



The Leroy Star

Volume 2
July 1, 2018



Photo of the Week:

With Alex on Vacation this week this is the best we got....

The picture isn't all that great, but the meaning behind it is. Many are excited about Matt Dykstra's footage he will be collecting with his drone the next few weeks. Stay Tuned!!



Sultans Slay Ship.

It was the most anticipated game of the season to date. The (11-3) Lake County Liners played the (11-3) Sultans of Soy in a game that needed extras to claim a winner. With 40 plus people watching Robby Zandstra belted a 3 Run Jack to put the Sultans on top of the Standings with 3 weeks left.



What's Next?

Last week I wrote an article about "Making it Your's, this week will showcase what happens when players take that to heart. As we move into the 9th week of our 5th season we have had 68 players play at least 1 game with 53 players playing at least 4 games. To add to that, 13 additional players have registered to play without an opportunity to play a game this year due to reaching capacity. I think one of the ways we continue to grow is our ability as a league to look ahead when planning. Whether it comes to rules, fields, salaries, anything. I always pictured the league sort of like school. The first fours are high school, and then moving to college. By the time we graduate college we should be where we need to be. We should know our set identity and have worked out all the details into running the logistics. This article will break down where we have been, and finish with the direction for the next few years. The growth of the league has skyrocketed the past 2 seasons. I am a big stats guy and love numbers, so let's start from the top. So, scroll to page 8 to read more!

By: Tim Wiltjer

2018 INDIANA WIFFLE CLASSIC

REGISTER IS NOW OPEN!

THE INDIANA WIFFLE CLASSIC WILL BE A 2 DAY EVENT WITH A FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL ON JULY 20.

THE TOURNAMENT GAMES WILL BEGIN SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM, EACH TEAM GETS 3 POOL PLAY GAMES AND GUARANTEED ONE TOURNAMENT GAME.

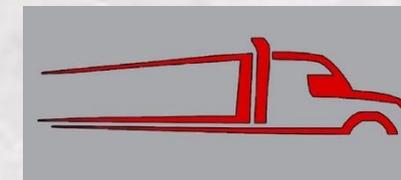
TOURNAMENT PRICE WILL BE \$15/PLAYER WITH THE WINNING TEAM RECEIVING \$120. WE ARE SETTING A CAP OF ONLY 12 TEAMS.

TEAMS WILL CONSIST OF 2 LEROY PLAYERS THAT WILL SIGN UP INDIVIDUALLY AND 2 NON LEROY PLAYERS WHO SIGN UP AS A PAIR.

CURRENT LEAGUE STANDINGS

#	TEAM	W	L	PCT	GB	RS	RA	DIF
1	 SULTANS OF SOY	12	3	0.800	-	122	98	24
2	 LAKE COUNTY LINERS	11	4	0.733	1	126	80	46
3	 SQUINTS SLUGGERS	9	5	0.643	2.5	92	66	26
4	 BUSHLEAGUE BADGERS	8	6	0.571	3.5	101	63	38
5	 DIAMOND DUSTERS	8	7	0.533	4	98	108	-10
6	 CORN BOMBERS	7	7	0.500	4.5	82	66	16
7	 LEROY CLAMS	7	8	0.467	5	103	104	-1
8	 LEROY TRUCKERS	5	9	0.357	6.5	71	92	-21
9	 BACKDOOR SLIDERS	5	9	0.357	6.5	85	106	-21
10	 FLYIN' HAWAIIANS	5	10	0.333	7	61	91	-30
11	 NOBLE NARWHALS	3	12	0.200	9	89	156	-67

