

**From:** App State Sports News [appalachiansid@gmail.com](mailto:appalachiansid@gmail.com)  
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## Wrestling

**ONLINE:** <https://appstatesports.com/news/2023/1/24/-19-wrestling-no-19-app-state-wrestling-hammers-duke.aspx>

**BOONE, N.C.** — Less than 10 seconds after the home dual against Duke began, Caleb Smith brought fans in Varsity Gym to their feet with an emphatic takedown.

Fans of the 19th-ranked Mountaineers had reason to cheer all evening, as App State won the first nine matches in a 42-3 victory against Duke on Tuesday night. The crowd of 968 witnessed eight of those wins produce bonus points in a one-sided affair that gave the Mountaineers their 10th victory over a Power Five program since JohnMark Bentley became head coach.

After climbing to its highest-ever ranking in the NWCA Coaches Poll earlier in the day — App State is as high as No. 18 in the country in a different poll and has been as high as No. 16 in InterMat's rankings, back in 2016-17 — the Mountaineers improved to 7-2 overall by dominating their final nonconference dual.

The Appalachian Open on Saturday is next on the schedule, and App State will take a 3-0 league record into its SoCon dual at Gardner-Webb on Monday.

Smith's fast start in Tuesday's opener at 125 pounds propelled him to a six-point pin with 20 seconds left in the second period — he was on the verge of a five-point tech fall with an 18-4 lead before securing the fall. Tommy Askey also earned six team points against Duke (3-7) with his second-period pin at 157, and a Duke forfeit at 174 allowed Will Miller to contribute six more points to the team score.

Jon Jon Millner delivered a takedown and nearly received back points seven seconds into his 21-4 tech fall at 149 pounds, and App State posted four major decisions: Ethan Oakley (13-3 win at 133 pounds), Will Formato (13-0 shutout at 165), Luke Uliano (11-1 win at 184) and Carson Floyd (11-2 win at 197). Duke's lone victory occurred in the last official match, with 20th-ranked Jonah Niesenbaum winning 3-2 against Triston Norris in the redshirt freshman's second career dual start.

Formato, who won 7-4 against Gabe Dinette last year in Durham, recorded a takedown 22 seconds into the rematch. A takedown and four-point near fall in the second period enabled him to open up a 9-0 lead.

Leading 2-1 after a second-period rideout, Uliano quickly followed a third-period reversal with a four-point near fall to take control of his match.

Facing Duke's Vincent Baker, who was coming off a Friday win against previously ranked Max Shaw of North Carolina, Floyd recorded a takedown in the first 15 seconds and led 4-1 with 1:51 in riding time after one period. Ahead 6-1 after two periods, Floyd used a third-period reversal and takedown to collect a bonus point.

The 2022-23 season is presented by Hungry Howie's and Penn Station.

### No. 19 App State 42, Duke 3

125: #11 [Caleb Smith](#) (APP) def. Ethan Grimminger (DU), fall (4:40)  
133: [Ethan Oakley](#) (APP) def. Logan Agin (DU), 13-3 maj. dec.  
141: [Heath Gonyer](#) (APP) def. Jarred Papsy (DU), 5-1 dec.  
149: #9 [Jon Jon Millner](#) (APP) def. Patrick Rowland (DU), 21-4 tech fall  
157: #28 [Tommy Askey](#) (APP) def. Logan Ferrero (DU), fall (3:31)  
165: #26 [Will Formato](#) (APP) def. Gabe Dinette (DU), 13-0 maj. dec.  
174: #27 [Will Miller](#) (APP) won by forfeit  
184: [Luke Uliano](#) (APP) def. Luke Chakonis (DU), 11-1 maj. dec.  
197: [Carson Floyd](#) (APP) def. Vincent Baker (DU), 11-2 maj. dec.  
Hwt: #20 Jonah Niesenbaum (DU) def. [Triston Norris](#) (APP), 3-2 dec.

### Extra match

141: Riley Edwards (APP) def. Christian Colman (DU), 4-0 dec.

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