
little east conference

Saturday, May 3, 2003

SPLIT GIVES ECSU BASEBALL SECOND STRAIGHT LITTLE EAST TITLE
Warriors, So. Maine trade shutout wins, giving Eastern regular-season crown

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Senior right-handed pitcher **Joey Serfass's (NEWINGTON)** second career shutout gave the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team a 6-0 win over the University of Southern Maine in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader as the Warriors clinched the regular-season Little East Conference title, and with it, the No. 1 seed in next week's conference tournament.

With the win, Eastern (33-6, 13-1 little east) clinched its second straight outright conference regular-season title -- its fourth outright regular-season title in the seven-year history of conference baseball -- and will host the six-team double-elimination tournament at the ECSU Baseball Stadium Wednesday-Saturday. The winner advances automatically into the NCAA Division III tournament.

In Saturday's first game, Eastern senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** was outdueled by Southern Maine (24-14, 9-3 little east) sophomore righty Marc Cahill as the Huskies won, 1-0.

Last year's NCAA Division III national champion, Eastern improved to 24-2 up north following the second-game win.

In the second game, Eastern chased junior lefty Jason Thibodeau (2-5) when it scored four runs on four hits and a walk in the first inning. Junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** drove in the first two runs of the inning with a single, senior rightfielder **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** made it 3-0 with a single and junior DH **Adam Hevenor (NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** drove in the fourth run with a ground ball. The first three batters of the seventh reached, with Wildman driving in sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** with a single to make it 5-0. Senior catcher **Jeff Funaro's (MILFORD)** suicide squeeze plated junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** with the sixth run later in the inning.

Koch, Julien and Wildman -- the 2-3-4 batters in the order --- each had two hits and combined to score five of the team's six runs.

Serfass (6-0), whose previous shutout had come 8-0 in last year's national championship win over Marietta College, shut down Southern Maine on six singles. He fanned five and walked three. With Eastern leading 4-0, Southern Maine had two hits in the fifth -- the only inning where it had more than one -- but Serfass got an infield pop and strikeout to end the threat. Serfass is 21-3 with five saves in 34 career appearances. This year, he has six wins and five saves in 11 outings.

(more)

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In search of his 20th career win in the final regular-season start of his career, Czerwinski allowed hits in only three of nine innings in the first game but Cahill became the first Southern Maine pitcher to shut out Eastern in the first 66 games of this series. The Huskies handed Eastern its first home loss after 13 wins and spoiled the Warriors' bid to become the first team to win all of its regular-season games in conference baseball play.

Number nine hitter Tip Fairchild scored the only run of the game in the third inning when Southern Maine collected three of its hits. Fairchild doubled and came home on a two-out single by junior centerfielder Adam Lemieux. Czerwinski (5-3), who had a personal five-game winning streak snapped, fanned nine without a walk, giving him 55 strikeouts and eight walks this year. Eastern, which brought a .329 team batting average into play, managed only four hits off Cahill, who struck out seven and walked only one in a game which lasted only one hour and 52 minutes. After giving up a one-out single to Julien in the first, Cahill allowed only one baserunner -- a two-out walk to Koch in the third -- until Serfass stroked a two-out double in the seventh. Cahill got a pop to short to strand Serfass.

First Game
U. of Southern Maine 1, Eastern Conn. 0

Southern Maine (24-13, 9-2 little east)	001	000	000	--	1	5	0
Eastern Conn. (32-6, 12-1 little east)	000	000	000	--	0	4	0

Marc Cahill (6-1) and Jon Melanson. Adam Czerwinski (5-3) and Jeff Funaro. 2B-Andy Lang, Tip Fairchild (S), Joey Serfass (E).

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 6, U. of Southern Maine 0

Southern Maine (24-14, 9-3 little east)	000	000	000	--	0	6	1
Eastern Conn. (33-6, 13-1 little east)	400	000	10x	--	6	11	1

Jason Thibodeau (2-5), Pat Liddy (1), Tip Fairchild (7) and Jon Melanson. Joey Serfass (6-0) and Jeff Funaro. 2B-Eugene Julien (E).

little east conference

Wednesday, April 30, 2003

DIPIETRO, WILDMAN LEAD ECSU BASEBALL TO 14-4 WIN OVER WESLEYAN

Freshman lefty remains unbeaten up north, Wildman ties program record with three HRs

MIDDLETOWN, Conn. - Freshman left-handed pitcher **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** won his fifth straight decision up north and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** tied a program record with three home runs as the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team whipped Wesleyan University 14-4 Wednesday.

The win is the 32nd against five losses for Eastern, which avoided its first two-game losing streak since March 22 with its ninth straight win over Wesleyan (15-14). The Warriors are 23-1 up north, improving to 19-5 this year away from home. Eastern is ranked in a tie for first in the most recent NCAA Division III national poll. DiPietro (7-1) pitched six shutout innings before giving up a triple and sacrifice fly in the seventh for the only run he would allow. In seven innings, he gave up five hits while fanning six and walking one and left with a 10-1 lead.

Wildman became the ninth player in program history - second in as many years -- with three home runs in a game. The team leader with nine home runs (17 in his career), Wildman hit all of his home runs with two out. He gave Eastern a 1-0 in the first, and hit two-run home runs in the sixth and eighth. He finished by going 3-for-4 with six RBI. Sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** and sophomore first baseman **Justin McCulloch (WATERBURY)** also added three hits in Eastern's 20-hit attack. Koch had a double and drove in four runs and McCulloch drove in three runs. Junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** had two doubles and scored three runs.

The staff's winningest pitcher, DiPietro has won all five of his decisions since the team returned from California. His only loss came by a 4-0 score to No. 10 nationally-ranked Chapman University March 25. In a team-leading 52 innings, DiPietro has a team-high 53 strikeouts against 19 walks and has a 2.08 ERA.

Eastern brings a 13-0 home record and 12-0 Little East Conference mark into its final regular-season games of the season Saturday when it hosts the University of Southern Maine in a conference doubleheader at noon. One win guarantees Eastern its second straight regular-season outright title and the top seed and home field in next week's six-team, double-elimination conference tournament. Eastern, which has won 86 of 97 regular-season conference games - best among the conference's eight teams -- seeks a share of its sixth conference regular-season championship in seven years. The Warriors have won three outright titles and shared two but have never completed a conference regular season unbeaten. Southern Maine (22-13, 8-2 little east) is ranked seventh in the New England Region. Eastern won both regular-season games with Southern Maine last year before the Huskies eliminated Eastern from the conference tournament at the ECSU Baseball Stadium with a 5-4 win.

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Friday, April 25, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL BREAKS PROGRAM RECORD FOR CONSECUTIVE WINS *Warriors stretch winning streak to 23 with Little East sweep of Keene State College*

KEENE, NH -- Three Eastern Connecticut State University pitchers limited Keene State College to nine hits as the Warriors swept a Little East Conference baseball doubleheader 4-1, 10-0 Friday, setting a program record for consecutive victories in the process.

Senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** pitched a complete-game six-hitter in the opener as Eastern (31-4) broke the 1982 program record for consecutive wins with its 22nd. The Warriors, ranked first in Division III, remain unbeaten (22-0) up north and unbeaten (12-0) in the conference. Eastern, which has two conference games remaining next Saturday against visiting University of Southern Maine, posted its 20th season of 30 or more wins since 1973. Keene (9-18, 4-6 little east) had beaten Eastern three times in Mansfield last year, the third time coming in the opening round of the conference tournament.

The win was the fifth straight this year for Czerwinski (5-2) and 19th in his four-year career against ten losses. It was the first complete game effort this year for Czerwinski, who fanned eight without a walk. Czerwinski's brother Scott ('99) won 21 games in his Eastern career. Mike Masseur's one-out, game-tying home run in the third as the only run allowed by Czerwinski.

Junior righty **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** completed the sweep, becoming the ninth 20-game winner in program history in the process. Serfass, 20-3 with five saves in 33 career appearances, combined with junior lefty **Michael Maruska (NARRAGANSETT, RI)** on the team's eighth shutout of the season. Serfass allowed only three hits while fanning two and walking one in eight innings. This year, Serfass is 5-0 with five saves in ten appearances and he has won 15 of his last 16 decisions.

In the second game, Eastern took a 3-0 lead after there were two out in the fourth on two errors, two walks and a stolen bases and made it 5-0 in the sixth on doubles by senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** and **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)**, a single by freshman third baseman **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** and a wild pitch. Junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** and Funaro each scored three times in the game. Garofalo had three hits, including a triple, and Funaro two. Freshman rightfielder **Zach Mehrback (LYME, NH)** hit a two-run double in the ninth. Five Keene errors accounted for five unearned Eastern runs.

In the first game, Wildman's sixth home run of the year and 14th of his career was a two-run shot and gave Eastern a 3-1 lead in the sixth. Freshman first baseman **Greg Sullivan's (NEEDHAM, MA)** first career home run made it 4-1 in the seventh. Eight different players contributed at least one of the team's nine hits in the first game. Senior leadoff hitter **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** had an 18-game hitting streak snapped by going 0-for-4. Thompson walked to lead off each game but grounded to the right side in each of his eight official at-bats in the doubleheader.

Eastern visits Tufts University Monday at 3 p.m. The Jumbos are ranked No. 21 nationally.

Linescores, Pg. 2

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Baseball
April 25, 2003

First Game
Eastern Conn. 4, Keene State College 1

Eastern Conn. (30-4, 11-0 little east)	010	002	100	--	4	9	2
Keene State (9-17, 4-5 little east)	001	000	000	--	1	6	2

Adam Czerwinski (5-2) and Jeff Funaro. Buzzy Francis (1-6) and Tim Kendrick. 2B-Tom Koch, Dan Silva, Greg Sullivan (E); HR-Dwight Wildman (6), Greg Sullivan (1) (E), Mike Masseur (1) (K).

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 10, Keene State 0

Eastern Conn. (31-4, 12-0 little east)	000	302	212	--	10	10	0
Keene State (9-18, 4-6 little east)	000	000	000	--	0	3	5

Joey Serfass (5-0), Michael Maruska (9) and Jeff Funaro. Ryan Kohler (3-3), Andrew Caplice (7), Greg Rice (8) and Tim Kendrick. 2B-Funaro, Leon Galemba, Zach Mehrbach (E); 3B-Marc Garofalo (E).

