

## 2018 SEASON WRAP-UP

After a nasty case of pregnancy-itis ripped through the clubhouse in the off season, the 88s went into the 2018 campaign lean and mean. Thanks to the durability and reliability of their core girls (**Sandi**, **Erica**, **Nikki**, and **Kirby** – the first two of which played every game) and the availability of our replacement players (**Elizabeth**, **James**, and **Julie**) the 88s were only forced to forfeit 1 game which may have been their most impressive stat.

The regular season was rough for the squad, getting off to a 2-9-1 start and finishing in last place with a 7-15-3 record thanks to several heart-breaking walk off losses. It felt like they were often 1 or 2 plays away from winning more games and 1 or 2 players away from the season being a whole different story.

The 88s raised their game in the playoffs, including the biggest win of their season against TBHJ in the round robin to get them to the semifinals, where they then stole a game against a team with superior talent and numbers.

Newcomers **Steve** (4<sup>th</sup> in hits, 5<sup>th</sup> in average while playing a lot of Shortstop), **Brian** (one of only 3 players with both an inside the park HR and a traditional bomb) and **Derek** (23 RBI in 28 games) all had their times to shine but it was **Kirby** who took home this year's ROY honors by having one of the best female seasons in franchise history with an average of .524 (3<sup>rd</sup> all-time), 34 RBI (1<sup>st</sup> all-time), 7 walks (1<sup>st</sup> all-time overall) and 35 runs (3<sup>rd</sup> all time). A few of the seasoned vets showed improvements over last year including 2018 MVP **Matt** who bettered both his average (.677) and power (6 dingers) while also improving his defense to become a certified 5 tool player.

While several of the 88s sat and watched teammate **Chris'** men's team celebrate a championship after their own final game, they could only dream of doing the same with the 88s in 12 months.

Let the off season workouts begin!

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### WEEK #20 RECAP

#### "Fighting to the bitter end"

**Game 31 vs Top Dawgs** was the first of a double header on a must win night where the 88s didn't waste any time ensuring themselves at least a game 4 after a convincing wire to wire victory. **Chris** got them on the board early with a 2 run shot in the first and they never looked back finishing 11-6.

When the Top Dawgs started to sniff too close, Matty swatted their nose with a no doubter grand slam into what little sunlight remained, while strong defense kept them on a leash the rest of the way.

**Matt** finished 2/3 + Grand Slam + 2 runs + 4 RBI and **Chris** finished 3/3 + HR + 2 run + 2 RBI to be the wheels for the team while the little engine that could **Kirby** had herself another game going 3/5 with a walk while pinch running almost every inning and playing strong defense at 3B.

With the series tied 1-1, the 88s look to put their foot on the Top Dawgs throat in game 2.

**Game 32 vs Top Dawgs** was a kick to the teeth rather than a foot on the throat. After a weak showing in game 1, the Top Dawgs came out barking early in game 2, building a big lead that unlike recent games the 88s weren't able to come back from.

**Myles** got the 88s on the board with a solo shot in the 2<sup>nd</sup> while the 88s offence sputtered. Facing the embarrassing minimum inning mercy in the 7<sup>th</sup>, **Matt** said nuh-uh with a solo shot of his own to make sure the 88s stay alive for at least another inning. Another inning that saw the Top Dawgs put up another 8 runs to make the final score an embarrassing 9-24. Thanks a lot **Matt** (who finished 3/3 + HR + 2 runs + RBI, solid D and a lot of pinch running).

Other bright spots were **Nikki** with 3 hits + 2 runs, **James** with 3 hits + run + 2 RBI, and **Steve** with 3 hits.

Down 2-1 in the series, the 88s look to make Wednesday their last stand and don't plan on going down without a fight.

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## WEEK #19 RECAP

### "Speed Kills, or at least wounds"

**Game 29 vs Top Dawgs** was one of those classic "must not lose by 20" games. The Top Dawgs led off the game with a solo shot, which was promptly countered with a solo dinger by Matt in the 88s' half of the inning to make sure any hopes weren't snuffed out.

After getting down 14-2 after 3, it looked like the 88s season might be coming to an unexpected early end until coach blasted an even more unexpected 3 run inside the park homerun to spark the mini comeback. The 88s ultimately fell short of the actual W but ended with an 8-1 run to finish down 15-10 to capture the moral W and clinch their spot in the next round.

Myles finished 3/3 + 2 HR (inside and out) + 5 RBI while James went 3/3 + HR + 3 RBI + 3 runs to power the 88s offence while Kirby added another 2 hits and Julie chipped in with a late RBI and run.

