
Rangers Roundup & Gazette

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A's Top Rangers

JONES COUNTY, GA. The dramatically improved Athletics knocked off the Rangers 16-10 in Monday night JCAL action. The story was simple: the Rangers were better at the plate, the A's were better in the field

"We put the ball in play all night," Coach Chip said. "But those A's just made plays on us, and we didn't make many plays on them. A few innings of that, and we were in a hole 10-2."

So often in baseball, numbers tell the story. The Rangers recorded 21 hits, and in 34 at-bats they put the ball in play a whopping 30 times, striking out only four times. This means the A's made a total of 14 putouts, including two double-plays.

Meanwhile, the A's had 40 at-bats, 22 hits, 27 balls in play, and a big 13 strikeouts. The Rangers made only four putouts. If the A's hadn't helped with all the strikeouts, they might have scored something like 100 runs!

So with both teams getting about the same number of hits, what do these numbers really add up to? A's 14 putouts, Rangers 4 → A's 16 runs, Rangers 10. Getting lost in the math here? The bottom line is we still *gotta* find that defense, fellas!

<i>Game 8 Line Score</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>E</i>
Athletics	4	21	3
Rangers	2	00	3

Chandler Sharp had hard luck at the plate, especially with a smash line drive the A's first baseman *somehow* snagged for an out. But Kyler Blair, even though he got a hit and scored—Kyler had even *worse* luck in being retired by that same first baseman *three* times—one line out, one flyout, and one groundout. That Ja'sen kid on the A's is something else!

Zack Chance doubled for the second straight game, and Donnie Hayle went 2-for-3, one run scored and one driven in. Justin Franks and



Gregory Hunter were each 3-for-3, Gregory scoring twice and knocking in one, Justin scoring once and getting an RBI. Jesse Dixon was back in action, going 2-for-4, scoring and driving in a run.

It's hard to top Justin's and Gregory's performances—three hits in three trips to the plate—but the most productive Rangers offensively were William Allen Whiddon (3-for-4, one run, two RBI's); the coming-on-like-gangbusters Will Pritchard (2-for-3, with a game-high 3 RBI's); and Drake Daughtry (perfect 4-for-4, with a double and a triple, one RBI and three runs scored).

In the field, Gregory Hunter made a nifty catch of a pop fly in the 1st, and so did William Allen Whiddon in the 2nd. Kyler Blair scooped a grounder and made a perfect throw to first for an out in the 3rd, and Drake Daughtry fielded a slow roller and won the race to first base for another putout in the 4th.

Speaking of Drake Daughtry, and still with the numbers, Drake's offensive statistics at mid-season are eye-popping. This kid has reached base 27 times in 29 plate appearances (.931 avg.). Even more stunning, however, Drake has scored 23 runs in those 29 at-bats. Incredible! Keep up the good work, son!

On Deck: Practice Wednesday at 5:30 (think defense!); 6:00 game Friday @ Blue Jays (5:00 practice). **Let's find that good defense again, Rangers!**