

## ASU Women's Tennis Falls to ETSU in Regular Season Finale

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In the team's final match of the regular season, Appalachian State University women's tennis fell to ETSU, 6-1, in non-conference action at Buddy Hartsell Tennis Center on Friday. Despite the loss, the Mountaineers (12-11, 5-5 Southern Conference) still complete the season with the program's most wins since

2006 and most league victories since 2000. Meanwhile, ETSU (10-8, 6-2 Atlantic Sun) picks up its sixth win in seven matches. In doubles, ETSU swept the action, combining an 8-0 win in the No. 1 position with an 8-6 victory at No. 3. Appalachian redshirt junior Gabriela Celi (Orlando, Fla./Lake Howell) and senior Gisela Fernandez (Guadalajara, Mexico/TEC Monterrey) forced a tiebreaker with an 8-8 showing at No. 2, but the Buccaneer pair stole the match 9-8(7-4). Appalachian's only point of the match came from junior Jennifer Ansari (Greensboro, N.C./Walter Hines Page), who collected herself after a first-set loss to allow only four games in the latter two of a three-set victory in the No. 2 slot, winning 2-6, 6-1, 6-3. The top Mountaineer, Ellie Linsell (Southampton, England/Cheam), won her opening set against regionally-ranked No. 11 Paula Jamie, but the Buccaneer rallied to win the second set. The combatants split the final group of games, but Jamie tore through the final tiebreaker for the 2-6, 6-2, 7-6(7-0) ETSU win. Celi won her first set at No. 3 but was unable to hang on after nearly stealing the match in the second set. The deflated Mountaineer was unable to put multiple games on the board in the final set, as her Buccaneer foe won 2-6, 7-6(7-4), 6-1. In her final regular season match, Appalachian senior Kim-Lea Dinh (Maisons-Alfort, France/Lycee Eugene Delacroix) was the fourth App to win an opening singles set, taking the first by a slim margin before her ETSU opponent rebounded to score a 6-7, 6-2, 6-3 win. The Mountaineers redirect their attention back to the Southern Conference, as Appalachian State prepares for the 2012 Southern Conference Tournament, hosted by College of Charleston and The Citadel, April 19-22. ASU will be slotted as the No. 6 or No. 7 seed, depending on the outcome of Saturday's match between Samford and Chattanooga.

**Photo Courtesy: Jennifer Ansari, ASU Athletics**