



Two heart victims are back in the dugout

By **GLENN MILLER**

Roy Hobbs Baseball

Roger Laurella and Paul Williams don't know each other but they have something in common.

Both are heart attack survivors. Laurella of the Chicago Blues had his heart attack in his kitchen in Evergreen Park, Ill. Williams, of the Baltimore Baseball Club, had his in the Terry Park restroom during the 2024 Roy Hobbs World Series.

Both are in the 2025 Roy Hobbs World Series, Laurella, 67, collapsed on June 13. His wife, Cindy, found him.

He chatted earlier in the week during a game at the PDC.

"Here I am," said Laurella, a 2016 Roy Hobbs Hall of Fame inductee. "That's what's amazing."

Neither man is playing this week. They are running their teams. That is the key word - teams.

"Just to be with the guys," Laurella said.

Laurella had bypass surgery on July 19. Now, four months later he is in his Blues uniform. He knows the heart attack he suffered was serious,

"It was the widow-maker," Laurella said.

While Laurella was stricken at home, Williams was far from his home in Raleigh, N.C. and his wife, Nina.

Roy Hobbs has provided Williams, an Army vet, with a second chance at baseball.

"I was drafted into the Army when my buddies were drafted into baseball," Williams, 77, said.

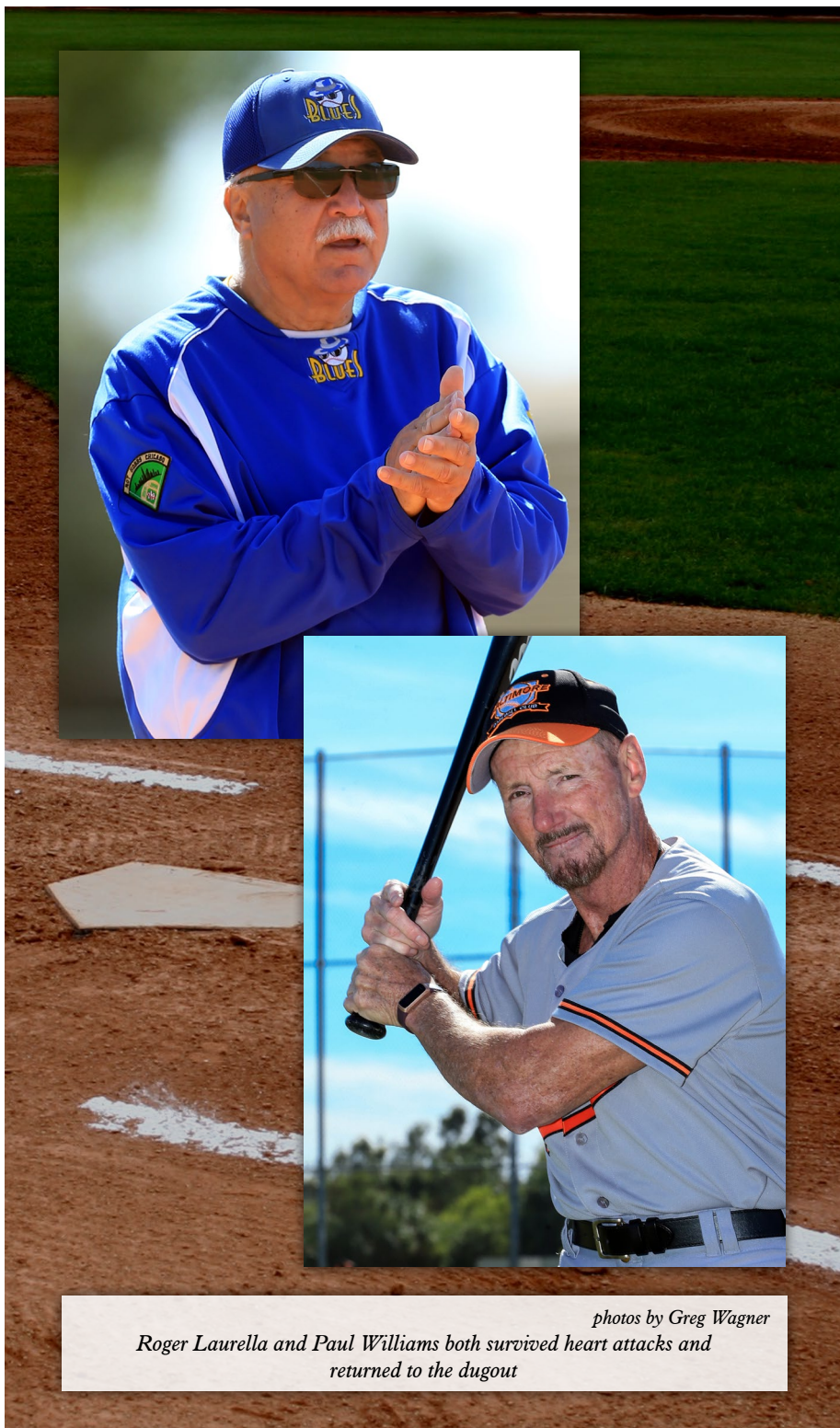
He was given a second chance at life during the 2024 RHWS. Before a Terry Park game he took seven or eight swings in the batting cage but didn't feel well.