Leroy Truckers



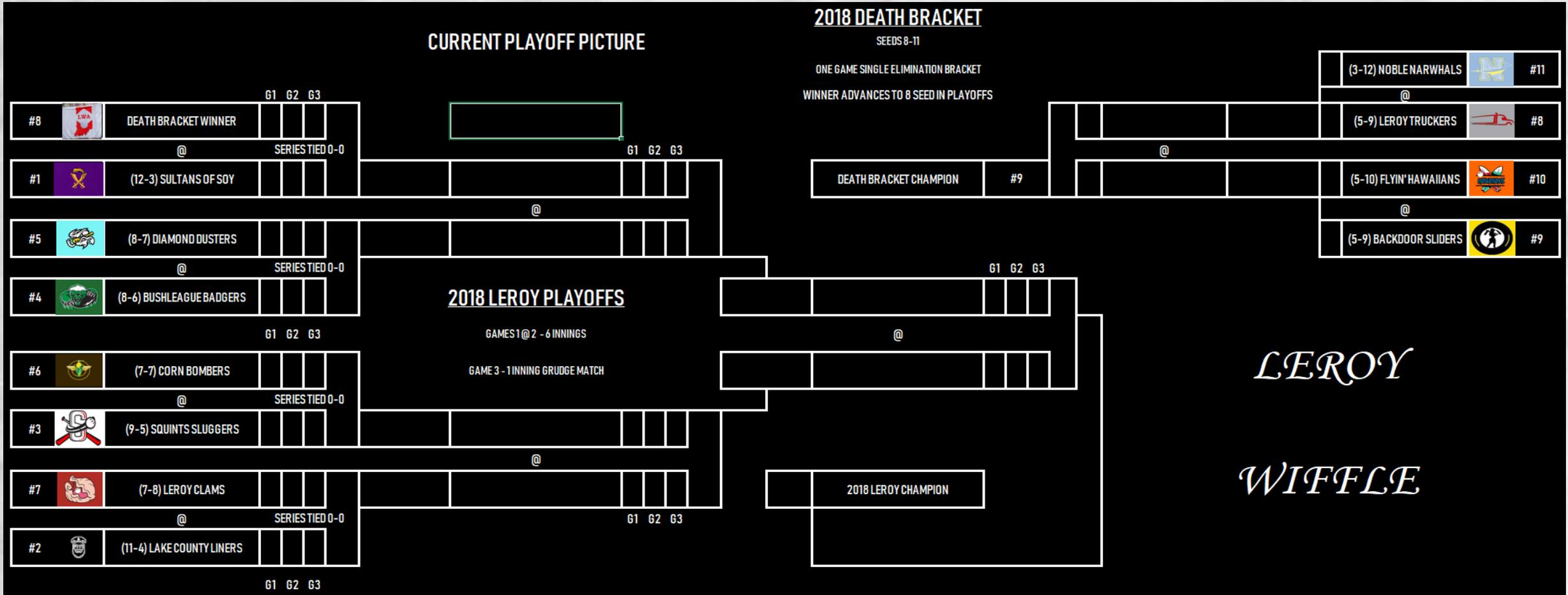
(5-9) LEROY TRUCKERS – The Truckers lose another in a lifeless match up against the Clams. Tim Wiltjer makes another move signing Kyle Gagliardi and releasing Brian Travis.

The Truckers keep driving on the death bracket line, currently sitting a game and a half out of making the playoffs outright. All 4 players on the roster gave up runs, and the best trash talking team in the league looked lifeless. Although everyone struggled, Brian Travis gave up 4 of the 10 runs while going 0-5 with 5 k's from the plate. Manager Tim Wiltjer was quoted saying "He doesn't look like he's enjoying himself on this team, his performance has dropped in recent weeks." With the Truckers 2 losses away from yet another losing season, Wiltjer released Travis and signed the Noble Narwhals's Kermit Player; Kyle Gagliardi.

For everyone who doesn't know each team has a main roster of 4 players, those 4 players must be under the team's salary cap. Each team is allowed to have 2 "Kermit" Players who are basically restricted free agents that the team has rights to. Team's are allowed to sign other team's Kermit players, but only to their Main Roster.

After the signing things got heated, Wiltjer messaged Narwhal's manager Greg Gierling saying "Thanks for Gagliardi". Greg who seemed irked responded "Ok, I still think Travis is Better". In typical dramatic fashion, Wiltjer screenshotted the exchange to the Trucker's group chat which led to Gagliardi exclaiming "He'll see who is better in a few weeks". The Truckers and Narwhals play on July 18, the last week of the season. If the standings hold they would meet up in the first matchup in the death bracket. After both text exchanges were shared in the owner's chat, Greg messaged Wiltjer saying "You're such a F*^%&#% Douche sometimes". I'll be sipping tea.

