

Parisi, Cottrell Place at Hokie Open

Written by Brandon McGinnis
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Appalachian State University wrestling opened up its 2012-13 season at the Hokie Open, returning to the tournament for the third straight season, as the Mountaineers placed two wrestlers on the

podium Sunday at the Salem Civic Center.

Redshirt sophomore Dominic Parisi finished third at 125 points after finishing 2nd at the Hokie Open last season. Parisi closed out his tournament run with two straight victories, including a 9-6 decision over Indiana's Joe Duca in the third-place match.

Highly touted freshman Dylan Cottrell made a claim for the starting position at 149 pounds, turning in a 4-1 record and a 2nd place finish. Cottrell claimed key decisions over Marcus Cain of Duke and Mario Mason of Rutgers to advance to the final. Cottrell lost by fall to Cole Vonohlen (Air Force) to end his tournament run.

After dropping his opening match, freshman Jake Smith responded with four straight victories, highlighted by a 9-2 decision over Air Force Academy's Greg Rinker.

Redshirt freshman Zack Strickland performed well, totaling three victories on the day. Strickland started strong, pinning Scott Marmoll of North Carolina and Eric White, who was unattached in his first two bouts. After suffering a loss in his third bout, Strickland picked up his final victory, earning a 2-0 decision over Air Force Academy's Jesse Stafford.

Sophomore Colin Hedash continues to impress, tallying three wins at 174 pounds. Hedash is now one victory short of 20 for his career after claiming wins over VMI's Derek Thurman and John Dommert, before nabbing a 5-2 decision over NC State's Steve Ramos.

The Mountaineers open up their home schedule on Sunday, Nov. 11 at Varsity Gym for a quad meet. The Apps welcome George Mason, Anderson and Belmont Abbey to the High Country, as Appalachian faces GMU to begin the day at 1 p.m.

Photo Courtesy: JohnMark Bentley, ASU Athletics