Parisi, Strickland Eliminated At Nationals

Written by Brandon McGinnis Saturday, 23 March 2013 10:18

After one of the most memorable days in Appalachian State University wrestling history, redshirt sophomore Dominic Parisi and redshirt freshman Zack Strickland combined for a 0-3 record, ending their campaigns at the 2013 NCAA Division I

Wrestling Championships at the Wells Fargo Arena on Friday. Parisi's was the first to return to the mats on the second day, as he squared off against fourth-seeded Nicholas Megaludis of Penn State. Megaludis and Parisi met with matching 30-win seasons, but the Lion controlled throughout the bout, claiming a 10-2 major decision over Parisi.

The Concord, N.C. native moved to the wrestleback bracket where he met Minnesota's David Thorn, who entered the match with three-straight victories in the wrestleback bracket. Parisi came up short and was unable to find much offense, falling to the Golpher, 9-2, eliminating Parisi from the tournament.

Parisi finishes his season with a 30-15 record, the most on the active Appalachian roster. The App was also the furthest SoCon representative in the 125 man field, finishing better than champion Nick Soto (Chattanooga) and runner-up, Eric Montoya (Campbell).

After suffering his first loss on Thursday, Strickland had to make a run in the wrestleback bracket to find the podium. Unfortunately, Strickland's day ended quickly, falling to Ohio State's Mark Martin in a highly contested bout, 2-0. Strickland closes his season with a 25-12 record, as he was eliminated in the same round as Southern Conference champion, Josh Condon of Chattanooga.

The Mountaineers close their 2012-13 season, as the Apps return nine of their ten starters from the regular season. Appalachian also brings back one of the most highly touted freshmen classes in the program's history.

Photo Courtesy: Zack Strickland, ASU Athletics