

Mudville 9 brings baseball joy to RHWS

BY GLENN MILLER

Roy Hobbs Baseball "The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Mudville 9 that day."

Don't go looking for a player named Casey on the Mudville 9 this week.

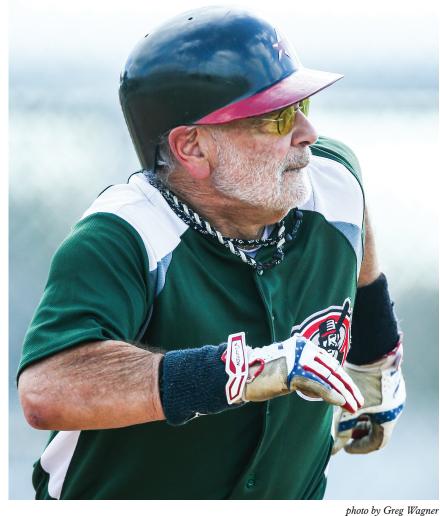
"Big ego," Mudville 9's Tom Vartanian jokingly said of the fictional Casey. "And lots of strikeouts."

That would be the Mighty Casey immortalized in "Casey at the Bat," an 1888 poem by Ernest Lawrence Thayer. It is likely the most famous baseball poem ever.

Mighty Casey in the poem played for the equally fictional Mudville 9. The Mudville 9 playing this week in the Roy Hobbs World Series has nothing to do with the poem or poetry or even paying homage to the immortal poem.

The team logo of Mighty Casey on the front of their jerseys is mere happenstance.

"A pall-like silence fell



Tom Vartanian running to first on a base hit up the middle

upon the patrons of the game."

Poets or poetry lovers hearing about the team name may be disappointed to hear the prosaic reason the team is named the Mudville 9.

"To tell you the truth, I had the uniforms," Manager Steve Faigin said.

Faigin said the team got the jerseys from a Chicago adult men's league. That made things easier and cheaper.

"Because some people didn't have to go out and buy uniforms," Faigin said.

The Mudville 9 is an old name for "many, many years" in the Chicago league, according to Faigin.

It's the first time the team has played under this name in the Roy Hobbs World Series.

So, is the name a tribute to the poem?

"No," Faigin said. Are there any poets

see MUDVILLE 9 on page 2

Pairings Party Thursday night

Sidelines Sports Grill will host Roy Hobbs Vintage & Forever Young Divisions Pairings Party Thursday night. It is open to all RHWS participants

Doors open at Sidelines – at the corner of Colonial Blvd. and Veronica Shoemaker Blvd - at 6:30 p.m., and snacks will be provided starting at 7 p.m. This is not a dinner, but rather finger foods to go with a **cash bar** for alcohol and soft drinks.

Roy Hobbs personnel will be present the pairings at

7:30 p.m., assuming all Thursday games are completed as are the pairings.

Tom Giffen will be available to explain how pairings were set up. *Please note that if you have issues with the brackets, seeing Tom Thursday night is the ONLY way to handle that. He will not be available after he leaves the party.*

Once the pairings are presented, they will be posted on royhobbs.com/world-series around 8:15 p.m.

Roy Hobbs will be presenting a raffle along with a Thursday night 50/50 raffle.

Come and be prepared to enjoy yourself.



MUDVILLE 9

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on the Mudville 9.

"No," Faigin said.

The silhouette on the logo looks like the make-believe Casey.

"It's supposed to," Faigin said.

"There was ease in Casey's manner as he stepped into his place."

The poem is a part of baseball history. The 2024 Mudville 9 hopes to make history this week.

"I hope it's a good luck name," Vartanian said. The Mighty Casey was a legendary slugger. Vartanian, who said he is a Yankees fan, said a modern-day real-life counterpart may be Giancarlo Stanton. Why? Lots of homers and strikeouts.

"But there is no joy in Mudville - mighty Casey has struck out."

Mudville 9's Charles Heatley, who goes by the nickname Heater, said he knows the poem and finds it "kind of cool" to have the name for his team.

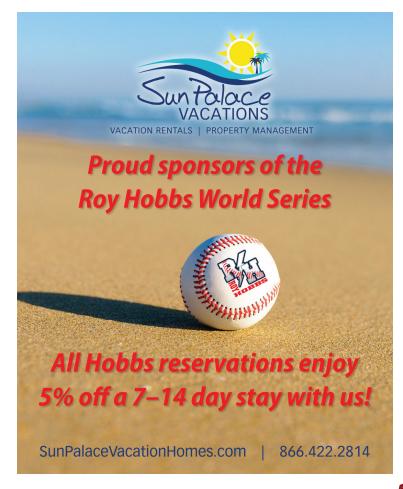
But he knows something is missing from this Mudville 9.

