



Carroll "Woody" Wood's Heart Attack Comeback

BY GLENN MILLER
Roy Hobbs Baseball

Several weeks before the Roy Hobbs World Series a heart transplant seemed the only hope for Carroll Wood of the St. Louis Patriots.

Play baseball again? Play in 2023? Run? Throw? Field? Hang in the dugout with his Patriot buddies?

All seemed out of the question for the man known as Woody. Yet, here in mid-November, Carroll, 65, is playing.

Not too long ago, according to his wife, Lisa, simply walking from a dugout at a JetBlue back field to the restroom would have been too taxing.

The trouble began about a year ago, about the time Hurricane Ian cancelled the 2022 World Series. Wood doesn't know when he had the heart attack but he and Lisa were told he had one.

And it was serious.

"It was a widow-maker for sure," Patriots teammate Don Short said.

Lisa is obviously not a widow. She attends Woody's game and traveled here with her husband from their Missouri home.

Short said his friend died but was brought back with shocks from a defibrillator. Although revived, his heart was damaged.

"The doctor said if we don't put you on the transplant list you're going to die," Short said.

Before proceeding to the transplant, though, doctors adjusted Wood's pacemaker and medication. That made all the difference. Wood felt better almost instantly and started walking a couple of miles a day. He was encouraged to join the team for practices.

"They fixed me over night," Wood said.

He said that was in mid-September.

Wood traces his heart troubles to the fall of 2022. Although the World Series was cancelled he and Lisa still planned to come to Florida to visit their daughter, Carrissa, who resides in Melbourne on Florida's east coast.

Through the drive from Missouri. Wood said he was coughing "all the way." At Lisa's urging he visited an urgent care facility in Melbourne. The initial diagnosis, he said, was bronchitis.

"We just figured he had a virus or something," Lisa said.

He was given medication for that. It didn't help.

They returned to urgent care. That's where a man Carroll said was an "EMT" did additional tests.

"He said, 'I think you had a heart attack,'" Carroll said.

