

## ASU rolls over Furman, 52-27

Written by Mike Kelly

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The Appalachian State football team keeps rolling along.

The Mountaineers (6-2 overall; 5-0 Southern Conference), who won their fifth consecutive game against the Paladins (4-4; 3-3 SoCon), rolled up 554 yards of offense in a 52-27 win Saturday in Greenville, SC. Quarterback Armanti Edwards backboned the assault as the ASU senior became the first player in Division I college football history to throw for 9,000 yards and rush for 4,000 yards in his career.

Edwards scored four touchdowns in the blowout win as the Apps maintained their grip on first place in the Southern Conference.

"He's an outstanding person and an outstanding athlete," ASU coach Jerry Moore said. "His goal since he got here was to keep improving, to keep getting better at what he does. And believe me, he does it very well. Even the NFL scouts aren't asking if he can play quarterback at their level any more."

Edwards ran for 106 yards and he completed 25 of 36 passes for 355 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Overall, Edwards amassed 461 yards offensively and he produced six touchdowns.

"I didn't know anything about it until a reporter told me about it after the game," he said. "But give all the credit to my offensive line. Those guys work so hard to give me the extra time to execute the offense. They deserve a lot of the credit for this."

Matt Kline had another solid day catching the ball as he hauled in eight passes for 122 yards. CoCo Hillary caught six passes for 83 yards and a touchdown.

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ASU has won six in a row and 17 consecutive SoCon games. It's the second longest streak in conference history. West Virginia won 30 consecutive games from 1952-59, when it was a member of the conference.

Defensively, the Apps coughed up 350 yards, including 185 on the ground. And those numbers concerned ASU coach Jerry Moore.

"Furman ran some of its old stuff," he said. "And it caught us by surprise. But we still have to make the plays on defense. You can't sugar-coat this. We still aren't finishing on defense, and it must improve, or our season will be cut short."

ASU returns home to play Chattanooga next Saturday. Our coverage begins at 1:30 pm on WATA 1450 AM.