

BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

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BRIT



British Baseball Federation

BALL

The Official Voice
of the
British Baseball
Federation

Issue No 29
October 1995
75p

B "RIGHT ON" BUCCANEERS

Brighton Buccaneers Baseball Club will soon have a proper home in which to hit their many home runs, thanks to the Foundation for Sport and the Arts.

The Buccaneers have been given a handsome grant of £17,500, the second biggest award ever for British Baseball.

The impact is not lost on club chairman Craig Savage: "It's absolutely wonderful" he says.

"Brighton has a huge potential for growth. We are one of the best teams in the country yet we've been lacking in facilities".

Baseball has really started to take off in Britain, growing from its already large following around the world and especially the United States and Japan.

Brighton play in the National Premier League, which consists of the top 16 sides in the country, and the club can at last hope to have the ground to match their surging reputation.

"We will create a proper baseball diamond, dug-outs, spectator seating and be able to run power to the field" says Craig.

"Things are really starting to happen. Without the Foundation it would have been nigh on an impossibility".

There are 197 grants totalling over £2 million in this latest list of monthly awards by the Foundation, which is funded by the Pools Promoter's Association donating more than £60 million a year.

This now takes the total grant award for British Baseball to £59,000 in the last two years. Can your club afford not to apply?????



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in British Baseball, call the
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BBF Handbook: Printed annually, price £4.00 inclusive of postage. Contains all contact details for BBF teams and league fixtures. Cheques and Postal Orders payable to 'British Baseball Federation' and sent to BBF Handbook, 66 Belvedere Road, Hessle, North Humberside, HU13 9JJ

BBF - PONY BASEBALL SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS

These Sportsmanship Awards are available to all junior teams, to nominate a candidate from their club.



These awards are aimed at the child with outstanding integrity, dedication and enthusiasm. Ability should not be a major consideration in your choice.

It may be a kid who is not physically gifted, but who tries hard and who you and your team deem is worthy of this prestigious award. It is up to you how you choose, and who you choose.

Each child chosen from their club will then be eligible to win the National Sportsmanship Award. To enter the National Competition, simply write and tell us why your player is worthy of the award, stating his or her achievements, endeavours and qualities both on and off the field of play. A panel of judges will then decide the National winner, who will be presented with a special certificate and prize at the BBF Annual Dinner in January. **PLEASE NOTE:** only registered players are eligible for the National Award.

Please do not sell your kids short. If you have a deserving child, let us know. Even if they do not

want to enter the National competition, they will still receive a certificate as their clubs' sportsman of the year.

All requests for certificates should be made to Head Office, with the child's name, address, and reason for their selection. Please also indicate if you want to enter the National competition.

For further information and advice please contact Ian Smyth on 0113 261 2571. We also have certificates for batting achievements, and seasonal batting average, available free of charge.



El Presidente

The season ended with a bang. I told you not to miss it, if you did, you missed the best baseball seen in many a year. The Warriors from London and the Pirates from Menwith Hill provided a feast of skill in the closely fought final stages of the National Premier League Series. No clear favourite or underdog this year as both squads competed to have their name engraved on the trophy for the first time.

Could the first game live up to all the hype? It did and lots more! One team led, the other smashed a home run deep to right and then led 3-2 taking the field into the bottom of the ninth. One out! A desperate sprint home and a close out at the plate. Two down! Silence, and no El Presidente fingernails left on either hand. Infield hit and the third out! The crowd applauded, Pirates had won and Warriors were one game down in a contest that could have gone either way. As the teams trooped away the crowd were buzzing as each spectator, manager, coach, player and aficionado replayed the game with their version of how they would have won with hindsight. Talks drifted to events earlier that day.

It's eleven o'clock in the morning the weather is none too good but the youth teams of Tonbridge Bobcats and the Hessle Apaches did not care one bit. It was the National Youth final. I remained strictly neutral for five minutes, reminding Kevin Macadam how ruthlessly he had traded his semi-final winning pitching coach for a small bag of confectionery. I gave him the 'El Presidente Kiss of Death' by tipping his Apaches for the win. Settling down for the pre-game, I broke that diet again; hot dog! I commenced that good humoured pre-match heckling of a certain Hessle third base coach.

Tonbridge Bobcats led most of the way, a late rally by the Apaches gave them a teasing sniff of hope. Bobcats drove five runs in, giving up one more run and took the spoils. The curse of El Presidente had worked big time and not even the ever improving Apaches could change that. Congratulations to winning manager Margaret Borley and losing manager, 'get your hands out of those pockets' third base coach Kevin Macadam, for providing a competitive and highly enjoyable final.

Day two. Warriors arrived and looked hungry both teams taking extensive pre-game drills utilising both diamonds at London Wolves Baseball Club. I discussed the concept of board executive neutrality. Anybody out there ever been to a baseball game and remained totally unbiased? I disagreed with the consensus, tore up my 'Northemers Only' membership card stood over behind London and prepared for the shouting of some strictly neutral (not!) encouragement. I wanted, you wanted, everyone wanted

three close games. Even Menwith Hill Pirates?

