

## ASU Women Fall in Thriller at Georgia Southern

Written by Staff Reports

Saturday, 22 February 2014 23:19

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The Appalachian State University women's basketball team fell to Georgia Southern Saturday 74-72 in Statesboro, Ga.. The Mountaineers (11-15, 8-8 SoCon) had a chance to win the game, but a last-

second shot by Bria Huffman fell short at the horn and the Eagles (9-17, 7-8) hung on for the win.

ASU 32-31 at halftime, and the Mountaineers increased their lead on a pair of fast-break layups from Katie Mallow in the first 40 seconds of the second half. But following a time out, Georgia Southern scored four points of its own and cut the lead to three at 38-35.

But Appalachian remained in control, and thanks to a a 9-2 run, the Mountaineers pulled ahead 46-42 with 14 minutes left to play. KeKe Cooper hit two back-to-back layups during the run.

But despite that run, the Mountaineers couldn't put Georgia Southern away. The Eagles, thanks to some nifty shooting from the floor, eventually took the lead. And with 3:48 left to play the Mountaineers found themselves behind, 66-57.

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But the Mountaineers regroup and went on a 10-0 run, which included a pair of three balls by Mallow. Thanks to that run, the Apps trailed by one with 1:45 left to play.

Georgia Southern, which nearly gave the game away at the end, hit six free throws in the final 40 seconds of the game. Trailing by five with 3.2 seconds left, Bria Huffman buried a three to make it 74-72..

The Eagles made it interesting by turning the ball over on their next possession. But the Mountaineers failed to convert.

Cooper, who played one of her best games of the season, led ASU with 18 points and 11 rebounds. Mallow and Huffman followed with 16 points each. Sydnor recorded another double-double scoring 12 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

The Mountaineers shot 47.7 percent from the floor in the game, while finding 45 rebounds and turning the ball over 14 times.

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Angel McGowan led the Eagles with 18 points, while Anna Claire Knight had 16 points and seven rebounds on the night. The Eagles shot 39.9 percent in the game, while recording 33 rebounds and eight turnovers.

The Mountaineers play Davidson Monday night at 7 p.m.

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN 74, APPALACHIAN STATE 72**

**Score by periods 1st 2nd Total**

Appalachian State 32 40 - 72

Georgia Southern 31 43 - 74

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**ASU:** SYDNOR 12 (10 REBOUNDS), MALLOW 16, COOPER 18 (11 REBOUNDS), HUFFMAN 16, MARSHALL 4, DONIERE 4. FG: 31-65, 3FG: 3-9, FT: 7-9. 45 REBOUNDS, 12 ASSISTS, 14 TURNOVERS.

**GSU:** SPENCER 7 (6 REBOUNDS), DOWLING 10, DUBOSE 11, McGOWEN 18, JONES 5, KIRKLAND 5, KNIGHT 16 (7 REBOUNDS), MARCUS 2. FG: 24-61, 3FG: 6-21, FT: 20-28. 33 REBOUNDS, 10 ASSISTS, 8 TURNOVERS.

**Photo Courtesy: Bria Huffman, ASU Athletics**