

## **Mountaineers Move Back Into National Rankings**

Written by Mike Flynn  
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For the fourth time this season, Appalachian State University is ranked in one of college baseball's major national polls, as the Mountaineers come in at No. 28 in this week's National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) rankings. Appalachian (32-9, 16-5 SoCon) climbed back into the rankings after

a two-week absence thanks to a 4-0 showing last week. The Mountaineers closed a perfect four-game homestand by defeating visiting High Point, 6-2, last Tuesday at Beaver Field at Jim and Bettie Smith Stadium then recorded their first road sweep of the season by taking all three games at Wofford over the weekend.

Appalachian's current seven-game winning streak is tied for the seventh-longest in NCAA Division I at this time while the Apps' gaudy .780 winning percentage is the fifth-highest in the nation. Prior to its four weeks in the national rankings this season, Appalachian had only appeared in one of college baseball's major national polls once in its 40-year Division I history, when it held down the No. 29 spot in the final regular-season Collegiate Baseball Newspaper poll of the 1984 season.

The Mountaineers put their winning streak and national ranking on the line Wednesday evening when they close a four-game road stint at East Tennessee State. First pitch is set for 7 p.m. at ETSU's Thomas Stadium. Following the battle at ETSU, first-place Appalachian returns home this weekend for a three-game Southern Conference series versus UNC Greensboro. Game times are slated for 6 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday at Smith Stadium.

**Photo Courtesy: Will Callaway, ASU Athletics**