With all that being said the recent move brings some energy into the Truckers who desperately need it in the final stretch of the season. Jack Hillegonds needs to start playing like the #1 pick and when Voges and Wiltjer can recapture their pitching this could be a competitive team making a run late.



LEROY
WIFFLE

Bushleague Badgers

(8-6) BUSHLEAGUE BADGERS – A broke down car and a loss to the Corn Bombers again, sets the stage for a rough birthday for manager Jared Jonkman.



The Badgers had a start studded roster for Wednesday's matchup. With Barnes out of the lineup, Bo Hofstra made his 2nd appearance of the season. Things didn't start out good as Bo called Jared an hour before game time saying he needed a ride. Just making it back in time things seemed chippy right away. Luckily, they played the Narwhals in the opening game and shut them out in dominating fashion as they should have.

Next was a Championship rematch of the Corn Bombers. The Badgers beat them earlier in the year, but are 4-8 against the Bombers all time. The Bombers had their normal lineup and with Bo replacing Barnes things looked in favor of the Badgers, I mean 2 current All Stars in Wes and Jared plus add a D-1 Pitcher and to cap it off a top 10 hitter in Shane Anderson. The Bombers pitched lights out winning 3-1 and sit just 1 game back of the Badgers. Perhaps these 2 two teams will finish #4 and #5, it would be an exciting first round matchup indeed!



Player of Week

54.23 CALEB JONKMAN – His batting average sits at 0.701 currently with the league average at 0.405. He went 11 for 14 with 6 Homers in another dominating performance. He pitched 3 scoreless innings with 8 k's on route to his 3rd player of the week this season.

Week 1: 43.89 – Matt Dykstra

Week 2: 42.64 – Caleb Jonkman

Week 3: 47.48 – Erik Detmar

Week 4: 43.57 – Jack Hillegonds

Week 5: 49.65 – Erik Detmar

Week 6: 43.42 – John Eenigenburg

Week 7: 57.89 – Caleb Jonkman



Batter of Week

89.28 ROBBY ZANDSTRA – In a 2nd straight week Robby grabs Batter of the week and the first player to win it twice this season. Posted a week high of 7 Homers to go with 12 RBI's and a 2.231 Slugging Percentage.

Week 1: 50.74 – Jim Tucker

Week 2: 58.87 – Erik Detmar

Week 3: 59.22 – Jackson Buzea

Week 4: 72.73 – Jon Gibson

Week 5: 65.02 – Wes Ellis

Week 6: 62.51 – Quinn Cloghessy

Week 7: 66.61 – Robby Zandstra



Pitcher of Week

46.30 GARRET LYTLE – If you hear a slugger is going to win Pitcher of the Week you would think it would be Erik, instead Garret picks up his first award pitching 3 innings with 9 k's. He picked up a win and a save this week helping the Sluggers move to 3rd place with a (9-5) record.

Week 1: 52.06 – Caleb Jonkman

Week 2: 50.11 – Jackson Buzea

Week 3: 60.62 – Caleb Jonkman

Week 4: 56.04 – Brett Detmar

Week 5: 46.87 – Caleb Jonkman

Week 6: 46.47 – Sam Staal

Week 7: 48.10 – Colin Lautenbach

CAREER AT BATS:

- 350 – Andrew Sitter (18th)
- 100 – Justin Deckinga (39th)
- 100 – John Eenigenburg (40th)
- 100 – Robert Warren (41st)
- 100 – Kyle Schaaf (42nd)

CAREER RUNS SCORED:

- 125 – Jack Hillegonds (9th)
- 25 – Kyle Schaaf (40th)
- 25 – Quinn Cloghessy (43rd)
- 25 – Alec Gerlach (45th)

CAREER HITS:

- 250 – Jared Jonkman (3rd)

CAREER HOME RUNS:

- 150 – Caleb Jonkman (1st)
- 25 – Garret Lytle (21st)

