

Post 29 Avoids Elimination

Written by Staff Reports

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The Caldwell County Post 29 American Legion baseball team staved off elimination Friday night with a 6-3 win against Randolph County Post 45 in an elimination game at the American Legion State Tournament at MS Deal Stadium in Granite Falls. A four-run rally in the sixth inning wiped out a 2-1 deficit and put Post 29 on top to stay. Max Linnville, who played

at Watauga High and will attend Western Carolina University this fall, knocked in the tying run with a double in the sixth inning. Bryson Bowman followed with a run-scoring single that plated Linnville with the go-ahead run. Josh Murphy had a two-run double in the frame that gave Caldwell County a 6-2 lead.

Drew Bolick picked up the complete-game win. He went nine innings and gave up three runs, on earned, on eight hits with four walks and a strikeout. Linnville was 1-4 with a run scored and an RBI; David Martin, another former Pioneer who will attend Lenior-Rhyne University this fall, was 2-3 with two runs scored. Post 29 will play Cherryville Post 100 in an elimination game Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. Wilmington Post 10 hammered Cherryville, winning on the mercy rule, 16-5 in 7 innings. Wilmington had 14 hits and took advantage of 10 Cherryville walks and three hit batters.

Post 10 got one hit, three walks and a hit batter in a three-run fifth, then had five hits, one walk and a fielding error in a five-run sixth. Post 10 closed the game in a three-run seventh inning with three hits, two walks and a fielding error. Chris Hicks and Collin Thacker had three hits each and Chance Shepard and Jack Faircloth had two hits each to lead the Wilmington offense. Thacker and Christian Wolfe each drove in three runs, with all three of Wolfe's coming on a home run to center field in the sixth inning.