

ARGYLE DENTAL vs SAFELIFTS*

May 8, 2024

With temperatures in the low 90s, a few fluffy clouds and 10 mph breeze from the west (!!), the 3W/2L Argyle Dental team was ready to take on the 1W/3L SafeLifts team. After another wonderful singing of our National Anthem by Ronda Gunther, home plate umpire Larry Studinski took control of the game with a loud “PLAY BALL”. Larry’s mates on the bases were Nancy Rogus at 1st and Mike Braam at 3rd.

INNING 1

Rick Watkins was the starting pitcher for SafeLifts and after a lead-off out, Mike Flatt for Argyle Dental singled to left. A pop-up to the rover in right-center field was the second out. Coco Ondina singled pushing Mike to 2nd, but a 3rd out ended a scoreless top half of the inning.

Argyle Dental ace Sean Curry was on the mound and faced Kelly Wissink who led off the bottom of the inning for SafeLifts pushing a single to right field, between 1st and 2nd. Jay Wissink drew a walk, moving Kelly to 2nd. Tim Jeske singled up the middle to load the bases with no outs! Dan Shanahan kept the single barrage going with Kelly crossing the plate for the first run of the game. Dale Hill then hit a long fly ball to center and after a close play at plate, 3 runs scored and Dale found himself at 3rd. Tom Gunther ended the inning with a single scoring Dale. Five runs scored with 0 outs!!

AFTER 1 INNING - ARGYLE DENTAL 0 SAFELIFTS 5

INNING 2

Greg Alexander led off the 2nd with a shot between 2nd and SS for a single. Curtis Handley then hit a log fly ball to center for a triple and an RBI. Frank Kaker popped up to left-center for a sacrifice RBI. Following an out (#2) Rick Watkins singled up the middle, but was stranded on first with a 3rd out.

Bryan Bravard, Sean Curry and Ken Ford all singled to load the bases for SafeLifts. Mike Lorenc then hit a strong grounder to Greg Alexander at 3rd...he stepped on 3rd forcing Sean and then flipped to home plate where Tom Doty was in the perfect catcher position to force Bryan...double play!! With Ken at second and Mike at 1st, a pop out on the infield ended the inning. Tough inning for SafeLifts...bases loaded with no outs...but no runs scored...but they maintain their lead.

AFTER 2 INNINGS – ARGYLE DENTAL 2 SAFELIFTS 5

INNING 3

Tom Doty, Deb Hinson and Mike Flatt all singled to load the bases for AD. Jerry Bidondo then hit a long fly ball to center. Tom Doty scored easily, but when Debbie Hinson rounded 3rd base she missed the bag. Her momentum caused her to take 3-4 more steps before recovering and going back to touch 3rd. By that time, Mike Flatt had already touched 3rd. Debbie went around to cross home plate followed closely by Mike Flatt. Without quoting too many rules, Debbie was declared out...but 2 runs scored. Jerry ended up on 2nd base. Coco Ondina hit another long ball to right center field. With Coco's speed, he rounded the bases for an inside the park homerun and 2 RBIs. Jerry Hinson and Greg Alexander then singled putting runners on 1st and 2nd. Curtis Handley then hit a ball to the fence in left field to easily score Jerry with the 5th run of the inning.

Mindy Shanahan drew a walk to start the bottom of the inning. Kelly Wissink then singled with a line drive over 2nd base. After an out, Tom Jeske singled once again loading the bases. Dan Shanahan singled to center field scoring Mindy and Kelly...but Tom was cut down at HP with a good throw to catcher Danny Silva. Dale Hill followed with a single scoring Dan. A 3rd out ended the inning

AFTER 3 INNINGS - ARGYLE DENTAL 7 SAFELIFTS 8

INNING 4

Frank Kaker singled but was put out at 2nd by a hit from Tracey Ginnings. Rick Watkins singled pushing Tracey to 2nd. Danny Silva then hit a strong line drive to Mike Lorenc at 3rd for an out. Tracey, expecting the ball to go through to the outfield, was too far off the base and was doubled-up when Mike tossed over to Dan Shanahan covering 2nd for the 3rd out.

Top relief pitcher Tom Doty was on the mound for Argyle Dental to start the bottom of the 4th. Bryan Bravard and Sean Curry both singled and both scored on a long fly ball to left-center field by Ken Ford. Two fly ball outs followed before Mindy Shanahan singled over SS. She was stranded on first after the final out of the inning.

AFTER 4 INNINGS - ARGYLE DENTAL 7 SAFELIFTS 10

INNING 5

Tom Doty, Debbie Hinson and Mike Flatt all singled to start the 5th...Flatt getting an RBI with Tom scoring. Jerry Bidondo then hit a long fly ball to left scoring Hinson and Flatt.. Coco singled scoring Bidondo and Jerry Hinson followed with a single. With runners on 1st and 2nd, Greg Alexander singled, but Coco was forced at 3rd and Hinson was forced at 2nd on a very nice double play. With two outs, Curtis Handley hit a long fly ball to the center field fence...scoring the fleet-footed Greg Alexander from 1st base with the 5th run of the inning.

After an infield out to start the bottom of the 5th, Tim Jeske singled up the middle, and Dan Shanahan doubled on a shot just fair down the 3rd base line. Dale Hill then singled scoring Tim. Tom Gunther singled scoring Dan...moving Dale to 2nd. Bryan Bravard singled but Tom was out at second...Dale to 3rd. Sean Curry hit a long shot to left field for a single scoring Dale. Ken Ford hit a long-ball single scoring Bryan and Mike Lorenc also hit a long-ball single scoring Ken with the 5th run.

AFTER 5 INNINGS - ARGYLE DENTAL 12 SAFELIFTS 15

INNING 6

After scoring the maximum 5 runs in the previous inning, the bats cooled-off a bit for AD. Frank Kaker and Tina Ginnings both singled...Tina beating out an infield grounder! Rick Watkins singled scoring Frank from 2nd. Dan Silva singled but Rick was forced at 2nd. Two quick outs ended the inning with just 1 run scored.

Four consecutive hits by Joe Boudreau, Mindy Shanahan, and Kelly Wissink loaded the bases for SafeLifts. Jay Wissink singled scoring Joe. With bases still loaded, Tim Jeske hit a line drive to left-center field and when the dust settled, Tim was on 3rd and had 3 RBIs!! Dan Shanahan singled bringing Tim across the plate with the 5th run...extending SafeLifts' lead.

AFTER 6 INNINGS - ARGYLE DENTAL 13 SAFELIFTS 20

INNING 7 – Buffet Inning...the 5 run rule no longer exists!!

Argyle Dental had their work cut out for them needing at least 7 runs to extend the game. A quick out started the inning before Jerry Bidondo hit a line drive to right field and ended up on 3rd base. After another out it looked pretty bleak for AD. Jerry Hinson singled scoring Bidondo. Greg Alexander and Curtis Handley singled...Curtis' hit scoring Greg...Frank Kaker singled scoring Curtis and Tracey Ginning singled scoring Frank. Unfortunately, a pop-up on the infield ended a furious comeback attempt by Argyle Dental.

FINAL SCORE - ARGYLE DENTAL 17 SAFELIFTS 20

Special THANKS to announcer Tim Trotter, keeper of the scorebook Ron Schwertner, and scoreboard operator Jackie Fox.

* Author is not responsible for the total authenticity of this report...some descriptions may be fictitious...but SafeLifts definitely won the game.