

## ASU Women's Soccer Ties Samford

Written by Brandon McGinnis  
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Appalachian State University women's soccer could not find a golden goal for the fourth time this season, as the Mountaineers settled for a 1-1 tie at Samford, Sunday afternoon at the Samford

Track and Soccer Complex. With the deadlock, the Apps earn their first conference point in five meetings against the Bulldogs, moving App State to 4-1-1 in the Southern Conference and 7-5-1 overall. Samford earns its second conference tie of the season and goes to 4-0-2 in league play and 7-5-2 on the year.

The Mountaineers backline was pressured all day, as freshman goalkeeper Megan Roberson kept the Black and Gold in the match, making 15 saves in 110 minutes of action. For Roberson, it was her first double-digit save total since stopping 11 against NC State in early September. The freshman now has 44 saves on the year.

"We were very fortunate to get a point today," head coach Sarah Strickland said. "Samford is a very organized team that has a lot of dangerous players. Megan, along with the rest of the backline, were all outstanding."

After five saves by Roberson in the opening 37 minutes, the Mountaineers got on the scoreboard first as freshman forward Kebrina Keys netted her first collegiate goal by knocking in a rebound from 10 yards. Freshman Jenni Loveless was credited with the assist, as Keys is the fourth different freshman to score a goal this season.

The Apps took the 1-0 lead into halftime, despite the Bulldogs firing seven shots on goal, compared to Appalachian's one.

App State hung on for 20 more minutes, but Samford made the match even in the 66th minute when Adrienne Mancino bounced a shot off the post and past Roberson for her third goal of the year.

The Bulldogs continued to pressure for the remaining minutes, but Roberson made two more saves to send the match into overtime.

Roberson shined in both overtime periods, stopping three shots to close out the match and keep the 1-1 deadlock. Sophomore Julia Holz recorded the lone shot for the Mountaineers in the overtime periods, sending the ball over the crossbar.

The backline continues to shine, giving up just three goals in the last five matches, propelling the Mountaineers to a 4-0-1 record. With the backline combining with the forwards, the Apps are off to their best start in the conference schedule in the program's history.

Appalachian will be back on the road on Friday, Oct. 12 when the Mountaineers travel to Spartanburg, S.C. to face SoCon opponent, Wofford. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m.

**Photo Courtesy: Megan Roberson, ASU Athletics**