, the Bishops needing a pin to win the championship or a decision to tie. With everything at stake, St. Andrews' Greir, the Knight's assistant coach and top wrestler, and Anderson waged a close, tough match that went to Greir by a 5-4 point score.

Anderson actually led 4-3 on floor score, but Greir got two points for riding time, giving him the match and St. Andrews the title. In riding time, a wrestler earns a point for each minute he has the advantage over his opponent. In this scoring category, Greir had riding time advantage for three minutes and Anderson for one minute.

Preliminary matches in the afternoon, featuring 35 competitors, produced 18 wrestlers for the nine matches in the championship, with St. Andrews and Wesleyan each qualifying seven finalists while Lynchburg had three and Methodist one.

Wesleyan wrestlers who won matches were Tom Dickenson in the 152-pound class, Nat Railey in the 167-pound class and Whit Blackstone in the 177-pound class. All three pinned their opponents, giving Wesleyan one more pin than St. Andrews. However, St. Andrews won four other final matches by decisions. In the scoring a team received seven points for a pin, five for a decision and three for a loss.

St. Andrews came into the tournament as the solid favorite, thus making the Bishops showing a major accomplishment. The two teams met once during the season, St. Andrews defeating Wesleyan 30-9.

Wesleyan enjoyed its first winning season ever in wrestling, posting a 5-4 season record.

In addition to the unlimited match there was one other very close final battle. In the 123-pound class Dean Leake of St. Andrews edged Ray Martin 2-0. The other matches were clear-cut decisions or pins.

The quickest pin in the finals was registered by Wesleyan's Nat Railey in the 167-pound class. He stopped Jack Lapointe of St. Andrews in 2:37.

In the other Bishop victories, Dickenson won his 152-

pound match by pinning Bill Warr of Lynchburg in 5:20 and Blackstone in the 177-pound class pinned Sam Nepore of Lynchburg in 4:12.

Wesleyan coach Bill Music had nothing but praise for his wrestlers, especially Anderson and Railey. "Leon's effort was outstanding, especially when you consider that Greise is one of the best wrestlers in the state." He had only been stopped once in about 16 matches prior to the tournament.

"Railey was also a pleasant surprise," Music said. "He beat one of the outstanding boys in the tournament in the preliminaries (Richard Swink of Methodist) and really gave us a boost in the finals."

"I am very proud of every one of my boys," he concluded.

Results of the nine final matches:

123 pounds--Deane Leake (SA) defeated Ray Martin (W), 2-0;

130 pounds--Warren Maxon (SA) pinned Steve Smith (W), 4:01;

137 pounds--Buzz Rogers (SA) pinned Paul McKee (M), 4:22;

145 pounds--Jan Bartlett (SA) defeated Chris Strobe (L), 4-0;

152 pounds--Tom Dickenson (W) pinned Bill Warr (L), 5:20;

160 pounds--Rick Reynolds (SA) defeated Skip Gilbert (W), 4-0;

167 pounds--Nat Railey (W) pinned Jack Lapointe (SA) 2:37;

177 pounds--Whit Blackston (W) pinned Sam Nepore (L), 4:12;

Unlimited--Frank Grier (SA) defeated Leon Anderson (W), 5-4.

JOYNER'S ATHLETIC HOUSE

**124 Tarboro St.
Rocky Mount, N. C.**

SPORTING GOODS

Summer Merchandise Arriving Daily



*Come In For A Sneak Preview
AT*

The College Shop, Ltd.

"The Only Way To Go"