

Mountaineers Roll Past Aggies

Written by Jennifer Clark

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Appalachian State University volleyball rolled to its seventh victory in its young season after defeating North Carolina A&T in three straight sets on Wednesday evening at the Holmes Center.

The Mountaineers improve to 7-4 overall, matching their previous season's win record, while the Aggies drop to 11 losses on the season (1-11) after Appalachian overpowered A&T on both sides of the net to a three-set victory (25-9, 25-11, 25-5). With the win, Appalachian is now 9-8 all-time against NC A&T.

In a change of offensive pace, Lindsey Sauls (Prairie Village, Kan./Shawnee Mission East) topped the Appalachian offense with 11 kills and 11.5 points as Jess Keller (Swarthmore, Pa./Strath Haven) finished right behind with 10 kills and 10.5 points on the night.

Appalachian hit an impressive .412 as a team and held A&T to a dismal -.101 hitting percentage in the seventeenth meeting between the two squads.

The Black and Gold held a 59-33 digs advantage defensively as libero Meghan Mahoney (Leawood, Kan./Blue Valley) led App with 27 digs.

Saul's offensive-leading 11 kills yielded a match-high .529 hitting percentage, while setter Paige Brown (Overland Park, Kan./St. James Academy) dished out 31 assists and Emily Corrigan (Johns Creek, Ga./Chattahoochee) added 14 digs and a service ace.

Four mountaineers averaged better than .500 hitting against the Aggies, including Keller's .529 percentage along with Brown, Lauren Gray (Round Rock, Texas/Round Rock), and Brooke Lyons (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla./St. Thomas Aquinas) at .500 apiece.

Appalachian's 3-0 victory marks its sixth sweep this season. Up next, Appalachian will host Denver, East Carolina, and UT Arlington in the Black & Gold Challenge on Sept. 20 and 21 at Varsity Gym.

Photo Courtesy: Lindsey Sauls, ASU Athletics