
Slugfest sees Chargers win when smoke clears

Contributed by Jamie Gilliam
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CLEVELAND, Miss. - In what equated to a 13-round knock-down drag-out fight, the Alabama-Huntsville (27-17) advanced in the 2010 Gulf South Conference Tournament eliminating 14th-ranked host Delta State 20-18, the most combined runs scored in school history for the Chargers. Tuesday afternoon's win is the first GSC Tournament win for the Chargers since the 2003 event.

The contest at Ferriss Field in Cleveland, Miss., was a tale of threes as UAH dominated the first three innings outscoring Delta State 12-3 before the Statesmen roared back outscoring the Chargers 13-5 in the middle innings to take their first lead of the night. The final three innings proved to be the difference as the Chargers outscored the Statesmen 3-2 to take the win.

The Charger offense soared behind 20 hits including three-hit performances by seniors Ryan McCrory (Mobile) and Josh Bolan (Trinity) and sophomore Cory Trapp (Russellville). McCrory was 3-for-5 at the plate with a pair of runs scored and three driven including two on his 13th home run of the season. Bolan also got in on the long-ball activity hitting his fifth of the season as part of a 3-for-4 afternoon with three runs scored and two driven in. Trapp put in a 3-for-6 day at the dish with three runs scored and one driven in.

Joining Bolan and Trapp crossing the plate three times were junior left fielder Corey Whittle (Cullman), senior third baseman Jordan Parker (Hartselle) and senior second baseman Nick Huckaby (Jamestown, Ky.)

Junior closer Dan Lazzaroni (Roswell, Ga.) picked up the win working the final four and two-thirds innings. The sidearmer allowed three earned runs on four hits and a trio of free passes while fanning six. Coming into the contest, the juniro had not allowed an earned run in 12 and two-thirds innings dating back to Feb. 20th at Harding. Lazzaroni's outing was the longest of the season eclipsing the two and one-thirds innings he worked at Valdosta State earlier in the season.

The Chargers advance to Wednesday's 9:30 a.m. elimination contest against West Florida at Ferriss Field.