The 88s finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the round robin and move on to the semi's.

**Game 30 vs Top Dawgs** was the first game in the best of 5 semifinals which the 88s once again found themselves in a huge early hole. After some loose defense in the 1<sup>st</sup> and a Top Dawgs explosion in the 5<sup>th</sup>, the 88s found themselves down 22-4. Refusing to lay down, the 88s hiked up their boots and began to sludge through the mud. They batted around in the 6<sup>th</sup> to put up 9 runs as part of a 14-1 run to close

within 4. That's as close as they would get after the time limit cut off their comeback trail prematurely.

After a game where the 88s used 4 home runs to score 10 runs total, on this night the production was spread around (**Matt, Nikki, Chris, Sandi**, and **Jeff** all with 3 hits) resulting in 18 runs without reliance on the long ball. At least none over the fence because **Kirby** burned the talented Top Dawgs OF with 2 very long balls for a stand up double and triple respectively. This was part of a 4/6 + 3 runs + 4 RBI night that also saw her pulling double duty as the workhorse pinch runner. Another bright spot on offence was the suddenly resurgent **Myles** who went 4/4 + run + 6 RBI.

The 88s will look to make their adjustments and come out swinging again in game 2.

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## WEEK #18 RECAP

### "Trapped"

**Game 28 vs TFCO** was a trap game for the 88s. Coming off a huge win against TBHJ the week prior to move to 2-1, and with a match up against Top Dawgs looming on the horizon, the 88s seemed to be looking past TFCO which proved fatal.

Stumbling out of the gate without a run in the first 3 innings, it wasn't until a towering solo shot by Chris that the 88s got on the board. With 6 players combining to go 2/24 (despite many well struck balls that found the opponents gloves), Chris did everything he could to pick up the slack. Even a beast mode performance at the plate (4/4 + HR + 3 runs + RBI) and highlight reel plays at short stop (an unassisted triple play followed by an unassisted double play the next inning) wasn't enough to carry a snake bit 88s team to victory, but it was a joy to watch.

After some early nonsense on defense, the 88s tightened up the rest of the way, but it was too little too late and they fell 11-5 to a suddenly resurgent TFCO squad.

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## WEEK #17 RECAP

### "Running on all cylinders"

**Game 26 @ Primetime** brought the 88s back to even, thanks to Steven.

Steve got us on the board early to tie it up with a 2 run no doubter, and finished 3/3 + HR + 5 RBI + 2 runs. In a nearly must win game for the 88s, it was their gloves that carried them, led by Erica, Andrew, Nikki and Steve who all shined on the diamond.

After getting behind 8-5 in the 5<sup>th</sup>, the 88s unleashed one of their famous big innings to score 6 in the

6<sup>th</sup>, highlighted by Nikki's clutch hit and eventful journey around the bases. Thanks in part to a solo blast by Matt in the 3rd, a huge leadoff triple in the last inning by Kirby, and effective pitching by Sandi, the 88s managed to sneak one out and keep hopes for their season alive and well.

**Game 27 @ TBHJ** was pivotal for the 88s season. With a game against Top Dawgs looming on the schedule, the 88s avoided the 1-2 hole on the back of their collective defense and several strong performances at the plate.

After trading lop-sided victories with TBHJ all season, it was the 88s who came out on top when it mattered most, building a big lead early and never looking back on their way to an impressive 18-11 W.

Some records were tied after Nikki knocked in 5 runs and Kirby had herself a game with 5 hits, several of the crushed variety sending the 88s bench into a mini frenzy. On the guys side it was Matt (5/5 + 4 runs + 2 RBI) and Chris (4/5 + HR + 2 runs + 5 RBI) proving that big players make big plays in big games.

While TBHJ turned it up a notch in the last few innings, the 88s were up to the task and held off their charge. They'll need to maintain this effort level moving forward because the job is far from done.

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## WEEK #16 RECAP

### "PLAYOFFS?! YOU'RE TALKIN' PLAYOFFS?!"

**Game 25 @ Misfits** was the 88s first taste of playoff action for the year.

Some may have been feeling the added pressure early on, leading to dropped balls and 3 unearned runs which ended up being the difference in the 10-7 loss.

After the jitters were calmed down the 88s played very strong defense the rest of the way, led by sparkling SS play by Steve who was coming off the limited action list, and veteran Sandi on the mound who didn't give the Misfits bombers much to hit.