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Thursday, April 24, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL TIES PROGRAM RECORD WITH 21st STRAIGHT VICTORY

Thompson extends hitting streak to 18 games as Warriors improve to 29-4

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** extended his hitting streak to 18 games and the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team tied the program record with its 21st straight win Thursday night with a 13-0 victory over Framingham State College at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Ranked first in Division III, Eastern (29-4) equalled the longest winning streak in the program's 55-year history, which was set during the 1982 national championship season. The Warriors are 20-0 up north and 13-0 at home. Framingham (11-10) has lost 11 straight to Eastern.

Thompson is batting .486 during his hitting streak and recorded his 12th multiple-hit game in the stretch by doubling and tripling to lead a 16-hit attack. Thompson tripled to lead off the bottom of the first and scored and hit his team-leading sixth home run of the season leading off the second. He has hit four of his home runs during the hitting streak.

First-year sophomore righty **Joe Riley (EAST HARTFORD)** allowed only two singles in pitching his first complete game in only his third start. Riley fanned 13 and did not walk a batter. He retired the first 15 batters he faced -- nine on strikeouts -- before James Wadsworth led off the sixth with a single. Riley faced only three batters over the 27-man minimum, with two reaching on hits and one on an error.

Five players had at least two hits. In addition to Thompson, senior centerfielder **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** was 3-for-4 with four RBI and two runs scored; sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** 2-for-3 with two runs, two stolen bases and an RBI; junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** reached safely three times with two hits and a walk and scored two runs and stole a base; junior catcher **Adam Hevenor (NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** was 2-for-5 with an RBI and run scored and freshman **Zach Mehrbach (LYME, NH)** came off the bench to drive in his first two collegiate runs with an eighth-inning single.

Eastern visits Keene State College Friday at 11 a.m. in a Little East Conference doubleheader which was originally scheduled to be played Saturday. Eastern leads the conference with a 10-0 record and has two remaining conference games after Friday.

Eastern Conn. 13, Framingham State College 0

Framingham State (11-10)	000	000	000	--	0	2	2
Eastern Conn. (29-4)	550	001	02x	--	13	16	1

Dave Brumby (0-1), Gavin Flanagan (7) and Matt Vaccaro. Joe Riley (3-0) and Adam Hevenor. 2B-Justin McCulloch (E); 3B-Morgan Thompson (E); HR-Thompson (6) (E).

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Wednesday, April 23, 2003

FUNARO, THOMPSON LEAD ECSU BASEBALL TO 20TH STRAIGHT
Warriors within one of tying longest winning streak after pounding Bridgewater State 19-3

BRIDGEWATER, Mass. -- Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** extended his hitting streak to 17 games with four hits and senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** went 5-for-5 in a 20-hit attack as the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team pounded Bridgewater State College 19-3 Wednesday for its 20th straight victory.

The No. 1 ranked team in Division III, Eastern (28-4) remained unbeaten with its 19th win up north and moved to within one win of equalling the longest winning streak in the program's 55-year history. The 1982 team won 21 games en route to the program's first of four national championships. The Warriors have not lost in nearly a month.

Thompson had his 11th multiple-hit game on his hitting streak and by going 4-for-4 with his team-leading fifth home run and a double and improved his average in that streak to .478 (33-for-69) and on the season to a team-leading .447 (55-for-123). He has at least one hit in 28 of 32 games this year. Funaro had his first career five-hit game and recorded his 12th multiple-hit game this year. He raised his season's average 38 points to .388 (33-for-85) this year after entering the season with a career .297 average. Thompson drove in three runs and scored two and also stole three bases, Funaro doubling twice, scoring three runs and driving in three. Thompson and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** share the team lead with 22 stolen bases. With ten stolen bases (one shy of the game record), Eastern went over 100 (101) this year. Last year's national championship team totalled 100 in 51 games. The season record of 150 was set in 1985.

Senior outfielder **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** had the first four-hit game of his career. He was 4-for-6 with two doubles, two runs and two RBI. Freshman third baseman **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** was 2-for-6 with his first career home run, four RBI and two runs scored. He hit a three-run home run during a five-run second inning. Sophomore **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)** also hit his first career home run -- a three-run shot in the ninth inning -- after being inserted into the lineup in the seventh.

Freshman lefty **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** won his team-leading sixth game in seven decisions. He did not allow a run and only two hits after the first before giving way

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to junior lefty **Matt Schumey (ROCKVILLE)** to start the sixth. Schumey pitched three hitless innings.

Bridgewater is 13-9.

Eastern hosts Framingham State College Thursday at 7 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 19, Bridgewater State 3

Eastern Conn. (28-4)	451	020	214	--	19	20	1
Bridgewater State (13-9)	300	000	000	--	3	4	0

Ryan DiPietro (6-1), Matt Schumey (6), Thomas Spirito (9) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (8). Greg Lovett (1-2), Josh White (2), Scott Garland (8), Eric Fardig (9) and Joe Harkins. 2B-Funaro 2, Dan Silva 2, Morgan Thompson (E); HR-Thompson (5), Leon Galembo (1), Marc Garofalo (1) (E).

little east conference 21, 2003 4-21-03

MEEKER PITCHES ECSU BASEBALL TO 19TH STRAIGHT VICTORY

Warriors win battle of top New England teams, set record for northern-opening wins

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Senior righty **David Meeker (WAKEFIELD, RI)** pitched eight shutout innings as the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team won its 19th straight game with a 3-0 win over Wheaton College (MA) Monday night in a battle of the top-ranked teams in New England.

The 2002 NCAA Division III national champion and the No. 1 ranked team in the nation, Eastern (27-4) won its 19th straight game and set a program record with its 18th straight win to open the northern season. The Eastern record for consecutive wins is 21, set in 1982. Wheaton (18-7-2), ranked second in New England, had a seven-game winning streak snapped in a re-match of last year's NCAA Division III New England title game.

Meeker (2-0) pitched the most innings in 28 career appearances. He retired the first ten batters in order and allowed only three runners as far as second base. The Lyons (18-7-2) managed only three hits -- a one-out single by junior second baseman Tim Ziakas in the fourth and singles by junior rightfielder John Ablondi and senior first baseman Brett Edmunds in the fifth. Meeker fanned four, walked two and hit a batter before junior lefty **Jeremy Hall (NORTHFIELD, VT)** recorded the final three outs to earn his first save of the year. Meeker was lifted after walking the leadoff batter in the ninth. Hall walked his first batter to bring the tying run to the plate but struck out pinch hitter Mark Baumer and induced an outfield fly from pinch hitter Jesse Woods. A infield ground ball ended the game.

Eastern scored a run in the bottom of the first off sophomore righty Jon Jackson (2-1) on two singles and two passed balls and made it 3-0 in the third by scoring twice on two hits, a stolen base and in infield errors. Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** opened the first with a single to extend his hitting streak to 16 games. After junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** followed with a single, Thompson scored on successive passed balls.

Number 9 hitter **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** opened third inning with a single and Thompson reached on an infield error before Julien plated the first run with an infield ground ball. Junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** made it 3-0 with an RBI single.

Koch had two hits and Thompson scored two runs. Wheaton, which will be hosting the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) playoffs this weekend, used five pitchers.

Eastern hosts Montclair State University Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 3, Wheaton College (MA) 0

Wheaton (18-7-2)	000	000	000	-	0	3	2
Eastern Conn. (27-4)	102	000	00x	-	3	6	0

Jon Jackson (2-1), Mike Banda (4), Joe White (6), Matt Parlato (7), Mark DeMasse (7) and Mark Brown. David Meeker (2-0), Jeremy Hall (9) and Jeff Funaro. Save-Hall (1).

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little east conference

Saturday, April 19, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL RUNS WINNING STREAK TO 18 GAMES WITH SWEEP

Warriors match best northern start (17-0) in program history with wins over RIC

PROVIDENCE, RI -- Three Eastern Connecticut State University pitchers limited Rhode Island College to eight hits and the Warriors stole 15 bases in a 12-2, 9-0 Little East Conference baseball sweep Saturday.

The team's 17th and 18th straight wins keep the Warriors unbeaten in 17 northern games and unbeaten in ten conference games. Eastern has equalled its best start ever up north and is within three of the program's record 21-game winning streak, set during the 1982 national championship season.

Senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** won his fourth straight game in the opener, pitching his third career complete game. He allowed six hits, but only four after the Anchormen (14-11-1, 1-5 little east) scored twice in the first inning. Czerwinski fanned seven and walked three en route to his 18th career win.

Junior righty **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** combined on a two-hitter with junior lefty **Michael Maruska (NARRANSETT, RI)** in the nightcap to win his fourth straight game this year and 19th in 22 career decisions. Making his second start of the year, Serfass retired the first 13 batters in order before allowing a one-out single in the fifth. Through seven innings, he faced only one batter over the minimum. He fanned five, gave up one hit and hit a batter before giving way to Maruska, who allowed one hit while fanning one over the final two innings. Neither pitcher walked a batter.

In nine appearances this year, Serfass has four wins and five saves.

Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** and junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** -- the first two hitters in the lineup -- combined for eight hits, nine stolen bases, six RBI, six walks and nine runs scored. Julien was 5-for-10 with three runs, three RBI, four stolen bases, a double and a walk. Leadoff hitter Thompson reached safely eight times by going 3-for-6 with five walks. He scored six runs and drove in three and stole five bases. In the second game, Julien was 4-for-5 with a double, two RBI, two stolen bases and two runs.

Eastern, last year's NCAA Division III national champion, shares the top spot in the most recent national ranking and is first in New England.

Eastern hosts Wheaton College (MA) Monday at 7 p.m. in a re-match of last year's NCAA Division III New England Regional Tournament title game, won by Eastern. Wheaton is ranked third in New England.

Linescores, Pg. 2

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April 19, 2003
Baseball

First Game
Eastern Conn. 12, Rhode Island College 2

Eastern Conn. (25-4, 9-0 little east)	5	1	4	0	1	--	12	7	1
Rhode Island (14-10-1, 1-4 little east)	2	0	0	0	0	--	2	6	6

Adam Czerwinski (4-2) and Jeff Funaro. John Botelho (2-4), Brian Baker (4) and Chris Smaldone. 2B-Evan Aten (R).

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 9, Rhode Island College 0

Eastern Conn. (26-4, 10-0 little east)	2	1	0	4	0	1	--	9	15	0
Rhode Island (14-11-1, 1-5 little east)	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	0	2	2

Joey Serfass (4-0), Michael Maruska (8) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (7). Jim Milano, Matt Brannon (7) and Chris Smaldone. 2B-Eugene Julien, Marc Garofalo (E), Adolfo Perez (R); 3B-Tom Koch (E).

little east conference

Friday, April 18, 2003

18-HIT ATTACK PROPELS EASTERN BASEBALL TO 16th STRAIGHT WIN

Six players record at least two hits as Warriors remain unbeaten up north

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. -- **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** and **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** each drove in two runs to spark an 18-hit attack that carried the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to its 16th straight win, 9-6 over Springfield College at Berry-Allen Field.

