

## Anna Freeman Named SoCon Player of Year

Written by Ryan Bower  
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Appalachian State University women's basketball players Anna Freeman and Maryah Sydnor earned Southern Conference Player and Freshman of the Year honors, respectively, from the league's media members on Thursday. In addition to the awards, Freeman

was named as a first-team all-SoCon selection while Sydnor was selected as a member of the all-freshman team. Courtney Freeman earned second-team all-conference accolades for her strong performance this season.

A. Freeman's honor gives the Mountaineers back-to-back player of the year nods after former Appalachian great Sam Ramirez earned the nod from the SoCon coaches last season.

Freeman, who leads the SoCon in scoring at 15.4 points per game, surpassed the 1,000-point milestone for her career earlier this season and set the ASU record for career blocks (196) on Monday. She was a second-team all-SoCon selection last season. She also leads the conference in free-throw percentage (.880) and steals (3.7 s/g) while ranking second in blocks (2.1 b/g). Freeman ranks sixth nationally in steals and 17th in free-throw percentage. She has posted 24 games with at least 10 points and has scored 15 or more points in 14 games.

Sydnor, who started 15 games as a freshman, finished the regular season averaging 9.8 points and 4.9 rebounds per game. She score 10 or more points on 14 occasions throughout the season, including 11 of the teams final 13 games. She scored a career-high 20 points against ETSU in the home-opener and matched that total in back-to-back games against Samford and Furman in late January. Sydnor notched her first career double-double at Davidson on Feb. 18 (17 pts, 11 reb) and ended the year ranked second among all SoCon freshmen in scoring. Sydnor is the fifth ASU player to be named as the league's Freshman of the year and the first since Kiki Conyers earned the award during the 2002-003 campaign.

C. Freeman ranks second on the team and 10th in the SoCon in scoring (11.7 ppg), seventh in offensive rebounds (2.3 rpg) and 15th in total rebounds (5.4 rpg).

She has scored in double-figured 16 times this season, including a career-high 23 in a win over UNCG on Jan. 9. Freeman also posted a double-double (15 pts, 10 reb) in the season-opener against ACC foe Virginia and fell just shy of another double-double at nationally-ranked Georgia on Dec. 22.

## 2012 SoCon Women's Basketball Awards Media All-Conference Team

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### **First Team**

#### **Anna Freeman, Appalachian State**

Sophia Aleksandravicius, Davidson

Laura Murray, Davidson

Ali Ford, Elon

Whitney Hood, Chattanooga

### **Second Team**

#### **Courtney Freeman, Appalachian State**

Kelsey Evans, Elon

Raegan Thompson, Furman

Paige Anderson, Samford

Kaila'Shea Menendez, Western Carolina

### **Media All-Freshmen Team**

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### **Maryah Sydnor, Appalachian State**

Sam Coffey, Elon

Brittany Hodges, Furman

Anna Claire Knight, Georgia Southern

Taylor Reece, Samford

### **Media Player of the Year**

**Anna Freeman, Appalachian State**

### **Media Freshman of the Year**

**Maryah Sydnor, Appalachian State**

### **Media Coach of the Year**

Michele Savage, Davidson

**Photo Courtesy: Anna Freeman, ASU Athletics**