

ASU Men's Soccer Coach Pendleton Dies

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Appalachian State University men's soccer head coach Shaun Pendleton was found dead in his Boone home on Tuesday. He was 49. The entire Appalachian family is stunned and saddened by the loss of Coach Pendleton," ASU director of athletics Charlie Cobb said. "Our thoughts, prayers and concerns are with his wife, Jody, his friends and, especially, Coach Matt Nelson and the 27 special young men of our soccer program."

"We are saddened by this loss within our community and the campus joins me in extending our deepest sympathy to those touched by Coach Pendleton's death," ASU Chancellor Dr. Kenneth E. Peacock said. "I know that our Appalachian family will join together to ensure that our student-athletes and athletics staff have the support needed during this difficult time. "

Pendleton was in his fourth season as the head coach at Appalachian. He compiled a 27-26-4 overall record in his three-plus campaigns at ASU and led the Mountaineers to second-place finishes in the Southern Conference in 2008 and 2010.

Prior to his arrival at Appalachian, he spent 22 seasons as the head coach at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Fla., leading the Knights to a pair of national championships — at the NCAA Division II level in 2003 and in the NAIA ranks in 1991. With a 347-79-18 career record, his .802 winning percentage is the highest in Division II history (for coaches with a minimum of 10 D-II seasons).

The Sheffield, England native was a two-time all-American at Akron and earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the school in 1985. He went on to play four seasons in the American Indoor Soccer Association, setting a league record by appearing in 177-consecutive matches. ASU men's soccer is supposed to take part in the Davidson adidas Classic this weekend with matches versus Gardner-Webb on Friday and Detroit on Sunday in Davidson, N.C. It has not been determined if the Mountaineers will participate as scheduled.