

Virginia Eliminates Elon In Regional Final

Written by Staff Reports
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A great run that began in the Southern Conference Championship ended in the final round of the NCAA Charlottesville Regional as the Elon baseball squad saw its season come to an end with an 11-3 defeat at the hands of sixth-ranked Virginia on Sunday night.

Elon, which won seven of its final nine games of the 2013 season, finished the year with a 34-30 record. The Maroon and Gold reached the regional final for the first time in its six NCAA tournament appearances. Virginia will advance to the Super Regional round of the NCAA tournament with a 50-10 mark.

Just 24 hours after failing to score against this same Virginia team, Elon wasted no time getting on the board against the Cavaliers. Quinn Bower led off the game with a double down the left-field line and later rode home when Ryan Kinsella went to the opposite field for his 21st home run of the season as the Maroon and Gold built a 2-0 lead in the first.

Elon extended its lead to 3-0 in the third when Alex Swim scored from first on a two-out double into the left-field corner by Casey Jones.

A one-out double from Jared King in the bottom of the third scored Nate Irving, who had led off with a double, to get Virginia on the board. After back-to-back walks loaded the bases, Derek Fisher singled through the right side to drive home two to tie the game up at 3. A two-out single into center from Nick Howard drove home two more as the Cavaliers moved in front by a 5-3 margin. It became 6-3 on the next pitch as Kenny Towns lined a double down the left-field line. Virginia's lead reached 7-3 when Brandon Downes doubled down the left-field line in the fourth inning to score Joe McCarthy. A single followed to make it 8-3. The Cavaliers tacked on single runs in the fifth, seventh and eighth to complete their scoring.

The loss went to Nate Young (2-2), who allowed five runs on four hits in 2 1/3 innings. Picking up the win was David Rosenberger (3-0), who kept the Phoenix off-balance for five innings in relief. He did not allow a run and only gave up two hits.

Kinsella, Jones and Chris Bresnahan were named to the all-regional team.

Photo Courtesy: Ryan Kinsella, SoCon Athletics