

Summer softball: Pickle Liquors vs. Gilbillies

Dave Gibson
Gilpin County

Adult coed slow-pitch softball is a long-standing summer tradition in Gilpin County. The Pickle Liquors squad has been together for 15 years. The latest version of the Gilbillies (short for “Gilpin” and “hillbillies”) was only recently formed, but most of the athletes on the team have played against each other while representing other teams over the years. With the league comprised of merely three diehard teams this year, they are getting to know the competition even better. Every game night is a doubleheader for someone.

I found it slightly unusual that nobody on any of the teams claimed to be a coach - they are just friends gathering once a week for the camaraderie, exercise, and to engage in a sport they enjoy. The scorer’s table was keeping track, but no one else knew or was paying any heed to stats.

In fact, when Tom Ihme of Pickle Liquors was asked the next day about his in-the-park grand slam in the bottom of the first inning that lifted his team to a 7-5 lead, he couldn’t even recall it. Mike Schultz of the Gilbillies also had a HR. A well-muscled Corrie Webb of Pickle Liquors launched



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

It's going, it's going, it's gone!

Power hitter Corrie Webb of Pickle Liquors gives the ball a long ride in the first game of a doubleheader.

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Governor Polis visits Lincoln Hills, signs bills into law



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOTHARD PHOTOGRAPHY

Lincoln Hills hosts Governor Polis

Governor Jared Polis was at the Lincoln Hills Fly Fishing Club on Monday, June 21, 2021, to sign two bills into law. The bills are The Keep Colorado Wild Pass bill and The Outdoor Equity Fund Bill.

Lynn Hirshman
Peak to Peak

Governor Jared Polis chose the private Lincoln Hills Flyfishing Club as the location to sign into law the Colorado Outdoor Equity Grant Program on June 21, 2021. The bill, now law, funds engaging and meaningful outdoor experiences to underserved youth and their families. Members of more than 60 outdoor advocacy and conservation organizations, supporters of the initiative, were in attendance.

The program is funded through the Colorado Lottery, with \$750,000 in its first year to groups providing outdoor education and experiences for underserved youth and families. Over the following four years, funding is expected at \$3,000,000 annually. Another new law that transfers funds from the general fund to support outdoor recreation will provide another \$1 million to the Program in its first year.

According to the State’s press release, the Grant Program will

center its funding on low-income youth, youth with disabilities, LGBTQ+ populations, and racially and ethnically diverse Coloradans. The Outdoor Equity Fund Coalition, consisting of outdoor advocacy and conservation organizations that support the program, expects to work with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to “recruit and seat a board that is representative of the community, organizations, and youth that this initiative was created to serve.”

Brian Kurzel, Rocky Mountain Regional Executive Director, National Wildlife Federation, believes that “access to nature, and to its amazing health benefits, is a human right.”

The bill’s cosponsors, Representatives Leslie Herod and David Ortiz, Senate President Leroy Garcia, and Senator Sonya Jaquez Lewis, joined Governor Polis at Lincoln Hills for this event.

The Keep Colorado Wild Pass bill was also signed, providing affordable access to Colorado parks in the future.

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- QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

“Try not to get lost in comparing yourself to others. Discover your gifts and let them shine! Softball is amazing that way as a sport. Everyone on the field has a slightly different ability that makes them perfect for their position.” ~Jennie Finch



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Summer softball



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Coed competition...

Top; Dawn Blake zeroes in on the incoming softball. Middle; High fives all around after a slugfest between Pickle Liquors and the Gilbillies. Bottom; Hillary Kysar at bat for the Gilbillies.

