



ROY HOBBS WORLD SERIES INSIDE PITCH



WEEK 5 | VINTAGE - FOREVER YOUNG | NOV. 19

Battle-tested RHWS catchers share stories



photo by Greg Wagner

left to right: Wonderboys catcher and lefty batter Glen Goldberg; Tigers catcher Pat Vendetti; Umpire Steve Sambucci; Tigers catcher John Emerson; Wonderboys batter Al Marotta

BY GLENN MILLER
Roy Hobbs Baseball

"You have to have a catcher because if you don't you're likely going to have a lot of passed balls."

– Casey Stengel

Somebody must don what used to be called the tools of ignorance. Even in the Roy Hobbs World Series with men

playing not only in their 40s and 50s but in their 60s, 70s and even 80s.

Who can do this?

Who wants to do this?

There are such hardy men out there. If not, the Roy Hobbs World Series could not exist.

Glen Goldberg, 75, of the New Jersey Wonderboys is one of those wonders. How long has he been catching?

"My whole life," Goldberg said Sunday morning sitting at a

see *CATCHERS* on page 2



CATCHERS

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picnic table at Hammond Stadium.

He played other positions as a young boy but as a teenager became a full-time catcher.

"Largely because it was a way to make the team because nobody wanted to catch," Goldberg said. "And I just sort of liked it."

He still likes it.

"You're in the middle of everything," Goldberg said, "You're in on every pitch. You're kind of a field captain. You get nice interaction with the umpire and the batter."

Mental adjustments have to be made in one's 70s.

"The biggest frustration is having a 15-year-old brain in a 75-year-old body," Goldberg said.

Steve Emerson of the Toledo Tigers did not start catching in his teens. Or 20s. Or 30s. Or 40s. Or 50s. Or 60s. He recently picked it up in his 70s.

"Sometimes I feel like an imposter," Emerson, 73, said.

He started catching in his Tampa league because more experienced catchers kept, as he put it, "breaking down."

As of the start of this week his catching resume included six games.

What was his first game like?

"It was a strange feeling being back there," Emerson said.

He found himself flinching and blinking when batters swing at pitches.



photo by
Greg Wagner

Catching pop-ups is also a challenge.

"Haven't caught one yet," Emerson said.

But one did hit him on the head. Fortunately, he was wearing a helmet at the time.

Pat Venditte, 79, of the Toledo Tigers, is a life-long catcher who started at the age of 7 when he was a kid in Omaha. That's 72 years ago.

"When I started catching, I wanted to be like Chris Cannizzaro," Venditte said,

Cannizzaro was a catcher for the minor-league Omaha Cardinals in 1958 and 1959 before going on to play 13 years in the majors.

Venditte is still catching and has yet to have a knee or hip replaced.

"All the parts are original," Venditte said.

Catching is not for everybody but it is for some.

"I wouldn't have it any other way," Goldberg said. "I absolutely love the position."

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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG MONDAY RESULTS

2024 RHWS Vintage Monday Results

Americans Baseball 25, S. Maryland Blue Crabs 10
 Bergen Yankees 10, Minnesota Goats 4
 Border City Brewers 17, San Antonio Texans 3
 Carolina Rockies 4, St. Louis Jets 3
 Chi-Town Cardinals 22, Nova Scotia Giants 2
 DuPage Lugnuts 13, Richmond Riverdogs 1
 Kenmore Eastern Brewers 20, Bronx Cardinals 6
 Kent Mudhens 9, Silver Foxes 8
 Long Island Express 20, Livingston Dodgers 2
 Midwest 9 19, Blue Ridge Rangers 2
 Minnesota Bandits 5, Philadelphia Cutters 3
 Nova Scotia Monarchs 20, Oakville Golden A's 5
 Ott's Tavern 20, New Jersey Dodgers 5
 Raynham Baseball 22, Team Albany 9
 Sacramento Buzzards 14, Lansing Blue Jays 1
 St. Louis Patriots 5, Spokane DC Rapids 1
 Tampa Stars 16, DC Mets 10
 Washington Titans 8, Huntsville Havoc 1
 Windy City White Sox 8, USA Volkers Group 6



The velcro on Kent Mud Hens 75's starting pitcher Eddie Clark's leg brace tore off so the brace was basically useless. Luckily somebody had some tape in their equipment bag so base umpire Dave Abate stepped in to secure the brace to Eddie's leg, enabling him to continue on the mound vs. the Potomac Senators.

photo by Greg Wagner

2024 RHWS Forever Young Monday Results

Kent Mudhens 8, New Jersey Wonderboys 6
 Maiden Titans 15, New England Red Sox 5
 Midwest Nine 12, Tri-Cities 6
 Mudville 9. 21, Toledo Tigers 2
 San Antonio Texans 5, Team America 4

