

Mountaineers Fall to Eagles in Semifinals

Written by Kelsey Campbell
Saturday, 23 November 2013 22:21

Appalachian State University volleyball fell to Georgia Southern in four sets on Saturday evening in the semifinal match of the 2013 Southern Conference Tournament, featuring sets with scores of 26-28,

26-24, 20-25 and 23-25.

Georgia Southern will play Samford in the finals on Sunday. The Bulldogs advanced to the finals by knocking off Furman 3-0 (25-23, 25-23, 25-21) in Saturday's second semifinal game.

The Mountaineers came out strong in the first set, getting a quick 7-3 lead over the Eagles. After a Georgia Southern timeout, the Eagles would score six straight points to take the lead 9-7. From there, the set would be a fight between the teams, consisting of ten ties. With the score tied at 26, GSU would find two points in a row to take the set 28-26.

The second set would be another battle, featuring 14 tied scores throughout the set. With the score tied at nine, the Apps scored two straight points to pull ahead, but Georgia Southern would fight back, tying the set again 12-12. The teams would continue to score back-and-forth until the set was tied at 24. The Mountaineers would slam down two kills from Emily Corrigan and Dalton Tolliver to take the second 26-24 and tie the match 1-1.

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App State took pulled ahead 2-0 quickly in the third set before the Eagles would score five of the next six points to take the lead. After ten tied scores, GSU began to rally by scoring five straight to lead the Apps 21-17. Georgia Southern continued to find points, winning the third set 25-20.

The Eagles found an early 7-3 lead in the fourth set, but the Mountaineers would eventually tie the set at 12. Things would not look good for the Apps as GSU scored five straight points to lead 24-19, but the Mountaineers would fight back, rallying to score the next four and trail only by one point with a score of 24-23. With the third set on the line, Georgia Southern found a kill to take it 24-23 and win the match 3-1.

Corrigan led the Mountaineers offensively in the loss, tallying 18 kills. Meghan Mahoney led on the defensive side, recording 21 digs, while Paige Brown notched 38 assists on the match.

Jamie DeRatt and Kym Coley led the Eagles, recording 19 and 12 kills, respectively.

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The Mountaineers had nine blocks on the night while Georgia Southern tallied 11. Appalachian hit only .115 in the match, while GSU had just a .195 hitting percentage.

With the loss, the Mountaineers will end the 2013 season with an overall record of 19-13 and a SoCon record of 9-7.

Photo Courtesy: Meghan Mahoney, ASU Athletics