

Mountaineers Win Second-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower

Friday, 24 January 2014 11:59

A late first-half surge helped Appalachian State University men's basketball build an eight-point halftime lead as it picked up its second-straight win with an

80-67 victory over Southern Conference foe The Citadel on Thursday at McAlister Field House.

The Mountaineers (6-13, 2-4 SoCon) trailed by as many as six points twice in the opening eight minutes, but outscored the Bulldogs (4-17, 0-6) 31-17 over the final 12 minutes of the opening period to snap a three-game road losing streak at The Citadel.

Appalachian got off to a slow start, connecting on just five of its first 15 shot attempts over the first 10 minutes (33.3 percent), but caught fire and went 12-of-18 (66.7 percent) for the rest of the half to build a 40-32 halftime lead.

A pair of free throws from Tommy Spagnolowith 6:51 to play in the first half gave the Mountaineers their first lead (25-24) before Quinton Marshall put The Citadel back up by one with a layup moments later. It would be the last lead the Bulldogs would have as the Mountaineers scored 15 of the next 21 points to close out the half and enter the locker room with the eight-point lead.

Mountaineers Win Second-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower
Friday, 24 January 2014 11:59

The squad's momentum would carry over into the second half as it pushed the lead to double digits (42-32) on a Michael Obachalayup with 19:17 to play and never saw the lead dip below six points the rest of the way as it cruised to its 52nd win all-time against the Bulldogs.

Appalachian would push the lead to as many as 15 points in the second half and were never really challenged in the closing moments of the contest. Mike Kobani and Tab Hamilton co-led the Mountaineers with 18 points each. Kobani finished 9-of-10 from the floor while Hamilton connected on 7-of-15.

Mike Neal added 13 points and five assists while Frank Eaves poured in 12 on 5-of-6 shooting off the bench. Obacha led all players with eight rebounds while Eaves hauled in five.

Matt Van Scoyc paced The Citadel with 24 points while Ashton Moore scored 18, Marshall finished with 13 and Brian White added 12. White also pulled down a team-best seven rebounds.

As a team, Appalachian State shot 55.7 percent (34-of-61) and connected on 7-of-14 three-point attempts while the Bulldogs hit 48.9 percent (22-of-45) of their shots, but went just 6-of-16 from long range.

Mountaineers Win Second-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower
Friday, 24 January 2014 11:59

The Mountaineers grabbed 31 rebounds to The Citadel's 24 and forced 11 turnovers while committing just seven. In addition the Apps finished with 15 assists, five blocks and three steals.

Appalachian State will have a week off before its next game, a 7 p.m. contest at UNCG on Thursday, Jan. 30.

NOTES: The Mountaineers improved to 52-25 all-time against the Citadel... Appalachian moved to 18-17 when facing the Bulldogs in Charleston and, in the process, snapped a pair of losing streaks (three road and two-game overall) to The Citadel... the win was App State's first on the road since a 76-68 win at UNCG on Feb. 17, 2013, snapping a streak of nine-straight road losses... the duo of Eaves/Kobani combined to go 14-of-16 (87.5 percent) from the floor as the Appalachian bench outscored The Citadel's reserves 30-0... Appalachian outscored the Bulldogs 42-24 in the paint, 19-14 off turnovers and 10-4 in second-chance buckets.

APPALACHIAN STATE 80, THE CITADEL 67

Score by periods 1st 2nd Total

Mountaineers Win Second-Straight

Written by Ryan Bower
Friday, 24 January 2014 11:59

Appalachian State 40 40 - 80

The Citadel 32 35 - 67

ASU: HAMILTON 18, OBACHA 5 (8 REBOUNDS), BURGESS 8, SPAGNOLO 6, NEAL 13 (5 ASSISTS), KOBANI 18, EAVES 12 (5 REBOUNDS). FG: 34-61, 3FG: 7-14, FT: 5-8. 31 REBOUNDS, 15 ASSISTS, 7 TURNOVERS.

THE CITADEL: VAN SCYOC 24, WHITE 12 (7 REBOUNDS), MARSHALL 13, MOORE 18 (6 ASSISTS). FG: 22-46, 3FG: 6-16, FT: 17-23. 24 REBOUNDS, 14 ASSISTS, 11 TURNOVERS.

Photo Courtesy: Jason Capel, App State Athletics