

Tommy's Hi-Tech Automotive vs. Rodney Landscaping

Thursday, Apr 18th

What a beautiful evening at the Field of Dreams. Good crowd, the veteran Gary Warrick behind the plate with Coco Ondina at first and George Ruth covering the umpire duties on the left side. Two of our favorite ladies were in the booth, Pat Lewis on the scorebook (and keeping track of the RBIs, I might add) and Pat Sabo working the scoreboard with Paul Neal calling the shots.

Visitors **Tommy Hi-Tech** took the first inning with an opening single from Tommy Beaury, a double from Dale Frazier (3/3, Trip, HR, 5 RBIs) and a blast to right center off the bat of Spencer Folsom (3/3, Dbl, 2 RBIs). John Coffman (3/3, Dbl, 3 RBIs) brought in the 3rd and final RBI of the inning. It looked promising for **Rodney Landscaping** when their lead-off batter David Pryde (3/4, RBI) singled, but Tommy Hi Tech's 2nd baseman, Aasha Jones made sure it fizzled as she got two of the outs.

3 – 0 After 1 Inning

Rodney's pitcher, Paul Vargo and 3rd baseman Clyde Ziegler put a quick stop to any notions of runs on the minds of **Tommy's** in the second. Lee Figueriedo (2/3, RBI) kick-started **Rodney's** with a bang and a single to left. Steve Tafoya (3/3) lined one up the middle; Stu White (3/3, Dbl) doubled and Bob 'Wheels' Wheeler (3/3, 2 RBIs) laced a grounder and outraced the throw to 1B for a single which ended up scoring 2 RBIs.

3 – 3 After 2

Danny Silva (2/2) ripped one just out of the reach of Johnny G. John Westbrook (2/2) piggybacked on that with a liner over 3rd and Dale Frazier one-hopped a shot to the fence. Dale cleared the bases & raced home trying to make it a grand slam. **Rodney's** rookie Ruth Brush stretched like John Thompson at first base and just missed nicking Dale as he crossed the plate to complete his grand slam and 5 spot for **Tommy's**. Ruth started out the game gangbusters with an RBI single in the 2nd but pulled up with a strain and had to exit the game early. Bummer! **Rodney's** John Gauthier (3/4, Dbl, RBI) and Clyde Ziegler (3/4, Dbl, 2 RBIs) both doubled to bring one home for Rodney's, but Tommy's 2nd baseman John Coffman shut 'em down with a lunging catch on a hot line drive.

8 – 4 After 3

Spencer Folsom (3/3, Dbl, 2 RBIs) opened the 4th for **Tommy's** with a double. Moss was up next, and it always tickles me when pitcher Paul V gives his personal sign of respect to a batter by intentionally throwing them an illegal pitch. He also did it a little later in the game to his pitching opponent, Joe LeCroy, maybe to say, 'good game.' But then Paul goes back to nibbling at the corners and looping 'em to the back corners of the mat and seldom gives up a walk. Impressive! Coffman knocked the run home and then he & Moss proceeded to shut down **Rodney's** with a double play.

9 – 4 After 4

Newcomer Corey Klessig flashed some speed to open another big inning for **Tommy's** with a single. Danny Silva, John Westbrook and Joe LeCroy all singled. Tommy Beaury ripped one down the 3rd base line bagging 2 more RBIs and then things got a little wonky. Aasha Jones drilled a nasty bouncer to 2nd which Carol Rumberger cleanly handled, and it was a race to 2nd base. Carol, SS Mike Moss and the runner Tommy Beaury all arrived about the same time, and it looked like a kerfuffle. Coco declared the runner 'safe'. I heard a "what?" and someone called 'time out,' but I don't know who. Talk about eyes wide open and focus, Joe LeCroy casually trotted home from 3rd base and I'm not sure anyone on the field noticed. Don't ever underestimate Joe, the run counted. When it was all said & done, Dale Frazier tripled in the last 2 RBIs to make it another 5 spot for Tommy's. **Rodney's** was not keen to give it up & scored 5 of their own. Stu White kicked off the 8 hit onslaught with David Pryde, 'Wheels', Mike Cummings and Clyde Ziegler all delivering. Another fun one, I'm sorry Joe but I've got to share this one. The fifth run was on 3rd with the bases loaded and two outs. Peter Grasser dropped one four feet in front of the plate. Tommy Hi-Tech's only chance was for the pitcher, Joe LeCroy to dive, scoop & toss the runner out at home on the force. Joe got one & two accomplished but had to bail out with a tuck & roll & came up with a chalk line across his butt – a tough ending to a brilliant effort.

14 – 9 After 5

John Coffman and Melissa Werstein did the heavy lifting for **Tommy's**, getting RBIs and 2 runs in the top of the 6th. A double play and a line drive at the SS stopped **Rodney's** in their tracks.

16 – 9 After 6

We flip-flopped, but Aasha was all over **Rodney's** and the game was over.

It really was a fun, good game, but aren't they all.

Cheers, Johnny B