

Rodney Landscaping Visits Home Tint on Monday, May 16th

At the Field of Dreams this evening, you could sense some added excitement as teams entered their final week of regular-season games. And with the playoffs beginning next week, we have four of the eight teams that still have a shot at the #1 seed. After the head coaches - Jerry Hinson and Tom Neagli - met briefly with the umpires, it was time to line up and remove our hats. Following our respectful tribute to our National flag, Gary Warrick commissioned the Home Tint team's Paul Vargo to deliver the first pitch of the evening to Rodney Landscaping's Deb Hinson and the game was on.

Deb led off with the game's only walk, followed two outs later by one of Ron Schwertner's shortest home runs, and the RL's were on the scoreboard. Joe Nuttal started the hit parade for HT's half of the inning and, after additional hits by Dale Frazier, Mike Lorenc, John McNamar, Lisa McGlaston, Dianna Duncan, and Paul Vargo, the score was in their favor. Peter had "Who let the dogs out" playing in the background and he was challenging his audience with the first trivia question of the evening: *What team did Babe Ruth hit his first home run against? Answer later.*

4-2, Home Tint after the 1st inning

The next inning and half saw an amazing 7 force outs recorded at 2nd base – a true reflection of the skill level of the infielders to pull that off. When HT came to bat in the 3rd, however, they started hitting the ball where the RL players weren't – with hits by Mike Lorenc, Ken Ford, John McNamar (2B), Dianna & Jeff Duncan, and Lisa Mc, netting another 3 runs for the home team. But that wasn't the end of the inning. Peter had another trivia question for everyone: *Who was the first pitcher in the major leagues to pitch a ball over 100 MPH? Answer later.*

7-2, Home Tint after 3 innings.

Right when HT began thinking they had the Landscapers' number for the evening, **boom**. Clyde Ziegler got the RL's started in the 4th with a line drive to left, followed by a shot to left by Jerry Hinson, then a run-scoring double by Jose Raices to center, and a long slicing drive to right by Pat Snider. By the time Pat stopped running, he and two other Landscapers had scored. The RL's had pulled to within 1 of HT. But there must have been something about that 4th inning. Marlene McNemar and Ty Nelson set the table for the Home Tints with singles to left, followed by run-producing hits by Mike Flatt (2B), Dale Frazier, Mike Lorenc, and Ken Ford (3B). Just like that, HT had 4 runs of their own. The 8 runs scored in the inning moved Peter to dial up "It's a sign of the preacher man", which rang out as he delivered trivia question #3: *Everyone knows Reggie Jackson was known as Mr. October. But who was tagged with the nickname "Mr. November"? Answer later. Where is Jim Reese when we need some trivia answers?*

11-6, Home Tint after 4 innings

The 5th and 6th innings resulted in one run for the HTs, so we quickly found ourselves going into the final buffet inning with the Landscapers down 6. Coach Hinson started off with his 3rd line drive hit to left field and Steve Bentley brought him home. The inning, however, ended abruptly with a pop-out to the catcher. Ball game. After-Party Time.

Final Score: Home Tint 12, Rodney Landscaping 7.

Points of significant accomplishment during the game:

Game's Golden Glover: Pat Snider continues to make incredible plays at 3rd base, looking like Brooks Robinson and Clyde Ziegler down at the hot corner. Plays like the line shot off the bat of hard-hitting Joe Nuttal that he caught in the 4th, combined with numerous ground ball put-outs.

Ladies that can flat out hit: Lisa McGlaston, Dianna Duncan, Marlene McNemar, Cheryl McCally, and Deb Hinson had a combined batting average of .714, while all hitters combined hit an even .500 for the evening.

Pitchers: Our two pitchers for the evening – Paul Vargo and Steve Bentley – issued only one walk (the first batter of the evening) and six extra-base hits total.

Home Tint Batters: Everyone contributed at least one hit on the evening, and 8 different hitters produced an RBI(s).

Press Box: Peter Day, Announcer. Pat Sabo – Scoreboard Operator. Dale Hill – Scorekeeper. By the way, can we have a standing ovation for the awesome job **Peter Day, our Press Box Coordinator**, has done this season? And everyone who has volunteered to serve, some of which do not even play. Pat Sabo, for example, a great ballplayer in her own right, enjoys the Robson softball atmosphere and chooses to spend her time coming out and filling an important role in the RRSa experience.

Umpiring Crew: Gary Warrick– Home plate umpire. Steve Pratt– 1st base umpire. John Basse– 3rd base umpire. Gary kept things moving quickly between-innings, and the game could not have gone any smoother. Job well done, men.

Superfans: Each and every one of the fans that packed the Visitor's stands (Rodney Landscaping side) – what a following that team has.

Stat Leaders for the Game:

Three hits: Jerry Hinson, Pat Snider, Lisa McGlaston, Dianna Duncan

Doubles: John McNemar, Mike Flatt, Jose Raices

Triple: Ken Ford

Home Runs: Ron Schwertner, Pat Snider

Answers to Peter's Trivia questions:

1. The New York Yankees (in 1915, before he was traded by the Red Sox to the Yankees, for \$125K).
2. Nolan Ryan
3. Derek Jeter

Cheers,

Dale Hill