

## Samford Downs ASU on Senior Day

Written by Ryan Bower

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Appalachian State University dropped its season finale, 3-0, to Southern Conference foe Samford on Sunday at the Holmes Center. The Mountaineers (7-23, 3-13 SoCon) were swept by the SoCon North

champion Bulldogs (22-8, 14-2) for the second time this season. On a day when the Apps honored their lone senior and career-digs leader, Courtney Rhein, the squad nearly pulled off a first-set win over Samford, but eventually dropped the set by a 27-25 score and could not recover.

With their backs to the wall and facing a loss in the first set, the Mountaineers rallied from a 24-22 deficit to tie the set twice in the late stages, but could not complete the comeback as the Bulldogs picked up a 27-25 first-set win.

It would be all Samford from there as Appalachian never led in either of the final two sets. The Bulldogs led by as many as 10 points midway through the second set before grabbing a 25-13 victory and held a lead as large as nine points in the third set before closing things out with a 25-17 win.

Appalachian State was led offensively by Jessica Eley, who tallied seven kills and four block assists. Dalton Tolliver notched six kills and two block assists while hitting .375 in the match. Emily Corrigan also had six kills and tallied six digs.

Rhein finished the match with 11 kills and closed out her career with 1,869 digs, the best mark in school history, while Lauren and Paige Brown each finished with 11 assists.

Samford was paced by Chelsi Carter's 15 kills while Lauren Hutchinson tallied 10. Alexis Bauer led all players with 19 digs.

The Mountaineers hit .152 on the attack while Samford hit at a clip of .309. The Apps finished with a seven to five edge in blocks.