

## ASU Men Open Season With 90-61 Win

Written by Charles Cochrum  
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Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) turned in a double-double with 16 points and 11 rebounds to lead Appalachian State University men's basketball to a 90-61 win over visiting Lees-McRae in Friday night's season opener at the Holmes Center. Williamson led four players

in double-figures for Appalachian (1-0). Omar Carter (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) added 15 points and newcomers Jamaal Trice (Los Angeles, Calif./Midland College) and Tab Hamilton (Winston-Salem, N.C./Fishburne Military) chipped in with 10 apiece. Carter added eight of Appalachian's 53 rebounds and swiped four steals with two assists on the night. In his official ASU debut, Trice sank 4-of-9 shots, including a pair of treys, in 20 minutes. Making his collegiate debut, Hamilton added two assists, two blocks and a steal. The Mountaineers hit three-straight three-pointers to open the game and never trailed en route to the victory. ASU rode stifling defense to a 46-21 halftime lead, limiting Lees-McRae (0-1) to 21.2-percent shooting in the first half, and stretched the advantage to as much as 34 points in the second period.

Appalachian's stellar defensive performance was highlighted by school-record-tying 12 blocks, matching the standard set in an 87-49 win over Milligan on Nov. 30, 1996.

LMC found its shooting touch in the second half, converting 13-of-32 field-goal attempts and 12-of-15 foul shots. Jeremiah Henry led the Bobcats with 10 points and 10 rebounds, while Asad Lamot chipped in 14 points.

In his first game back since the 2009-10 season, Isaac Butts (Milledgeville, Ga./Georgia Military) added eight points, five rebounds and a pair of blocks in 20 minutes. The big man sank 4-of-6 shots in his return from a 2010 knee surgery.

Mitch Woods (Naples, Fla./Community School of Naples) was impressive at point guard with a game-high seven assists to accompany a pair of blocks and two rebounds. As a team, the Mountaineers dished out 19 assists, just one shy of last year's high of 20.

Nathan Healy (New Bern, N.C./Blair Academy) threw down a pair of fast-break dunks en route to an eight-point, eight-rebound night. The junior sank three field goals and notched two steals in 20 minutes off the bench.

Two other players made their Black and Gold debuts in the contest, including sophomore transfer Brian Okam (Enugu, Nigeria/Rutgers), who tallied four rebounds and a block in seven minutes, and freshman Mike Neal (Greensboro, N.C./Oak Ridge Military) ran the point for 17 minutes with seven points, four assists and four steals.

The Mountaineers return to action on Tuesday at ETSU. It is the first of a home-and-home series with the Bucs this season.

NOTES: ASU's 90 points were the most in an opener since the Apps scored 101 in an overtime loss at UNC Wilmington in 2008 ... The home-opening win was the 10th in 12 seasons at the Holmes Center ... ASU's 53 rebounds were one more than last season's highest mark (vs. Montreat, 11/16/10) ... guard G.J. Vilarino missed the game due to an ankle injury, but is expected to return for Tuesday's game.

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### ASU 90, LMC 61

**LMC:** TILLMAN 4, HENRY 10 (10 REBOUNDS), LAMOT 14 (6 REBOUNDS), SEPOKAS 5, LOPEZ 6, YOUNG 5, BRADLEY 7 (5 REBOUNDS), EPPLEY 3, OJI 3, URBINA 4. FG: 20-65, 3FG: 3-15, FT: 18-23. 44 REBOUNDS, 23 TURNOVERS.

**ASU:** WILLIAMSON 16 (11 REBOUNDS), BUTTS 8 (5 REBOUNDS), TRICE 10, CARTER 15 (8 REBOUNDS), WOODS 2 (7 ASSISTS), MILUM 8, HAMILTON 10, HEALY 8 (8 REBOUNDS), NEAL 7, HAUSLEY 6. FG: 29-71, 3FG: 8-23, FT: 24-37. 53 REBOUNDS, 16 TURNOVERS.