The next stop was a hospital, where it was confirmed that

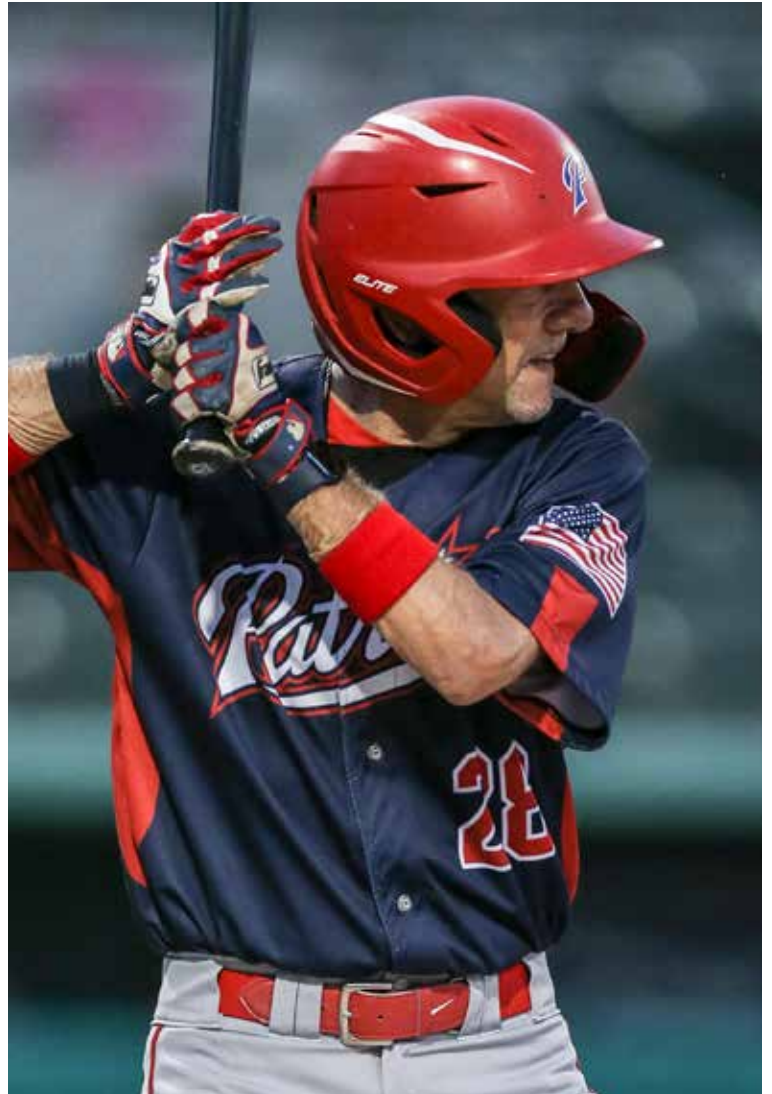


photo by Greg Wagner

Carroll "Woody" Wood of the St. Louis Patriots

at some point Carroll had a heart attack. He was given bad news.

"A lot of my heart died," Carroll said.

Woody and Lisa were told he wasn't "having" a heart attack.

"He'd had a heart attack," Lisa said.

They couldn't pinpoint a date for the attack.

He was admitted to the hospital and said that he coded.

"I think that night they also had to jump on me and bring me back," Carroll said.

A defibrillator jolted his heart back to working. The next day a pacemaker was installed. He and Lisa spent Thanksgiving

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CARROLL

continued from page 1

ing 2022 at their daughter's Melbourne home.

"I was in awful shape," Wood said. "I couldn't eat. Couldn't keep anything down. Couldn't sleep."

He had chest pains that sent jolts through him. An ambulance was called. He was back in the hospital. He estimates 13 times in three hours he was jolted by pain.

"It was like laying on the ground and me hitting you as hard as I can in the chest with a bat," Wood said.

He spent about three weeks in the hospital.

"The plan was to get a heart transplant," Wood said. "It blew me away."

Just getting up to go to the bathroom was a challenge.

"I had breathing problems every night," Wood said.

But the September adjustment to the pacemaker and medication allowed the return to baseball. He started conditioning. He returned to game action on Sunday.

"I don't think I've ever been as nervous about an at-bat in my entire life," Wood said.

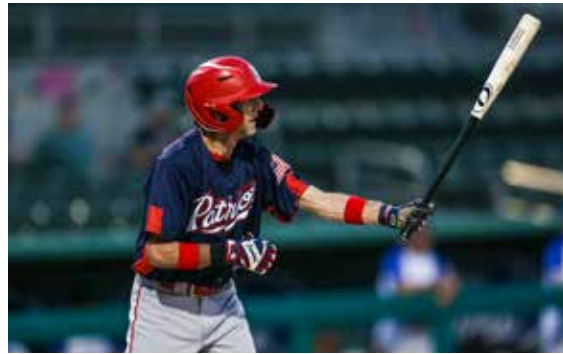
More than nervous.

"I've been playing since I was 9 and never been scared," Wood said.

But he was now.

And he wasn't worried about getting hit by a pitch.

"Am I going to die?" Wood said.



Carroll Wood at the plate

*photo by
Greg Wagner*

This man who had been on the brink of death and was being considered for a heart transplant was hit by a pitch in his first at-bat. But not in the chest.

"In the butt," Wood said.

He now plays wearing a kevlar chest protector. He doesn't need it for his butt.

On Sunday, his fear was at a 10 on a 1-to-10 scale. By Tuesday, the fear had settled down to an 8.

Through the ordeal, Wood said he dropped 42 pounds and now weighs about 140. But he's gained something. He's gained a way back to his life and wife and children and grandchildren and teammates. The comeback is about more than a game or who won or lost.

"Ultimately, you're out here with with your buddies," Wood said. "You're out here to make memories.

Woody is back in baseball.

"He's like a kid on Christmas morning," Lisa said.

