

## ASU Volleyball Falls to Furman in Three Sets

Written by Ryan Bower

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Dalton Tolliver (Ortonville, Mich./Notre Dame Prep) tallied a match-high 16 kills, but it was not enough as Appalachian State University volleyball suffered a 3-0 loss to Furman on Saturday at Alley Gymnasium. The Mountaineers (5-17, 1-7 SoCon)

suffered their fifth-straight Southern Conference defeat as the Paladins (17-5, 6-2) won by scores of 25-18, 25-16 and 25-20 for their fifth-straight league win.

Furman jumped out to an early 7-1 lead in the first set and never trailed as it held at least a four-point edge the entire way en route to the first-set win. The second set saw App State jump out to a 3-1 lead before a 4-1 run by the Paladins just moments later would give them the lead for good at 10-9. After trailing by six late in the set, the Mountaineers were able to pull within four points (19-15) but Furman finished the set on a 6-1 run to take a 2-0 match lead.

In the third set, the Paladins once again jumped out to an early lead, but the Mountaineers were able to battle back late in the set to pull within one (19-18) and force a Furman timeout. The Paladins responded out of the break with a 6-2 run to cap off the sweep with a 25-20 third-set victory.

Tolliver was the only Mountaineer to finish with double-digit kills as Appalachian was limited to an attack percentage of just .051 while the Paladins hit at a .189 clip. Lauren Brown (Overland Park, Kan./St. James Academy) had a team-best 16 assists while Courtney Rhein (York, Pa./Eastern York) tallied 16 digs.

Furman was paced by Natalie Braun's 11 kills while Jo Wilks tallied 30 assists. Braun also led the Paladins with 16 digs and Elle Ross finished with 13 digs of her own. The Mountaineers return to action when they play host to College of Charleston (Oct. 19) and The Citadel (Oct. 20).

**MATCH NOTES:** The Mountaineers fell to 32-25 all-time against Furman... Rhein added to her career-dig total and now stands at 1,716... she needs 113 more to become the school's all-time leader... the Apps have lost five-straight SoCon matches for the first time since 2008 when the squad dropped six-straight... Tolliver tallied 10 or more kills for the fifth-straight match and the 13th time this season.

**Photo Courtesy: Dalton Tolliver, ASU Athletics**