At the plate, despite plenty of solid stat lines, the 88s couldn't string a whole lot together. Kirby ate her Wheaties and almost hit TWO out of the park to center field, but settled for some very impressive stand up doubles instead. After a couple wasted at bats, Myles connected on a homer in his return to the lineup while new Dad Matt and soon to be Dad Chris led the team with 3 hits apiece.

The 88s look to rebound in their next game which will be played who knows when against who knows who, at who knows where.

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## WEEK #14 RECAP

## “Potential Playoff Preview”

**Game 24 @ Misfits** was against the top defense in the league and it showed. With the Misfits making very few mistakes in the field, the 88s weren't able to put together one of their signature big innings, falling 11-7 in their final regular season game.

Keeping it close was OF Chris Herbert who batted 3/4 + 3 runs + 2 RBI, and also took away 2 extra base hits in deep CF against the opponents power hitters. His play kept the ship afloat while the girls treaded water through an uncharacteristic rough start at the plate. They eventually broke out in the 8<sup>th</sup>, but the 88s ran out of innings and couldn't complete the comeback.

While the Misfits defense was the headline, the other story of the game was the head scratching officiating on both sides of the ball. Coach told us; *“Disappointing, for both teams really. Not saying we would have won, but the game certainly would have been different if some calls were made for both teams. The TSN turning point should be made by players not umpires.”*

The play he's likely referring to was a missed call at the plate, which would have been the 3<sup>rd</sup> out, allowing the inning to continue resulting in 2 additional runs for the Misfits.

All in all it was a friendly hard fought game, and a solid way to wrap up the regular season. The 88s now wait to see who their opponent will be in the first round, and how much hair baby Ventresca will have when she joins us in the world.

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## WEEK #13 RECAP

### “Finishing Strong”

**Game 22 @ Top Dawgs** felt the most like a legit game of baseball this season, with strong defense on both sides having the game deadlocked at 6 runs a piece after 4 innings.

The tone was set early by rarely used **SS Andrew Piluso**, who not only sacrificed some leg skin to make a sliding catch in the stone before doubling off a runner at first, he also crushed a no doubter 3 run homerun in the 3<sup>rd</sup>. His play seemed to have inspired others behind him like **CF Chris Herbert** who made a couple web gems in the outfield himself, and **LF Matt Ventresca** who gunned down a runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> for an important early out.

While the D sizzled, the O fizzled. After getting their 6 runs in the first 4 innings, the 88s went ice cold on a hot night, scoring 0 runs in their final 4 innings, ultimately dropping the contest 6-10 to the top dawgs of the league.

**Game 23 vs Primetime** was a different story. After 4 tight contests against this team earlier in the

season, none resulting in wins, the 88s put together a record crushing 14 runs in the 7<sup>th</sup> inning (2.2 runs higher than the teams GAME average), to run away with an 18-9 victory.

Taking their turn firmly in the spot light were **Sandi** who went 3/4 + 2 runs + 2 RBI (while pitching another great game) and **Derek** who went 4/5 + run + 2 RBI (including a legit stand up double and catching the final out of the game). Jeff, Erica, Steve (well, sort of), and Sandi all did something no other 88 has done this season, scoring twice in the same inning.

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## WEEK #12 RECAP

### “The conflict before the climax”

The 88s hit a low this week. With storm clouds a constant threat, the 88s were not, dropping both games of a Thursday night double header in front of a near record crowd.

Game 1 vs TFCO had players playing out of position due to personnel and injuries which seemed to prevent the defense from clicking, leading to an early 11-0 deficit. While the defense dug the hole, the offense offered little assistance. No ladders to lend, no arms to reach. The 88s went on to lose 17-6 against the team with the worst record within the division. A couple bright spots was **Kirby** finding her swing again going 4/5 + 2 runs + RBI and **Jeff** continuing his hot stretch going 3/4 + run + 2 RBI.

Game 1s funk wafted in the face of game 2, resulting in more of the same. The 88s reloaded between games adding 3 sluggers to the lineup, but even that wasn't enough to move the needle on a night that just wasn't theirs. They went on lose 17-1, calling for mercy in the 7th.

Lows keep declining for the 88s who are now hoping to have a joyous climax coming their way while struggling through the roughest patch of the season. Reinforcements may be on the way with OF Chris Herbert set to come off the FEL (Family Events List) for Monday's match up against the 1<sup>st</sup> place team.

