

Bulldogs Complete Sweep Against ASU

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Despite a late surge with three runs in the ninth to even the score at 7-7, the late run was not enough, as Appalachian State University baseball dropped its third game of the weekend against The Citadel, falling 8-7 on Sunday afternoon at Riley Park. Trailing 7-4 heading into the top of the ninth, the Mountaineers began a rally with three-straight hits, headlined by Hector Crespo's double, which would score William Head from second base. After a Bulldog pitching change, Will Callaway, who extended his hitting streak to 13 games earlier in the contest, knocked a double to centerfield to score Preston Troutman.

The Apps would draw the score even when a Skylar Hunter wild pitch plated Crespo, as the second baseman notched his first run of the game.

Despite the swing in momentum, the Apps were unable to force extra innings, as The Citadel's starting right fielder, Hughston Armstrong, singled up the middle to begin the bottom of the ninth inning. Armstrong eventually moved to second on a groundout and advanced to third on a wild pitch by Taylor Thurber. With clean-up hitter Bo Thompson up, the designated hitter skied a SAC fly to Troutman, scoring the game-winning run.

Crespo, Callaway and Troutman led the Mountaineer lineup, each notching two hits, as Crespo and Callaway each recording doubles. Catcher Gabe Dimock and designated hitter Noah Holmes each tallied extra base hits with a double by Dimock in the second, while Holmes plated the first App State run on a triple and an error in the first inning.

Starter Jeffrey Springs struck out six Bulldog batters, but was unable to keep runners off base, allowing five earned run in 2.1 innings. Josh Wilson relieved Springs, as he tossed 3.2 innings and struck out four. Rob Marcello entered the game in the seventh for his second appearance of the weekend, going 0.2 innings and recording one strikeout. Thurber, who was tagged with the loss, struck out one hitter in two innings of work.

Appalachian returns to its non-conference schedule on Tuesday, as the Mountaineers host North Carolina A&T. First pitch from Beaver Field is set for 6 p.m.

NOTES: In the fifth inning, Crespo stole second base to record his 96th stolen base of his career, which ties him for 8th all-time in the Southern Conference (Joey Wade – Furman, Brett Gardner – College of Charleston) ... Crespo has recorded multiple hits in 16 of his last 27 games and is 44-for-119 (.370) with nine doubles, two triples, three home runs, 22 RBI, 23 runs and 13 stolen bases ... for the series, Crespo finished 7-for-14 (.500) with two runs, three RBI and three doubles ... in Callaway's 13-game hitting streak, the shortstop is now 26-for-57 (.456) with six doubles, four home runs, 18 RBI and 18 runs scored ... 13-percent of the team walks given up this season were recorded in the last two games (9 – Saturday, 10 – Sunday) ... The Mountaineers still have not won in Charleston since 2008, going 0-10 in their last 10 games.

Photo Courtesy: Preston Troutman, ASU Athletics