Eastern (24-4), which has not lost since March 25 at Chapman University, remains undefeated up north with its 15th straight victory since returning from California. It is the program's longest winning streak since 1990, when it won its final 18 games en route to the NCAA Division III national title. The team's best northern start came in 1978, when the Warriors won their first 17 on the way to a 30-2 regular-season northern record.

Eastern took a 3-0 lead after there were two out in the second inning, then scored four times to build a 7-2 lead in the top of the fourth inning. Silva, a senior outfielder, hit his second career home run leading off fourth to make it 4-2 and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)**, sophomore **DH Leon Galemba (TERRYVILLE)** and freshman first baseman **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** followed with two-out RBI hits to make it 7-2.

Silva and sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** each had three hits and scored two runs while Wildman, Galemba, Sullivan and junior catcher **Adam Hevenor (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** each added two hits. Koch's two-out double had given Eastern a 1-0 lead in the second and Julien, a junior leftfielder, followed two batters later with a two-run single to make it 3-0.

Junior lefty **Matt Schumey (ROCKVILLE)** earned his first win of the year in his second career start at Eastern. Schumey gave up three runs on nine hits while fanning two and walking two. Junior righty **Thomas Spirito (CANTON)** got the final six outs of the game after relieving senior righty **Tim Fagan (DANBURY)** to earn his second save of the year. Spirito was summoned with two runners on and no outs in the eighth and Eastern leading 9-5. One run scored on an infield out before Spirito induced a 6-4-3 inning-ending double play.

Eastern visits Rhode Island College Saturday for a 1 p.m. Little East Conference doubleheader.

Eastern Conn. 9, Springfield College 6

Eastern Conn. (24-4)	030	410	010	--	9	18	3
Springfield (11-12)	020	101	020	--	6	12	1

Matt Schumey (1-0), Tim Fagan (6), Thomas Spirito (8) and Adam Hevenor. Larson Segerdahl (1-3), Robert Crain (4), Brian Puchalski (8) and Adam Tarquini. Save-Spirito (2). 2B-Joshua Coleman, Leon Galemba, Marc Garofalo, Tom Koch (E), Dan Samia, Toby Cole, Dave Folli, Derek Yvon (S); HR-Dan Silva (1) (E), John Beattie (S).

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Thursday, April 17, 2003

D'AMICO PITCHES, HITS EASTERN SOFTBALL TO SWEEP *Junior throws CG four-hitter and drives in two runs in opener against MCLA*

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Junior Shari D'Amico (TRUMBULL) pitched a complete-game four-hitter and drove in two runs in a seven-run third inning in the opener to lead the Eastern Connecticut State University softball team to a 9-1, 2-1 sweep of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts Thursday at Howard Spector Field.

The first game was stopped with one out in the bottom of the sixth inning due to the eight-run rule.

Ranked ninth in New England, Eastern (15-10) improved to 12-4 up north. The Trailblazers (6-12) had won five of their first six northern games.

After collecting ten hits in the opener, Eastern jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the nightcap by scoring an unearned run in the first inning and a run in the second and held on behind the combined four-hit pitching of freshmen Brooke Nici (CLINTON, MA) and Lindsay Savelle (CHESHIRE). Nici (3-0) allowed only an unearned run on four hits before Savelle came on to record the final four outs and record her first career save. Junior catcher Kelly Rowan (WATERTOWN) drove in the first-inning run with a double after senior shortstop Valarie Gasparino (WINDSOR LOCKS) had reached on an inning-opening error and freshman DP Megan Lemos (GRANBY) made it 2-0 when her ground ball plated freshman first baseman Andrea Tarbox (ENFIELD) from third in the second inning. Tarbox had led off the inning with a double and had moved to second on Nici's sacrifice bunt.

D'Amico (3-4) lowered her ERA to 0.50 in 28 innings up north and won her third northern game in four decisions stopping the Trailblazers on four singles in the first game. She fanned two and walked one and survived five Eastern errors. In the third inning, Eastern broke a scoreless tie with seven runs on five hits, two walks and one error which accounted for five unearned runs. Junior leftfielder Sandra Pariseau (STRATFORD) and D'Amico each drove in two runs with doubles in the frame and sophomore rightfielder Annmarie Fillian (CANTON) drove in one with a two-out single.

Rowan and Fillian each had two hits in the first game while Gasparino recorded the 199th hit of her 133-game four-year collegiate career with a single in the third inning. Gasparino has 82 hits in 61 career games at Eastern after recording 117 hits in 72 games as a two-time All-New England shortstop at Saint Joseph College (CT).

Eastern hosts the University of Southern Maine Saturday in a 1 p.m. Little East Conference doubleheader.

Linescores, Pg. 2

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April 17, 2003
Softball

First Game
Eastern Conn. 9, Massachusetts College 1, 6 inn.

Mass College (6-11)	000	010	--	1	4	2
Eastern Conn. (14-10)	007	002	--	9	10	5

One out when game was ended due to the eight-run rule.

Jenn Golden (3-7), Jessica Sinopoli (5) and Courtney Tebo. Shari D'Amico (3-4) and Megan Lemos. 2B-Sandra Pariseau, D'Amico (E).

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 2, Massachusetts College 1

Mass College (6-12)	001	000	0	--	1	4	1
Eastern Conn. (15-10)	110	000	x	--	2	6	1

Jessica Sinopoli (3-5) and Courtney Tebo. Brooke Nici (3-0), Lindsay Savelle (6) and Kelly Rowan. Save-Savelle (1). 2B-Michelle Littlefield (M), Andrea Tarbox, Rowan (E).

Thursday, April 17, 2003

little east conference

Thursday, April 17, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL RUNS WINNING STREAK TO 15 WITH WIN *Warriors down No. 8 Brandeis 6-4 to remain unbeaten (14-0) up north*

WALTHAM, Mass. -- Sophomore right-handed pitcher **Ben O'Brien (MONTVILLE)** pitched 7 and 1/3 innings of two-hit relief and sophomore first baseman **Justin McCulloch (WATERBURY)** had a two-run tie-breaking single to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to its 15th straight win, a 6-4 victory over Brandeis University at Stein Field.

Eastern (23-4) is last year's NCAA Division III national champion and is ranked in a tie for first in the most recent national poll. The Warriors have won all 14 of their northern games and their current win streak is the longest since the 1990 national champions won their final 18. Brandeis (12-9-1) is ranked eighth in New England. The Judges have lost to Eastern the last four times the teams have met.

O'Brien (2-0) shut down the Judges after the hosts had chased sophomore lefty **Ty Bongiovanni (MERIDEN)** with three unearned runs in the second inning. In seven prior appearances, O'Brien had never pitched more than 2 and 2/3 innings. Against Brandeis, he got the final out of the second and gave up only two hits the rest of the way while fanning five and walking one.

Eastern tied the game with three runs in the third -- the tying runs scoring on senior rightfielder **Dan Silva's (BERLIN)** two-out, two-run bases loaded single -- and went ahead for good on McCulloch's two-run, bases-loaded single in the fourth. An infield error helped set up the go-ahead rally.

Senior catcher **Jeff Funaro's (MILFORD)** 100th career hit in his 106th game had driven in the first run of the third inning.

Sophomore DH **Leon Galembo (FAIRFIELD)** had three of Eastern's 14 hits while Funaro, senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** had two hits each.

Only one of the four runs charged to Bongiovanni, as his throwing error helped Brandeis wipe out a 1-0 Eastern lead with three unearned runs in the bottom of the first.

Eastern visits Springfield College Friday at 3:30 p.m.

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little east conference

Wednesday, April 16, 2003

FRESHMEN SPARK ECSU BASEBALL TO 14TH STRAIGHT VICTORY
DiPietro throws first collegiate CG in 8-4 win over Western Connecticut

DANBURY, Conn. -- Freshman left-handed pitcher **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** threw his first collegiate complete game and freshman third baseman **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** drove in the go-ahead runs in the third inning as the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team won its 14th straight game with an 8-4 Little East Conference win over Western Connecticut State University.

Eastern (22-4, 8-0 little east), ranked first in Division III, remained unbeaten in 13 northern games. The team's 14 straight wins are its most since the 1990 club won its final 18 en route to its second of four NCAA Division III national championships. Western (7-13, 0-4 little east) won last year's conference tournament but fell to Eastern for the second time this year and for the 52nd time in 54 meetings since 1969.

DiPietro (5-1), who became the conference's first five-game winner, defeated Western for the second time in just over two weeks. DiPietro, who fanned four and walked three, had pitched seven shutout innings as a starter in a 12-0 win over the Colonials March 31 at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Trailing 3-2, Eastern chased Western starter Brian Stumpf (1-1) by scoring four runs on four hits in the third. Garofalo drove in sophomore DH **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)** and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** with the first two runs to put Eastern up for good, then scored from second on senior catcher **Jeff Funaro's (MILFORD)** 99th career hit -- an opposite-field double to right. Senior rightfielder **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** made it 6-3 when he drove in Funaro from second with a single.

Senior leadoff hitter **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)**, the fourth-leading hitter in the conference, improved his team-leading batting average to .442 with three hits in five at-bats. Freshman first baseman **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** was 3-for-4 with a run scored and Silva was 2-for-4 with two RBI and a run scored. Eight starters contributed at least one hit to the 14-hit attack.

Eastern visits Brandeis University Thursday in a makeup game at 3 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 8, Western Conn. 4

Eastern Conn. (22-4, 8-0 little east)	024	020	000	--	8	14	1
Western Conn. (7-13, 0-4 little east)	030	100	000	--	4	9	5

Ryan DiPietro (5-1) and Jeff Funaro. Brian Stumpf (1-1), Justin Davis (3), Sean Buto (9) and Adam Kaplan. 2B-Leon Galemba, Greg Sullivan, Funaro (E), Anthony Puccio, Jay Sharkey (W).

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little east conference

Tuesday, April 15, 2003

HEVENOR'S PINCH SINGLE LIFTS EASTERN BASEBALL TO 6-5 VICTORY

With win over Trinity, Warriors equal longest winning streak in 13 years

HARTFORD, Conn. -- Pinch hitter Adam Hevenor (**NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI**) drove in **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** from third base with one out in the top of the ninth inning to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to a 6-5 win over Trinity College in a battle of regionally-ranked teams Tuesday.

