Virginia Wrestling Defeats VMI In Rumble On The River, 25-13
Cavaliers edge Keydets in the Third Annual Rumble on the River

Jan. 6, 2005

RICHMOND, Va. - The University of Virginia wrestling team defeated the VMI Keydets in a non-conference dual match by the score of 25-13 in the Third Annual Rumble on the River at St. Christopher's School. The Cavaliers and Keydets split the first eight bouts and were tied at 13-13 with two matches remaining before VMI forfeited the final two bouts to UVa to give Virginia a 25-13 victory. UVa's Anthony Burke (125), Byron Dunlap (133), Damian Johnson (174) and Rocco Caponi (184) each recorded victories in the dual match for the Cavaliers, while Virginia's Scott Smith (197) and Nick Smith (HWT) were each awarded wins by forfeit for UVa.

UVa jumped out to an early 6-0 lead after two bouts following Virginia's Anthony Burke's 11-5 decision over VMI's Jeremy Adams at 125-pounds before the Cavaliers' Byron Dunlop topped the Keydets' Tyler Anthony by the score of 3-2 at 133-pounds.

However, VMI won the next four bouts at 141, 149, 157 and 165-pounds to take a 13-6 lead after six matches. The Keydets' David Metzler beat Virginia's Chet Naylor 7-2 at 141-pounds, VMI's Sam Alvarenga recorded a 17-5 major decision over UVa's Paul Bowman at 149-pounds, the Keydets' Chris Hardy defeated the Cavaliers' Paul Bjorlo 4-3 at 157-pounds and VMI's Tommy Cunningham posted a 6-1 decision over Virginia's Conor Manley at 165-pounds.

But it would be all UVa the rest of the way as the Cavaliers won the next two matches at 174 and 184-pounds and were credited with forfeit wins at 197-pounds and heavyweight to cruise to a 12-point victory. Virginia's Damian Johnson recorded a 13-7 win over VMI's John Lowery at 174-pounds before the Cavaliers' Rocco Caponi posted a 14-4 major decision win over the Keydets' Jeff Sale to tie the match at 13-13. UVa picked up six points apiece for both of VMI's forfeits at 197-pounds and at heavyweight that were awarded to S. Smith and N. Smith to pace Virginia to its second consecutive victory against VMI in the Rumble on the River event.

With the victory, Virginia's record improves to 3-2 overall in dual match action. The loss drops VMI's record to 3-2 overall this season.

The Cavaliers will return to action on Saturday, January 8th when UVa hosts the 2005 Virginia Intercollegiate State Wrestling Championships at UVa's Memorial Gymnasium.

Third Annual Rumble on the River Results:
VMI - 13
Virginia - 25

Wgt.	Opponents	Result	UVa/VMI
125	Anthony Burke (UVa) def. Jeremy Adams (VMI)	11-5	3-0
133	Byron Dunlap (UVa) def. Tyler Anthony (VMI)	3-2	6-0
141	David Metzler (VMI) def. Chet Naylor (UVa)	7-2	6-3
149	Sam Alvarenga (VMI) def. Paul Bowman (UVa)	MD, 17-5	6-7
157	Chris Hardy (VMI) def. Paul Bjorlo (UVa)	4-3	6-10
165	Tommy Cunningham (VMI) def. Conor Manley (UVa)	6-1	6-13
174	Damian Johnson (UVa) def. John Lowery (VMI)	12-7	9-13
184	Rocco Caponi (UVa) def. Jeff Sale (VMI)	MD, 14-4	13-13
197	Scott Smith (UVa) won by forfeit by VMI	Forfeit	19-13
HWT	Nick Smith (UVa) won by forfeit by VMI	Forfeit	25-13

2005 Rumble on the River