

Dixon Leaving Mizzou

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The Appalachian State University men's basketball team will venture to Columbia, Mo., on Saturday to take on No.16 Missouri (5-1) in a non-

conference game. And the Tigers will be missing one of their top players.

Senior guard Michael Dixon has announced he is leaving the University of Missouri and transferring to another school. Dixon was suspended before the start of the season after sexual assault allegations came to light over an alleged incident on Aug. 20 with a Missouri sophomore. On Nov. 16, a final examination of the allegations by local police determined there was not enough evidence to warrant charges being filed against Dixon.

On Thursday night, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported a second, separate allegation of rape had been filed against Dixon, that one from 2010. But the alleged victim declined to press charges out of what she said was fear of retaliation and being ostracized by family. But a nurse who examined the woman said afterward that from the injuries sustained she "believes force was involved," according to the report.

Dixon played in 32 games last season for the Tigers. He was fourth on the team in scoring (10.3 points-per-game), second in three-point field goal percentage (39%), he was Mizzou's best free-throw shooter (83%), he was second in assists and third in steals.

Despite the fact that local authorities are taking no action against Dixon, the University of Missouri's student conduct rules and legal board, including school Chancellor Brady Deaton, are acting on the information available. To be clear, Dixon is yet to be charged with violating any state laws in regard to either allegation.

Dixon can transfer immediately to any school able to take him and would not be forced to sit a year under current NCAA rules.

The Mountaineers (1-5) have lost five in a row. The ASU-Missouri game will not be aired Saturday because of ASU football, which begins at 12 noon on AM 1450, WATA.

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