

**Wise Health vs. Proscapes**  
**Seniors League**  
**March 29, 2023**

I am biased but there is no softball at Robson Ranch like the Seniors League action on Wednesday mornings. And when it is opening day, it is really special.

Such was the case yesterday at the Field of Dreams. Opening Day for the Seniors League was a double header. Commissioner Debbie Hinson was on hand to oversee both games featuring 4 teams and 52 players.

As reported by Jay Wissink, the opening game went to Eagle Eye Care in a tight one, 8-6 over Corple Corral. The second game was a clash between the visitors, Wise Health and the home team of ProScapes. Dave Riddle was behind the microphone bringing humor and fun to the game. Joining Dave in the press box was scorebook keeper, Clyde Ziegler, and the Seniors League's resident scoreboard operator, Rick Rubin. Rick did every seniors game last year and is signed up to do the same this year. Thank you, Rick.

Umpiring behind the plate was Co-Ed league commissioner Mike Braam. He was ably supported by Steve Pratt at 1B and Warren Fowler at 3B. Great job, men.

The game began with a bang as both teams scored a max of 5 runs in the first inning. ProScapes' Paul Neal was making his pitching debut and was not treated kindly by visiting Wise Health. After loading the bases, Jackie Fox and Myron McKinney delivered back-to-back, 2 RBI base hits for four runs. Then, Carl Caruso hit one in the hole between 3<sup>rd</sup> and short for Wise's fifth run.

ProScapes came right back, treating starting pitcher Sharon Deputy with an equal harsh treatment. Scott Scooter Wilson, Gary Wiesner, Randy Brewer, Weldon Wallace, Gary Warwick, Rosemary Killer Myers-Neagli, and Marc Busboom all got hits to score and produce 5 runs to tie the score.

Our first Seniors League memorable moment of the year occurred in the bottom of the first. Proscapes' Ken Ford strolled to the plate wearing his bright green pants. Wise Health catcher, Ramiro Escamilla removed his brand new green hat and offered it to Ken to round out his wardrobe.

After walking the first two batters in the top of the second, Paul bounced back to retire the next three batters, with Scooter robbing Robert Cox of a base hit to end the inning.

As the sun shined for the first time, Ramiro shut down Proscapes in the bottom of the inning with the final out coming on a great play by shortstop John Pierini. John made several great plays during the game.

Another Seniors League memorable moment: when a batter came to bat wearing a pair of garden gloves to protect his hands, Dave Riddle said "and wearing his new batting gloves bought at Home Depot ..."

In 3<sup>rd</sup> inning, Wise Health scored four runs on just three hits, the big blow being a bases loaded base hit to left for Carl Caruso. Proscapes was shut out in the bottom of the inning despite scorching line drives

hit by Scooter and Gary W., each caught by Wise Health defenders. Score after three: 9-5 in favor of Wise Health.

In the fourth inning each team posted three runs. For Wise Health, Cox drove in Henry Moore with a double, he scored on a base hit by Ramiro, and Ron Schwertner, making his senior league debut, drove in the 3<sup>rd</sup> run with a long sacrifice fly. Proscapes answered with three runs on a couple of miscues and two timely hits by Marc and Bobby 'Orange Shoes' Duncan. A sterling, 10' lead off base hit by Killer got things started. No one enjoys playing the game of softball more than Killer. Score was 12-8 after four innings.

Wise Health kept it up on the fifth scoring two runs on hits by Jackie, Manager John Thompson, and another by Carl. Proscapes answered with two of their own. Bill Smiley, nursing a sore hamstring, led off with a single. Wise's Rich Werstein robbed Gary W. of a base hit, throwing out Smiley's pinch runner at second base. Right center fielder John T. threw out Gary W. at third base on another hustle play. Randy and Ken Ford drove in Proscapes two runs. 14-10 after five innings, in favor of Wise.

In the sixth, Wise Health put a big 5 runs on the board to go up 19-10. Robert beat out a hit to 3<sup>rd</sup> despite a fine play by Weldon Wallace. Hits by Pierini, Schwertner, and Greg Laffey scored three runs. Then with two outs, Myron and Manager John closed out the inning with run producing base hits.

With their backs against the wall, ProScapes left the bases loaded in the sixth to go scoreless. Umpire Mike Braam invoked the 'flip-flop' rule bringing ProScapes back up for their 7<sup>th</sup> inning. They scored two runs on a triple by Gary W. But Carl closed the door. **Final Score: Wise Health 19, ProScapes 12.**

### **Special shout outs:**

All those players who made their Seniors League debut. Welcome to the Seniors League.

Wise Health:

Robert Cox, 3-4, RBI  
John Pierini, 4-4, RBI, and outstanding defense at SS  
Ron Schwertner, 3 RBI's  
Jackie Fox, 3-4, 2 RBI's  
Myron McKinney, 3-4, 4 RBI's  
John Thompson, 4-4, RBI  
Carl Caruso, 3-3, 4 RBI's

ProScapes:

Scott Wilson, 3-4  
Gary Wiesner, 2-4, 3B, 2 RBI's  
Randy Brewer, 2-4, RBI  
Ken Ford 2-3, 2B, RBI  
Killer, 3-3, RBI  
Marc Busboom, 3-3, 2 RBI's  
Bobby Duncan, 3-3