

Xu Leads Field After Opening Round

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Senior Yue Xu fired a 1-over 73 to tie for the lowest score of the opening round of the Mimosa Hills Intercollegiate at Mimosa Hills Country Club on Monday, as Appalachian State University women's golf currently sits in first place of the 12-team field.

Xu, who was unable to play in last season's Intercollegiate, tied Radford's Alexandra Austin and Gardner-Webb's Lauren Smith for the individual leader. Sophomore Haley Zagoria also finished in the top-5 as she sits in fourth, carding a 2-over, 74, as her and Xu pace the top of the Mountaineer lineup.

Senior Lauren Smith and Rumbidzai Masamvu closely followed, finishing with a 78 (+6) and 81 (+9), respectively. Freshman Lily Yatawara rounded out the Appalachian lineup with an 86 (+14), tying for 52nd place. Individually, senior Mimi Burke tied for ninth-place, turning in a 76 (+4) for her opening round.

As a team, the Mountaineers paced the field with a 306 (+18), a shot ahead of Winthrop who placed two scores in the top-10. The top-two stand alone, as Winthrop is seven strokes ahead of Western Carolina and Wofford who tied for third.

The final round is set for Tuesday at Mimosa Hills, as the Mountaineers seek its first team championship since the fall season's Winthrop Intercollegiate where the Apps fended off both GWU (second) and Winthrop (third).

Photo Courtesy: Yue Xu, ASU Athletics