Hokies stifled at the plate by Mountaineers

JACOB EMERT  sports editor

Sean Mason, Appalachian State’s starting pitcher, found himself in trouble early Tuesday night against Virginia Tech after he allowed the first two batters he faced to reach base safely. He worked out of that jam and didn’t find himself in another one all night, as he retired 20 straight Tech batters between the first and eighth innings and received plenty of run support en route to an 11-0 Mountaineer beatdown.

“I just have to try and keep making pitches, hope for the best outcome,” Mason said. “If I can just make pitches everything will be all right in the end.”

Right out of the gate, the Hokies (18-21-1) found themselves in great position to jump out ahead of the Mountaineers (14-23). In the bottom of the first inning, Ricky Surum and Saige Jenco tagged up on a Mark Zagunis fly ball to centerfield and advanced to second and third respectively, bringing Brendon Hydzuk and his team leading 9-0 in to the plate with one out.

Hayden lined out to second baseman Tyler Zupcic, who flipped to shortstop William Head to double off Surum, who had broken to third base on contact.

“We certainly could be better than that, and Ryan knows that,” Head said. “It was a bad baserunning read, and pretty good at bat by Zagunis,” said head coach Pat Mason. “I don’t know if it was huge not getting that run, but it would’ve been nice to, though.”

After getting out of the jam, the Mountaineers wasted no time capitalizing at the plate. With a runner on first in the top of the second, Preston Troutman sent his second home run of the season into orbit, pulling a no-doubt home run over the visitor’s bullpen in right field for a 2-0 lead.

Pritchard upgrades east wing

BY LEWIS MILLHOLLAND  news staff writer

This summer, some renovations will be taking place at the Pritchard Hall, as the older wing of the building will be receiving a facelift. The renovations will include new flooring, new bathrooms, and new windows. The renovations are expected to be completed by the end of the summer.

Speaker uses words to unite campus

ZACK WAGNERS  news reporter

On Tuesday night, Candy Chang visited Virginia Tech, offering her insights on life and the differing desires that communities possess. Asking the question, "How do we create the spaces to bridge a community?" Chang and her TEDx talk about community-building through art.

Chang's talk focused on the idea of creating spaces that encourage connection and collaboration. She shared stories of people who have used art to create social awareness in their communities.

Chang’s talk was a call to action for Virginia Tech students and faculty to think about how they can use their skills and talents to build a stronger community. The event was a success, with many attendees coming away inspired to make a difference in their own communities.

Students design and build playground

LESLIE MCCREA  news reporter

With the goal of giving back to the community, 20 students began a project to build a playground in the Hammonds Plains neighborhood. The community reached out to Tech for help with the project, and the students and faculty members who worked on the project came together to create a new playground for the community. The community is grateful for the hard work and dedication of the students and faculty members who worked on the project.