Written by Mike Kelly
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The Appalachian State University football team received its Southern Conference championship rings at the SoCon Championship banquet on Saturday night at the Holmes Convocation Center.

And former coach and current University of Nebraska Athletics Director Tom Osborne was the keynote speaker. His first hire, when he took over the Nebraska football program was Jerry Moore back in 1973. Linebacker Pierre Banks received a special award for playing an NCAA record 62 games during his career with the Mountaineers.

The Appalachian State baseball team earned a spilt this weekend at Davidson. Despite heavy rains, a cancellation and a suspended game, the teams managed to play two games. The Mountaineers lost the suspended game, 9-8 on Sunday. This game was halted in the fifth inning tied at 2 on Saturday. Chase Fitzpatrick wins it for the Wildcats with a walk-off home run in the ninth. Rand Smith and Wes Hobson each had three runs-batted-in a piece in the loss. But the Mountaineers (9-15 overall; 3-10 in the SoCon) did win game two, 15-5. Isaac Harrow tied a career high with five hits, and Chris Alessandria had a home run, two doubles, and he knocked in five runs. The Mountaineers travel to UNC-Asheville on Tuesday. Our next broadcast of ASU baseball will be on Wednesday when High Point University comes to town. Air time 4:40 pm on WATA Radio.

The ASU softball team takes two out of three against UNC-Greensboro this weekend. The Mountaineers beat UNCG 7-0 on Saturday. Andrea McIntyre smacked a three-run homer and winning pitcher Kayla Richardson fired a complete-game, one-hit shutout with five strike outs. The teams spilt a double-header on Sunday. UNCG won the opener 2-1; ASU won the night cap 7-0. ASU travels to East Tennessee State for a double-header on Wednesday.

The Watauga High softball team did get its game in with Alexander Central on Saturday after being rained out for two days in a row. The Cougars prevailed, however. They scored five unearned runs in the second inning and beat WHS, 14-1.

Appalachian track traveled to South Carolina for the Weems Baskins Invitational on Saturday. Natalie Shaw of the Mountaineers finished second in the 5000-meter run. Kelsey Hanger was third in that event. Christina Parker was third in the 200-meter dash, and Asia Dunlap finished third in the 400. On the men's side, Mason Campbell won the 3000-meter steeple chase in 10:03.68.

The Watauga High women's soccer team wrapped up play on Saturday at the Brittany Willis Memorial Tournament in Wilson, NC. The Pioneers owned a 1-0 lead at the break, but couldn't hold on as Wilmington-Laney came charging back to beat WHS, 2-1. Freshman Katelyn Mullienix scored WHS's only goal. Skylar Hicks had the assist. Now, today's game with Ashe County has been cancelled. It's been rescheduled for Thursday, April 9th. It will be varsity only beginning at 6 pm. The Pioneers travel to Alexander Central on Wednesday.

ASU men's golf, the Mountaineers finished 11th at the Furman Invitational this weekend. And former Pioneer, Jacob Eggers, paced ASU by finishing 20th in the field. He had scores of 74 and 78 and finished with a 152, eight shots over. East Carolina won the event.

Men's tennis, ASU split a pair of home matches this weekend, beating Wofford for the first time since 2005, 4-3 on Friday, but losing to UNC-Greensboro, 4-3 on Sunday. The Spartans are 5-0 in SoCon play. The Apps, who travel to Radford University for a match today, are 11-7 overall, 3-4 in SoCon play. The ASU women are home today against Gardner Webb; the WHS men's tennis team travels to Fred T. Foard; and the WHS men's golf team travels to Marion Lakes for a Northwestern 4A Conference meet. McDowell is the host school. The Pioneers begin the day in sixth place.