The Appalachian State baseball team wins again;

that's seven in a row as the Mountaineers exploded for 11 runs in their last three at bats and beat East Tennessee State 15-12 in a non-conference game at Smith Stadium/Beaver Field on Tuesday night. Rand Smith went 1-4 with 2 runs-batted-in and extended his hitting streak to 23 games. Jason Wallace had three RBI; Jerod Faggort hit a home run and drove in three. The Moutaineers (18-16), who have won ten of their last 11 games, entertain Gardner-Webb tonight (air-time, 5:40 pm on WATA) at Smith Stadium/Beaver Field.

Also, shortstop William Head of Asheville High has committed to play baseball at ASU next season. The senior is batting .515 with a home run, 17 hits and 35 stole bases. He leads the state in stolen bases, and he's only been caught twice. Head is 16 stolen bases shy of equaling the state record of 51. Ironically, South Caldwell coach Jeff Parham had 42 steals his senior year at South Caldwell in 1982, when the Spartans won their first state championship.

Taking a peak at baseball around the Northwestern 4A Conference yesterday, A.C. Reynolds was the only team next to WHS to get its game in. The Rockets marched into the finals of the North Buncombe Tournament by destroying North Henderson, 21-5. The Rockets scored 15 runs in the sixth inning. Ryan Jones had a two-run triple; Sam Jackson had a two-run double. The Rockets play Asheville, a 13-3 winner over Black Mountain Owen. McDowell, Freedom, East Burke and Alexander Central were all rained out. They have rescheduled their games for today. South Caldwell and Lawndale Burns will resume their suspended game today tied at 2 down in Shelby at 2 pm. The Spartans play Kings Mountain tonight at 7 pm.

In football news, A.C. Reynolds quarterback Paul Wright has signed his national letter of intent to play football at Mars Hill College, a Division II school in the South Atlantic Conference. Wright threw for 1,297 yards and seven touchdowns last fall; he also ran for 210 yards and scored four touchdowns. He will join former Rocket teammates Rudy Cabral, Tony Cabral and Jeremy Philson at Mars Hill.

The Charlotte Observer Sweet 16 Poll is out and the Pioneers (12-4; 7-1 and in first place in the NW4A) are ranked 12th. South Caldwell, who WHS beat twice this season, is ranked eighth. Mount Pleasant is No.1; Providence, which plays WHS Saturday, is No.2 in that poll.

And former Pioneer Johnny Greene won't be playing baseball for the Hickory Crawdads this summer after all. Greene, who graduated from WHS in 2004 and played his college baseball at Western Carolina before being selected by the Texas Rangers in the 2007 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft, is playing for the Rangers high-Class A affiliate, the Bakersfield Blaze of the California League. Through five games, Greene is batting .444 with a home run, a double and three RBI.

The ASU softball team lost to Western Carolina 6-5 last night in eight innings. They will play a double-header today.

The ASU women's tennis team lost to UNC-Greensboro, 7-0. The App women host Elon today.

And in basketball news, Ryan Hargrave of Alexander Central, and the co-player of the year in the NW4A Conference with Cody Schuffler of East Burke, has made an oral commitment to attend Presbyterian College in South Carolina, and a Division I school in the Big South Conference. Point guard Ethan Kincaid of Freedom has committed to Wingate University, a Division II school from the South Atlantic Conference.

Nikki Setzer has resigned her post as women's basketball coach at Alexander Central after three years. The Cougars were 0-24 last year, and they closed out NW4A play losing 27 consecutive games. The last team they beat was WHS in the final regular-season game in the 2006-07 campaign. That was also Todd Dixon's final year as coach of the Pioneers.

Adam Windmiller has resigned his post as men's basketball coach at South Caldwell after three years. He was 19-56 during that stretch, and the Spartans ,who have lost 25 consecutive games in NW4A play, were 1-24 last season.