

# UNCP softball drops two to North Georgia

By Nick Phillips  
Asst. Sports Editor

The Lady Braves softball team hosted top-ranked North Georgia on March 7 and fell to the top team in both games of the doubleheader. In the first game, UNCP lost 3-0 before dropping game two by a 9-3 score.

Junior Courtney Hill finished with three hits over the two games for the Lady Braves, while freshman teammate Holly Berry drove in two of UNCP's three total runs.

In game one, junior Caroline Newman was saddled with the loss, as North Georgia scored all of their runs in the first two innings.

In the top of the first, North Georgia used a sacrifice fly to score their first run before scoring two more times in the second thanks to a triple and single that both drove in a run.

The Lady Braves left runners in scoring position in both the third and

fourth innings, as they were unable to secure any hit needed to plate runs. In the final three innings, UNCP would only tally one base runner as the game finished with its 3-0 score.

## North Georgia leads

North Georgia again jumped ahead early in the second game, scoring six runs in the top of the third, highlighted by a grand slam.

Freshman Alex Hartshorn was tacked with the game two loss for the Lady Braves.

UNCP would get on the scoreboard in the fourth inning. Berry knocked a two-run homer to left field that drove in Hill to trim the lead to 6-2 before junior Loren Bartz followed two batters later with a solo home run of her own.

The Lady Braves would leave the bases loaded in the inning, in what would turn out to be their final scoring opportunity of the afternoon.



Caroline Newman hurls a pitch to the plate. Newman picked up a loss against North Georgia in the first game, falling 3-0.

Photo by Matt Smith



Courtney Hill prepares for a pitch.

Photo by Matt Smith

## Alex Hartshorn throws no-hitter

By Jared Leblanc  
Asst. Sports Editor

The Lady Braves softball team split a doubleheader with the Bearcats of Lander University March 6 at LRA field.

The Black and Gold came up short in their first game losing 6-7 after coming up just shy in the final inning. However, they turned it around in the second game, winning 10-0 in five innings.

The split moves the Braves' record to 13-7 overall and 4-4 in the Peach Belt Conference, while the Bearcats' record went to 9-11 overall and 1-3 in the PBC.

Jelena Shaw and Holly Berry led the Braves at the dish, each recording four hits and having a home run apiece. Shaw also led the Braves with four RBIs.

### Game one

Despite the good hitting, the bright spot for the Black and Gold was Alex Hartshorn, who pitched her first career no-

hitter in the second game. Along with her no hitter, she recorded one strikeout and allowed only one Bearcat to reach base, which came from a Braves' error.

Lander took the early lead in the first game when Daisy Stewart hit a single in the first inning with runners at first and second.

The Bearcats continued to roll into the fourth when Stewart hit a solo shot to push the score to 3-0.

Lander continued to cruise all the way to the final inning where the score was 7-1. The Braves, however, were able to fight back when Courtney Hill and Berry hit back-to-back homers putting the Braves within three.

The Black and Gold were able to pick up a few more runs due to poor pitching and sloppy play by the Bearcats. The Braves would come up short with the bases loaded when Lander performed a double play.

By Jared Leblanc  
Asst. Sports Editor

The Black and Gold softball team came up big in the double header against Georgia College, winning both games March 9 in Milledgeville, Ga.

The Braves took game one in a close affair winning 3-1, but in game two the Braves really swung the hammer, beating the Bobcats 10-2 in six innings.

The two wins move the Black and Gold's record to 15-9 overall and 6-6 in the Peach Belt Conference. The losses add to the dismal season the Bobcats are having as their record fell to 9-18 overall and 1-3 in the PBC.

The Braves were led by freshman Holly Berry who had two dingers and six RBIs. Berry wasn't the only big bat for the Black and Gold, as Loren Bartz went 4-for-4 and had two walks, while Randi Pruitt added three hits. Courtney Hill and Morgan Patrick each had two hits to add to the Braves' total.

Alex Hartshorn picked up the win in both games improving her record to 6-2 on the season. Hartshorn pitched the first four innings of the first game, giving up only one run and three hits. Caroline Newman pitched the last three innings, allowing only one base runner to get on while securing her first save of the season.

Hartshorn and Jamie

Burwell each pitched three innings in the second game, giving up one run two hits and throwing four strikeouts.

### Game one

The first game started out slow as neither team was able to get on the board until the third inning when Berry drove in Jelena Shaw to make the score 1-0. However, the Bobcats tied it up in the bottom half of the inning when they scored on a Black and Gold fielding error.

The Braves took the lead back in the fourth when they scored off a wild pitch. They would get a little insurance in the top of the seventh when Patrick smacked a solo shot to make the score 3-

1. The Bobcats were unable to get anything going in the bottom half of the inning which secured the win for the Braves.

Bartz got the bats started in game two when she drove in Pruitt with a single to make the score 1-0 in the top of the second inning.

The Black and Gold kept the bats going in the third, scoring off Patrick's sac-fly followed by a two-run blast from Berry to push the score to 4-0.

The Bobcats were also able to squeeze in one run in the third to cut the Braves' lead to three. However, the Black and Gold poured it on in the fourth, scoring five runs, two of which came off of a Berry double.



Black and Gold freshman Holly Berry swings at a pitch in the Braves' game against Lander.

Photo by Matt Smith