

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERS



SPORTS INFORMATION

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December 19, 2010
Wrestling

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Two Wrestlers Place at Reno Tournament of Champions

RENO, Nev.- Appalachian State University wrestling (3-4) had two wrestlers place at the 17th-annual Reno Tournament of Champions on Sunday at the prestigious event in Reno, Nev.

Both juniors **Kyle Blevins** (Sapulpa, Okla./Sapulpa) and **Savva Kostis** (Boone, N.C./Watauga) placed third and fifth, respectively in the wrestleback round of the tournament to earn major points for the Mountaineers.

Blevins, who was one of two Apps to earn a seed in tournament, started off his Sunday with a 6-4 decision over Donnie Jones from West Virginia. The #4 seed then defeated Jameon Rush of Hastings by fall in 4:32 in his second match. Blevins took care of #5-seed John-Martin Cannon of Buffalo, 4-1, before he ran into overall 165-pound top-seed Shane Onufer (Wyoming) and was beat by fall in 1:38. After the loss, Blevins entered the wrestleback round of the tournament where he earned decisions over Chad Porter of Liberty by forfeit and Thomas Scotton (North Carolina), 5-2 to claim third place.

Kostis rattled off back-to-back decisions at 149 by fall before he upset #6-seed Anthony Weerheim of Northern Montana State, 7-3 in his third match of the afternoon. Kostis was then taken down by fall by #3-seeded Cole Dallasera (Wyoming) in 2:25 to send the Boone-native into the wrestleback portion of the tournament. Kostis won his first two matches of the round before he ran into #4-seed Justin Gaethje from Northern Colorado, where he was defeated by fall in 1:42. Kostis proceeded on to the fifth-place match and beat Brad Squire (Ohio) by forfeit to earn fifth place.

Sophomores **Brett Boston** (Morganton, N.C./Freedom) and **Tony Gravely** (Martinsville, Va./Magna Vista) and juniors **Mike Kessler** (Bay City, Mich./Western) and #3-seeded **Austin Trotman** (Winston-Salem, N.C./Mount Tabor) each recorded multiple wins during the tournament.

As a team, the Mountaineers earned 13th place out of 30 teams with 50.2 points.

Appalachian returns to action on Dec. 29-30 at the Southern Scuffle hosted by UNC Greensboro.

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