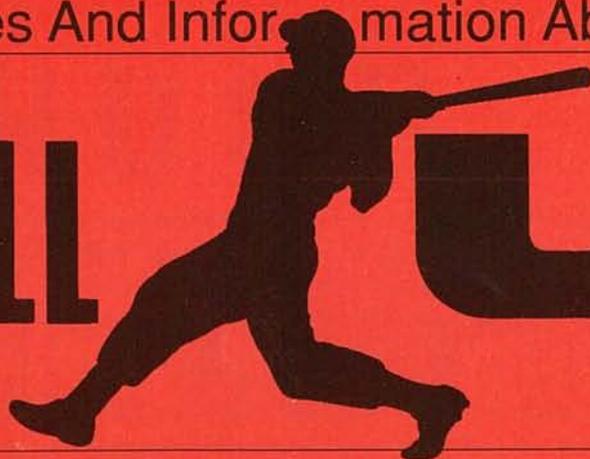


All The News, Scores And Information About UK Baseball

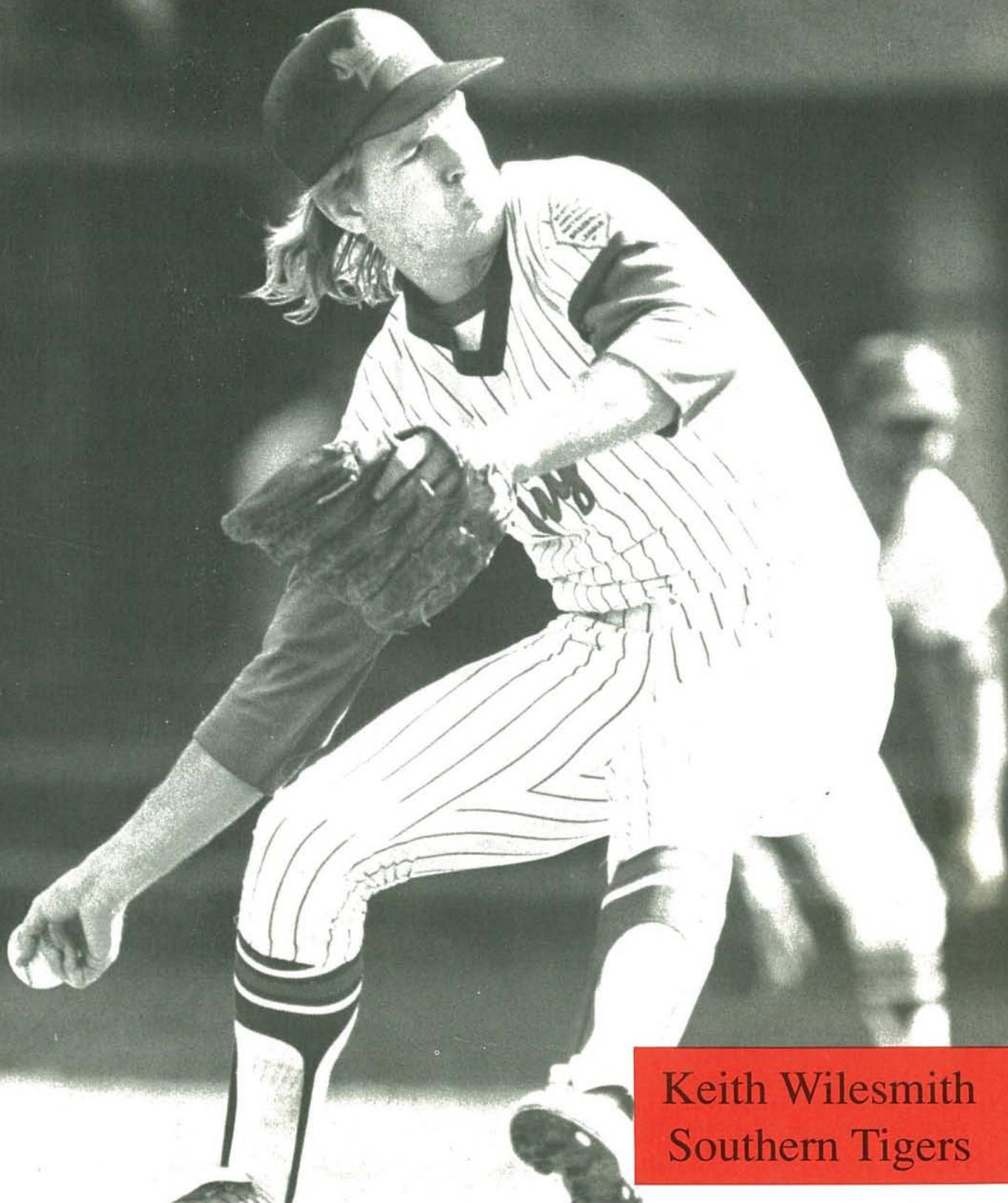
BASEBALL



UK

No.1 SPRING 1990

PRICE: £1.50



Keith Wilesmith
Southern Tigers



NEWS

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ON SATELLITE ... EVERY WEEK

If you've been thinking about getting a "dish", now is the right time. Every week, Screensport will be broadcasting full major league games... including the League Championship series. The World Series will also be shown... live. First games will be shown in May and there are plans to show 2 complete games a week. Stay tuned.

* * * * *

UK NATIONAL LEAGUE TO GO AHEAD IN 1990

With or without major commercial sponsorship, the UK National League will still go ahead. Scottish Amicable's withdrawal as the sponsor left a big gap, but plans are well underway to fill it.

Each team will handle its own sponsorship and financing. As of going to press a new London venue was still to be found but the organisers are quietly confident.

Teams in the North and South divisions are as yet unconfirmed but are likely to be Humberside County Bears, Nottingham Knights, Lancashire Red Sox and Yorkshire in the North with current Champions Southern Tigers being joined by London Warriors, Milton Keynes and a new London team. A 12-16 week season is planned with the National League Final taking place in August.

For more details and information, contact Brad Thompson, National League administrator on 071 831 6767. (See Northern Conference schedule on page 9)

* * * * *

UK BASEBALL ON YORKSHIRE TV

Monday 28th May sees a telethon in the Yorkshire TV area. A day-long baseball event in Sheffield is to be part of the live programme. Interviews with GB players and coaches are scheduled as well as (obviously) a game.

* * * * *

MORE TV RUMOURS - DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH DEPT

First the truth. Tyne-Tees television have just made a 1 hour programme devoted entirely to baseball. Aimed at children and youth, it covers all areas of the game including fashion, gear etc. Actor Charlie Sheen gives a lengthy interview about his college playing days and his

roles in Major League and Eight Men Out. The programme is due to be broadcast in the Tyne-Tees area only in late April, and if successful, nationally in May.