He went into the restroom to splash water on his face, thinking maybe he was dehydrated. He started to walk out but then felt a "quick pain" in the middle of his back.

He reached back and sat down. A teammate walked in and thought initially Williams was doing a stretching exercise.

"He actually asked me what kind of exercise is that," Williams said.

see LAURELLA - WILLIAMS on page 2



photos by Greg Wagner
Roger Laurella and Paul Williams both survived heart attacks and returned to the dugout

LAURELLA - WILLIAMS

continued from page 1

Soon, everybody realized Williams was in distress. A doctor from another team raced to his aid. Terry Park field manager Charles Anderson helped with a defibrillator. Somebody called 911.

Paramedics arrived and Williams was transported to Lee Health. In the ambulance, an EMT said he was going to give Williams something to relax him.

"I woke up five days later," Williams said.

When he woke up in his hospital room, he saw a blond woman dressed in white with a light behind her.

Williams asked, "Are you an angel?"

Close. It was the hospital chaplain.

Faith runs through both stories.

Laurella's best friend, Ray Trzeciak was there for the surgery.

"The doctor came out and said, 'I don't know what synagogue or church this guy goes to but he is the luckiest man,'" Trzeciak said

The lucky man knows it.

"I've been given a second chance," Laurella said. "Happy as hell."



photos by Greg Wagner

Roger Laurella of the Chicago Blues (left) and Paul Williams of the Baltimore Baseball Club (right)



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CLASSICS AAAA BRACKET

2025 RHWS Classics AAAA Playoff

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
#1 Border City Brewers		
Loser to A JB3 / 10 am (1)	Border City Brewers 11-8	
#8 Albany Cubs		
#4 Minnesota Bees	Loser to F JB5 / 1:45 pm (5)	Border City brewers 21-2
Loser to B JB4 / 10 am (2)	Minnesota Bees 7-1	
#5 Nova Scotia Monarchs		
#3 South Dakota Rushmores	Loser to G JB-S / 5:30 PM (11)	
Loser to C JB5 / 10 am (3)	South Dakota Rushmores 9-0	
#6 ChicagoBay Warriors		
#2 Midwest Angels	Midwest Angels 13-3	
Loser to E JB3 / 1:45 pm (6)	Midwest Angels 28-2	
Loser to D JB6 10 am / (4)		JB-S / 2 PM (14) Championship
#7 Banana Sharks		Champion
	Friday (G)	
	E) South Dakota Rushmores	
A) Albany Cubs	LH-S / 1:45 PM (9)	
JB6 / 1:45 pm (7)	Albany Cubs 10-9 (10)	JB-S / 10 am (13)
B) Nova Scotia Monarchs		
	LH-S / 6 PM (12)	
C) ChicagoBay Warriors		
JB4 / 1:45 pm (8)	ChicagoBay Warriors 12-11	
D) Banana Sharks		
	JB-S / 1:45 PM (10)	
	F) Minnesota Bees	