The 88s and their coach need to figure something out or the hot seat will only get hotter. In a rare media interview after the game tonight Coach Myles Calvert had this to say, *“oh I'm not worried. I trust my players and their abilities and know we will get it right.”* Having now failed to get a win in their last 4 games, I asked coach how he thought this stretch might lead them into the playoffs: *“We're not afraid of any team in this league. We've played the top dogs (pun intended) of the upper division at full strength and we've beat them all. We will get healthy, we will get back on track, and we won't be a team anyone is looking forward to playing come mid-August.”*

The 88s now sit just 2 points up on last place, but only 1 point behind 4th place, making their final 3 games of the regular season nearly must wins.

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## WEEK #11 RECAP

### “Struggling to stay afloat”

**Game 19 @ TBHJ** was a rare defensive struggle for the 88s this season. Swiss cheese all over the small Plymouth diamond led to 21 runs by the opponent. Doing their best to offset the Swiss was cream Kirby going 5/5 + 2 runs + 3 RBI, cheddar Chandler going 4/4 + 2 runs + RBI, Havarti Herbs going 3/4 + HR + 3 runs + 3 RBI and pepper jack Jeff going 4/4 + 2 runs. These offensive performances were not enough to overcome the 88s defensive inadequacies and the inconsistent batting from the rest of the team, including 5 players batting a combined 2/20.

The tough loss puts the 88s only a single point above 4<sup>th</sup> place, setting up a pivotal game against Primetime later this week.

**Game 20 vs Primetime** was a game both teams needed but it seemed like secretly that neither team wanted. Leading the way was Kirby convincingly making it look like she was having a rare off game going 0/5 at the plate, while Alex, Matt and Myles did a solid acting job by letting some balls drop that otherwise they would have easily caught.

Down a run in the final inning, with the secret plan going well, Myles accidentally squared one up but tried to make up for his mistake by getting thrown out at third but that didn't work. Two batters later Matt purposely hit one right to an infielder but they didn't throw it home so Myles unfortunately had to score. Two batters later Derek sent a sinking loopier into right field but the outfielder closed fast and made a shoestring catch to end the game and any risk of the 88s falling into a W.

Players who evidently did not get the memo include **Brian** (4/4 + HR + 3 runs + 3 RBI and plenty of important catches in left field), **Jeff** (4/4 + run + 3 RBI including some clutch production to keep it close throughout the game) and **Sandi** (3/5 + RBI + another solid pitching performance).

The 88s remain 1 point up for 4<sup>th</sup> place with 5 games remaining in the regular season, including one against Primetime who they are currently 0-2-2 against.

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## WEEK #10 RECAP

### “Now we rollin”

**Game 17 @ TFCO** was a record setting performance nearly across the board for the plucky 88s team who seem to be finding their stride. Team records that fell were most runs in a game (32), most hits in a game (47), most runs in an inning (matched: 11), and largest margin of victory (+23). Several individual records fell as well including **Andrew's** record breaking 8 RBI (as part of a 5/5 + inside the park HR + 2

run night) and **Erica's** record tying 5 hits (to go along with 3 runs + 2 RBI).

The MVP of the night goes to **Matt**, who led off the game with a no doubter HR to left field, before heading out on defense to make sure left field was closed for the rest of the night by recording 10+ put outs, several of the fantastic variety. He finished the game with 5 hits, 3 runs, 3 RBI, and not even a stain on his jersey.

Everyone had multiple hits (including a season best 4 hits for **Alex** to go along with 4 runs + 2 RBI), and everyone produced (including **Jeff** scoring 4 runs while knocking in 5 RBI).

WHAT A GAME.

**Game 18 vs TBHJ** was a defensive showcase for the 88s. Whether it was **Steve** making a diving catch in CF (with an injured leg), or **Sandi** and **Erica** snagging screaming liners, or **Chandler** gunning down runners at third from RF, (most of) the 88s were leather flashing all over the large Complex field.

On the back of their defense, the 88s went on to win 17-9 and extend their winning streak to 3-0 in July, moving to 5-10-2, which is good for 4<sup>th</sup> place.

Not to be overshadowed completely, on offence the 88s continued to click. **Chris** crushed his first homerun of the season, a 3 run rocket to LF, **Sandi** produced big time going 4/6 + 3 runs + 2 RBI + an extra-long ride to the game, **Erica** went 5/7 + 4 runs and **Alex** is pretty.

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## WEEK #9 RECAP

**"Don't get upset, upset."**

**Game 16 vs Top Dawgs** was a chance for the 88s to at least get some dignity back after the shellacking they took last time they played this team. After **Chris** started off the game with his first strike out of his 88s career, and being down 9-2 after 4.5 innings, it wasn't looking very dignified.

