

The Appalachian State baseball team bounced back from a 5-0 first-inning deficit and defeated the University of Tennessee 9-7 in Knoxville in a non-conference game.

The Apps (14-16 overall) have won three in a row. Nick DeRose and Jared Faggart had three hits, including a home run in the eighth inning, and drove in two runs. The Apps return home to begin a three-game Easter weekend series with Samford on Friday night. Our coverage begins at 6:40 pm on WATA.

The Watuaga High baseball team had its scheduled game with Freedom snowed out on Tuesday. They will play it today with the varsity going first at 4:30 pm. Our coverage begins at 3:30 pm on 100.7, MAC-FM. Cal Hardee will most likely get the starring nod for the Pioneers. Hardee, who is 3-0 on the year, had a trying performance his last time out against Alexander Central. He lasted 2 2/3 innings and was touched up for seven earned runs and nine hits. The Pioneers, thanks to Kyle Miller who had a grand slam and drove in six runs, bailed him out. The Pioneers blasted Freedom in their first go-round on March 11th down in Morganton. Adam Church had two home runs, and the Pioneers had four home runs as a team. Hardee went five innings and got the win.

But the Patriots, who were 1-23 last year, are riding a two-game winning streak, and despite an 0-6 record in the NW4A, they're 5-8 overall. It's the most wins they've had in three years. McDowell, which begins the night in a first-place tie with the Pioneers, comes to town tomorrow night

In other games tonight, A.C. Reynolds travels to Alexander Central. These teams begin the night in a two-way tie for fifth place with identical 2-5 records, and just one-half game behind East Burke for that fourth and final playoff spot in the league standings. The Cougars are coming off their worst outing of the year. They lost to McDowell by the ten-run mercy rule on Saturday. The Cougars, usually a fundamentally-strong team, made four errors in that game. The Rockets are reeling as well. They dropped a one-run decision to East Burke on Friday night. Losing pitcher Jeremy Sluder racked up 12 strike outs, but he was out dueled by Cory Rhoney of the Cavaliers, who struck out 13. Both teams have lost three in a row, but the Cougars did win the first meeting between the schools down in Asheville.

WHS Sports round-up for Wednesday, April 8, 2009

Written by Mike Kelly

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McDowell, which begins the night in a first-place tie with WHS in the NW4A, plays a non-conference game at North Buncombe . The Titans are riding a three-game winning streak, and they're the highest scoring team in the conference, scoring 61 runs in seven games. Remember, McDowell comes to town for a first-place show down tomorrow night. Air time, 6:05 pm on 100.7, MAC-FM. The Pioneers will go with their ace, Jon Sharpe.

Speaking of Jon Shape, he was named the NC STEP "No Spit" All-Star of the Week for his effort back on March 24th, when he threw a 1-0, nine inning shut out against East Burke. Sharpe struck out a career-high 14 men in that game.

There was one game on the schedule last night. South Caldwell blasted East Burke 12-2 in six innings. Zac Greer had a two-run homer. The win pulls South Caldwell (6-2 in the NW4A and the number three seed) within one half game of first place.

In tennis, the ASU men lost to Elon 5-2 in a Southern Conference match. But the big story concerns former Pioneer Bobby Lake, who defeated No. 69 Damon Gooch at No. 1 singles in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4. Davidson beat the ASU women, 7-0

In golf, the ASU men finished seventh at Charleston. Former Pioneer Jacob Eggers paced ASU by firing a 76 on the final round and finished 13th. He had a three-day total of 228, 13 over par. The ASU women finished fourth at Morganton. Brooke DeHart paced ASU by finishing in an eighth-place tie. She fired a 79 on the final round, and had a two-day total of 156. Kerri Dice finished 17th.

Here's the rest of today's schedule:

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WHS:

Softball at Freedom: Varsity at 4:30 pm; JV game will follow.

Women soccer at Freedom: Varsity at 5 pm; JV game will follow.

Men's tennis v. Newton-Conover

Men's and women's track at West Caldwell

ASU:

Women's tennis v. Presbyterian at 3 pm.