



Street Kids/Mojo Win GSL Event in Valpo

Valparaiso, IN 5/19/12

The Street Kids/Mojo softball team traveled to Valparaiso on Saturday for their debut in the new GSL association. GSL was hosting a B/C event along with a D/E event and despite only four teams in the B/C, the event was held as a round robin, followed by a single elimination tourney, based on seeding.

SKS played long time on-field rivals Wildman in the first game of the round robin. Wildman had only played in one other pick up event and was looking forward to getting some action in on this very hot day at the park. SKS came out strong and put away Wildman early, winning 20-4. Terry Patesel led the way with four hits.

In the second game, it was SKS against a good hitting Strange team. Street Kids never got it going against Strange and Strange took advantage, putting up lots of runs with some great timely hitting. Strange would win this one easily, 25-9, giving SKS their most lopsided loss since March 18th in Hebron, Kentucky, when they lost to Venom 18-8. In fact, the last time the SKS team lost by as much as 15 runs was in Oklahoma City last fall, when they lost to BBS 24-9 and Veissman Trucking 20-5, a stretch of 58 tournament games without losing by 15 or more. Tony Hardiman, Jay Jeffery (who returned to action after missing a month with an injury to his rotator cuff) and Leland Schmucker all had two hits in the loss.

In the final round robin game to determine seeding, SKS beat a depleted 22 Below team, 29-6. 22 was missing a few players, but still made the trip from Michigan to play some good competition. Tony Hardiman, Leland Schmucker and Scott Martin all led the way with four hits. Martin had eight rbi's in this game, as did Joe Horvath, who was the Designated Home Run Hitter for SKS, hit three home runs and seven for the tournament. For those unfamiliar with the GSL DHH rule, each team - regardless of your class - get one player that can hit as many home runs as he wants that do not count against the team. In class B, teams get six home runs (not counting the DHH) and in class C they get four, so for this B/C combo event, each team got five to hit, along with the unlimited home runs from the DHH.

The Kids went 2-1 and because Strange (who also went 2-1) scored more overall runs in the round robin, Strange was seeded number one and played the four seeded 22 Below, while SKS was seeded number two and played the number three seed Wildman, who also went 2-1. Strange won their game 31-13 and sat in the finals waiting for the winner of the Wildman/SKS game.

Wildman came out real strong in the semi final game against SKS, and after an inning and a half, Wildman led 17-2. The Kids would not give up, however, and slowly started to chip away. They put up six in the home half of the second to cut it to 17-8, highlighted by Danny Penale's three run double. After Wildman scored two in the top of the third, SKS answered back with 12 runs in the bottom half of the third, using home runs by Fred Schmucker, Joe Horvath and Jay Jeffery to highlight the big inning. Wildman scored two more in the top of the fourth, with SKS answered back with two in their frame of the fourth. Wildman scored one run in the top of the fifth to take a 23-22 lead, but SKS took the lead back with three runs in the bottom of the fifth, highlighted by Faron Millers clutch two run triple. Wildman got two more runs to tie the game in the top of the sixth at 25 a piece, but SKS blew it open with five runs in the bottom of the sixth, highlighted by a three-run triple by Fred Schmucker and a two run homer by Faron Miller. Wildman mustered only one run in the top of the seventh and would fall to SKS, 30-26 in one of many close battles these two teams will take part in all year long.

Leland Schmucker and Faron Miller each had five hits in the win over Wildman, with Terry Patesel, Jay Jeffery, Danny Penale, Tony Hardiman, Fred Schmucker and Nick Bishop all adding four hits each.

SKS and Strange would now rematch in the finals of the tournament. Strange was coming off a big win over 22 Below and knowing they could beat SKS like they did earlier, they may have held the psychological advantage before the game. SKS would not take Strange lightly, knowing their ability to score runs, so they knew they had to bring their best. After two full innings, it was a four to four tie, but the Kids would open it up in a way that would pretty much seal it, scoring 11 runs in the top of the third. Terry Patesel hit his fifth triple of the day (not bad for a 46 year old) and scored on Tim Austins double. He would score on Joe Horvath's single who would then score on a two run homer by Jay

BOX SCORE from GSL Valparaiso

May 19th, 2012

Won Tourney (4-1)

Player	Hits	AtBats	HR	RBI	2B	3B	AVG.
Terry Patesel	15	20	1	8	1	5	0.750
Tim Austin	8	21	0	4	2	0	0.381
Joe Horvath	12	19	7	21	1	0	0.632
Jay Jeffery	13	18	4	8	3	0	0.722
Danny Penale	10	17	0	4	3	0	0.588
Leland Schmucker	14	17	4	11	4	1	0.824
Scott Martin	11	17	3	12	2	1	0.647
Tony Hardiman	15	17	3	7	1	0	0.882
Fred Schmucker	12	17	3	11	3	2	0.706
Faron Miller	11	14	1	9	1	2	0.786
Nick Bishop	10	15	1	12	2	0	0.667
TJ Jorgensen	1	3	0	1	1	0	0.333
Kevin Eash	1	1	0	0	1	0	1.000
Totals	133	196	27	108	25	11	0.679

- Game 1 vs Wildman, WON: 20-4
- Game 2 vs The Strange, LOST: 25-9
- Game 3 vs 22 Below, WON: 29-6
- Game 4 vs Wildman, WON: 30-26
- Game 5 vs The Strange, WON: 18-7

Tournament MVP: Tony Hardiman
All Tourney from SKS
 Terry Patesel
 Jay Jeffery
 Leland Schmucker
 Faron Miller
 Fred Schmucker



Jeffery, his fourth of the day. Tony Hardiman hit his third homer of the tournament a few batters later, followed by Fred Schmuckers third homer on the day as well. With a total of 13 hits in the third inning alone, SKS held a 15-4 advantage. Strange scored one run in the home half of the third to cut it to 10, but SKS answered back with three more in the fourth, highlighted by Leland Schmuckers fourth homer of the day. Strange would get two in the bottom of the fourth, but get shut out in the bottom of the fifth and that would be enough for a victory for SKS, 18-7, and the sixth tournament win of 2012.

"One of the keys in GSL, I believe, is if you are going to use this designated home run hitter rule, you need to make sure your guy out slugs their guy," said TJ Jorgensen after the game. "In the first game against them, their DHH (John Roldan) went 4-for-4 with two homers and seven RBI's and ours went 1-for-3 with one RBI. But in the finals, Horvath had three hits and drove in four runs and we kept Roldan hitless, which speaks volumes for Faron (Miller, the pitcher) and our defense."

Tony Hardiman, playing in his 12th season with Street Kids, was named tourney MVP, batting .882 with seven RBI's. He didn't have many balls hit at him at third base, but the ones that were, he was perfect.

"Tony is a great player," Jorgensen said. "And I think that shows some character on our team. Tony has been with us for so long, and steps up when we need him the most. Today he had some clutch hits that allowed us to win."

Terry Patesel was named to the all-tourney team by batting .750 with five triples, giving him 12 on the year and only nine away from the tournament record of 21 set by Jay Jeffery last year. Jeffery was also named to the all-tourney team, not bad for coming back from an injury. Leland Schmucker led the team with nine extra base hits and was also named to the all-tourney team, along with Fred Schmucker and Faron Miller.

The Kids (39-5 overall; 33-5 in tournaments) will return to league action this week in Ekhart and Topeka before taking off for the Memorial Day weekend. Some players will be playing in the annual Berto Memorial tournament in Elkhart. If your team is interested, please contact Rene Echarte at 574-584-6870.