"I guess it would be better," Heatley aid, "if we had a Casey. We need a guy named Casey."





photos by Greg Wagner Mudville 9 Manager Steve Faigin (left) and Charles Heatley playing first base (right)



To view your Roy Hobbs photos go to: WWW.Wagnerphotography.com





VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG TUESDAY RESULTS

2024 RHWS Vintage Tuesday Results

Americans Baseball 12, Carolina Rockies 9 Bergen Yankees 15, Lansing Blue Jays 2 Border City Brewers 11, Philadelphia Cutters 1 Chi-Town Cardinals 16, New Jersey Dodgers 13 DuPage Lugnuts 9, Minnesota Bandits 5 Huntsville Havoc 14, Minnesota Goats 2 Kenmore Eastern Brewers 15, Nova Scotia Giants 0 Nova Scotia Monarchs 10, Bronx Cardinals 9 Ott's Tavern 5, Oakville Golden A's 2 Raynham Baseball 19, DC Mets 3 Silver Foxes 17, Blue Ridge Rangers 7 Spokane DC Rapids 14, San Antonio Texans 11 St. Louis Jets 20, Livingston Dodgers 9 St. Louis Patriots 13, Sacramento Buzzards 1 Tampa Stars 14, Kent Mudhens 10 Team Albany 13, Midwest 93 USA Volkers Group 10, Long Island Express 5 Washington Titans 9, Richmond Riverdogs 8 Windy City White Sox 18, S. Maryland Blue Crabs 12

2024 RHWS Forever Young Tuesday Results

Kent Mudhens 16, Toledo Tigers 3 Maiden Titans 8, New England BoSox 2 Midwest Nine 21, New Jersey Wonderboys 3 Mudville 9 13, Potomac Senators 3 New England BoSox 7, Maine Woods Baseball 0



Maiden Titans shortstop Mike Pizzo dealing with a bad hop vs. the New England BoSox

Team America 16, New England Red Sox 5 Team Cambria 4, San Antonio Texans 3 White Foxes 15, Tri-Cities 12

2024 RHWS Antiques Tuesday Results

Avengers 12, New England Red Sox 5





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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG TUESDAY STANDINGS

Vintage Standings					
Team	w	L	РСТ	RA	
Border City Brewers	3	0	1.000	4	
Bergen Yankees	3	0	1.000	8	
Kenmore Eastern Brewers	3	0	1.000	9	
Ott's Tavern	3	0	1.000	14	
Washington Titans	3	0	1.000	15	
Raynham Baseball Club	3	0	1.000	16	
Chi-Town Cardinals	3	0	1.000	18	
Americans Baseball Club	3	0	1.000	21	
Windy City White Sox	3	0	1.000	27	
Spokane DC Rapids	2	1	.667	17	
St. Louis Patriots	2	1	.667	17	
Midwest Nine	2	1	.667	20	
DuPage Lugnuts	2	1	.667	23	
Kent Mudhens	2	1	.667	26	
Carolina Rockies	2	1	.667	27	
Team Albany	2	1	.667	28	
Nova Scotia Monarchs	2	1	.667	29	
USA Volkers Group	2	1	.667	30	
Tampa Stars	2	1	.667	33	
Huntsville Havoc	1	2	.333	22	
Sacramento Buzzards	1	2	.333	24	
Philadelphia Cutters	1	2	.333	25	
Long Island Express	1	2	.333	26	
Minnesota Bandits	1	2	.333	29	
St. Louis Jets	1	2	.333	31	
Silver Foxes	1	2	.333	31	
Richmond Riverdogs	1	2	.333	33	
San Antonio Texans	1	2	.333	36	
Nova Scotia Giants	1	2	.333	52	
Oakville Golden A's	0	3	.000	33	

Minnesota Goats	0	3	.000	35
Bronx Cardinals	0	3	.000	41
DC Mets	0	3	.000	49
Lansing Blue Jays	0	3	.000	49
Livingston Dodgers	0	3	.000	51
NJ Dodgers	0	3	.000	53
Blue Ridge Rangers	0	3	.000	54
Southern Maryland Blue Crabs	0	3	.000	56

