

Troutman Named to All-Freshman Team

Written by Mike Flynn
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The Southern Conference's baseball coaches voted Appalachian State University outfielder Preston Troutman (Rockwell, N.C./East Rowan) to the SoCon's all-freshman team, the league announced on Monday.

Troutman hit .274 with five doubles, three triples and 15 RBI in 44 regular-season games and is tied for Appalachian's team lead with five outfield assists. He made 36 starts in left field after earning the spot in the starting lineup early in the campaign.

Earlier this month, the rookie from Rockwell, N.C. was named the SoCon's Hitter of the Week after hitting .571 (4-for-7) with two doubles and six RBI in wins over Western Carolina on May 8-9.

Surprisingly, Troutman was the only Mountaineer to receive recognition from the SoCon's coaches, as there are no ASU representatives on the coaches' first- or second-team all-conference squads. Particularly conspicuous in their absence from the all-conference teams are pitcher Ryan Arrowood (Rutherfordton, N.C./Central), who is 8-2 with a 2.87 ERA and 77 strikeouts and was the league's Pitcher of the Month in April, and outfielder Jack Myers (Charlotte, N.C./Myers Park), who is batting .322 with 19 stolen bases and hit safely in the first 24 conference games of the season.

The SoCon announces its media all-conference teams on Tuesday.

Sixth-seeded Appalachian (31-25, 15-15 SoCon) opens SoCon Tournament play on Wednesday when it faces third-seeded Samford (34-22, 18-12 SoCon). First pitch is set for 1 p.m. at Riley Park in Charleston, S.C.