



The Bear Pause

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It's Deja-Vu All Over Again For B2 Bears v Macquarie Saints

For the second week in a row the B2s jumped out to an early 4-0 lead after batting around in the top of the first inning. But history repeated when Macquarie rallied for three runs over the next couple of innings to draw within one.

But just like last week the Bears showed character and started laying into the Saints, adding another run to go up 5-3 before busting it wide open and finishing up with a very clean and very respectable 8-4 win.

Once again the bats were poppin' and the pitching was dominating. It's a hard combination to beat!! Simon "Says" Letchford said no to the Saints in the first inning after his fastball proved too much for the saints to handle. His second was a bit shakier and the Saints got to him just a bit. His confidence shaken he asked out of the game and Craig "Funky Junk" McQuillen turned out to be the perfect compliment to Simon's heater. Throwing nothing over 50 mph it seemed, Craig mowed down batter after batter as they looked surprised, perplexed, and sometimes downright stupid swinging at things in the dirt, things in the air and some things I couldn't even see.

With pitching dominating the game there was no need for any defensive acrobatics but the team held the lead when necessary. A few infield pop-ups

and a couple of fly balls was all the Saints could manage around a handful of hits. Giving up just a meaningless run late in the game Craig was a force that turned the Saints into 'Aints!

After going through the order in the first inning the offense did its now-familiar swoon in the second inning, going down without any more damage. However there's no quit in these Bears and the offense picked right up again. Of particular note was the patience and smarts at the plate. Josh Cuthbertson and Billy "Get back to first in time" D'agostino both drew walks when they were needed and several players took one for the team. Jim "How the hell did he catch that" Strachan took one but later decided that it's much better the clobber the ball than be clobbered by the ball. A towering shot that looked to all the world to be a sure round tripper turned out to be a circus catch in left field. Sorry Jim, I shouldn't have jinxed you by telling you to "touch 'em all"

Stars: Craig McQuillen—Somebody check him for a jar of Vaseline next time! Jim Strachan—Great presence in Center Field and the ball loves to fly off his bat. Kristian Cruz—I gave him the bunt sign twice and twice he tried to lay one down....next time we'll actually make it happen but well done! Paul Cremin—Steady and consistent at the plate quietly racking up the RBI's.



B2s second baseman Kristian Cruz squares to bunt a runner over to third.



Bears 3rd Baseman Paul Cremin drives in a run for the B2s v Macquarie Saints



B1 pitcher Rick Speciale was dominant Saturday at Waterloo Park.

B1s Teach Macquarie A Lesson

After being decimated by those wretched Sydney Swans and the Lismore Larrikins we were saved by the B2's. Dougie started strongly by stopping by Waterloo Park in

Waterloo. A quick trip to Waterloo Park, North Ryde was rewarded by a 2 RBI inside the park home run in the first. Rick the Spesh pitched the first hour as we pounded Macquarie. The whole team smashed them to all parts of the ground. Special mention to Matty bounds for hitting a "double" in the same innings (2 strikeouts...that's at least a case of beer, Mate). Final Score 14-2. No fines so far this year!



Pauly Baseball brings home a run against Kissing Point in E1 Bears action.

E1s Fight Off Slow Start, Rally For Draw v Kissing Point

The E1 Bears had another narrow escape Saturday afternoon against Kissing Point at Castle Glen. After spotting the Angels a ten run lead in the first, the E1 'Cardiac Kids' managed to pull back to within striking distance.

Once again with the light fading the E1s offence cranked into gear and managed to pull a tie out of the clutches of defeat. New pitching acquisition Ryan Banks came out of the bullpen to pitch nearly four innings of standout relief, whilst everyone contributed at the plate with good hitting and patience, most notably Dangerous Dan Bergseng with a 3 for 3, 3 RBI performance and Daniel 'Big Red Machine' Guenther with a monster 2 run Homer to deep right centre.

Fielding this week was much improved from Round 1, but we still need to up the hustle. The final score was 14-14 which leaves us second on the table and in a fair position two rounds into the competition. The E1s would like to wish Yvette best of luck on her baseball tour of the U.S. that leaves this week and if she brings us back some good pressies we will save her a spot on the roster.



Bears 2nd Baseman Al Clinch fosters some good will by turning two!



Billy Patterson starts his delivery in action at the Lismore Masters Games.



Tom Buckle takes a hard look at a pitch. Looks like it was probably just outside!



Bears Club President John Dumay presents Bears hats to new friends from the FUBARS.

Over 35s Dominate Lismore Masters Games With Superior Networking Skills

The Bears went up and played in an over 35s division and were met by some very strong competition and hence we got a baseball lesson on most occasions. We played 6 games and came away victors only once.

But the best part about the weekend was the spirit in which most of the games we played. We got to know a local team, the FUBARS, quite well. Unfortunately for them a few of their members dropped out with injury (a heartlidge problem it was believed) and they called on the Bears to fill their ranks which we did on several occasions. More importantly we forgot to bring any eskies with us and the thought of warm beer was lurking on a very hot day was not very attractive.

In this case they came to the rescue by lending us two eskies for the weekend. During the three days the teams got to now each other well and the Bears

on loan contributed to the team, most notably John Thompson and Tom Buckle. JT came in to pitch as the FUBARS where getting smacked all over the park. JT's second pitch got a treatment out to left field and Tom Buckle came and made an unbelievable running stretch to claim the cat. End of innings, end of JT pitching. Unfortunately JT now claims that he has pitched and no hitter and has a 0.00 ERA. I am sure that will get embellished over the years.

