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Wednesday, July 11, 2007

## Express runs hot and cold in Ripken League

by Dan Greenberg | Staff Writer

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After doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday, of which the Rockville Express won a pair of Cal Ripken Sr. Collegiate Baseball League games against the Maryland Redbirds and lost two to the College Park Bombers, the Express (12-12) rolled up a season-high 22 runs on the Herndon Braves on Monday night, matching their scoring output from their previous seven games combined. It wasn't as if they weren't playing well — Rockville had won six of their previous nine games, including a four-game unbeaten streak before their doubleheader debacle with the Bombers. But they hadn't ever played this well.

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“We’re just really getting good swings, balls we’re getting out on even are being hit hard,” said Express manager Tom Shaffer. “We just pounded the ball [Monday] night.”

After picking up just eight hits in 14 innings with the Bombers (both seven-inning games due to doubleheader rules), the Express pounded out 13 against the Braves, including the league’s season-high of five home runs. Left fielder Glenn Kiture hit two homers, and his four on the year also top the league. Designated hitter Steve Domecus, catcher Beau Brooks, and third baseman Travis Babin also went deep.

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