

Presley, Martin Claim SoCon Honors

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Appalachian State University quarterback DeAndre Presley (Tampa, Fla./Middleton) and punter Sam Martin (Fayetteville, Ga./Starr's Mill) have been named the Southern Conference Offensive and Special Teams Players

of the Week, respectively, for their performances in the Mountaineers' 35-17 victory at Samford on Saturday. Presley accounted for 273 yards and four touchdowns in the win, despite being removed from the game early in the fourth quarter after staking Appalachian to a lead a comfortable lead. He completed 16-of-27 passes without an interception for 176 yards and two touchdowns and ran 15 times for 97 yards and two more scores as ASU led by as much as 25 points en route to its 22nd-consecutive SoCon victory.

Despite being removed early from each of the last three games, Presley still leads the SoCon and ranks among the nation's top 10 in points responsible for (second — 21 points/game), passing efficiency (third — 168.35 rating) and total offense (seventh — 294 yards/game). The junior has not thrown an interception over the first four games of the season, making him the first ASU starting signal-caller to achieve the feat since Todd Payton in 1986.

Martin punted seven times in Saturday's win, with three downed inside the 20 yard line and one that traveled a season-long 54 yards. Samford's average starting field position after Martin's punts was its own 26 yard line. The sophomore also kicked off six times with the average kick reaching the 3 yard line, including one touchback.

The honor is Presley's second of the season and third of his career while Martin's recognition is the first of his career. Through four weeks this season, five Mountaineers have been recognized as SoCon Players of the Week.

Off to its first 4-0 start in 12 years, Appalachian (4-0, 2-0 SoCon) enjoys its only bye of the regular season this week before returning to action with a mammoth SoCon showdown versus Elon on Oct. 9 at Kidd Brewer Stadium. Kickoff is set for 3 p.m. and the game will be televised across the Southeast on SportSouth.