

## Game 10

### Sincerely..... We won 21-20

**Risky Business** 20  
**Black Jacks** 21

	<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>Risky Business</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Black Jacks</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>21</b>

Let's preview this game. We are in second place, have a record of 7-2 and own a win over the first place team. Risky Business is 1-8 with their only win coming against a team with a 2-7 record. The first time we faced them we beat them 16-6 in six innings. So on paper, you would think we'd crush these guys. So much for that theory.

As everyone knows, I always arrive pretty early and as a result get to watch the other team arrive. As they began to show up they looked different. There were a few younger guys that I have never seen before. I wasn't very concerned because you can't judge someone by the way they look. But when they stepped on the field, you could tell they were much better than their 1-8 record.

During their nine-run second inning, I began to ask, "Who the hell are these guys?" They were hitting like crazy. It seemed like their entire lineup hit. In the field they weren't that good, but at the plate, they all seemed like hall of famers. Give them credit, they came to play.

Going into the bottom of the second we were already down nine to one. The good thing was no one panicked. We stayed calm and stuck together. As a result, we sent thirteen men to the plate and scored eight runs of our own tying up the score at nine. Champ and Scags knocked in the first two runs of the inning. Danny knocked in two more with a bases clearing double. Bradley followed with an RBI single to bring in Danny. Lee kept things going with a walk. Then Joe P stepped up and cleared the bases again driving in two runs. Two batters later Haack finished the scoring with a hit to drive in the eighth run.

After Risky Business took the lead again in the top half of the third with two runs, we stormed right back with five runs to take the lead. Champ, Jake and Scags started off the inning with three straight singles. Danny and Brad hit sacrifice flies to bring in the first two runs. Lee brought in another with a double. Joe followed with an RBI hit of his own, followed by Blake's RBI single.

For an inning and a half neither team could produce any runs. Then in the bottom of the fifth we put the game away with a huge seven run inning. Little did we know we'd need every one of those runs. Lee, Joe, Blake, Haack and yours truly punched out five consecutive hits with Blake and Haack getting the RBI's for the first two runs. Next came five consecutive RBI's by five different batters. Champ started things off with bringing in run on a fielder's

choice. That was followed by: Jake's RBI, Scags RBI Double, Danny's RBI single, and finally Bradley's RBI single.

After a rather funny exchange I had with the ump (see comic relief), we headed into the top of the sixth with a seemingly comfortable lead of 21 to 11. I guess you can say I tried to change the slaughter rule. Well, not really but that's what the ump gets paid for right? To correct wishful thinking coaches like me! Anyway, Risky Business put on their second impressive hitting clinic of the game. It all started out harmless enough, but when we could not get an out, things started to get tense. I really don't remember the details of that inning because it's all a blur. After the first four or five hitters the ump declared that this would be the last inning. Our only comfort at that point was we were home team, so we would at least get last ups. The barrage got to the point where we had to stop the game to ask how many runs were scored. At that point I think it was seven. Two runs later, they were one run away from tying the game with a runner on second and their cleanup hitter at the plate. On the second pitch he hit a towering, long drive to left. Even though Lee was already playing deep he still had to run back a few steps to get under the ball and make the catch.... finally ending the game! Final score: 21 to 20.

WHO THE HELL WERE THOSE GUYS!!!

### On the Defensive

- *Retraction from last week:* I gave credit to Joe P for throwing a runner out at home. That was actually Haack that made the throw to home. Joe P made the relay throw. Sorry Haack.
- Haack gets a mention again by making a real nice running catch on a pop-up to short right field.
- Yours truly gets a double entry into the "gold glove" act. The first was on a throw by Bradley from short that went in the dirt to my right. I stretched what was pretty long stretch for me (probably not very far for someone else) and scooped the throw out of the dirt. The second was on an almost identical throw but this time by Joe from third. Same type of stretch and same type of scoop. Who says you have to get hits to help win games?
- The outfield of Lee, Danny, Scags and Jake were all very solid. Lee and Danny both made a few very impressive running catches.

### Coach's Corner

- Make it ten games and ten different lineups. Are we going for the perfect season?
- Give these guys credit, they hit. There were several faces I have never seen before. They came to play as just about everyone does when they face us.
- Joe P made a real good point after we fell behind nine to one, "at least we didn't get mad at each other and start fighting like we did last year." I agree, which means the changes we made were positive ones as far as morale and cohesion of the team. It also brought of a funny story from last year that had Lee cracking up. During a very important game there was some infighting, when someone yelled to Joe..."shut the f\_\_k up!!"
- Nine out of 15 outs were pop-ups or fly outs. That's the second week in a row that we had too many of those. And just think we still scored 21 runs!!

