

ASU Volleyball Sweeps Campbell At WFU

Written by Ryan Bower

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Dalton Tolliver (Ortonville, Mich./Notre Dame Prep) and Jacqui Spurgeon (Waxhaw, N.C./Marvin Ridge) each tallied double-digit kill totals as Appalachian State University volleyball used a balanced effort to sweep Campbell, 3-0, on Friday in

the opener of the 2012 Wake Forest Black & Gold Challenge at Reynolds Gymnasium.

The Mountaineers (3-8) dominated throughout as they led for nearly the entire match against the Fighting Camels (5-8) and, in the process, picked up their first sweep of an opponent this year. After falling behind by two points early in the first set, the Apps reeled off a 5-0 run to take a 9-4 lead. The Camels were able to piece together an impressive run of their own later in the set to draw within two points (12-10), but App State would notch five of the next six points to extend the lead to a comfortable 17-11.

The Mountaineers never led by less than six points the rest of the way en route to a 25-19 first-set victory. In the second set, Campbell again jumped out to an early lead but quickly fell behind as the Mountaineers battled back to take a 3-2 lead. The Apps dominated the remainder of the set thanks to a 14-2 run midway through that helped make the final 25-10 and give App State a 2-0 lead.

The third and final set of the evening played out nearly the same way, with the Camels once again scoring first before the Apps rebounded to take a lead and cruised to a 25-17 set-victory and a 3-0 match-win. Tolliver led all players with 12 kills while Spurgeon finished just behind with 10. Meghan Mahoney (Leawood, Kan./Blue Valley) notched a career-high 18 assists while Courtney Rhein (York, Pa./Eastern York) posted a double-double with 17 assists and 13 digs. Campbell did not have a player record more than five kills in the match as the Camels managed to hit a paltry .043 as a team, committing 25 attack errors on 93 attempts while putting down just 21 kills. The Mountaineers hit a respectable .230 on the attack and tallied six blocks on the evening as Tolliver and Jessica Eley (Kansas City, Mo./Bishop Miege) each picked up three block assists.

App State wraps up weekend play tomorrow with matches against Toledo and Wake Forest at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., respectively. The Mountaineers open their home schedule on Tuesday at 7 p.m. against North Carolina A&T.

MATCH NOTES: The Mountaineers improved to 176-165 all-time in regular-season tournaments... the Mountaineers picked up a 3-0 sweep over an opponent for the first time since Oct. 30, 2011 when the squad defeated Elon by a 3-0 final in Boone... Rhein increased her career-dig total to 1,496... she needs 333 more digs to become App State's career digs leader... Tolliver has now posted 10 or more kills in seven of the team's first 11 matches.