

Trotman Ties School Record For Wins

Written by Paul Blascovich

Tuesday, 10 January 2012 07:28

Senior Austin Trotman (Winston-Salem, N.C./Mount Tabor) made ASU history, becoming the program's winningest wrestler, as Appalachian State wrestling earned a pair of dual meet wins, defeating

Cleveland State, 31-6, and Southern Conference foe Campbell, 37-6, on Monday evening at the Pope Convocation Center. The Mountaineers (6-2, 2-0 SoCon) have now won their last three duals, while CSU (3-8, 0-1 EWL) and Campbell (8-9, 2-1 SoCon) are not as fortunate.

No. 9 Trotman (184 pounds) entered the night two wins shy of the Appalachian career wins record and took care of business with a 0:20 pin against Cleveland State and a 18-3 technical fall (7:00) over Campbell's TeShaun Johnson. He now stands atop the leaderboard with grappler Scott Ervin (2003-08)-both wrestlers tallying 114 wins in Black and Gold. Trotman looks to take the outright lead on Saturday, when he could have as many as four chances to steal outright first place. His first-match pin is the team's second-fastest of the season, behind only John Blakely's (Birmingham, Ala./Oak Mountain) 15-second pin at the Wolfpack Open. No. 15 Kyle Blevins (Sapulpa, Okla./Sapulpa) (165 pounds) also made strides on the ASU career wins list. After his earlier accomplishment of becoming the fourth Mountaineer to crack 100 wins, the senior's two wins on Monday moved him to third on Appalachian's career wins list, leapfrogging Jeramy Hart's mark of 108 (1996-2001). Blevins began the day with a 5-2 decision against Cleveland State and earned his 109th victory with a pin over Campbell's Daniel Luty in 3:23.

In other action, 125-pound senior Tony Gravely (Martinsville, Va./Magna Vista) picked up two victories, including a 9-3 decision against Cleveland State and a first-period fall against Campbell. Junior Brett Boston (Morganton, N.C./Freedom) led with a 0:39 pin, the team's fourth fastest, against Cleveland State, and pulled out an 11-8 decision against his Fighting Camel foe.

Senior Mike Kessler (Bay City, Mich./Western) earned seven team points for the Apps, picking up a 5-1 decision against CSU before cruising to a 12-0 major decision versus Campbell. At 149 pounds, sophomore Russ Benner (Roselle Park, N.J./Roselle Park) took the honor against the Vikings and racked up an 11-0 major decision. Senior Savva Kostis (Boone, N.C./Watauga) went to the third period with a 9-1 advantage over Campbell's Mark Hartenstine, but the Fighting Camel notched eight-straight in the final stanza to close the gap to 11-9 before time expired on a 12-9 decision for Kostis.

Senior Chip Powell (Greensboro, N.C./S.W. Guilford) squeaked out a 3-2 decision at 157 pounds against his Viking combatant. Powell and Campbell's Nick Rex battled to a scoreless regulation before Rex scored a 2-0 sudden victory win midway through the first minute of extra time. After suffering a 5-2 loss at 174 pounds, junior Carter Downs (Jupiter, Fla./Jupiter Christian) rebounded to earn a 13-5 major decision against Campbell's Paul Duggan.

Freshman Paul Weiss (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla./St. Thomas Aquinas) made the jump to 285 pounds against Cleveland State and picked up a 10-6 win in his first heavyweight appearance. He returned to 197 for his latter bout, a 1:27 pin of John Weakley from Campbell.

After ASU defeated Cleveland State, the Vikings fell to the host Fighting Camels, 30-10, before Appalachian and Campbell squared off in the day's final match.

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The Mountaineers return to action on Saturday, Jan. 14 when they head to Grand Prairie Texas for the Lone Star Duals. ASU is scheduled to face Brown, Harvard, No. 9 Oklahoma and Utah Valley in action beginning at 9 a.m. Central.

ASU CAREER WINS

Rank Name Years Wins

1. Scott Ervin 2003-08 114
- Austin Trotman 2007-12 114
3. Kyle Blevins 2008-12 109
4. Jeramy Hart 1996-01 108
5. Mark Fee 1998-03 98

Appalachian State (5-2) 31, Cleveland State (3-7) 6
Jan. 9, 2012 | Buies Creek, N.C. | Pope Convocation Center

- 125: Tony Gravely dec. Ben Wileford, 9-3 (ASU 3-0)
- 133: Brett Boston pinned Nick Flannery, 0:39 (ASU 9-0)
- 141: Mike Kessler dec. Josh Palivoda, 5-1 (ASU 12-0)
- 149: Russ Benner major dec. Tyler Green, 11-0 (ASU 16-0)
- 157: Chip Powell dec. Brandon Sommers, 3-2 (ASU 19-0)
- 165: No. 15 Kyle Blevins dec. Corey Carlo, 5-2 (ASU 22-0)

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174: Aric Thurn dec. Carter Downs , 8-4 (ASU 22-3)

184: No. 9 Austin Trotman pinned Corbin Boone, 0:20 (ASU 28-3)

197: Nick Anthony dec. Jesse Johnson (Lexington, N.C./Central Davidson), 12-6 (ASU 28-6)

285: Paul Weiss dec. Garry Yarborough, 10-6 (ASU 31-6)

Appalachian State (6-2, 2-0 SoCon) 37, Campbell (8-9, 2-1 SoCon) 6
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125: Tony Gravely pinned Grabiél Soto, 1:51 (ASU 6-0)

133: Brett Boston dec. Tanner Bidelspach, 11-8 (ASU 9-0)

141: Mike Kessler maj. dec. Jorge Gavillan, 12-0 (ASU 13-0)

149: Savva Kostis dec. Mark Hartenstine, 12-9 (ASU 16-0)

157: Nick Rex dec. Chip Powell , 2-0 SV1 (ASU 16-3)

165: No. 15 Kyle Blevins pinned Daniel Luty, 3:23 (ASU 22-3)

174: Carter Downs maj. dec. Paul Duggan, 13-5 (ASU 26-3)

184: No. 9 Austin Trotman tech. fall TeShaun Johnson, 18-3 (7:00) (ASU 31-3)

197: Paul Weiss pinned John Weakley, 1:27 (ASU 37-3)

285: Joe Nolan dec. Joe Cummings (Valley Cottage, N.Y./Nyack), 3-2 (ASU 37-6)

Photo Courtesy: Austin Trotman, ASU Athletics