

Mountaineers Fall at Missouri

Written by Ryan Bower

Saturday, 01 December 2012 21:48

Appalachian State University men's basketball was unable to overcome a high-powered offensive attack as it fell to No. 16/15 Missouri by a 72-56 final on Saturday at Mizzou Arena.

The Mountaineers (1-6) fell into an early 7-0 hole to the Tigers (6-1) before notching their first points of the game on a Nathan Healy jumper with 17:42 on the clock.

It would be all the closer that Appalachian would get as Mizzou dominated the first half of play, shooting a solid 48.5 percent (16-of-33) from the floor and limiting the Mountaineers to just 25.0 percent (8-of-32) shooting.

The Tigers grabbed their first double-digit lead (16-6) with 13:16 remaining in the first period and extended the lead to as many as 24 points (39-15) in the final two minutes before the Mountaineers scored six-straight to cut the deficit to 18 points (39-21) at the half.

Appalachian's run would continue into the second half as it scored the first four points to make it 39-25, but Mizzou responded with a 7-0 run of its own to push its lead to 21 points (46-25) and never looked back as it continued to pour in the buckets en route to its second-straight win.

Jay Canty led all players with a career-high 29 points while also grabbing six rebounds, swiping three steals and dishing out two assists. Healy scored nine points and swatted two shots while Jamaal Trice poured in six points and ripped down six boards.

Missouri was paced by a team-high 23 points from Laurence Bowers while Earnest Ross fell just shy of a double-double with 13 points and nine rebounds. Keion Bell (12) and Tony Criswell (10) each scored double digits off the bench while Phil Pressey finished with a game-high seven assists.

The Mountaineers shot 35.6 percent (21-of-59) in the contest including 48.1 percent (13-of-27) in the second half while connecting on 9-of-13 free throws. The Tigers shot 49.2 percent (29-of-59) and knocked down six three-point buckets while finishing with a 45-31 edge in rebounds.

Appalachian State opens Southern Conference play against arch rival Western Carolina on Saturday. The game is set to start at 4:30 p.m. at WCU's Ramsey Center.

GAME NOTES: The Mountaineers fell to 2-23 all-time against SEC schools... Appalachian's six-game losing streak is the longest since the 1995-95 season, when the squad also dropped six in a row... Canty scored 20 or more points for the fourth time this season and the third time in the past four games... his 29 points were the most for a Mountaineer since Donald Sims poured in 32 against College of Charleston on Feb. 24, 2011... Appalachian was outscored 42-24 in the paint and 26-6 in bench points, but finished with an 18-17 edge in points off turnovers.

MISSOURI 72, ASU 56

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Score by periods 1st 2nd Total

Appalachian State 21 35 - 56

Missouri 39 33 - 72

ASU: OBACHA 1 (6 REBOUNDS), HEALY 9, CANTY 26 (6 REBOUNDS), TRICE 6 (6 REBOUNDS, 3 ASSISTS), HAMILTON 5, OKAM 2, GILBERT 2, BURGESS 2. FG: 21-59, 3FG: 5-14, FT: 9-13. 31 REBOUNDS, 8 ASSISTS, 15 TURNOVERS. THREE POINTERS - TRICE 2, HEALY, CANTY, HAMILTON.

MISSOURI: BOWERS 23 (5 REBOUNDS), ROSS 13 (9 REBOUNDS), ORIAKHI 5 (5 REBOUNDS), PRESSEY 5 (7 ASSISTS, 4 REBOUNDS), CRISWELL 10, BELL 12 (6 REBOUNDS, 4 ASSISTS), FELDMANN 2, ROSBURG 2. FG: 29-59, 3FG: 6-19, FT: 8-14. 45 REBOUNDS, 18 ASSISTS, 17 TURNOVERS. THREE POINTERS - BOWERS 3, ROSS, PRESSEY, BELL.

Photo Courtesy: Jay Canty, ASU Athletics