The No. 1 ranked team in Division III and in New England and last year's national champion, Eastern (21-4) equalled its longest winning streak in 13 seasons with its 13th straight win. The Warriors are 12-0 up north and were playing their first road game since returning from California. Trinity (11-6) is ranked fourth in New England.

After trailing 4-0 in the third, Trinity scored twice to tie the game 5-5 in the seventh against reliever **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)**. The Bantams left two runners in scoring position after tying the game, however, and Eastern went ahead for good in the ninth. Hitting for late-inning outfield replacement **Dan Silva (BERLIN)**, Hevenor lifted a 1-1 pitch from losing pitcher Craig Tredenick (1-1) into shallow right field, scoring Garofalo easily from third with one out. Garofalo had doubled off the glove of diving leftfielder Rob O'Leary to open the ninth and moved to third on a sacrifice bunt by **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)**.

Serfass, who has three wins and five saves in eight appearances this year, was touched for two tying runs and six hits over the final three innings after replacing starting pitcher **David Meeker (WAKEFIELD, RI)** to start the seventh. Trinity tied the game in the seventh by scoring two runs on five hits but Serfass got a fly ball to left field to leave runners on second and third. Meeker allowed three runs (two earned) on six hits while fanning seven and walking two. He was lifted after striking out the side in the sixth -- his first 1-2-3 inning.

Second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** and leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** -- the top two hitters in the lineup -- combined for four hits, three runs and two RBI. Julien drove in the first two runs of the third inning with a double and scored the third run of the inning on centerfielder **Dwight Wildman's (SEYMOUR)** sacrifice fly. Julien's relay from left field on Jayme Dorr's seventh-inning double also helped cut down Jeff Natale at home before Trinity scored its two runs in the inning.

Thompson, Julien and Funaro each had two hits, with Funaro pulling to within two of the 100th of his career.

(more)

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Natale, Dorr, Kurt Piantek and Andrew Fries each had two hits for Trinity, which outhit Eastern 12-11. Piantek drove in three runs with a two-run single in the third and a single in the seventh. Dorr reached base four times and scored three runs.

Eastern visits Western Connecticut State University in a makeup Little East Conference doubleheader Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 6, Trinity College 5

Eastern Conn. (21-4)	103	000	101	--	6	11	3
Trinity (11-6)	002	010	200	--	5	12	1

David Meeker, Joey Serfass (7) and Jeff Funaro. Chris Rodday, Craig Tredenick (9) and Tony O'Shaughnessy. WP-Serfass (3-0). LP-Tredenick (1-1). 2B-Morgan Thompson, Eugene Julien, Marc Garofalo (E), Jeff Natale, Jayme Dorr (T).

EASTERN BASEBALL MAKEUP DATES

Wednesday, April 16 at Western Conn. State U., 4 p.m. (from 4/6)

Thursday, April 17 at Brandeis U., 3 p.m. (from 4/2)

little east conference

Monday, April 14, 2003

EASTERN BASEBALL UNLOADS 20 HITS IN WINNING 12TH STRAIGHT
Koch, Hevenor combine for nine hits as Warriors use late surge to rout Suffolk

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Adam Hevenor (NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI), Dan Silva (BERLIN) and Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI) each had two hits in a ten-run eighth inning that sparked the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to its 12th straight win, a 17-6 victory over Suffolk University Monday at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Last year's NCAA Division III national champion, Eastern (20-4) broke open a four-run game by scoring ~~eight~~ ten runs in the eighth inning on eight singles, a double, a walk and a hit batter. Hevenor, Silva and Koch all scored two runs in the inning to go along with their two hits, Koch had two two-run singles in the inning while Hevenor contributed a two-run single. As the No. 9 hitter, Koch was 5-for-5 with five RBI and four runs scored while No. 7 hitter Hevenor was 4-for-5 with two runs and two RBI. Silva was a late-inning replacement in right field reached safely three times and scored three times. He had two hits and reached on a fielder's choice.

Sophomore righty Joe Riley (EAST HARTFORD) won his second game in his second start. Riley allowed only two singles through the first five innings, fanning six and walking four and hitting one.

Leading 3-2, Eastern scored four runs in the sixth on an RBI single Koch, a two-run triple by senior second baseman Morgan Thompson (NORWALK) and a sacrifice fly by junior leftfielder Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA). Morgan Thompson was 3-for-5 with four RBI and two hits while Julien was 2-for-3 with three RBI and two runs scored.

Eastern has won its first 11 northern games for the second time in four years.

Mike Rigazio led Suffolk (12-6-1) with two hits and two RBI and also walked twice in five plate appearances. Eastern entered the game ranked first in New England, Suffolk tied for fourth.

The game was a re-match of the first round of last year's NCAA Division III New England Regional Tournament, won 9-1 by Eastern.

Eastern visits Trinity College Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 17, Suffolk U. 6

Suffolk U. (12-6-1)	000	002	2	02	--	6	12	1
Eastern Conn. (20-4)	020	014	0	(10)x	--	17	20	1

Justin Waskiewicz (1-2), John Kollek (7), Mark Piantedosi (9) and Chris Harris. Joe Riley (2-0), Ben O'Brien (6), Michael Maruska (6), Tim Fagan (7) and Adam Hevenor. 2B-Mike Rigazio (S), Morgan Thompson, Eugene Julien (E); 3B-Thompson (E).

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little east conference

Sunday, April 13, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL STRETCHES WINNING STREAK TO 11 GAMES *Five-run seventh inning propels Warriors to 9-4 second-game win over UMass D*

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team scored five runs with two out in the seventh inning of the nightcap on the way to a 7-4, 9-4 Little East Conference sweep of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Sunday at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Eastern (19-4) has won 11 straight, is 10-0 since returning from California and is ranked first in New England and fifth nationally. UMass Dartmouth, which has lost five straight to Eastern and has dropped 13 of 15 regular-season conference games to Eastern. The Corsairs are 3-4-1 up north.

Trailing 2-1 in the second game, Eastern scored five runs on three hits, two walks and an infield error in chasing UMass starter Jason Thompson. All of the runs scored after there were two out. Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)**, junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** and senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** each drove in runs in the inning.

In the first game, Eastern scored five times in the bottom of the fifth inning to snap a 1-1 tie. Thompson drove in the first three with his fourth home run of the season, junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** drove in the fourth with a single and the final run scored on an infield error.

Senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** won his 17th career game in the opener, winning his third straight decision after two losses. Czerwinski allowed only one run on six hits through eight innings while fanning eight and walking one.

Junior righty **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)**, the winning pitcher in last year's national championship game, earned his fifth save of the season in the opener with a game-ending strikeout and gained his second win without a loss in the nightcap. In the nightcap, he allowed two runs on three hits over the final 2 1/3 innings. Junior lefty **Jeremy Hall (NORTHFIELD, VT)** gave up only one run and four hits through the first six innings of the second game but left with the score tied 1-1.

Wildman and Thompson each had a home run and four hits on the day while Julien had three hits, scored three runs and drove in three.

Eastern hosts Suffolk University Monday at 3 p.m.

Linescores, Pg. 2

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Sunday, April 13, 2003

**Baseball
at Mansfield, CT**

**First Game
Eastern Conn. 7, UMass Dartmouth 4**

UMass Dartmouth (6-11-1, 2-2 little east)	001	000	003	--	4	10	2
Eastern Conn. (18-4, 6-0 little east)	000	150	10x	--	7	9	0

Brandon Perry (0-4), Kyle Darrow (7), Dan DeCosta (8) and John Macone. Adam Czerwinski (3-2), Thomas Spirito (9), Joey Serfass (9) and Jeff Funaro. Save-Serfass (5). 2B-Ryan Sullivan, Brett Simarrian (MD), Eugene Julien, Dwight Wildman, Joshua Coleman (E). HR-Morgan Thompson (4), Dwight Wildman (5) (E).

**Second Game
Eastern Conn. 9, UMass Dartmouth 4**

UMass Dartmouth (6-12-1, 2-3 little east)	000	100	120	--	4	9	1
Eastern Conn. (19-4, 7-0 little east)	001	000	53x	--	9	9	0

Jason Thompson, Kyle Darrow (7), Eric Griswold (7), Dan DeCosta (8) and John Macone. Jeremy Hall, Matt Schumey (7), Joey Serfass (7) and Jeff Funaro. WP-Serfass (2-0). LP-Darrow (1-3). 2B-Ryan Sullivan, Macone (MD), Eugene Julien, Funaro, Marc Garofalo (E); 3B-Tom Jachimczyk (MD).

little east conference

Thursday, April 10, 2003

ECSU PITCHERS HOLD OPPONENTS TO FIVE SINGLES IN TWO WINS
Warriors post shutout wins over Albertus Magnus (2-0) and Amherst (14-0)

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Five Eastern Connecticut State University pitchers limited two opponents to five singles as the Warriors shut out Albertus Magnus College 2-0 and Amherst College 14-0 Thursday at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Ranked first in New England and No. 5 nationally, Eastern (17-4) stretched its overall winning streak to nine. The Warriors are 8-0 up north, with four of the victories coming by shutout. With 18 scoreless innings today, the staff lowered its ERA to 2.87.

Ty Bongiovanni (MERIDEN), **Matt Schumey (ROCKVILLE)** and **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** combined on a two-hitter with six strikeouts against Albertus (6-4) and Eastern scored single runs in the third and eighth. In the third inning, **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** doubled with his 100th career hit with two out and scored from second on a single to center by **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)**. Held to just four hits and one run over seven innings by Albertus freshman Tom Holleran, Eastern added an insurance run in the eighth against reliever Albert Battista. **Adam Hevenor (NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** tripled down the right field line on Battista's first offering and came home on Thompson's suicide squeeze bunt. Julien stole three bases in the game.

In the most lopsided decision in the 25-game series with No. 8 New England-ranked Amherst (8-5), Eastern racked five pitchers for 16 hits and freshman lefty **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** subdued the Lord Jeffs on one single through seven innings to gain his fourth win against one loss. DiPietro fanned four and walked two and retired the final 13 batters he faced before giving way to **Thomas Spirito (CANTON)** to start the eighth.

Jeff Funaro (MILFORD) drove in five runs with a two-run home run in the fourth and three-run blast in a four-run seventh. The home runs were the first of the year for Funaro, who had homered just once in 296 career at-bats. Six players recorded two hits for Eastern, among them **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** and **Joshua Coleman (TERRYVILLE)**. Wildman was 2-for-3 with two runs, two RBI and two stolen bases, Coleman 2-for-4 with two RBI and a run scored.