I watched, I urged, I tried nibbling my non-existent finger nails. Game two ended 7-6. Warriors had played all out and still came up very slightly second best. The curse was doubled edged and I would remember later to support the winners of game one in future finals to ensure all three games would be played.

In reflection the expanded play-offs and finals have worked very well but the criticism of those tough one game 'do or die' conference cross-overs is the small remaining issue to overcome for next year. The costs for this years competitions, even though thoroughly well invested, had dramatically increased and the financial implications of any enhancements now make the injection of sponsorship paramount.

Congratulations should also go to London Wolves, Cambridge Monarchs and Hull Royals in joining the elite bunch in the National Premier League. It's tough at the top, but I'm sure you will all rise to the challenge.

Once again the playing season has drawn to a close. I hope you've enjoyed the articles in Brit-Ball that we've tried our best to make informative and fun. The importance of the non-playing season should not be forgotten. Just as the executive and membership must assure the collective future of baseball in Great Britain, Europe and the rest of the world, individual clubs must be proactive and professional in their management and progressive in training skills and recruitment.

If you have your own computer and a modem, the BBF can now be contacted on Compuserve, via Head Office or myself. Our ID numbers are 100534,417 for myself or 100417,2103 for Kevin Macadam.

Next month we get serious and examine our structures and mission statement. The BBF must have a common vision and plan to attain its goals.

Yours for Baseball,

Stephen R Herbert

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PUZZLE CORNER

DOUBTFUL DIVISIONS

(Devised by Will Cosgrave)

Can you identify the NAMES of the eight DIVISIONS in the BBF LEAGUES by the cryptic clues below?

a. Cancer	Meeting	Allotment	Twain	Albion
b. Confederate	Assembly	Category	Lone	
c. Overall	Zenith	Alliance	Yankee	
d. Antarctic	Convention	Portion	Nadir	
e. Boreal	Congress	Partition	Sole	Anglice
f. Capricorn	Gathering	Class	Binary	
g. Widespread	Acme	Combination	Southron	
h. Arctic	Convocation	Segment	Unit	Ecosse

Answers to last month's puzzles are as follows:

ABBREVIATIONS

1. AB	2. BA	3. CS	4. ER
5. GB	6. GS	7. HR	8. IP
9. LP	10. PB	11. PO	12. SB
13. SO	14. AVG	15. ERA	16. HBP
17. IBB	18. LOB	19. RBI	20. SAC

STATS STARS

1. Stuart Boast	2. Ray Brownlie
3. Scott Miller	4. Jerry Foreman
5. Mark Vickers	6. Rob Yuille
7. Mike Livingstone	8. Martin Sawyer
9. Lee Mayfield	10. Geoff Hare
11. Paul Bullock	12. Rob Nelson
13. Julian Fountain	14. Cody Cain
15. Don Knight	16. Gary Abbott



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BRITISH BASEBALL FEDERATION AND MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL INTERNATIONAL



1996 COACHING CLINIC



**Friday 19 January
- Sunday 21 January**

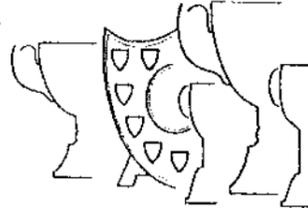
The 1996 British Baseball Federation and Major League Baseball International Coaching Clinic will be held at Hopwood Hall College, Hopwood Campus, Manchester.

This is the fourth clinic of its kind and will be building on the success of its predecessors. Once again the clinic will cover all aspects of the game catering for beginners to the advanced coach. There will also be a junior clinic running alongside the main clinic with Pony Baseball providing a clinician to complement the clinicians from MLB I.

The facilities are on a par with Cranfield University where last year's clinic was staged and accommodation is available on a first come first served basis at a very reasonable price. The College is situated 35 minutes from Manchester Airport, 5 minutes from Castleton railway station (via Manchester Victoria) and within easy reach of all main motorways. The campus is situated 20 minutes from the centre of Manchester.

Also at the clinic there will be a BBF exhibition stand to give advice to teams on assistance available from the BBF and outside bodies. There will also be application forms available so that you may apply for grant funding, other ideas on how to raise money and details of how to develop your ground to name a few.

Once again the BBF Annual Dinner will be held on the Saturday evening with the presentation of the 1995 BBF Coaching and Player Awards, an auction of baseball equipment, souvenirs and a raffle.



It is also hoped that Top Athletic Facility Expert from Florida, Floyd Perry, will be in attendance running a Grounds Maintenance Seminar. We are also aiming to run scoring and umpiring clinics at both beginners and CEB advanced levels alongside the main coaching clinic. Watch out in future editions of Brit-Ball for more details of these clinics.

The clinic will commence on Friday night at 7.30pm with registration commencing at 5.00pm. The clinic will close at 3.00pm on Sunday. A detailed programme and directions to the college will be sent to you upon receipt of your registration form.