The first out in the 88s half of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning was a controversial call, with **Brian** "not stepping on the bag" after beating the throw to 1<sup>st</sup>. Instead of letting this be a nail in their coffin, the 88s seemed to use it as fuel to play harder and smarter the rest of the way; a real TSN turning point. After putting up 3 runs in the rest of the 5<sup>th</sup>, the 88s cranked it up even more with 4 runs in the 6<sup>th</sup> and another 6 runs in the 7<sup>th</sup> to take a 15-13 lead which they would hold onto and win 15-14.

Putting an exclamation point on the surprise victory was **Kirby Steinhoff** with perhaps the defensive play of the 88s season so far. Up only 1 run, with two opponents on base and only 1 out in the bottom of the last inning, the 88s were in a pickle. A sharply hit ball was hit to Kirby at 3B who scooped it up, stepped on third for 1 out then fired a bullet over to **Nikki** at 1B to complete a very impressive double play.



This was a real team victory, with **Chris** coming up with a huge run scoring double in the pivotal 5<sup>th</sup> inning to help ignite the comeback and every single player producing at least 1 run and or RBI, the 88s have done more than just snag back a little dignity.

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#### WEEK #8 RECAP

**Game 14 @ Primetime** finished in an 11-11 tie.

**Game 15 vs Misfits** was forfeited due to lack of available players.

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#### WEEK #7 RECAP

**“No coach. No problem.”**

**Game 13 vs TFCO** was a battle of the basement which was as close as expected. On the back of a record breaking 5 RBIs from rookie **Kirby Steinhoff**, the 88s were able to put together an 8 run 3<sup>rd</sup> inning to defeat TFCO by 2 runs for the second time this season, winning 13-11. With coach gone fishin’ other leaders stepped up to fill the void and instituted a new, and so far quite effective, defensive alignment. Other stand out performances were **Nikki** (4/5 + 2 runs), **Chris** (3/4 + 2 runs + RBI) and **Erica** (3/4 + 2 runs).

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#### WEEK #6 RECAP

**“Overmatched.”**

**Game 11 @ Misfits** was closer than it seemed. The 88s took an 11-9 lead in the 5th after **Myles’** bases loaded single scored 2 runs. **Steve** came to play, putting up a 4/4 + 3 runs + 2 RBI stat line while playing solid short stop all game, and **Elizabeth** put together her first multi hit game of the season while scoring a run. It was all for not however as the Misfits power hitters put on an impressive display to help them pull away and win 13-26. While the offence was inconsistent, it was the 88s sloppy defense that really sunk them, at one point turning a soft blooper 80 feet from home plate into a 2 run double.

**Game 12 vs Top Dawgs** will likely be remembered as the low point of the season. After the dominate first place team easily scored 24 runs in 5 innings, the 88s decided to wave the white flag and call it a day. Nothing worth noting took place.

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#### WEEK #5 RECAP

**“Low lows, high highs.”**

**Game 9 @ TFCO** was a disappointment. Facing a team fielding 9 players whose number the 88s have had recently, they couldn't find any consistency and took a sound thumping 18-8. The game was not without its highlights as **Brian** hauled in an impressive running catch in left field to keep the score somewhat respectable (and also went 1/3 + BB + 2 runs + 2 RBI) while **Alex** snatched her first out behind the plate (and also contributed 2 more hits + run, continuing her recent offensive resurgence)

**Game 10 vs TBHJ** saw the 88s put up an all-time record 11 runs in a single inning to power their way to a mercy win against a very solid team. On the defensive side, the 88s used a new alignment to give up a franchise best 2 total runs, making this one of the most dominate victories they've ever had, finishing 18-2 after the minimum 6 ½ innings.

The women showed up early and often for the 88s, combining to go 15/22 + 8 runs + 9 RBIs. Leading the way were **Kirby** (4/4 + BB + 4 runs + 2 RB), **Nikki**, who also played perfect defense at 1B (4/5 + run + franchise tying 4 RBI), and **Alex** (4/5 + run + RBI). Behind every great collection of women, are a bunch of men trying not to fuck up. Fuck up they did not as **Steve** (2/2 + 2 runs + 3 RBI) and **Myles** (3/3 + run + RBI) had perfect games at the plate to join in on the hit parade in that epic 3<sup>rd</sup> inning.

