

Managers Report Fri 26 June

The Golden Homes Black Sox have lost their opening game of the 14th ISF Men's World Softball Championships against a well drilled, powerful Argentinian side 3-2. The Argentinians rocked the Black Sox early, scoring two runs in the first inning which included a lead-off home run to Ladislao Malarczuc and a double to their Captain Bruno Motroni.

Young Marlborough hurler Kurt Schollum, bounced back well after a shaky start taking six strike outs from the 19 batters he faced. Schollum would have to be pleased with the way he came back and dominated the Argentinian hitters in the third and fourth innings.

Down 2-0 and with the game in danger of getting away on the Black Sox, Captain Nathan Nukunuku stepped up and smashed a huge home run over centre field to put the Black Sox within reach of Argentina.

In the bottom of the sixth inning Auckland superstar Thomas Enoka tied the game up with a solo home run over right field to give the Black Sox the sniff of victory.

Coach Sorenson replaced Schollum on the mound in the fourth inning and the young Hutt Valley hurler impressed. Hayes struck out seven of the 16 batters he faced and gave up four walks, which unfortunately included walking the winning home for Argentina in the seventh inning.

The Black Sox are clearly disappointed with the result, however the World Championships is not won on the first day and the team will only get better as they learn from this defeat. So the boys will come out tomorrow to fight another day when they take on the well performed Great Britain side, which contains the Stockford boys and other ex pat Kiwis and Canadians.

Grant McCarroll