To secure your place at the clinic please book as soon as possible. If you are interested in attending the dinner only, then this is possible however as places are limited priority will go to the clinic attendees.

You can also pay for the clinic by instalments between now and January. Just send in your registration form with a £20 deposit and we will then provide you with all the necessary details.

Whether you are travelling from abroad or within the UK, let Dragon Tours arrange your transport. Dragon Tours are the Official Travel Agent of the BBF and can arrange all types of transport so that you can get to the clinic. For further details call Ceri on 01495 791260 or fax on 01495 791266.

1996 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL COACHING CLINIC REGISTRATION FORM

I would like to participate in the 1996 Coaching Clinic:

Name:			
Address:			
	Postcode:		
Telephone No:		Date of Birth:	
Team Name (if applicable)			
I enclose the following sum of money:			
Clinic	£		
Dinner (Saturday Evening)	£		
Accommodation	£		
I would like to share a room with:			
TOTAL ENCLOSED:	£		
All cheques should be made payable to the BRITISH BASEBALL FEDERATION			

FEE STRUCTURE

Adult BBF Member (£20 if booked before 1.1.96)	£25.00
Adult Non Member	£35.00
Junior - under 16 (MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult)	£20.00
Team Rates	1 extra free clinic place per group of 10
Dinner which includes: Dinner Auction of Equipment and Souvenirs Annual Coaching and NPL Player Awards Presentation	£12.50 After Dinner Speakers Raffle
Accommodation - Twin rooms only £17.50 per person per night bed and breakfast	£35.00 for weekend

Please return your completed form and money **BY FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 1996** to:

1996 Coaching Clinic
British Baseball Federation
66 Belvedere Road
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JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS - VIENNA - AUGUST 1995

To be honest I did not know what to expect when we took the Juniors to Vienna for the European Championships. I knew Germany would be strong. Austria too, being at home. Ukraine and Sweden have excellent programmes and would be there or thereabouts. Israel, I had heard may be strong. I didn't know how our boys would cope with having to play to a high standard day in and day out. Our President, Steve Herbert, didn't want us to finish last and our American coach, Ralph Rago, thought fifth or sixth would be a good result.

Finishing third behind Germany and Ukraine (and only losing to those two) was an outstanding performance. I cannot praise all the players too highly. They did their very best, indeed at times playing above their standard, everyday. They worked hard in the two days before the competition started and retained their attention and focus through to the last out on the last game against Austria.

Steve Hibbert got us off to a good start against Poland by pitching well and not giving up too many walks to hits. We had a bit of luck in the middle of the game and had to come back from behind to win it 7-6. Steve then pitched all nine in the last game to clinch the Bronze medal.

Lee Loveseed looked the best pitcher in the tournament against Israel going nine for a great shut out. He got us three strike outs in the first inning including two with six pitches. He tired and hurt toward the end but with some solid defence behind him deserved the shut-out.

We lived with the Ukrainians, for top spot in our group and so avoided Germany in the cross-over ("semi-final") game, three innings leading 6-5 then we couldn't throw strikes and when we did we couldn't pick the ball up and they blasted away from us with seven runs. We came back with gutsy determination but in the seventh we lost the strike zone again.

We had two days off due to rain and the technical committee deciding our group game against Slovenia need not be played as it would not affect the final group standings. This decision annoyed me greatly. It was an excellent opportunity for new players and younger players to gain experience "and wet their feet" but due to the rain out day the technical committee saw the opportunity to get the schedule back on track without having to ask teams to double up. After protest the technical committee did ask Slovenia if they wanted to play the game. They said no - they were short of pitching. The technical committee should have instructed them to play - it was part of the proper round robin schedule.

I fancied our chances against Germany and with Lee

Loveseed rested and ready, if he could repeat his Israel form, a place in the final and promotion to the 'A' Group was a real possibility. Lee could not quite repeat his form and they jumped on us to build up a substantial lead. With the character they had built and shown during the week our boys started to peg them back and at one stage in the 7th we were level and ready to take them. Then a bad error cost us dearly and we couldn't come back twice.



It would have been easy for the players to 'give in' against Austria for the Bronze. We had had a tough week, it was hot and the home team could be guaranteed lots of noisy vocal support. Not this lot. Out they went and from the first out showed tremendous determination. We jumped into a big lead, went quiet in the middle - a few errors, a couple of bad throws, and Austria pulled it back to 11-7 and looked more than capable of going on to win. Back we came again to dominate the final couple of innings. Steve Hibbert seemed to re-charge his batteries, he didn't throw really hard all week, but he threw strikes and got the outs - and he enticed the last out to fly to Ravi Raman in right field. It was a good win the boys fully deserved it.

Although I have mentioned a couple of players by name, I should congratulate Steve Pollard. By his high standards he did not hit well, he did have some great at bats, his off field leadership was outstanding. Was it the Parsley or the Persil in the end, Steve? Tremendous, well done. Congratulations to Lee Evans and Alex Malihoudis on being named in the Championship All Star Team, Lee at right field and Alex as catcher.

