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# THE CITADEL

## MEDIA RELATIONS



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### **Bulldogs Cruise Past Keydets, 24-10**

**Charleston, S.C.** – The Citadel wrestling team earned their first conference win of the year on Saturday as they won seven matches en route to a 24-10 victory over VMI.

The Citadel (4-4, 1-2) won seven of the first eight matches to jump on the Keydets (2-5, 0-1) early. Starting at 125, Richard Alarcon used a pair of takedowns in the third to go along with a riding time edge that took out VMI's John Pope, 8-2. The Keydets' Andrew Bannister evened the team score at 133 by downing The Citadel's Jordan Dix, 4-1, behind a pair of takedowns.

At 141, Nick LaFevre turned the table on David Yost, who led most of the match, by scoring a takedown and a near fall towards the end of the third period to give the Bulldogs a win, 6-2. Derek Royster used three takedowns and a riding time point at 157 to oust Michael Long, 8-2, and put The Citadel up 9-3 in the dual. It was Royster's fourth straight win and third this week. At 157, Turtogtokh Luvsandorj kept the Bulldogs rolling as he used a pair of takedowns at the end of the first period and to start the second period to down VMI's Joe Munno, 5-1.

Pierre Frazile, who was born and raised in Haiti, scored his third win of an emotional week by sliding past Conor Black, 2-1, at 165. Each wrestler earned an escape point and the difference in the match was a technical foul point assessed to Black for fleeing the mat while in a hold by Frazile in the third period. J.C. Oddo put the Bulldogs in a commanding lead at 174, by pinning the Keydets' Evan Dill in 56 seconds to put The Citadel up 21-3. In a back-and-forth affair at 184, Kelby Smith came back from an early deficit with five takedowns to take out defending SoCon Wrestler of the Week Andrew Szymborski, 12-7.

At 197, VMI's Ronnie Ellsworth was too much for freshman Scott Edelson, as he fell in a major decision, 19-7. Ellsworth used nine takedowns to cut the VMI lead to 24-7. At heavyweight, two-time defending conference champion Josh Wine of VMI butted heads with Odie Delaney who wrestled up for the third time this week. Wine went up 6-0 early behind a takedown, reversal and near fall, but Delaney came back with a reversal and a near fall to cut into the lead. Wine quickly turned that back with a near fall and a reversal and would go on to win 12-5 and end the dual with a 24-10 final.

"This was one of our better performances of the year," said Bulldog Head Coach Rob Hjerling. "We are improving and coming together as a team and a program in competition and in practice. We made a lot of good decisions in our matches today. Winning the close matches is the difference in winning and losing duals that we lost early on in the year when we came up just short."

"One guy I would like to point out is Pierre Frazile. It was asking a lot for him to go out there considering the events of this week. I was very proud of him to come out and win a tough match today."

#### **The Citadel 24, VMI 10**

125: Richard Alarcon (CIT) dec. John Pope (VMI), 8-2 (CIT 3-0)  
133: Andrew Bannister (VMI) dec. Jordan Dix (CIT), 4-1 (Tied 3-3)  
141: Nick LaFevre (CIT) dec. David Yost (VMI), 6-2 (CIT 6-3)  
149: Derek Royster (CIT) dec. Michael Long (VMI), 8-2 (CIT 9-3)  
157: Turtogtokh Luvsandorj (CIT) dec. Joe Munno (VMI), 5-1 (CIT 12-3)  
165: Pierre Frazile dec. Conor Black, 2-1 (CIT 15-3)  
174: J.C. Oddo (CIT) pins Evan Dill (VMI), :56 (CIT 21-3)

184: Kelby Smith (CIT) dec. Andrew Szymborski (VMI), 12-7 (CIT 24-3)  
197: Ronnie Ellsworth (VMI) maj. dec. Scott Edelson (CIT), 19-7 (CIT 24-7)  
HWT: Josh Wine (VMI) dec. Odie Delaney (CIT), 12-5 (CIT 24-10)

The Bulldogs return to action on Sunday, Jan. 24 as they welcome Appalachian State in SoCon action to McAlister Field House at 2 p.m. For more information on Citadel sports, visit the official website at [www.CitadelSports.com](http://www.CitadelSports.com).