

!What a Day in the Seniors League

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022

What a beautiful fall day we had for this week's Wednesday Seniors League game.! Game time was delayed to 1:00 because of the morning's cold weather but by game time it was 60 degrees, sunny, and virtually no wind. For those of us from the other parts of the country, this was football weather for sure. And our game was just like a classic fall football game, lots of scores and back and forth action. Carl Caruso, in attendance to watch, said after the game to this reporter, "Too bad you didn't record the game. The article could just say you gotta watch this and provide the You Tube link". Well, it wasn't recorded so here you go.

Top of the First

Facing Corple Corral's starting pitcher Ramiro Escamilla, Proscapes leadoff batter Scott Scooter Wilson hits a drive to center field caught nicely by George Wendt. After Ken Lilley singled for his first of five hits, David McKie tripled him home. Ken Ford, sporting some nice green pants, hits one to right center and again George robs someone of a base hit, David scoring on a sacrifice fly. Two runs in, two nice catches. But Proscapes was not done, as the next five hitters all got base hits producing three runs. Terry Scholze singled, Weldon Wallace doubled, and Diana Duncan, Bill Smiley, and Henry Moore were the hitters.

Bottom of First

Ageless Bob Kuhfuss on the mound for Proscapes. Corple leadoff batter Ramiro hits a high, high ball to left into the sun that found its way to the fence for an inside the part homerun. Debbie Hinson singled and Mike Conley hit a gapper to left, sprinting home with the second homerun of the inning. Three batters, three runs. Super sub Johnny Blecher beat out an infield hit, Super OF George Wendt move him to 3rd on a base hit to right and Pete Day drove Johnny in with a drive to right center caught nicely by Bill Smiley – sacrifice fly. Pete was heard mumbling, "I go to hit em where they ain't" as he trudged back to the bench. After one, we had a 5-4 ballgame.

Top of the Second

Pitcher Ramiro, who always brings joy to these Senior league games, helped David McKie off the field who was still winded after chasing down Corporal Corral homeruns.

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After that act of kindness, he got mean, shutting down Proscapes on three outs in the infield. Debbie Hinson caught a liner at shortstop; Dale Hill dug one out of the dirt at first; and a routine 4-3 ground out ended the inning.

Bottom of the Second.

Jimmy Reese walked the line striding to the plate as PA announcer Randy Mathieson played Johnny Cash's "I Walk the Line", and then hits one in the gap in right center field for a home run. After retiring Stan the Man Isbell on a ground ball to Terry Scholze at second (nice play going to his left), Ageless Bob pitched to Mark Mills who hit a ground ball up the middle that Bob tried to stop with a quick kick of the leg, but it traveled into center field for a base hit. That hit ignited Corple as Paul Neal, Dale, and Ramiro all singled, Debbie doubled, and Mike C. hit yet another gapper, stopping at third as the fifth run crossed the plate. 9-5 Corple after two.

Legendary Liz Malone came to the game today, putting her chair in a nice sunny spot and took in a few innings. Great to see Liz at the ballpark.

Top of the Third

First two batters, Scooter and Ken Lilley singled and scored on a triple down the left field line by David McKie. As Ken Ford came to the plate, spectator Kathy Blecher told him she thought his green pants were "cute". Emboldened by Kathy's comment, Ken doubles David in for the third and final run of the inning. The inning ended on a nice double play initiated by rover Kathy husband, Johnny B.

Bottom of Third

PA Randy stole a line from Ed McMahon as he said, "Here's Johnny" as Johnny B strolled to the plate. Johnny beats out an infield hit and Pete Day brings him home with a triple over the head of the center fielder. Killer Myers-Neagli knocked Johnny in with a infield hit and she scores on a double by Stan the Man. Three runs scored and it is 12-8 Corple Corral after three innings.

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Myron McKinney, treasurer of the RRMGA, was at the game with his one year old puppy, Lucy. You can tell Lucy's master is a ball player; she wanted to chase done every softball in sight.

Top of Fourth

O Henry Moore, Susan Kamrath, and Ageless Bob loaded the bases for Proscapes with base hits. Scooter's infield hit drove in one run, then Ken Lilley cleared the bases with a drive over the head of the left field, settling for a triple and three RBI's. Ken had six RBI's for the day. David knock Ken with a base hit to right. David too had six RBI's. A productive day for Manager Bill Smiley's top of the lineup. Five runs scored.

