

ASU Wins Third Straight, Downs EKU

Written by Brandon McGinnis
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A three-run seven inning, highlighted by a Dillon Dobson homerun over the right center wall, propelled Appalachian State University baseball to a 9-6 win over Eastern Kentucky Tuesday afternoon at Turkey

Hughes Field. Dobson, who was slotted in the second spot in the lineup, combined with leadoff hitter Hector Crespo to go 7-for-11 with three runs and five RBI. The duo also combined for the cycle as Dobson tallied a double and a home run, while Crespo began the game with a leadoff triple and recorded a single.

Preston Troutman was the third Mountaineer in the lineup to record multi-hits, finishing 2-for-5 with a double. Tyler Jackson claimed his first victory of the year, as he entered the game in the sixth inning and went two innings, striking out two EKU hitters. Left-hander Chad Farmer started the game and went three innings while striking out three as six different Mountaineer pitchers saw action in the contest.

After Crespo's triple to begin the game, the senior was driven home by a Jaylin Davis single through the left side. The Appalachian (15-9) hit spree continued in the second when the Apps plated three, highlighted by a RBI single from Gabe Dimock, who started his first collegiate game behind the plate, and a RBI double from Dobson.

Appalachian crossed another run in the third and taking a 6-4, but the lead was quickly relinquished in the fifth when the Colonels plated two runs on two hits, headlined by Austin Grisham's double.

Playing from behind for the first time in the game, the Mountaineers climbed back into the lead in the seventh when Brandon Burris started the inning with a leadoff single. With a sacrifice bunt moving Burris over, Crespo singled to bring in the tying run. Dobson's homerun in the next at-bat brought the game to 9-6 and solidified the victory.

Left-hander Rob Marcello shut the door, coming into the game in the eighth-inning to grab the six-out save.

Eastern Kentucky's (5-19) bottom-half of the order did all the damage, as its 4 thru 9 hitters in the lineup each recorded two hits. EKU's top-three hitters combined for a 1-for-11 day. Matt Lynch was tagged with the loss. The Mountaineers return to Southern Conference play on Friday, as they host Georgia Southern at Smith Stadium for a three-game series. First pitch on Friday is set for 6:30 p.m.

NOTES: Appalachian has now claimed five of its last seven games and improved to 4-1 in non-conference games this season ... The Mountaineers earned their first ever win over Eastern Kentucky, falling in their previous two meetings (1984 & 1995) ... The win gives Appalachian its first win over an OVC opponent since a three-game sweep over Jacksonville State in 2009 ... The Mountaineers continue to be one of four teams in NCAA Division I to average a home run per game, now tallying 24 home runs in 24 games ... Tyler Jackson earns his first decision since 2010 ... Crespo was unable to record a stolen base and still sits in 10th in SoCon history for the all-time stolen base list.

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Photo Courtesy: Dillon Dobson, ASU Athletics