All the boys, and not all played, were an absolute credit to the coaches, themselves, the Federation, THEIR COUNTRY. I cannot praise all of them too highly. Well done lads.

RESULTS

Poland	010	032	000	-	6
Great Britain	201	000	400	-	7
Great Britain	022	003	4	-	11
Israel	000	000	0	-	0
Great Britain	330	000	000	-	6
Ukraine	201	700	20	-	12
Great Britain	010	222	20	-	9
Germany	130	500	73	-	19
Great Britain				-	15
Austria				-	7

Mike Harrold

The Perfect Christmas Present

The Sporting News 'Chronicle of Baseball' is the story of America's National Pastime from 1900 to the present day. The hardback A4 book by Ron Smith tells the story of baseball month by month from America's leading sports weekly.

The book contains all the major stories from 1900 to the present day plus the rest of the news in brief. 700 historic photographs and 351 pages of great baseball events and leading personalities combine with the most memorable quotes of the baseball legends. Tables of key statistics for each year also provide at-a-glance reference material. The book also devotes special features focusing on some of baseball's most famous individuals including Ty Cobb, Pete Rose and Nolan Ryan.



If you would like a copy of this book then they are available including postage for £15 from BBF Head Office.

Baseball Mastermind

Earlier in the year, I was asked to compile questions for BBC's Mastermind which were used for one of the semi-finals. The contestant actually came second in the final and to see if you're a 'Mastermind' the questions that were used are listed below.

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The first person drawn out of the hat with the correct answers, will receive a copy of the Sporting News 'Chronicle of Baseball' which was used to compile the questions. Closing date for entries is 31 October 1995.

WORLD SERIES BASEBALL 1903 - 1950

1. 1944 saw the World Series last played in one stadium. What was that stadium?
2. Name the two brothers who won all four games of a World Series?
3. In 1905, this pitcher threw three shutouts in the World Series. Who is he?
4. Which Hall of Famer lost the first World Series game in 1903?
5. Who was the first black pitcher to appear in a World Series Game?
6. In what year did the Boston Red Sox win their last World Series?
7. Who managed the 1914 Boston Braves to World Series victory?

8. Which baseball player, best known for his hitting, won two World Series games with his pitching?
9. In the 1919 World Series scandal, which Chicago pitcher was thought to have thrown two games?
10. Which Cleveland outfielder smashed a Burleigh Grimes pitch for the first Grand Slam in World Series history?
11. Bill Wambsganss completed what in game five of the World Series in 1920?
12. Which pitch did World Series pitcher Burleigh Grimes favour?
13. Which team was Babe Ruth playing against when he was alleged to have 'called his shot'?
14. Which player did Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis order to be removed from the 1934 World Series after crowd trouble began?
15. In what year did the Chicago Cubs record their first World Series victory?
16. In which year was the first all-New York World Series?

17. Which New York Giants outfielder went on to take the New York Yankees to World Series victory in 1949 and 1950?
18. Name the two teams that competed in the first World Series?
19. What was unusual about game one of the 1907 World Series?
20. Which two Chicago players denied involvement in the 1919 Black Sox scandal?
21. Who did the Washington Senators beat to record a World Series title in 1924?
22. What record does Washington Senators shortstop Roger Peckinpaugh hold?
23. Name the manager who led the New York Yankees to six pennants and three World Series during the 1920's?
24. Which umpire has officiated the most in World Series history?
25. Name the New York Giants manager who holds the record for most World Series losers managed?
26. In 1946, the St Louis Cardinals defeated who in

- baseball's first ever pennant play-offs?
27. Which city became the first to have two same season qualifiers for the World Series?
28. Who's 'mad dash' around the bases produced a World Series winning run in 1946?
29. What was special about Yogi Berra's home run in the 1947 World Series?
30. Which team refused to play the second World Series against the Boston Red Sox in 1904?

ON THE MOVE ...

Please note the following changes to your BBF 1995 Handbook

Southern Conference Umpires Commissioner
New details for Mack McKinney are as follows:
38 Deacons Walk, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 1AA
Tel: 0181 941 4967

Stevenage Knights
1st contact is now:
Robert Tre-Vett
197 Shephall Way, Stevenage, Herts, SG2 9RE Tel: 01438 748912