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CLASSICS AAA and AA BRACKETS

RHWS Classics AAA Playoffs

Friday First Round	Fri. Quarterfinals	Semifinals	Championship	
Saturday				
#1 Oakville Golden A's				
LH-S / 10 AM				
#16 Washington Titans				
LH4 / 1:30 PM				
#8 Orlando Royals				
LH3 / 10 AM				
#9 Toledo White Sox				
#5 Bergen Yankees		TP2 / 10 AM		
LH4 / 10 AM				
#11 Boston Goodfellas				
#4 Carolina Thunder	LH3 / 1:30 PM			
LH6 / 10 AM				
#13 Fort Myers Cubs				
#3 Philadelphia Cutters			TP-S / 1:30 pm	Championship
JB3 / 10 AM				
#14 DuPage Wildcats				
JB5 / 1:30 PM				
#6 Maine Black Bears				
JB4 / 10 AM				
#12 Fort Orange Mohawks				
#7 Atlanta Baseball		TP4 / 10AM		
JB5 / 10 AM				
#10 Americans Baseball				
#2 Centex Express	JB4 / 1:30 AM			
JB6 / 10 AM				
#15 Alabama Bandits				

RHWS Classics AA Playoffs

Friday First Round	Fri. Quarterfinals	Saturday Semifinals & Championship
FLIP A COIN FOR HOME TEAM		
	Livingston Dodgers	
Tidewater Drillers	TP-S / 6 PM	
JB2 / 1:30 PM		
Pittsburgh South Hills		
		JB3 / 10 AM
	St. Louis Dodgers	
	TP2 / 6 PM	
	Minnesota Twins	
		JB1 / 1:30 pm
	Chicago Blues	Championship
	TP3 / 6 PM	
Minnesota Bandits		
JB3 / 1:30 PM		
Summa Akron Brewers		
Wright Field Reds		JB4 / 10AM
JB6 / 1:30 PM		
Keystone Hawks		
	TP4 / 6 PM	
	Lansing Blue Jays	



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CLASSICS A BRACKET and TIMELESS AAAA BRACKET

RHWS Classics A Playoffs

Friday First Round Fri. Quarterfinals Saturday Semifinals & Championship

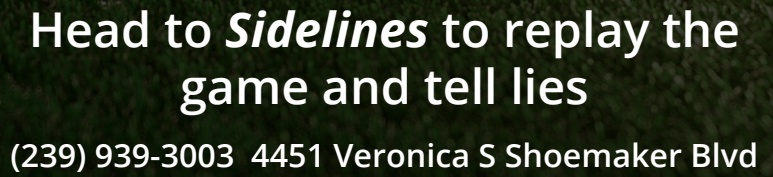
FLIP A COIN FOR HOME TEAM

	Pensacola Salt Bandits	
New Jersey Pilots	JB2 / 1:30 PM	
JB2 / 10 AM		
Chicago Pilots		
	JB5 / 10 AM	
New Hampshire Hammerheads		
	LH2 / 1:30 PM	
Minnesota tC Bats		
	JB2 / 1:30 pm	Championship
Washington Monuments		
	PDC1 / 1:30 PM	
Kent Mudhens		
PDC1 / 10 AM		
Kodak Reds		
Baltimore Orioles	JB6 / 10AM	
LH1 / 10 AM		
Chicago Giants		
	LH1 / 1:30 PM	
Long Island Reds		

RHWS Timeless AAAA Bracket

Quarterfinals / Friday Semifinals Championship

		Saturday
#1 New Jersey Spikes		
JB-S / 10 AM		
#7 Florida Yankees		
	LC3 / 10 am	
#4 Dupage Indians		
LH6 / 1:30 PM		
#5 St. Louis Patriots		
	LC-S / 1:45 pm	Championship
#3 Greenville Cropdusters		
TP2 / 2:45 pm		
#6 Minnesota Crosstown Traffic		
	LC6 / 10 am	
#2 Washington Titans		
TP-S / 2:45 PM		
#8 Minnesota Bees		



