

Softball Takes a Pair at Gamecock Invitational

Written by Justin Bohn

Monday, 27 February 2012 08:31

Appalachian State University softball wrapped up its weekend at the Gamecock Invitational with a pair of victories versus George Washington, 8-2, and Presbyterian, 6-5, on Sunday at Beckham Field. The Mountaineers

(6-5) were led by juniors Meghan Smith and Allie Cashion with a combined 10 hits, seven RBIs and five runs and earned all-tournament recognition. Smith batted a team-high 6-for-8 for the day adding three RBIs and three runs, while Cashion tallied four hits and four RBIs. Freshman Caroline Wainright earned ASU's two wins with 10.2 innings in the circle and nine strikeouts. Appalachian started off the day with five-straight singles against George Washington (0-8). Megan Rembielak scored the team's first run on a Smith single up the middle. Cashion added two more runs on a base knock to right field and gave ASU 4-0 lead when she stole home. Senior Lindsay Whitlock ended the Apps first frame with a RBI single to the pitcher to extend ASU's lead to 5-0.

The Mountaineers continued their offensive in the second-inning with three runs. Smith doubled to right center to score Rembielak. Whitlock increased ASU's lead to 8-0 on a RBI double to left field.

The Colonials got on the board in the third frame when Autumn Taylor homered to left center to score Samantha Dos Santos to cut into the Black and Gold's lead, 8-2.

Wainright fanned a career-high eight GW batters and scattered seven hit in the complete game victory.

George Washington's Courtney Martin gave up five runs and five hits without recording an out.

In Appalachian's final game in Columbia versus Presbyterian (2-6) the Apps led off first-inning with three runs. Smith recorded her third RBI of the day, while Cashion doubled to center field to score Sarah Warnock and Smith to give the Apps a 3-0 lead.

Rembielak led off the second frame with single to the shortstop, stole second and eventually scored on a passed ball to extend ASU's advantage to 4-0.

The Blue Hose's Morgan Durham recorded PC's second hit of the game in the bottom of the fourth. Courtney Lawton sacrifice flied to center to score Durham and get PC on the board, 4-1. Mary Ellen Morris doubled to right field to score Cat Tarvin. Padgett Harrington earned a two-out pinch hit walk help Presbyterian cut their deficit to 4-3.

The Mountaineers responded on the fifth when Whitlock led the inning off with a double to left field. Dani Heichen singled to left and stole second to put a two Mountaineers in scoring position. Whitlock scored on a wild pitch and Heichen crossed the plate on a throwing error by the catcher to give ASU a 6-3 lead.

Presbyterian rallied in the bottom of seventh with a pair of hits to start off the inning. Erin Taylor doubled to right center to score Durham and Jill McLean and put the Blue Hose a run down, 6-5. The Mountaineers ended PC's late rally with a game ending double play.

Caitlin Wainright started for ASU with 3.1 innings of work and gave up three runs on four hits. Caroline Wainright closed out the game to earn her fourth win of the season.

The Mountaineers head to Spartanburg, S.C. on March 2-4 for the Subway Spartan Classic where they will play a pair of games against Dayton and N.C. Central and end their weekend

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trip versus host USC Upstate.

All-Tournament Team:

Lauren Lackey, South Carolina

Evan Childs, South Carolina

Kierstyn White, South Carolina

Erin O'Shea, Elon

Camille Hill, Elon

Allie Cashion, Appalachian State

Meghan Smith, Appalachian State

Jill McLean, Presbyterian

Autumn Taylor, George Washington

Tournament MVP: Samie Garcia, South Carolina

Photo Courtesy: Meghan Smith, by Robert Boyd, ASU Athletics