Seventeen of the previous 24 games in this series had been decided by three or less runs.

Eastern hosts the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Saturday in a noon Little East Conference doubleheader.

Linescores, Pg. 2

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Baseball
April 10, 2003

Eastern Conn. 2, Albertus Magnus College 0

Albertus Magnus (6-4)	000	000	000	--	0	2	1
Eastern Conn. (16-4)	001	000	01x	--	2	6	1

Tom Holleran (2-1), Albert Battista (8) and Ray Ricker. Ty Bongiovanni (3-1), Matt Schumey (7), Joey Serfass (9) and Adam Hevenor. Save-Serfass (4). 2B-Morgan Thompson 2 (E); 3B-Adam Hevenor (E).

Eastern Conn. 14, Amherst College 0

Amherst (8-5)	000	000	000	--	0	3	2
Eastern Conn. (17-4)	102	203	42x	--	14	16	0

Jonah Ansell (2-2), Joe Vladeck (6), Rob Anderson (6), Joe Houkal (7), Brant Ford (8) and Joe Katuska. Ryan DiPietro (4-1), Thomas Spirito (8) and Jeff Funaro, Leon Galembo (8). 2B-Tom Koch (E); HR-Jeff Funaro 2 (2) (E).

little east conference

Sunday, April 6, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL SWEEPS LITTLE EAST DOUBLEHEADER, 13-3, 17-4
Warriors record 31 hits, seven pitchers allow eight hits vs. UMass Boston

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Starting pitchers **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** and **Jeremy Hall (NORTHFIELD, VT)** allowed only six hits over 12 innings and the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team collected 31 hits in a 13-3, 17-4 Little East Conference sweep of the University of Massachusetts Boston Sunday at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Czerwinski (2-2) gave up one run on four hits in earning his 16th career win in the opener and Hall held the Beacons (3-11-1, 1-3 little east) hitless for 5 2/3 innings in winning his sixth career game without a loss in the nightcap. Hall gave up two hits and four runs (two earned) while fanning a career-tying ten and walking four over the first six innings. Czerwinski struck out six without a walk.

In the doubleheader, Eastern (15-4, 5-0 little east) had 14 extra-base hits: nine doubles, two triples and three home runs. In the opener, sophomore rightfielder **Joshua Coleman (TERRYVILLE)** hit a grand slam to highlight an eight-run sixth inning. In the second game, senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** hit a two-run home run in the second inning for his 99th hit in 109 career games and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** tripled in the seventh and hit his fourth home run of the year and 12th of his career-- a two-run shot -- in the eighth.

Freshman third baseman **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** was 5-for-10 with three doubles and a walk on the afternoon. He scored five runs and drove in two. Junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** was 4-for-8 with three runs scored, a double and sacrifice fly. Freshman first baseman **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** was 4-for-7 with two walks, five RBI and two runs scored. He drove in four runs in the nightcap with singles in the first, fourth and sixth innings. Freshman outfielder **Matt Pindar (BERLIN)** recorded his first collegiate hit with a pinch infield single in the eighth inning of the first game and drove in his first run with a pinch RBI double in the eighth inning of the nightcap.

Ranked first in New England and fifth nationally, Eastern has won 79 of 90 (85.6 per cent) conference regular-season games since the conference began baseball competition in 1997.

Eastern hosts Montclair State University Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Linescores, Pg. 2

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Sunday, April 6, 2003
Baseball

First Game
Eastern Conn. 13, Massachusetts Boston 3

Eastern Conn. (14-4, 4-0 little east)	300	208	000	--13	13	2
UMass Boston (3-10-1, 1-2 little east)	100	000	002	--3	5	1

Adam Czerwinski (2-2), Tim Fagan (7), Michael Maruska (8) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (7). Michael DiLalla (1-2), Jeff Mogan (6), Matt Ahl (9) and Kevin Conway. 2B-Funaro, Hevenor, Tom Koch (E); HR-Joshua Coleman (3) (E).

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 17, Massachusetts Boston 4

Eastern Conn. (15-4, 5-0 little east)	122	223	230	--17	18	2
UMass Boston (3-11-1, 1-3 little east)	000	004	000	--4	3	3

Jeremy Hall (2-0), Matt Schumey (7), David Meeker (8), Thomas Spirito (9) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (7). Marco Acosta (0-4), David O'Sullivan (5), Mitchell Sadofsky (8), Jon Lawless (9) and Mike McGonagle. 2B-Marc Garofalo 2, Eugene Julien, Matt Pindar, Chris DeSantis, Tom Koch (E); 3B-Dwight Wildman, Funaro (E); HR-Morgan Thompson (3), Wildman (4) (E).

Note: UMass Boston designated as the "home" team.

little east conference

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

HEVENOR'S HOME RUN RALLIES ECSU BASEBALL PAST WESTFIELD 5-4

Junior catcher hits three-run home run in eighth, Morgan Thompson singles for game-winner

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- Junior catcher **Adam Hevenor** (NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI) hit a game-tying, two-out, three-run home run in the eighth inning and senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson** (NORWALK) followed later in the inning with a tie-breaking RBI single that lifted the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to a 5-4 come-from-behind win over Westfield State College Tuesday at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Hevenor tied the game with a three-run home run over the left field fence off Westfield State reliever Jared Seltzer (0-3) on a 3-2 pitch with two outs in the eighth to tie the game 4-4. Sophomore third baseman **Jason Pehrul** (BERLIN) followed by reaching safely on an infield hit to third. Pinch runner **Tom Koch** (WARWICK, RI) stole second before Thompson drilled an opposite-field single over the head of shortstop Josh Gosselin to plate Koch with the go-ahead run.

The home run was the second career one for Hevenor, whose first had also come in the eighth inning of a 14-1 win over Westfield State last April 2 at the ECSU Baseball Stadium. It was Eastern's (13-4) fourth straight northern win in four days.

The Owls (6-7) had taken a 4-0 lead after two innings on a passed ball, RBI singles by Chris Visone and Mike Carney and a solo home run from Shaun Geary. Eastern got one back in the sixth when pinch hitter **Justin McCulloch** (WATERBURY) was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. After hitting McCulloch, however, Seltzer stranded the bases loaded by getting a called strikeout and fly ball to right.

Sophomore righty **Ben O'Brien** (MONTVILLE) was credited with his first collegiate win as the third of four Eastern pitchers. O'Brien did not allow a run and only two hits after taking over for sophomore righty **Joe Riley** (EAST HARTFORD) with a runner on first and one out in the fifth. Junior righty **Joey Serfass** (NEWINGTON) earned his third save of the year by getting the final six outs of the game. Serfass allowed four baserunners but got two strikeouts and a double play in the eighth and stranded the tying run on second in the ninth with a first-pitch comebacker to Brian Uliasz.

Riley walked three and allowed three hits but did not allow a run in three innings of relief before giving way to O'Brien. Hevenor threw out all three baserunners attempting to steal, tossing out pinch runner Shane Higgins while Brett Ford was striking out for Eastern's second double play of the game in the eighth inning.

The team's leadoff hitter, Thompson singled in his final two at-bats after walking in the fourth and walking and scoring the team's first run in the sixth. Visone led Westfield with three hits, Uliasz and Gosselin adding two each. Westfield freshman starter Joe Komow surrendered only one hit and left with a 4-0 lead after walking two and hitting a batter with one out in the sixth. He was charged with one unearned run.

Ranked first in New England and fifth nationally, Eastern visits Brandeis University Wednesday at 3 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 5, Westfield State College 4

Eastern Conn. (13-4)	000	001	040	--	5	6	1
Westfield State (6-7)	130	000	000	--	4	10	1

David Meeker, Joe Riley (2), Ben O'Brien (5), Joey Serfass (8) and Adam Hevenor. Joe Komow, Jared Seltzer (6), Tom Cousineau (8) and Dan Lucia. WP-O'Brien (1-0). LP-Seltzer (0-3). Save-Serfass (3). 2B-Chris Visone (W); HR-Hevenor (1) (E), Shaun Geary (1) (W).

Note: Westfield State was designated as the home team.

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little east conference

Monday, March 31, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL COLLECTS 19 HITS IN 12-0 WIN OVER WCSU
Freshman lefty Ryan DiPietro fans ten as Warriors win third straight LEC game

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team banged out 19 hits in support of freshman lefty **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** in a 12-0 Little East Conference win over Western Connecticut State University Monday at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

Ranked second nationally and first in New England, Eastern (12-4, 3-0 little east) broke open a two-run game with ten runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings to defeat the Colonials (5-11, 0-3 little east) for the 18th straight time.

DiPietro (3-1), who entered the week leading the conference in strikeouts per nine innings (13.24), equalled his season high with ten strikeouts in seven innings. He allowed three singles while walking one and hitting a batter. He has 35 strikeouts in 24 innings this year (13.13 per game).

Seven starters had two or more hits for Eastern, last year's NCAA Division III national champion. Sophomore DH **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)**, sophomore rightfielder **Joshua Coleman (TERRYVILLE)** and freshman third baseman **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** each had three hits while senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)**, junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)**, freshman first baseman **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** and senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** had two each.

Wildman drove in the first run of the game with a first-inning double and scored on a double steal. He later drove in another run with a sacrifice fly in a four-run seventh. Coleman drove in two runs with his team-leading fifth double of the season in a three-run sixth inning while Funaro drove in a run with a fifth-inning single and a and a sixth-inning sacrifice fly.

The Colonials, who had won their first conference tournament title last year at the ECSU Baseball Stadium, had four baserunners over the first three innings but could not break through against DiPietro. Ian Reilly singled and Jon Lynch was hit by a pitch in the first inning but DiPietro got a ground ball to second to end the threat. Anthony Puccio singled with one out in the second but DiPietro erased him at second on a comebacker, then ended the inning with a strikeout. Chris Sudano walked to lead off the third and advanced to third on two infield ground balls before DiPietro got a swinging strikeout to the end threat.

Eastern travels to face Westfield State College Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Eastern Conn. 12, Western Conn. 0

Western Conn. (5-11)	000	000	--	0	4	3
Eastern Conn. (12-4)	200	033	40x	--	12	19

Ryan DiPietro (3-1), Matt Schumey (8) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (8). Justin Davis (0-3), Brian Stumpf (7), Mike Troester (8) and Adam Kaplan, Eben McKnight (7). 2B-Dwight Wildman, Leon Galemba, Joshua Coleman, Marc Garofalo (E); James Furino (W); 3B-Morgan Thompson (E).

