

ASU Men Derail Mocs for Fourth-Straight Win

Written by Charles Cochrum
Saturday, 12 February 2011 23:29

A 14-point run midway through the second half broke a tie put Appalachian State University men's basketball ahead of Chattanooga for good in Saturday night's 78-68 win at the Holmes Center.

Omar Carter (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) scored 10 points during the stretch and finished with a game-high 22. The junior also led ASU with seven rebounds to accompany three assists.

Once the Mountaineers (12-13, 8-7 SoCon) gained the first double-figure advantage of the game, the home team held it to the final horn for double-figure margin of victory in Appalachian's four-game winning streak.

Donald Sims (Gaffney, S.C./Fork Union) scored 13 second-half points to finish with 19 on the night. He added six rebounds, four assists and two steals. The senior sank 6-of-11 field goal attempts as the Apps sank 15-of-29 shots in the second half to finish the night with a 49.1 field goal percentage, including a 10-of-25 mark from downtown.

Considering Chattanooga played in a tight contest on Friday night at Western Carolina, the Mocs (14-13, 10-5) started strong out of the gate. Ricky Taylor knocked down his first three shots from downtown for a quick nine points to give Chattanooga a pair of six-point leads in the early going. ASU rallied back, however, as the lead changed hands eight times before UTC gained a 32-31 advantage heading into the break.

Taylor led the Mocs with 21 points on 6-of-12 shooting for the night, along with five rebounds and an assist. DeAntre Jefferson came off the bench to rack up a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Petey Hausley (Marion, N.C./Iowa Western CC) sank 6-of-10 shots off the bench for 12 points, one shy of his career high, along with three rebounds for the Mountaineers. Jeremi Booth (Altavista, Va./Fork Union) added nine points – all via three-pointers – in addition to four rebounds.

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The Mountaineers held a 35-33 advantage on the glass and turned nine offensive rebounds into nine second-chance points. The Apps also turned 16 UTC turnovers into 16 points and scored 22 points in the paint.

Anthony Breeze (Greenville, S.C./Coastal Carolina) returned to the floor for the first time since suffering an injury on January 29 at College of Charleston. The junior played eight minutes in the second half during the ASU surge.

Starting his fourth-straight game, Marcus Wright (Winston-Salem, N.C./Winston-Salem Prep) knocked down all three shot attempts for eith points and two rebounds, while Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) added six points and six rebounds in the win.

Appalachian closes out its three-game homestand on Thursday when Western Carolina visits the High Country. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. at the Holmes Center. coverage begins at 6:15 pm on AM 1450, WATA.

Notes: The home team has won each of the last nine contests between ASU and Chattanooga ... It was Appalachian's 99th win in the arena, which opened in the 2000-01 season ... Appalachian is 7-2 on the year when Carter scored 20 or more points ... The Apps are 7-2 at home this season ... ASU's 14 assists are the most since Dec. 30, when the Apps dished out a season-high 20 ... The Mountaineers have held an advantage in rebounds in each of the four games during the current winning streak and are now 10-4 when outrebounding the opposition.

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CHATTANOOGA	32	36	-	68
APPALACHIAN ST.	31	47	-	78

UTC: EARLY 12, WATTAD 5, BELL 7, TAYLOR 21, HAMPTON 3, CAGE 6, BURROUGHS 3, JEFFERSON 11 (10 REBOUNDS). FG: 25-59, 3FG: 8-29, FT: 10-15. 33 REBOUNDS, 16 TURNOVERS.

ASU: WILLIAMSON 6 (6 REBOUNDS), SIMS 19 (6 REBOUNDS, 4 ASSISTS), WRIGHT 8, BOOTH 9, CARTER 22 (7 REBOUNDS), HEALY 2, HAUSLEY 12, WOODS (4 ASSISTS). FG: 27-55, 3FG: 10-25, FT: 14-20. 35 REBOUNDS, 16 TURNOVERS.

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