

## Joens Nets Hat Trick in Impressive Win

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Appalachian State University men's soccer continued its dominating play in the preseason on Wednesday with a 4-1 road win over VMI. The match consisted of three periods — two 35 minutes in length and the third only 30 minutes long.

The story of the game was freshman Zach Joens who buried three goals in the 4-1 rout. Joens' first goal came unassisted in the 11th minute off a rebound in front of the net. In the 27th minute, Joens struck again on a beautiful through ball from freshman Stephen Chapman. Joens wasn't finished after two goals, as he completed the hat trick in the 105th minute on a strike through the left side of a Keydet-formed wall.

Chapman was also busy with a goal of his own in the 102nd minute to go along with the assist on Joens' second score. Chapman buried his first goal of the preseason when Keydet keeper Zach Kaplan came too far out off of his line to make a save.

Head coach Matt Nelson once again went with three different keepers in the match. Senior Danny Free played a little over 35 minutes making one save on the day. Holland Hammond played exactly 30 minutes and allowed one goal and Paul West tallied the most playing time with just under 40 minutes and made four saves.

The Mountaineers were certainly in attack mode recording 22 shots in the contest to VMI's 10, including an 8-6 advantage in shots on goal. Junior Luke Adams and Chapman led the team in shots with four apiece (two on-goal for Chapman). Senior Harrison Delbridge and Joens added three shots each, with all three of Joens' shots resulted in goals. The Apps also controlled corner-kick opportunities by a 12-4 tally.

Appalachian State hosts High Point at Appalachian Soccer Stadium on Saturday at 7 p.m. for its last exhibition of the preseason. App State opens regular-season play on Friday, Aug. 30 against Marshall. That game time is set for 7 p.m.

**Photo Courtesy: Zach Joens, ASU Athletics**