

# APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERS

# SPORTS INFORMATION



P.O. BOX 32116, BOONE, NC 28608 • PHONE: (828) 262-7166 • FAX: (828) 262-6106

January 26, 2011  
Wrestling

Contact: Christina Hilliard  
(828) 262-7166 • hilliardcm@appstate.edu

## UNC Greensboro Downs Wrestling in Thriller, 21-20

**GREENSBORO, N.C.**- Appalachian State University wrestling (6-8-1, 0-2 SoCon) dropped a close Southern Conference dual to reigning SoCon Tournament champion UNC Greensboro (5-7, 3-0 SoCon) on Wednesday night, 21-20 at Fleming Gymnasium.

Sophomore **Tony Gravely** (Martinsville, Va./Magna Vista) set the pace again for the Mountaineers again by using two three-point near falls and two takedowns to score a 16-5 major decision over Manny Ramirez in the opening match to put Appalachian up 4-0.

The Spartans turned around and sent Jamel Johnson to the mat for the 133 match-up and he tallied a 14-3 major decision over freshman **Acton Pifer** (Marietta, Ga./Lassiter) to knot things up at 4-4.

Junior **Mike Kessler** (Bay City, Mich./Western) put the Apps back up when he took care of Michael Crowley at 141 in a 7-2 decision in a match that he never trailed in, putting up the Mountaineers, 7-4.

In the 149 match, #17 Ivan Lopouchanski proved to be too much for freshman **Russell Benner** (Roselle Park, N.J./Roselle Park) and Lopouchanski notched his 30th win of the season with a 25-11 major decision over Benner, giving the Spartans their first lead of the match at 8-7.

The Mountaineers battled back and took a 10-7 lead as sophomore **John Blakely** (Birmingham, Ala./Oak Mountain) scored a 6-2 decision over Matt Barbo at 157.

Junior **Kyle Blevins** (Sapulpa, Okla./Sapulpa), who was named SoCon Wrestler of the Week earlier in the day, did not disappoint as he notched a 12-2 major decision over Brett Miller to expand the Mountaineer advantage to 14-7. With the win, Blevins now has a career-high 29 victories and has tallied 75 wins in his career.

ASU's momentum was stopped at 174 as Byron Sigmon took a 14-1 major decision from junior **Carter Downs** (Tequesta, Fla./Jupiter Christian) to close the gap for the Spartans to 14-12.

Redshirt junior **Austin Trotman** (Winston-Salem, N.C./Mount Tabor) pinned Elijah Adams 90 seconds into the match after he used a takedown and a cradle to give ASU an eight-point cushion. With the victory, the 22nd ranked wrestler captured his 24th decision of the season, but more importantly Trotman now becomes the latest Mountaineer to tally 82 wins in his career at Appalachian State.

Heading into the final two bouts of the evening at 197 and the heavyweight class, Caylor Williams pinned sophomore **Paul Glover** (Rochester, N.Y./Spencerport) in 2:55 in the 197 match and closed the Mountaineer lead to a deuce.

As with the last dual, it came down to the last match to put the finishes on the night. But Peter Sturgeon proved to be too much for freshman **Marc Tyson** (Monroe, N.J./Monroe Township) and took the match 13-6, winning the dual for the Spartans, 21-20.

The Mountaineers return to the mat on Saturday (Jan. 29), hosting the inaugural Appalachian Open. Wrestlers will be weighed at 7 a.m., with wrestling starting at 9 a.m. in Varsity Gym.

### UNCG 21, Appalachian State 20

125 Tony Gravely (ASU) maj. dec. Manny Ramirez (UNCG), 16-5  
133 Jamel Johnson (UNCG) maj. dec. Acton Pifer (ASU), 14-3  
141 Mike Kessler (ASU) dec. Michael Crowley (UNCG), 7-2  
149 Ivan Lopouchanski (UNCG) maj. dec. Russell Benner (ASU), 25-11  
157 John Blakely (ASU) dec. Matt Barbo (UNCG), 6-2  
165 Kyle Blevins (ASU) maj. dec. Brett Miller (UNCG), 12-2  
174 Byron Sigmon (UNCG) maj. dec. Carter Downs (ASU), 14-1  
184 Austin Trotman (ASU) fall Elijah Adams (UNCG), 1:30  
197 Caylor Williams (UNCG) fall Paul Glover (ASU), 2:55  
HWT Peter Sturgeon (UNCG) dec. Marc Tyson (ASU), 13-6

--www.GoASU.com--

DIRECTOR: MIKE FLYNN • ASSOC. DIRECTOR: CHARLES COCHRUM • ASST. DIRECTOR COURTNEY BURCHETT • INTERN: CHRISTINA HILLIARD, CORY HALL

www.GoASU.com