

Mountaineers Shot Down By Campbell

Written by Ryan Bower

Saturday, 17 November 2012 11:14

Appalachian State University men's basketball dropped its second-straight contest to a hot-shooting Big South foe in a 101-82 loss to Campbell on Friday at Gore Arena. The Mountaineers (1-2) gave up 55 first-

half points to the Camels (2-1) and were never able to recover despite holding their own on the offensive side of the ball. Campbell, who never trailed after taking a 5-0 lead just one minute into the contest, shot a blistering 65.6 percent (21-of-32) from the floor in the first half including 4-of-8 from beyond the arc and 9-of-11 from the charity stripe.

"I thought our energy was better," said ASU coach Jason Capel. "But you can't spot teams. You have to value the basketball and you have to defend, especially on the road. We started making turnovers at the start of the game and fell behind. That gives the other team a lot of confidence right off the bat."

Appalachian shot a respectable 42.4 percent (14-of-33) from the floor in the first 20 minutes of play, but could not overcome 11 first-half turnovers as the Camels pushed the tempo on both ends.

After falling behind by 11 points (16-5) with 14:56 remaining in the half, the Mountaineers battled back to cut the deficit to four points on two occasions before Campbell reeled off a 14-3 run to take a 40-25 lead and never led by less than 10 points for the remainder of the half to take a 55-39 lead into the locker room.

Nathan Healy nearly matched his career-high in field goals in the first half with five while leading the Apps with 13 first-half points. Campbell got 13 first-half points from Reco McCarter and Darian Hooker, who went a combined 10-of-16 from the floor in the first half.

"When you shoot 43 percent from the floor and score 80 points or more, you should win the game on the road," Healy said. "But we have six new peices this season, and we're young. We played harder tonight than we did Tuesday night (against High Point). But we made more stupid mistakes tonight. And we didn't defend anyone and gave up way to many easy points."

Campbell began the second half in much the same fashion as the first and grabbed its first 20-point lead of the contest (62-41) on a Darren White jumper with just over 18 minutes left to play.

Appalachian State would never threaten after that as the Camels, who never led by less than 13 the rest of the way, kept up their hot shooting and continued to score easy buckets in transition to defeat the Mountaineers for just the second time in nearly 20 years.

Healy led the Apps with 18 points on a career-high seven field goals while Tab Hamilton and Tevin Baskin also finished with 18 points each. Jamaal Trice scored 14 points and dished out a career-high seven assists off the bench.

White paced the Camels with 36 points, 28 of which came in the second half, on 15-of-19 shooting. Hooker added 17 and McCarter poured in 13. Trey Freeman scored nine points and led all players with nine assists.

"When you're giving the other team a chance at transition baskets and dunks, you're giving their confidence a chance to grow," Capel said. "These two games, teams haven't earned anything because we've spotted them points by turning the ball over and not playing defense. We're just going to keep working at it, and we're going to get better."

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Campbell shot 66.7 percent (42-of-63) on the night while the Mountaineers finished at 45.9 percent (28-of-61) from the floor, including 9-of-19 from beyond the arc. The Apps won the rebounding battle by a 37-29 margin.

Appalachian State returns to action when it travels to East Carolina for a 7 p.m. contest on Tuesday at Minges Coliseum.

GAME NOTES: The 101 points allowed by the Mountaineers were the most since a 102-69 loss to Davidson on Dec. 3, 2005... Campbell's 101 points were the most scored by either team in the all-time series... the Camel's shooting percentage marked the first time since a 91-67 loss to The Citadel on Jan. 20, 2011 that an App State opponent shot better than 60.0 percent... the Apps were outscored 54-34 in the paint and 23-0 on the fast break, but did hold a 20-17 edge in second-chance points.

CAMPBELL 101, ASU 82

Score by periods 1st 2nd Total

Appalachian State	39	43	82
Campbell	55	46	101

ASU: OBACHA 6, HEALY 18 (6 REBOUNDS), CANTY 6, HAMILTON 18, BURGESS 2, BASKIN 18 (7 REBOUNDS), TRICE 14 (7 ASSISTS). FG: 28-61, 3FG: 9-19, FT: 17-31. 37 REBOUNDS, 14 ASSISTS, 15 TURNOVERS.

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CAMPBELL: HARRIS 5, McCARTER 13, FREEMAN 9 (9 ASSISTS), HOOKER 17 (5 ASSISTS), WHITE 36 (7 REBOUNDS), OLIVER 9 (6 REBOUNDS), RYAN 6 (7 REBOUNDS), LEONARD 6. FG: 42-63, 3FG: 5-12, FT: 12-17. 29 REBOUNDS, 26 ASSISTS, 8 TURNOVERS.

Photo Courtesy: Jamaal Trice, ASU Athletics