Guildford Mudcats
New telephone number for Karin Sparrow is:
01483 829813

Glasgow Little League
New telephone number for Craig Menzies is:
0973 462256
2nd contact is:
Gordon Spence, 51 Magnus Court, Simshill, Glasgow
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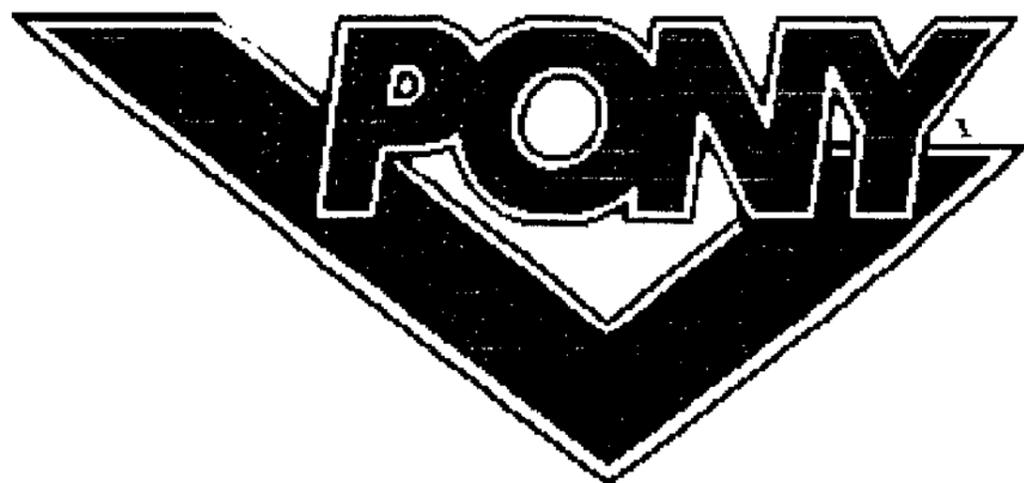
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The course will be conducted by BBF Development Officer and GB Coach, Ralph Rago and will take place on Saturday 28 October at New College in Swindon. The course will commence at 10.00am and finish at 4.30pm with a short break for lunch. The cost of the course also includes a certificate and coaching badge.

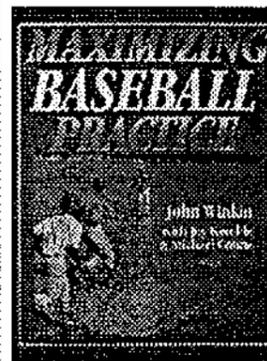
I would like to participate in the BBF Coaching Association Level A Course

Name:			
Address:			
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Baseball Team: (if applicable)			
I enclose £16 registration fee for the course			
All cheques should be made payable to the British Baseball Federation			

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Pirates Win Series

Menwith Hill Pirates won the 1995 BBF National Premier League Series by two games to nil with two thrilling victories over London Warriors.

Menwith Hill Pirates 3 London Warriors 2

Game one saw Pirates Matt Arildt up against Warriors Cody Cain and after three innings the score was still tied at 0-0. In the fourth inning, Kevin Coldiron opened the scoring for the Warriors after walking to start the inning with Alan Smith scoring in the sixth to open a 2-0 lead for London.

In the seventh, Warriors Cody Cain had a balk called on him with a runner on third and this allowed Menwith to pull a run back. Pirates Gary Abbott tied the game in the top of the eighth when he hit a home run to left field. Pirates added a run in the top of the ninth when Orr scored after an error by Warriors Dean Ward and with runners on second and third

Cody Cain struck out the remaining Menwith batters to end the inning.

Abbott then came on to pitch in relief and Warriors tried to take the lead again when Dean Ward tried to score however he was tagged out by Pirates catcher Jay Stichberry at home after a throw from rightfielder Darren Urick for the second out. With Cain grounding out to shortstop for the third out this ensured Menwith victory.

For the Warriors, Atwood went 2 for 3, whilst for the Pirates both Arildt and Pellegrin went 2 for 5. Abbott took the win giving up two runs and six hits over eight and two thirds innings whilst Abbott took the save. Cain took the loss striking out thirteen and walking only two giving up seven hits over nine innings.

London Warriors 6 Menwith Hill Pirates 7

Game two began with Menwith's Andy Pellegrin opening the scoring on a hit to left field by Jay Stichberry. Patt Orr then homered in the second to give a 2-0 lead and in the third Stichberry scored after hitting a double with two out and being driven home by a double from Ken Wells. Warriors looked like they were in trouble when Menwith increased the score to 4-0 with a run from Urick however they managed to score a run in the bottom of the fourth when Ackley crossed home plate. Menwith then added two further runs through Orr and Gray to take a 6-1 lead and the game appeared to be all over.

However the Warriors went to their bullpen and brought on Darrin Ward in relief who pitch the final three and two third innings giving up only one hit and no earned runs. Finally in the bottom of the seventh the Warriors bats came alive when Cain and Coldiron scored to add to



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the run Alan Smith had scored in the sixth and in the eighth added another two runs through Cain and Atwood to tie the game at 6-6 going into the ninth. Pirates Abbott led off the ninth and was hit by a pitch, he was then advanced by a single from Foreman and scored the go ahead run when with two out Orr hit the ball to Warriors third baseman Dean Ward who failed to make the easy out allowing Abbott to score at home.

Pirates Gary Abbott then retired the bottom of the order with seven pitches to win the game 7-6 and the Series 2-0.

Offensively for the Warriors, Cody Cain went 4 for 4 with a double and two runs and Alan Smith went 2 for 4 with a run and an rbi. For the Pirates, Pellegrin went 2 for 5 with a run and two rbis and Jay Stichberry went 2 for 5 with a double and an rbi. Orr went 1 for four with a home run and two runs scored.

