

Friday, March 21, 2025

Stonewalls 14

Joey's Pizza 13

Sixth-seeded Stonewalls continued to wear Cinderella's glass slipper in the post-season tournament.

Clinging to a 7-6 lead as it came to bat in the fifth inning, manager George Lancaster (two RBIs) blasted a two-run opposite field home run, upping Stonewalls lead to 9-6. A couple of batters later, Don Palmer (three RBIs) lined a single for another run, giving the Orange and Black a 10-6 advantage. But Joey's Pizza was not about to go down without a fight in this tournament elimination game as the Pizza Men scored five runs of their own in their half of the fifth inning. With one run already in, Ed Kingsbury (three hits and three RBIs), lofted a sun shaded, wind-blown single to pull Joey's within two runs at 10-8. Rick DiStasio (three hits and three RBIs) then stroked an opposite field single for another run, setting the table for Jack Facciolo (three hits and four RBIs). Facciolo scorched a triple to centerfield, plating two runs and giving Joey's an 11-10 lead. But Stonewalls answered immediately in this back-and-forth affair in its half of the sixth inning.

Chris Nolan (three hits) stroked a single for one run and another single scored one more as Stonewalls would head to the seventh inning with a 12-11 lead. A sacrifice fly scored one run for Stonewalls and then Rob York (two RBIs) lined a single scoring another run, good for 14-11 Stonewalls lead. While Joey's would battle back with two runs in its half of the seventh inning, Stonewalls withstood the rally bid to win its third game of the tournament, now needing two wins over Snook Inn to complete an improbable tournament run.

Other hitting stars for Stonewalls included Mitch Eil with three RBIs and for Joey's, it was Geoff Bentley, who slashed a triple.

GULF COAST DIVISION

Monday March 17, 2025

Crazy Flamingo 16

Doreen's 8

Crazy Flamingo used the long ball, blasting three home runs, to defeat Doreen's. Brian Bergman hit a pair of round trippers, a three-run bomb in the first inning, and a solo shot in the sixth. John Robichaud also homered, crushing a three-run shot in the fifth.

Crazy's led 6-0 in the second, thanks largely to the Bergman home run, before Doreen's mounted a comeback. A two-run single by Fred Kramer (three RBIs for the game), a run-scoring hit by Gary Badger, a bases loaded walk, and a run-scoring hit by Jan Grossman made it a 6-5 ballgame.

Still leading 8-6 in the fifth inning, Robichaud launched his three-run bomb, giving the Crazy Birds an 11-6 advantage that they held onto for the victory.

Bergman finished the game with three hits and six RBIs to lead Crazy Flamingo. Robichaud had three hits and four RBIs, Rich Klein had three hits and three RBIs, and Steve Risch also had three hits for the winners.