CAREER RBI'S

- 300 – Caleb Jonkman (1st)
- 100 – Andrew Sitter (12th)
- 100 – Kevin Vroegh (13th)
- 100 – Erik Detmar (14th)
- 25 – Luke Prince (40th)

CAREER GAMES PLAYED:

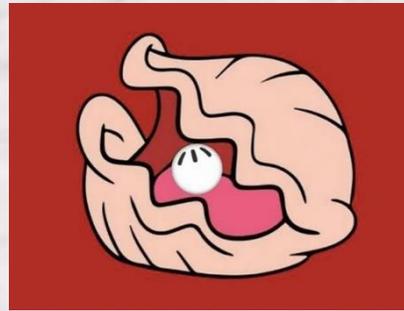
- 75 – Jared Jonkman (7th)
- 75 – Erik Detmar (7th)
- 50 – Marty Rasala (17th)
- 50 – Andrew Sitter (18th)
- 50 – Jack Hillegonds (19th)
- 25 – Shane Anderson (32nd)

CAREER INNINGS PITCHED:

- 100.00 Grant Reynhout (10th)
- 75.00 – Neil Krooswyk (17th)
- 75.00 – Kevin Vroegh (18th)
- 25.00 – James Haworth (38th)

CAREER STRIKEOUTS:

- 325 – Brett Detmar (2nd)
- 175 – Sam Staal (6th)
- 150 – Marty Rasala (8th)
- 150 – Jon Gibson (10th)
- 25 – Jim Tucker (40th)
- 25 – Robert Warren (41st)



Leroy Clams

(7-8) LEROY CLAMS – The streak is broken with a little help from unlikely source, Clams win 2 big games to escape the death bracket as quick as they got in.

This past week Alex Friedman was signed to the Clams, but he was out of town for the week and Matt had to bring in reinforcements. Andrew Sitter came in to help the Clams win both games the 7 game losing streak. Lucas Miedema finally won a game as a clam, he was 0-6 going into Wednesday's matchup with the Truckers.



Dykstra gave up another 4 runs this week from the mound, (Lucas Miedema) and of the 8 weeks played so far as only once not given up a run.

It's been a shocking downfall from the 2016 Champion Matt who pitched 38 Innings with a 1.11 ERA and 88 k's. This year Dykstra is currently ranked 25th in pitching among the 37 players qualified. This year he boasts a 9.89 ERA with 4 Losses and 2 Blown Saves from the mound, its beyond pathetic. Lucas Miedema was the #2 pick in the draft and many believed to be a shoe in all-star, his current ranking is 26th with only the top 12 being all stars. The most recent addition Alex Friedman hasn't played a game for the Clams, but his season to date has also dropped dramatically so bad Marty had no choice to drop him. Kevin Vroegh wraps up the main roster for this squad and he's back to his Jew like behavior that he claims "wins games and championships. He forces pitchers to throw strikes and takes 10 pitch singles like he has 100% stock ownership over them. It's a good 4 on paper, the question remains can all of them improve individually to help this team win in the games that matter, or Matt will once again see an early exit from the playoffs.



Marty Rasala

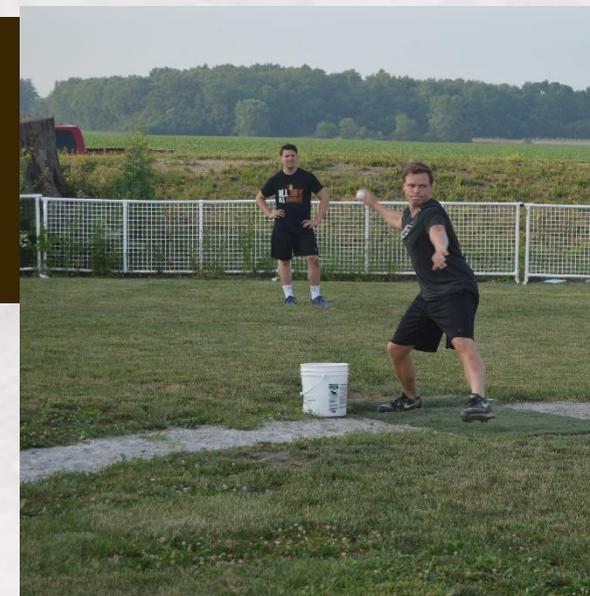


(8-7) DIAMOND DUSTERS

AT

(7-7) CORN BOMBERS

DUSTERS LEAD ALL TIME (1-0)



