

ASU Volleyball Rallies Past Eagles

Written by Staff Reports

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Appalachian State volleyball overcame a 2-1 deficit to rally past No. 3 seed Georgia Southern in the quarterfinals of the 2011 Southern Conference Volleyball Championships on Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Pete Hanna Center.

The Mountaineers (21-10, 12-4) fell behind early after the Eagles (18-15, 10-6) took a 25-18, first-set win, but were able to rally back with wins in the second, fourth and fifth sets to advance

to the SoCon Semifinals for the first time since 2007.

Appalachian raced out to an early 7-5 lead, but Georgia Southern used a 7-1 run to snag a 12-8 lead it would never surrender en route to a first set victory.

The Mountaineers responded with a solid second-set effort in which they trailed just once (1-0) and led by as many as seven points (17-10) on their way to a 25-19 win.

The Eagles picked up a win in the third set by a 25-21 score after rallying back from an 18-15 deficit late in the set to take a 2-1 lead.

Appalachian State jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the fourth set and never trailed on its way to a 25-23 victory to force a decisive fifth set.

The Apps were able to build a 3-1 lead in the early going and hung on as the Eagles attempted a late rally to pick up a 15-13, match-clinching win.

Anna Wagner led the Apps with 19 kills as four Mountaineers tallied double-digit kill totals. Maggie Seeds (13), Kelly Rhein (12) and Alison Blasingame (10) each hit double-figure kill totals.

Kasey Sauls had 41 assists and 20 digs while Courtney Rhein posted double-digits in digs (19). The Apps hit .167 for the match while the Eagles hit .208.

Appalachian State will face the College of Charleston in the semifinals at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20 where the teams will battle for a spot in the SoCon Championship match on Monday night.