Friday First Round	Fri. Quarterfinals	Saturday Semifinals & Championship
<div>FLIP A COIN FOR HOME TEAM</div>		
	Nova Scotia Monarchs	
Jersey Curzie's Cardinals	TP-S / 11:45 AM	
TP-S / 9 AM		
Kenmore Eastern Brewers		
Midwest Nine	LH2 / 10 AM	
TP2 / 9 AM		
Chi-Town Cardinals	TP2 / 11:45 AM	
	Lake Erie Pirates	
		LH6 / 1:30 pm Championship
	Lehigh Baseball	
Kent Mudhens	TP3 / 1:30PM	
TP3 / 10 AM		
Cincinnati Colt .45s		
New Jersey Dodgers	LH3 / 10 AM	
TP4 / 10 AM		
St. Louis Legends		
	TP4 / 1:30PM	
	Wilmington Thunder	



NOTEBOOK

Results corrections

Please check the posted results and standings each day. Managers should contact Tom at the Tournament Headquarters with corrections to scores: tg@royhobbs.com. That's the best way to make sure that playoff seedings and pairings are as accurate as we can make them.



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 in Houston, 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.



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.



No alcohol at sites

Roy Hobbs Baseball prohibits alcohol at all playing sites ... dugouts, inside fences and in the parking lots. Violators are

see NOTEBOOK on page 8



88 year-old Bill Lear on the mound for the St. Louis Legends in their game against Jersey Curzie's Cardinals on Thursday morning

photo by Greg Wagner

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THURSDAY RESULTS

RHWS Timeless Division

Thursday's Pool Game 5 Results

Asheville Sox 12, Chi-Town Cardinals 3
 Atlanta's A's 16, Kent Mudhens 0
 Baltimore Baseball 9, Lake Erie Pirates 7
 Chicago Fire 14, Wilmington Thunder 8
 Cincinnati Colt .45s 18, New Jersey Dodgers 11
 DC Mets 15, National Spirits 9
 Greenville Cropdusters 17, Huntsville Havoc 3
 Long Island Express 11, Ott's Tavern 10 (8)
 Maine Woods Baseball 19, Lehigh Baseball 7
 Midwest Nine 17, Kenmore Eastern Brewers 5
 Minnesota Bees 12, Rhode Island Rockies 8
 Minnesota Crosstown Traffic 8, White Foxes 7
 Minnesota Goats 9, Nova Scotia Monarchs 8
 South Jersey Spikes 9, DuPage Indians 2
 St. Louis Legends 9, Jersey Curzie's Cardinals 8
 St. Louis Patriots 15, Florida Storm 4
 Tallahassee Bombers 9, San Antonio Texans 6
 Washington Titans 18, Florida Yankees 4

Independent Health Insurance Agent

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Robert Hubsmith, CLTC

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starts with who you can rely on for that guidance.



NOTEBOOK



photo by Greg Wagner

Florida Storm batter Tim McGivern lays down a bunt vs. the St. Louis Patriots at Terry Park Stadium on Thursday afternoon

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subject to dismissal from the World Series, period.



Parking

Please abide by parking guidelines, avoid no parking signs, fire lanes and curbs, and handicap spaces without a permit. Lee County Rangers are patrolling sites and will issue tickets to violators. They are not cheap.



Score Reporting System Primer

The system – Mighty Forms – we were using in the past went belly up 10 days ago after a massive internet meltdown.

So here's how we are getting scores: There is a QR code posted in every dugout. 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.

1. Click on royhobbs.com. Some phones will show the royhobbs with a white outline. Then, you will see Game Schedule at the top of the page.
2. In the box that says search teams enter your team name.
3. Tournament is Roy Hobbs World Series beyond the 3 dots, it says 2025.
4. There is a Division dropdown. This week Legends 53+.
5. Then you see today's date.
6. Then your game(s) show up, and you click on Report Score.
7. You enter scores. When your opponent enters the score and they match then the score is confirmed.
8. Then, as an option, you can enter player of the game (first and last names) and, if you wish, rate umpires.
9. Submit, and thank you.