

TWO MASSIVE PERFORMANCES OPEN NBBO'S WEEK

CRAVEN HAS 5 HITS & 6 RBI'S FOR SYRACUSE; DAY BELTS HR & DRIVES IN 7 FOR CANTABRIGIANS

SYRACUSE, N.Y. & PORTLAND, ME. (Aug. 6, 1873) – The first day of Week Thirteen of the NBBO season saw two magnificent performances from its batsmen, one in each league.

The first performance was in Upstate New York, where Syracuse has a golden opportunity to close in on Upstate leaders Utica via five-game home series against 7th-place Binghamton this week. They were up to the task in the opener, taking a 19-8 lead after seven innings before allowing some late consolation runs to win 19-14.

Much of the Syracuse lineup was excellent, as five of their batsmen had three or four hits each:

- SYR #1 Walter Williams (CF): 3/6 (all 1B), 4 R, 0 RBI, 4 SB
- SYR #2 Lucius Roberts (LF): 4/5 (all 1B), 3 R, 4 RBI, 1 BB, 2 SB
- SYR #4 Chester Alexander (2B): 3/6, 2B, 2 R, 3 RBI, 4 TB
- SYR #5 Carlton McShane (1B): 3/6 (all 1B), 0 R, 1 RBI
- SYR #8 James Lindsey (3B): 3/6, 2B, 3 R, 0 RBI, 4 TB

However, it was RF Martin Craven who trumped all of them with a spectacular afternoon at the Salina Street Grounds:

- B1: Single past SS off W. Haney
- B3: 1-run Single past SS off W. Haney (R)
- B4: Reached via Fielder's Choice at HP (R)
- B5: 2-run Single past SS off C. German (R)
- B6: 2-run Triple to RCF off C. German (R)
- B7: 1-run Single past SS off C. German
- TOTAL: 5/6, 3B, 4 R, 6 RBI, 7 TB, 106 GMSC

Craven, a 2x All-Star in his first season with Syracuse after four playing for Atlantic, is having another brilliant season. The 5/6 afternoon moved Craven's Average to 4th in the NYL at .375 (.856 OPS) with eight games left to play. He is also 2nd in the NYL in Runs Batted In with 77.

The victory moved Syracuse alone into 2nd place in Upstate New York, and it helped them keep pace with fellow Wednesday winners Utica. The two teams are four games apart in the standings.

The other performance occurred in New England, where Portland hosted Cantabrigians in a battle of top-four teams.

The game was a tight affair, with the visitors jumping out to a 4-0 lead in the 1st inning before holding off repeated Portland rallies, taking an 11-10 leading into the 9th, and scoring two insurance runs to exit 13-10 winners.

Both C Jonathan Day & 2B Adrian Rutledge had four hits for Cantabrigians, but it was Day's work that earned the plaudits:

- T1: 1-run Single past SS off J. Dressman (R)
- T3: Line Out to SS
- T5: 2-RUN HOME RUN TO RCF off J. Dressman
- T6: 2-run Single to RF off J. Dressman
- T7: 1-run Single past SS off C. Donnely (SB)
- T9: 1-run Sac Fly to CF off S. Brown
- TOTAL: 5/6, HR, 2 R, 7 RBI, SB, 7 TB, 96 GMSC

Day, who has made the last two All-Star Games, is easily having the best season of his career, as his .350 Average (.785 OPS), 103 Hits, and 75 Runs Batted In lead all Catchers in the Northeastern League.

The Cantabrigians victory has left the New England standings extremely tight, as the top four teams are now just four games apart – Portland in 1st place by two – with eight left to play.