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little east conference

Saturday, March 29, 2003

College Baseball
at Mansfield, Conn.
First Game
Eastern Conn. 15, Plymouth State 2

Plymouth State (5-5, 0-1 little east)	002	000	000	--	2	7	1
Eastern Conn. (10-4, 1-0 little east)	017	121	12x	--	15	17	1

Mike Bradbury (1-1), Josh Forest (4), Steve Libera (7) and Sy Tebbetts. Adam Czerwinski (1-2), Ben O'Brien (8) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (8). 2B-Jay Zinis, Tebbetts (P), Leon Galemba 2, Morgan Thompson, Eugene Julien, Funaro, Jason Pekrul, Marc Garofalo (E); HR-Tom Koch (1) (E).

Adam Czerwinski (Somers) combined on a seven-hitter with Ben O'Brien (Montville). Czerwinski allowed five hits over seven innings while fanning nine and walking none. Morgan Thompson (Norwalk) 4-for-4 with 3 RBI and 2 runs. Two hits: Eugene Julien (Brockton, MA), Leon Galemba (Fairfield), Jeff Funaro (Milford), Jason Pekrul (Berlin). Galemba 3 RBI, Tom Koch (Warwick, RI) 2 RBI with his first career HR in the eighth.

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 15, Plymouth State 0

Plymouth State (5-6, 0-2 little east)	000	000	000	--	0	2	1
Eastern Conn. (11-4, 2-0 little east)	023	620	02x	--	15	21	0

Owen Burke (2-1), Jon Rich (4), Jason Egan (7) and Jay Morgan. Jeremy Hall (1-0) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (8). 2B-Simon Hunt, Dwight Wildman, Leon Gembala, Justin McCulloch, Marc Garofalo (E); HR-Joshua Coleman (2), Wildman (3) (E).

Jeremy Hall (Northfield, VT) retired the first 21 batters of the game, finished with a complete-game two-hitter and faced the minimum 27 batters. Rob Burr opposite-field single to right leading off the eighth and Mike Campo opposite-field single to right leading off the ninth. Both were erased on infield double plays. Career-high ten strikeouts. Seven players with two or more hits. **Three hits:** Dwight Wildman (Seymour), Joshua Coleman (Terryville); **Two hits:** Simon Hunt (Bethlehem), Leon Galemba (Fairfield), Justin McCulloch (Waterbury), Chris DeSantis (Shrewsbury, MA), Jeff Funaro (Milford). **Two RBI:** Wildman, Galemba, Coleman, Funaro, Marc Garofalo (South Kingstown, RI).

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little east conference

Saturday, March 29, 2003

ECSU COMBINES PITCHING, HITTING AND DEFENSE IN SWEEP

Pitching allows no earned runs, offense collects 38 hits, defense commits one error

MANSFIELD, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team combined strong pitching, hitting and defense to sweep Saturday's Little East Conference doubleheader with Plymouth State College 15-2, 15-0 at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

It was the northern and home debut for defending NCAA Division III national champion Eastern (11-4, 2-0 little east), ranked second nationally. Three Eastern pitchers combined on a nine-hitter and didn't allow an earned run. They struck out 24 batters without a walk or hit batsman. Defensively, Eastern committed only one error. Offensively, the Warriors collected 38 hits off six Plymouth (5-6, 0-2 little east). Eastern has won 19 of its last 20 home-openers.

In the nightcap, junior lefty **Jeremy Hall (NORTHFIELD, VT)** retired the first 21 batters in order, finishing with his first career complete game -- a two-hitter -- and a career-high ten strikeouts in winning his first decision of the year. Hall, 5-0 with a save in his career, faced the minimum 27 batters. Rob Burr broke up the perfect game with an opposite-field single to right leading off the eighth and Mike Campo had an opposite-field single to right leading off the ninth. Both runners were erased on infield double plays.

In the first game, senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** won his 15th career game by stopping the Panthers on five hits over seven innings. He fanned nine. Plymouth moved ahead 2-1 against Czerwinski with two unearned runs in the third inning on three hits and in infield throwing error before Eastern countered with seven runs on six hits in the bottom of the inning. Sophomore DH **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)**, sophomore third baseman **Jason Pekrul (BERLIN)** and senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** drove in the runs with doubles. Galemba drove in three, Thompson two and Pekrul one.

Leading 5-0, Eastern broke open the second game with six runs on seven hits in the fourth inning. Freshman third baseman **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** drove in two with a double. Sophomore first baseman **Justin McCulloch (WATERBURY)**, senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)**, sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** and Galemba also plated additional runs with hits in the inning.

In the doubleheader -- which produced 12 doubles and three home runs -- Galemba had four hits and six RBI and scored three runs; junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** five hits, four runs and two RBI; Funaro four hits, three RBI and two runs; Thompson four hits, three RBI and two runs; Coleman three hits, three runs and two RBI; Koch two hits, four runs and three RBI; junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** four hits, four runs, two walks and an RBI; and Garofalo three hits, three RBI and two runs.

The leadoff hitter, Thompson was 4-for-4 with a double and two runs scored in the first game and Wildman was 4-for-4 with a double and home run, two runs scored and two RBI in the nightcap. Koch hit his first career home run off the scoreboard in left in the eighth inning of the first game and Coleman hit a two-run home run in the second inning of the second game. Galemba had three doubles and Garofalo two on the day.

Eastern is 12-2 in seven years of regular-season play against Plymouth, 48-6 all-time.

Eastern hosts Western Connecticut State University in a Little East Conference single game Sunday at 1 p.m. at the ECSU Baseball Stadium.

~~Linescores, next page~~

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22222222

Saturday, March 29, 2003

Baseball vs. Plymouth State

First Game
Eastern Conn. 15, Plymouth State 2

Plymouth State (5-5, 0-1 little east)	002	000	000	--	2	7	1
Eastern Conn. (10-4, 1-0 little east)	017	121	12x	--	15	17	1

Mike Bradbury (1-1), Josh Forest (4), Steve Libera (7) and Sy Tebbetts. Adam Czerwinski (1-2), Ben O'Brien (8) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (8). 2B-Jay Zinis, Tebbetts (P), Leon Galemba 2, Morgan Thompson, Eugene Julien, Funaro, Jason Pekrul, Marc Garofalo (E); HR-Tom Koch (1) (E).

Second Game
Eastern Conn. 15, Plymouth State 0

Plymouth State (5-6, 0-2 little east)	000	000	000	--	0	2	1
Eastern Conn. (11-4, 2-0 little east)	023	620	02x	--	15	21	0

Owen Burke (2-1), Jon Rich (4), Jason Egan (7) and Jay Morgan. Jeremy Hall (1-0) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (8). 2B-Simon Hunt, Dwight Wildman, Leon Gembala, Justin McCulloch, Marc Garofalo (E); HR-Joshua Coleman (2), Wildman (3) (E).

little east conference

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

THOMPSON (5-FOR-6) CARRIES EASTERN BASEBALL PAST REDLANDS

Senior homers twice, doubles and drives in five runs in 15-10 victory

REDLANDS, CA -- Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** homered twice and doubled and drove in five runs to help lift the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to a 15-10 win over the University of Redlands Wednesday at The Yard.

Eastern (9-4) completes its California trip with a 5-3 record, with the winning dropping the Bulldogs to 14-7.

Batting leadoff, Thompson had five straight hits after flying out to left field leading off the game. He had an infield single and stole a base in the third, singled and scored in a six-run fifth, drove in both of the team's runs in the sixth inning with a home run, drove in a run with an opposite-field double in the seventh and hit a two-run home run in a four-run ninth. He had hit only one home run 102 previous games.

Trailing 3-2, Eastern scored six runs in the fifth on three hits and two errors. In the inning, sophomore rightfielder **Joshua Coleman (TERRYVILLE)** drove in two with a single, senior leftfielder **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** forced in a run when he was hit by a pitch, sophomore first baseman **Justin McCulloch (WATERBURY)** forced in one with a walk and junior centerfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** and sophomore third baseman **Jason Pekarul (BERLIN)** drove in runs with sacrifice flies.

Wildman had tied the game when he homered leading off the fourth, finishing the game with two hits and three RBI. Silva was also 2-for-3 with an RBI and a triple in a four-run ninth inning and two runs scored. Junior catcher **Adam Hevenor (NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** and freshman infielder **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** each had two hits in the 14-hit attack, Garofalo scoring three times and driving in a run and Hevenor scoring twice.

(more)

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Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Baseball

Sophomore lefty **Ty Bongiovanni (MERIDEN)** earned his second win of the year in three decisions as the second of five pitchers. He allowed one hit and one unearned run in one inning after replacing starter **David Meeker (WAKEFIELD, RI)** with two outs in the fourth. Junior righty **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** gave up three hits and an earned run over the final two innings to earn his second save in three games.

Eastern hosts Plymouth State College Saturday at noon in a Little East Conference doubleheader in its home-opener.

Eastern Conn. 15, U. of Redlands 10

Eastern Conn. (9-4)	000	262	104	--	15	14	3	
Redlands (14-7)		010	214	020	--	10	16	3

David Meeker, Ty Bongiovanni (4), Ben O'Brien (5), Thomas Spirito (6), Joey Serfass (8) and Adam Hevenor. Nick Cavanaugh, Craig Cartmill (5), Grant Jones (5), Rob Walker (6), Matt Cowan (9) and Kevin Hazelton. WP-Bongiovanni (2-1). LP-Cartmill. 2B-Morgan Thompson (E), Aaron Holley (R); 3B-Dan Silva (E); HR-Thompson 2 (2), Dwight Wildman (2) (E).

little east conference

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL SHUT OUT BY CHAPMAN ON THREE HITS 4-0
Eastern freshman DiPietro fans nine and allows only two hits in five innings in loss

ORANGE, CA -- Jairo Ochoa and Scott Akamine combined on a three-hit shut to lift the Chapman University baseball team to a 4-0 win over Eastern Connecticut State University Tuesday night.

The loss is the third in the last four outings for Eastern (8-4), last year's NCAA Division III national champion. The Warriors are ranked second nationally.

Ochoa and Akamine limited Eastern to just three hits -- singles by senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)**, freshman centerfielder **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** and freshman third baseman **Zach Mehrbach (LYME, NH)**. The hit was the first career one for Mehrbach, a late-inning replacement at third.

In his second career start, Eastern freshman lefty **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** fanned nine in five innings in losing his first decision after two wins. The only hits allowed by DiPietro were a two-run first-inning double by catcher Matt Graves and junior shortstop Brian Sanders' solo home run in the fourth. DiPietro, who has struck out 19 in his last ten innings, walked four, two in the first inning.