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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG THURSDAY RESULTS

Vintage

- Border City Brewers 14, Long Island Yankees 4
- Bronx Cardinals 14, Ott's Tavern 3
- Huntsville Havoc 11, Oakville Golden A's 10
- Long Island Express 9, NJ Dodgers 1
- Minnesota Bandits 14, Carolina Rockies 0
- Minnesota Goats 14, Rhode Island Rockies 7
- Nova Scotia Monarchs 18, Midwest Nine 15
- Orlando Freedom 13, Tampa Stars 3
- Philadelphia Cutters 13, S Maryland Blue Crabs 9
- Sacramento Buzzards 8, Nova Scotia Giants 4
- San Antonio Texans 10, Tidewater Drillers 2
- South Jersey Spikes 14, Maine Woods 1
- St. Louis Patriots 5, Livingston Dodgers 3
- Washington Titans 12, DC Mets 2



*photo by Greg Wagner
Maine Woods batter hits to the opposite field vs. Team Cambria*

Forever Young

- Avengers 13, New Jersey Wonderboys 9
- Ironman Maidens 4, Tri-Cities 1
- New England Red Sox 10, Kent Mudhens 5
- Team America 21, Toledo Tigers 2
- Team Cambria 12, Maine Woods 3
- White Foxes 6, South Dakota Rushmores 5

FRI. / SAT. SCHEDULE

Non-Playoff Games (Flip for Home)

Vintage

Friday

1:30 PM - Chi-Town Cardinals VS Americans Baseball @ JB6

Saturday

10 AM - Chi-Town Cardinals VS Maine Woods @ JBSt

Forever Young

Friday

10 AM - N Jersey Wonderboys VS S Dakota Rushmores @ PDC4



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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG THURSDAY STANDINGS

Vintage 65+

AAAA Team		W	L	PCT	RA
1	Border City Brewers	4	0	1.000	5
2	Youngstown A2Z	4	0	1.000	8
3	Washington Titans	4	0	1.000	13
4	South Jersey Spikes	4	0	1.000	19

AAA Division		W	L	PCT	RA
1	Orlando Freedom	4	0	1.000	25
2	*Philadelphia Cutters	4	0	1.000	32
3	Baltimore Orioles	3	1	0.750	15
4	Long Island Express	3	1	0.750	18
5	San Antonio Texans	3	1	0.750	20
6	Sacramento Buzzards	3	1	0.750	26
7	Huntsville Havoc	3	1	0.750	32
8	Minnesota Bandits	3	1	0.750	33
9	Minnesota Goats	3	1	0.750	34
10	DC Mets	2	2	0.500	29
11	St. Louis Patriots	2	2	0.500	30
12	Bergen Yankees	2	2	0.500	35
13	Nova Scotia Monarchs	2	2	0.500	38
14	Bronx Cardinals	2	2	0.500	39
15	USA Volkers Group	2	2	0.500	42
16	Ott's Tavern	2	2	0.500	46

* Winner AA in 2021

AA Division		W	L	PCT	RA
1	Nova Scotia Giants	2	2	0.500	48
2	Midwest Nine	1	3	0.250	52
3	Kent Mudhens	1	3	0.250	53
4	Tidewater Drillers	1	3	0.250	39
5	Livingston Dodgers	1	3	0.250	40
6	St. Louis Jets	1	3	0.250	41

7	S. Maryland Blue Crabs	1	3	0.250	42
8	Tampa Stars	1	3	0.250	43
9	Oakville Golden A's	1	3	0.250	44
10	Long Island Yankees	1	3	0.250	47
11	NJ Dodgers	1	3	0.250	48
12	Carolina Rockies	1	3	0.250	51
13	Rhode Island Rockies	1	3	0.250	51
14	Silver Foxes	1	3	0.250	72

Non-Playoff Teams

	W	L	PCT	RA
Maine Woods	0	4	0.000	53
Americans Baseball Club	0	4	0.000	56
Chi-Town Cardinals	0	4	0.000	64

Forever Young 75+

AAA Division		W	L	PCT	RA
1	Team Cambria	4	0	1.000	10
2	Ironman Maidens	4	0	1.000	18
3	New England Red Sox	3	1	0.750	30
4	Team America	3	1	0.750	16

AA Division

	W	L	PCT	RA	
1	Tri-Cities	2.5	1.5	0.625	18
2	Maine Woods Baseball	2	2	0.500	25
3	Avengers	2	2	0.500	44
4	Toledo Tigers	1	3	0.250	68
5	White Foxes	1.5	2.5	0.375	28
6	Kent Mudhens	1	3	0.250	55