Now, no deep breaths...

If the programme is successful with advertisers and viewers, a big IF, then there is a strong possibility of Channel 4 showing FULL major league games over a 13 week period beginning in July. They would be shown on Sundays, at roughly the same time American Football is shown in the winter.

Nothing is likely to boost baseball in this country as much as the regular screening of major league games. The more the UK public, particularly children, are exposed to the game, the greater its growth and acceptance. Watch this space for more news and details.

* * * * *

TIGERS TO PLAY TASIS

Current National League Champions the Southern Tigers will play an exhibition game against TASIS England (The American School in Switzerland) on Saturday 19th May as part of the ITV Telethon Baseball Challenge. The game is the highlight of a day that has been designed to promote baseball in the area. TASIS are hopeful that ITV may provide

television coverage.

Little league will be played from 10-12 a baseball clinic organised by the TASIS coaches and open to any interested players is from 1-2pm. This is followed at 2pm with the main event, the Tigers versus the TASIS High School Varsity Team.

The game should be of a high standard, the varsity team being made up of experienced players who will provide the Tigers with probably their stiffest challenge yet. A full game report will appear in BASEBALL UK.

The event will have hot dogs, hamburgers, popcorn etc, Cheerleaders and a band and other attractions. The venue is:

TASIS ENGLAND AMERICAN SCHOOL
COLDHARBOUR LANE
THORPE
SURREY
(BEHIND THORPE PARKE)

For more information, contact Mr A.E. Cross, Athletic Director, TASIS.

* * * * *

NORTHERN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR BASEBALL

Recent talks between Councillors, Humberside County Council Officials and the British Baseball Federation have led to the construction of a new "Dia-

WORLD AMATEUR BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS - EDMONTON CANADA AUGUST 1990

Every 2 years, the best amateur national teams get together and fight it out to see who's best. Great Britain have yet to make an appearance in the finals... but when we do, chances are we'll have plenty of company as we watch Cuba defeat all-comers. That's not to say that the games aren't close, just that Cuba win a lot.

