

## **App State Suffers 1-0 Loss at No.21 Elon**

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Appalachian State University men's soccer fell for the first time in five matches on Saturday evening to the No. 21 nationally ranked Elon Phoenix, 1-0. The Mountaineers (2-2-6, 0-1-1) were able to attack early and control the possession early on in the first half. Lots of chances were created with the best one coming on a cross from Stephen Chapman who found the head of Donovan Japp, but Nathan Dean, Elon's starting keeper, just got enough of it to punch it over the crossbar.

The Phoenix (9-1-1, 1-0-0) got the only tally of the game in the 30th minute on a long ball played up by Matt Wescoe which was then crossed into the box byt Jason Waterman. In the box James Brace, who had just entered the game as a substitute, got a good strike on the ball to put the Phoenix up 1-0.

The rest of the game would remain the same on the scoreboard. In the second half both teams really picked up the physicality in the style of play with 24 total fouls called and 12 on each team. 18 fouls were called in the second half.

Danny Free moves to 2-2-6 on the season after making three saves and coming up big in other ways as well. The defense in front of Free sniffed out a lot of Phoenix opportunities and kept the game to within striking distance.

The Mountaineers were outshot by the Phoenix by an 8-5 tally – four on target for Elon and two for App. Appalchian will return to the pitch next Saturday when it hosts UNCG at 7:30 p.m. from Appalachian Soccer Stadium.

**Photo Courtesy: Donovan Japp, App State Athletics**