

Mountaineers' Win Streak Snapped at Davidson

Written by Ryan Bower

Saturday, 18 February 2012 23:14

Appalachian State University women's basketball saw its 10-game winning streak come to an end with a 61-54 loss at Southern Conference rival Davidson on Saturday. The Mountaineers (21-4, 15-2 SoCon) were unable to overcome a slow start in the first half as the Wildcats (19-7, 15-2) used a balanced offensive attack and

strong defense to complete the season sweep of the Apps. Davidson went to the paint early and often and connected on several long-range shots as it built an early six-point lead (10-4) on a three-pointer from Katrin Chiemeka with 12:48 to play in the first half.

Appalachian State would battle back to cut the deficit to two points (11-9) when Maryah Sydnor hit a jumper just two minutes later, but the Wildcats reeled off an 8-0 run to take a nine-point lead with 8:26 to go on the half.

The Wildcats had several chances to extend the lead to double-digits, but the Apps were able to cut the deficit to five points (22-17) thanks to back-to-back scores by Anna Freeman.

Davidson would go on to score the final four points of the half to take a 26-17 lead into the locker room. ASU was held to just 25.0 percent (8-for-32) from the floor in the first half while the Wildcats shot 37.5 percent (9-for-24).

The Mountaineers would fall behind by 11 points on three occasions early in the second half before clawing to cut Davidson's lead to just one point (33-32) on Courtney Freeman's jumper with 13:30 left on the clock.

Appalachian State would keep the game close throughout the rest of the second half and tied the game (46-46) on Raven Gary's three-pointer with just over five minutes left to play.

The Wildcats regained the lead (48-46) when Chiemeka's jumper fell through the hoop with 3:53 remaining. Sydnor was able to tie the score at 48-48 by hitting a pair of free throws on the ensuing possession.

A third-three pointer from Chiemeka made it 53-48 at the 2:49 mark as Davidson was able to hold off the Mountaineers to pick up their eighth-straight victory and pull into a tie with Appalachian State atop the SoCon standings.

The Apps shot just 32.9 percent (23-for-70) from the floor while the Wildcats finished at 43.5 percent (20-for-46). ASU won the battle on the boards by a 42-35 margin but was just 2-of-15 from beyond the arc.

Chiemeka led all scorers with 19 points while Amanda Ottaway scored 11 off the bench. Sophia Aleksandravicius poured in 10 points for the Wildcats and snagged nine rebound.

Appalachian State was led by Sydnor, who posted her first career double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds. C. Freeman scored 13 points and Gary had a career-high 10 off the bench.

The Mountaineers return to action with their final home game of the season against Furman on Monday at 7 p.m. at the Holmes Center.

GAME NOTES: ASU forced 10 or more turnovers for the 92nd-straight game... Appalachian State was outscored 28-26 in the paint, but held a 15-12 advantage in points off turnovers and an 18-8 edge in second-chance points... the Mountaineers are 47-10 in SoCon play since the start of the 2009-10 season... the Mountaineers are now 47-20 in the months of January and February under head coach Darcie Vincent.

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DAVIDSON 61, ASU 54

Score by periods 1st 2nd Total

Appalachian State 17 37 54

Davidson 26 35 61

ASU: SYDNOR 17 (11 REBOUNDS), C. FREEMAN 13, WELDON 6, A. FREEMAN 8, GARY 10. FG: 23-70, 3FG: 2-15, FT: 6-8. 42 TURNOVERS, 12 TURNOVERS, 12 ASSISTS.

DAVIDSON: ALEKSANDRAVICIUS 10 (9 REBOUNDS), JOHNSEN 2, MURRAY 6, CHIEMEKA 19, SITTON 6, DAVIS 2, CALIN 5, OTTAWAY 11. FG: 20-46, 3FG: 4-10, FT: 17-26. 35 REBOUNDS, 15 TURNOVERS, 11 ASSISTS.

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Photo Courtesy: Maryah Sydnor, ASU Athletics