Non Playoff Teams

	W	L	PCT	RA
New Jersey Wonderboys	0	4	0	44
South Dakota Rushmores	0	4	0	58

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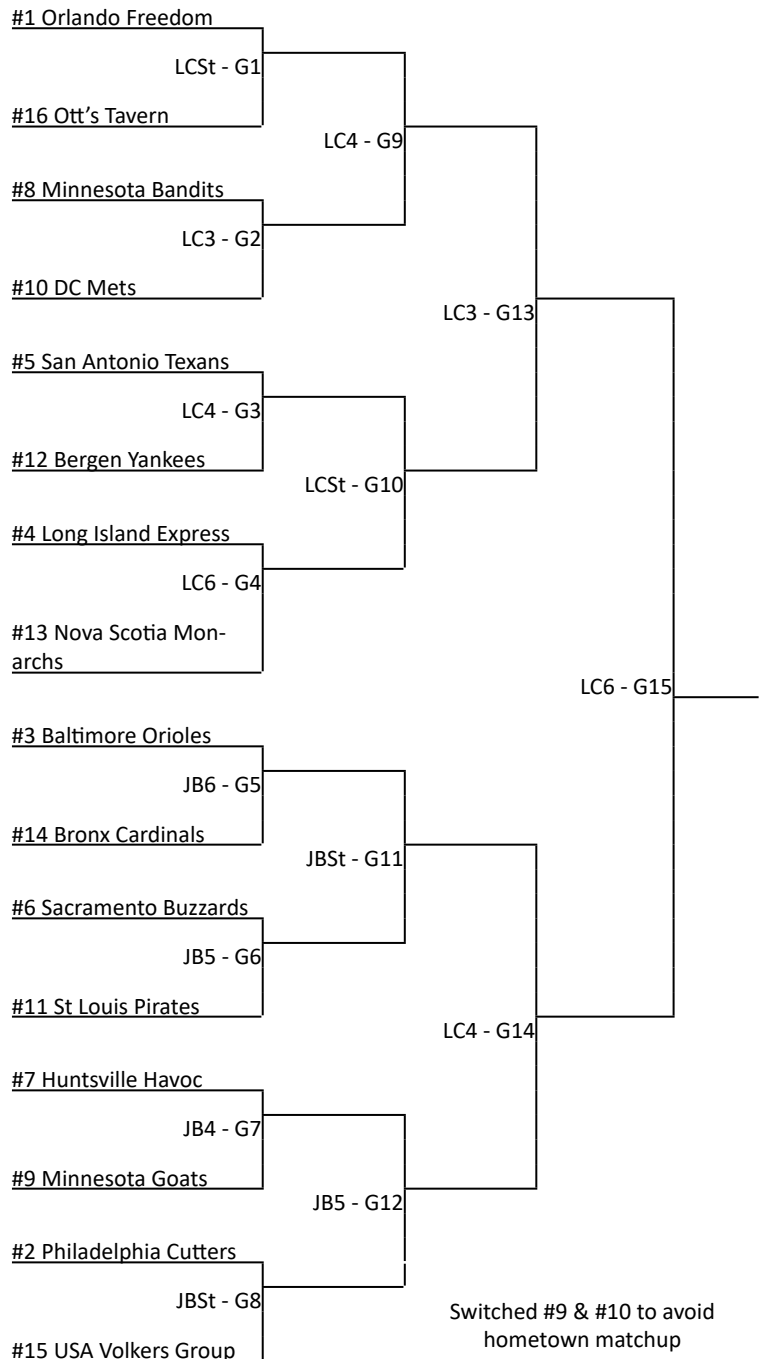
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VINTAGE AAA BRACKET