Corple then went down 1-2-3 in the home half of the inning, leaving the score after four at 13-12 in favor of the visitors, Proscapes.

Top of the Fifth

With one out, Terry Scholze beats out a grounder to short despite a strong throw by Mike Conley. Weldon drove Terry in with his second double of the day. Following an infield hit by Diana, Manager Bill drives in two, giving ProScapes three runs for the inning.

Bottom of the Fifth

With Mrs. Conley and Mrs. Blecher looking on, Debbie and Marti's husband Mike C. do it again with back to back base hits. Robert Cox drives in Debbie, Johnny drives in Mike, and Peter drove both Robert and Johnny. After the second out of the inning, Jimmy drives in Peter for the fifth and final run of the inning. After five it is 17 – 16 Corple Corral in front. A real barn burner for sure.

Top of the Sixth

Proscapes kept the pressure on as Ageless Bob singles to right and Cheryl McNally places one perfectly for a base hit. Ken L. knocks in one for a run and David knocks in two with his third triple of the game, just out of the reach of right fielder, Stan the Man.

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Terry hits in David for the fourth run of the inning. Proscapes takes the lead 20-17. Sound like a football score?

Bottom of the Sixth

As I am sure it was choreographed, PA Randy plays Manfred Mann's Do Wah Diddy and Stan the Man dances his way to the plate to lead off the inning for Corple. In rhythm, Stan lines one to center. After two fielder's choice, Dale Hill hits one into the sun to right field. This ball was not picked up by the right fielder but out of nowhere, rover Bill Smiley makes a great catch to keep Corple off the board. 20-17 heading into the seventh inning. What a game we have going on here.

Top of the Seventh

Proscapes comes up trying to pad their 3 run lead. George comes in to pitch and Diana says "welcome, George" with a base hit right down the left field line. Then, manager Bill doubles to right center field. As O Henry steps to the plate PA Randy says, "Henry is getting his bat on the ball all day long". Well O Henry hit it hard to left field for a sacrifice fly. Ageless Bob then gets his third hit of the day and Cheryl hits another well place ball to drive in a run. Scooter singles in a run due to some great base running by Susan who ran for Bob. Up comes Ken L. who promptly drives in Scoter with this fifth hit of the game. Four runs scored and a commanding 24-17 lead. Still sounds like football, doesn't it?

Bottom of the Seventh

At the beginning of the inning, outgoing pitcher Ramiro gives incoming pitcher ageless Bob, the ball and a hug. This is Seniors League at its best.

Trailing by seven runs, with nothing to lose, Corple decided to let it all hang out. The top of the order all singled (Ramiro, Debbie, and Mike C.) and then Robert hit a sacrifice fly for the one run and the first out. Johnny B. had another infield single to re-load the bases. Up comes George, who clears the bases with a double. All of a sudden, it is 24-21. Still sounds like a football score? Pete hits a hard ball to right field for a hit, sending George to third. Up steps Killer who hits a dribbler out in front of the plate and beats it out! 24-22. Still one out. Jim Reese hits a double driving in two, the second one was a

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very close call at the plate. Game is tied 24-24, runners at 2nd and 3rd. Up to plate is Stan the Man. No music, no dancing; Stan is focused. Stan hits a grounder to 2nd fielded by Terry who throws home --- SAFE! Ball game. Corple Corral 25, Proscapes 24. You had to be here to believe it.

The umpires had a lot of close calls to make and they made them promptly, correctly, and with confidence. Thanks to Don Andrews behind the plate, Coco Ondina at first, and Warren Fowler at third. Well done, men.

Joining PA Randy in the booth were Seniors League's own Rick Rubin operating the scoreboard, and Bill Maynard making his Seniors League debut, keeping the book. Great teamwork, guys.

Author Leo Figueriedo, a member of MS2-USA's Seniors League team pointed out after the game that next week's final game in the Seniors League between ProScapes and MS2-USA is for the title, as both teams are tied for first.

Come on out. Perhaps you can see Stan the Man dance. And perhaps, we can welcome back Commissioner Kelly Petre, recovering from knee surgery. Get well, Kelly!