

Wednesday, October 5th, reporting from our Field of Dreams it is mid-80's F with a gentle SE breeze. You just got to love that fall weather. As I watch **Home Team 'Rodney Landscape'** (RL substitute Manager Kelly Petre)) and **Visiting 'Home Tint'** (HT Manager Tom Neagli) conduct their pre-game warm-ups, I think about the brilliant FRONT PAGE RR softball article featured in the October issue of the "**Cross Timbers Gazette**". Kudos Clyde Ziegler, who assisted Steve Gamel (contributing editor) to create the RR Senior Softball story. Mr. Gamel quoted Clyde saying, "Your mind starts to feel 30 years younger – even though your body isn't." Boyfriend, put some makeup on those faces depicted in the articles picture, and voila, you guys could challenge the fireman for a calendar spot! So if you missed the article, dig that local county paper out-of-the-recycle-bin.

Oh, Home Plate Umpire John Basse has just finished meeting with all parties, the team Managers, and his 1st base Carol Rumberger and 3rd base Warren Fowler. Peter Day (announcer) signals that Gary Peterson (scorekeeper) and Rick Ruben (scoreboard) are also ready to go. Honors to our flag and its game on!

1st Inning:

Pitcher George Wendt of RL opened the inning and HT left the dugout hot to hit. Dianna Duncan, Mike Flatt and Dale Frazier all hit solid singles to fill the bases. HT Mike Lorenc's triple earned him 3 RBI's, Ken Ford copied with a triple that sent Mike home (RBI), and Joe Nuttal's single made the 5th inning run, maximum for each team until the final 'buffet' 7th inning. Tonight John McNemar would pitch for HT, and RL would have no mercy, putting down seven excellent singles which added up to 5 scored runs. Myron McKinney, Nancy Rogus, Steve Ward, Bryce Treece (2 RBI's), George Wendt, Kelly Wissink (RBI), and Cheryl McCally (2 RBI's). **SCORE: RL-5 HT-5**

2nd Inning:

HT Jeff Duncan started the inning with a walk, Marlene McNemar singled and the RL defense jumped on a double play to quickly shut down HT. However, the final out did not occur till after 4 more batters, leaving HT players stranded on bases unable to score a run. RL had great hit balls, Ron Schwertner started the batting order with a single, and HT Tom Neagli caught a rocket launched by Luay Ashoo to center field. Steve Wordlaw slammed the ball for a double, but smashes by Randy Mattheissen and Bill Soule were both caught by HT fielders, leaving the **SCORE: RL-5 HT-5**

3rd Inning:

HT experienced a very short top inning, 3 batters up and 3 outs by sharp RL fielding, leaving HT scoreless. It almost looked like a short inning for RL as well, Myron McKinney was cheated by a great catch by HT rover Tom Neagli, Nancy Rogus hit into left fielder Dale Frazier's glove, but because he was not the designated SS or 2nd baseman, it put her on 1st base. But then Steve Ward landed a single, which brought up Bryce Treece who doubled and scored 2 RBI's. But after George Wendt's missile that burned into HT Mike Lorenc's glove, think I saw a bit of smoke, a single by Cheryl McCally caught her out at first base, ending the inning. **SCORE: RL-7 HT-5**

4th Inning:

Dale Frazier leads HT out of the gate with a boomer to RF that earns him the lone inside the-park game HR. Mike Lorenc's careful eye sends him to 1st with a walk, Ken

Ford singles, but a good throw to Nancy Rogus catches Mike L at 2nd, out, bringing singles by Joe Nuttal, Jeff Duncan, Marlene McNemar whose single scores an RBI. Hubby John McNemar adds two more RBI's with a terrific hit giving him a standup double. HT Manager Tom Neagli fires a line drive that RL first baseman Steve Ward snags as an out, but Randy Catron's shoots one over the infield heads to bring home the 5th HT run. RL did not hold back the pressure answering with 5 runs. Ron Schwertner started the drive with a single, Luay Ashoo and Steve Wordlaw both add singles, but HT threw Ron out at 3rd base. Master Randy Mattheissen clobbers the ball to double (RBI), HT got their second out on Bill Soule's hit, but not before his adds an RBI. Two outs does not deter RL as Myron McKinney singles (RBI), Steve Ward adds another single (RBI) setting the stage for Bryce Treese's second game double bringing in the innings 5th run. **SCORE: RL- 12 HT- 10**

5th Inning:

This was a very short inning for HT, RL shut down every batter leaving HT scoreless. As RL came to the plate, they continued picking away at scoring runs, starting with a George Wendt single, the ladies Kelly Wissink and Cheryl McCalley hits loaded the bases for tall man Ron Schwertner whose walk scored an RBI. HT SS Mike Lorenc snagged a hit from Luay Ashoo but not before the 2nd RBI crossed home plate, bringing Randy Mattheissen who just can't resist hurting that ball, adding a triple and 2RBIs to his evening collection. Finally, HT SS Mike L. sprinted to successfully catch another fly ball delivered by Bill Soule to end the inning. **SCORE: RL- 16 HT- 10**

6th Inning:

HT dug deep and pulled out renewed inspiration, top of the order singles by Mike Flatt, Dale Frazier, and Mike Lorenc (RBI) bringing up Mr. Ken Ford who also added to his evening collection a standup double scoring 2 RBIs. RL Ron Schwertner snagged a fly from Joe Nuttal, and RL #31 Steve Wordlaw took a well hit fly ball away from Jeff Duncan, with two outs RL was close to shutting down the inning. But HT Marlene McNemar, John McNemar (RBI) and Tom Neagli (RBI) all singled to add the final 5 runs. With the scoreboard closing the gap RL was under pressure to stay the course. HT caught two fly balls shutting down the RL drive. But then that Bryce Treese would add his third double and score the innings lone RBI. **SCORE: RL- 17 HT- 15**

7th 'Buffet' Inning:

One out, two out, and three out, and boom it was game over! Congrats all around and off to the post game events. Thanks to RL game subs: Nancy Rogus, Ron Schwertner, Steve Wardlaw, and Kelly Wissink. Tonight's HT subs included league popular Louis Berthold and Randy Catron. An example of RR sportsmanship occurred this evening when HT Manager Tom Neagli declined to penalize RL for having only 12 players, and RL Kelly Petre declined using a much higher ranked sub.

Final **SCORE: RL- 17 HT- 15**. Till next time folks, enjoy life and play it safe.

Killer Myers-Neagli