Fri - 10 AM Fri - 1:30 PM Sat - 2 PM



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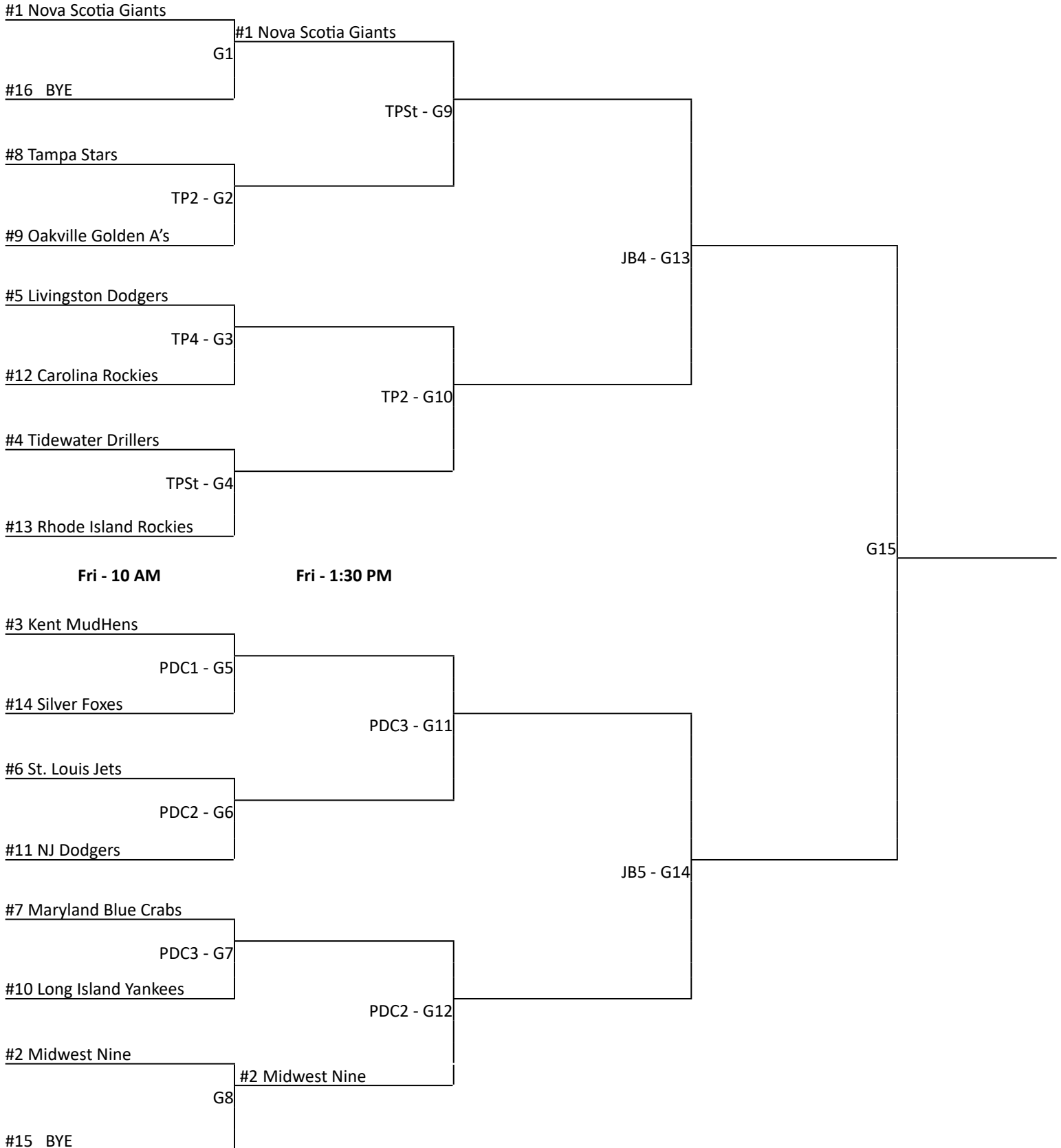
VINTAGE AA BRACKET