This year, from August 4th-17th in Edmonton Alberta, Cuba will attempt to win its fourth straight World Championship. With the exception of South Korea who won in 1982, Cuba have won every championship since 1976.

Holland, who Great Britain played last year (incurring a "heavy" loss), will be there as will Italy, current European Champions. Neither team is favoured to win. Chinese Taipei, Japan, Puerto Rico, South Korea, Canada and the USA are the teams most likely to take the championship from Cuba. The tournament is to be played at two sites - Ducey Park and Fry Park with the final championship round scheduled for Ducey Park Aug. 18-19.

Pool A	Pool B
A Cuba	G United States
B Japan	H Chinese Taipei
C South Korea	I Canada
D Nicaragua	J Puerto Rico
E Italy	K Venezuela
F Panama	L Netherlands

ROUNDUP



BBF PRESS RELEASE

The following Press Releases have just reached us. Both imply serious changes within the BBF executive. More information is to come on the Don Smallwood case. You can read a full report on this story in the next issue.

PRESS RELEASE 1

Acting upon allegations from the Treasurer Mrs Jean Benson and the BBF accountant Mr John Haines, concerning overpayment of salary by the Chief Administrator to himself, the BBF Finance Committee arranged a meeting with Mr Benson, Mr Haines, the Board of Directors and the Chief Administrator of the Federation Mr Don Smallwood.

At this meeting the evidence from Mrs Benson, Mr Haines and Mr Don Smallwood, the administrator in question, concerning the afore-said overpayment of Mr Don Smallwood's salary by himself, was presented and considered.

After careful deliberation, the committee had no alternative but to suspend and demand the resignation of Mr Don Smallwood.

PRESS RELEASE 2

It is with great regret and sadness that we must inform you that because of the sudden illness of Mr Benny Benson, he must resign from the Board of the Federation and relinquish all duties from this day forth.

We thank Benny for the work and tremendous time he has given to the sport and all of the people connected with it over the years.

Benny will be greatly missed by all his friends in baseball in this country and throughout the world and wish him well and a speedy recovery.

We must also advise you of the resignation of his wife, Mrs Jean Benson who felt that in view of the present circumstances she was unable to continue as a board member of the Federation.

This has left the board with three vacancies and it was agreed that the Board should as a matter of urgency co-opt members to fill these positions as per page 19.(H) of the articles of association. This measure has been taken to ensure the continuity of Baseball in Great Britain.

The following people have been approached and consented to fill the vacancies: Mr Mike Harrold and Mr Clive Maude.

Stormers youth teams have been approached. Ah yes - peanut butter - full of goodness for today's athlete.

* * * * *

NEW PRESIDENT OF BBFS

Julian Dodwell, GB international and player with the Barnes Stormers was recently voted in as the new President of the BBF South.

* * * * *

BASEBALL MERCURY NO MORE

William Morgan, who for the last 17 years has single handedly produced the Baseball Mercury, has decided to cease publication of the newsheet.

Always a labour of love, the Mercury was for many years the only journal of

mond" at East Mount in Hull.

This year it will be the home ground for top teams the Hull Mets and the National League Humberside County Bears. As a facility it will also provide a coaching base for both skilled players, novices, regional and National league teams and the Great Britain squad.

Youngsters from local schools will be invited to train and play on a regular basis.

This is just the latest phase in the continuing support given to baseball by the Humberside County Council.

* * * * *

SPONSORSHIP FOR BBF YORKSHIRE?

William Youngers brewery are currently looking at the possibility of sponsoring the entire 7 team BBF Yorkshire division.

Youngers are launching a new brand of low alcohol beer and the plan is to name the league after the brand. Should it happen, it will give the teams a great boost.

BBF Yorkshire currently comprises of Sheffield Bladerunners, Leeds City Royals, Huddersfield Heroes, Barnsley Old Town, Harrogate Red Wings, new team the Bramley Jets and Menwith Hill.

* * * * *

NEW APPOINTMENTS ON BBF COMMITTEE

At a recent meeting of the BBF executive committee, new postings were announced.

Mike Harrold current coach of the GB team was elected to the Finance committee. Nigel Summers was made responsible for liaising with the Sports Council and Clive Maude was put in charge of sponsoring and marketing.

This last appointment is a key one for the BBF. With Scottish Amicable pulling out of baseball, the BBF is anxious to find a new sponsor in this the centenary of organised British baseball.

