Trey Holmes' (Rockwell, N.C./East Rowan) grand slam highlighted a seven-run seventh inning that broke open a close game and lifted Appalachian State University baseball to a 13-2 win over visiting Maryland-Eastern Shore on Saturday afternoon at McNair Field.

Appalachian (2-0) led just 3-2 going into the bottom of the seventh but sent 11 batters to the plate in the seven-run frame. With a run already across, Holmes broke the game wide open with his grand slam, a towering shot to right center field on the first pitch thrown by UMES reliever Karim Gonzalez, that gave ASU an 8-2 lead.

The Mountaineers tacked on five more runs after Holmes' blast — two in the seventh and three in the eighth — to account for the final margin.

ASU got on the board first with a pair of runs in the first inning. Hector Crespo (Miami, Fla./Florida Christian) led off with the first of his five walks on the afternoon and came home on Jeremy Dowdy's (Raleigh, N.C./Wakefield) RBI double off the wall in left center field. One batter later, Holmes recorded the first of his five RBI with a sacrifice fly to left field that scored Dowdy.

Maryland-Eastern (0-2) knotted the score at 2-2 with single runs in the fifth and sixth innings but Appalachian took the lead back when Dowdy scored on an error by UMES second baseman Shaquille Bagwell, one of Bagwell's two and the Hawks' three miscues in the ballgame.

Four ASU pitchers combined to scatter nine hits. Freshman southpaw Lawrence Pardo (Miami, Fla./Christopher Columbus) surrendered just one run on five hits over five innings in his first collegiate start but right-hander David Port (Dunwoody, Ga./Dunwoody) got the win with two innings of one-hit, one-run relief.

Holmes, Dowdy, Tyler Tewell (Charlotte, N.C./Butler), Jack Myers (Charlotte, N.C./Myers Park) and Noah Holmes (Rockwell, N.C./East Rowan) led the Mountaineers' 13-hit attack with two hits

apiece.

Luis Mena and Nick Wiggins each had two hits to lead UMES.

Appalachian looks to complete a three-game opening-weekend sweep of the Hawks when the teams square off on Sunday at 1 p.m. at McNair Field.