

Allison League Headlines – Week 4

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By Wally Towne

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALLY TOWNE

The BAJA season, in the growing senior softball Mecca of Green Valley, is in its fourth week of play. Over 125 people, on nine teams, play 16 games of softball every week at the beautiful new softball fields at Canoa Preserve County Park.

Monday, January 26

Morning Games – Two Girls Pizzeria & Premier Properties

- Game 1 – Premier 16, Two Girls Pizza 14
- Game 2 – Premier 6, Two Girls Pizza 5

Afternoon Games – 3 ½ Happy Barbers & Hickey Automotive

- Game 1 – Hickey 10, 3 ½ Happy Barbers 4
- Game 2 – Hickey 16, 3 ½ Happy Barbers 4

Wednesday, January 28

Morning Games – 3 ½ Happy Barbers & Two Girls Pizzeria

- Game 1 – Happy Barbers 14, Two Girls Pizza 6
- Game 2 – Two Girls Pizza 9, Happy Barbers 7

Afternoon Games – Hickey Automotive & Premier Properties

- Game 1 – Hickey 8, Premier 7
- Game 2 – Premier 10, Hickey 9

Allison League Standings

Ivan Allison League							
Team	W	L	RF	RA	PCT	GB	
Hickey Automotive	11	3	192	126	.786	0	
Premier Properties	7	7	161	163	.500	4	
Two Girls Pizzeria	6	8	143	167	.429	5	
3 & 1/2 Happy Barbers	4	10	137	177	.286	7	

The four-team Allison League continues to be led by the boys in blue – Hickey Auto. With only three losses and a four game lead, managers Craig Jackson and Lu Smith smirk over their successful draft choices.

Tom Kennedy’s straight up pitching plays into the hands – or gloves – of infielders Ed Clark, Jim Larson, and John Cole (pictured below). “When



late line-up batters, Thom Winter, Arlie Lyons, and Tim Isle consistently base-hit, we are hard to stop,” said

Jackson. So far, two half-empty pizza boxes, a real estate sign, and pile of hair clippings have proved slight resistance to the powerful Hickey Auto softball machine.

Premier Property brings up second place in the standings with seven wins and seven losses. Monday, they finally caught the train out of Splits Ville and, for the first time this season, won both games on the bill – Two Girls getting the honors. OK, it was 10 guys – but you knew that.

The defensive “play of the season” so far is Premier Property’s outfielder Jeff Hansen reaching over the left field fence and

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robbing Two Girls Pizza's Gary Peelman of a homerun hit. Premier's Mike Hulse is the leading candidate for "Most Improved Defensive Player of the Year" with his outstanding performance in multiple positions on the field. Andy Lynch and Jeff Hansen batted 3-for-4 and Steve Aiken 2-for-2 in the second game victory. Tom Trecker (pictured below) seems to have purchased



prime real estate outside the center field fence where he sends his growing collection of homerun softballs.

On Wednesday, Property manager Aiken's team split two close games with Hickey; losing 7-8 and then winning 10-9. Jim Crowley had two hits before he took a hit himself with a hamstring pull beating out a throw to 1st. Jim Cassidy and Lynch both hit 3-for-3 in game two and had three RBI's. Jack Davis sealed Premier's primo win with an opposite field double while Hickey had the "shift" on! Jim Welsch had several line drive grabs at pitcher causing everyone to hope he wears a cup?

Two Girls Pizza had a tough week dropping them into the number 3 spot. Canadians Cal Hoffman (pictured below – front) and



Bob Charette are showing off their hockey talents out on the ball field. Hoffman demonstrated a hockey check on teammate Rick Hoen when both were going for a popup. Hoen, barely able to mutter "Oh Canada", had to leave the game.

Kelly Brown demonstrated his enthusiasm by chasing down deep fly balls in centerfield **and** in base running – which got him several reprimands from the umpire. Rich Malinowski continues to show off his defensive prowess with graceful backhand scoops from second base, giving credence to his college baseball playing distant past.

3 ½ Happy Barbers maintain their hold on fourth place. "We may not have the best record but we have the best cookies," boast manager Dennis Dion, referring to game delights made by Linda Hostad and Sandra Michaels.

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Brian Kelley, besides home run hits in most games, continues excellent defense from the pitcher's mound. Stacy Michaels and Wally Rhodes had a good week of base hitting. Michaels went down with a hard grounder and still made the play throwing to second base from his "laying down on his back" position. Norm Friedman, the Bedouin head-dressed outfielder, pulled in several tough catches. Barber big man, Gary Anderson, made several diving outfield catches, the impact registering on the nearest seismometer.



Barber Greg Pettet lines one up against Pizza defenders.

Manager Dion, between his own homerun contributions, added his always positive take, "We may be last in the league but we are ahead of everyone that is home sitting on their couch."

Articles written by Wally Towne

Input for articles provided by Allison League Managers

Photo's provided by Wally Towne

Compilation & Editing by Jim Brewer