

Phoenix Nips App State, 4-2

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The Appalachian State University baseball team dropped its second Southern Conference series of the season, losing 4-2 in the rubber game of its three game series with Elon at Latham Park on Sunday.

The Phoenix (25-15 overall; 11-7 Southern Conference) snapped a 1-1 tie with two runs in the fifth. Consecutive run-scoring singles by Quinn Bower and Blaine Bower gave Elon a 3-1 lead.

Tyler Stroup homered in the top of the sixth to make it 3-2, but an RBI double by Ryan Cooper gave the Phoenix an insurance run in the bottom of the inning.

Jake Saltzer made that lead stand up going into the ninth inning, when things got a little interesting. Ryan Pennell came on in relief and coughed up a pair of walks to Tyler Zupcic and Preston Troutman with two outs. But he retired Bradley Morton on a fly ball to center field to end the game.

Stalzer picked up the win for the Phoenix, pitching eight complete innings, giving up two runs on

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four hits. He also had four strikeouts. Pennell got the save. Casey Jones led the Phoenix with two hits, a run and a walk. Quinn Bower had one hit, one run and one RBI on the day.

Jeffrey Springs was charged with the loss, pitching six full innings and giving up four earned runs on nine hits with six strikeouts. Robert Whaley replaced him in the seventh inning and gave up only one hit, facing seven batters. Stroup and Pierson both had two hits for the Mountaineers. App State only made four hits.

Appalachian will continue with its road trip traveling to Blacksburg, Va. to take on Virginia Tech Tuesday at 5:30. Coverage begins at 5:10 p.m. on AM 1450, WATA.

Photo Courtesy: Preston Troutman, App State Athletics