

March 27th Game Report:

Ponder Hardware vs Proscapes

YES!! Opening Day once again. That's right. When you have multiple leagues in action, you get to enjoy multiple opening days. And today, it was the Senior Coed 's turn. And how do we celebrate opening day at Robson – We Play Two. Following the early game between State Farm and Adams Furniture (thanks, Robert Cox, for reporting the highlights of that game previously), the High-Powered, Bat-Thundering Proscapes team came to take on the Speedy, Agile Ponder Hardwarers.

The Press box personnel were in position to perform their important volunteer duties. That meant Ken Quarfoot was holding the mic, Jay Wissink was the keeper of the book, and Jackie Fox was pushing the scoreboard buttons. HP umpire Mick Calverley called an executive meeting just prior to the game to cover all Senior rules – which happen to be very ... minimal. Included in this high-profile meeting at home plate were 1st base umpire Ken Kamrath, 3rd base umpire John Tanner, and the two team coaches – Blecher & Hill.

Innings #1&2

2nd year softballer Steve Foster started the Proscapes hit parade with a line drive to left, followed by consecutive hits from Mark Meier, Scott Wilson, Mike Braum, League Commissioner Sue Kamrath (thank you, Sue), Peter Day (not just a hit, a moon-shot double to the fence), and Carl Caruso. Having not recorded a single out, it appeared the Proscapers were as advertised – a force to be reckoned with. The Ponderers scratched out one run in the bottom of the inning, then took the field with full intent of winning inning #2. A Scholze-to-Hill-to-Thompson DP and a strikeout by seasoned veteran Paul Vargo, followed by another Ponderer run in the bottom of the inning, and vwalla – goal accomplished. Thanks to a lead-off double-bagger by John Thompson, followed by hits from Rookie Aubrey Scully and “I’m Back” Bobby Duncan.

So, after 2 innings: Proscapes were leading 5-2

Inning #3&4

The 3rd inning proved productive for both teams. Proscapes' talented lineup picked up where they left off in the first as power lefty Jeff Duncan lined a shot to center, followed by hits from Rookie Mitch Mendrygal, Sophomore Bruce Prager, Mr. Franchise Johnny Blecher (a ringing double to left), Steve Foster, and Mark Meier, as 3 runs crossing the plate. And when it was the Hardwarer's turn, the fireworks continued. Rookie John Westbrook (who now has a career batting average of 1000%) found outfield grass, followed with hits by Rick Porter (who, yes, is also a rookie, with a career batting average of 1000%), Hill, Speed-Demon Kelly Wissink, Sure-Handed Terry Scholze, Rookie Joyce Basse (yes, the Pickleball star Joyce), Razorback John Thompson, and **The** Randy Brewer (a fence-denting double to center). Post 5 for the Ponderers. Inning #4 was all about defense, primarily excellent glove work being displayed by two of the top defenders in the league – SS Scott Wilson and Terry Scholze.

After 4 inning, we had us a ballgame. Proscapes 8, Ponder 7

Inning #5

With Rookie John Westbrook now pitching for the Ponderers, the Proscapers were held scoreless. Then in the bottom of the inning, Rookie John led off with a single to center, followed by a line drive to center by Rookie Rick. Rookie John and Rookie Rick are Ponder's version of the Rangers' Evan Carter and Wyatt Langford. Dale Hill followed with a triple, then scored on Terry Scholze's third hit of the afternoon, and the Ponder Hardwarers had the Proscapers pondering what had happened to the scoreboard, as they looked up and saw ...

The Ponderers leading 10-8 after 5 Innings

And then came the 6th and final inning. The High-Powered, Bat-Thundering Proscapers came to life after three scoreless innings and POUNDED the ball. Led by Rookie Mitch, then followed by Sophomore Bruce, Mr. Franchise, 2nd Year Steve, Mighty Mark, Smooth Fielding Scott, and then ... with the game tied 10-10, the bases loaded and 2 out, up to the plate strides the Biggest Bomber in the league, the man among boys, your Coed League Commissioner Extraordinaire for the past two years – none other than **Mike Crazy Legs Braum**. The same guy that had just homered the time before (less one minor detail). And on the first pitch, Crazy Legs Mike hits an opposite-field ... grand slam ... homerun ... to win the game. As the game officially ended a half-inning later, Crazy Legs was then inundated with autograph seekers. Fans were ecstatic ... and could not wait to see what heroic events would occur at our Field of Dreams next Wednesday – and yes, Richard Goodwin, we will be serving hot dogs and drinks next Wednesday, so come and bring your friends. Not a better value can be found in all the metroplex.

Final Score: Proscapes 14, Ponder Hardware 10

FYI, here are some of the offensive stats that stand out in this back-and-forth battle:

Home Runs – Mike Braum

Triples – Dale Hill

Doubles – Peter Day, Johnny Blecher, Steve Foster, Randy Brewer, John Thompson

1000% Batting Avg – Kelly Wissink, Terry Scholze, John Thompson, Aubrey Scully, John Harnly,

John Westbrook, Rick Porter, Dale Hill, Steve Foster, Mark Meier, Mike Braum, Carl Caruso,

Shields Jones, Jeff Duncan, Mitch Mendrygal, Bruce Prager, Johnny Blecher

Cheers, Dale Hill

