

The Redneck Roundup

Rednecks win Clemente Pennant All's Wells That Ends Well ... Boomer Does the Job

Denham Springs, LA (CNS) - David Wells pitched his second complete game in as many outings and limited the Ely Tzzz to two earned runs over 18 innings as he pitched the Livingston Rednecks to a 5-3 win and the Clemente League Pennant last night at the Redneck Roost.

Wells surrendered a first inning double to Eric Davis and a home run to Mike Piazza; then shut down the Ely offense on 6 hits and an unearned run over the remaining eight innings while the Rednecks rallied for four runs in the fifth inning off Jamie Moyer. Boomer fanned five and walked only one, finishing his LCS work with a 2-0 record and a 1.00 ERA to earn MVP honors.

The Rednecks started their comeback from the 2-0 first inning deficit in the home half of the second. Back-to-back doubles by Robin Ventura and Eric Young cut the Ely lead in half. Ventura's double was his first of three in the game, setting a Clemente League record.

Edgar Martinez singled (his first of four hits) to lead-off the Livingston third, but Moyer picked him off first with Alou at the plate. Martinez has never been known for his base running. This blunder, coupled with his now infamous "run past Lofton" in game six, probably cost Edgar the series MVP award. Moyer whiffed Alou, then walked Simms; but he fanned Roberto Kelly to end the third.

Wells coasted in the second through the fourth. In the top of the fifth, Gary Gaetti sneaked a "seeing eye" single to lead off. Bill Mueller then smacked a would-be double play grounder to Young, but his toss to Deivi Cruz covering second skipped by him for an error, and the Tzzz had runners on first and second with no outs.

Young got a chance at redemption and delivered on the next play. He turned Damian Jackson's bouncer into a DP with Gaetti taking third on the deuce. Wells

jammed Carlos Delgado on the fists on the next pitch, but the burly Ely first baseman muscled the ball into shallow right for a run-scoring single and a 3-1 Ely lead. That was the last run the Tzzz would score in the 1999-2000 season.

The bottom of the fifth inning turned the tide to the Rednecks for good. Light-hitting Deivi Cruz opened with a slap single to right off Moyer. That brought Edgar Martinez up to the plate. Edgar must have been thinking of his base running troubles because he timed a Moyer change up and lined it into the RV pavilion in right for a game tying home run. It was his second homer of the series and his third and fourth RBIs.

Martinez' homer got the crowd into the game and the honking of the left field pickup truck section and the RV section obviously unnerved Moyer. Moises Alou followed Martinez's dinger with a long single to left — his 12th hit of the series. Simms struck out; then Roberto Kelly scored Alou with a triple into the right field corner for a 4-3 Redneck lead. Tony Gwynn followed with a sacrifice fly to right and Livingston built the lead to 5-3. Robin Ventura then rocked Moyer for his second double of the game, but Eric Young stranded him at second.

In the 6th, Ely attempted a comeback of their own. Piazza singled and after Garciparra grounded out, Boomer drilled Sean Berry in the back of the neck just below the batting helmet. Berry had to be assisted off the field and was lost for the season. Wells got tough, however, and retired Rondell White on a foul pop and Gaetti on a shallow fly to right to snuff out the rally.

Neither team mounted a serious threat the rest of the way. Wells, of course, got the 5-3 victory. Moyer went the distance as well, allowing 11 hits, striking out 7 and walking 1.

Martinez finished the game 3-4 and raised his

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series leading batting average to .440. Ventura was also 3-4, with all three of his hits doubles. Alou's 2-4 performance gave him a .429 average for the series. Mike Piazza was the only Tzzz to collect more than one hit. He was 2-4.

Series Notes

Martinez and Alou were the only players on either team to reach base in all 7 games ... Mike Piazza of Ely led all base stealers with a perfect 3 for 3 ... Wells led in just about all starting pitching categories: wins (2), complete games (2), innings pitched (18), walks (1.5/9IP), hits (6/9IP) ...

Pedro Martinez and Curt Schilling had ERA's of 7.36 and 7.94 respectively ... Trevor Hoffman of Ely had the only saves of the series — 3 ... Hoffman and Acevedo each appeared in 4 games ... In addition to Martinez's .440 and Alou's .429 BA, Mark Grace (.333) and Eric Young (.316) were the only regulars to hit over .300 ... Carlos Delgado (.280) led Ely ...

Martinez had 11 hits and 8 walks for a .579 on base percentage ... Alou led in hits with 12 and drew 5 walks for a .515 OBA ... Piazza and Alou tied for the lead in runs scored with 6 each ... Piazza, Alou, and Ventura tied in RBI with 6 each ... Alou had 2 triples ... Piazza led in homers with 3 ... Carlos Delgado fanned 9 times to lead all batters ...

