

Bobcats Drop Season-Opening DH At Newberry

Written by Whitney Noble

Monday, 04 February 2013 07:27

Junior Alison Armstrong (Bellingham, Mass.) launched her first career home run to lead the Lees-McRae College softball team, as the Bobcats dropped a non-conference doubleheader to Newberry College on Saturday afternoon to open their season.

Newberry (2-0) won the opener by a score of 9-1 in five innings, pushing at least one run across in each frame, before completing the sweep by a tally of 7-1 in the night cap. The Wolves held Lees-McRae (0-2) to five hits on the day, including Armstrong's first collegiate home run in game two.

Armstrong tallied the Bobcats' lone RBI in the twin bill, as Kendall Fowler (Buford, Ga.), Sadie Lagle (Harmony, N.C.), Kristen Oakes (Lenoir, N.C.), and Brooke Sheridan (Rosman, N.C.) each recorded a base hit. Lagle posted Lees-McRae's second extra-base hit of the day with a double in the night cap.

Holli Crickenberger (Boydton, Va.) got the nod in game one, allowing five earned runs and striking out one in four and a third innings of work. Oakes took the ball in the night cap, lasting six innings and striking out two.

Katie Capobianco, Casey Stevens, and Jennifer Yancey each paced Newberry with a three-hit day, combining to drive in five runs as 11 Wolves recorded at least one base hit. Darrian Jamison, Danielle Basch, Capobianco, and Stevens each drove in two runs for the Wolves. Kaylyn Camacho took the ball in game one for Newberry, allowing one unearned run on just one walk in five innings of work. Shelley Jeffcoat got the nod in the night cap, surrendering one run on five hits and striking out five in a complete game effort.

Game One: Newberry 9, Lees-McRae 1 (Five innings) (Box Score)

Newberry opened the scoring in the bottom of the first, taking an early 1-0 advantage on an RBI double by Leah Hosking. The Wolves would extend the lead to 3-0 in the second, pushing across two runs following a pair of Bobcat miscues.

Capobianco added a run-scoring single in the third to stretch the margin to 4-0 before the Wolves tallied three in the fourth, pushing the lead to 7-0 on a two-run triple by Stevens. The Bobcats got on the board in the top of the fifth, cutting the lead to 7-1 when Lagle scampered home after forcing an errant throw on a sacrifice bunt by Oakes.

Newberry would cap the win with two in the bottom of the frame, invoking the eight-run rule on an RBI single by Brittany Phillips.

Game Two: Newberry 7, Lees-McRae 1 (Box Score)

Armstrong got the Bobcats on the board first in the night cap, launching a two-out homer to right center in the top of the first to give the Bobcats a 1-0 advantage. The Wolves would respond in the second, pushing across three runs in the second to take a 3-1 lead following a two-run triple from Basch.

Newberry added three runs in the fifth, stretching the advantage to 6-1 on a two-run double by Jamison before capping the scoring with a pinch-hit run-scoring single by Gwenell Crawford in the bottom of the sixth.

Lees-McRae returns to the diamond on Sunday when the Bobcats travel to Anderson, S.C. to take on Anderson University in a non-conference doubleheader at 1 p.m.

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On Sunday, the Anderson University softball team held Lees-McRae College to three hits en route to a doubleheader sweep on Sunday afternoon in non-conference play.

Anderson (4-0) swept the twin-bill with 8-0 five-inning wins in each contest, collecting 18 hits, including four doubles and three home runs. The Trojans held Lees-McRae (0-4) to three hits, allowing a total of eight Bobcats to reach base on the afternoon.

Brooke Sheridan (Rosman, N.C.), Kierstie Moon (Oxford, Ga.), and Sadie Lagle (Harmony, N.C.) each tallied a hit in the twin-bill for the Bobcats. Kristen Oakes (Lenoir, N.C.) took the ball in game one, walking three in four innings of work. Hollie Crickenberger (Boydton, Va.) got the nod in game two, striking out three and walking two through four frames.

Abby Child led the way for Anderson with a 3-for-3 day, tallying two doubles to pace a group of six Trojans with multi-hit days. Bri Cason, Jessica Neidigh, Molly Child, Rebecca Martin, and Laura Jansky each posted a pair of base knocks, as Neidigh paced Anderson with four RBIs and a home run.

Charlotte Sieber and Samantha Young each launched a round-tripper of their own, as Danielle Swygert knocked in three runs. Bailey Smith got the nod in game one for the Trojans, allowing just one hit and one walk while striking out six. Lauren Bell took the ball in the night cap, surrendering two hits and striking out four.

Game One: Anderson 8, Lees-McRae 0 – Five innings (Box Score)

Anderson opened the scoring in the second inning, pushing across four runs on a solo homer by Young and a three-run shot from Neidigh to take an early 4-0 lead. The Trojans would push the lead to five in the fourth before capping the scoring with three in the fifth, closing out the win on an RBI single by Martin.

Game Two: Anderson 8, Lees-McRae 0 – Five Innings (Box Score)

The Trojans got on the board in the bottom of the first, tallying four runs on a run-scoring double by Abby Child, a two-run single from Swygert, and a sacrifice fly by Young. Anderson pushed the lead to seven in the second, pushing across three runs. Sieber capped the scoring in the fourth, launching a solo home run to center.

Lees-McRae returns to the diamond on Saturday, February 9 when the Bobcats travel to Savannah, Ga. to take on Tusculum College and Armstrong Atlantic State University at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., respectively.

Photo Courtesy: Alison Armstrong, LMC Athletics