

Well Lulu, what did you think about last night's game between 407 Barbeque and Rodney Landscaping?

I thought it was a very exciting game, the weather was also very good and lots of fans exciting and cheering when lots of hitters running to base number one. But I feel sad for players I could hear talking while practice batting. They say they are sad because the softball calendar only goes one more game after last night. Now that weather is good they wish calendar was longer so as to play more. Players talked that they feel good and are, how do you say, "hitting their stride".

Lulu, you mean that the spring season is almost over and the players are sorry to see it come to an end. I can understand that because it has really been a season full of great softball, special time with friends, a warehouse of memories and lots, and lots of laughs. The players shouldn't despair though as there will be a thrilling couple of weeks of playoff games to look forward to. As for the players feeling good and "hitting their stride", did you notice how they hobbled back to the parking lot after the game. I think their assessment of youthful exuberance may be stretching reality and it is probably good that the season is drawing to a close. That said, there is no doubt they are in great shape for the shape they are in, hats off to every one of them.

But back to the game Lulu, what was your favorite memory from last night?

Jimmy Reese.

Lulu, Jimmy wasn't even in the game, he was the announcer in the press box along with Stan Isbell keeping the book and Ron Schwertner commanding the scoreboard.

Yes they are very nice, but Jimmy still my favorite memory.

Well what did you think about Bruce Horeftis, the lead-off batter for Rodney, who after rounding first charged on not exactly sliding into second but winding up on his tuchis for a sit down double. While Bruce was trying to regain his dignity, Becky Milby crushed a hard line drive down the third base line. With runners on 1st and 3rd, Frank Casteluccio's single brought home Bruce for Rodney's first score.

Coco Ondina's big hit to center field yielded a stand up double, then hits by Mike Braam and Mike Flatt advanced Coco for a 407 score.

At the end of one, game tied one all.

You could tell that it was going to be big night with an action packed game as the stands were filled with celebrities and RRSA Board members. Johnny Blecher rushed off of the golf course to see this game, Jay Wissink arranged front row seating for Kelly's visiting family and Nancy Rogus, on her bum leg was looking around to see where celebrity Lulu was sitting. RRSA Board members obviously get free tickets to the games as they were out in full force to support the teams. In the stands were Pres, Sean C; Sr Comish, Debbie H; and the At Large Jerry's, Hinson and Bennett. Besides that, on the field were VP, Gary W; Treasurer, Ty N and Comish Mike B. That was truly a star studded turnout and we thank them all for their hard work and dedication to Robson Softball.

In the 2nd, Mike Slocum hit a hard line drive at 3rd base which Tom Neagli knocked down limiting Mike to a single rather than a double or triple. Louis Berthhold and Ty Nelson singled sending Mike in for the score.

Charley Dobson and pitcher Larry Lewis singled but were stranded on base as the inning ended with Rodney leading 2 – 1.

Leading off for Rodney in the 3rd, Bruce's pop up dropped into short right. The 407 fielders watched it drop in and then bobbled the ball after deciding who should be fielding the ball and all the while Bruce just kept running all the way to 3rd. The strategy was confuse and conquer and it worked. Rodney was just getting started. Hits by Becky, Frank, Craig Bishop, Jimmy Parker and a big triple by Dale Frazier resulted in five more runs, side retired with 7 runs showing on the scoreboard for Rodney.

407 said ENOUGH and entered the 3rd with some attitude. Kelly Wissink walked to first, then Coco tripled and Braam doubled. Dale Frazier made a great stop and throw to hold Mike Flatt to a single, but Mike B scored for the third run of the inning with only one out. Gary Warrick's double and Tom Neagli's single drove in the fifth run to end the inning, Rodney 7 and 407 6.

So Lulu, after all of that excitement what is your favorite memory?

Me think et is still the golden tones of Jimmy Reese.

Oh my goodness gracious I don't know what to say. Moving on to the fourth, Mike S. powered one down the 3rd base line for a triple and Ty Nelson's single drove in the run, that's all folks.

It seems like the teams were running out of steam as hits by Doty, Dobson and Lewis (is that a law firm or a batting order, they all look like ambulance chasers) produced two more runs, with the score at the end of four tied at 8 all.

In the fifth, Craig bishop's double to right field scored Frank for the only run.

407 on the other hand came out with bats blazing. Although eight batters got hits to get on base, only 4 runs were scored, so at the end of five it was 407 with 12 and Rodney with 9.

Dale and Tom D singled in the sixth for Rodney and eventually crossed home following hits by Louis B and Ty. Mike Braam was busy out in center pulling in long flyballs by Luay Ashoo and Mike S. Two runs for Rodney made the score 12 – 11, 407 leading.

These teams were really giving it their all, it's too bad that in the end someone would have to lose.

The sixth was a tough inning for 407, because of a 'runner interference' call at second, the runners at both second and first were called out. This play pulled together a gathering of game officials and coaches. As a result of great officiating throughout the game by Mick Calverley at home, Bob Collins at first and Bob Richardson at third, the correct decision was reached and the game moved on.

If you want a more detailed explanation of that play, I will post Kelly Petre's cell number at the end of this report, please call him. He was there and saw the whole thing, if only through slightly closed eyes. He would love to hear from you, so please feel free to call him about this play or any other questions you might have. PS, it isn't necessary to mention my name, tell him Lulu send you.

Back to the game, Rodney at bat in the 7th was trailing 407, 11 to 12. Becky and Frank singled, Craig got a base on balls and then Frank scored on Jimmy P's single. That run tied the game at 12 all going to the bottom of the 7th. It doesn't get any more exciting than this.

407's resident heroes were up to the challenge. Coco lined one to center for a double followed by Mike B's single sending Coco home for the winning run, 407 with 13 and Rodney 12.

What a day, with the sun setting as the players gather to congratulate each other and the fans heading home with fun memories and anticipation for the next game. This is what it's all about. Like the man said, there are no losers in softball here at Robson. Don't you agree Lulu.

I agree yes and I also like when the players shake hands after the game, but my favorite is still...

STOP, STOP RIGHT THERE!

Till next time it's Ken and Lulu saying good night from the Field of Dreams.....