After leading the Clemente League in fielding for the season, the Rednecks suddenly lost their touch. They committed 8 errors to only 1 by Ely ... Livingston turned 8 double plays to 2 by Ely ... Ely was 12-4 in steals ... Livingston was 3-1 ... the Redneck hurlers compiled a 3.90 ERA ... Ely posted a 5.13 ... Redneck pitchers fanned 10 fewer batters (42-52), but walked 10 fewer (19-29) as well ... Each staff hit 3 opposing batters ...

The Rednecks hit .275 and had a team OBA of .360 to Ely's dismal .225 BA and .294 OBA ... Livingston had 14 more hits (64-50), 7 more doubles (18-11), and 2 more triples (3-1) ... Ely out-homered the Rednecks 11 to 7 ... Livingston out-scored Ely 34-27 in the seven games.

Final Notes

In the Roberto League, the Thornhill Thunder downed the defending champion Durham Bullmoose 4 games to 3. The Arriba Baseball Confederacy championship series will open in Thornhill since the Thunder posted a 120-41 regular season record to the Rednecks' 116-46. Starting pitchers in game 1 will be Curt Schilling for Livingston and John Smoltz for Thornhill.

After the Rednecks' victory, Livingston Parish Sheriff's deputies were called in to break up a near riot at the Denham Springs Sonic Drive-In. Some 4,000 pickup trucks descended upon the Sonic and caused a nightmarish traffic snarl on Range Avenue and Hwy 190. It seems that the Sonic had promised free "Sonic Blasts" and chili-cheese dogs to all ticket holders if the Rednecks won the series — and who said "Rednecks were dumb?"

Box score on next page



7/30/2000 1:39 am

Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Ely Tzzz	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	8	0
Livingston Rednecks	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0		5	11	1

ELY	FT	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB	AVG	LIVINGSTON	FT	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	LOB	AVG
D. JACKSON, lf	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	.000	E. MARTINEZ, dh		4	1	3	2	0	1	0	.440
C. DELGADO, 1b		4	0	1	1	0	2	1	.280	M. ALOU, lf		4	1	2	0	0	1	1	.429
E. DAVIS, rf		4	1	1	0	0	2	2	.375	M. SIMMS, 1b		3	0	0	0	1	1	2	.000
M. PIAZZA, c		4	1	2	2	0	1	0	.269	M. GRACE, 1b		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.333
N. GARCIA-PARRA, ss		4	0	1	0	0	0	1	.231	R. KELLY, cf		4	1	1	1	0	2	2	.214
S. BERRY, dh		2	0	1	0	0	0	0	.444	T. GWYNN, rf		3	0	0	1	0	0	0	.280
J. MABRY, dh		1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	R. VENTURA, 3b		4	1	3	0	0	0	0	.250
R. WHITE, cf		4	0	1	0	0	0	2	.273	E. YOUNG, 2b		4	0	1	1	0	0	2	.316
G. GAETTI, 3b		4	1	1	0	0	0	4	.143	J. VARITEK, c		4	0	0	0	0	2	2	.059
B. MUELLER, 2b		3	0	0	0	1	0	4	.167	D. CRUZ, ss		3	1	1	0	0	0	1	.231
Totals		34	3	8	3	1	5			Totals		33	5	11	5	1	7		

BATTING

2B: E. DAVIS (3)
 HR: M. PIAZZA (3)
 RBI: C. DELGADO (4), M. PIAZZA 2 (6)
 GIDP: D. JACKSON (1), S. BERRY (1)
 HBP: S. BERRY (2)
 TEAM LOB: 6

INJURIES : S. BERRY (13 days)

BATTING

2B: E. MARTINEZ (2), R. VENTURA 3 (4), E. YOUNG (2)
 3B: R. KELLY (1)
 HR: E. MARTINEZ (2)
 SF: T. GWYNN
 RBI: E. MARTINEZ 2 (4), R. KELLY (3), T. GWYNN (4), E. YOUNG (1)
 TEAM LOB: 6
 FIELDING
 E: E. YOUNG (1)
 DP: 2

PITCHING

ELY (GAME 7)	T	FTG	SC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	BF	IR	ERA
J. MOYER, L, 1-1	L		46	8.0	11	5	5	1	7	35	0	4.50

LIVINGSTON (GAME 7)	T	FTG	SC	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	BF	IR	ERA
D. WELLS, W, 2-0	L		65	9.0	8	3	2	1	5	36	0	1.00

HBP: D. WELLS
 HR: J. MOYER (2), D. WELLS (1)

GAME DATA

Day Game played on Thursday, March 16,2000
 Regulation Game, Time: 12:24m