

ASU Grapplers Earn Split In Illinois

Written by Brandon McGinnis
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Appalachian State University wrestling continued its Southern Conference winning streak, defeating SoCon newcomer, SIUE, 28-9, but came up short its final dual of the day, falling to Northern Illinois,

26-12, Sunday afternoon at the Sam M. Vadalabene Center. With the split, the Mountaineers (5-2, 2-0 SoCon) remain perfect in conference play on the season and increase their conference-winning streak to 10, dating back to 2011. Appalachian spoils SIUE's first home SoCon dual, as the Cougars joined the conference as an associate member before the start of the 2012-13 season.

Four Mountaineers nabbed 2-0 records on the day, highlighted by redshirt sophomore Dominic Parisi (125 pounds) and redshirt freshman Zack Strickland (165) who remain perfect in duals for season, improving to 7-0.

Sophomore Colin Hedash (174) and redshirt sophomore Paul Weiss (197) also finished perfect on the day, both tallying two decisions.

In the match against SIUE (3-7, 1-1 SoCon), App State jumped out to an 18-0 lead, headlined by a second period pin by Chris Johnson over Brandon Brindley at 141 pounds. For Johnson, it was his fourth pin of the season.

Despite a setback at 157 pounds, the Apps continued to cruise with Strickland's major decision and a pair of decisions by Hedash and Weiss, propelling the Mountaineers to the 28-9 win over the Cougars.

Against Northern Illinois (6-3, 0-1 MAC), Parisi gave Appalachian a strong start, earning his 21st victory of the year with a 9-2 decision over NIU's Derek Elmore. The Mountaineers could not find the scoreboard after the Parisi victory until 165 pounds, when Strickland grabbed his second victory of the day, earning a 4-3 decision over Dan Burk.

Hedash and Weiss each tallied decisions, but the Apps came up short, falling 26-12 to Northern Illinois.

The Mountaineers look to continue its conference-winning streak on Tuesday, Jan. 15, as they continue conference play, hosting Campbell. Action from Varsity Gym is slated for 6:30 p.m.

Appalachian State (5-1, 2-0 SoCon) 28, SIUE (3-7, 1-1 SoCon) 9

125: Dominic Parisi won by forfeit (APP 6-0)

133: Brett Boston dec. Patrick Myers, 5-2 (APP 9-0)

141: Chris Johnson pinned Brandon Brindley, (4:42) (APP 15-0)

149: Zach Kechter dec. Dillon Pousson, 9-3 (APP 18-0)

157: Kyle Lowman dec. Aaron Scott, 6-0 (APP 18-3)

165: Zack Strickland maj. dec. Logan Taylor, 9-0 (APP 22-3)

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174: Colin Hedash dec. Jake Residori, 6-1 (APP 25-3)
184: Derek Nagel dec. Jesse Johnson, 10-4 (APP 25-6)
197: Paul Weiss dec. Josh Wood, 4-2 (APP 28-6)
285: Dacid Devine dec. Joe Cummings, 3-1 (APP 28-9)

Northern Illinois (6-3, 0-1 MAC) 26, Appalachian State (5-2, 2-0 SoCon) 12

125: Dominic Parisi dec. Derek Elmore, 9-2 (APP 3-0)
133: Nick Smith dec. Brett Boston, 6-2 (Tied 3-3)
141: Kevin Fanta maj. dec. Chris Johnson, 15-5 (NIU 7-3)
149: Shawn Fayette dec. Zach Kechter, 6-1 (NIU 10-3)
157: Andrew Morse pinned Collins Creech, (4:47) (NIU 16-3)
165: Zack Strickland dec. Dan Burk, 4-3 (NIU 16-6)
174: Colin Hedash dec. Matt Mouglin, 9-7 (NIU 16-9)
184: Bryan Loughlin maj. dec. Jon Hartley, 12-4 (NIU 20-9)
197: Paul Weiss dec. Parker Settecase, 5-4 (NIU 20-12)
285: Jared Torrance pinned Joe Cummings, (4:23) (NIU 26-12)