

Proscapes Landscaping vs. State Farm Insurance

May 15, 2024

The last game of the Seniors League's Spring Season took place this morning at the Field of Dreams. As the schedule and YTD results turned out, it was also the Championship Game of the Spring Season. Both Proscapes Landscaping and State Farm Insurance came into the game sporting identical 4-1 records. So, let's set the stage and review this nailbiter.

Without the lure of free hot dogs, paid attendance for the game hovered between 11 and 12 patrons. In addition to the play on the field, these fans were entertained by Dave Riddle behind the mike, supported by Jackie Fox keeping the score book and Linda Cawley running the scoreboard. This press box was doing double duty today as they called and scored the first game in today's double header. Thank you very much!

Umpiring this championship game was the crew of John Basse behind the plate, Commissioner Bob Riley at 1st base, and polished rookie umpire John Tanner at 3rd base. Basse threw a little curve ball at us. Instead of the customary 'Play Ball', John shouted out, "Balls In, Let's Go!".

Jim Reese got things started for Proscapes, doubling in Scott Walker who had singled. Peter Day drove in Reese with a single to left. Bruce Pager drove in the 3rd run working a bases loaded walk. Jeff Duncan hit a hard single to right side driving in the final 2 of 5 runs for ProScapes.

Mellissa Werstein led off for State Farm, lining one down the left field line for a hit. Hits by super subs Bob Laderach and John Gauthier loaded the bases. Stan the Man Isbell drove in two runs and Weldon Wallace capped the scoring beating out ground ball to short for an RBI. **Score after 1: Proscapes 5, State Farm 3**

In the second inning, Rick Porter and Johnny Blecher both doubled, driving in a runs for Proscapes. But State Farm responded, scoring 5 big runs. A double by Steve Wetenkamp, a 10' single, and a couple of FC's produced two runs loading the bases for Laderach. Bob hit a shot just off the glove of a sprinting Reese to drive in three. **Score after 2: Proscapes 7, State Farm 8.**

Proscapes managed only one run in the third with Pete Day driving in a run on a clean single to center field. With the bases loaded and one out, Bruce Pager laced one which pitcher Carl Caruso snared for an inning ending 1-3 double play. Fueled by that defensive gem, State Farm posted three more runs. After a FC scored one run, Bob Romagosa hit an inside the parker for a two run home run. **Score after 3: Proscapes 8, State Farm 11.**

Proscapes was held scoreless in the top of the fourth. State Farm padded their lead scoring two runs. Wetenkamp led off with his second double of the day and Bruce Poche drove him in. A couple of batters later, Melissa Werstein hit another screamer

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down the third base line, this time driving in Tom Reynolds who had singled. **Score after 4: Proscapes 8, State Farm 13.**

Proscapes got right back in the game in the top of the 5th inning. Blecher led off hitting a routine single to left center field. But he didn't stop at first, sliding into second base to avoid the tag. Everyone presents on the RR70 tournament team held their breath as Johnny slowly got to his feet. After Wilson drew a walk, Reese drove both in with a two run double to right center. Debbie Hinson drove Jimmy in with a base hit and Peter drove him in for the fourth run of the inning, all scored with no outs. The next three outs all involved rover Bill Smiley. Being perfectly positioned each time, he caught two fly balls, and then threw out the final batter at first base.

State Farm could only score one run in the bottom of the 5th with Romagosa driving in a run with a base hit to right field. **Score after 5: Proscapes 12, State Farm 14.**

With the championship game on the line. Proscapes came to bat needing two to tie and three or more to take the lead. How does that Len Barry song go? 1-2-3. Game over. Season over. State Farm Insurance wins the Spring Season Championship.

Perfect at the Plate – Proscapes

- Jimmy Reese 3-3 (2B, 3B)
- Debbie Hinson 3-3
- Peter Day 3-3 (2B)
- Johnny Blecher 2-2 (2 2B's)

Perfect at the Plate – State Farm

- Melissa Werstein 3-3 (2B)
- Bob Laderach 2-2 (2B)
- Steve Wetenkamp 2-2 (2 2B's)
- Tom Reynolds 2-2

FYI, Buck Poche of State Farm, wears #21 because it was his son's number was in college at SE Louisiana University in Hammond, LA.

FYI, Steve Foster of Proscapes, wears #9 because, growing up in Walla Walla, WA, he wore number 9 in Little League, American Legion Ball, Junior and Senior High School.