

ASU Commits Four Errors, Falls 13-3

Written by Mike Flynn
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Georgia Southern took advantage of four Appalachian State University baseball errors and evened the teams' three-game Southern Conference series with a 13-3 win on Saturday evening at J.I. Clements Stadium. Despite the setback, 27th-ranked Appalachian (25-8, 10-4 SoCon) maintained its grip on first place in the

SoCon standings, thanks to Samford's 5-3 victory over second-place College of Charleston (24-12, 13-7 SoCon) on Saturday. Even with two of their four errors coming in the first three innings, the Mountaineers trailed just 4-2 after four-and-a-half stanzas. However, the wheels came off for the Apps in the bottom of the fifth, as Georgia Southern (21-16, 9-8 SoCon) sent 11 batters to the plate and scored seven runs on five hits to take a commanding 11-2 lead. The Eagles hit just two balls out of the infield during the fateful fifth but benefitted from three infield hits, a defensive miscue on a sacrifice bunt and a two-run error to plate their seven runs, the most allowed by Appalachian in a single frame this season.

ASU starter Seth Grant (Etowah, N.C./West Henderson), who had won each of his last six starts, allowed season highs for hits (9), runs (10) and earned runs (6) to snap the winning streak and fall to 6-2 on the campaign. Georgia Southern's 13 runs and 15 hits overall were also the most allowed by Appalachian as a team this year. The Mountaineers banged out 10 hits but stranded eight runners on base. Hector Crespo (Miami, Fla./Florida Christian) paced the 10-hit attack by going 3-for-4 with a double, RBI and run scored.

Appalachian and Georgia Southern play the rubber match of their three-game SoCon series on Sunday. First pitch is set for 1:30 p.m. at Clements Stadium.

Photo Courtesy: Seth Grant, ASU Athletics