

Augusta State sweeps Braves

By Nick Phillips
Asst. Sports Editor

The UNCP softball team traveled to Augusta State for a Peach Belt Conference doubleheader on Feb. 27 and came away with two losses on the afternoon. The Lady Braves lost a tight game 5-4 before falling in the second game 9-1.

Lynn Grantham and Jelena Shaw each had two hits on the day for UNCP, while Loren Bartz drove in two runs thanks to a home run.

In game one, Augusta State jumped out to a three run lead. Shaw scored in the fourth inning before Augusta State had two more runs cross the plate in their half of the fourth to stretch the lead to 5-1.

The Lady Braves scored three runs in the sixth inning, led by Bartz's home run, to come within one run. But UNCP was unable to push

across another run in the final inning and a half.

In game two, Augusta State again jumped out to an early lead, this time scoring seven runs in the second inning. Augusta State added on another run in the third inning for an 8-0 lead.

UNCP scored on a Grantham single, but it would be answered by another Augusta State run in the bottom of the fourth.

The lone run was all the Braves could muster in game two, and the game ended in five innings.

The Braves picked up just three hits in the final game, as Augusta State's Emily Cornish held the Black and Gold to one run in four innings of work.

Cornish also had three strikeouts and allowed no walks in the second game.

Kimberly Kennedy closed the game, earning three strike outs while allowing no hits.



Black and Gold freshman Holly Berry waits for a ball while playing shortstop.

Photo by Matt Smith

Braves steal two wins from visiting St. Thomas



UNCP's Leigh Smith squares up for a bunt.

Photo by Matt Smith

By Jared Leblanc
Asst. Sports Editor

The Lady Braves softball team won two games in a double header against the Bobcats of St. Thomas University March 1, at LRA Field.

The Black and Gold won the first game 11-5 and won the second game 5-1. The two wins move the Braves' record to 12-6 on the season, while the two losses make the Bobcats' record 0-10.

The major contributors for the Black and Gold were Lynn Grantham who went 4 for 7 with one RBI while Jamie Burwell went 2 for 5 and Ashley Harrell went 2 for 8 each of whom had

three RBIs. The Braves also had five players go yard in the two games. Burwell, Holly Berry, Kristin Hobbs, Morgan Patrick and Jelena Shaw were the big bats for the Black and Gold.

Along with the great hitting for the Braves, the pitching shined through. Caroline Newman picked up the game one win, improving her overall record to 7-5 on the season. Newman allowed five runs, all unearned, on four hits with six walks and six strikeouts.

Alex Hartshorn pitched the second game improving her overall record to 3-1. She allowed one run on six hits with a career-high eight strike-

outs.

The first game started off slow as neither team was able to get on the board in the first inning. However, that all changed in the second inning when Harrell hit a bases loaded single and drove in all three runs.

The third and fourth innings went to the Bobcats as they scored two runs in the third off a ground ball error. Then they scored three more runs in the fourth inning off two more Braves' errors.

The Black and Gold came back in the fifth and took the lead for good off a three-run blast from Burwell making the score 6-5. The Braves poured it

on in the sixth exploding for five more runs. Patrick and Berry were the highlights, each of them hitting a solo homerun.

Game 2

The second game was ignited by Shaw as she blasted a solo shot to centerfield scoring the first run of the game. The Black and Gold were able to plate two more in the inning on past balls.

The Braves rounded out their scoring in the fifth when Hobbs hit a two run homer, the first of her career.

The Bobcats were able to muster only one run in the sixth, but were shut out for the rest of the game.

Softball blasts St. Andrews

By Nick Phillips
Asst. Sports Editor

The Lady Braves made the short trip down Interstate 74 on Feb. 24 to take on regional rival St. Andrews.

UNCP made short work of St. Andrews, winning 11-3 in a shortned five innings.

Freshman shortstop Holly Berry went 3-for-4 in the game while driving in three runs to lead the Black and Gold.

Four other Lady Braves each drove in multiple RBIs in the game, with Courtney Hill, Randi Pruitt and Jelena Shaw each finishing with two runs batted in.

Burwell scores three

UNCP's Jamie Burwell also went 2-for-3 at the plate with a walk, while she scored three times for the Lady Braves.

Caroline Newman earned her sixth win of the year, allowing just four hits while striking out five

batters. Alex Hartshorn pitched the final two innings for UNCP, striking out three.

Hill would start the scoring for UNCP, doubling to drive in two runners in the first inning, followed up later in the inning with Pruitt's single to bring home another run.

Berry on base

The Lady Braves had the bases loaded in the second inning when Shaw delivered a single to knock in two more runs before Berry followed next with her own single to score another UNCP run.

Both Berry and Pruitt would knock in runs in the fourth inning to increase the lead before scoring two more runs in the fifth inning thanks to two St. Andrews errors.

Later in the fifth, Berry would drive in her third and final RBI and bring the game to its final score.

2010 Softball Statistics

Team Leaders

(minimum 15 at-bats)

Batting Average

Holly Berry	.435
Jelena Shaw	.420
Loren Bartz	.375

Hit Leaders

Jelena Shaw	37
Holly Berry	37
Jamie Burwell	24

RBI Leaders

Holly Berry	33
Jelena Shaw	26
Loren Bartz	22

Homerun Leaders

Loren Bartz	8
Jelena Shaw	7
Holly Berry	6

Team Results

Complete Record: 19-10

Home Record: 89-4

Away Record: 46-5

Conference Record: 6-6