Keowee softball team sweeps Hendersonville

Staff Reports

CLEMSON — In its first action in three weeks, Lake Keowee's senior softball team improved its record to 13-9 by sweeping concurrent doubleheaders against two Hendersonville teams at Nettles Field on Thursday.

Keowee White won two thrillers by scores of 15-14 and 15-13. In game one, Keowee led by three after six innings, but Hendersonville scored three in the seventh to tie. After the first two Keowee batters were retired in the bottom of the frame, Rick Douden doubled and Joel Allan singled him in for the win. Jeff Brabham drove in five Keowee runs in the winning effort.

As the visiting team in game two, Keowee carried a 15-9 lead into the bottom of the seventh. Hendersonville scored four runs, but Keowee got the second out with a perfect relay to cut down a runner at the plate trying to score from first base on a double.

After a base hit put the tying runs on base, Keowee got the third out on a force play at second base. In the win, Douden led Keowee with five RBIs.

For the day, Bill Kimpton and Douden each had six hits. Douden doubled twice, tripled and homered. Bill Luke had five hits, and Gene Fehler had five hits and a walk. Pitcher Al Jillson doubled three times and Ed Stevens tripled. Fehler and Brabham both homered.

Keowee Blue led its opener 8-7 after three innings, then scored five in the fourth and held on for a 14-9 win. Claude Smith doubled and homered. Bill Shimel went 3-for-3 at the platet, which included a double and triple. Neil Wilson and Bruce Letner both doubled.

In the second game, Keowee scored early and often, jumping off to a 14-3 lead after three innings before coasting to a 26-9 win.

Willie Galarza went 5-for-5 with two doubles and a home run. Smith went 5-for-5 with two home runs and five RBIs. Shimel went 4-for-5, including two more triples and a home run. His six runs batted in during game two gave him nine for the day. Don Borth went 4-for-4. Letner added a triple. For the day, Roger Jackson went 6-for-7 with a sacrifice fly, and Jeff Sciallo contributed five hits.

Keowee will send two teams to Hendersonville on July 8 in its next action.