Team Cambria 18, Maine Woods Baseball 4
 Team Cambria 24, New England BoSox 5
 White Foxes 5, Potomac Senators 3

2024 RHWS Antiques Monday Results


South Dakota Rushmores 12, New England Red Sox 4



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Head to *Sidelines* to replay the game and tell lies

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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG MONDAY STANDINGS

Vintage Standings

Team	W	L	PCT	RA
Chi-Town Cardinals	2	0	1.000	3
Border City Brewers	2	0	1.000	4
Bergen Yankees	2	0	1.000	5
Midwest Nine	2	0	1.000	7
Washington Titans	2	0	1.000	7
Kenmore Eastern Brewers	2	0	1.000	9
Americans Baseball Club	2	0	1.000	11
Kent Mudhens	2	0	1.000	12
Ott's Tavern	2	0	1.000	12
Raynham Baseball Club	2	0	1.000	13
Windy City White Sox	2	0	1.000	15
Carolina Rockies	2	0	1.000	15
Spokane DC Rapids	1	1	.500	6
Sacramento Buzzards	1	1	.500	11
Philadelphia Cutters	1	1	.500	14
Long Island Express	1	1	.500	16
St. Louis Patriots	1	1	.500	16
DuPage Lugnuts	1	1	.500	18
Nova Scotia Monarchs	1	1	.500	20
Minnesota Bandits	1	1	.500	20
San Antonio Texans	1	1	.500	22
Richmond Riverdogs	1	1	.500	24
Team Albany	1	1	.500	25
USA Volkers Group	1	1	.500	25
Tampa Stars	1	1	.500	33
Nova Scotia Giants	1	1	.500	37
Huntsville Havoc	0	2	.000	20
Minnesota Goats	0	2	.000	21
St. Louis Jets	0	2	.000	22
Silver Foxes	0	2	.000	24

Oakville Golden A's	0	2	.000	28
Bronx Cardinals	0	2	.000	31
Livingston Dodgers	0	2	.000	31
DC Mets	0	2	.000	31
Lansing Blue Jays	0	2	.000	34
NJ Dodgers	0	2	.000	37
Blue Ridge Rangers	0	2	.000	37
Southern Maryland Blue Crabs	0	2	.000	38

Forever Young Standings

Team	W	L	PCT	RA
Team Cambria	3	0	1.000	9
Mudville 9	2	0	1.000	3
Midwest Nine	2	0	1.000	15
Maiden Titans	1	1	.500	7
Potomac Senators	1	1	.500	9
San Antonio Texans	1	1	.500	16
White Foxes	1	1	.500	23
New England Red Sox	1	1	.500	24
Kent Mudhens	1	1	.500	26
Toledo Tigers	1	1	.500	28
New England Bosox	1	1	.500	29
Team America 75s	1	2	.333	23
Tri-Cities	0	2	.000	19
New Jersey Wonderboys	0	2	.000	25
Maine Woods Baseball	0	2	.000	26

Antiques Standings

Team	W	L	PCT	RA
South Dakota Rushmores	2	0	1.000	15
New England Red Sox	0	1	.000	12
Avengers	0	1	.000	22





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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG TUESDAY SCHEDULE

Vintage Tuesday Schedule

10 AM

- Kenmore Eastern Brewers @ Nova Scotia Giants, JB-S
- St. Louis Patriots @ Sacramento Buzzards, JB2
- Philadelphia Cutters @ Border City Brewers, JB4
- Richmond Riverdogs @ Washington Titans, JB5
- USA Volkers Group @ Long Island Express, LC-S
- DC Mets @ Raynham Baseball, PDC2
- Tampa Stars @ Kent Mudhens, PDC3
- Blue Ridge Rangers @ Silver Foxes, PDC4
- Bronx Cardinals @ Nova Scotia Monarchs, PDC5
- St. Louis Jets @ Livingston Dodgers, TP-S
- Minnesota Bandits @ DuPage Lugnuts, TP3

1:45 PM

- New Jersey Dodgers @ Chi-Town Cardinals, JB-S
- Bergen Yankees @ Lansing Blue Jays, JB2
- Minnesota Goats @ Huntsville Havoc, JB3
- San Antonio Texans @ Spokane DC Rapids, JB4
- Carolina Rockies @ Americans Baseball, LC-S
- Midwest 9 @ Team Albany, PDC3
- Ott's Tavern @ Oakville Golden A's, PDC5
- Windy City White Sox @ S. Maryland Blue Crabs, TP-S

