



## Englewood Men's Senior Softball League – Silver Division

### Weekly Update – Week 8



Geno Chenault of Arturs launched the 1<sup>st</sup> Silver division home run that cleared the fence 300 feet away. No surprise here as this guy routinely hits shots that have a chance to go out. Catcher Burt Thomas said "Hardest ball I have seen hit in 4 years and there was no doubt that it would clear the fence"

Congrats big guy!!!!



### Game 15 Matchups Tuesday Feb 28, 2023



**Englewood Elks** Pounded **Libees** 19-9 Libees scored 5 in the 1<sup>st</sup> inning highlighted by a Rick Nelson 2 run HR and 4 in the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Elks got 5 in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and added 4 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and never looked back! John Graig did not allow a walk, kept Libee's off their game and had 4 hits. Solid defense and good hitting throughout the Elks line up. Jim DeBoer was 3 for 3 for Libees

**Designer Tees** topped **Arturs** 9-8 for their 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive win. *Dave Tacey* continues to play well with a grand slam in the 2<sup>nd</sup> inning. But the talk of the game was the outstanding defense of 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman *Brian Hatfield*. He made a couple great catches and Arturs sent 2 more lazars right at him for outs! The Tees led 9-2 after 6 innings. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Tees win against Artur's/Leverocks in 6 games over 2 years. *Ralph Fischer* had 3 hits including a triple.



Brian Hatfield



**Panthers** over the **Riverwood Relics** 15-10 –The same story for the Relics. A team that is better than their record plays a tough opponent even tougher but still ends up on the wrong end of the score. The Panthers had to battle back in the late innings to win. *Tom Borek* was a spark both offensively and defensively. Going 3 for 3. Hhe lead off a couple of innings late in the game with big hits and his defensive versatility was on display playing multiple infield and outfield positions. *Tom Scanlon* also went 3 for 3.

Tom Scanlon

**Cady Carts** slipped by **Xpertech** 19-18- The Carts jumped out to a 18-8 lead after 4 innings but with *Rob Markel* (3-4), *Joe Gasparino* (3-3), *Kevin Michael*, (3-4), *Gary Garcia* (3-4) and *Paul Clough* (3-3), going 15 for 18, they outscored the Cady boys 10-1 over the final 3 innings. Carts win season series 3-0 outscoring Xpertech 50-34



Paul Clough

## Game 16 Matchups Thursday Mar 2, 2023



Bob Dika

**Englewood Elks** beat **Arturs** 24-10 Geno Chennault had his home run in this game. Some great plays by shortstop *Rich Bielski*, third baseman *Dave Rafalski* and a great double play by *Bob Dika* to *Burt Thomas* to *Ken King* to end an inning were the highlights. *John Graig* was 8 for 8 over the 2 games played this week.

*Turns out that when the bats come alive and the leather starts working, you can string together a few victories. In the middle third of the season nothing seemed to be going right. The hits dried up, as did the leather, and everything our opponents hit dropped in. However, with 63 runs in the last 3 games, some shifting of positions, and some outstanding (but not surprising) fielding, the Englewood Elks have once again become a team to be reckoned with. While it may be a bit late to make a run at first place for the season, we're looking to be spoilers, and make things interesting in the playoffs. - Eric*

**Radcliffe**

**Designer Tees** barely beat the **Riverwod Relics** 9-8 scoring 9 runs for the 3<sup>rd</sup> game in a row. Riverwood played another strong game and lost. It was a low scoring affair and was tied at 6 until the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> when *Dave Finger* and *Bob Lynch* singled followed by a *Charlie Bowers* game winning base hit. *Steve O'Connor* hit a 2 run homer and a sacrifice fly. The Tees have now won 5 straight! Next up - Libees

**Libees manhandled the Cady Carts 19-14** to take the season series 2 games to 1. This one was not as close as the score would indicate. *Dev Ragatti* did what *Devi* does! Double to left and double to right plus a walk. Every other hitter on the Cady team was relatively quiet until the last 2 innings. The Carts scored 2 in the top of the first and Libees came back with 5 straight hits for 4 runs. Carts had 1 run in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and a runner thrown out at 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Libees got 5 more in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> innings. Red hot *Rick Nelson* had 3 more hits and *Fred Kirsch* and sub *Dan Jacin* were both 3 for 3. Carts have now dropped 2 of their last 3 games.



