

App State Commits Five Errors in Shutout Loss

Written by Mike Flynn

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Appalachian State University baseball committed five errors that led to five unearned runs in a 7-0 loss to No. 6 NC State on Saturday afternoon at Doak Field.

NC State scored unearned runs in the first and second innings, two in the sixth and one more in the seventh. The Wolfpack's only two earned runs came in the fourth.

Appalachian State's five errors were its most since it committed five in a 12-7 loss to Butler almost exactly one year ago on Feb. 23, 2013.

The Mountaineers also struggled at the plate with their only hits coming on singles by Dillon Dobson (Hamptonville, N.C./Starmount) and Michael Pierson (Coral Springs, Fla./Pine Crest) in the first and fourth innings. NC State starter Logan Jernigan and reliever Jon Olczak combined to retire Appalachian's final 15 batters in order.

Appalachian State starting pitcher Tyler Moore (Banner Elk, N.C./Watauga) was the primary victim of the Mountaineers' sloppy fielding, as just two of the six runs that he was saddled with over 5.2 innings were earned. Relievers Payton Smith (Alpharetta, Ga./Milton) and Caleb McCann (McLeansville, N.C./Northeast Guilford) combined for 2.1 hitless innings to close the game.

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Jake Fincher had two of NC State's seven hits and drove in three runs for the Wolfpack, which won its fifth-straight game and moved to 5-1.

With the loss, Appalachian fell to 0-6 against a grueling early-season schedule that has already included five games against nationally ranked opponents (three at No. 25 Arkansas, two at No. 6 NC State).

The Mountaineers will look to salvage the final game of their three-game series in Raleigh on Sunday. First pitch is set for 1 p.m.