Forever Young Standings

	•	-		
Team	w	L	РСТ	RA
Team Cambria	4	0	1.000	12
Mudville 9	3	0	1.000	6
Midwest Nine	3	0	1.000	18
Maiden Titans	2	1	.667	9
Kent Mudhens	2	1	.667	29
White Foxes	2	1	.667	35
Team America 75s	2	2	.500	28
New England Bosox	2	2	.500	37
San Antonio Texans	1	2	.333	20
Potomac Senators	1	2	.333	22
New England Red Sox	1	2	.333	40
Toledo Tigers	1	2	.333	44
Maine Woods Baseball	0	3	.000	33
Tri-Cities	0	3	.000	34
New Jersey Wonderboys	0	3	.000	46

Antiques Standings

Team	W	L	РСТ	RA
South Dakota Rushmores	2	0	1.000	15
Avengers	1	1	.500	27
New England Red Sox	0	2	.000	24



VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG THURSDAY SHEDULE

Vintage Thursday Schedule

Flip a coin for home team in all games

- JB2 Lansing Blue Jays vs. Livingston Dodgers
- JB3 Carolina Rockies vs. Kent Mudhens
- JB6 Oakville Golden A's vs. Southern Maryland Blue Crabs
- LC3 DC Mets vs. New Jersey Dodgers
- LC4 Sacramento Buzzards vs. Silver Foxes
- LC6 Spokane DC Rapids vs. Tampa Stars
- PDC1 Border City Brewers vs. Windy City White Sox
- PDC2 Americans Baseball vs. Kenmore Eastern Brewers
- PDC3 St. Louis Patriots vs. USA Volkers Group
- PDC4 DuPage Lugnuts vs. Team Albany
- PDC5 Long Island Express vs. Minnesota Bandits
- TP2 Raynham Baseball vs. Washington Titans
- TP4 Ott's Tavern vs. Chi-Town Cardinals

1 PM

JB4 - Huntsville Havoc vs. San Antonio Texans TP-S - Bergen Yankees vs. Richmond Riverdogs JB5 - Philadelphia Cutters vs. St. Louis Jets

1:30 PM

LC4 - Blue Ridge Rangers vs. Bronx Cardinals

- JB3 Midwest Nine vs. Nova Scotia Monarchs
- JB6 Minnesota Goats vs. Nova Scotia Giants

Forever Young Thursday Schedule

Flip a coin for home team in all games 10AM

JB-S - Potomac Senators vs. Toledo Tigers JB4 - New England BoSox vs. San Antonio Texans JB5 - Maiden Titans vs. Team America TP-S - Midwest Nine vs. Mudville 9



Hall of Famer Ron Staples of the Maiden Titans tosses his bat aside after taking ball four vs. the New England BoSox

photo by Greg Wagner

1PM

JB-S - Kent Mudhens vs. White Foxes LC-S - NJ Wonderboys vs. Tri-Cities LC3 - Maine Woods Baseball vs. New England Red Sox

Antiques Division

Thursday 10 AM

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



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photo by Greg Wagner

Hall of Famer Joel Weinstein focuses on a base hit for his New England Red Sox 80s

BY GLENN MILLER Roy Hobbs Baseball

A 2023 Roy Hobbs World Series experiment is a 2024 rookie division.

That's assuming the word rookie can be attached to the Antiques Division for players 80 and older.

80s exhibition games were played during the 2023 World Series. The new Antiques division is playing this week with 3 teams - the New England Red Sox, Avengers and South Dakota Rushmores.

There are likely no long-term contracts in the 80s

"I may not be here next year," said Ed Clark of the Red Sox. "You go year-by year."

But he's here this year.

He thinks the name Antiques is appropriate,

"That's what we are," Clark said.

Clark said this wife of 59 years, Linda, is concerned.

"Because I have neuropathy and foot drop," Clark said.

"But from the waist up I'm fine. I can still throw the ball 60 feet, 6 inches. I can't run well. My glove is good, but the ball has to come to me to catch it."

Red Sox manager Joel Weinstein, 86, is a Roy Hobbs Hall of Famer who has been coming to the World Series for about 25 years, He likes the chance to play with and against men his age,

"Everything has slowed down," Weinstein said. "But I like to say we don't measure our speed down the line with a stopwatch. We use an hourglass."

Mike Ciani, 86, of the Red Sox was accompanied this week by his 60-year-old son, Mike, Jr. who played the past two weeks.

The elder Ciani wear No. 76 because that was his age when he first played in the World Series

Avengers manager Ron Michaelson is a Hall of Famer who will turn 83 on Dec. 31. He can't play this week because he see ANTIQUES on page 7



ANTIQUES

continued from page 6

had his non-throwing shoulder replaced two weeks ago. But he's still here.

"It kills me," he said of not being able to play. "It absolutely kills me."

