

ASU Routs Samford In Series Opener

Written by Mike Flynn

Saturday, 27 April 2013 13:26

William Head (Asheville, N.C./Asheville) had a career-best four RBI and Preston Troutman (Rockwell, N.C./East Rowan) matched a career-high with three hits and set another with four runs to lead Appalachian State University baseball to a 10-5 win over Samford on Friday evening at Beaver Field at Jim and Bettie Smith Stadium.

Head's career-high four RBI came in a span of just two innings, as Appalachian State (23-15, 11-10 SoCon) jumped out to a commanding 7-2 lead with five runs in the third and two more in the fourth. Head highlighted the five-run third with a two-run double down the right-field line and drove in both runs in the fourth with a two-out, two-run single to center field.

Troutman's career-best four runs came on Head's hits in the third and fourth, Will Callaway's (Greenville, S.C./Eastside) two-run single in the sixth and his own towering solo home run in the eighth that capped the Mountaineers' scoring. He had a pair of singles to go along with the eighth-inning homer to account for his career-high-tying three hits.

Hector Crespo (Miami, Fla./Florida Christian) also had two hits and two RBI to help pace Appalachian's 10-run outburst. With his fifth-straight multi-hit game, Crespo raised his batting average to a lofty .351. Overshadowed by the offensive explosion was yet another solid start on the mound by Appalachian State ace Jamie Nunn (Winston-Salem, N.C./Mount Tabor). Nunn scattered nine hits over eight innings and surrendered just three runs while striking out five. The quality start (six or more innings pitched, three or fewer runs allowed) was his ninth in 11 starts this season and the right-handed sophomore picked up his Southern Conference-leading eighth win of the season.

Appalachian chased Samford starter Alex Milazzo (6-1) from the game after just four innings. Milazzo was torched for seven runs (five earned) on six hits in his first loss of the season.

Samford (22-21, 8-11 SoCon) banded out 13 hits but five of the 13 were infield singles.

Designated hitter C.K. Irby had three infield hits in his 5-for-5 performance.

The clubs continue their three-game SoCon series on Saturday afternoon at Smith Stadium.

First pitch is set for 3 p.m.

NOTES: Callaway's two-run single in the sixth extended his hitting streak to an Appalachian State season-best 14 games ... Crespo tied Appalachian's all-time record by playing in his 209th career game ... he can break the program record, which was originally set by former teammate David Towarnicky (2007-10), on Saturday ... in addition to the five-straight multi-hit games, Crespo has also recorded multiple hits in seven of the last eight, 10 of the last 12 and 18 of the last 29 games ... Crespo has reached base in 17-consecutive games, the longest streak by a Mountaineer this season ... Appalachian moved to 9-6 all-time versus Samford ... the Mountaineers are 35-7 at home since the beginning of last season ... Appalachian is 5-2 at home in SoCon play this season and plays the final eight games of its conference slate at Smith Stadium.

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Photo Courtesy: William Head, ASU Athletics