

Braves take two games over Flagler Saints



UNCP All-American Matt McGovern gathers the ball in preparation for a pitch.

Photo by Matt Smith

By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

The Black and Gold picked up a pair of wins March 12 over Flagler, taking a 7-5 win in game one and a 12-4 win in game two before falling to the Saints March 14 in a 3-4 loss.

The 2-1 series victory pushed the 16th ranked Braves' record to 16-4 on the season, with a 6-3 record in Peach Belt Conference play.

In the first game, Flagler opened up a 5-3 lead in the fifth inning before the Braves rallied back with a 3-run seventh inning to take the first game of the series.

After junior Keith Whitman advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by sophomore Aaron Parnell, junior Jason Coker singled to left field to send Whitman to third. A single by Tom Porricelli sent Whitman home to knot the score up at 5-5, and another single by sophomore Josh Haley scored Coker to take the lead for the Black and Gold.

Another single by sophomore Alex Pearce would score Porricelli to close out the 3-run inning

for the Braves. UNCP picked up five hits in the inning to assure the victory.

UNCP starting pitcher Matt McGovern picked up his fifth win in the contest after allowing five earned runs on 12 hits. Although McGovern struggled early, the right hander picked up six strikeouts in the win.

As a team, the Braves picked up 14 total hits, with Coker leading the way at the plate with a 4-for-5 outing. UNCP first baseman Seth Kivett led the Braves with two RBIs.

Game two

The Black and Gold held onto their late offensive momentum in the second game, blasting the Saints 12-4 to clinch a series victory in the second game against Flagler.

UNCP posted runs in six different innings, posting three runs apiece in the fourth, seventh and eighth innings.

Flagler scored two runs early in the bottom of the first inning, but the Braves scored five runs in the second, third and fourth innings to take the lead.

The Braves clinched the game with three runs

in the eighth inning.

Junior Joe Mangum scored on a wild pitch while Parnell picked up the Braves' second run on a single by Poricelli. The Braves would score their last run of the inning when Porricelli and Coker successfully pulled off a double steal and Coker stole home.

Black and Gold pitcher Justin Yow earned his league-leading fifth win of the season, moving to 5-0 on the year after allowing four runs on seven hits. Yow picked up seven strike outs in the contest while walking just one batter.

Flagler takes finale

In the final game of the series, Flagler refused to be swept, taking a 4-3 win over UNCP to pick up a game in the series.

UNCP managed just seven hits in the game, with Parnell leading the Black and Gold at the plate with a 3-for-4 outing.

The Braves allowed three runs in the bottom of the fourth inning to open up a 3-2 lead for Flagler, and the Saints closed the game in the eighth inning to claim the win.

Men's golf takes third at Barton

By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

The UNCP men's golf team took home a third place finish March 9 at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Barton Intercollegiate Golf Tournament in Wilson, N.C.

The Black and Gold team shot a second-day total of 288 to finish four strokes back of No. 21 Flagler at the par-72, 6,851-yard Wilson Country Club.

The Braves posted a team score of 584 over the two-round event to pick

up the top-5 finish.

Flagler took home top honors after shooting a four-over-par 580, while No. 18 Barton took home second place with a two-day total of 583. No. 33 Coker College and No. 26 Queens finished tied for fourth overall with a 592 to round out the event's top-5.

UNCP sophomore Jonathan McCurry took home top individual honors for the Braves, shooting a tournament-low round of 68 on the second day of the tournament to take home a third place finish. McCurry shot a

two-round total of 141 to tie with UNCP All-American Jordan Walor for the top-5 finish. Walor posted rounds of 71-70 to finish with his UNCP counterpart for third.

Sophomore Carson Lanier posted rounds of 74 and 76 to finish with a total of 150 for 29th place, while freshman Beau Thompson finished three strokes back with rounds of 79 and 74 to finish tied for 43rd. Sophomore Scott Lambert rounded out the Braves' competitors with two rounds of 78 for a two-day total of 156 and a 56th place finish.

Flagler's Patrick Lamb took home first place individual honors with a tournament total of 140 after besting Barton's Darren Smith in a two-hole playoff. Lam drained a 12-foot put for the win after Smith's 20 foot birdie attempt missed the bottom of the cup.

The men's golf team will next be in action March 22-23, as they take compete at the 2010 Georgia College and State University Bobcat Invitational at the Gold Club at Cusowilla in Eatonton, Ga.



UNCP freshman Jordan Walor takes a shot.

Women's golf places second

By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

The UNCP women's golf team took home a second place finish March 9 at the Dana Radar Intercollegiate hosted by Pfeiffer University in Charlotte, N.C.

The Black and Gold team shot a second-day total of 325 to finish 16 strokes back of Newberry College at the par-72, 5,830-yard Ballantyne Golf Resort. The Lady Braves posted a team score of 640 over the two-round event to pick up their seventh top-5 finish of the year.

Newberry took home the top team honors, blitzing through the competition with rounds of 311 and 313 to post a 624 for the title. Anderson University finished two strokes back of the Lady Braves with a 643, while Catawba College and Wingate University rounded out the top-5 with scores of 655 and 671,

respectively.

In the individual competition, the Black and Gold had four Lady Braves finish in the top-30 of the event. Junior Katja Dammann took home the top finish for the Lady Braves, posting rounds of 75 and 81 to finish tied for sixth with a 156.

Senior Christina Crovetti posted rounds of 80 and 78 to finish two strokes back of Damman with a 158 to place ninth, while freshman Shauna Walor posted a 163 to finish in a tie for 16th.

Sophomore Alexa Mooney finished with a two-day score of 170 to finish in 30th, and freshman Abby Shipley rounded out the Lady Braves' top-five competitors with rounds of 94 and 80 for a two-round total of 174 to tie for 38th.

Anderson's Sophie Dembroksi took top individual honors by three strokes, posting rounds of 78 and 70 to finish with a 148.

2010 Baseball Statistics

Team Leaders

(minimum 15 at-bats)

Batting Average

Joe Mangum	.438
Kenny Mickens	.406
Aaron Parnell	.387

Hit Leaders

Seth Kivett	36
Joe Mangum	32
Aaron Parnell	29

RBI Leaders

Keith Whitman	31
Tom Poricelli	25
Joe Mangum	22

Homerun Leaders

Keith Whitman	8
Aaron Parnell	5
Kenny Mickens	4

Team Results

Complete Record: 16-4

Home Record: 7-0

Away Record: 9-4

Conference Record: 6-3