As a result of the great time we had with the FUBARS we presented them with baseball caps that the leagues club had provided us, as a token of our friendship and the recognition of the spirit in which they played the game.



E2s Make It Two Straight With Another 1 Run Win

For the second week in a row the E2 "Heart Attack" Bears pulled off a win by 1 run, beating the Kissing Point 10-9 in a nail biter at Castle Glen.

The E2 Bears were without the services of Chris Percival who injured his back the previous week but luckily had two of their veterans, Bruce Alaimo and Laurie Nolan, returning to the team to each play their first game of the season.

Stephen Davidson put in another exceptional performance on the mound and the E2 Bears shot up to a quick 7-0 lead in the first inning.

All credit to the Angels, they never gave up and through hard work and determination managed to reduce the North Sydney lead until the scores were level.

Fantastic base running by the E2's Brett Lord in the bottom of the last inning saw him steal second and third to put

himself in scoring position, then cross the plate with the winning run. When commenting on the game afterwards, the veteran first baseman Claude Davidson praised his teammates for an overall good effort and in particular singled out Bruce Alaimo on third base who had several difficult balls hit at him during the game. Roger Pye also played a solid game at second to start the game and then at shortstop.

Davidson senior was particularly pleased with Davidson junior's pick off move to first base which resulted in an opposing runner being plucked for the second week in a row. The elder Davidson was also pleased with a double he hit that day even though his teammates ribbed him that anyone else could have come home, had a beer and smoked a cigarette in the time it took him to get to second base.

All joking aside, the E2 Bears are all agreed that they have a competitive

squad in what can be called so far a very evenly matched league.

"We're renowned for having a good first inning, then going to sleep and then lifting at the end of the game," Brett Lord quipped at the end of the fixture. All players believe there is a need for more consistency throughout the game.

The E2 Bears have a very good batting side this year and so far look like contenders. Let's hope injuries can be kept to a minimum and that the team can keep winning. On that note, veteran catcher Laurie Nolan injured his back halfway through the game and was moved at his own request to second base. The E2 Bears are all hoping that he is recovered for next week as he is a very solid, dependable player that brings good offensive and defensive skills to the lineup.



The power of prose? Something has woken up the bat of Dangerous Dan!

Whatever He's Done, We Could All Use A Dose Of that!!!

Imagine!!! You have come off a season of batting 0.000 from competition games. You have struck out 16 times in the previous season and your strikeout to walk ratio is 2:1. How do you prepare for a new Bears season?

We don't know what he's done, where he has been or who he has taken tips from, but everyone in the club could take a leaf out of Dangerous Dan's book of batting knowledge.

A trip to Perth yields a couple of new gloves and a new wonderbat. It feels like a lead weight but to Dangerous

there is nothing that feels sweeter. In 2 games this season Dangerous has let loose with a barrage of big hitting. A nervous start with a 1st at bat K but ever since he hasn't looked back.

With an E Grade leading slugging percentage and batting average of 0.857, Dan has rediscovered the form that made him one of the most feared bats of the competition 3 years ago.

Congrats Dangerous on your great start and we look forward to more big things as the season continues.



Got a burning question about life and all it's meaning?

Ask Yogi.

Dear Yogi,

Given the great performances of Bears Baseball over the past two weeks; and especially given that Singo won't be handing out match winning payments to the Newtown Jets (defeated in the premier league semi-final*), nor Packer to the Rabbitohs for their lack of success within or without North Sydney Oval, may I suggest WE ALL GET A RAISE!

*Someone tell that Simon dude to stop laughing!

Dan

Dear Dan,

Like you, I am pleased with the recent results from the Bears and believe we are in store for a successful season. Unlike the teams you mentioned in your note we do not have a millionaire benefactor, and as such cannot offer any financial reward for your services. I will however make once concession for you and you alone in response to your recent power surge. If you are able to hit a home run during an E Grade game during the month of Oct 2005, you will be the proud owner of a case of Crown Lager. Best of luck.

Regards,

Yogi

Yogi can be reached at bearpause@optusnet.com.au

Temporary Change To Training Place/Time

We are unable to use Gore Hill Oval for the next 3 weeks so Willoughby Park has been booked from 6:30pm-8:30pm for Thursday Night Trainings. We'll resume at Gore Hill Oval from 7pm-9pm from the 13th October. Willoughby Park is located at McClelland Street and Warrane Road, Willoughby (just off Eastern Valley Way).

It's A Cruel Game For G Squad

After an opening day win, the G team was brought back to earth by a 23-11 loss to Castle Hill last weekend. In his press conference after the game, Bears manager Mark Holman remarked "There was not much wrong with our game, other than our pitching, fielding and batting. At least the base running was ok."

Positives to come out of the game include the arrival of rookie Andrew

Stoner who hit a stand up triple at his first at bat, took the only catch we managed to make and was immediately attuned to the Bears spirit by smartly suggesting a team bonding session at a local restaurant after our next Greenway night game.

We were left pondering the issue of whether to ask if they have a dress code, or do we just show up in uniform. Problems, problems.

More Pics From Lismore Trip



Important Changes:

There's a new email address for submissions to the Bear Pause. Please submit all materials before EOD Wednesday to this email address:

Submissions: bearpause@optusnet.com.au

The Unofficial Rag of North Sydney Bears Baseball

