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Mountaineers Slip Past the Bulldogs, 21-16

Charleston, S.C. – The Citadel wrestling team fell to Appalachian State on Sunday afternoon at McAlister Field House, 21-16. The dual came down to the wire in a back-and-forth affair that featured five lead changes.

After falling behind on multiple occasions, the Bulldogs (4-5, 1-3) battled back several times, including taking a 16-15 leads with two matches to go. They could not pull out the win however, as the Mountaineers (7-8, 1-1) won six matches on their way to their fifth consecutive dual win.

Starting at 149, Derek Royster used a takedown, a near fall and a reversal to go up 7-3 on ASU's Savva Kostis. Kostis would use a pair of takedowns and an escape in the late period to go along with a riding time point to edge out Royster, 9-8. At 157, the Bulldogs' Turtogtokh Luvsandorj used four takedowns to roll past the Mountaineers' Chip Powell, 10-3, and even the team score at three.

In another close affair at 165, Kyle Blevins of ASU earned his 18th win of the year by virtue of a takedown at the end of the second period over Pierre Frazile to win the match, 3-1. It was the first loss for Frazile since moving up to 165 this season. A quick flurry by J.C. Oddo at 174 sent Appalachian State's Carter Downs reeling with an ankle injury. Downs was able to continue into the third period before exhausting his injury time and being forced to declare an injury default that gave Oddo and the Citadel at 9-6 team lead.

The Mountaineers would tie the team score at 184, with Austin Trotman using four takedowns and a riding time point to down Kelby Smith, 9-5. ASU would increase their lead when Dylan Temple pinned The Citadel's Justin Sparrow at 197 just before the end of the second period at the 4:55 mark. At heavyweight, Odie Delaney edged out ASU's Ken Altarac, 3-2, and cut into the Mountaineers team lead, 15-12.

The Citadel would retake the lead as the lineup rolled over at 125. Richard Alarcon dominated ASU's Brett Boston, 11-2, with a major decision by virtue of four takedowns and a riding time point to make the team score 16-15. At 133, another close affair went in favor of Appalachian State as Jacob Earp's takedown of Jordan Dix at the end of the first period proved to be the winner, 3-1, and gave ASU an 18-16 lead.

At 141, ASU's Chris Collura won a wild affair that went into overtime as he downed Nick LaFevre to preserve the Mountaineers victory. Collura earned a technical foul point in the second period and LaFevre earned a riding time point to send the match into overtime. A scoreless first minute of overtime would lead to ride out overtime. In the first period, LaFevre started in the down position and was ridden out by Collura. In the second period, Collura turned the table and earned a reversal on LaFevre, who then escaped, but could not get any closer as Collura would win, 3-2.

Appalachian State 21, The Citadel 16

149: Savva Kostis (ASU) dec. Derek Royster (CIT), 9-8 (ASU, 3-0)

157: Turtogtokh Luvsandorj (CIT) dec. Chip Powell (ASU), 10-3 (Tied, 3-3)
165: Kyle Blevins (ASU) dec. Pierre Frazile (CIT), 3-1 (ASU, 6-3)
174: J.C. Oddo (CIT) inj. default Carter Downs (ASU), 5:06 (CIT, 9-6)
184: Austin Trotman (ASU) dec. Kelby Smith (CIT), 9-5 (Tied, 9-9)
197: Dylan Temple (ASU) pins Justin Sparrow (CIT), 4:55 (ASU, 15-9)
HWT: Odie Delaney (CIT) dec. Ken Altarac (ASU), 3-2 (ASU, 15-12)
125: Richard Alarcon (CIT) maj. dec. Brett Boston (ASU), 11-2 (CIT, 16-15)
133: Jacob Earp (ASU) dec. Jordan Dix (CIT), 3-1 (ASU, 18-16)
141: Chris Collura (ASU) dec. Nick LaFevre (CIT), 3-2 OT (ASU, 21-16)

The Citadel returns to action on Thursday as they travel to the upstate to participate in the Anderson University Duals. They will take on Anderson at 4 p.m. and Limestone at 5:30 p.m. For more information on Bulldog Wrestling, go to the official website of The Citadel Athletics, www.CitadelSports.com.