

# Game Report: Oct. 26, 2022 – Eagle Eye vs. Rodney

Announcer extraordinaire Jim Reese had the ballpark music playing as everyone started pouring into the Field of Dreams stadium last evening to see Rocky Dudley's Cinderella team – the Eagle Eye Cares – take on the highly talented Rodney Landscapers, so capably managed by Jerry Hinson. Could EEC pull off yet another miracle win in the Robson Softball Playoffs? The winner punches their ticket to Saturday's highly coveted World Series Championship. Following the all-important National Anthem, the Rodneys took the field and ace righthander George Wendt peered down from atop the mound as Announcer Jim tried vigorously to properly pronounce EEC's lead-off hitter, Tim Winiesdorffer. Ron Schwertner (official scorekeeper) and Cathy Escamilla (scoreboard operator) were at Jim's side and provided valuable guidance the entire evening. Carol Rumberger, Clyde Ziegler, and Jeff Peck were positioned in their assigned umpire positions - at home plate, first, and third, respectively - and all dressed in their stylish blue caps and jerseys. Carol ordered the game to begin, and we were off.

## Inning #1

Before Announcer Jim had somewhat accomplished introducing Tim, he was standing on 1<sup>st</sup>. And he scored the first run of the game two batters later with Steve Ward's ringing double to right. Craig Bishop followed with an RBI single, ending EEC's scoring in the first. Deb Hinson started the Rodneys off with her patented deep drive down the left-field line, followed by Bob Laderach's double, and singles by George Wendt, Bryce Treese, and Bill Soule. The EECers then pulled off a quick 6-5-4 double play, halting the run-scoring at 3.

**After 1 inning: Rodney 3, Eagle Eye 2.**

## Innings #2 -3

John Jordan led off the 2<sup>nd</sup> for EEC with a single. Henry Moore then slowly sauntered to the plate with bat on shoulder (as described by Announcer Jim). An aggressive sashay, as Jim further embellished the scene. Henry later described it as his new approach to hitting, and it worked ... as he doubled to deep left, while John used his speed to score on the play. Some nifty plays in the field ended that inning, as well as the next two half-innings. But in the bottom of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, George Keller started the hit-parade for the Rodneys and it didn't stop until 5 runs had crossed the plate. Cheryl McCally, Bob Laderach, George Wendt, Bryce Treese, Jerry Hinson, and Jackie Fox kept hitting singles until EEC said enough – our turn.

**After 3 innings: Rodney extended their lead, 8-4.**

## Innings #4-5

The 4<sup>th</sup> inning was all about pitching, defense, and surveys. Announcer Jim surveyed the standing-room-only audience between innings and found that (1) Coke was favored over Pepsi, (2) Cheetos outsourced Freetos, and (3) Butterfinger was the preferred candy bar. Regarding pitching, Tom Doty set the EEC team down 1,2,3 – including a strikeout. George Wendt, known for pitching high in the strike zone, used his high spin rate and high-sloping, quick-drop pitch to get three quick ground outs. Then, after Sauntering Henry Moore led off the 5<sup>th</sup> for EEC with another double to left, George and the Rodneys set the next three batters down in order. The Landscapers came charging back in the bottom half of the inning. Randy Matthiessen led off with a line drive to left, followed by single contributions from the Two Georges, Bryce Treese, Jerry Hinson, and Jackie Fox ... and a triple by Bob L.

**After 5 innings: Rodney had a commanding 11-4 lead.**

## Innings #6-7

It might have looked like a hopeless situation to many by this point, but not to Rocky's Eagle Eye Care hard-chargers. Tim W (how do you pronounce his name again, Announcer Jim) led off the 6<sup>th</sup> with a double, Jim Hupp drove him home with a solid single to center, Steve Ward delivered another double to right, and then Craig Bishop and Coach Rocky brought them home. But the door quickly closed for EEC as Bob Laderach vacuumed up everything hit his way to extinguish the uprising. Inning 7 was EEC's last opportunity to extend their season, but George Wendt and his command of the art of pitching, ended EEC's season with three quick outs.

## Final Score: Rodney Landscaping 11 – Eagle Eye Care 7

The low-scoring game gave an indication of great infield play, as well as a classic pitchers' duel. Jim Hupp and Bob Laderach accounted for 24 outs – and did so without committing a single mishap. Tom Doty and George Wendt limited the big-boppers to singles and a few doubles during the entire night. In addition, standout offensive numbers were contributed by the following players

Tim Winiesdorffer (3/3, 2B)	Steve Ward (3/3, 2-2B, RBI)	Craig Bishop (2/3, 3-RBI)
Henry Moore (2/3, 2B)	Bob Laderach (3/3, 2B, 3B, 2-RBI)	George Wendt (3/3, 3-RBI)
Bryce Treese (3/3, 3-RBI)	George Keller (2/2)	Jackie Fox (2/3, RBI)

Congratulations, Rodney Landscaping, as you move on to the Saturday World Series Championship.

Cheers,

Dale Hill