Jake Van Vuren

Both teams head to Facebook live. The Bombers are 2-0 in the spotlight, the Dusters 1-1. Marty keeps finding ways to keep the train moving in a season of dismay. The team lost a game by one and won a game by one with a retooled roster, but Neil Krooswyk will miss the rest of the season. Marty once again has to make moves. The Bombers have won 5 straight and don't look like they are going to slow down anytime soon. The last time these 2 teams faced each the Dusters won 6-5. Both team's had their 1-2 that game, as Colin and Brett lost to Austin and Marty. It's a big game that has plenty of playoff implications. Going Corn host, Greg Gierling, will be on the mic for this one.



Micah Hescott

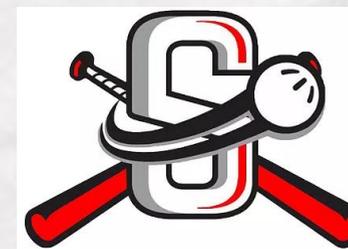


(12-3) SULTANS OF SOY

AT

(9-5) SQUINT'S SLUGGERS

DUSTERS LEAD ALL TIME (1-0)



Erik Detmar

Both teams are coming off a 2-0 week. The Sultans moved up to 1st in the standings, and the Sluggers are 3rd. Rumor has it the trio of All Stars for the Sultans will be unable to make it. This leaves Micah Hescott the leader of the team. Robby has seemed to find good talent for replacements all year and will need to do that again in order to field a team of 4. Erik dropped Gromala and signed IU roommate Brian Travis to the team in a move that finalizes his 4 man roster. Garret Lytle is coming off pitcher of the week and was dominating last week and looked like a #1. We wish we could have the full squads for this one, but we may have to wait for the playoffs to see that happen. Matt Dykstra will be on the mic for this matchup.

TRANSACTIONS FROM JUNE 25 TO JULY 1 –

June 26 – Corn Bombers sign Kyle Van Kalker to Kermit Roster.

June 27 - Sultans of Soy sign Geoffrey Kozlowski to Kermit Roster.

June 28 – Diamond Dusters sign Lucas Oletti to Kermit Roster.

June 30 – Leroy Truckers sign Kyle Gagliardi to Main Roster from Noble Narwhals Kermit Roster. They release Brian Travis.

July 1 – Noble Narwhals sign Luke Prince to Main Roster from Squint Sluggers Kermit Roster. They release Grant Reynhout.

July 1 – Squint Sluggers sign Brian Travis to Main Roster. They release Samantha Gromala.

July 1 – Lake County Liners sign Grant Reynhout to Kermit Roster.

July 1 – Corn Bombers sign Andrew Felde to Kermit Roster.

Who is it?????



FOREVER ALONE

Backdoor Sliders



Brad Kamstra

(5-9) BACKDOOR SLIDERS – Two weeks ago after the Sliders had swept another week and sat at 5-7, Jon Gibson proclaimed “We Won’t Lose Again”. The team was 4-1 with him in the lineup, but salary cap issues have hindered what they can do as far as manager Jordan Mosel having to sit himself this past week. The Sliders lost both and drop to 9th in the standings. Recent additions Josh Smits and Mike Fiene don’t look to be any help each playing a game last week. The 2 combined to go 1 for 11 from the plate and gave up 9 runs each throwing 1 inning.

(3-12) NOBLE NARWHALS – With 5 games left for the Narwhals they should gear up for the Death Bracket. They trail the clams 4 games who are in 7th and it would take a miracle for them to escape. With a couple teams ahead, they can look to get home field advantage, but it might not matter when you can’t score runs. The Narwhals were shut out in both games this past week accounting for only 6 hits in both games. Recent signing of Luke Prince looks like a desperation move. Prince is hitting 0.194, ranked 65th among the 68 players. Not sure he can help.

