

Softballers,

A Senior/Ladies League game was held this morning between the top two teams, and Lee Figueriedo was on hand to provide this Game Report for you:

>>> Hi RR SoftBall Fans —

>>>

>>> I was 'in a funk' to use very 'technical baseball terminology.' 'Kinda' feeling sorry for myself with my usual, daily aches and pains...then I thought about it for a bit, and decided I know why WE play this game. So, some people have accused me of being a writer, I'm not, 'just wanted to throw another poem I wrote your way, before reporting on this game, 'cause every week that goes by, reinforces in me, how many of us Old Timers, and our lovely Lady SoftBallers, really do love it, hurt, injured, in pain, or hopefully, feeling great, and especially playin' here at our beautiful ballpark.....

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>>> "Robson Ranch Senior Co-Ed SoftBall....."

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>>> 'Not too sure why they call it SoftBall, 'cause that ball's pretty darn hard

>>> It'll tear up your shins if you get hit there, so you have to stay on guard

>>> It's bigger than a baseball, so you can't throw it faster than one of those guys

>>> But, some of these old-time pitchers, can put an arc on it, clear up to the skies....

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>>> And you have to have patience (which I do not) when up at the plate

>>> You can't swing at everything, swinging way too early, or way too late

>>> These guys may be old, 'same as me, but some are still so light on their feet

>>> They dance around those bases, while my whole body feels like a bag of concrete....

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>>> I'm amazed at how a few of these guys, can hit a ball over that centerfield fence

>>> True, most are over two hundred plus pounders, over six feet tall, in my defense

>>> But they can also catch a line drive bullet, like they're just swatting at some flies

>>> And they can do it so easily, even when that hot Texas Sun is burning in their eyes....

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>>> Many of them have been playing SoftBall, here at Robson Ranch, for several years

>>> They've downed a bunch of younger teams, along with a bunch of hot dogs and beers

>>> They still play with that intensity, and love of the game, they all knew as children

>>> And they play with such joy and humor, where getting angry...is strictly forbidden....

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>>> They're having too much fun to be serious about losing a game...20 to 5

>>> I firmly believe, most are just thankful to be playing here, 'maybe...just being alive

>>> And, even though the crowds haven't broken any Big League attendance records

>>> The fans in the stands enjoy the show, and, appreciate each of their mighty efforts....

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>>> So, if you're able enough to come out and watch one of these Senior Games
>>> 'Maybe see friends, neighbors play, 'doesn't matter if you don't even know their names
>>> 'Finding out, that it's really entertaining, 'taking fun to a whole new level of extremes
>>> 'Watching these old guys and young gals, playing a game of SoftBall, in our beautiful...Field of Dreams.....!!!!

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>>> 'Enough of that. And Now, for the Senior Co-Ed Game Report:

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>>> State Farm Insurance vs. ProScapes Landscaping

>>> May 8, 2024

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>>> This was the first game of the Senior Co-Ed's, winding-down, Spring Season. playing on a fabulous but, very windy, early May morning, pitting a match of the much improved ProScapers (Home Team) against the (Visiting) mighty State Farmers. These two teams were anxious to finally meet, and for us to see who really was the best team out there.

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>>> After playing our "Star Spangled Banner," the Great Umpire crew consisted of Coco Oneida, running the whole show at Home, John Bassa at 1st., and Andy Bradshaw manning 3rd base. Up in the box, entertaining the 'let's be honest' "sparse crowd" was our Golden Throated Host Ken Quarfoot, with Ump Bassa's better half, Joyce Bassa, doing the books and I believe the scoreboard was on 'auto-pilot' Okay, then, we were off to the start of what promised to be...a great game....

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>>>

>>> 1st Inning:

>>> The action started quickly. After a lead-off Out, Stan Isbell had a single to left field, followed by a deep Fly Out to Left, then 2 straight singles by George Wendt and Mike Conley that loaded up the bases. But, an infield pop-up stranded all base runners and the inning ended like something out of "The Twilight Zone"what? Well, no runs scored by State Farm.

>>>

>>> Proscapes also started with an infield out but Dianna Duncan beat out an infield hit for her first single. Dianna was forced out at 2nd. for out number 2, but Bruce Prager was safe at 1st. Then Mr. Mike Braam did his batting magic with a solid double, scoring Bruce (1 RBI for Mike) as Mike made it on to 3rd base. Where, he sat, as a third out grounder was recorded.