Gary Abbott took the win striking out six and the Most Valuable Player Trophy with Darrin Ward taking the loss.

The games were played in a highly competitive manner and showed how the game should be played. Warriors were very unlucky not to have taken the Pirates to three games and after their comeback in game two thoroughly deserved to however this was not to be.

National Premier League Promotion / Relegation Play-offs

London Wolves 3 Bristol Black Sox 1

Shane Bursae started on the mound for the Wolves matched up against Martin Sawyer for Bristol.

The Wolves opened the scoring in the top of the second when Simon Fraser stretched a single into a double to eventually score and the score remained at 1-0 going into the seventh. In the bottom of the seventh Martin Sawyer scored to tie the game and with the scores tied at 1-1 at the bottom of the ninth the game went into the tenth inning. Both Shane Bursae and Martin were still on the mound and in the top of the tenth Shane Bursae hit a single to centre followed by Rod Arris hitting an rbi triple to score the go ahead run. Pedro Figuero then singled to drive Arris home and the Wolves had a 3-1 lead.

Bristol had runners on with two outs but failed to capitalise in the bottom of the inning with the Wolves emerging victors. Shane Bursae went the distance striking out eleven and giving up four hits whilst Martin Sawyer took the loss striking out fourteen.

Offensively, Rod Arris went 3 for 5 with a double, a triple and the game winning rbi whilst Neil Mcleod went 1 for 2 with a double.

London Wolves 7 Bristol Black Sox 2

Adam Roberts started for the Wolves striking out four and pitched them into a 3-2 lead over four innings before he was replaced by Nicaraguan Cesar Lozano. Lozano came on in the fifth and held Bristol scoreless over the next five innings striking out six.

Martin Sawyer again took the loss striking out five after pitching an amazing seventeen innings over the two games. Jon Sawyer came on in relief.

Offensively, Pedro Figuero went 3 for 5 with a double, Adam Roberts went 2 for 4 with a double and an rbi, Simon Fraser went 1 for 1 with a run and an rbi, Jim Pearce went 1 for 2 with a triple, Rod Arris went 2 for 3 and at second base Claire Butler had six putouts and five assists and bunted down the third base line to score a run in the sixth inning in what topped an outstanding game for the first woman to play in the National Premier League.

Cambridge Monarchs 9 Essex Eagles 0

Cambridge Monarchs 9 Essex Eagles 0

Therefore as a result of the above results, London Wolves and Cambridge Monarchs will be promoted to the National Premier League South for the 1996 season.

In the North Hull Royals will be promoted to the National Premier League North, after finishing winners of Division One England.

1995 BBF YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL

The 1995 BBF Youth Championships Final was played between the Tonbridge Bobcats and the Hessele Apaches at Roundshaw Playing Fields, Wallington in Surrey on Saturday 16 September.

Tonbridge Bobcats 15 Hessele Apaches 10

Tonbridge scored twice in the top of the first when Sean Walters and then Sam Walters crossed home plate. Hessele immediately replied with a run from Adam Norman in their half of the inning. Apaches pitcher Anthony Stansfield then



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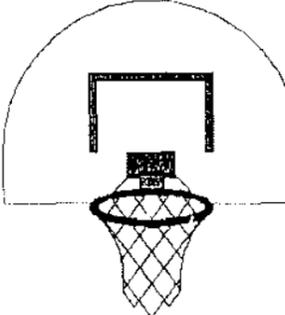
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struck out the first two in the second inning and first baseman Steve Cracknell caught a fly ball for the third out to give Hesse the chance to take the lead. However the Bobcats had other ideas as Sean Walters retired the next three batters in order. Edward Jeffery and then Michael Bird both scored to open up Tonbridge's lead to 4-1. However the Apaches broke the game open in the bottom of the third when they ran in five runs, as Tonbridge's Walters walked four batters and the team made three errors to take the score to 6-4. Aaron Cooper replaced Walters on the mound.

Bobcats Edward Jeffrey again pulled a run back with two out in the fourth, but Hesse increased their lead to 8-5 with two more runs through Jae Saleh and Anthony Stansfield.

However in the top of the fifth Anthony Stansfield walked the bases loaded and four runs were scored before the first two Tonbridge players were put out and Anthony Stansfield was replaced on the mound by Christopher Radge. Radge struck out the remaining batter to end the inning with the Bobcats leading 11-8. Again the Apaches came back with two runs through Adam Norman and Anthony Stansfield to bring the score to 11-10.

Tonbridge's top of the order crossed the plate bringing the score to 14-10 before Radge was replaced on the mound by Karl Riley who got the first two batters to ground out with the third one scoring. The third out was at home plate with Karl applying the tag. Hesse tried in vain to pull runs back but were retired in order in the bottom of the sixth with Tonbridge emerging 15-10 winners.

Offensively for the Bobcats Jeffrey went 2 for 4 with three runs, 3 stolen bases and two RBIs, with Walters and Bird also scoring three runs. Cooper went 1 for 5 with 3 RBIs.

