

Spartans Sweep App State In Softball Twinbill

Written by Staff Reports
Sunday, 27 April 2014 09:20

It was a long, frustrating day for the Appalachian State University softball team on Saturday afternoon at Symassink/Lloyd Family Stadium. The Mountaineers (17-28; 5-11) dropped a pair games to UNC-Greensboro, 11-5 in game one, 20-19 in game two. The Spartans hit eight home runs in Saturday's doubleheader sweep.

In game one, the Spartans (23-24; 6-11) took an early lead and broke the game open with a five-run third inning. Lindsay Thomas backboned the inning with a three-run homer that gave UNCG a 7-3 lead.

Ashley Seering had a two-run single in the bottom of the first for App State; Lindsay Loudermilk and Terry ground each had an RBI for the Mountaineers in the loss. Alissa Schoelkopf got the start and suffered the loss. She gave up nine runs, four earned in just pitched 2.2 innings.

In game two, the Spartans outlasted App State, 20-19. App State set three program records in the loss for runs scored, RBI and hits. The 19 runs and 18 RBIs bested the previous records set in 2009 against North Carolina Central with 18 runs, 17 RBIs, and 20 hits, the Mountaineers also topped a 2006 performance against Chattanooga in which they tallied 18 hits.

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The Spartans, who led for the majority of the game, finally took control in the fourth and fifth innings. They scored a combined eight runs during that stretch, snapping a 5-5 tie, to take a 13-5 lead. But the Apps responded with their one of their biggest innings of the day when they plated five runs in the bottom of the fifth, narrowing the gap at 13-10. Seering had a two-run single to center field; Cara Parker had an RBI single of her own in the inning.

But the Spartans retaliated with seven runs in the sixth to extend their lead at 20-10. The inning was powered by another Nicole Thomas blasted her second home run of the day, a three-run shot to center field. Katelyn Bedwell drove in two with a single, and Toni MacReynolds hit a two-run homer in the inning.

App State came back to make it 20-15 with five more runs in the bottom of the sixth. Lindsay Loudermilk provided the firepower with a grand slam to highlight the rally. And the Apps came charging back to score four more runs in the bottom of the seventh that pulled them within one at 20-19.

Kristen Terry got things started with a lead-off triple. She scored on an infield bunt single by Dani Heichen, who extend her hitting streak to 13-games. Cynthia Gomez singled, Warnock drove in Heichen with a run scoring single, and Loudermilk singled to load the bases. Seering plated two runs with a base hit to center field making it 20-19.. But with runners at second and third and one out, Raeanne Hanks came on in relief to end the threat as she picked up her first save of the season.

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Landeros got the start and coughed up 12 runs on eight hits in 3.2 innings. Seering led the Apps on Saturday going 6-for-9 and driving in seven runs. Terry went 5-for-7 on the day with four runs scored. Heichen went 5-for-8 extending her hit streak and scored five runs and drove in her second run of the season. Loudermilk hit her second home run of the season and first grand slam of her career and went 2-for-7 with five RBIs in both games.

The Mountaineers and Spartans will finish the series on Sunday with a 1 p.m. Following the game, the softball program will honor its seniors after the game.

Photo Courtesy: Lindsay Loudermilk, App State Athletics