

## ASU Softball Splits Twinbill at Samford

Written by Justin Bohn  
Saturday, 28 April 2012 22:46

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Appalachian State University softball split its doubleheader with Samford on Saturday at Bulldog Field. ASU won the opener 8-6, but lost the night cap, 11-7. The Mountaineers moved to 21-22 overall and 9-12 in Southern Conference play while the Bulldogs moved to 12-37 and 5-15 in league play. In game one, Samford jumped out to an early lead when Misha Aldridge crushed a two-run home run in the first inning. In the third the Bulldogs increased their lead with a

four run inning. Aldridge blasted a three-run bomb to left field and gave SU a 5-0 lead. Shelby Scotts ripped RBI-double to left center to put ASU in a 6-0 hole.

The Mountaineers started to chip their way back into the game when they got on the board in the fourth inning. Meghan Smith led off the inning with a single to left and scored two batters later on a sacrifice fly by freshman Caroline Rogers.

Appalachian put up a four spot in the fifth, which started by a pinch hit single by freshman Whitney Johnson. ASU loaded up the base and Caroline Williams roped a pinch hit RBI-single to cut ASU's deficit to 6-2. Smith doubled through right side to score two and Allie Cashion sacrifice flied to put the Mountaineers within one run, 6-5.

The Black and Gold scored for the third straight inning in the sixth and took an 8-6 lead.

Freshman Cynthia Gomez started the Apps hitting with a one-out double to right center and advanced to third on a Dani Heichen comebacker to the pitcher. Senior Megan Rembielak singled down the right field line to score Gomez and tie up the game six all. Smith then earned a two-out walk to load up the bases and Cashion came through in the clutch with a RBI-single. Rembielak scored an insurance run on wild pitch which gave ASU a 8-6 lead.

Freshman Riley Carter earned the win with four and a third scoreless relief innings. The rookie fanned five Bulldogs and only allowed one hit to for her third win of the season. Senior Caitlin Wainright started for the Apps and gave up six runs on five hit in two and two thirds of work. The Mountaineers out hit the Bulldogs 11-6 and Warnock and Rembielak led the team with two hits apiece. In game two, Samford once again took 2-0 lead in the first inning on three hits and held the Mountaineers scoreless till the fourth inning.

In the fourth frame, Carter earned a walk and moved to second on a single from Rogers.

Michelle Lighton walked to load up the bases for pinch hitter Williams. Williams crushed a grand slam home run over the left field wall to give ASU a 4-2 lead.

Appalachian added on three more runs in the fifth to take 7-2 lead. Smith launched a solo homer to left center and force SU to change pitchers. SU's Scott walked the first two batters and a batter later Lighton hit a RBI-single up the middle. Carter scored the Apps seventh run on a Gomez sacrifice fly in foul territory.

The Bulldogs responded in the bottom half of the fifth with two runs of their own. Robyn Harmon led the inning off with a double to left and scored on a RBI-single Alex Adams. Adams moved into scoring position on a wild pitch and scored on a single up the middle by Abby Adams, 7-4.

Samford tied the game up 7-7 in the sixth with the help of five Mountaineer errors. Arica Dykes started the inning off with a single and advanced to second on an error by the shortstop.

Caroline Seay bunt singled and moved to second while Dykes scored on an error by the first baseman. Madison Dickey singled up the middle to score Seay and a batter later Harmon

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reached base on an error fielding error by the first baseman. Aldridge blasted a single of the right field wall to score Harmon to tie the game.

ASU's Rogers led off the seventh with a double to left center but the Mountaineers weren't able to score Rogers as they went down in order. The Bulldogs loaded up the bases and with two outs Alex Adams shot one over the scoreboard for a walk-off grand slam.

Wainright started the game and gave up four runs on seven hits and was relieved by Carter, who gave up seven runs (five earned) on 10 hits for the loss.

Warnock and Rogers led the Apps with three hits apiece while Rembielak tallied a pair.

The Mountaineers will wrap up their Southern Conference series with Samford on Sunday at 2 p.m. EST at Bulldog Field.