

2022 North Carolina
American Legion
State Tournament

Campbell University
Thursday, August 28 (Day 3)



Wilmington 2, Pitt County 1

With two outs in the top of the seventh inning and a Pitt County runner charging towards home to tie the game, Wilmington shortstop Spencer Nolan slid to his knees behind second base, spun around and threw to first – still on his knees – in time to beat the batter and end the game with less than a step to spare.

The win moved Wilmington into the semi-final round Friday and ended Pitt County's season at 21-8 and runner-up in Area I.

Nolan scored the first run of the game on a bases-loaded walk in the first inning and Wilmington led 1-0 until Pitt plated a run in the top of the sixth thanks to a Post 10 error and a sacrifice fly by Cameron Greenway which drove in Andrew Wallen.

In the bottom of the sixth, Jaxson Croom attempted to bunt Connor Marren to second base but a Pitt County error allowed Marren to reach third base and he scored on a sacrifice fly by Jason Culley.

That set up the seventh inning drama that ended with Wilmington advancing to the semi-finals.

Connor Kane earned the win pitching six and-a-third innings before leaving the game due to his pitch count. Kane gave up the unearned run on two hits with four walks and six strikeouts. Tucker Bowyer got the save with one walk and one strikeout.

Ryan Smith was the second pitcher used by Pitt County and took the loss allowing one run on two hits with a walk and two strikeouts in one and two-thirds innings pitched.

Cherryville 7, Randolph County 3

Landon Jenkins drove in Landon Hahn and Zane Brockman to start Cherryville's scoring in the first inning. When Jenkins scored Post 100 led 3-0 after one inning. In the second, Brockman doubled in Hahn and scored on a hit by Ashton Pope for a 5-0 lead after two.

Brockman drove in Collin Robinson in the top of the third and Randolph scored in the bottom of the inning when Trey Way doubled in Tanner Marsh to make it 6-1.

Another Cherryville run came in the fourth when Jenkins scored on a Webb sacrifice to left field and Randolph scored twice in the fifth when Blake Marsh scored on an error on a ball hit by Tyler Parks and Alex Martinex drove in Parks with a single.

Zane Brockman pitched five and-a-third innings and got the win. Offensively, Brockman had three hits with a double, two rbi and two runs scored. Ashton Pope pitched the final inning and-two-thirds.

Trey Way, Drew Harmon and Tanner Marsh saw action on the mound for Randolph County with Way taking the loss.

Queen City 4, Rowan County 1

Queen City scored single runs in each inning from the third through the sixth to pick up their second win of the tournament.

Thomas Jones reached on a Rowan County error and later scored on another error for the Mustangs run in the third.

In the fourth inning, Jayden Singleton doubled, moved to third on a hit by Tyler Roakes and scored on a sacrifice fly by Donovan Henkel.

Aiden Christmas led the bottom of the fifth inning off with a triple and scored on a sacrifice fly by Russell Golembe.

Singleton led the bottom of the sixth inning off with a home run to complete the Queen City scoring.

Rowan's run came after a Casey Gouge triple in the top of the seventh when he scored on a passed ball.

Joey Ruller maxed out his pitch count after recording the second out in the seventh inning. Ruller gave up one unearned run on one hit with three walks and nine strikeouts. James Salicco threw three pitches for a strikeout to close out the win and move Queen City into the semi-finals.

David Burton took the loss for the Area III champions, throwing two and-a-third innings between starter Matthew Connolly and the final pitcher used Luke Graham.

Fuquay-Varina 12, Hope Mills 4

First inning fireworks saw Fuquay-Varina take a 4-3 lead and the host team didn't stop there.

After four innings Post 116 led 8-3 and added a ninth run in the top of the sixth before Hope Mills was able to scratch another run in the bottom half of the inning to trail 9-4. Fuquay added three more in the top of the seventh for the final score.

Three pitchers combined on the two-hitter for Fuquay-Varina with Connor Paulin giving up three runs (1 er) in the first inning on one hit. Tanner Hunley took over in the second and pitched five innings for the win giving up one run on one hit with six walks and seven strikeouts. Andon Swartz struck out two with a walk in the seventh inning.

Joseph Strickland pitched four innings and took the loss before giving way to Robert Spatorico to finish the game.

At the plate, Louis Smelcer had both hits for Hope Mills, a first inning triple and a single in the third.

Chase Chaplin led Post 116 going 4-for-5 with five rbi and two runs scored.