Steve O'Connor



Rob Markell



Ray Kuntz

**Purple Panthers** blew out **Xpertech 21-6** – Xpertech only had 12 hits the entire game wrapped around 1-2-3 innings in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> innings and were down 20-1 after 5 innings.

BANG BANG – Several players and an ump were heard discussing a ball off the bat of *Rob Martell*. It left the bat like it was shot out of a cannon and right at 3B *Ray Kuntz*. There were 2 loud pops within 1 seconds' time. BANG off the bat and WHACK into the mitt!!! Just glad it was one of the top fielders at the position as that ball had the potential to hurt someone!!!

Highlight reel play: *Ron Foster* fielded a gapper that went to the fence, fired it from the warning track to the cut-off *Steve Rubino*, who fired it to *Ray Kuntz*, who in turn fired a strike to catcher *Tom Scanlon* for the out.

The Panthers lead the league in scoring but this is a team that gave up more than 20 runs in 6 different games. *Ray Kuntz* is a defensive game changer at 3B for the Purple guys. Claimed at the supplemental draft, *Kuntz* took over at 3<sup>rd</sup> allowing *Big Steve Greene* to move to 1B and *Henry Sirignano* to the middle infield. That solidified the infield. *Ron Foster*, *Fedele Volpe*, *Dave Keefer*, *Peter Salvatori* and *Jim McKay* are proving to be the best OF in the league. Add in the "Toms" (*Borek*, *Gaff* and *Scanlon*) and barring injuries, this is the team to beat to win the championship!





During the Libees game vs Arturs, I noticed pitcher *Paul Romano* reach into his pocket and when he pulled his hand out, I saw a white powder cloud!!! I immediately thought “that’s awesome!” He’s using powder to dry his hands! Who thinks of stuff like that?!!! It’s certainly not illegal in our league and it’s a brilliant move on a hot sweaty day!!! Then later, I started to doubt what I thought I saw. I mean, we are

all old guys, and it’s easy to see the talent a lot of you guys used to have based on how good you are at this age, but trying to get an advantage as a slow pitch pitcher in a Senior Men’s softball game?!! I must have been wrong. So, I reached out to Paul to verify what my eyes saw. His response?

*“Hi Bill, yes you did see me put my hand in my pocket, and it came out white on Thursday. Here’s the story, on hot and humid days my hand begins to sweat and the ball sticks upon my release and doesn’t go where I try to pitch it. To resolve this problem, I use talcum powder which I put in my sock and place it in my pocket. I have been doing this for many years, both in this league and other leagues I have played in thru the years. You are not the first one who has asked me about this”*

So it’s true and all I can say is – That’s awesome!!!



Update from friend *Rick Reavis* now playing in the Villages.

*“We have digital scoreboards, concession stands,(even beer), uniforms with your name on it. They have 3 complexes, with 4 fields each, 5 divisions 2 leagues, recreational and neighborhood. I had to go to 3 tryouts, Today, I got called to be placed on a team, in the neighborhood league. Was very surprised, as the team that wanted me, had to get league blessing*

*to do so. I guess my evaluations were pretty good for them to want me without seeing me play.*

*Maybe Libees, and the Purple Panthers can meet in the playoffs. I read all of Bill’s posts and watch what is going on in the silver division there.”*

The Cady Carts went to dinner on Wednesday at Ken & Barbs. Here are a couple pics from the dinner the night before they played Libees. Nobody got sick and by all accounts everyone had a great time.



**UPDATE**- The home team won 5 of 8 games this week and has now won 41 of 64 games played for a 64% win percentage. Last season the home team won 46 games for a 50.4% win percentage.

### ***Standings***

	W	L	Runs Favored	Runs Against	Run Differential	AVG Run Differential	Avg Runs Scored	Ave Runs Allowed
Cady Carts	12	4	264	182	82	5.13	16.5	11.4
Libees	10	6	246	213	33	2.06	15.4	13.3
Purple Panthers	10	6	280	249	31	1.94	17.5	15.6
Xpertech	9	7	237	224	13	0.81	14.8	14.0
Designer Tees	8	8	191	224	-33	-2.06	11.9	14.0
Englewood Elks	7	9	253	243	10	0.63	15.8	15.2
Arturs	7	9	238	282	-44	-2.75	14.9	17.6
Riverwood Relics	1	15	165	257	-92	-5.75	10.3	16.1

To all players and coaches – please feel free to provide information for the upcoming newsletters! Send to [Billwhite548@gmail.com](mailto:Billwhite548@gmail.com)