



## ARKANSAS STATE ATHLETICS MEDIA RELATIONS

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### **A-State Baseball Drops Regular-Season Finale at Little Rock**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (5/19/18) – The Arkansas State baseball team dropped the regular-season finale at Little Rock by a score of 6-2 Saturday afternoon at Gary Hogan Field.

The Red Wolves clinched their ninth straight appearance in the SBC Tournament by winning the first two games and Georgia State losing the first two of its series at Georgia Southern. A-State will be either the ninth or 10th seed in the conference tournament depending on results later Saturday.

The fifth inning proved to be a big one in the game with A-State (20-31, 11-19 SBC) getting on the board first after four scoreless innings when Drew Tipton scored on a throwing error after Kyle MacDonald got caught in a rundown between first and second. However, Nick Perez and Ryan Benavidez swatted a pair of two-run homers in the bottom half to give Little Rock (27-26, 15-14 SBC) a 4-1 edge.

The advantage for the Trojans grew to 6-1 in the bottom of the sixth with a pair of RBI singles from Perez and Marcus Ragan. The Red Wolves moved within 6-2 after Casey Vaughan led off the eighth with a triple and came around on a Winston Welch single. However, A-State couldn't cut into the lead anymore and lost the game 6-2.

Aaron Funk went the first seven innings and didn't allow an earned run on six hits with four strikeouts against three walks to earn the win for the home team. Justin Garcia finished the game with two innings out of the bullpen. Carter Holt took the loss for the visitors after allowing four runs, all earned and all in the fifth inning, after tossing four scoreless to begin the game.

Welch and Tipton had two hits apiece for the Red Wolves, while Little Rock's offense was led by three hits, three RBI, and two runs from Nick Perez.

For the latest on A-State baseball follow the team by logging onto the Arkansas State Baseball Facebook page or by following the team on Twitter (@AStateBaseball) and Instagram ([arkansasstatebaseball](https://www.instagram.com/arkansasstatebaseball)).