

## Two Home Runs Power Apps Past Eagles

Written by James Ashley  
Sunday, 23 March 2014 08:38

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The Appalachian State University baseball scored all of its runs on two home runs and evened its three-game weekend series versus Georgia Southern with a 3-2 victory on Saturday at J.I. Clements Stadium.

Sophomore Alex Leach opened the scoring with a solo home run in the third inning and sophomore Dillon Dobson added a two-run shot in the fourth to give Appalachian State (6-15, 1-1 SoCon) a 3-0 lead.

Georgia Southern (18-6, 2-3 SoCon) plated two runs in the bottom of the fourth on a two-run double by Ben Morgan but those would be the only runs the Eagles would muster against three Appalachian State pitchers.

Sixth-year senior Tyler Moore earned his fourth-straight win by limiting Georgia Southern to two runs on five hits over seven innings of work. After the Eagles cut the Mountaineers' lead to 3-2 in the fourth, Moore did not allow a hit to the final nine batters that he faced.

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Freshman Dallas DeVrieze worked a perfect eighth and junior Taylor Thurber retired three of the four batters he faced in the bottom of the ninth for his first save of the season. GSU made things interesting against Thurber in the ninth when Morgan reached on an error to lead off the inning, advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt and stole third to put the tying run 90 feet away with two outs. However, Thurber froze pinch-hitter Robbie Dodds on a 3-2 pitch — the eighth pitch of the at-bat — to end the game.

Leach and Dobson highlighted Appalachian State's seven-hit attack with their home runs. Leach hit his first home run since Feb. 24 of last season versus Butler; Dobson's belted his team-leading third of the year. Matt Brill added two hits for the Mountaineers.

Ryan Cleveland led Georgia Southern with two hits. Josh Wirsu surrendered all three runs in 5.1 innings of work to fall to 4-2 on the season.

Sunday's series finale has been moved up one hour to 12:30 p.m. due to a forecast for afternoon rain in the Statesboro area. Appalachian State's Jeffrey Springs (1-0) is slated to square off against Georgia Southern's Will Middour (1-0) in the rubber match.

NOTES: Moore has allowed just four earned runs over his last 31.1 innings of work, dating back to Feb. 22 versus No. 6 NC State ... just four of the 29 hits that Moore has allowed in his four

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March starts have been for extra bases (four doubles) ... Brill has gone 2-for-4 in each of the first two games of the series and has nine hits in his last 19 at-bats ... Appalachian State has won seven of its last 12 games versus Georgia Southern ... with a win on Sunday, the Mountaineers would claim their fourth series victory over GSU in the last seven years.

**Photo Courtesy: Tyler Moore, ASU Athletics**