

Mountaineers Blast Keydets, 30-7

Written by James Ashley

Saturday, 08 February 2014 12:40

In its first home Southern Conference battle and a near full-strength roster, the Appalachian State wrestling team exploded for a 30-7 win against VMI on Friday at Varsity Gym.

The Mountaineers picked up four major decisions and a pin on the night, losing only two matches.

The match started at the 197-pound weight class. Tyler Radford (Marion, N.C./McDowell) picked up the first takedown and never let the lead go. He won by a 5-2 decision giving the Mountaineers the early 3-0 lead.

The Mountaineers gave up the next match in a hard fought battle. Denzel Dejournette(Winston-Salem, N.C./R.J. Reynolds) lost by 16-7 major decision to Juan Adams that gave the Keydets the 4-3 lead.

After being out almost a month, Dominic Parisi (Concord, N.C./Jay M. Robinson) looked as if he didn't lose a step. Parisi dominated the next match gaining takedown after takedown and only giving up one point, collecting a 13-1 major decision and regained the lead for Appalachian (7-4).

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Using momentum from the last match, Chris Johnson (Hillsborough, N.C./Orange) stepped on the mat and picked up a convincing win. He grasped the second major decision of the night (12-2) against Michael Flora. Appalachian held an 11-4 lead until Jake Smith (Newark, Calif./Newark) dropped a 6-2 decision at the 141-pound weight class against Emmitt Kelly right before intermission.

After the intermission, nationally ranked (#7) Dylan Cottrell (Spencer, W.Va./ Roane County) amassed his 10th-straight win with a 3-1 decision against Shabaka Johns to move Appalachian's lead to 14-7.

In one of the most interesting matches of the evening, Nick Hall (Alabaster, Ala./Thompson) found himself down 5-3 late in the third period. He proved to have more stamina and got a takedown with 13 seconds left in the match. He earned the one-point riding time in the end to win the wild match with a 6-5 decision.

The Mountaineers would not look back winning the next three matches of the night.

Nick Vetell (Trinity, N.C./Trinity) at the 184-pound weight class closed the match with a 34-second pin. That pin would put him in second place for the fastest pin of the season falling behind Cottrell who had a 23-second pin in his first official match this season.

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Appalachian took the 30-7 win against the Keydets. With the win, Appalachian would increase its series record to 28-13.

The Mountaineers will continue its three-match homestand against Davidson on Feb. 16 at Varsity Gym at 2 p.m.

Appalachian State 30 – VMI 7

Varsity Gym – Boone, N.C.

197 - Tyler Radford (APP) won by decision over Andrew Embree (VMI) 5-2. (APP leads 3-0)

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285 - Juan Adams (VMI) won by major decision over Denzel Dejournette (APP) 16-7 (VMI leads 4-3)

125 - Dominic Parisi (APP) won by major decision over Dalton Henderson (VMI) 13-2 (APP leads 7-4)

133- Chris Johnson (APP) won by major decision over Michael Flora (VMI) 11-2 (APP leads 11-4)

141 - Emmitt Kelly (VMI) won by decision over Jake Smith (APP) 7-2 (APP leads 11-7)

149 - Dylan Cottrell (APP) won by decision over Shabaka Johns (VMI) 3-1 (APP leads 14-7)

157 - Nick Hall (APP) won by decision over Edward Gottwald (VMI) 6-5 (APP leads 17-7)

165 - Zack Strickland (APP) won by decision over Mark Darr (VMI) 6-2 (APP leads 20-7)

174 - Adrian Soto-Perez (APP) won by major decision over Jake Koch (VMI) 17-6 (APP leads 24-7)

184 - Nick Vetell (APP) won by pin over Hardy Hendren (VMI) 0:34 (App wins 30-7)

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Photo Courtesy: Dominic Parisi, ASU Athletics