

**Game Dates:** Wed. 6/11/08  
**Written:** Tues. 6/17/08

## Simple Equation; Difficult to Figure

In order to win in softball you need to score runs. In order to score runs, you need to hit. It's a pretty simple equation. Unfortunately, we are finding it difficult to figure out.

I'm not sure what happened between the last two innings of the first game last week and the second game this week, but we forgot how to hit. Over thirteen innings we scored a grand total of eight runs. That's just not going to get you many wins.

Thank GOD we remembered how to hit in the second game.

The real frustrating part is we are so much better than these guys, but we have yet to prove it consistently.

Oh yeah. Welcome back Ebs!! I'll bet you didn't expect a start like this! Ebs missed the first half of the year training for and racing in Triathlons. So, he is our triathlon man. Let's hope all that training turns into lots of hits! Cause we sure need them.

### Game 1

**Black Jacks**            **3**  
**Papa O's**                    **13**

### Line Score

	<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>	0	0	2	1	0	0	x	3
<b>Papa O's</b>	4	0	2	2	1	4	x	13

It's difficult to find something to write about when we only score three runs. The line score and the box score pretty much tell the story. We had nine total hits and two guys had five of them. That's just crazy!!

We were only down four to nothing going into the third. At that point it just seemed like a slow start. Canale and Jake started off the inning with back to back singles. With one out Dave and Steve drove in a run a piece on singles to cut the lead to four to two. We all thought we were coming alive. Then we hit into the first of our three double plays. And that was the end of that.

We still had plenty of time going into the fourth down only six to two. Haney and Franchi got things going with singles. Ebs knocked in his first run of the year with a sacrifice fly. The next two batters made outs, and that was the end of the scoring for us.

The only question to be answered was when the miseries would end? The first misery, which was this abysmal game, ended in the sixth with the ten run slaughter rule. The second misery, our inability to hit, finally ended the next game.

### Box Score

	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>
Dave LC	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	2
Steve RC	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lee 3B	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haney LF	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0



with a sacrifice fly. After four we were up twelve to five. This time we were looking for a slaughter rule ending.

In the fifth Trice continued his awesome pitching allowing only one run again. Unfortunately we came up empty in our half of the fifth. The score after five was twelve to six.

In the top of the sixth for the third consecutive inning they scored one run. We came right back with two more. Haney knocked in his third run of the game with a single. And Ebs knocked in his second with a single. After six, we were up fourteen to seven. Unfortunately, not enough for a slaughter rule.

Trice finished a stellar pitching performance in the seventh not allowing a run. The final score held at 14 to 7. Amazing things happen when you hit in bunches.

### Box Score

		<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>
Dave	RC	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0
Steve	DH	4	3	3	0	0	1	0	1
Lee	3B	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	1
Haney	LF	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Franchi	2B	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ebs	SS	3	1	2	1	0	1	0	2
Trice	P	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pete	C	3	1	2	0	0	1	0	2
Canale	1B	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Jake	RF	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Scags	RC	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

**Big Hitters:** Steve, Dave, Lee, Haney, Ebs, Pete

### Coach's Corner

#### Why I don't gamble

Last week I predicted that we would win our next four games. Well, I guess I was wrong. That's why I don't gamble. However, I will stick with my gut. We will win two next week. How was I supposed to know that we'd forget how to hit?

#### Take one for the team

Last week John Canale took one for the team and DH'd for two games. He deserved better than that because he has pretty much been a regular all year. I offered to let him share the catching duties with me, but he declined.

Well, there was no way I could do that to him two weeks in a row. So, I started him at his favorite and most familiar position, first base. And man did he play his ass off. He made at least three huge plays. Two of them were fielding hard hit grounders to his right and then tossing to Trice who covered first. Unfortunately, only two out of the three worked because Trice was not expecting that kind of "professional play". More on that later. Nice job John.

#### Making me look good

Not only did John make me look good by playing him at first base, the defensive change I made at short and second paid dividends too as both Ebs and Franchi made some real nice plays. I love when that happens.

### Thanks

Thanks to the guys who kept switching off between outfield positions and DH: Jake, Steve and Scags. That makes my life a whole lot easier. That's a great team attitude as well. Nicely done.

### Run Stats

When we win, we average 14.6 runs per game.

When we lose, we average 10 runs per game.

In our last four losses we have averaged 5.75 runs per game.

So, do you think it's important to score more than ten runs in a game?

### Double Plays

It's pretty difficult to hit into double plays in softball. We hit into three in the first game.

### My speed

It's been a while since the subject of my speed, or lack thereof, has come into play. Could it be that I am no longer the slowest on the team? Let's see. I hit my second triple of the season and reached third from first on a single to left. I'm thinking I've moved up the speed ladder by at least two rungs. I have to admit though, it's kind of fun being slow because the expectations are not very high. And the reaction when I show some speed is priceless!

## Comic Relief

### Professional Stuff

On the first play John made on a ground ball to his right, his attempt to toss the ball to Trice, who was supposed to be covering first, didn't go so well.

**Trice:** Hey! I can't do that professional stuff!

### An Umpire's request

The umpire had some suggestions after the first dismal game

**Ump:** So, what do ya think? Show a little life this game. Maybe get a few hits.

**Pete:** At least you're not looking to go home early. Thanks for the advice.

### Hold the bat correctly

Scags after a few tough at bats.

**Scags:** Man, I don't know what I'm doing wrong.

**Lee:** You have to stop holding the bat backwards.

**Scags:** I knew I was doing something wrong.

**Lee:** Actually I keep waiting for your twelve year old sister to step in and hit for you.

### Nice slide

When I ran from first to two third on the single to left, I slid pretty late coming in hard on a stationary base.

**Trice:** You slid pretty late on that play at third

**Pete:** Tell me about it. I couldn't stop my momentum

**Trice:** It looked painful. What happened?

**Pete:** The mind was willing, but the body was weak.

### I missed Jake

Jake is always very helpful with putting all the bats and balls in my bag. He hasn't been around for a few weeks.

**Pete:** Hey Jake. Can you please put the bats and balls in my bag?

**Jake:** Sure no problem.

**Lee:** Is that all he's good for.

**Pete:** All's I know is I miss Jake when he's not here. And it has nothing to do with his playing. He makes a good bat and ball boy.

### **The End.....**

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#### Next Week's Games

**Opponent:** Squirrel Cage

**Record:** 6 - 12

**Times:** 6:30 & 7:30

Your G.M., and acting coach Has Spoken.....

*Pete*