

Bulldogs Outslug Appalachian, 16-10

Written by James Ashley
Saturday, 10 May 2014 12:56

Samford University scored five runs in both the second and third innings and went on to beat Appalachian State 16-10 Friday night at J.L. Griffin Field.

Samford (30-21, 13-9 SoCon) plated 12 runs in the first three innings to take a huge lead in Friday's slugfest. Both teams combined for 30 hits (15 apiece) and 26 runs. Seven of Samford's 15 hits were extra base hits; all of Appalachian (16-30, 9-12) hits were singles. The Bulldogs scored in each of the first five innings, taking an early 16-6 lead before Appalachian staged a mini comeback.

With a variety of hits to the left side of the field, the Mountaineers was able to close the 10-run gap to six in the sixth inning. Alex Leach got things started with a single to left field. Zach Hummel reached on a fielder's choice, while Leach was able to slide into second base before the throw. Tyler Stroup brought Leach home with a single to left field. Preston Troutman singled up the middle that loaded the bases and Michael Pierson singled to left center to score two. The fourth run scored when the pitcher balked.

Sean Mason pitched 2.1 innings but was credited with the loss after giving up ten runs. Dallas DeVrieze relieved him in the third but gave up two runs of his own. Caleb McCann pitched the

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Mountaineers final five innings, giving up four runs but only one was earned.

Stroup went 4-5 with two RBIs and three runs scored, raising his batting average over to .311 on the season. Jaylin Davis and Dillon Dobson both had two hits and two RBIs; Pierson knocked in two runs.

Six different Bulldogs had two hits while three of them accounted for three RBIs. Brandon Powell led Samford with a pair of home runs and three RBI on the night.

Alex Ledford picked up the win for the Bulldogs, pitching 5.1 innings and was credited with all of Appalachian's runs; nine were earned. Patrick Curry retired 10 of the last 11 batters he faced to earn his second save of the season. The Mountaineers will send Tyler Moore on the mound on Saturday at the J.L. Griffin Field at 3 p.m. (eastern time).

Photo Courtesy: Tyler Stroup, App State Athletics