Forever Young Tuesday Schedule

10 AM

- Kent Mudhens @ Toledo Tigers, JB3
- White Foxes @ Tri-Cities, LC3
- Mudville 9 @ Potomac Senators, LC4
- New Jersey Wonderboys @ Midwest Nine, LC6
- Maine Woods Baseball @ New England BoSox, TP2
- San Antonio Texans @ Team Cambria, TP4



Gary Salhany of the Kent Mud Hens 65's makes a great catch in left field vs. the Silver Foxes

photo by Greg Wagner

1:45 PM

- New England Red Sox @ Team America, JB5
- New England BoSox @ Maiden Titans, TP2

Antiques Schedule

Tuesday 10 AM

- New England Red Sox @ Avengers, JB6

Wednesday 10 AM

- South Dakota Rushmores @ Avengers, JB-S

Thursday 10 AM

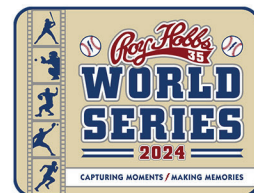
- New England Red Sox @ South Dakota Rushmores, LC-S

Friday 10 AM

- Avengers @ New England Red Sox, TP4



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NOTEBOOK

Playoff pitching guidelines

Roy Hobbs requirement is that all pitchers who will be starters or closers in save situations (3-run or less difference in the 8th and 9th innings) qualify for the playoffs by pitching at least 2 innings – 6 outs or 10 hitters – during pool play, if they are in the dugout starting Sunday. If they check-in after Monday's games, they must pitch 5 innings (15 outs or 25 hitters).

AAAA qualifier teams may not add pitchers to their lineup after Pool Play concludes; however, AAAA teams may bring in 2 position players after Tuesday's games, but they must play the entire first game of the playoffs with no shared lineup options.

Finally, in the playoffs, those "non-qualified" middle-inning pitchers will come to the mound from their normal defensive positions where they started the game. That is as important as the "spirit of the rule" that these *non-qualified* pitchers who are used as "inning-eaters" are players who ordinarily are playing other positions.

And, please remember that any players leaving the RHWS today (Monday) to return on Thursday MUST turn in their player ID Card and re-register upon their return. They must return before the quarterfinals of the playoffs, regardless of division.



Score Reporting

There is a QR code posted in every dugout that we will be using. Scan the code with your phone after every game and complete the score submission form, which includes places for your Player of the Game and your umpire evaluations.



Results corrections

Please check the posted results and standings each day. Managers should contact Rob at the Tournament Headquarters (234.200.8449) with corrections to scores.

That's the best way to make sure that playoff seedings and pairings are as accurate as we can make them.



Run-rule games

Run rule is 10 runs at 7 complete innings or if home team is ahead in a scheduled 9-inning game. Scheduled 7-inning games are 15 at 5 innings.

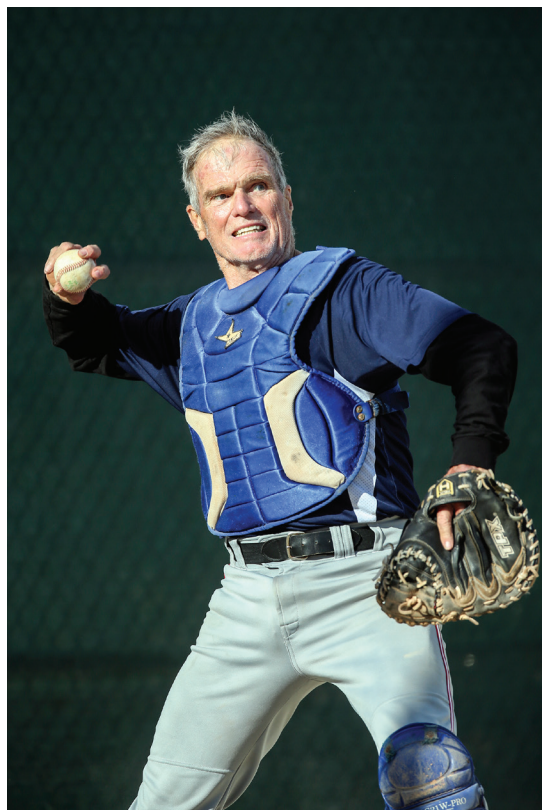
Now, in a 9-inning game, if the score difference is 15 at 5 innings, umpires have been instructed to call both managers together and to offer the team on the short end of the score if they want 6 outs to bat.

As far as RH is concerned the team ahead has won, but any runs scored will count in RA, so that is an incentive to not just pitch anyone out there to pitch.

Both teams must agree.

