

Mountaineers Down Presbyterian, 3-2

Written by Jennifer Clark

Wednesday, 04 September 2013 07:51

Appalachian State University volleyball won a five-set thriller to defeat Presbyterian College on Tuesday

evening at the Templeton Center.

The Mountaineers (4-0) rallied from a 2-1 deficit to tie the match with a dominant fourth-set effort. Appalachian seized the momentum from the Blue Hose (1-4) en route to a 25-21, 28-30, 18-25, 25-16, 15-12 victory.

The match began as an early back-and-forth affair until a kill from Lauren Gray (Round Rock, Texas/Round Rock), an error on Presbyterian and a service ace by Jess Keller (Swarthmore, Pa./Strath Haven) would push Appalachian into the lead. The Apps withstood a late run by the Blue Hose and took a 25-21 victory in the first set.

Both teams would need extra points in the second set, but Presbyterian managed to edge a 30-28 win. Appalachian held a four-point lead (23-19) but costly errors put the Blue Hose back in position to win the set and tie the match at one all.

Presbyterian used its momentum from the second set to pull out a 25-18 third set victory. Appalachian took the lead at 12-11 but Presbyterian used two four-point runs to push ahead of the match, 2-1.

Appalachian focused its will in the fourth set, scoring the first five points of the match and winning 25-16. The Blue Hose battled back to take an 8-7 lead, but the Mountaineers unleashed on a six-point run to tie the match at 2-2.

Two kills from Emily Corrigan (John's Creek, Ga./Chattahoochee) won the match for Appalachian (15-12) as the Mountaineers raced out to a 8-2 lead and did not look back. The Blue Hose were able to pull the match within three (13-11) but Corrigan would nail the final two points Appalachian needed.

Corrigan and Keller led the Mountaineers with 20 kills each, while Gray pitched in with 16. Paige Brown (Overland Park, Kan./St. James

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Academy) set a career-high in assists with 58 while Meghan Mahoney (Leawood, Kan./Blue Valley) had a team-high in digs with 18.

Rachel Hall's 14 kills paced Presbyterian, while Ashtin Fran led her team with 54 assists. Mary Trimpe recorded a game-high 28 digs.

The Mountaineers had 20 errors on 162 total attacks, while forcing Presbyterian into recording 23 errors on 163 attacks. The Apps hit .290 for the match while the Blue Hose hit .245.

Appalachian will continue its road swing at the NC State Tournament in Raleigh on Sept. 6 and 7, where the Apps will face NC State, Towson and Binghamton.