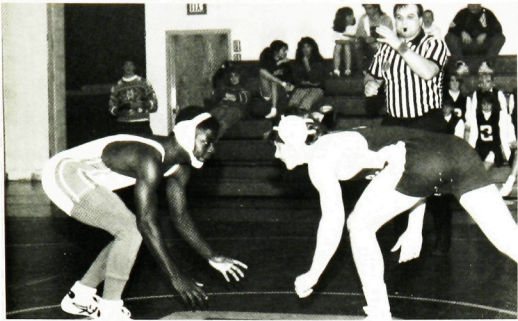
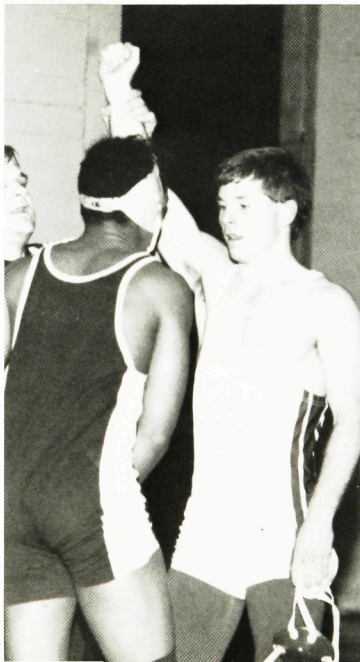


Injuries and illness limited the effectiveness of senior Mike Martin (right) during the '89-90 season, while Dana McLean demonstrated that he knows wrestling nearly as well as he knows football.



The 1989-90 Varsity Wrestling Team.
Top Row (L-R): Al Scarpa, Mark Dambaugh, Lou Cerchio, Dave Oslislo, Mike Dunlap. **Middle Row (L-R):** Brian Rogalin, Brackie Reyes, Andy Brown, Scott Rosander. **Bottom Row (L-R):** Mike Marcovecchio, Mark Donnadio, Pat Bartels.

Mike Dunlap earned the 160 lb. District Championship in March, 1990.



Not since the 1960s had the Raiders had a State Wrestling champion; there have been only three team history. There were only four State competitive regions then, and the championships were held at the Somerville HS gymnasium. There are eight regions today, with nearly 100 more schools participating in the State Championships, which are now held at the "friendly confines" of the Jadwin Gymnasium at Princeton University. Still, Louie Cerchio believed he had a chance to win it all. He had compiled a 24-2 season meet record at 160 lb. He was the Union County and District 3 Champion in his weight class; a second place finish in the Region Tournament seemed to arouse his ire further. "If I wrestle as well as I did in the Regions, I had a chance at becoming State champ," he observed in early March. Wrestling is a team sport which succeeds or fails on individual athletic efforts. When you're on the mats, except for your opponent, you're alone. Louie understood this basic reality of his sport well.