

Arrowood, Myers Named All-SoCon by Media

Written by Mike Flynn
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After being snubbed by the league's coaches, Appalachian State University pitcher Ryan Arrowood (Rutherfordton, N.C./Central) and outfielder Jack Myers (Charlotte, N.C./Myers Park) garnered second-team all-Southern Conference recognition from the SoCon Sports Media Association on Tuesday.

Appalachian's staff ace and arguably the conference's most productive starting pitcher since he moved into ASU's weekend rotation in mid-March, Arrowood is 8-2 with a 2.87 ERA and 77 strikeouts on the season. The right-handed junior is the only pitcher to rank among the SoCon's top six in wins (t-2nd), ERA (6th) and strikeouts (t-3rd). He is also among the league leaders in innings pitched (87.2 — fourth) and opponents' batting average (.257 — 12th).

Arrowood was particularly impressive in April, when he went 3-0 with a 0.84 ERA, .214 opponents' batting average, 35 strikeouts and six walks in six outings (five starts and a relief appearance), en route to being named the SoCon Pitcher of the Month. He allowed just three runs in 32.1 innings pitched during the month, including a string of 22.1-consecutive scoreless innings that spanned two complete starts and parts of two others. He was recognized as the conference's Pitcher of the Week twice in a span of three weeks.

In his first full season as a starter, Myers was one of the SoCon's top hitters for much of the season. He hit safely in 42-of-53 games with three different hitting streaks of at least seven games. The senior put together an 18-game hitting streak from April 8-May 9 and hit safely in the first 24 SoCon contests of the season, stretching his hitting streak in conference games to 27, dating back to last season.

Myers, whose batting average was as high as .392 late in the season, finished the regular season with a .322 average. His 19 stolen bases are tied for seventh in the conference and he is arguably one of the best defensive right fielders in the league with several sterling catches to go along with three outfield assists.

Arrowood, Myers and the rest of the sixth-seeded Mountaineers (31-25, 15-15 SoCon) open SoCon Tournament play on Wednesday with a first-round matchup versus No. 3-seed Samford (34-22, 18-12), a team that Arrowood tossed a four-hit shutout against on April 15. First pitch for Wednesday's opening-round showdown is set for 1 p.m. at Riley Park in Charleston, S.C.