But he's here and likes the name Antiques.

"I don't have any problems with it," Michaelson said. "It's kind of cute actually."

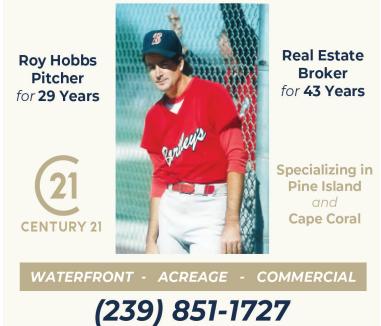


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photo by Greg Wagner New Jersey Wonderboys battery: Pitcher Stu Pepper and catcher Glen Goldberg going over the signs in their game vs. the Midwest Nine

> TEAM SHEVLIN Pine Island Experts - Everyday Since 1981

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Eddie Clark Pitches in 80s

photo by Greg Wagner





Tuesday Players of the Game

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

- Americans Baseball 12, Carolina Rockies 9: **Americans** -Dave Lutz 3x3, Darrell Miller 3x3, 2 RBI, Scott Gering 3x4, 2 RBI
- Americans Baseball 25, S. Maryland Blue Crabs 10: **Americans -** Scott Gering 4x4, 2B, 4 RBI; Joe Caruso 4x5, 2 2B, 2 RBI; Darrell Miller 6 IP for the win.
- Bergen Yankees 15, Lansing Blue Jays 3: **Yankees -** Bill Tolli stellar defense, 2 HBP, 2 R, 1 RBI; **Blue Jays -** Mark Owen 4x4
- Border City Brewers 12, Philadelphia Cutters 1: **Brewers -**Brian Wolcott 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI
- DuPage Lugnuts 9, Minnesota Bandits 5: **Lugnuts -** Rich Williams 6.1 strong innings, Tom Foote 2x4, 3 RBI, Tom Clark 2x4, 2 RBI, Terry Barton 2x4.
- Huntsville Havoc 14, Minnesota Goats 2: **Havoc -** Marty Sargents 4x4, 4 RBI
- Kenmore Eastern Brewers 15, Nova Scotia Giants 0: Brewers - Larry Yoho 3 IP, 0 R, 1 H
- Kent Mudhens 16, Toledo Tigers 3: **Mudhens -** Jim Wilson 4x5, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 1 SB
- Maiden Titans 8, New England BoSox 2: **Titans -** Gerry Noack 6 inn, 2 ER, 1 K, 0 BB; **BoSox -** Jorge Rivera 2x3, 1 RBI, 1 SB



Midwest 19, Blue Ridge Rangers 2: **Midwest -** Dave Erdmann 3x4, HR, 4 RBI, Gregg Finigan WP 0 runs allowed

- Mudville 9 13, Potomac Senators 3: **Mudville 9 -** Jack Radzik 4.2 IP, 3 R, 2 H, 2 R; Jim Williamson 3 hits; **Senators -**Wayne Masefield 2 2B, HBP, stellar play at SS
- New England BoSox 7, Maine Woods Baseball 0: **BoSox -**John Damsma 2x3, 3 RBI, 1 BB
- Nova Scotia Monarchs 10, Bronx Cardinals 9: **Monarchs** -Gary Slaunwhite 4x5, 2 RBI, 1 HR
- Ott's 14, New Jersey Dodgers 12: **Ott's -** Jim McSheffrey W, 5 RBIs
- Silver Foxes 15, Tri-Cities 13: **Tri-Cities -** Randy Stimac 2x2, 2 BB
- St. Louis Jets 21, Livingston Dodgers 9: Jets Doug Moyers 6 innings, 1 hit, 9 Ks, 0 BB
- Team Albany 13, Midwest 9 3: **Albany -** Ron Wenger 2x3, 2 2B, 1 RBI
- Team Cambria 4, San Antonio Texans 3: **Cambria -** Sal Calcagno 5 IP shutout baseball, 7 Ks, 0 BB
- Washington Titans 9, Richmond Riverdogs 8: **Titans -** Lonnie Guest 2x4, 1 RBI, 1 R
- White Foxes 15, Tri-Cities 12: **White Foxes -** Ray Johnson 4 IP, 3 ER, 5 Ks, W
- Windy City White Sox 18, S. Maryland Blue Crabs 12: White Sox - Lynn Strohl 5 IP, 3 RBI; Dwayne Brenna 2x5, 4 RBI; Blue Crabs - Leroy McClain 2x4, 1 HR, 3 RBI
- **Note:** Managers submit Player of the Game on the score App after each game.



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