

Mountaineers Fall to CofC, 4-2

Written by Brandon McGinnis
Saturday, 23 March 2013 21:16

After tallying seven hits and five runs the night before, Appalachian State University baseball's bats were quieted, as the Mountaineers managed just four hits in a 4-2 loss to College of

Charleston Saturday night at Patroits Point. CofC (13-10, 5-4 SoCon) starter, Jake Zoran, kept Appalachian's (12-8, 4-5 SoCon) hitters off-balance all night, striking out eight in 6.2 innings. Zokan outdueled Mountaineer starter Sam Agnew-Wieland, who tossed six complete innings and recorded seven strikeouts, but suffered his second loss of the season.

Outfielder Brandon Burris paced the Apps with a 2-for-4 night, the most hits of any Mountaineer in the lineup. Shortstop Will Callaway and rightfielder Preston Troutman each notched the other two Appalachian hits, highlighted by Callaway's fourth-inning double.

After three scoreless innings, CofC was first to get on the scoreboard when shortstop Gunner Heidt scorched a ball to centerfield. Centerfielder Jaylin Davis barely got under the ball, as it tipped off the freshman's glove and bounced to the fence. Heidt made it to third for a triple and eventually scored on a Brandon Murray groundout.

Charleston added runs in the fifth and sixth innings before Appalachian got on the scoreboard in the seventh when Callaway reached second on a dropped fly ball by Murray in left field.

Callaway eventually scored on a Josh Zumbrook groundout.

Later in the inning, Troutman and Burris scored back-to-back singles, advancing Troutman to third. With Noah Holmes in the batter's box, Zokan attempted to pickoff Burris, but the ball got by first baseman Tyler Jackson and into right field. Troutman eventually scored, bringing the score to 3-2.

Charleston tacked on some insurance in the eighth when Heidt singled to leadoff the inning. Heidt later scored on a Bradley Goodson single, closing the score at 4-2. Reliever Dre Watts earned the save, tallying four strikeouts in facing nine batters.

Three Cougar hitters posted two hits for the game, highlighted by Heidt's 2-for-3 day in which he scored three runs. Murray finished 2-for-4 with 2 RBI.

Appalachian will look to take the rubber-game of the three-game set on Sunday, when the teams will meet at Patroits Point for a 1 p.m. first pitch.

NOTES: With the loss, Appalachian State moves to 3-3 in the last six games ... College of Charleston improves its all-time record over the Mountaineers to 34-12 ... Sunday's game will mark the last time these two teams will meet in the regular season as Southern Conference members as CofC moves to the CAA next season ... Zumbrook snapped his nine-game hitting streak, going 0-for-4 with a RBI ... with his double in the fourth inning, Callaway has reached safely in 14 straight games.

Photo Courtesy: Will Callaway, ASU Athletics