

Mustangs improve in second week of season

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Mustangs' Tyler Mathews was the man that swung the mean stick against Robert E. Lee in both games of the double header with the Generals.

Photo: Art Parker

By ART PARKER

The Stanhope Elmore (SEHS) baseball team won 3 of 5 games last week and improved its overall record to 5-6 for the 2014 season.

The Mustangs first whipped Robert E. Lee in a double header at home. The victory in the initial game of the double header required a seventh inning double by Tyler Mathews bringing home Chase Gill to defeat the Generals 7-6. Gill made a significant contribution earlier in the fourth inning when he hit safely and plated Dylan Sexton and Jadarius Wilson. Gill's big hit kept Lee in check and tied the game at 6-6. Lane Parshall picked up the win in relief for the Mustangs as he shut down the Generals in the final two innings.

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The second game with the Generals was less dramatic as the Mustangs cruised to an easy lead by collecting 6 runs in the third inning on their way to a 13-3 final. Mathews was a dominant force once again as he slapped a trio of hits and drove home 3 runs. Blaine Milam also had 3 hits and Sexton hit safely twice. The Mustangs got plenty of help from the Generals as Lee pitchers hit 7 Mustangs with pitches and walked another 5 batters. Noah Eller was the winning pitcher.

The good fortune did not last long as the Mustangs faced Marbury for the second time in the season and the result was the same. Marbury won 4-0 after scoring 3 runs in the first inning. SEHS failed to help itself defensively by committing 4 errors in the field.

In weekend action the Mustangs got off to a good start by pounding Oak Mountain 13-2. Andrew Casey pitched very well and notched the win after allowing only 2 hits in 5 innings of work. Wilson got the save. SEHS scored in 5 of the 7 innings. A total of 7 Mustangs hit safely with Eller being the only Mustang to record multiple hits. SEHS also benefitted by receiving 9 walks in 7 innings.

The Mustangs dropped the final game of the week to Clay-Chalkville 7-1. Only Gill and Sexton were able to get base hits. Mustangs pitching gave up 6 base on balls.

"You look at the games this week and you see how important pitching is. Winning teams were the beneficiaries of pitching staffs that gave up a lot of walks. In the two games we lost we also committed quite a few errors," Mustangs head coach Scott Johnson said. "Overall it was a good week and we made progress. We got a big number of base hits and that is very encouraging."

The Mustangs garnered 34 hits in 34 innings at bat last week.