If you believe a game has been ended prematurely, don't leave and ask for a field manager; he will get in touch with headquarters for adjudication.

see NOTEBOOK on page 7



Maiden Titans catcher Murf Appling in a wild play that goes K-2-1-3. Strikeout (ball went to backstop), catcher throws to pitcher, pitcher throws to 1st baseman before the New England Red Sox 75's runner reaches first base

photo by Greg Wagner

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Maiden left-handed pitcher Sam Park vs. the New England Red Sox 75's

photo by Greg Wagner

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50/50 raffle

50/50 raffle tickets, to benefit the Roy Hobbs Foundation, are available each day at the Player Development Complex. Tickets are \$1 apiece or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held in the patio area at the Player Development Complex at 5 PM Friday.

The Roy Hobbs Foundation was established to raise monies for research on finding a cure for Leukemia and to assist our Challenged Athlete friends.

Revenues from past RHWS have led to greater than \$15,000 in contributions to MD Anderson Cancer Center, St. Jude Hospital in Memphis and to Southern Florida Challenger Athletes.

The ticket number will be posted on our website. You do not have to collect in person, just proof of the ticket.



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.



Kent Mud Hens 65's batter Dave Zietlow vs. the Silver Foxes
photo by Greg Wagner





Monday Players of the Game

Editor's note: Please remember to include player's full name!

Americans Baseball 25, S. Maryland Blue Crabs 10:

Americans - Ivan Lanier 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R

Bergen Yankees 10, Minnesota Goats 4: **Yankees** - Scott Weedo complete game, 8 Ks, 2 BB.

Border City Brewers 17, San Antonio Texans 3: **Brewers** - Bob Escimilla 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 2 R

Carolina Rockies 13, S. Maryland Blue Crabs 12: **Blue Crabs** - Kenny Sanders 3x4, 2 HR, 4 RBI

Carolina Rockies 4, St. Louis Jets 3: **Rockies** - Jim Leible 6 strong innings, 3 hits, 5 Ks, 1 BB

Chi-Town Cardinals 13, Oakville Golden A's 3: **Cardinals** - Chris Miller 2x3, 1B, 2B, 1 RBI

DuPage Lugnuts 13, Richmond Riverdogs 1: **Lugnuts** - Bruce Wile 2x3, 1 RBI

Kenmore Eastern Brewers 20, Bronx Cardinals 6: **Brewers** - Jeff Lonchor 6x6, 7 RBI

Kent Mudhens 8, New Jersey Wonderboys 6: **Mudhens** - Jim Hostler 4x5, 3 RBI

Kent Mudhens 8, Silver Foxes 7: **Mudhens** - Dave Zietlow 3x3, BB, 4 SB, 2 bunt singles

Maiden Titans 15, New England Red Sox 5: **Titans** - Steve Brye 5x5, 3 R

Midwest 9 19, Blue Ridge Rangers 2: **Rangers** - David Cooper 2x3, 1 RBI

Minnesota Bandits 5, Philadelphia Cutters 3: **Bandits** - Gary Fritch 2x3, 1 HR, 3 RBI

Mudville 9 21, Toledo Tigers 2: **Mudville 9** - Tom Vartanian 3x3, 3 RBI

New England BoSox 12, Team America 5: **BoSox** - Bernie Novotski 4x5, 3 RBI, 2 R

Nova Scotia Monarchs 15, Oakville Golden A's 7: **Monarchs** - Tim LeBlanc 4x5, 3 RBI, 2 R; **A's** - Brent Tall 3 hits, pitched 4 good innings.

Ott's Tavern 11, Bronx Cardinals 7: **Ott's** - Ray Connolly 4x5, 2B, 4 RBI

Ott's Tavern 20, New Jersey Dodgers 5: **Ott's** - Pat Duffy 4x5, 2 HR, 6 RBI

Sacramento Buzzards 14, Lansing Blue Jays 1: **Buzzards** - Steve Welch 3x4, 3 RBI

Team Cambria 2, Maiden Titans 0: **Titans** - Frank Millian 7 inn, 0 ER, 3 K, 1 BB

Team Cambria 24, New England BoSox 5: **Cambria** - Howard Elson complete game, 8 Ks, 1 BB

Washington Titans 8, Huntsville Havoc 1: **Havoc** - Dan Zielinski CG, allowing 8 run, striking out 5.

White Foxes 5, Potomac Senators 3: **Senators** - Bill Lear stellar at 3B with 4 critical plays, 2-RBI base hit

Windy City White Sox 8, USA Volkers Group 6: **White Sox** - Tom Howell complete game win, 8 K, 2 BB; **USA Volkers** - Jerry Weaver 7.1 IP, 1 hit, 1 run, 9 Ks, stand-up triple.

Note: Managers submit Player of the Game on the score App after each game.



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