



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE HEARD

Bulldogs pitcher Spencer Orr tallied 4 strikeouts against Iona Sunday. The Bulldogs are now 5-of-5 on the season and travel to App State Tuesday.

## Bulldogs defeat Iona 4-2 Sunday, taking two out of three in the weekend series

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The Bulldogs played wholesome baseball Sunday against Iona, defeating the visitors 4-2 in the third game of the series. The win felt more sizeable than the score line suggests, the Bulldogs didn't allow Iona to score until the ninth inning, during which the visitors were able to hit the ball into open spaces and bring in a couple consola-

tion runs.

Head coach Scott Friedholm said Iona's runs in the ninth inning weren't concerning, it was just part of baseball.

"I don't think anything different happened at the end on our end or theirs, that's just baseball," Friedholm said. "Eventually, you're going to give up a run here and there and we didn't panic."

Joe Gruszka, the Bulldogs' freshman catcher, said the team's success Sunday

revolved around its pitching and its unwavering focus.

"Spencer and Kole shut Iona's batters down," Gruszka said. "The best thing about us is we always battle back, whether we are up or down we never give up, we keep fighting."

Senior pitcher Spencer Orr said the team's form Sunday was where it needs to be for the team to be successful moving forward.

"Our defense has been looking really

good, which makes my job a lot easier," Orr said. "If we can keep playing really good defense, making plays like we did today and throwing strikes, we will have a good season."

The Bulldogs' record is at .500 on the season at 5-5. They face Appalachian State next on Tuesday, then host University of Maryland Baltimore County this weekend for another three-game series at Greenwood Field.

## Bulldogs season over after upset at Big South Tournament by seventh seed Campbell

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UNC Asheville men's basketball season ended at Winthrop Coliseum Thursday after an 81-79 loss to the Campbell Camels.

The Bulldogs went into the game as the second seed with the Camels as the seventh.

Before Thursday's game, UNCA had not lost to the Camels in 10 straight

meetings, winning the latest matchup 72-56. However, Campbell's star Chris Clemmons played poorly in that game but reached his ceiling Thursday. Clemmons scored a Big South Championship record 51 points in the quarterfinal matchup in which the fighting Camels defeated the Bulldogs 81-79.

The Camels went on to play Winthrop in the championship finals which Winthrop won 76-59.

Despite the heartbreaking up-

set, the Bulldogs gave its fans a great season. With a season record of 15-3 in conference and only losing one home game by a two point margin, the Bulldogs routinely gave its home court fans plenty of reason to come out.

*The Blue Banner editorial staff would like to commend seniors David Robertson, Will Weeks and Giacomo Zilli for their outstanding careers as UNCA Bulldogs.*



Rocky hangs his head in grief over Thursday's loss.