- We did not make their defense work at all. In other words, most of our outs were easy outs and not hard hit balls.

### Big Hitters

Danny	4 for 4	4 runs	2 doubles	4 RBI
Blake	4 for 4	2 runs		3 RBI
Haack	3 for 3	1 run		2 RBI
Scags	3 for 4	3 runs	double	1 RBI
Bradley	2 for 3	1 run	double	4 RBI
Joe	2 for 3	1 run		3 RBI

### League Standings

The Naturals	9-1
Black Jacks	8-2
The Cannons	7-3
Squirrel Cagers	6-4
CH Robinson	4-6
Shake N Bake	3-7
D-Bags	2-8
Risky Business	1-9

## Comic Relief

### Catch the one in the middle

*Joe was having a rough night and at one point got a bit dizzy.*

- Joe:** Man all this running around is getting to me.  
**Pete:** You're all over the place  
**Joe:** I'm getting kind of dizzy, and sometimes it seems like I'm seeing more than one ball out there.  
**Pete:** Well, if you see three, catch the one in the middle.

### Oh....she's still talking to me all right....

*For the first time ever, Lee took himself out for a pinch runner.*

- Pete:** You alright?  
**Lee:** Yeah, I'm okay.  
**Pete:** Why'd you take yourself out?  
**Lee:** I tweaked my hamstring in the tournament last week after playing five games. Besides this game, I have a tournament this weekend and then next weekend, so I don't want to push it.  
**Pete:** Geez...is your wife still talking to you with three straight weekend tournaments?  
**Lee:** Oh....she's still talking to me all right.

### So says the ump

*At the end of the fifth inning we were up by ten runs. The slaughter rule is 12 after five and 10 after six. I totally lost track of the score and the inning.*

**Pete:** Ump what score do you have?  
**Ump:** You're up by ten 21 to 11.  
**Pete:** Isn't the game over?  
**Ump:** Nope  
**Pete:** I think it is.  
**Ump:** No it's not.  
**Pete:** It's the ten run slaughter rule  
**Ump:** Your league rule is 12 after five and ten after six.  
**Pete:** I know.  
**Ump:** It's the end of the fifth inning and you're up by ten.  
**Pete:** You're right! The game is NOT over!!  
**Ump:** Weren't you the one I gave the ground rules too before the game.  
**Pete:** I may have been there, but that doesn't mean I was listening.  
**Ump:** Oh good.. at least you were there.  
**Pete:** Hey, I just wanted to make sure you earned your money tonight.  
**Ump:** I'm earning it now.  
**Pete:** Yes you are. Nicely done.  
**Ump:** Personally I just don't think you wanted to run out into the field again.  
**Pete:** That would be correct.

### Sinseriously

*In this absolutely hysterical exchange with Bradley, he made his own personal addition to the English language.*

**Bradley:** See you guys in about two and a half weeks.  
**Lee:** Oh yeah, you're not playing in the tournament next week. Okay, so you in a few.  
**Pete:** What do you mean see you in a few weeks? I work with you.  
**Bradley:** You're irrelevant.  
**Lee:** Nice. He said you're irrelevant.  
**Pete:** Okay, that's fine. I'll remember that. Goddamned youth of today. No respect.  
**Bradley:** You are irrelevant in this conversation.  
**Pete:** Whatever.  
**Bradley:** Well, you are.  
**Pete:** You're welcome by the way for me saving your ASS on that bad throw to first base!  
**Bradley:** Hey, that was a real nice play though. Thanks  
**Pete:** Yeah sure..... irrelevant.  
**Bradley:** No really, that was an awesome play.  
**Pete:** You're welcome  
**Bradley:** No sinseriously! I mean it. Thanks. That was a great play.  
**Jake:** What did he just say?  
**Pete:** I think he said sinseriously.

**Jake:** He did say that.  
**Bradley:** What?  
**Jake:** You have no idea what you just said do you?  
**Bradley:** No?  
**Pete:** Not only that, he doesn't realize he just created the headline for this week's recap.  
**Bradley:** What did I say?  
**Jake:** You said Sincerely?  
**Bradley:** I did?  
**Jake:** You sure did  
**Bradley:** F\_\_K!!!  
**Pete:** At least I don't have to think about a headline.  
**Haack:** It should read "Sincerely.... F\_\_K!!"

*The End....*

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### Next Game

***Remember we are off for the next two Wednesdays.***

**Date:** July 11<sup>th</sup>  
**Opponent:** The Naturals  
**Record:** 9-1  
**Last meeting:** We won 13-9  
**Game Time:** 8:30 PM

For those that get a kick out of my referring to certain games as "statement" games, this is a "defining moment" game. The reason is if we want to win the regular season championship, we need to win this game.

*The coach has spoken.....*

*Pete*