Written by Jennifer Clark
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Appalachian State University women's basketball battled to the wire against Norfollk State to slide past the Lady Spartans with a victory. The Mountaineers captured a gripping 68-61 win at East Carolina's

Minges Coliseum Sunday afternoon in the final day of the ECU Pirate Invitational. Appalachian's underclassmen stepped up in the Mountaineers' first meeting against the Spartans. Freshman Farrahn Wood had an explosive game, posting a new career high 12 points and four field goals on the night, in addition to setting career records with four three pointers and one block. Sophomore Katie Mallow lead the Apps in scoring with 15 points against the Spartans.

Appalachian (4-1) spent the majority of the first half trailing the Spartans, who opened the contest with a 6-0 run over the first 3:54. Courtney Freeman's layup at 16:46 into the half put the Apps on the board (6-2).

A free throw from Anna Freeman would tie the game at eight before Norfolk's Kashay Barnes connected on a three to put the Spartans ahead by one possession (11-8), and unleash on a 13 point run edging the Spartans back into a 21-8 lead.

A clean three pointer from sophomore Katie Mallow provided the spark for Appalachian to begin climbing back. A layup from Courtney Freeman pulled App within two heading into halftime (29-27).

Maryah Sydnor, stepped up to open the second half with a layup and tie the game at 29 a piece.Raven Gary's steal at just 18:06 into the second period would open the door for Katie Mallow to shoot a jumper and edge Appalachian ahead (31-29).

The Mountaineers would control the lead for the remainder of the contest, leading by as much as 11, before a final jumper from NSU's Rachel Gordon would wrap up the Apps' 68-61 victory. Courtney Freeman and Katie Mallow finished as the team's leading scorers with 15 points each. C. Freeman added nine boards in the game, and dished our four assists. Anna Freeman posted eight rebounds of her own, and shot a perfect 6-6 from the charity stripe.

Appalchian now travels to Xavier on Nov. 30 before returning home to face conference foe Georgia Southern on Dec. 3.

Notes: ASU had four players in double digits against the Spartans, including A. Freeman, C. Freeman,Farrahn Wood, and Katie Mallow. Maryah Sydnor served three blocks to tie her career record of three against Furman in 2012. The Apps out rebounded the Spartans 45-35; recording 20 offensive boards to Norfolk's 12. The Mountaineers scored 29 off the bench.

ASU 68, NORFOLK STATE 61

Score by periods	**1st**	**2nd**	**Total**
Appalachian State	27	41	68
Norfolk State	29	32	61

ASU: SYDNOR 9 (7 REBOUNDS), A. FREEMAN 11 (8 REBOUNDS, 3 ASSISTS), RAVEN 4. C. FREEMAN 15 (9 REBOUNDS, 4 ASSISTS), WOOD 12, MALLOW 15, WILKERSON 2. FG: 23-64, 3FG: 10-28, FT: 12-16. 45 REBOUNDS, 16 ASSISTS, 16 TURNOVERS.

NORFOLK STATE: GORDON 17 (9 REBOUNDS), LEONARD 11 (6 REBOUNDS), TRICE 7 (7 ASSISTS), BARNES 8, OWENS 1, PARHAM 8, BROWN 9. FG: 27-60, 3FG: 3-10, FT: 4-8. 35 REBOUNDS, 19 ASSISTS, 19 TURNOVERS.

THREE POINTERS:
ASU - WOOD 4, MALLOW 4, SYDNOR, A. FREEMAN
NSU - BARNES 2, BROWN

Photo Courtesy: Katie Mallow, ASU Athletics