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#### **WEEK #4 RECAP**

**“Big numbers, little results.”**

**Game 6 vs TBHJ** started out rough with an 11-1 deficit after the first, but the 88s were able to fight back to score 15 and only lose by 14..... Helping delay the inevitable were **Alex** (3 hits + 2 runs + RBI) and **Kirby** (2/2 + 2 walks + 2 runs + RBI) having big games at the plate while fellow rookie **Derek** knocked in 4 runs to lead the team in RBIs. It wasn't enough as TBHJ put on a hit parade while the 88s stood and watched, hoping they might at least throw candy into the crowd.

**Game 7 vs Misfits** was more of the same. Impressive offensive performances by **Jeff** (4/4 + 4 runs + 2 RBI), **Sandi** (4/5 + 2 runs + RBI), **Kirby** (4/5 + 3 runs + 3 RBI including an opposite field bases clearing double), **Nikki** (4/5 + run + 3 RBI), and **Erica** (4/5 + run + RBI) were over shadowed by the 88s lack of defensive resistance resulting in a pretty enjoyable yet ultimately still sucky 25-18 loss.

And that is all that occurred this week to the best of my recollection.

**Game 8 vs Primetime.** We lost 10-1 against a team who were short players.

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## WEEK #3 RECAP

### "Matching hairdos and stat lines."

**Game 5 vs Top Dawgs** at first blush can be seen as another sound thumping by the league leaders. Upon closer inspection, these are loafers. The final score of 9-16 was an upgrade from last week's 9-18 against the same team. Thanks in part to productive debuts by 3 team rookies (Kirby: 2/4 + RBI + run. Derek: 1/3 + RBI. Danielle: 1/4 + RBI + run), the 88s were able to last another full game against a very talented squad. The driving force of the team early in the season remains its veterans. Sporting matching Jason Statham inspired good looks, both Matt & Myles put up equally sexy stat lines of 4/4 + RBI + 2 runs, although the former was more impressive as it including a ringing triple to the fence.

James played his usual sparkling defense at SS, while Sandi recorded the team's first walk of the season. Jeff went 3/4 in the leadoff spot and was seen getting winded running to first base.

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## WEEK #2 RECAP

### "Off the bench and into our hearts."

**Game 3 @ Top Dawgs** was a tight race until the 7th inning. With the 88s trailing by 1 against the top dogs of the league (the Top Dawgs), the top dawgs came out on top with 10 runs over the final two innings making the final score seem worse than the game really was. Leading the way for the 88s was Jeff with a break out 4/4 + 3 run performance while Sandi came to play with a 2/5 + 2 run + 1 RBI game as well. Special shoutout to Alex who recorded her first hit as an 88, which undoubtedly will open the flood gates for many more.

**Game 4 vs. TFCO** saw the 88s reverse the blown lead curse they delt with often in 2017. Going down 7-0 after 1, the 88s never quit and answered with their own 6 spot in the 2nd, eventually completing the comeback to take their first W of the season with a well earned 18-16 victory. Game ball goes to James with his 5/5 + 5 run + 5 RBI + 2 HR game while playing exceptional defence in the infield. The missing talent from our absent players left a gaping hole, but the girth of James' performance slid in well. What was looking like a forfeiture early in the week, turned into a W thanks in large part to Erica's recruitment skills which were matched by her play on the field going 4/6 + run + 2 RBI and several great plays at 3B. This game belongs to the Bedards who were playing in front of their new baby Olivia, the teams new official good luck charm.

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## WEEK #1 RECAP

**“It was the best of times, it was the blurst of times (you stupid monkey!)”**

**Game 1 @ Primetime** ended in a heart breaking walk off loss, but the 88s held the lead for most of the game in their season opener. Solid contributions by newcomers Brian (4/4 + 2 RBI), Ashton(2/5 + 2 runs) and Steve (2/4 + 2 runs + 2 RBI) allowed the 88s to overcome an early 7-1 deficit while veterans Andrew (4/4 + 3 runs + RBI), Myles (4/4 + 2 HR + 2 runs + 5 RBI) and Matt (4/5 + 2 runs + RBI) used their experience to lead the way.

**Game 2 vs. Misfits** was even tighter, ending in an 11-11 tie. Trading shots all night in the bang box known as Plymouth park, the game answered the question what happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object. They tie anti-climactically. Erica (4/4 + 2 runs + RBI) led the way while Myles got the 88s on the board big early with a 1st inning grand salami. Newcomer Tanya had a productive debut with a hit + several plays in the outfield. Brian's hustle around the bases to score a rare Plymouth park inside the park HR tied the game late, but the 88s went 1/7 over their final two innings to let the win slip away.