

ASU Women Picked Fourth in SoCon Preseason Poll

Written by Ryan Bower

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Appalachian State University women's basketball was picked to finish fourth in the Southern Conference by the league's coaches and media members, it was announced on Wednesday. The Mountaineers, who have finished in the league's top four and claimed two SoCon titles in the past four years, earned 116 points in

the coaches' poll and 60 in the media vote.

Last year's regular-season and tournament champion Chattanooga was selected first in both polls, receiving nine first-place votes and 90 points from the coaches while garnering 15-of-16 first-place votes and 159 points in the media voting.

Samford was selected to finish second in both polls and received one first-place vote in each. Davidson was picked to finish third while Elon came in fifth in both polls and Furman was selected sixth. The only difference in voting came among the bottom four teams, as UNCG was seventh in the coaches' poll but ninth amongst media members. Georgia Southern was eighth in the coaches' poll and seventh in the media poll. Western Carolina was tabbed ninth by the league's coaches and eighth by the media while Wofford was the consensus pick at 10th.

In addition to the preseason polls, the league also named its preseason all-SoCon team on Wednesday and Appalachian forward Maryah Sydnor (Radford, Va./Radford) was named as a preseason all-league honoree after finishing second on the team and sixth in the league in scoring as a sophomore (14.8 ppg). The Mountaineers take the floor against USC-Aiken in an exhibition game at 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 2 and open the regular season at Vanderbilt at 7 p.m. on Nov. 8.

2013-14 SoCon Preseason Coaches Poll

Team (1st Place Votes) - Total

1. Chattanooga (9) - 90
2. Samford (1) - 77
3. Davidson - 70
- 4. Appalachian State - 60**
5. Elon - 59
6. Furman - 50
7. UNCG - 42
8. Georgia Southern - 40
9. Western Carolina - 33
10. Wofford - 19

2013-14 Preseason All-Conference Team

Maryah Sydnor, Appalachian State

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Laura Murray, Davidson
Kelsey Harris, Elon
Brittany Hodges, Furman
MiMi Dubose, Georgia Southern
Lucy Mason, UNCG
Shelby Campbell, Samford
Taylor Reece, Samford
Ashlen Dewart, Chattanooga
Taylor Hall, Chattanooga

2013-14 Preseason Player of the Year

Ashlen Dewart, Chattanooga

2013-14 SoCon Preseason Media Poll

Team (1st Place Votes) - Total

1. Chattanooga (15) - 159
2. Samford (1) - 131
3. Davidson - 120
- 4. Appalachian State - 116**
5. Elon - 94
6. Furman - 76
7. Georgia Southern - 63
8. Western Carolina - 52
9. UNCG - 48
10. Wofford - 20

Photo Courtesy: Darcie Vincent, ASU Athletics