

Williamson Earns Player of the Week Honor

Written by Charles Cochrum
Tuesday, 03 January 2012 13:00

Andre Williamson averaged 17.5 points in two games over the holiday break to earn Southern Conference Player of the Week honors, the league office announced on Tuesday. The senior forward led

Appalachian State University to a 1-1 record over the stretch, which included all games from Dec. 20 to Jan. 2.

Williamson matched a then-season high with 16 points in ASU's 77-74 win against Campbell on Dec. 22, and contributed a pair of clutch plays down the stretch. With the Mountaineers clinging to a narrow one-point lead, the senior hauled in a rebound and drew a foul with just four seconds remaining in regulation. He then sank a pair of free throws to ice the win.

The Dayton, Ohio native sank 5-of-7 shots in the contest and led the team with five rebounds as well.

Williamson then closed out the calendar year with a season-high 19 points on 8-of-11 shooting at Miami on Dec. 30. He again led ASU in rebounding with seven boards and sank a career-high two three-pointers as well. In addition to his 72.2 field goal percentage on the week, Williamson notched a pair of blocks and was 3-of-4 from downtown.

The senior averages 9.8 points, 6.9 rebounds and 1.8 blocks per game this season. He leads the SoCon in blocks, ranks fourth in field goal percentage (56.4) and stands fifth in the league in rebounding.

Williamson is the first Mountaineer to earn league honors this season, and joins classmate Omar Carter as the second active App to win the honor. Carter earned two Player of the Week awards last season. He is also the first player from the league's North Division to win the award this season. Davidson brought home three of the season's first six awards, while The Citadel, College of Charleston and Wofford have each had one winner.

Other top performers in the Southern Conference included The Citadel's Mike Groselle, Georgia Southern's Willie Powers, UNCG's Trevis Simpson, Chattanooga's Ricky Taylor, Samford's Tyler Hood, Western Carolina's Harouna Mutombo and Wofford's Kevin Giltner.

Appalachian (5-7, 1-1 SoCon) returns to conference play on Thursday at North Division rival Samford. ASU then closes out its three-game road trip at Chattanooga on Saturday evening.

Photo Courtesy: Andre Williamson, by Dave Mayo, ASU Athletics