

## Game 15:

**The Road to a Championship.....**  
**The 2006 Lisle Park District**  
**Men's 12" Competitive Softball League**  
**Regular Season Champions**  
*Black Jacks*

**Black Jacks**                      **16**  
**Telemundo's**                      **5**

	<u>Line Score</u>							
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>T</u>
<b>Black Jacks</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Telemundo's</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

On Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006, at approximately 8:45 PM CST, the Black Jacks

**Won their FIRST League Championship!**

With our backs up against the wall, after last week's disappointing loss, we came through like the Champs we now are! In the past five games against Telemundo's (formerly known as Vito Smash) we have not beaten them by more than two runs. I know there was some concern going into the game, but after the second inning we all knew we were going to be okay.

Before the game started Joe told everyone "Play defense guys. We'll hit. Just play defense. These guys cannot beat us if we play D". He couldn't have been more right. The outfield was absolutely stellar! Not a single mistake anywhere and some awesome running-catches in all fields. Hats off to Joe, Danny, Brian and MJ. Way to go guys! You really set the tone of the game, which was "nothing is getting by us". On top of that Danny threw out a guy at home and Joe threw out a guy at third! Totally awesome!!

The infield, well let's say we all had, or almost had our hands on a play that we should've made. But, in the end we came out okay. Now I know everyone that was at the game is saying... what about Brad? Poor, poor Bradley, our Gold Glove on Ground Ball second basemen. Notice I said on ground balls. Bradley seems to have a little problem with pop flies to the infield, especially those hit to him. His problem is, he likes to drop them. Yes, he dropped one again. Bradley my boy, my suggestion is buy one of those instructional videos and learn how to catch a pop fly all over again! Come on. You really didn't think I'd let that one go and not mention it, did you? Don't worry, it's all good. Just don't let it happen again ☺

On the mound our elder statesman Steve, did an awesome job of shutting down Telemundos. Five shut out innings out of seven and only five total runs is a hell of a job in a game of this magnitude. Way to go.

At the plate, we were flat out solid. If one guy didn't get the hit we needed, then someone else did. We totaled 21 hits. Everyone in the lineup had at least one hit. Eight guys had at least two hits and two had three. MJ and yours truly led the way with the three hits each. Jake and I had 3 RBI's a piece. Let me tell you, it felt damned good to produce at the plate in a game like this.

As far as finally winning a championship.... What a road it has been! From a miserable first season (2 – 16 with one forfeit win) to an improved second season (7 – 12 with two wins by forfeit), to a highly competitive third season (13-3 with second place finishes in both the regular season and tournament) to **THE CHAMPS!!** I cannot begin to tell you how great it feels. I am pretty damned proud of how far we've come and what we've accomplished. This has truly been a four-year work in progress.

There are only a handful of guys left that were with us from the very beginning. But we stuck it out and kept adding talent like the pieces to a puzzle. That puzzle turned out to be a pretty damned good softball team. Thanks everyone!!

In closing, let me say our work this year is NOT done! Next Wednesday is the grand finale. It is the Play-off Tournament. The top four teams in the league battle it out for another championship trophy. Our intent is to win this one too! Then maybe we can actually do a little celebrating!! I might even buy the kids some ice cream!!

Seeds two and three play at 7PM. We play the fourth seed at 8PM and then the game one winner at 9. Pass the word!! Come out and see us. We can use the support.

### Big Hitters List:

Pete	3 for 3	double	3 Runs	3 RBI
MJ	3 for 3		2 Runs	
Lee	2 for 3		1 Run	2 RBI
Danny	2 for 4	double	1 Run	1 RBI
Mark	2 for 3		2 Runs	1 RBI
Brian	2 for 3		3 Runs	1 RBI
Jake	2 for 4		1 Run	3 RBI
Steve	2 for 4	double	1 Run	2 RBI

### Big Walkers List:

Lee 2

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## COMIC RELIEF

### I wouldn't have missed anything

Joe made another last second appearance just before the game started. He was a little disheveled and felt the need to adjust his pants (?) with Wendy sitting right next to him.

**Brian** (To Joe) What are you doing? Wendy did you see that?

**Wendy** No, but I didn't miss anything anyway. It's not like there's anything to see.

### The Jake and Haack show...

I don't think either of them knew that every time they came in from the field, someone was listening. Jake and Haack were splitting the catching duties. Seems as though every time the inning was over they felt the need to compliment each other. This time one of them went a bit too far....

**Jake** Hey nice job

**Haack** Yeah thanks. It's all about me you know. I'm calling the pitches. It's all about me

### Twenty years

One of the most unbelievable moments of the season came when Danny hit into a DOUBLE PLAY! Yes, even Chim-Chim, who can make it from first to second in three steps, is not immune to a double play!

**Pete:** NO WAY, did that just happen?

Lots of stunned silence ensued as Danny slowly made his way back to the bench

**Pete:** Double Plays are for slow guys like me to hit into. I could have done that easily!

**Danny:** I don't think I've done that in twenty years!

**Brian:** All good things come to an end.

**Danny:** Yeah, but I DON'T DO THAT!

### Don't dip your shoulder

As we all know, there seems to be a little love-fest going on between Joe and the Telemundo's team. They're his favorite team. He's their favorite player and I'm about to vomit. Anyway, during one of my at-bats I fouled a pitch off. Joe was coaching third and yelled at me to not dip my shoulder. Now, I have NO problem with Joe giving me advice being we talk about hitting all the time and his track record speaks for itself. Well, I guess the whole Telemundo's team heard him and didn't forget. The next time Joe came up he fouled off a pitch.

<b>Telemundo's left fielder</b>	Hey Joe.... Don't dip your shoulder
<b>Telemundo's second basemen</b>	Hey, Don't dip your shoulder
<b>Pete</b>	Thank YOU!! Got that Joe?
<b>Telemundo's center fielder</b>	Hey Joe.. don't dip your shoulder
<b>Pete</b>	Joe, they said don't dip your shoulder.

Usually never at a loss for words, Joe kept completely silent and kept his head down. I noticed a very slight grin and an attempt to stop from laughing. I think he still loves those guys though.

*The End*

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### Next Week: Play-Off Tournament

<b>First Opponent:</b>	Citi Gold Gloves
<b>Record:</b>	6 – 9
<b>First Game:</b>	Won 29-7
<b>Second Game:</b>	Won 16-14
<b>Third Game:</b>	Won 18-4
<b>Time:</b>	8 PM

<b>Second Opponent:</b>	Winner of Shades of Gray vs. Telemundo's
<b>Time:</b>	9PM

*The coach has spoken.....*

*Pete*

