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Saint Mary's Splits with Dartmouth

By Mikaela Cowles



SMC's Brittany Linton poised to unleash a powerful pitch Photo Tod Fierner

The Saint Mary's softball team split their double header against Dartmouth on Tuesday March 24th, winning the first game 3-1, and dropping the second, 1-3. The home stand moved the Gaels to 14-15 on the season leading them into a 3 game home stand against Cal State Bakersfield.

In the early game, freshman righty, Brittany Linton went six innings and giving up one run, earning her 5th win of the season. The Gaels scored all three of their runs in the bottom of the third. Katelyn La Russa walked to begin the inning. A sacrifice bunt up the third base line from Sadie Dolcini moved La Russa to second, and when Rebecca Sabatini grounded out the pitcher, La Russa moved on to third. The Big Green's pitcher Devin Lindsay walked Kayla Gonzales to first. Lindsay continued to struggle, giving up a single to Kat Delpit and putting Saint Mary's on the board for their first run.

The Gaels weren't done with Lindsay there, as Jenna Smith doubled to left field and scored Gonzales and Delpit. It wasn't until late in the game when

Dartmouth found their way onto the scoreboard, with a single run in the top of the seventh.

In the second game Saint Mary's took advantage of Dartmouth's early mistakes, as Sabatini scored an unearned run. The Gaels couldn't hold on to their momentum, as Maryanne Cronin gave up seven hits and three earned runs, falling to a 7-4 record on the season. The Big Green's first two runs came in the top of the third when Nikki Yee's single to center field earned her two RBI's. Saint Mary's held them scoreless until the 7th when Ashley Gleason led off with a double down the right field line and was driven in on a single.

The Gaels brought back Linton to close out the inning, but it was too little too late as they were unable to make a come back.

Last weekend, Saint Mary's went 2-1 with Bakersfield ending their non-conference play, 16-16. They will open the conference on April 4, against Loyal Marymount in Los Angeles, with great hopes for building upon their 27-26 season last year, the best in school history. "Conference is wide open for anyone to take it," says head coach Jessica Hanaseth. With only two home stands during conference play, Hanaseth says "it will be a challenge to be on the road so much," but she has full faith in the Gaels potential to finish out games.

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