

Hot Bats Help Softball Team to Championship

The OCC Softball Team followed its Leahi Spring League runner up finish with a hard fought, politically correct Summer League Championship. In an odd twist of fate, OCC claimed the Leahi Summer League title after losing to co-champions "Killer" in a one game playoff.

The league commissioner handed OCC the crown after reviewing the rosters and discovering "Killer" had loaded their team with stars from other teams in the league just for that game.

You can basically load your team up anytime you want, but not with players who have participated in that very league. The championship was more or less OCC against the league all-stars. The final score shouldn't have been as close as it was.

OCC started the summer session out with five straight wins then coasted in to the co-championship, losing three games on the way. In those first five games, OCC averaged 15 runs per game while surrendering only six.

Those contributing a hot bat included Jim Cavanah, Paki Vaughan, Ralph Dewitt, Brandon St. James, Aaron Eberhardt, Chris Siegfried, and Mike Hogan. When they could make it to games, Keith Letman, Mike Miranda, Jim McAluney, Bryan Hoernig and Anthony Kuehnert played major roles in OCC's success.

Statistic leaders include Vaughan for most at bats (33), hits (18) and singles (14). Eberhardt continued his most productive OCC season with the highest batting average (.630), home runs (4) and second in hits (17). Hogan, the Spring League's MVP had (12) hits, (4) walks and (3) home runs to go along with his (.545) batting average.

Cavanah's (.577) batting average included (15) hits, (3) doubles and (2) triples. St. James (.478) had (11) hits, (2) triples and a home run. Dewitt's (9) hits included (2) home runs. OCC's 1998 MVP Jim McAluney could only make one game but batted (1.000) with a 4-4 day which included a double and a triple.

The OCC Softball Team will have it's annual BBQ at committee member Bill Kilcoyne's home this month. The 2001 OCC MVP and Golden Glove winner will be announced. A Softball Subcommittee meeting will be held as well to discuss our 2002 agenda. Our special thanks go out to our head coach Lou Miranda and to the entire OCC membership for supporting OCC softball for so many years.

Some of our committee members and players are in the fourth and fifth decade of OCC softball participation.

We invite all interested members to consider joining the OCC softball team next March, 2002, as we begin another Leahi League season. We also need new faces to help run and manage the program. The only way to keep this special OCC tradition alive is through participation at every level. We look forward to many more years of fun and success on the diamond. Aloha