

Pioneers Struggle Saturday In DH Loss

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The Watauga High softball team dropped a pair of games on Saturday in Winston-Salem following the Easter holiday break. The Pioneers (7-8) lost to Pfafftown-Reagan 8-3 in the first game; they dropped a 14-1 decision to Central Cabarrus in the second game. Micahala McCune suffered the loss in game one. She went three innings

and was touched up for four runs on two hits. She also gave up six walks in the losing cause. As a whole, the WHS pitching staff coughed up nine walks in Saturday's first game. Kim Robinson was WHS's most productive player going 3-3 with a home run and two runs-batted-in. Hope LaPointe had two hits and scored a run; Riley Pudney had a hit, she walked and scored a run. McCune and Hallie Leonard had one base hit apiece.

Things only got worse in game two, as Central Cabarrus exploded for seven runs in the first inning against Pudney, who got the starting nod and suffered the loss. Pudney also gave up six hits before she departed with one out in the second inning. Pudney also drove in WHS's only run in the night cap. LaPointe doubled in the first inning, and Pudney singled her home. Savannah Drummonds had the other WHS hit.

"It was a tough day on the ball field," said WHS coach Stephanie Long. "I think the girls were mentally still on spring break, but that's the whole reason why I scheduled these games because we do not need to be coming back to play this week without being a little more focused. It was a good wake-up call for us."

The day wasn't a total loss, however. The JV team defeated Reagan 7-6. Savannah Drummonds had two hits, a walk and scored three times for the Pioneers; Shelby Winebarger had two singles, a walk and scored twice; Kylie McCoury had a base hit, a walk and scored a run. Mariska Watts and Sarah Combs each had a base hit. Winning pitcher Megan Jackson went the distance, allowed 6 runs on 4 hits, struck out nine and walked two. The Pioneers travel to Taylorsville to play Alexander Central Tuesday night.