

Five-O's Clinches First, Gains Top Senior Softball Playoff Seed

By Ken Kotelly

A pair of races for playoff seeding were settled and another did not get resolved during the next-to-last week of the regular season's four-game slate this past week in the Lexington Men's Senior Softball League. The Five-O's won its lone contest to secure first place and the top seed for the upcoming playoffs, while the Goodtimers were also victorious to clinch the sixth playoff seed and avoid dropping into last place.

When this past week began the Five-O's were already in first place, two games ahead of Prime Time, and only needed one more win to clinch the top spot and the number one seed for the playoffs. The Five-O's then made sure they would be the top seed for post-season play when they defeated Metro Contracting 15-5, to capture its fifth straight regular season championship, and improve its record to 11-1.

While a total team effort helped the Five-O's earn the convincing decision, Jason Joseph and Mike Parenti both had two hits for Metro Contracting, although its record fell to 5-6 with this setback.

Despite falling short of finishing the regular season in first place, Prime Time moved one step closer to securing the second playoff seed by grinding out a close win in the first of its two games this past week.

Paul Sacco and Paul Brzezinski were their hitting stars with three hits each, while Jim Hart, Carl Fantasia, Chris Ellmore, and Eric Winter added two hits each, to help Prime Time come away with a 7-6 victory over MJB Consulting.

Tom Ford had three hits, and Garrett Frampton, Greg Carr, and Mark Bergeron all had two hits for MJB Consulting, but its record fell to 6-7.

The Goodtimers started the week tied for sixth and next-to-last place with Midnight Express, and only need to win its final regular season

game to secure the sixth spot due to its two wins and one tie in its three head-to-head battles against Midnight Express. The Goodtimers made sure their fate for sixth place wouldn't be decided by Midnight Express in its remaining regular season game, by coming through with a big offensive outburst in one inning to earn that all-important win.

Matt Andrade, Mike Massimilla, Brian Soucy, and Kevin Donoghue led their offensive attack with two hits each, to help the Goodtimers score seven runs in the third inning, and add another run in the fourth frame, to score enough runs to come away with a big 8-4 win over Foul Play, and clinch the sixth playoff seed while finishing its regular season with a final record of 3-10-1.

Kyle Junik had four hits, and Peter Hamilton, Andy Cutler, Gene Kalb, and Joe Curro added two hits apiece for Foul Play, which remained in third place but its record slipped to 7-5 with this setback.

Despite falling short of earning the sixth spot for the playoffs, Midnight Express did come through with a very impressive win in its last regular season contest, to still finish with the same record as the Goodtimers.

Ommer Chohan led its hit parade with four hits, while Matt Szymarzek added three hits, and Rick Pernak, Charlie Gauthier, Mike Puleo, Norm Wellington, Chris Guen, and Wally Mei chipped in two hits apiece, to help Midnight Express score seven third-inning runs, and add three more runs in the seventh and eighth frames, to come away with a 12-8 triumph over second-place Prime Time, and end its regular season with a final record of 3-10-1.

Gregg Armstrong and John Toomey both had three hits, and Bill Crowley, Hart, Brzezinski, and Winter added two hits apiece for Prime Time, which still remained in third place by a game over Foul Play.

STANDINGS as of August 9th

Five-O's 11-1

Prime Time 8-4

Foul Play 7-5

MJB Consulting 6-7

Metro Contracting 5-6

Goodtimers 3-10-1

Midnight Express 3-10-1

The schedule of games for the upcoming final week of the regular season follows. All games at Center 2 will play seven regulation innings. The playoffs are set to begin Tuesday, August 19.

Tuesday, August 12: MJB Consulting vs. Metro Contracting at Estabrook, 6:00; Foul Play vs. Five-O's at Center 2, 6:30; Five-O's vs. Foul Play at Center 2, 8:00.

Thursday, August 14: Metro Contracting vs. Prime Time at Center 2, 6:30; Prime Time vs. Metro Contracting at Center 2, 8:00.