Noble Narwhals



Mitchell Gerlach

What's Next

Freshman Year: What are we doing? In 2014 the inaugural season we saw 35 players participate, it was new and exciting, everyone wanted to try. We had no idea what we were doing and it showed. The commitment wasn't high and the only thing legit that came from that season was the stats. Of the 35 players that played 21 have played in the current season and 16 of the 21 will play at least half this season.

Sophomore year. A blur. You have found your group of friends by now and clicks start appearing. It goes by and you really don't remember much. We saw only 4 new players this year. Only 1, Jack Hillegonds, has been a consistent face throughout the years. Many didn't come back as only 29 players participated in a game. We expanded to 8 teams this year and it fell through hard, one team forfeited all but one game. We did to much this year, and it set us back. Expansion isn't always right, you can't force it. We didn't prepare and it showed in the lack of excitement and product on the field.

Junior year: This is where things start to matter, the league expands to 20 games, but drops back down to 6 teams. It was a trying year, only 5 new faces, but 2 that would change the league dramatically. Greg Gierling and Marty Rasala joined this year. In your junior year you meet people that make a big impact in your life and that's what these two did. At the time that wasn't the case though, the league saw only 25 people make it out to play a game, like Junior year we were limping to the finish.

Senior Year brought back a ton of excitement, this was it. The NWLA Tournament opened up a new book almost like taking college visits. Just when the league almost dies, the NWLA brought the passion back. Caleb and Brett made huge leaps with ORWBL and friends of friends, and Austin Warner got us in 2 local Newspapers. We saw 29 players (8 ORWBL, 21 First Time) play their first game in Leroy History, including our first Girls! After everything was said and done we had 54 players make it out to play. Leroy was back, Indiana was rising, and the drive returned.

First year of College: This is where we are now. A bunch of new faces and not enough space. We expanded to 11 teams this year and need more. We have had 28 players (6 GBL, 3 ORWBL, 19 First Time) to date, make their first LWA game this year with 2 more coming this Tuesday to bring us to 30. After this week 70 different players will have played a game this year, and with only 11 teams that can only play 4 players in a game, we need a new plan. We need to change our major so to speak. This point in the league determines success or failure long term.

So, is this article to brag about our success? Absolutely. It also shows Wiffle in Indiana is the best in the country. ORWBL expanded to 14 Teams with each team having its own field, ISWB has 10 teams and one of the baddest fields in the nation. GBL plays at a bar and is a founding league in the NWLA Tournament. We in the last 2 years saw 40 people pick up a wiffle bat and play organized wiffle for the first time in their life. As new players come, they bring new players and so on. When you create a solid foundation you can let your product do the outreach, and that's our goal.

Next season we will see big changes, to determine the amount of team's I will take the number of players that have played 4 games and divide that by 4. Currently we sit at 53 players to have accomplished that, 13.25. In the upcoming weeks I hope to see 3 more players compete the feat and we will have a 14 Team League next season. This is about the only thing I am 75% sure of happening next year. It will be a 2-division set up, each with 7 teams. The top 3 teams in the division make the playoffs with the bottom 4 playing a death bracket to determine who becomes the final 2 teams to get in! Next season will also see a player fee, for 5 years this league was completely free and it is just unfeasible. We need more balls, better fencing, maintenance costs, domain name cost, etc. The cost is still being discussed, but will most likely sit at \$25 a person, with an asterisk. You must pay before you can play but will be reimbursed based on games played. If you play 1-5 games, you will get back 20 dollars. If you play 6-10 games you will get 15 bucks back, and so on. Kermit Players won't have to pay but must pay if they want to be added to roster.

The rest is up in the air, and will take serious planning, evaluating, and discussion. Will we need more fields? How many games do we play? Do we play 2 times a week or expand schedule? Who will be the 14 owners next year? As we move to our sophomore year of college we need to keep the fire going, push ourselves, and get results. Stay tuned, the show is just beginning.



TWD hosts 16 in 16.

With the NWLA Tournament just 2 weeks away, Carl Coffee has masterminded 16 previews of each team in the 16 days leading up to the tournament. He will have a guest from each league as well as many guest hosts as well.

