

## Butts, Williamson Lead Men's Hoops Past Milligan

Written by Charles Cochrum  
Sunday, 27 November 2011 09:40

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Double-doubles from Isaac Butts (Milledgeville, Ga./Georgia Military College Prep) and Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) led Appalachian State University men's basketball to a

81-58 win over Milligan on Saturday afternoon at the Holmes Center. Butts turned in 18 points and 13 rebounds while Williamson added 13 points and a career-high 16 boards.

The Mountaineers (3-2) shot 48.5 percent from the field, pulled in 50 rebounds and matched a season high with 19 assists in the home victory. Appalachian blocked six shots and held the Buffaloes (2-4) to a 35.9 percent shooting mark from the floor and forced 20 MC turnovers to improve to 2-0 at home on the season.

Butts came off the bench for the first time this year and notched 15 points with nine rebounds in just 12 first-half minutes to help ASU build a 44-29 halftime lead. Williamson also nearly converted a double-double in the opening frame with nine points and 11 boards. He finished the game with a season-best four blocks and shot 5-of-7 from the field.

Butts had an equally successful shooting day, converting 8-of-12 shots. He also swiped one of ASU's 12 steals.

Rodney Milum (Houston, Texas/Midland College) came a point shy of matching his season high in points with 12, including three buckets from downtown. The guard made his first start of the season and added three rebounds, two assists and a pair of steals for the Apps.

G.J. Vilarino (McKinney, Texas/Gonzaga) made his first start in just his second game with Appalachian and turned in an impressive 10-point, five-assist outing. The sophomore guard shot 4-of-12 from the field and had a hand in ASU's first five field goals of the game with three early assists and two layups of his own.

Milligan put up a fight throughout the contest and battled back from an early eight-point hole to take a brief 23-22 lead late in the opening period. ASU then closed out the frame on a 22-6 run to regain control.

Tab Hamilton (Winston-Salem, N.C./Fishburne Military) added seven points on 3-of-5 shooting. Jamaal Trice (Los Angeles, Calif./Midland College) cooled off to score a season-low seven points but added four rebounds and a pair of assists in 23 minutes on the court. Omar Carter (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) chipped in two points, four rebounds, three steals and a pair of assists, while Petey Hausley (Marion, N.C./Iowa Western) made the most of eight second-half minutes to score seven points and haul in four rebounds.

The Mountaineers struggled from the free-throw line throughout the contest, converting just 9-of-23 attempts. ASU scored 50 points in the paint and converted 15 offensive rebounds into 11 second-chance points.

The Apps were able to get out and run with its 35 defensive rebounds and 12 steals to score 21 fast-break points, one shy of the season high.

ASU's win is the sixth in a row against the visiting Buffs and gives Appalachian a 17-9 advantage in the all-time series, which stretches back to 1925-26.

Appalachian wraps up the homestand on Thursday against UNCG in the Southern Conference opener. Tipoff is set for 8 p.m. following ASU's women's basketball's 5:30 p.m. contest.

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## ASU 81, MILLIGAN 58

1st 2nd Total

Milligan..... 29 29 - 58  
Appalachian State.....44 37 - 81

**MILLIGAN:** SEYMOUR 9 (7 REBOUNDS), HARDY 4, GRISBY 12, WOODS 4, SITTON 7 (6 REBOUNDS), EDWARDS 2, SIMMONS 2, DeVAULT 4, CROSS 6, HENDREN 6, McLEOD 4. FG: 23-64, 3FG: 5-19, FT: 7-12. 39 REBOUNDS, 20 TURNOVERS, 7 ASSISTS.

**ASU:** TRICE 7, WILLIAMSON 13 (18 REBOUNDS), MILUM 12, VILARINO 10 (5 ASSISTS), CARTER 2, HAMILTON 7, NEAL 5, BUTTS 18 (13 REBOUNDS), HAUSLEY 7. FG: 33-68, FT: 6-19, FT: 9-23. 50 REBOUNDS, 17 TURNOVERS, 19 ASSISTS.

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**Photo Courtesy: Issac Butts, by Dave Mayo, ASU Athletics**