Clive Maude has recently been involved in discussions with Sainsbury's Homebase. Nothing concrete has developed as yet, but when and if it does, we'll bring you the full news in our monthly round-up.

* * * * *

PEANUT BUTTER AND BASEBALL

Sun-Pat peanut butter are in the process of casting for the shooting of a new peanut butter commercial using baseball players. Players on the Arun Panthers and Barnes

regular information on British Baseball. We wish Willian all the best for his future ventures. See page 5.

* * * * *

SOUTHERN TIGERS TO VISIT HOLLAND

National League Champions the Southern Tigers visit Holland at Easter for a 5 game tour. Part of their pre-season warm-up, they will play HCAW on Friday 13th, BSCU Utrecht and the Venendaal Blue-sox (great name) on the Saturday and HMS Utrecht and the Amersfoort RedCaps on the Sunday.

Team sponsor Peter Hunt arranged the trip. Full report with results in next issue.

BASEBALL UK

31 MARYON MEWS, HAMPSTEAD, LONDON NW3 2PY (TELEPHONE 071 433 1709)

A regular forum for communication

Welcome to the first issue of BASEBALL UK. Over the coming months you will have access to an unprecedented level of information on all aspects of British Baseball as well as opportunities to make your contribution towards the growth of the sport here in the UK.

The problems facing organised baseball in the UK are not those of our American cousins; salary arbitration, players strikes and TV contracts. Those are for the future. Rather, we face more homespun but no less important challenges.

How to build a proper diamond? Not one UK team yet has a full dirt infield and precious few have outfield fences or seating. . . a must for improving playing standards and spectator interest. How to develop players . . . work closely with your local council . . . attract a crowd . . . teach the fundamentals. Publicity is poor. Understanding of the game amongst the general public is low. Competent coaches are rare. Communication has been weak.

This last point is to us the most important and is why BASEBALL UK exists: **To provide a regular forum for communication on any and every aspect of UK baseball.** Improved communication leads to improved standards - in every area.

Those of us who play and are involved in the game know it simply to be the best team sport in the world. We are convinced, are we not, that if the British public were exposed to baseball in only a small way, they would take to it with verve and enthusiasm. They would love it. Our sport would grow, exceptional players would be developed and a great contribution to UK sport would be made.

All this is possible.

It is up to all of us as players, officials and fans to create the climate for it to happen. Responsibility is the key word . . . plus a lot of hard work.

The time is right. Media interest in baseball is high. Baseball clothing looks set to become one of

the latest fashion crazes. Baseball movies galore have been shown throughout the country. Satellite TV covers Major League games from America. Exposure is increasing all the time.

British baseball has come a long way in the last few years. A dramatic increase in the number of players and the GB team's entry into European group A competition are just two aspects of this. The National League, though currently without a sponsor, looks set to continue and the Enfield Spartans, with their complete domination of domestic competition last year, have set a standard that other teams must now challenge.

So we aim to focus on some very nitty gritty areas; umpiring, coaching, scheduling, the structure of the BBF and how it works, ground improvements, fitness, conditioning and just who are the best players and teams in the UK?

The bread and butter of the magazine is news; both game reports and also what's going on in your area of the baseball world. Send us your news. Send us photos of your games. Send us photos of your teams and a team profile. Send us box scores and game reports.

The information you send and your views and opinions are the glue that holds the game together and each issue we will print them.

BASEBALL UK aims to be the stimulus that will kick start baseball into the sporting mainstream. It is up to us and you to achieve that goal.

And while we're achieving it, let's enjoy it. Line drives, home runs, double plays, pitchouts, balks, strike outs, no-hitters, bad calls, good calls, pressure, the game winning hit, the game losing error, strength, speed, finesse, beauty and grace, the spectacular play the mundane play. Our game has all of these things and more.

It's up to us to make it even better and bigger.

Welcome to the first issue of BASEBALL UK.



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FRONT COVER

KEITH WILESMITH PITCHING
IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE
FINAL, RICHMOND 1989.
PHOTO BY NIGEL FARROW

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THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED

We reprint here a short article by William Morgan, the recently retired editor of The Baseball Mercury (see April News). In it he tells the story of the London Major League of the thirties. We trust it proves inspirational.

