

Five-O's, Prime Time Win Key Battles In Senior Softball Action

By Ken Kotelly

The slate of five games played in the Lexington Men's Senior Softball League the last two weeks yielded some stunning results. No team won twice, two previously undefeated teams lost, and a previously winless team won, as the Five-O's, Prime Time, MJB Contracting, Foul Play, and the Goodtimers all were victorious once over the past two weeks.

When the past fortnight started the Five-O's were undefeated through its first four games and on a roll. The Five-O's continued its recent hot streak by cruising to a fifth straight decision in the first of two contests it played over the past two weeks.

Dave Mack and John Sym were their hitting stars with five hits each, while Shawn Strout had four hits, John O'Brien, Mike McCullough, and Phil Edelen added three hits each, and Ray Forcina chipped in two hits, to help the Five-O's score eight first-inning runs, then add seven more runs in the fifth and sixth frames, and cruise to a 17-2 victory over MJB Consulting for their fifth straight win.

Anthony Bonetti and Mark Bergeron both had two hits for MJB Consulting.

This win set up a re-match of last year's finals between the unbeaten Five-O's and the once-beaten Prime Time. While the showdown appeared evenly matched, the result proved to be no contest, as Prime Time was primed for battle and caught the Five-O's on an off night.

Gregg Armstrong and Carl Fantasia both led their offensive attack with three hits each, while John Toomey, Bill Crowley, Chris Ellmore, Jim Hart, Eric Winter, and Carmelo Rosado added two hits apiece, to help Prime Time score six fourth-inning runs, and add seven more runs in the sixth

frame, and coast to a big 18-4 win over the Five-O's, and improve their record to 4-1.

That decision gave Prime Time a chance to tie the Five-O's for first place with another win two days later against the same team the Five-O's beat the previous week. But while the game was a great back-and-forth battle which featured five lead changes, Prime Time was on the wrong end of the final lead change, and came up just short at the end.

Tim Clark was the offensive hero for MJB Consulting with a two-run homer, then belted a game-winning, two-out run-scoring single in the ninth inning, while Joel Waithe, Tom Ford, and Bonetti also had two hits each, to give MJB Consulting a 7-6 triumph over Prime Time, and improve its record to 3-2.

Toomey and Hart both had three hits, and Mike Monteiga, Eric Winter, Crowley, and Rosado added two hits apiece for Prime Time, which took a one-run lead three times during the affair but couldn't hold its last slim edge in the bottom of the ninth frame.

When last week's play began Foul Play was in sixth place with a 1-4 record. Then last week Foul Play generated once of its best offensive outputs of the season so far, and won a game over a previously unbeaten squad to move up a spot in the standings.

Jesse Corburn, Drew Swinger, Peter Hamilton, Andy Cutler, Gene Kalb, and Harvey Lowell led its hit parade with two hits each, to help Foul Play defeat Metro Contracting 12-9, and improve its record to 2-4 while moving into fifth place.

Mike Parenti, Jim White, Mike MacClary, Tom Libretto, John Churchill, Jerry McIntyre, and Mark Bellino all had two hits for Metro Contracting, but after winning its first three games lost for the first time this season.

At the start of last week's action the Goodtimers remained the league's lone winless team with a record of 0-4-1. Then while trailing most of the way, the Goodtimers rallied in the late going at just the right time, and cracked the win column for the first time this year.

Matt Andrade, Jim Dirico, and Herb Cabral carried its offense with three hits each, while Brian Soucy, Sal Serio, Tony Bartolotti, Dan Apstein, and Kevin Donoghue added two hits apiece, to help the Goodtimers score seven runs in the third and fifth frames, and down a run plate five eighth-inning runs, to earn a 13-9 victory over Midnight Express, and move from last to sixth place while improving its record to 1-4-1.

Matt Szymaszek had four hits, Dave Ossam and Alan Kumpey added three hits each, and Rick Pernak, Jonathan Hurd, and Norm Wellington had two hits apiece for Midnight Express, but its record fell to 1-5-1.

STANDINGS as of June 21st

Five-O's 5-1

Metro Contracting 3-1

Prime Time 4-2

MJB Consulting 3-2

Foul Play 2-4

Goodtimers 1-4-1

Midnight Express 1-5-1

The schedule of games for the upcoming week follows.

Tuesday, June 24: Metro Contracting vs. Prime Time at Estabrook, 6:30; MJB Consulting vs. Five-O's at Center 2, 6:30; Foul Play vs. Midnight Express at Center 2, 8:15.

Thursday, June 26: Goodtimers vs. Foul Play at Estabrook, 6:30.