Eastern closes out its eight-game California trip when it visits the University of Redlands Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. ET. The Warriors are scheduled to host Plymouth State College Saturday at noon in a Little East Conference home-opening doubleheader.

Chapman U. 4, Eastern Conn. 0

Eastern Conn. (8-4)	000	000	000	--	0	3	0
Chapman (15-4)	200	100	01x	--	4	8	1

Ryan DiPietro (2-1), Matt Schumey (6), Thomas Spirito (8), Michael Maruska (8) and Jeff Funaro. Jairo Ochoa (3-1), Scott Akamine (9) and Matt Graves. 2B-Graves (C); HR-Brian Sanders (C).

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Monday, March 24, 2003

FOUR-RUN FIRST INNING CARRIES ECSU BASEBALL TO 5-4 WIN
Joe Riley gains win in first start at Eastern, defeating North Central, IL

CLAREMONT, CA -- Freshman centerfielder **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** highlighted a four-run first inning with a two-run single and first-year sophomore righty **Joe Riley (EAST HARTFORD)** earned his first win at Eastern Connecticut State University in a 5-4 win over North Central College (IL) Monday at Arce Field on the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps College campus.

Eastern (8-3), the 2002 NCAA Division III national champion, scored four times off North Central (1-3-1) sophomore righty Bill Leahy (0-2) and junior righty **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** came on preserve the win with two hitless innings after North Central had pulled to within 5-4 with two runs in the sixth.

The Warriors staked Riley (1-0) to a 4-0 lead in the first and the University of Connecticut transfer allowed only two runs on six hits, leaving with a 5-2 lead after five innings. He fanned three and walked two. Serfass, who won last year's national championship game, got the final six outs, fanning one for his first career save.

Sullivan gave Eastern a 2-0 lead with his two-run single which plated senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** and junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)**. Senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** drove in the final run of the inning with a two-out double after a two-out infield error off the bat of sophomore third baseman **Jason Pekrul (BERLIN)** plated Serfass (walk) had made it 3-0.

Junior rightfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** made it 5-1 with a two-out RBI single in the second which scored sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** from third. Koch had singled, stole second and moved to third on a fly ball by Thompson.

Thompson and Funaro each had two hits and Pekrul stole two of Eastern's five bases.

Eastern, ranked second nationally, visits Chapman University Tuesday at 10 p.m. ET.

Eastern Conn. 5, North Central College, IL 4

Eastern Conn. (8-3)	410	000	000	--	5	9	3
North Central (1-3-1)	100	012	000	--	4	9	1

Joe Riley (1-0), Ben O'Brien (6), Joey Serfass (8) and Jeff Funaro. Bill Leahy (0-2), Marc Buddin (9) and Mike Obucina, Jeff Pignatiello (8). Save-Serfass (1). 2B-Morgan Thompson, Funaro (E), Rick Ochenkowski, Chris Swidergal, Obucina (N).

little east conference

Saturday, March 22, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL DROPS FIRST TWO GAMES IN CALIFORNIA

Warriors limited to ten hits in losses to Claremont-Mudd 7-2, Pomona 4-1

CLAREMONT, CA -- Senior righty Mike Renery combined on a three-hitter with Alex Smith to lift the Pomona-Pitzer Colleges baseball team to a 4-1 win over Eastern Connecticut State University Saturday, handing the Warriors their second loss of the day at the California Invitational. Earlier, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps scored five runs in its final two at-bats in a 7-2 victory.

Ranked second nationally, the defending national champion Warriors (7-3) were limited to just three singles by Renery and senior righty Alex Smith, who fanned two over the final two innings to earn his third save.

The losses snapped a three-game winning streak for Eastern, which finished 2-2 in the invitational following its first two losses in California after three victories. Claremont (14-7), ranked in a tie for 16th in the national pre-season poll, was playing its 21st game of the year, (16-4) its 20th.

Against Claremont, senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** allowed only two runs through seven innings but left on the short end of a 2-1 score. The Stags added an insurance run in the eighth and four more in the ninth against junior lefty **Matt Schumey (ROCKVILLE)** and junior righty **Thomas Spirito (CANTON)**.

The Warriors had just three singles against Pomona, with Renery fanned eight and walking six. Sophomore lefty **Ty Bongiovanni (MERIDEN)**, who missed all of last year following reconstructive elbow surgery, was touched for two runs on five hits over the first four innings. He fanned two and walked four. Sophomore righty **Ryan Giberson (SOUTH WINDSOR)** was charged with one run on one hit while walking one in getting the final four outs in his collegiate debut.

Eastern faces North Central College (IL) Monday at 2 p.m. at Claremont, CA.

Claremont-Mudd-Scripps 7, Eastern Conn. 2

Claremont-Mudd (14-7)	200	000	014	--	7	12	1
Eastern Conn. (7-2)	000	001	010		2	7	2

Erik Yamamoto (6-1), Wes Battle (8) and Chad Sakamoto. Adam Czerwinski (0-2), Matt Schumey (8), Thomas Spirito (8) and Adam Hevenor. Svac-Battle. 2B-Blake Lloyd (C), Greg Sullivan (E); 3B-Tyler Kimura (C).

Pomona-Pitzer Colleges 4, Eastern Conn. 1

Eastern Conn. (7-3)	000	010	000	--	1	3	2
Pomona-Pitzer (16-4)	010	100	11x	--	4	9	1

Ty Bongiovanni (1-1), Michael Maruska (5), Ryan Giberson (7) and Jeff Funaro. Mike Renery (4-1), Alex Smith (8) and Jose Cortez. Save-Smith. 2B-Matt Toma (P).

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little east conference

Saturday, March 22, 2003

College Baseball at Claremont, CA

Claremont-Mudd-Scripps 7, Eastern Conn. 2

Claremont-Mudd (14-7)	200	000	014	--	7	12	1
Eastern Conn. (7-2)	000	001	010		2	7	2

Erik Yamamoto (6-1), Wes Battle (8) and Chad Sakumoto. Adam Czerwinski (0-2), Matt Schumey (8), Thomas Spirito (8) and Adam Hevenor. Svae-Battle. 2B-Blake Lloyd (C), Greg Sullivan (E); 3B-Tyler Kimura (C).

Pomona-Pitzer Colleges 4, Eastern Conn. 1

Eastern Conn. (7-3)	000	010	000	--	1	3	2
Pomona-Pitzer (16-4)	010	100	11x	--	4	9	1

Ty Bongiovanni (1-1), Michael Maruska (5), Ryan Giberson (7) and Jeff Funaro. Mike Renery (4-1), Alex Smith (8) and Jose Cortez. Save-Smith. 2B-Matt Toma (P).

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little east conference

Friday, March 21, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL WINS TWO GAMES AT CALIFORNIA INVITE
Warriors improve to 7-1 overall with wins over Whittier and UW-Lacrosse

WHITTIER, Calif. -- Junior leftfielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** scored the winning run on a ninth inning passed ball in a 4-3 win over Whittier College Friday and the defending national champion Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team went on to two victories at the California Invitational.

Julien tripled with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning and scored the game-ending run from third when a pitch to junior **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** got by Whittier (13-11) catcher Ryan Jones.

In a 4-2 win over the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse (0-9) later, senior righty **David Meeker (WAKEFIELD, RI)** allowed two runs on five hits over the first seven innings and sophomore **Joshua Coleman (TERRYVILLE)** hit his first collegiate home run. Sophomore righty **Ben O'Brien (MONTVILLE)** stranded the tying runs on base and recorded his first collegiate save when he came on to get a ground ball and game-ending double-play.

In the opener, junior lefty **Jeremy Hall (NORTHFIELD, VT)** allowed only five hits while striking out seven without a walk over the first six innings but left on the short end of a 2-0 score. Senior catcher **Jeff Funaro's (MILFORD)** two-run single tied the game 2-2. The Warriors led 3-2 before Matt Carter tied the game with a pinch solo home run with one out in the top of the ninth.

In the bottom of the ninth, Julien tripled with one out and scored despite a botched suicide squeeze attempt when the pitch to Serfass eluded Jones behind the plate. Funaro and Julien each had two hits. Julien also doubled and Funaro drove in a third run with a two-out single that gave Eastern a 3-2 lead in the bottom of the eighth.

Against LaCrosse, Coleman hit a two-run home run in a three-run fourth inning that gave Eastern a 3-1 lead. Sophomore **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** doubled to lead off the inning and sophomore **Justin McCulloch (WATERBURY)** tied the game 1-1 with a single and set the stage for Coleman's go-ahead homer.

Eastern faces Claremont-Mudd Scripps Saturday at 11:30 a.m. ET and Pomona-Pitzer Colleges at 2:30 p.m. ET in invitational play.

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Eastern Conn. 4, Whittier College 3

Whittier (13-11)	010	100	001	--	3	7	0
Eastern Conn. (6-1)	000	002	011	--	4	3	2

One out when winning run scored

Kevin Pansky, Bubba Armenta (6) and Ryan Jones. Jeremy Hall, Michael Maruska (7), Thomas Spirito (8) and Jeff Funaro. WP-Spirito (1-0). LP-Armenta (0-1). 2B-Jones, Ian Slaney (W), Eugene Julien, Joey Serfass (E). 3B-Julien (E); HR-Matt Carter (W).

Eastern Conn. 4, Wis.-LaCrosse 2

Eastern Conn. (7-1)	000	301	000	-	4	5	2
Wis.-LaCrosse (0-9)	010	000	100	--	2	6	2

David Meeker (1-0), Joe Riley (8), Ben O'Brien (9) and Adam Hevenor. Jude Tindall (0-1), Scott Bokkum (9) and Dan Graziano. Save-O'Brien (1). 2B-Tom Koch (E), Bryan Martzahl, Dan Mielke, Graziano (W); HR-Joshua Coleman (1) (E), Mielke (1) (W).

little east conference

Thursday, March 20, 2003

DIPIETRO FANS TEN IN WINNING FIRST COLLEGIATE START *Eastern freshman lefty pitches Warriors to 7-1 win over UW-LaCrosse*

CLAREMONT, CA -- Freshman lefty **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** fanned ten batters in his first collegiate start and senior **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** and **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)** each drove in two runs to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to a 7-1 win over the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse Thursday at Arce Field on the campus of Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges.

