

Mountaineers Nip Virginia, 6-5

Written by Staff Reports
Sunday, 03 June 2012 18:11

The Appalachian State University baseball team is just one win away from a Super Regional berth. The Mountaineers took a serious step in that direction Sunday afternoon as they knocked off Virginia, the No.1 seed in the Charlottesville Regional, 6-5 at Davenport Field. A five-run second inning and some nifty pitching by Seth Grant, Ryan Frankoff and Nathan Hyatt

pushed ASU into a 4 p.m. match up Monday afternoon against either Oklahoma or Virginia. Those teams will play each other later tonight. Coverage begins at 3:40 p.m. Monday afternoon on AM 1450, WATA. Daniel Kassouf's two-run single in a five-run second inning was the big blow for ASU. That outburst gave ASU (41-16) a commanding 6-0 lead.

Virginia began chipping away with three runs in the fourth. Keith Werman knocked in a run with a safety squeeze bunt and Chris Taylor added an RBI single for the Cavaliers (38-18-1). Stephen Bruno drove in a run with a fielder's choice. Virginia picked up another run in the sixth on a sacrifice fly by Taylor that made it, 6-4;. Stephen Bruno, who singled to lead-off the seventh, was eventually balked home by relief pitcher Ryan Frankoff. It's the second time in as many days that the Mountaineers have balked a runner home.

Winning pitcher Seth Grant left the game after he yielded a lead-off single to Bruno in the seventh. Grant gave up five runs, four earned on six hits with four strikeouts. He also hit two batters. Nathan Hyatt came on in the ninth, retired the side in order and picked up his 16th save.

ASU's last post-season win (before this recent surge) in regional play came in 1973.