

## Appalachian Sweeps SoCon Commissioner's, Germann Cups

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For an unprecedented eighth time, Appalachian State University athletics has swept the Southern Conference's Commissioner's and Germann Cups, the league announced on Wednesday.

Appalachian is the only school to ever win both the Commissioner's Cup (SoCon's top men's all-sports program) and Germann Cup (SoCon's top women's all-sports program) in the same academic year, a feat it has now accomplished three times in the past six years and eight times since the inception of the Germann Cup in 1986-87.

Appalachian's Commissioner's Cup title is its sixth-straight, 19th in the past 20 years, 26th in the past 28 years and 31st overall. No other conference school has won the Commissioner's Cup more than five times since its inception in 1969-70 and no current SoCon member besides ASU has claimed it more than once.

Thanks to championships in four of the 10 men's sports, the Mountaineers cruised to this year's Commissioner's Cup crown with 91 points in the all-sports standings, 13 better than second-place UNC Greensboro. Appalachian was buoyed to the title by its record-tying sixth-consecutive SoCon football championship and its second-straight men's cross country/indoor track and field/outdoor track and field triple crown.

On the women's side, the race was the closest in SoCon history, with Appalachian edging defending champion Samford by a half-point for ASU's ninth Germann Cup title and first since 2006-07. The Mountaineers finished in first or second place in over half of the league's nine women's sports, winning championships in women's basketball and indoor and outdoor track and field and placing second in cross country and softball.

Ironically, after such a terrific campaign, it was a rare loss that wrapped up the outright crown for Appalachian. ASU softball's 8-7 setback to Furman on the final day of the regular season allowed the Paladins to pull even with Samford in the final softball standings, which cost the Bulldogs the decisive half-point in the Germann Cup race.

In addition to this year, Appalachian also won both the Commissioner's and Germann Cups in 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90, 1991-92, 2005-06 and 2006-07. ASU will receive its 2010-11 hardware at the annual SoCon Honors Dinner on Wednesday evening in Charleston, S.C.