
Rangers Roundup & Gazette

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25 cents

Rangers Defense Strong in Loss

JONES COUNTY, GA. The Rangers came up short Friday night despite staging a rally in the bottom of the 6th, falling 9-4 to the Braves. The Rangers' bats went cold—and the pitching was horrible! But the boys had their best game yet defensively, stranding Braves runners by catching fly balls left and right. Way to go in the field, fellas!

The defense started shaky in the 1st, but the Rangers kept the game close until the Braves scored three runs in the last inning. In the bottom of the 6th the Rangers scrapped back to score two runs. Every Ranger hitter put the ball in play in the 6th, but the strong Braves defense retired the side to spoil the comeback.

In the 2nd, with two Braves runners on base, Justin Franks snagged a throw and tagged out a hustling Brave to end the inning and hold the score at 5-2 Braves. Then down 6-2 in the he 3rd. shortstop William Allen Whiddon caught a towering fly ball and, thinking fast, raced to second base to “double off” the Braves runner in a spectacular double-play.



Rangers gather on the mound before the game: from left to right, Will Pritchard, Justin Franks, Kyler Blair, Drake Daughtry, and a camera-shy mystery Ranger: is that you, Chandler Sharp?!?

Joining in the pop-fly parade, Gregory Hunter caught one in the 4th and Kyler Blair snagged another in the 5th—but wait! That's not all!



Justin Franks and Drake Daughtry both caught high pop flies *also*, and Kyler and Drake teamed up for a sparkling “1-3” pitcher-to-first putout to keep the game from getting out of hand in the last inning.

Center fielder Will Pritchard seemed to get more defensive action than the infielders, making strong throw after strong throw to keep Braves runners from advancing. Chandler Sharp made great throws in as well, and Jesse Dixon looked good at catcher, *just* missing on two close plays at home plate.

“I’m so proud of you guys,” Coach Chip told the team after the game. “We didn’t get the win, but you guys fought hard and kept it close up to the end. You boys played outstanding defense!”

Off Night at the Plate

JONES COUNTY, GA. Rangers hitters had a tough game Friday night, in large part because Coach Chip had trouble locating his fastball. From the dugout it appeared that one pitch to Zack Chance was at least 10 or 15 feet high! Plus, the Braves’ defense gobbled up ground-ball after ground-ball and made good throws to first base. Chandler Sharp was robbed on a hard-hit grounder, so was Justin Franks, and Jesse Dixon was robbed *twice*! It seemed like wherever we hit ‘em, there was a Braves player just waiting.

(See “Rangers Bats Turn Cold” continued on p. A2)

Rangers Bats Turn Cold

(Continued from A1)

Speaking of robbery, Coach Curt tried desperately to find a deputy sheriff in the 6th to file a police report when the Braves' right fielder flat-out stole William Allen's double, or triple, with a beautiful outfield catch. "Robbed!" Coach Curt said. "That's gotta be against the law!"

Drake Daughtry stayed hot at the dish with three base hits, scoring twice. When he wasn't being robbed, William Allen Whiddon hit very well, too, reaching base twice and driving in two RBI's. Kyler Blair went two-for-three with two RBI's as well.

Game 4 Line Score	R	H	E
Braves 5 0 1 0 0 3	9	16	0
Rangers 2 0 0 0 0 2	4	9	0

Two Game Balls in One Game!

JONES COUNTY, GA. For the first time in recent memory, the coaching staff awarded two game balls after Friday's loss to the Braves, one to William Allen Whiddon and the other to Justin Franks. Both players had especially excellent games on defense, making four putouts between them.

Game balls are voted on by the coaching staff each game and given to the Rangers player—or this time, *players*—for making exceptional contributions in the field and at the plate. Here are our 2011 game-ball winners thus far:

- Game 1 – Drake Daughtry
- Game 2 – Gregory Hunter
- Practice – Zack Chance
- Game 3 – Jesse Dixon
- Game 4 – William Allen Whiddon and Justin Franks

Upcoming Schedule

Monday, April 18th	5:30	practice
Friday, April 22nd	6:00	practice
Monday, April 25th	7:30	practice
Thursday, April 28 th	6:00	@ A's
Monday, May 2nd	6:00	@ Yankees
Saturday, May 7 th	10:00	@ Yankees



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Stat Watch: Team Leader Board

Batting average	AB	H	AVG.
Drake Daughtry	13	13	1.000
William Allen Whiddon	12	8	.667
Jesse Dixon	13	8	.615
Kyler Blair	12	7	.583
Gregory Hunter	9	5	.556
Justin Franks	11	4	.364

RBI (Runs Batted In)	G	RBI
Kyler Blair	4	11
William Allen Whiddon	4	7
Jesse Dixon	4	4
Justin Franks	4	2
Gregory Hunter	3	2

Runs Scored	G	R
Drake Daughtry	4	12
Jesse Dixon	4	6
William Allen Whiddon	4	6
Kyler Blair	4	3
Justin Franks	4	2

Home Runs	G	HR
Jess Dixon	4	1
Drake Daughtry	4	1



CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY

On Deck: With CRCT's this week for some C-ballers, no games are currently scheduled, though negotiations are ongoing about a possible rain-out makeup game. As it stands now, the Rangers will have important practices this week Monday @ 5:30 and Friday @ 6:00. The Rangers front office will contact parents if there are scheduling updates as soon as they are announced by the league. **See all you Rangers Monday at 5:30!**

The Windward Baseball Academy, in Alpharetta, allows individual instruction to the baseball or softball player and teams who want to get more from the game! Instruction is available every day and appointments are open to match your schedule. We offer both individual and team lessons both on and off site, clinics and camps for all levels of development.

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