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Fri - 4:30 PM

Sat - 10 AM

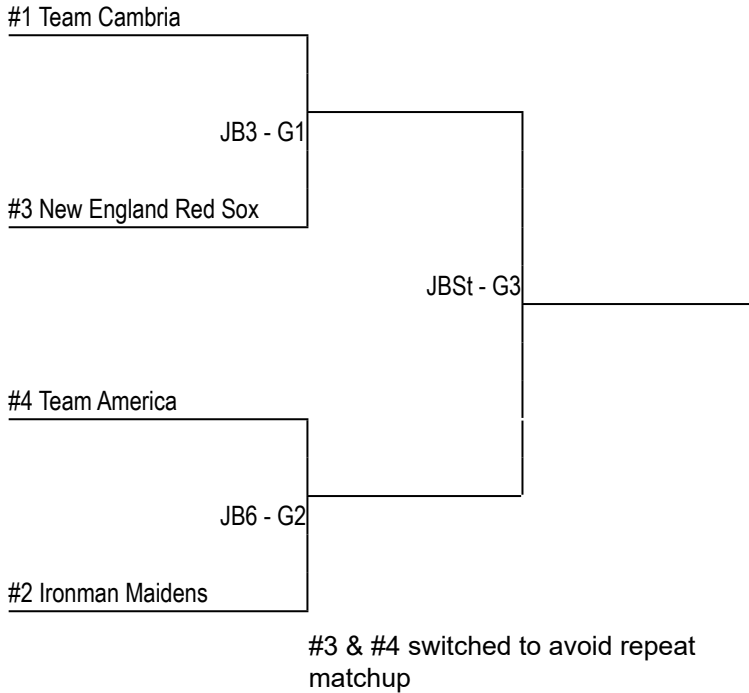
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FOREVER YOUNG AAA BRACKET

Sat - 10 AM

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FOREVER YOUNG AA BRACKET

Fri - 10 AM

Sat - 10 AM

Sat - 1 PM

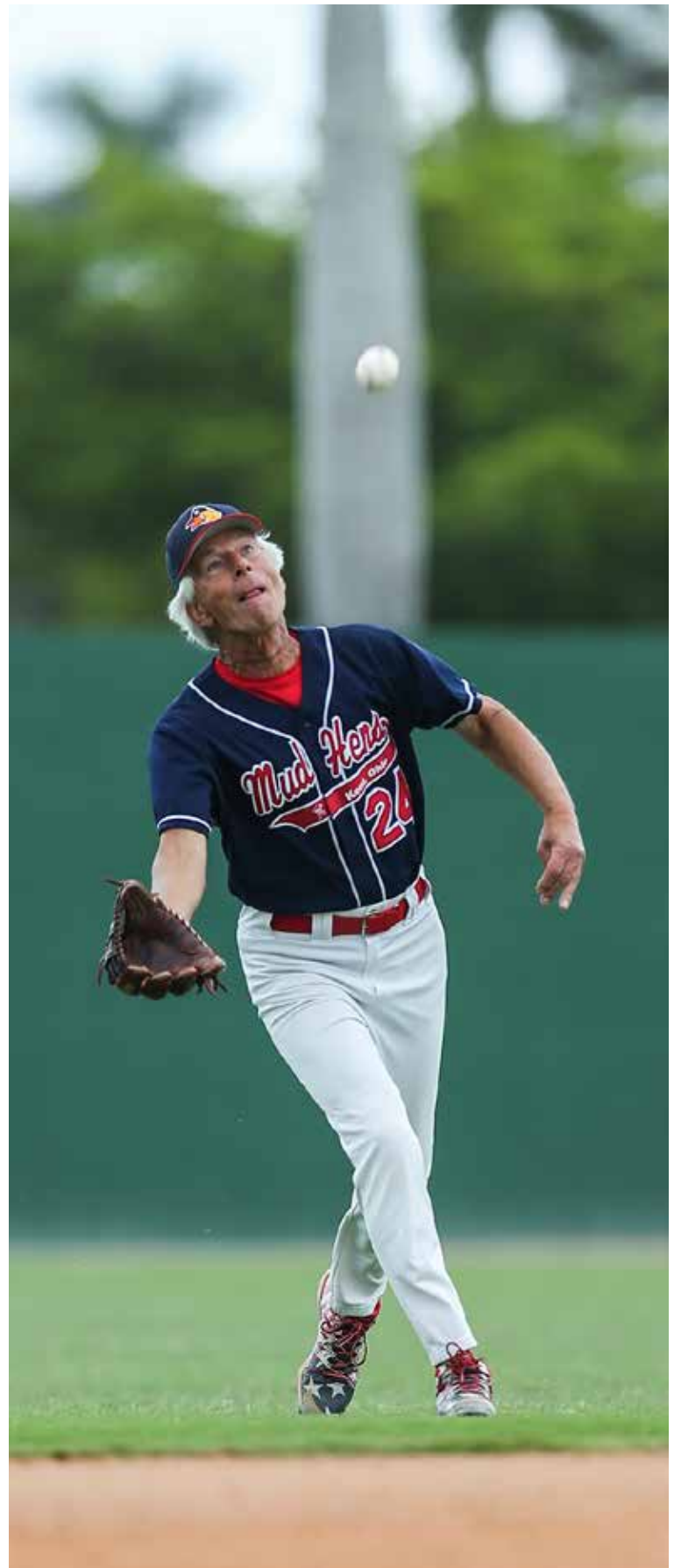
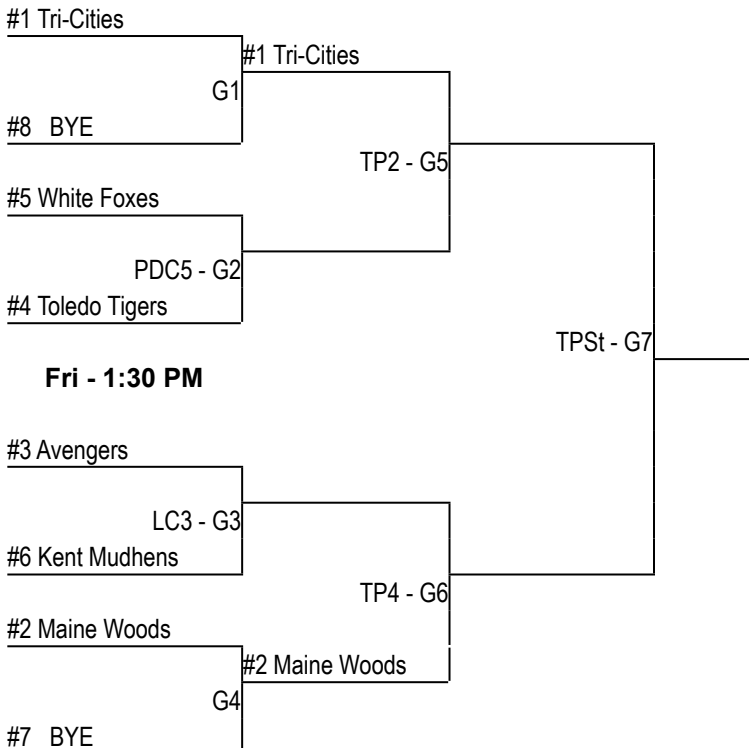


