

Davidson Rallies Late to Down ASU

Written by Charles Cochurm

Saturday, 14 January 2012 21:23

A late 10-point run by Davidson proved to be the difference in Appalachian State University men's basketball's 83-79 defeat at the hands of the Southern Conference-leading Wildcats on Saturday afternoon at the Holmes Center.

Appalachian (7-9, 3-3 SoCon) nearly blew the roof off the Holmes Center when

it took its first lead of the ballgame at 70-69 on an Omar Carter (Charlotte, N.C./Charleston Southern) jump shot with 4:48 left to play. However, spurred by a seven-straight points from De'Mon Brooks, Davidson (12-4, 6-0 SoCon) scored the next 10 points to regain a 79-70 advantage with two minutes to go.

Carter kept the Mountaineers' hopes alive with a pair of three-pointers in the final two minutes but Nik Cochran made 1-of-2 free throws with three seconds left to seal the victory for Davidson, which snapped ASU's three-game winning streak in the rivalry.

Carter led four Apps in double-figures with 17 points. Jamaal Trice (Los Angeles, Calif./Midland College) added 15 points on 5-of-9 shooting, including 4-of-7 efficiency from three-point range, Andre Williamson (Dayton, Ohio/Prince George) made 4-of-6 shots for 14 points and, in his first action in January, Isaac Butts (Milledgeville, Ga./Georgia Military College Prep) chipped in with 10 points and a game-high nine rebounds in 21 minutes off the bench.

Buoyed by Jake Cohen (21 points) and Brooks (19), Davidson enjoyed a 46-22 advantage in the paint and 21-10 edge on second-chance points. The teams finished dead-even in the rebounding column (32 overall, 13 offensive) and Appalachian blocked four shots compared to just one for the Wildcats.

ASU also held a huge advantage in three-point shooting, making 9-of-20 (45 percent), including 5-of-6 in the second half, compared to Davidson's 5-of-17 effort behind the arc, but the Mountaineers made only 20-of-32 free-throw attempts in the physical contest. From the floor, ASU connected on 47.2 percent of its attempts, compared to 52.5 percent for the visitors.

For the third time in five games, Appalachian owned a positive assist-to-turnover ratio at 15-13, led by four assists from Mitch Woods (Naples, Fla./Community School). The sophomore guard added a rebound in 16 minutes off the bench.

Woods was joined in reserve by G.J. Vilarino (McKinney, Texas/Gonzaga), who added three assists with six points and two rebounds in 27 minutes. Combined with starter Mike Neal's (Greensboro, N.C./Oak Ridge) three assists and one miscue, ASU's three point guards dished out 10 assists with just one turnover.

The Mountaineers travel to Wofford on Thursday for a 7 p.m. contest.

NOTES: ASU's 40 first-half points were the most since the team scored 43 against UNCG on Dec. 1 ... Davidson, which defeated No. 11 Kansas in Kansas City earlier this season, had won each of its previous four SoCon games by at least 20 points ... DC's J.P. Kuhlman became the second Wildcat in as many games to reach 1,000 career points (after Jake Cohen reached the milestone in Thursday's win over Western Carolina) and finished with six points and six rebounds.

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DAVIDSON 83, ASU 79

Score by periods 1st 2nd Total

Davidson.....	46	37	83
Appalachian State.....	40	39	79

DAVIDSON: COHEN 21 (7 REBOUNDS), BROOKS 19, KUHLMAN 6, COCHRAN 9, DRONEY 4 (4 ASSISTS), KALINOSKI 3, CZERAPOWICZ 13, MANN 8. FG: 31-59, 3FG: 5-17, FT: 16-24. 32 REBOUNDS, 10 TURNOVERS, 13 ASSISTS.

ASU: CARTER 17 (6 REBOUNDS), WILLIAMSON 14 (6 REBOUNDS), HAMILTON 7, TRICE 15, NEAL 4, VILARINO 6, HEALY 6 (4 REBOUNDS), BUTTS 10 (9 REBOUNDS), WOODS 4 ASSISTS. FG: 25-53, 3FG: 9-20, FT: 20-32. 32 REBOUNDS, 13 TURNOVERS , 15 ASSISTS.

Photo Courtesy: Omar Carter, ASU Athletics

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