Omar Carter's (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) 25 points were not enough to overcome 12 three-pointers by Furman as Appalachian State University men's basketball fell, 81-61, against the Paladins on Saturday afternoon at Timmons Arena.

The squads traded the lead six times early in the first half before Furman gained control with a 33-23 lead and settled for a 37-29 advantage at the break behind three first-half treys by Noah States.

Carter scored seven of ASU's first nine points to bouy the Mountaineer offense early on. He also led the team with six rebounds and sank three of ASU's five three-pointers.

As soon as the Paladins (16-6, 8-3) worked up to an 11-point lead early in the second half, Carter set off on a six-point run to cut the deficit to 44-39 with 16 minutes to play. Five different Furman players then scored on a 10-point run to give the home team a double-figure cushion it would not relinquish.

Amu Saaka scored 17 of his 31 points in the first half for Furman and finished with an 11-of-17 shooting night, including three treys. It was the most an opposing player has scored in a contest against the Apps (8-13, 4-7 SoCon) this season.

Donald Sims (Gaffney, S.C./Fork Union) and Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) also reached double figures in scoring with 12 points apiece. Sims tallied four rebounds and two assists in the contest while Williamson swatted both of Appalachian's blocks and hauled in three rebounds.

Marcus Wright (Winston-Salem, N.C./Winston-Salem Prep) led the Mountaineers with half of the team's eight assists and swiped a steal. He added three points on one of ASU's five three-pointers.

For the afternoon, ASU shot 38.8 percent from the field and sank 5-of-16 three-pointers. The

Mountaineers shot better than 70 percent from the foul line for the sixth game in a row as the squad sank all seven free throw attempts in the first half and finished the game 18-of-22, good for 81.8 percent.

States added a complete game for Furman with 19 points, nine rebounds, five assists and two blocks, while Darryl Evans also scored in double figures with 11 points on 5-of-8 shooting and a three-pointer. He chipped in four assists, three boards and a steal.

Furman dominated the boards with 39 overall, including 13 on the offensive glass. The home team scored 22 second-chance points, compared to ASU's six. FU also converted six steals into 13 fast-break points, one shy of the high set against the Apps on the year. The Mountaineers pulled down a season-low 25 rebounds, including six offensive boards.

Appalachian's three-game road trip continues on Wednesday at UNC Greensboro. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. Our coverage begins at 6:15 pm on AM 1450, WATA.

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APPALACHIAN STATE	29	32	- 61
FURMAN	37	44	- 81

ASU: CARTER 25 (6 REBOUNDS), WILLIAMSON 12, HAUSLEY 4, SIMS 12, WRIGHT 3, BOOTH 5. FG: 19-49, 3FG: 5-16, FT: 18-22. REBOUNDS: 25, TURNOVERS: 8.

FURMAN: STATES 19 (9 REBOUNDS, 5 ASSISTS), SEBIRUMBI 2, SAAKA 31, DEHM 7, EVANS 11, CHARLIE REDDICK 7, COLIN REDDICK 4. FG: 29-60, 3FG: 12-22, FT: 11-13. REBOUNDS: 39, TURNOVERS: 8.