Appalachian State University began its 2012-13 home slate with a pair of victories of Anderson and Belmont Abbey, but fell in the first match on a tiebreak to George Mason, Sunday afternoon at Varsity

Gymnasium. App State moves to 2-1 on the season, as the Southern Conference schedule begins in the Mountaineers' next dual on Tuesday, Dec. 4 against Gardner-Webb.

The day started in favor of the Mountaineers, capturing back-to-back victories at 125 and 133 pounds against George Mason as redshirt sophomore Dominic Parisi and redshirt freshman Joe Morrison put Appalachian ahead, 7-0.

The Patriots stormed back, taking the next three bouts and the lead at the 13-7 mark.

Appalachian (2-1) responded with three straight victories, including pins by redshirt freshman Zack Strickland and sophomore Jesse Johnson. With the three wins, App State looked to control the match at 22-13.

With George Mason's win at 197 pounds, GMU's heavyweight, Jake Kettler, forced the 22-22 deadlock with his pin at the 4:08 mark.

In a rule addition two years ago, the tie was broken using the tiebreaking criteria. The teams captured five bouts and two falls apiece, but the Patriots earned more points for the match, clinching the 23-22 victory.

Appalachian responded in the next two duals, defeating Anderson, 40-6, and Belmont Abbey, 39-9.

"I'm really proud of the way our young guys today," head coach JohnMark Bentley said. "We showed a lot of heart in some ways and we found some things we need to work on."

Highlighting the day was Strickland, who posted two pins and a technical fall. Also posting three wins were Parisi, Johnson and sophomore Colin Hedash. One of Parisi's wins came outside of his normal weight class of 125 pounds, tallying a 12-10 decision over Anderson's Zak Hale at 133 pounds.

Johnson doubled his career dual win total, entering today's bouts with just one dual victory. Johnson earned a pin and a technical fall, leading the Mountaineers at 184 pounds.

"Overall, a lot of positive things happened today," Bentley said. "It was the first time some of the young guys have been in the lineup, so we have some maturing and growing up to do. The effort was there so we're going to build on this for next week."

The Apps return to action on Sunday, Nov. 18, as they will partake in the Keystone Classic in Philadelphia, Pa. This will be the second invitational of the season after the Mountaineers began their season at the Hokie Open.

George Mason (1-2) 23, Appalachian State (0-1) 22
125 - Dominic Parisi (APP) maj. dec. Robert Dooley (GMU), 10-2 (APP 4-0)
133 - Joe Morrison (APP) dec. Zach Isenhour (GMU), 6-3 (APP 7-0)
141 - Sahid Kargbo (GMU) maj. dec. Acton Pifer (APP), 15-5 (APP 7-4)
149 - Greg Flournoy (GMU) won by fall over Aaron Scott (APP), (5:48) (GMU 10-7)
157 - Jaaziah Bethea (GMU) dec. Riley Keen (APP), 9-7 (GMU 13-7)
165 - Zack Strickland (APP) won by fall over Matt Huffstickler (GMU), (2:46) (Tied 13-13)
174 - Colin Hedash (APP) dec. Ryan Hembury (GMU), 13-7 (APP 16-13)
184 - Jesse Johnson (APP) won by fall over Corey Smith (GMU), (4:46) (APP 22-13)
197 - Matt Meadows (GMU) dec. Paul Weiss (APP), 10-9 (APP 22-16)
HWT - Jake Kettler (GMU) won by fall over Joe Cummings (APP), (4:08) (Tied 22-22)
GMU awarded tiebreaker point (criterion 3.15.3) (GMU 23-22)

Appalachian State (1-1) 40, Anderson (0-5) 6
125 - Jeffrey Ogburn (APP) won by fall over Greg Williams (AU) (1:16) (APP 6-0)
133 - Dominic Parisi (APP) dec. Zak Hale (AU), 12-10 (SV-1) (APP 9-0)
141 - Chris Johnson (APP) tech. fall Brandon Benitez (AU), 15-0 (5:00) (APP 14-0)
149 - Dan Telhade (AU) dec. Riley Keen (APP), 7-2 (APP 14-3)
157 - Nick Giuliette (AU) dec. Aaron Scott (APP), 3-0 (APP 14-6)
165 - Zack Strickland (APP) tech. fall Jamal Lackey (AU), 15-0 (4:48) (APP 19-6)
174 -Colin Hedash (APP) won by fall over Jake Allen (AU), (2:21) (APP 25-6)
184 - Jesse Johnson (APP) tech. fall Donnee Grase (AU), (5:10) (APP 30-6)
194 - Paul Weiss (APP) won by forfeit (APP 36-6)
HWT - Joe Cummings (APP) maj. dec. Zach Newton (BAC), 12-4 (APP 40-6)

Appalachian State (2-1) 39, Belmont Abbey (2-2) 9
125 - Dominic Parisi (APP) won by fall over Patrick Mestrez (BAC), (4:18) (APP 6-0)
133 - Jake Nelson (BAC) dec. Jeffrey Ogburn (APP), 7-2 (APP 6-3)
141 - Chris Johnson (APP) won by forfeit (APP 12-3)
149 - Aaron Scott (APP) won by forfeit (APP 18-3)
157 - Jake Varilek (BAC) won by fall over Jacob Freeman (APP), (2:34) (APP 18-9)
165 - Zack Strickland (APP) won by fall over Brandon Wilkins (BAC), (6:59) (APP 24-9)
174 - Colin Hedash (APP) dec. Joseph Maumoynier (BAC), 7-5 (APP 27-9)

184 - Jesse Johnson (APP) dec. Marcus Dwaileebe (BAC), 11-4 (APP 30-9)
197 - Paul Weiss won by fall over Chris Sloat (BAC), (1:53) (APP 36-9)
HWT -Joe Cummings (APP) dec. Kelly Baker (BAC), 3-2 (APP 39-9)

Photo Courtesy: Jesse Johnson, ASU Athletics