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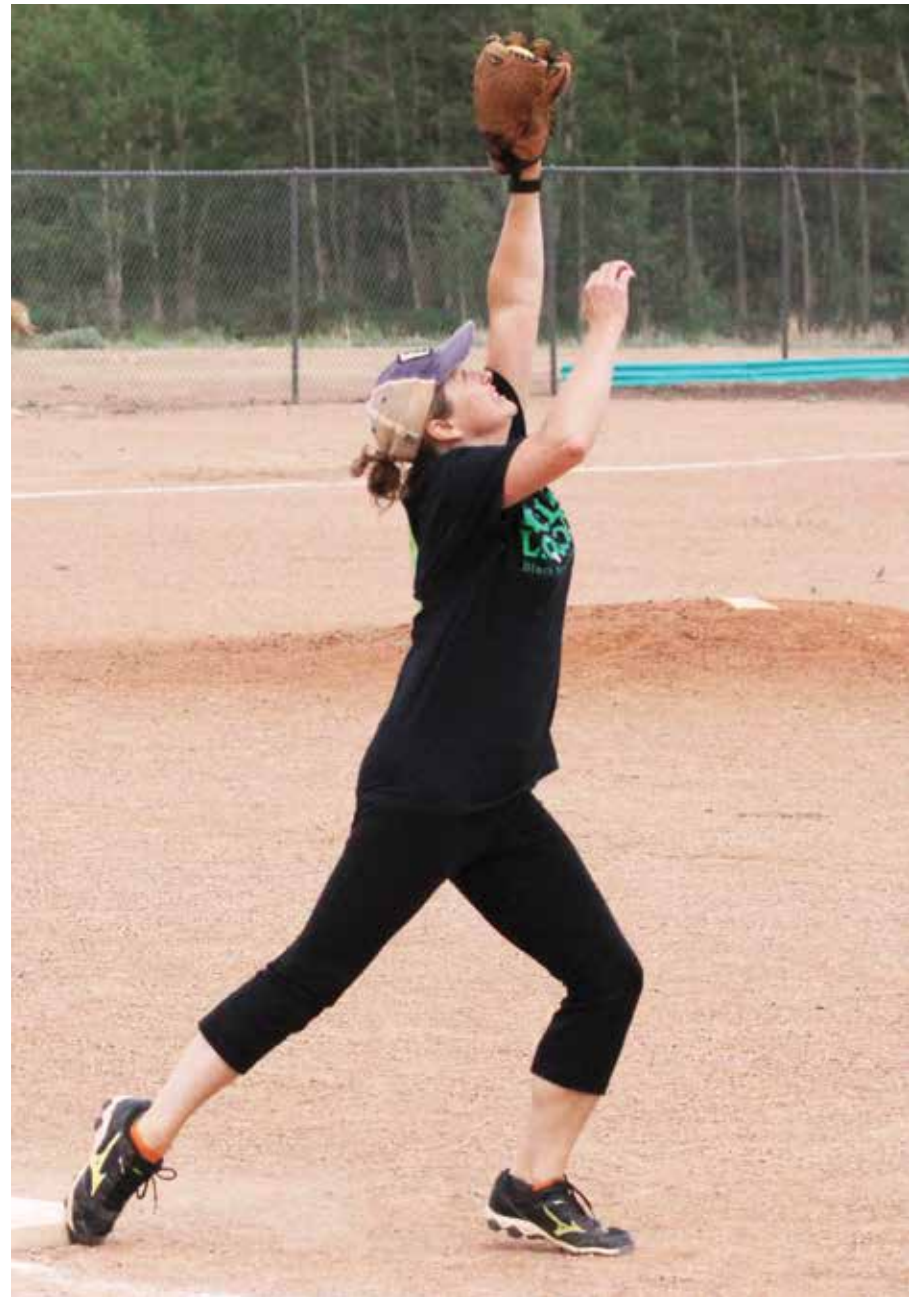
several deep shots into left field.

The scoring was fast and furious. With the tally tied at nine apiece after the second inning, Pickle Liquors batted three up and three down the next two innings while the Gilbillies added another five runs, proving to be the difference in the contest. Final score: Gilbillies 16, Pickle Liquors 11.

Standings through June 16: Pickle Liquors 3-1, Gilbillies 3-1, Eldora 0-4.

Coed Adult Softball plays games every Wednesday at Weber Field in Gilpin County at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. through July 28. Spectators are welcome. Teams will compete in the Tonya Putnam Memorial Tournament Saturday, August 7, to determine the champion.

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PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

...And camaraderie

Above; Elly Orszulak of Eldora beats the throw to first base in the second game of the evening. Right; Shannon Arrington stretches for the softball to make an out.

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