

Home Tint (1-3) vs. 407 BBQ (2-0)

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

Attendance: (39)

This evening's game features Hal Wasson's **407 BBQ** (2-0) squad looking to build on their strong start to the season pitted against interim Manager Carol Rumberger's **Home Tint** (1-3) looking to gain momentum of their own heading into the mid-season stretch.

- ✓ Considering 407's Average Run Differential of (+4) and Home Tint (-2) the pregame line was "**Home Tint +8**" with the over/under at **37**.

The Press Box crew was primed with the venerable Tim Trotter on the mic, Jay Parker handling the book and Jackie Fox the scoreboard. The Umpire Crew of Ken Kamrath HP, Bob Richardson (1B) and Brian Bravard (3B) were in position as 407 BBQ took the field.

Home Tint comes out swinging with four consecutive singles off the bats of Vaka, "**Heinz 57**" Rumberger, Lewis (RBI), Slocum and a double to RCF off the bat of Steve "**Bomber**" Ward (3 RBI's) who was pegged at 3rd attempting to stretch his double into a triple. Gary Warrick rights the ship to get out of the inning.

407 BBQ returns fire as Moore draws a walk, Mathiessen drills an RBI single and scores on a Hal "**The Hammer**" Wasson's double to right center. Alexander drives in the 3rd run with a double. Vaka helps his cause with a cat-like play off the mound and Hinson robs Dougherty with a running catch in left.

End of 1: Home Tint – 4 / 407 BBQ - 3

Hinson jump starts Home Tint by crushing a single to left center. Speedy Bruce Horeftis doubles with Hinson lumbering into 3rd. Donna Nikisch follows with a hard one to the right side but is out at first, and Hinson attempting to score from 3rd is nailed at the plate! Warrick gets out of the inning on a nice play at 3rd by Mathiessen.

The BBQer's tie the game in their half via a Warrick lead off laser to LCF for a double, a Wetenkamp single and the first of three singles on the night by Sharice Brown Dennis. Vaka then quiets 407's bats with the help from Dobson who makes a great running catch in LCF moving to his right.

End of 2: Home Tint – 4 / 407 BBQ - 4

Warrick silences Home Tints bats facing 3 batters while posting another goose egg.

407 BBQ takes the lead in their half as Wasson leads off with a single followed by a Coffman single. Alexander then delivers a run scoring double setting the table for Joe Dougherty who promptly drives in the innings final 2 runs with a single.

End of 3: Home Tint – 4 / 407 BBQ - 7

Warrick cannot solve Rumberger as she kicks off the 4th with a sharply hit single. Lewis and Slocum (RBI) follow with singles. With one out, Weldon “*The Gentleman*” Wallace drills a run scoring single to left. Dobson singles bringing Hinson to the plate and he delivers yet another 2-run single. Horeftis drives in the 5th and final run of the inning.

407 BBQ manages to produce one run in their half from singles off the bats of Wetenkamp, Sharice Brown Dennis and Randy “*Ole Reliable*” Mathiessen. Wallace makes a nice play at 3rd and Stan “*Paco*” Isbell a sweet catch in RCF to end the inning.

End of 4: Home Tint – 9 / 407 BBQ - 8

Following a lead off single by Donna Nikisch it appears as though pitcher Warrick will get out of the inning unscathed as he posts 2 quick outs. New comer Terry Zimmerman has other plans though as he drills a double followed up by RBI singles off the bats of Vaka and Rumberger scoring two runs.

Crafty pitcher, Larry Lewis, who took the mound in the 4th inning, posts a goose egg facing four batters allowing only a double to Alexander who was left stranded at second.

End of 5: Home Tint – 11 / 407 BBQ - 8

Pitchers and defense ruled the 6th inning for both squads as Warrick and Lewis worked their magic. The defensive gem of the inning was turned in by 407’s shortstop, Greg Alexander, who made a beautiful over the shoulder catch in shallow left.

End of 6: Home Tint – 11 / 407 BBQ - 8

Looking to extend their lead in the buffet inning, underdog Home Tint, is set down in order by Warrick.

Needing 3 to tie and 4 to win 407 BBQ's Sharice Brown Dennis delivers a lead-off single. Jack Moore follows with a single putting runners at 1st and 2nd. Mathiessen grounds to 3rd baseman Wallace who steps on 3rd base for the first out. Wasson follows with an infield single to drive in a run. Coffman singles (RBI) making it a one run game. A Kelly fielder's choice delivers the tying run. With two out and two on, pitcher "L-Train" Lewis steps up delivering ground balls for the final two outs.

GAME-SET-TIE!

Final Score: Home Tint – 11 / 407 BBQ - 11

Postscript:

407 BBQ won the explosive hit metric 5-3, however, credit to the pitchers (Vaka, Lewis and Warrick) and gutsy defense by both Teams limiting the total to 8. Both Team's will look back at this outing and find "missed opportunities" that could have swayed the decision in their favor. Although ties are tough to accept both Teams can build off this performance.

PSS – One constant in "The League" is players unable to perform due to injury and/or personal conflicts. Tonight there were four substitutes (3 Home Tint / 1 BBQ). With that said, Managers and Assistant Managers must "re-recruit" their rosters more games than not. This is a part of roster management. Like it or not, it's reality. You've got to have awareness of all that. It is what it is, and if you have your head in the sand, then you're going to pay the price.

This Day in Baseball:

- **1962** – *Sandy Koufax* ties the modern major league record he shares with *Bob Feller* by fanning 18 Cubs in nine innings. The Dodgers win 10-2.

"For the Glory"