Written by Mike Kelly
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Appalachian State University football held its first major scrimmage of the spring on Thursday, pitting the offense against the defense for 80 plays at the Sofield Family Indoor Practice Facility.

For the most part, Appalachian's defense got the best of its offensive counterparts during Thursday's scrimmage. Featuring the three-man front that it has installed this spring, ASU's defense allowed just 255 yards (154 rushing, 101 passing) over the 80 snaps (3.2 yards per play). The offense managed just one touchdown in 15 series that began from its own 45 yard line on the Sofield Facility's abbreviated playing field.

Eleven different Mountaineers made tackles behind the line of scrimmage, including sacks by John Rizor, Lanston Tanyi, Justin Lloyd and Everett Israel. The defense forced one takeaway when safety Patrick Blalock blasted a would-be receiver and the ball fell into the hands of cornerback Demetrius McCray, who returned the interception for what likely would have been a touchdown on a full field.

Offensively, All-America quarterback DeAndre Presley played for only the first two series and led the Mountaineers to their only touchdown. Presley completed all four of his passes for 28 yards and ran twice for 13 yards and a score before giving way to backup signal-callers Jamal Jackson and Logan Hallock for the final 69 snaps of the scrimmage.

Jackson completed 7-of-15 passes for 73 yards and an interception while running nine times for just one yard and Hallock completed 1-of-4 passes for no yards but ran six times for 39 yards and caught a pass from Jackson for 12 yards.

Running back Travaris Cadet led ASU with 60 total yards (31 receiving, 29 rushing). Rod Chisholm was the scrimmage's leading rusher with 41 yards on 10 carries and converted linebacker Terrence McLean chipped in with 26 hard-fought yards on 10 rushes.

All-America receiver Brian Quick, who like Presley only saw action in the first two series, caught two passes for 19 yards.

Appalachian will enjoy 11 days off for spring break and return to the practice field on Monday, March 14. ASU's NCAA-allowed 15 spring practices conclude on March 23.

SCRIMMAGE STATS
Passing (Comp.-Att.-Int.): Jackson 7-15-1, 73 yds.; Presley 4-4-0, 28 yds.; Hallock 1-4-0, 0 yds.
Rushing (Att.-Yds.): Chisholm 10-41; Hallock 6-39; Cadet 17-29; McLean 10-26; Presley 2-13; Selan 3-5; Jackson 9-1.
Receiving (Rec.-Yds.): Cadet 5-31; Quick 2-19; Peacock 1-17; Hallock 1-12; Thompson 1-10; Moll 1-6; Selan 1-6.
Interceptions: McCray.
Sacks: Tanyi, Israel, Lloyd, Rizor.
Tackles For Loss: McCray; Anderson; Tanyi; Corbin; Israel; Witte, Jr.; Lloyd; Wylie; Sanders; Kimbrough, Rizor.
Pass Break-Ups: McDonald; Sanders.