Braves sweep PBC foe Flagler in series

By D.J. McCoy
Sports Writer

UNCP's dynamic base- ball team swept Flagler in a three game series March 12 and 13. The Braves took game one 4-3 in dramatic fashion thanks to a Joe Mangum walk-off double before tallying 17 runs in game two and rallying back four in the fifth inning to win the series finale.

In the opener, the Braves trailed 3-0 after the first four innings, as Flagler jumped on UNCP early when John Sgrorombo cracked a RBI double for the first run. The second came when the Jaguars swept UNCP out of the way for the best for Pembroke as they closed with three total runs.

Redshirt-junior Braxton Lewis struck out one batter in two innings of relief and picked up the win for the Braves while Flagler's Jonathan Arnold turned out an impressive five innings of work with three walks and five strikeouts.

UNCP's win ended Flagg- ler's four game winning streak.

Offensive explosion
UNCP put up a shocking effort in the second game of the series winning big, 17-9. Seven different Braves got on the score sheet with at least two hits. Whitman continued to perform well as he tallied six hits against the plate driving in two runs and a run of his own. Junior Josh Haley hit two doubles and scored two runs on a 3- for-4 outing, while senior Jason Coker knocked his second home run of the sea- son, finishing the game 1-0.

Flagler got three hits from three different players. Charlie Stewart led the team with a home run and four RBIs while Devin Hellett and Sgro-ombo picked up the win in two RBIs, but it proved not to be one game UNCP's scoring rampage.

Sophomore Brantley Hartricht had two strikeouts, one-2-3 innings of work and picked up the win for UNCP.

Leading pitcher, senior Tyler Wood added five strikeouts, as UNCP was able to have five different pitchers get on the work.

In the second game, UNCP matched its season-high in runs scoring 17 in the second inning while Flagler scored four more in the fourth different innings.

Seven different Braves tal- led multiple hits, including junior Josh Haley and sen- ior Joe Mangum, who drove in two RBIs and Jonathan Armold turned out a solo home run in the sixth inning for the series winning big, 17-9.

Braves score 39 runs in two games against Clarion

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

The UNCP baseball team's bats were hot on March 17 and 18, as UNCP scored 11 runs in game one before totaling 18 scores in the two-ferelling of visiting Clarion.

In the game, the Braves used 11 hits to score all 11 runs in the opening three innings while freshman Thomas Allen and sen- ior Alex Rosario combined to allow only two hits in the win.

Allen picked up his third win of the season, as the junior allowed two hits and striking out eight before the Braves plated three runs in two innings.

The Braves saw three different players tally three or more hits, with junior Brad Isom leading the effort with a 3- for-4 performance with a walk and a double while striking out scoring twice.

Junior Ian Maoz and senior Jason Coker each doubled twice and finished 3-for-7. Adding a healthy home run and a double to his total were senior Jonathan Armold and redshirt-junior Braxton Lewis.

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Isom had a rough first inning but it didn't faze him.

"Isom had a rough first inning but it didn't faze him. He only gave up three hits in five in- nings of work," said Coaching Head Coach Dan Dudding.

UNCP brought home the first run of the game as the Braves completely blew the Saints out of the game in the sixth inning, when they plated three runs on a hit.

UNCP scored four more runs in their fourth inning and three runs in the fifth to stretch the lead to 11-0. The Saints could never recover and UNCP brought home the game in the eighth inning on a sacrifice fly in the first in- nings.

Kenny Waters makes his behind the plate against Clarion. Waters batted in 2-4 in each of the game as the Blue Devils defeated the Saints.

Diamond Braves earn recognition in two polls

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

The UNCP baseball team jumped two spots in both polls to No. 5 in the country in lastest Coaches' Polls released March 18 by the Collegiate Baseball Magazine while UNCP was checked in at No. 23 in the country in the latest National Collegiate Baseball Writers' Association poll on March 18.

In the coaches' poll, UNCP, 20-3, overall is one of the seven Peach Belt Conference teams to be in the poll. Last week's No. 1 team, PBC foe Georgia Col- lege, dropped four spots to No. 5 in the poll. UNCP, 20-3, overall is one of the seven Peach Belt Conference teams to be in the poll. Last week's No. 1 team, PBC foe Georgia Col- lege, dropped four spots to No. 5 in the poll.

Armstrong Atlantic jumped four spots to No. 16 overall.

Francis Marion dropped 11 spots from No. 15 to No. 24 overall, while Columbus State checked in this week at No. 28.

Emporia State is the No. 1 team this week after Georgia College's fall, while Mount Olive College is ranked second, followed by Central Missouri and West Florida in third and fourth, respectively.

In the writer's poll, the Braves moved up six spots to their No. 23 position and were named No. 1 PBC team (No. 3) as well as the only PBC teams in the poll.

In addition to the na- tional ranking, UNCP also dropped two spots in the NCBCA Southeast Region rankings and now are sitting at No. 4 in the PBC for Armstrong Atlantic.

Georgia College received all the first place votes in the regional poll but were followed closely by Mount Olive.