

Army Nips ASU In Season Opener

Written by Paul Blascovich
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In her collegiate debut, Appalachian State goalie Amy Kolowsky (Columbia, S.C./Spring Valley) made a valiant effort in goal, but a penalty late in regulation made the difference, as ASU fell, 1-0, to the United States Military Academy at ASU Soccer Stadium on Sunday.

The Mountaineers' season opening loss pegs them at 0-1-0 on the year, while Army improves to 1-1-0.

The Black Knights, 2010 Patriot League regular-season co-champions, were the nation's leaders in save percentage and shutouts last season. Their stingy defense proved formidable for the Mountaineers, as the Black Knights allowed just six shots in the game.

At her end, Kolowsky did an excellent job fending off the West Point attack, making seven saves on the day.

Appalachian's best chance came in the 85th minute. With time winding down, Jordan Horvath (Bloomfield Hills, Mich./Lahser) fired a high shot that seemed destined for success, but Army keeper Monica Lee caught enough of the ball to deflect it off the crossbar and out of play. Lee would finish the match with five saves.

In the closing seconds of regulation, Army's Joey Molacek broke loose on a run towards her goal but was tripped up in the penalty area. Molacek put away her penalty kick in the 89th minute to give the Black Knights their first goal of the season.

After the game, coach Sarah Strickland focused on the positives of the game. "The team played hard and kept things organized. We did well as a group, and a few individuals stepped up their game. Hannah Coad (Alpharetta, Ga./Blessed Trinity) did great, and Julia Holz (Marietta, Ga./Walton) came off the bench and carried the team. Amy Werdine (Tampa, Fla./H.B. Plant) and Mimi Kleitches (Charlotte, N.C./Charlotte Country Day) were strong in the backfield. Amy [Kolowsky] made some great saves and deflections in her debut and showcased herself as a strong keeper."

The Mountaineers next travel to Richmond, Va. for this year's VCU Tournament. The Black and Gold will face William & Mary on Fri., Aug. 26, and VCU on Sun., Aug. 28. Appalachian returns to ASU Stadium for its next home game on Fri., Sept. 2, against Clemson at 7 p.m.