



Summer softball is in the air...literally (see upper right!). Pitcher Mark Durben follows through as first baseman Dan Zicarelli gets ready for action.  
(Photo by Larry Wolfe)

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### Summer Softball is Sizzling By Larry Wolfe

Yes, despite the sizzling weather and the absence of many of our Canadian and other snowbird players, there is a Summer Senior Softball Season. Approximately forty of our guys brave the heat to participate in the Summer League. We have three Sun Lakes teams, plus one team from Robson Ranch that compete in a 21-week season that began in early May and wraps up on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Each team plays 21 doubleheaders for a total 42-game season, playing each opponent 14 times. Sun Lakes team managers are Gary Hillabolt, Dave Kratz and Larry Maggard. Randy Peterson manages the Robson Ranchers. League play is on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 7:30 AM. The Field of Dreams is also open for batting and fielding practice on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays

at 8 AM. If you're interested in joining our program, come on down to the field on any of those days and ask to talk to Gary Hillbolt or Dennis LePore.

It's been a tough few weeks for our softball family. First, Randy Rothenbuehler unexpectedly passed away. He was a long-time player, scorekeeper, and umpire in our program. A few days later Patti Entwistle, wife of Jim Entwistle, another long-time member, and our Chief Statistician, succumbed to a long-term illness. Lastly, Wilbur "Will" Caton, also passed after a long struggle. Will was one of our best pitchers in the 90's and early 2000's, both in league play and on our travel teams. Our condolences go out to all the families and friends of Randy, Patti and Will.

If you're looking for the monthly Softball Player Profile article, you can stop now. Yours truly is taking a summer hiatus; the profile series will return in the Fall. In the meantime, look for our annual Stats Feature in next month's *Splash*.