The Griffleball League Two Wiffle Dudes show has been released today. Be sure to follow Two Wiffle Dudes on Twitter and Facebook to catch a listen.

Ryan Voges, Jeremy Rataczyk, and Tyler host their own prediction show and release the team name for Nationals. We are proud and ready to support the GBL Legends in the 2018 Tourney.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@leroywiffle



Going Corn

Greg and Caleb have been dishing out shows lately. Go check them out at our Youtube channel! [Youtube.com/leroywiffle](https://www.youtube.com/leroywiffle)



We ask 5 questions based on stats and get some answers from players all around the league!!



Q: You have 499 Career At Bats in a Sliders uniform. With your recent salary cap situation, you benched yourself. Will we see Jordan Mosel hit the 500 mark this season?

A: (Arthur Fist GIF) "Probably Not". Jordan was in the running for his 4th All Star appearance when he sat himself this past week. One of his players than "lost track of time" and was late. It looks like another failed season for the Backdoor Sliders.



Q: Your jersey is #16, and you have played 32 Career Games in Leroy going ... 16-16. You recently have been signed by the Clams, will you hit 20 wins first or 20 losses?

A: "20 Wins End of Story". We are gonna have to keep an eye on this as we get through the end of the season. I'll take \$16 that this is wrong!



Q: Not only did you pass Buzea for the HR lead this year, but you also hit #150 this past week. Other than your brother, no one even has 93. How does this achievement rank for you?

A: "150 is a good number to reach and its crazy how fast it came, but at this point in my career it's about winning. I want to win games and the ship a few times before I hang it up." Is this early retirement words from the GOAT?



Q: A couple weeks ago the Corn Bombers were the first franchise to reach 50 wins. Is this something you care about and what do you contribute the most to your franchise's success.

A: "It is a big milestone for me, the biggest factor was the greatest duo in Leroy's History played together for two straight years." Subtle and to the point from one of Leroy's Greats.



Q: Both of you have played 75 Games in your career. Who wins in a brother duo of Erik and Brett Detmar vs. Caleb and Jared Jonkman?

A: Erik: "Erik and Brett" Short and sweet. Jared: "The Detmars have 2 advantages over us pitching and running, while in my opinion we are better hitters. In my opinion puts over the edge, we have more Wiffle experience than them. I pick us"

Flyin' Hawaiians

(5-10) FLYIN HAWAIIANS – We all saw this coming right. When he drafted Shane Anderson, we had doubts he could be the team ace. So, he signed Jim Tucker in what seemed like a huge move for the organization. Since the signing Tucker has fizzled out to more of #2 player leaving the Hawaiians without a true superstar. The Hawaiians and Truckers are the only teams that if the season ended today wouldn't have an All Star represented. Warner's pressure management has led players to wonder if they are staying or going each week, a controversial move that could be affecting the clubhouse. With 10 losses and just 5 games many wonder what will set a volcano off on these Hawaiians.



Jim Tucker and Cameron Varlan

Upcoming:

INAGURAL INDIANA WIFFLE CLASSIC – This event will be held on Friday night (social event) and run through Saturday July 21. For more information contact Caleb Jonkman or Greg Gierling.

Sign up and register now!

GOLF OUTING AND ALLSTAR EVENT – Save the date! August 11, 2018. We will be combining the golf outing and all-star event into one fun packed day that you will not want to miss. Be sure to stay tuned for more details.

Be sure to check out leroywiffle.com!

All stats are located at mystatsonline.com/leroywiffle

Check out pictures from each week at our Flickr account! Big thanks again to Alex Guiliani.

See ya next week!!

For any suggestions or ideas for the newsletter please contact Tim Wiltjer.

Lake County Liners

(11-4) LAKE COUNTY LINERS – The Liners have finally fallen from the top, the first time in nearly 2 years. James Haworth had a rough showing allowing 11 runs and getting the loss against the Sultans. A second straight week getting penalties for a messed-up scoresheet leaves this time hanging on the edge of having to make a move. With teams the rest of the teams finally finalizing rosters we will see how the Liners can compete in the final few weeks.



Caleb Jonkman