photo by Greg Wagner
 Kent Mudhens 75's left fielder makes an outstanding catch of a New England Red Sox fly ball



NOTEBOOK

Thank You & Travel Safe

Roy Hobbs Baseball would like to thank all of you for coming to the Roy Hobbs World Series, helping to make this event a success. For those who are traveling to get home, We wish a safe journey and we look forward to seeing you all next year.



Lost and Found

Our lost and found has several items there. It can be found in the front office of our headquarters (PDC) with Bonnie. Please see Bonnie if you lost anything this week.



Customer Service

Roy Hobbs Baseball is proud of its record on customer service.

Staff members are required to wear identifying staff shirts during the working hours of the tournament and should be easily identifiable. At least two are assigned to each of the satellite complexes daily.

In the case of **emergency**, please go to the nearest concession stand at the satellite complexes, where someone will be available to summon help.

Roy Hobbs field managers and key personnel are Red Cross First Aid **certified**, and Roy Hobbs Baseball has guidelines

in place on the handling of injuries. Additionally, **AED devices** are available at each of the facilities, and Roy Hobbs personnel have been trained on those devices.



Please help with dugouts

Roy Hobbs Baseball and the grounds crews need your help in the dugouts.

When your games are over and you are leaving the dugout, please police it for trash and cups, etc. Your assistance in cleaning up the dugouts each day will be greatly appreciated.



Playing site security

The active steps taken several years ago to deal with parking lot security will continue as parking lot theft issues have – knock on wood – not been an issue the last 7 years.

Are we out of the woods? No, it is a daily procedure and effort to make sure parking lots are safe.

Once again, Roy Hobbs will have personnel posted at the player/spectators' entrances to Terry Park, PDC, JetBlue Complex and at the entrance to the Quad fields at Lee County.

These individuals will have a view of the parking lot, and they will be available in emergencies, be enforcing cooler guidelines and handling admissions.

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