For the Apaches Stansfield went 1 for 2 with 2 runs, two stolen bases and two RBIs and Saleh went 1 for 3 with 3 runs, 3 stolen bases and 1 RBI.

Cooper took the win for Tonbridge whilst Stansfield took the loss.

The game was exciting from start to finish with the lead changing hands and Tonbridge winning the game at the death. Despite the weather the players enthusiasm was never dampened and both teams were a credit to their coaches providing a fitting curtain raiser to the NPL final.

Hopefully this final will lay the foundation towards next year when the junior championships will take a more focused shape around the country.

Teams which took part this year were as follows:

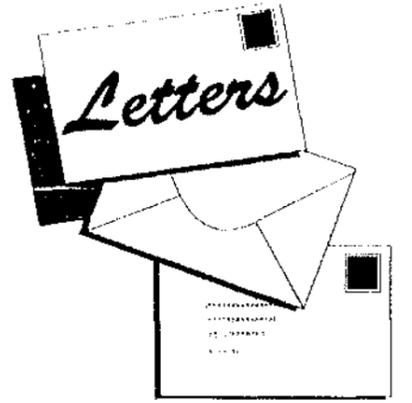
Southern Conference: Tonbridge Bobcats, Hemel Red Sox

Northern Conference: Hesse Apaches

Scottish Conference: Dundee Dragons, Jack Kane Blue Jays

Dear Brit-Ball

The following is an extract from a letter received from Woody Wilson of Greensboro, North Carolina, who was one of the hosts when the GB squad went to the USA in July this year. Woody is in his eighties and been involved in baseball all his life. He is a terrific person who helped make the trip so successful.



Quote:

"It's been very lonely since you and the wonderful players left our city and I think of you all often. I have been involved with dozens of baseball teams who come here for various tournaments, but I can honestly say, your team was the finest I have ever had the pleasure of being with.

I never heard a foul word, but only "thank you very much", and I shall never forget some of the players I got to know personally.

I hear that Bob Doss may send a group over there in 1996 and if so, I am going to try to burn a ride and hope I can see you all again.

Best of luck,

WOODY WILSON"

Unquote.

Mike Harrold

CABLE TV STATION LAUNCHES SPORTY MAGAZINE SHOW

Men's Fitness, XL, Loaded, Shape, Health and Fitness, Four Four Two. Catering to the explosion in health and sports titles, Hybrid TV launches 'The Juice' on 11 September

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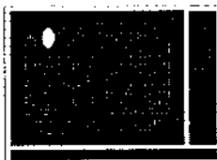
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Get BASEBALL on 'THE JUICE'

Dear Sir

For the last few months I have received the monthly copies of Brit-Ball which I have found very interesting.

Obviously someone has given you my name as a person that was some years ago (1937/39) involved with baseball as a chief umpire in the now sadly defunct London Major League. Unfortunately this terminated because of the outbreak of the 1939/45 war. At that time it was supported financially by C & J Moores (Littlewoods). This was a tragedy as the standard of the game was quite good and was attracting increasingly good crowds at the various London Stadiums. The teams were mainly made up of semi-pro and pro American imports, Ice Hockey players and some English lads that had spent some time in the States.

Yours sincerely

Frank Hoar

Editor: The BBF are at present trying to put together the history of baseball in this country in written form in as much detail as possible. If anyone

knows of any players from the early years, or has any photographs etc, then please let us know.

Dear Brit-Ball

I am interested in playing and coaching baseball in the UK. I am 22 years old and at present at Barry University in the USA. I have played college baseball for the last 4 years and have also worked as a baseball camp instructor. I can be contacted at the following address:
Christopher Neill
232 Samuel Boulevard #0-6, Coppell, Texas 75019
Tel: 305 893 6571, Fax phone: 214 243 4044

Editor: If anyone is interested in contacting Chris, we also have a copy of his full CV and baseball statistics.

Dear Kevin

I have been a baseball nut all my life having played in the US Navy during the war and at the University of Michigan afterwards. When I first got to Spain in 1954 I organised what must have been the first softball game ever played in Spain with a Spanish team called the Pirates which was composed almost entirely of South American students who were studying in Madrid. Subsequently, with the arrival of the US Airforce, American engineers and constructors, US embassy staff, local US companies etc we eventually had several leagues of softball going, and a limited amount of hardball. I eventually moved to the Costa del Sol in 1958 and when I got around to building my house in 1969, the first two things I set up were a tennis court and a softball field. This had to be the only privately owned softball field in Spain. For the last 25 years almost every Saturday afternoon we have been having softball games, with neighbouring US Airforce Base teams, US Navy ships that take R&R in Malaga, visiting American Club teams from Madrid and between ourselves when all else fails. We have 4 or 5 Spaniards who were born and brought up in Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Cuba etc and who play good ball. The remainder of the teams are composed of itinerant Americans, local Spaniards, English, Danish, Norwegian, Canadian,

Australian, Italian etc etc who are in various stages of learning the fundamentals, and that includes the English language on occasions.

