OVERVIEW

Appalachian State University football held its 15th and 16th practices of fall camp on Wednesday at Kidd Brewer Stadium. Like most of its morning practices during camp, Wednesday's morning session was held in helmets and shorts and dedicated mainly to special teams. On Wednesday afternoon, the Mountaineers held their third intrasquad scrimmage of the fall.

HIGHLIGHTS

• After Appalachian's first two scrimmages of fall camp featured 130 and 162 plays, Wednesday's intrasquad duel was a relatively short 99 snaps. However, Wednesday's scrimmage was set up to be a truer simulation of game conditions than the first two with a full officiating crew and live special teams.

• Wednesday's scrimmage consisted of 19 series — 10 pitting the first-team offense and defense and nine featuring the second units.

• The first-team offense burst out of the gates, totaling 120 yards on its first two possessions, including a nine-play, 69-yard touchdown drive on its second series. Starting quarterback Jamal Jackson was 4-for-4 for 35 yards on the scoring drive, including a 10-yard pass to Andrew Peacock to convert a third-and-four and an 18-yard connection with Sean Price that set up Rod Chisholm's 14-yard touchdown run.

• After the first-team offense's impressive first two possessions, the first-team defense clamped down to surrender just 101 yards over the final eight 1s-vs.-1s series. Brandon Grier led the first-team defense with four tackles for loss while Jeremy Kimbrough and Stephen Burns chipped in with two stops behind the line of scrimmage apiece.

• Joel Ross capped the first-team defense's strong showing late in the scrimmage with an interception.

• The nine second-team series included an impressive offensive ground attack and a stout pass defense.

• Led by quarterback Kameron Bryant and running backs Michael Frazier, Tysean Holloway and Ricky Fergerson, the second-team offense racked up 283 rushing yards. A 94-yard touchdown run by Frazier and a 65-yard scamper by Holloway that set up a two-yard score by Bryant highlighted the second-team ground attack.

• Fergerson continued to be one of Appalachian's best stories of the preseason by rushing for 111 yards on 16 carries. A walk-on true freshman, Fergerson's performance earned him time with the first-team offense late in the scrimmage and he responded with a 29-yard rush, which

was the longest run and third-longest gain of the day against the first-team defense.
• While the second-team offense found success on the ground against their defensive counterparts, the second-team defense recorded a pair of interceptions. Linebacker Brandon McGowan had the first pickoff of the day and safety Drew Davies returned the second interception 60 yards for a touchdown.
• On special teams, Drew Stewart and Mark Powell both made field goals (with Powell's good from 47 yards) and Sam Martin averaged well over 40 yards per punt.

WHAT'S UP NEXT

Contact will be limited for the Mountaineers over their next three practices leading up to Saturday's scrimmage, which will be held during Appalachian's annual Fan Fest at Kidd Brewer Stadium. Thursday's practice will be the first for the newest Mountaineer, Oregon transfer Tacoi Sumler, who arrived in Boone on Wednesday.

Photo Courtesy: Drew Davies, ASU Athletics