
Rangers Roundup & Gazette

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48 cents

Victorious!

Rangers Pull Away From Scrappy Blue Jays, Win 18-7

JONES COUNTY, GA. The Rangers defeated a very game Blue Jays squad 18-7 Friday night. But the game was much closer than the score would suggest.

The Rangers jumped out to a 5-1 lead in the 1st with the first five batters scoring and added another run in the 2nd to go up 6-1. But the feisty Blue Jays stifled the Rangers in the 3rd with a nifty double-play tagging out a hustling Kyler Blair at the plate to end the inning. Then in the bottom half, five Blue Jays crossed the plate to knot it up at 6-all.

The score remained tied through the 4th inning, and the Blue Jays were clearly gaining confidence. We suspect a Ranger or two, or three, may have been wondering if JCALL history was in the making—would tonight see the first ever victory by a C-ball girls' team?

Standing firm in the face of pressure, however, those wonderful Rangers stormed ahead by five in the 5th, the big blows being a two-RBI double by second baseman Gregory Hunter and a pair of RBI doubles by Chandler Sharp and Donnie Hale.

In the top of the 6th the Rangers salted the game away by “batting around,” scoring a season-high seven runs in a single inning. The Jays tried to mount a comeback in the bottom half, but the rally faltered and they pushed only one more run across.

Once again, an ecstatic Coach Liz had this to say: “We won! We won, we won, we won!” And then later, “We won, we won, we won!”

Game 9 Line Score	<i>R</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>E</i>	
Rangers	5	10	0	5 7 18 27 0
Blue Jays	1	0	5 0 0 1 7 10 0	



Defense on the Way Back?

JONES COUNTY, GA. In the field the C-ball Rangers looked more like the Rangers of a few weeks ago. Sure, there was some sloppiness in the 3rd when the Blue Jays tied the score at 6-6 by scoring five runs. But otherwise the boys in Ranger blue looked pretty sharp on defense.

This time out the Rangers started the game with strong defense right away. The first Blue Jay batter hit a “swinging bunt” to pitcher Kyler Blair, who—cool as a cucumber—snatched up the ball and nailed the runner with a perfect throw to Drake Daughtry at first base.

Then with a rally building, two runners on base, the Blue Jay batter turned on a changeup and drove it to the left-field fence, where Zack Chance raced to the ball and made a *powerful* strong throw to third. Justin Franks snatched the ball out of the air and applied the tag 1/10th of a millisecond before sprinting Blue Jay Katie Tanner touched base. The game ended too late for the play to run as a “web gem” on Friday night’s ESPN *SportsCenter*, but it may just make it on the morning show. Great throw, Zack! Good hands, Justin!

Gregory Hunter made a clean “pick” of a grounder in the second, with a sharp throw to Drake Daughtry at first base for another nice play. Gregory did a “replay” on a similar grounder in the 6th, this time throwing to William Allen Whiddon at first for the putout.

Rangers Bats Stay Hot

JONES COUNTY, GA. With rumors of the Rangers' secret hiring of hitting instructor Wally Pritchard still swirling all around the Highway 49 baseball complex, evidence on the field indicates that yes indeed, the Ranger hitters have been getting major league coaching. In Friday's win against the Blue Jays, the Rangers set a franchise record with 27 hits in a game. Not 25, not even 26, but a whole *dadgum* and just plain *doggone* 27!!!

As usual, Drake Daughtry led the way, going 5-for-5, with two runs and three RBIs. Will Pritchard, clearly comfortable in the "2-hole" in the batting order, was 4-for-4 with three doubles. He scored twice and drove in two.

Kyler Blair and Gregory Hunter were both a perfect 4-for-4. Kyler scored three and drove in two, and Gregory scored two and drove in three. William Allen Whiddon went 2-for-4, scoring twice and knocking in two as well.

The surging Donnie Hale was 2-for-4, two runs scored, two RBI's. Little-but-oh-so-mighty Chandler Sharp rapped out three hits in four trips, two of them doubles, with two runs and three RBI's. For their outstanding efforts, playing with *heart* and good attitudes, Chandler Sharp and Will Pritchard were each awarded a game ball by the coaches.

No doubt about it, these Rangers are keeping their hands back and driving the ball. As one Rutland High School coach likes to say (speaking on condition of anonymity), the Rangers are clearly learning to "see the ball, hit the ball!"

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Ranger Coach Misbehaves

JONES COUNTY, GA. Fans in attendance at the Rangers 18-7 victory over the Blue Jays may have noticed Coach Chip making a scene in the middle of the 6th inning. He approached the umpire and they had heated words, the coach bobbing his head and even kicking dirt in the direction of the unimpressed umpire.

Coach Chip was arguing that the Rangers were supposed to have ten batters in the last inning, not just once through the order with only nine batters. Needless to say, the coach

lost the argument, and it's a pure wonder he wasn't "tossed" from the game.

It was unclear at press-time whether the league will fine or suspend the coach, but he was very subdued and obviously sincere when questioned about the incident by reporters.

"I'm just glad my mom wasn't here to witness this," he said. "And glad, too, that the game wasn't televised. I'm supposed to set a good example for my players, and I dropped the ball. I deeply regret it. Besides, we had a good lead, so I didn't really need to get my spikes (baseball shoes) so dusty for nothing anyway."

Reporters were eager to hear more, but at this point Coach Lizzy took the microphone and said repeatedly, "We won, we won, we won!" drowning out all questioners and effectively ending the interview.

Stat Watch:

<i>Batting average</i>	AB	H	AVG.
Drake Daughtry	34	32	.941
William Allen Whiddon	31	22	.710
Kyler Blair	31	22	.710
Gregory Hunter	26	18	.692
Justin Franks	28	17	.607
Jesse Dixon	24	14	.583
Will Pritchard	28	13	.464
Donnie Hale	22	7	.318

<i>RBI (Runs Batted In)</i>	G	RBI
Kyler Blair	9	20
William Allen Whiddon	9	19
Justin Franks	9	9
Chandler Sharp	9	9
Will Pritchard	9	8
Gregory Hunter	8	7
Drake Daughtry	9	6
Jesse Dixon	7	6

<i>Runs Scored</i>	G	R
Drake Daughtry	9	25
William Allen Whiddon	9	15
Kyler Blair	9	12
Jesse Dixon	7	9
Gregory Hunter	8	9
Justin Franks	9	9

<i>Home Runs</i>	G	HR
Jesse Dixon	7	2
William Allen Whiddon	9	1
Drake Daughtry	9	1

On Deck: Our last game with the Yankees is Monday at 6:00, 5:00 practice. **We had these guys down twice last week, let's beat the Yanks, Rangers! You can do it!**