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>>> After 1 Inning: It looked like it was going to be a tight, defensive ball game with:

>>> State Farm 0 ProScapes 1

>>>

>>> 2nd Inning:

>>> 'Started pretty much like the 1st. for State Farm, with a ground out. But then Bob Romagosa came through with a double to left, and a quick single to center for Manager Bill

Smiley, who was then forced out at 2nd. from Pitcher, Sharon Deputy (who earned the first RBI for The Farmers), as a 3rd foul ball abruptly ended the inning.

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>>> ProScapes nudged ahead with a lead-off Walk to Debbie Hinson, a fly out, with a single to left, by Pitcher Carl (The Italian Stallion) Caruso, and another walk to Jeff Duncan that loaded the bases. Mike Powell didn't care that his Walk scored an RBI for him. Manager Extraordinaire, Jonny Blecher, doubled to RF to score Debbie and Carl for 2 RBI's, right before State Farm 3rd Baseman, Weldon Wallace's remarkable "double play" at 3rd and a great throw to the plate to end the assault. What a play....

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>>> After 2: State Farm 1 ProScapes 4

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>>> 3rd Inning:

>>> This inning tied it up for The Farmers at the end of their half. A beat-it-out infield single by Mellisa Werstein, started it off. Followed by a double by Stan I. to CF, Mellisa stopping at 3rd. But not for long, as a huge single by # 42 Ron Schwertner, to CF, drove them both in. George W. Singled to RF and Mike C. hit a hard grounder that got him an RBI, scoring Stan, but with a force out and 2 pop-ups that ended the inning.

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>>> ProScapes went on a tear in their bottom half of the 3rd., and tore the game open. The '5 Run' limit was reached with back-to-back Walks to Dianna D. and Bruce P. After a grounder by Mike B. to 2nd forced Bruce, and another grounder forced Mike out (but Dianna scored giving Mike another RBI), Debbie H. got a hit, as did Mike Meier, that loaded the bases. Carl C. Beat out an infield grounder for a single and another RBI with the bases still loaded. Jeff D. Connected for a 3-RBI's single to CF that amazingly cleared the bases for the 5 spot.

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>>> End of 3: State Farm 4 ProScapes 9

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>>> 4th Inning:

>>> The score remained The Farmers 4 and ProScapes 9 after a good defensive inning by The Pros, allowing only Bill Smiley a single through the hole at 2nd base.

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>>> The Pros weren't finished as a Walk to Mike P., a double to CF by Johnny B. drove in Mike, a Dianna D. single to CF, followed by another infield single from Bruce P. and yet another Mike B. RBI ran the score up by 3. Another 5 spot was recorded for ProScapes when State Farm's CF Mellisa W. caught an outstanding, deep hit ball from Peter Day as both runners tagged up and scored as the ball came in.

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>>> End of 4: State Farm 4 ProScapes 14

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>>> 5th Inning:

>>> The Farmers went quietly, no runs scored, after Mellisa W.'s single and stranded her, as ProScapes tightened their defense with 3 straight outs.

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>>> ProScapes managed one more run (Jeff D's.) starting with another Debbie H. single that took her around the bases, scoring before the 3rd out.

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>>> After 5: State Farm. 4 ProScapes 15

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>>> 6th Inning: (Buffet Inning)

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>>> I wish I could report an incredible and exciting "buffet inning" but, as a humble Game Reporter, I'm obligated to not utilize 'too much' fiction in my reporting and all I can accurately produce is the truth. And the truth is that State Farm's bats hit to where a great defense was waiting for each swing of the bat. Mike Conley hit another single for a nice drive to CF, followed by an absolute bullet hit by Weldon W....back to the Pitcher. 2 Fly-outs later, and no runs scored....the ball game was over.

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>>> End of 6:

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>>> FINAL SCORE: ProScapes 15 State Farm 4

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>>> Post Script:

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>>> The score doesn't show it, but It was a dilly of a game

>>> Where winning and losing is pretty much the same

>>> Over and done, we all leave with smiles on our faces

>>> And hope that we touched...all of the bases

>>> After all, we're really on the same team, in the end

>>> Playing lots of SoftBall, with many a friend

>>> Right here, in The Field of Dreams, at Robson Ranch

>>> And, would we ever want to see any of it end?....No. 'Not-a-chance...

>>> 'Not a chance, my friends.....!!!

>>>

>>> (This is Game Reporter Lee F....OUT...!!!)