

Vanderbilt Pulls Away from ASU

Written by Charles Cochrum

Saturday, 27 November 2010 23:16

Vanderbilt broke open a tie game mid-way through the second half to put down Appalachian State University men's basketball, 86-73, on Saturday afternoon at Memorial Gymnasium.

The Mountaineers (2-2) opened a 56-52 lead in the second half before a Commodore (5-1) surge broke open a 61-61 stalemate. The home team took off on a 23-8 run late in the period to put the game out of reach.

Four ASU starters scored double-figure points, led by Donald Sims' (Gaffney, S.C./Fork Union) 27 points on 9-of-19 shooting with four treys. The guard added two assists, two steals and two rebounds. Omar Carter (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) added 17 points on 6-of-14 shooting with eight rebounds to lead the squad.

Petey Hausley (Marion, N.C./Iowa Western CC) avoided foul trouble to post a career-high 11 points on 5-of-7 shooting with four rebounds in 34 minutes. Joining him in the post, Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) added 11 more points to accompany six rebounds, two blocks and an assist.

For the game, ASU shot 47.3 percent from the field and 46.7 percent from downtown against the stout Vandy defense. The Dores owned a 37-30 advantage on the glass and dished out 20 assists to ASU's 12. Both teams turned the ball over 12 times while the Apps swiped eight steals compared to just three for Vanderbilt.

Appalachian overcame a slow start to rally from a six-point deficit to take its first lead at 16-15. The Mountaineers then extended their advantage to as many as four points before the intermission, behind 10 points from Carter and nine from Sims. The lead changed hands eight times in the game and the Mountaineers never led by more than four points in the game.

After starting 1-of-4 from the field, ASU shot 53.6 percent in the first half, including a 4-of-8 mark from downtown. The visitors struggled from the free throw line at 14-of-23, while VU connected on 9-of-12 shots from the foul line.

Mitch Woods (Naples, Fla./Community School of Naples) came one assist shy of a season best as the freshman dished out seven to go along with three rebounds and a steal.

John Jenkins provided a bulk of the Dores' offense, with 21 points on 8-of-11 shooting. Festus Ezeli made himself comfortable in the paint with 18 points and Lance Gouldbourne added 17 points and eight rebounds.

The Mountaineers' road trip continues in Tennessee as the squad opens Southern Conference play on Thursday at Chattanooga.

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APPALACHIAN STATE	36	37	-	73
VANDERBILT	43	43	-	86

ASU - SIMS 27, CARTER 17 (8 REBOUNDS), WILLIAMSON 11, HAUSLEY 11, BOOTH 4, WRIGHT 3. WOODS 7 ASSISTS. REBOUNDS - 30, TURNOVERS 12, FG - 26-55, 3FG - 7-15, FT - 14-23.

VANDY - JENKINS 21, GOULBORNE 17 (8 REBOUNDS), EZELI 18, TCHIENGANG 8, WALKER 8 (7 ASSISTS), TAYLOR 3, TINSLEY 5, FULLER 2, ODOM 2, DUFFY 2. REBOUNDS - 37, TURNOVERS - 12, FG - 34-66, 3FG - 9-22, FT - 9-12.