

Apps Scorch Phoenix, Win 10th-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower

Tuesday, 14 February 2012 10:25

Appalachian State University women's basketball raced out to an early lead and never trailed in an 84-68 win over Southern Conference rival Elon on Monday.

The Mountaineers (21-3, 15-3 SoCon) swept the Phoenix (12-13, 8-8) for the third-straight year, defeated Elon for the

sixth-straight time and upped their winning streak to a season-high 10 games.

In a game that the Apps dominated from the start, the Mountaineers started the game on a 15-0 run and held the Phoenix without a bucket for nearly six minutes before Sam Coffey connected on a three-pointer with 14:03 to go in the first for Elon's first points.

Appalachian State would lead by as many as 23 points (43-20) with just 43 seconds left in the opening period after Catherine Williams converted a layup in traffic.

Kallie Hovatter's three-pointer in the closing seconds would make it 43-23 at the half as the Mountaineers converted on 12-of-15 first-half free throws to help them to a 20-point halftime advantage.

Courtney Freeman scored 10 of her 14 points in the first half as the Apps shot 42.4 percent (14-of-33) from the floor while getting scores from nine of the 10 players who appeared in the opening period of play.

The Apps kept the pressure on in the second half and led by as many as 24 points (61-37) before Elon mounted an 18-6 run to cut the deficit to just 12 points (67-55) with just over eight minutes left to play.

Appalachian State would regain momentum by pushing the lead to 73-59 with less than four minutes left, but the Phoenix cut the lead to just nine points on three occasions in the final three minutes before running out of steam as the Mountaineers scored seven points in the final minute to secure the victory.

Maryah Sydnor led all players with 19 points and grabbed a team-high eight rebounds. Anna Freeman poured in 13 points, grabbed five boards, notched five steals and recorded four assists and four blocks Kelsey Sharkey finished with 10 points, five rebounds, three assists and four steals.

The Phoenix got a team-high 11 points from Ali Ford while Sam Coffey and Kelsey Evans each scored 10. Coffey also pulled down a game-high 10 rebounds to record a double-double.

As a team, Appalachian State shot 50.0 percent (31-for-62) from the floor and was 19-for-27 from the charity stripe. Elon shot 40.6 percent (26-for-64) in the game but struggled from the free-throw line where it connected on just 8-of-15 attempts.

The Apps won the battle of the boards by a 42-34 tally and forced 23 turnovers while committing 20 of their own. Appalachian State dished out 17 assists and collected 13 steals.

The Mountaineers return to action at 2 p.m. on Saturday against Davidson in a battle of the SoCon's top two teams.

GAME NOTES: ASU forced 10 or more turnovers for the 91st-straight game... the Apps improved to 58-11 when A. Freeman scores 10 or more points... Appalachian State finished with a 36-22 edge in points in the paint, scored 25 points off turnovers and had 14 second-chance buckets... the Mountaineers shot 58.6 percent (17-for-29) in the second half... A. Freeman moved into sole possession of third-place in ASU history with 262 career steals...

Apps Scorch Phoenix, Win 10th-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower

Tuesday, 14 February 2012 10:25

she also recorded four or more blocks for the fourth time this season and the 16th time in her career... Appalachian State's winning streak is tied for the second-longest in program history... the Mountaineers improved to 32-8 in their last 40 home games including a 23-6 mark in SoCon games... the Apps are 30-2 in their last 32 home games and 46-10 in SoCon play since the start of the 2009-10 season... the Mountaineers are now 47-19 in the months of January and February under head coach Darcie Vincent.

ASU 84, ELON 68

Score by Periods 1st 2nd Total

Elon.....	23	45	68
Appalachian State.	43	41	84

ELON: EVANS 10 (8 REBOUNDS), COFFER 10 (10 REBOUNDS), HARPER 4, FORD 11, HARRIS 6. STEPHENSON 8, BATTON 2, HOVATTER 8, COCHRAHZAM 7, ARCHIE 2. FG: 26-64, 3FG: 8-21, FT: 8-15. 34 REBOUNDS, 23 TURNOVERS, 18 ASSISTS.

ASU: SHARKEY 10, A. FREEMAN 13 (4 ASSISTS), WELDON 4, SYDNOR 19 (8 REBOUNDS), C. FREEMAN 14, EDWARDS 8, TAYLOR 2, GARY 6, MALLOW 2, WILLIAMS 6. FG: 31-62, 3FG: 3-8, FT: 19-27. 42 REBOUNDS, 20 TURNOVERS, 17 ASSISTS.

Apps Scorch Phoenix, Win 10th-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower

Tuesday, 14 February 2012 10:25

Photo Courtesy: Maryah Sydnor, ASU Athletics 