After 25 years of softball, last year for the very first time in Southern Spain (there have been hardball leagues in Barcelona and Madrid for years) a Baseball Federation was set up in Seville and our team from Malaga was invited to play in the first hardball league in Andalucia. We federated officially and I was elected President and manager of the "Costa del Sol Tiburones" (Sharks) and the city of Malaga gave us a field which was not too bad. With 5 players who are good and 15 Spaniards who never played hardball before, we were placed in a five team league with 3 teams from Seville and one from a little town near Cordoba. We had an 8 game season and finished in 3rd place after losing two games by one run and all 5 games that our third baseman was absent when, during the middle of the season he decided to visit his girlfriend in Venezuela for 5 weeks. The last game was played over five hours on 16 July in Seville in 110 degree heat (without our 3rd baseman) when, after leading for the entire game we lost to the team that won the league in the bottom of the ninth with two out when they scored two runs to beat us 15-14.

The mayor of my town has promised us a field for next year and I am hoping to get Coca Cola or Larios Gin to help us financially to get it in shape. We would like your British team or any others who would like, to come down for a week or two of "Spring Training" with a view to possibly making it a yearly event, the idea being that since weather here is better than anywhere else in Europe, the teams could practice, give exhibitions etc, and get in shape for their own season.

That is the idea and I would like your comments.

Sincerely yours

Lee Setomer
Finca Dona Maria, Apartado 53,
Benelmadena-Costa, 29630 Malaga,
Spain
Tel: 34 5 244 8098
Fax: 34 5 256 8643

Dear Mr Herbert

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and tell you a little bit about my reason for contacting you directly. I am the Director for International Development for the East-West Ambassadors Baseball Club, America's premier youth baseball travel and development organisation.

Over the past three years with the Ambassadors I have been fortunate to have travelled as both delegation leader and the coach on trips to China, Hong Kong, the Czech Republic, Hawaii, and Australia. In this capacity I have been able to work with, and compete against, young ballplayers from all over the world.

While I have greatly enjoyed my time with the Ambassadors (and hope to continue working with the Club on a part time basis) I have decided to return to university next fall and pursue a doctorate in European history. It is in this connection that I am contacting you today.

I am hoping to spend the summer of 1996 in England coaching and / or playing baseball so that I might refresh my knowledge of the country. As I mentioned above I have rather extensive coaching experience at the international level and my playing career included four years of varsity baseball at Central Michigan University, a division one school with along tradition of baseball excellence.

I would be happy to supply references and / or game statistics that might provide you with a truer picture of my playing abilities. Despite the fact that I am now 28 years of age I remain in excellent condition and would welcome the opportunity to play in addition to coaching. However, my primary interest would be to coach with one of the local teams and spend any free time preparing for university.

If you are in need of a coach or player (or know a team that is) for the summer of 1996 do not hesitate to reach me at the following address or phone.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I have taken the liberty of including a current copy of

my resume so that you can also familiarise yourself with my professional background. I will look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Sincerely

Kevin J Ritter
22443 Thomson, Clinton Twp, MI
48035
Tel: 810 791 8295, Fax: 801 790 0009

Editor: If anyone would like a copy of Kevin's resume, please contact Head Office.

CALLING ALL GB PLAYERS

If you or any of your team members have represented Great Britain at senior or junior level and are in possession of either or both white and grey uniforms, could you please ensure that they are returned to Ralph Rago, 7 Sandringham Gardens, Leeds, LS17 8DD by 31 October 1995.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 22 October

2.00pm - Southern Conference Senior Meeting
Feltham Pavilion Staff Restaurant,
Feltham, Middlesex

Saturday 28 October

10.00am - Level A Coaching Course
New College, Swindon

Sunday 5 November

10.00am - Northern Conference BBF / Pony Youth Meeting
2.00pm - Northern Conference Senior Meeting
both of the above will be held at the Sports Council Buildings, Leeds



Sunday 12 November

10.00am - National Premier League Meeting
2.30pm - BBF Council Meeting
both of the above will be held at the Turnpike Beefeater Travel Inn, Northampton

Sunday 10 December

1.00pm - 1995 Annual General Meeting
venue to be advised

Friday 19 - 21 January 1996

BBF / MLBI Annual Coaching Clinic
Hopwood Hall College, Manchester

Saturday 3 - Sunday 11 August 1996

European Championships 'B' Group
Hull

If you require further details on any of the above event, please call BBF Head Office on 01482 643551

CONGRATULATIONS

two more little baseballers for the future.....

Sam Steven, son of Chris and Annette Foster, brother for Alex, born on, 8 August 1995, weighing 7lb 3oz.

and

Aaron Paul Robert, son of Andy and Genny Simmons, born on 1 September 1995 weighing 7lb 8oz.



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Can we be of service to you soon ?

And for all you other teams out there that have not had the FBI experience the season is not over for you yet. FBI are getting ready to have a mad, bad, end of season sale. All those established customers will get the details first, so if you are not on the hit list what are you waiting for.

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