

Watkins Named Field Athlete Of Week

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Appalachian State University junior thrower Gayshawna Watkins has been named as the Southern Conference Field Athlete of the Week, the league office announced Wednesday. Watkins picked up a win in the shot put at the Coastal Carolina

Invitational last weekend. Her mark of 14.17 meters (46'4") was nearly a full foot farther than the next nearest competitor.

The defending SoCon Indoor shot put champion was one of seven Mountaineer women's track and field athletes to win an event at Coastal Carolina.

Watkins was previously named as the Field Athlete of the Week during the outdoor season as a freshman and was also recognized this year for her performance during the fourth week of the indoor season. Appalachian State returns to competition when it competes in the Wake Forest Invitational this weekend.

Appalachian Men's Tennis Downs Jacksonville, 5-2

Following the team's 3-4 loss to Samford in its Southern Conference opener, Appalachian State University men's tennis rebounded with a 5-2 win over Jacksonville in non-conference action on Tuesday. The Mountaineers (5-4, 0-1 SoCon) have regained their winning record, while JU (2-8) has lost six straight matches.

In doubles action, Appalachian's top pair of Sebastien King (Montreal, Quebec/George Vanier) and Philip Kloc (Melbourne, Australia/Mentone Grammar) triumphed at the No. 1 slot, winning 8-3. Senior Steve Karendal (Kernersville, N.C./Lees-McRae) and junior Andrew McKinnon (Mooresville, N.C./Lake Norman) also found success as a pair, taking an 8-4 win at No. 3 to clinch the doubles point for ASU.

Appalachian State's Alain Humblet (Montreal, Quebec/DE Mortagne) and Alex Markov (Pernik, Bulgaria/Hawai'i Pacific) took their pairs match to 7-7 before finally edging their Jacksonville foes for an 8-7 victory to complete the doubles sweep.

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On the singles side, Markov coasted to a 6-1, 6-3 win at the top individual spot. No. 2-man Kloc found equally dominant success in his 6-2, 6-1 victory.

Despite Appalachian's control of the match, the Dolphins managed to pick up two singles wins, stealing the No. 3 match and eventually a three-set match at No. 6.

ASU's King clinched the decisive point for the Apps with his 6-3, 7-6 win in the No. 4 singles spot. Karendal rounded out ASU's scoring by recovering from a one-set deficit to win 3-6, 7-6, 6-2.

Appalachian State's road trip continues with a stop in sunny Daytona Beach for a match against Bethune-Cookman on Friday at 2 p.m.

Photo Courtesy: Gayshawna Watkins, ASU Athletics