In the first of Eastern's eight scheduled games in California, DiPietro (2-0) allowed only one hit and one walk while striking out ten over the first five innings of his first collegiate start. It was the third appearance for DiPietro, who has struck out 16 in 12 innings. The only hit he surrendered was a two-out, second-inning double by LaCrosse (0-6) catcher Chris Behrens.

Last year's NCAA Division III national champion, Eastern was ranked second nationally in the pre-season. It was the first meeting between the programs.

Silva and Galemba each had two hits and two RBI and sophomore **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** had two hits for Eastern, which capitalized on three Eagle errors to score three unearned runs over the first three innings. Silva gave Eastern a 5-0 lead with a pinch two-out, two-run single in the sixth. Junior **Dwight Wildman's (SEYMOUR)** two-out double and a throwing error gave Eastern a 1-0 lead in the first and two errors and a balk and senior **Jeff Funaro's (MILFORD)** two-out RBI single made it 3-0 in the third.

Junior lefty **Matt Schumey (ROCKVILLE)** allowed one run on four hits while fanning one and walking none over three innings in relief of DiPietro.

At Whittier, CA Friday, Eastern faces Whittier College at 2:30 p.m. ET and LaCrosse at 5:30 p.m. ET.

Eastern Conn. 7, Wis.-LaCrosse 1

Eastern Conn. (5-1)	102	002	020	--	7	1
Wis.-LaCrosse (0-6)	000	000	010	--	1	4

Ryan DiPietro (2-0), Matt Schumey (6), Ben O'Brien (9) and Jeff Funaro, Adam Hevenor (9), Jason Scheel (0-1), Ryan Kaus (5), Tyler Wilberg (6), Eric Simon (9) and Chris Behrens. 2B-Dwight Wildman, Tom Koch (E), Behrens, Josh Howard, Chester Janke (W).

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little east conference

Saturday, March 15, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL DROPS 8-7 DECISION TO WILIMINGTON

Host Wildcats score six runs in second on three home runs en route to win

NEW CASTLE, DE -- The Wilmington College baseball team scored six runs in the second inning on home runs in handing Eastern Connecticut State University its first loss of the year, 8-7 Saturday.

Trailing 1-0, the Wildcats (7-5) chased Eastern (4-1) starter **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** in the second, when they hit three home runs. Pete Henyan hit a two-run homer and Derek Pugh followed later in the inning with a three-run shot off Czerwinski before Aaron Lewis made it 6-1 with a solo shot off sophomore left-handed reliever **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)**.

Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)**, junior left fielder **Eugene Julien (BROCKTON, MA)** and junior rightfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** each had two hits for Eastern. Thompson and Julien each doubled while Wildman hit his ninth home run of the season leading off the sixth. He finished with two RBI while Julien drove in three runs and Thompson scored twice.

Wilmington junior righty Tom Gallagher (2-0) allowed seven hits and five runs while walking three over the first seven innings. Junior lefty Tom Ellis allowed two ninth-inning runs but gained the save.

Eastern plays the first of eight games in California Thursday against Wisconsin-Lacrosse at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges at 2 p.m. ET.

Wilmington (DE) College 8, Eastern Conn. 7

Eastern Conn. (4-1)	012	001	102	--	7	8	4
Wilmington (7-5)	060	010	10x	--	8	8	0

Adam Czerwinski (0-1), Ryan DiPietro (2), Matt Schumey (5), Jeremy Hall (6), Ty Bongiovanni (7), Thomas Spirito (7) and Jeff Funaro. Tom Gallagher (2-0), Matt Johnson (8), Tom Ellis (9) and Brian Fulcher. Save-Ellis. 2B-Morgan Thompson, Eugene Julien (E); HR-Dwight Wildman (E), Derek Pugh, Aaron Lewis, Pete Henyan (W).

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little east conference
Sunday, March 9, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL OPENS 2003 SEASON WITH FOUR WINS AT SALISBURY
Warriors score 20 runs, get strong relief in defeating Greensboro, Salisbury

SALISBURY, MD -- Sophomore catcher **Leon Galemba (FAIRFIELD)** snapped a tie with a two-out, two-run double in the top of the seventh inning that lifted the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to a 7-4 win over Salisbury University Sunday and a sweep of four weekend games at the Tri-State Tournament at Sea Gull Field.

Last year's national champion, Eastern (4-0) outslugged Greensboro College (3-7) 13-7 Sunday morning and used Galemba's tie-breaking double to defeat Salisbury (2-5-1) 7-4 at noon. Saturday, the Warriors had beaten Greensboro 14-7 and Salisbury 4-3. The Warriors snapped a seven-game winless streak (0-6-1) against the hosts.

Against Greensboro Sunday, freshman lefty **Ryan DiPietro (BERLIN)** gained his first collegiate win in his first outing, pitching 4 2/3 innings of scoreless relief. He allowed four hits while fanning three and walking two and hitting a batter. Freshman shortstop **Marc Garofalo (SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RI)** had three hits and scored three runs and also reached with two walks in five plate appearances. Freshman centerfielder **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** and senior leftfielder **Dan Silva (BERLIN)** each had two hits and two RBI. Senior second baseman **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)** walked three times and scored two runs. Senior catcher **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** scored three times.

Trailing 4-2 against Salisbury, Eastern tied the game with two runs in the top of the fifth and Galemba drove in sophomore shortstop **Tom Koch (WARWICK, RI)** and Silva to provide the tie-breaking runs in the seventh. Sophomore lefty **Ty Bongiovanni (MERIDEN)** won his first game since May 17, 2001, pitching 3 2/3 shutout innings in relief before giving way to junior righty **Thomas Spirito (CANTON)**, who got the final five outs for his eighth career win. Bongiovanni missed all of last year due to reconstructive elbow surgery. Bongiovanni gave up six hits while fanning and walking two.

Sullivan and Koch both had three hits against Salisbury, Sullivan going 8-for-17 in the four weekend games. He also drove in two runs against Salisbury, as did junior rightfielder **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)**. Koch scored three runs.

Eastern visits Wilmington (DE) College Saturday at 11 a.m.

Eastern Conn. 13, Greensboro College 7, 8 inn. (time limit)

Eastern Conn. (3-0)	133	020	04	-	13	14	1
Greensboro (3-7)	310	000	12	-	8	12	4

Tim Fagan, Ryan DiPietro (2), Joe Riley (7), Thomas Spirito (7) and Jeff Funaro. Ben Edwards, Erik Kutz (5) and Mike Starkey. WP-DiPietro (1-0). LP-Edwards (1-3). 2B-Marc Garofalo 2, Greg Sullivan, Funaro (E); HR-Rick Reineke (G).

Eastern Conn. 7, Salisbury U. 4

Eastern Conn. (4-0)	002	020	210	-	7	10	0
Salisbury U. (2-5-1)	010	300	000	-	4	9	0

David Mecker, Ty Bongiovanni (4), Thomas Spirito (8) and Adam Hevenor. Star Kriger, Nick Dunk (7) and Andrew Eisenhart. WP-Bongiovanni (1-0); LP-Kruger (0-2); Save: Spirito (1). 2B-Dwight Wildman, Leon Galemba (E), Rob Kassekert (S); 3B-Tom Koch (E).

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Saturday, March 8, 2003

ECSU BASEBALL OPENS DEFENSE OF TITLE WITH TWO WINS *Warriors score four in ninth to snap 0-6-1 streak against Salisbury U.*

SALISBURY, MD -- Sophomore **Jason Pekrul (BERLIN)** singled home junior **Joey Serfass (NEWINGTON)** with one out in the bottom of the ninth to cap a four-run rally and give the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team a 4-3 win over Salisbury University Saturday at the Tri-State Tournament at Sea Gull Field.

All of the runs in the inning were unearned for Eastern (2-0), which snapped a seven-game winless streak (0-6-1) against the Sea Gulls (1-4-1). Earlier in the day, senior **Morgan Thompson (NORWALK)**, freshman **Greg Sullivan (NEEDHAM, MA)** and sophomore **Joshua Coleman (TERRYVILLE)** all had three hits in a 14-hit attack as the Warriors opened defense of their 2002 national championship with a 14-7 win over Greensboro College (3-5).

Against Salisbury, Eastern was held to just two hits through eight innings by sophomore righty Brian Shipe but rallied for four unearned runs on two hits and two walks against three ninth-inning relievers. Serfass was walked with the bases loaded to force in the first run of the inning. Eastern tied the game when junior **Dwight Wildman (SEYMOUR)** and sophomore **Chris DeSantis (SHIREWSBURY, MA)** scored when Sullivan's infield ground ball was thrown away. Pekrul's line drove through the gap then plated Serfass from third with the winning run.

Senior righty **Adam Czerwinski (SOMERS)** allowed only six hits and one earned run through five innings but left on the short end of a 2-0 deficit. Junior lefty **Matt Schumey (ROCKVILLE)** gave up only one hit over three innings and junior lefty **Michael Maruska (NARRAGANSETT, RI)** got the last two outs of the ninth to record his first win at Eastern.

Serfass, who shut out Marietta College 8-0 in last year's national tournament championship game, earned his 16th career win in the season-opener against Greensboro. He was touched for three runs on six hits while fanning three and walking one over the first five innings.

Pekrul, DeSantis, Coleman and Sullivan all registered their first hits at Eastern. Sullivan drove in two runs, as did DeSantis and senior **Dan Silva (BERLIN)**. Senior **Jeff Funaro (MILFORD)** and DeSantis each had two hits.

Eastern faces Greensboro Sunday at 9 a.m. and Salisbury at noon.

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Saturday, March 8, 2003 -- Baseball

Eastern Conn. 14, Greensboro College 7

Greensboro (3-5)	003	001	201	--	7	9	2
Eastern Conn. (1-0)	050	207	00x		14	15	2

(6)
Tim Hecker (0-1), Erik Kutz and Chris Campbell. Joey Serfass (1-0), Jeremy Hall (6), Ben O'Brien (9) and Jeff Funaro, Leon Galemba (9). 2B-Kris Wiggins (G), Morgan Thompson, Funaro, Greg Sullivan (E); HR-Kevin Mong, Rick Reineke (G).

Eastern Conn. 4, Salisbury U. 3

Salisbury (1-4-1)	010	100	001	--	3	7	3
Eastern Conn. (2-0)	000	000	004	--	4	4	3

One out when winning run scored.

Brian Shipe, Justin Clark, David Byroade (9), Star Kriger (9) and Andrew Eisenhart. Adam Czerwinski, Matt Schumey (6), Thomas Spirito (9), Michael Maruska (9) and Adam Hevenor. WP-Maruska (1-0). LP-Byroade (0-1). 2B-Dwight Wildman (E).