

## Mountaineers Knock Off Furman, 56-50

Written by Charles Cochrum  
Friday, 13 January 2012 08:01

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Nathan Healy (New Bern, N.C./Blair Academy) found a driving Jamaal Trice (Los Angeles, Calif./Midland College) for an uncontested slam dunk with 36 seconds remaining to stretch a two-point lead into four and help give Appalachian State University men's basketball a hard-fought 56-50 win over visiting Furman on Thursday evening at the Holmes Center. An earlier three-pointer by Omar Carter

(Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) capped a 5-0 run that gave Appalachian (7-8, 3-2 SoCon) a 48-39 lead, its largest advantage of the evening, with 8:08 left in the ballgame. However, Furman (7-9, 1-4 SoCon) went on an 11-4 run of its own over the next five-and-a-half minutes to cut the Mountaineer lead to 52-50 with 2:30 to go.

The Paladins would have two opportunities to tie the game or take the lead but ASU got two crucial defensive stops to set up Healy and Trice's game-clinching connection. With the shot clock winding down, Healy took a pass in the corner and was quickly double-teamed by a pair of Furman defenders. He spun and fired a jump pass to a wide-open Trice, who was driving into the lane from the far wing before he took the pass and dunked it home to stretch the Mountaineer advantage to 54-50.

Appalachian got another stop and Carter knocked down a pair of free throws with 20 seconds to go to account for the final margin.

Freshman Mike Neal (Greensboro, N.C./Oak Ridge Military) led three Mountaineers in double-figures with 15 points, matching a career high set last month at North Carolina. Healy added 12 points, four rebounds, three assists and a block in 25 minutes off the bench while Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) chipped in with 10 points on 5-of-7 shooting and led the Apps with four assists.

Trice converted 3-of-5 shots on the night for nine points to accompany five assists. Tab Hamilton (Winston-Salem, N.C./Fishburne Military) settled down following his 22-point performance at Chattanooga to add three points, one rebound and an assist on the night. For the game, Appalachian shot 44.7 percent from the field and knocked down 6-of-18 three-point attempts. Furman cooled off in the second half to shoot 39.1 percent from the field and 6-of-21 from downtown.

The Apps converted 28 points in the paint and turned seven offensive rebounds into seven second-chance points. ASU owned a 30-26 margin on the boards and owned a 30-26 advantage on the glass. Appalachian improved to 5-1 at home on the season.

Brandon Sebirumbi led the Paladins with 18 points on 7-of-11 shooting, while Charlie Reddick added 14 points and a team-best six boards.

Appalachian concludes the homestand with a visit from Davidson on Saturday. Tipoff is set for 2 p.m.

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### ASU 56, FURMAN 50

#### Score by periods 1st 2nd Total

Furman.....	25	25	50
Appalachian State.....	30	26	56

**FURMAN:** SEBIRUMBI 18, BROWN 3, REDDICK 14 (6 REBOUNDS), AUSTIN 3, LOYD 8, BARNES 2 (6 REBOUNDS), TOLER 2. FG: 18-46, 3FG: 6-21, FT: 8-9. 26 REBOUNDS, 15 TURNOVERS, 9 ASSISTS.

**ASU:** WILLIAMSON 10 (5 REBOUNDS, 4 ASSISTS), HAMILTON 3, TRICE 9 (5 REBOUNDS), CARTER 5 (6 REBOUNDS), NEAL 15 (5 REBOUNDS), VILARINO 2, HEALY 12 (4 REBOUNDS, 3 ASSISTS), WOODS 2. FG: 21-47, 3FG: 6-18, FT: 8-12. 30 REBOUNDS, 14 TURNOVERS, 11 ASSISTS.

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**Photo Courtesy: Jamaal Trice, ASU Athletics**