During the 1930's a total of five leagues, usually described as professional but by North American standards semi-professional, were organised. Most of the teams were short-lived; the peak years for numbers of teams was 1936 when some 29 teams operated, but by 1939 numbers had dwindled to 7. The London Major League which operated in 1936 and 1937 was probably the most ambitious of these ventures. Its clubs played in greyhound racing stadiums in London and some of the clubs were financially backed by greyhound racing concerns. The backbone of players in this league were Canadian ice-hockey players. The Greyhound Racing Association, which backed at least two of these ballclubs, also operated two ice-hockey teams at Harringay arena.

At the start of the 1937 season there were seven clubs in the LML, White City, Harringay, West Ham, Hackney Royals, Romford Wasps, Streatham & Mitcham Giants and the Catford Saints. The Saints were a Mormon team and its players described themselves as amateurs; as New London they had beaten another Mormon team, the Rochdale Greys, to win the National Baseball Association Challenge Cup in 1935. Players in the LML were paid £2.50 - £3 per game, whereas in the Northern Leagues £1.50 was common.

West Ham had good publicity and talented players. The club was backed by the wealthy Canadian L.D. Wood and it played in the West Ham F.C. colours of

blue - a number of the clubs chose the colours of neighbouring soccer or rugby teams. Streatham & Mitcham received some heavy early defeats and quickly withdrew. White City appear to have led for most of the season and finished with triple honours - LML Champions, NBA Challenge Cup Winners and LML Cup Winners. The League competition was based on each team playing each other four times, while the Cup seems to have been a knockout decided on the aggregate scores from home and away legs. As for attendances, some reports mention crowds of 4,000 to 5,000 while a game at West Ham versus White City drew more than 13,000 fans. It seems likely that several of the clubs lost money as many did not continue in 1937.

Six teams began in 1937, based in three stadia, West Ham, Romford and Nunhead F.C. This meant that four of the greyhound stadia had given the thumbs down to baseball. Nunhead hosted the Catford Saints and Nunhead (who withdrew about halfway through the season), West Ham shared its ground with a new club the Pirates and Romford Wasps shared with Corinthians. Romford Wasps, who finished last in 1936, won the title in 1937 and lost in the final of the NBA Challenge Cup to Hull. Where attendances were mentioned they were much lower than in 1936 and the league was disbanded sometime after the end of the 1937 season.

NEXT ISSUE

WE PREVIEW THE TOP BBF TEAMS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY AND RATE THEIR CHANCES . . . PLUS

Latest developments within the BBF - full story on the Don Smallwood case . . . First game reports from around the BBF . . . Latest news and schedules on the National League . . . Report on Southern Tigers 5 game pre-season visit to Holland . . . Ground improvements - improve your ground improve your baseball . . . Council corner - Hints and tips on how to develop productive relationships with your local council . . . GB trial PLUS BOX SCORES, TRAINING TIPS, READERS LETTERS, CLASSIFIEDS, NEWS AND PREVIEWS OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Iain Lanario. The Spartans hurler pitched them to a tight win.

ENFIELD SPARTANS 10 HULL METS 9

BBF KNOCKOUT CUP FINAL REPORT

by Gary Bedingfield

Last October 15, my club, the Enfield Spartans went head-to-head with the Hull Mets in the final of the BBF Knockout Cup at Fox Hollies Leisure Centre in Birmingham. Having already finished first in Division I of the BBFS, we were hoping to "do the triple" (i.e. win the division, the KO Cup and the National Club Championship). The previous year, we'd easily defeated Nottingham's Southglade Hornets 9-4. Facing G.B. pitcher Brian Thurston and company would be no cakewalk for us on a threatening, cold afternoon.

The Mets jumped to a 1-0 first inning lead when Brian Thurston drew a walk with one out, stole second, advanced to third on a wild pitch and stole home. We knotted the score in the bottom of the second when Australian Rob Murphy singled and eventually scored on my sacrifice bunt. Each team scored single runs in the third, and our side went up 3-2, courtesy of a tremendous triple hit by Murphy. The Mets tied the score in the fifth but our hurler Iain Lanario was given a 3-run cushion as we scored three more times to lead 6-3 at the end of six frames.

Hull came back with a vengeance immediately, sending eight men to the plate and regaining the lead, 7-6. Mets second baseman Frank Parker's 2-run single highlighted the rally. Brian Thurston then held us scoreless in their half of the seventh inning after we had scored in 5 consecutive frames. Hull scored again in the top of the eighth when leftfielder Ian Asquith lead off with a single, went to second on an error and later came home on a sacrifice fly to deep centre by Darren "Iceman" Turtle.

The Spartans stormed back in the eighth. A leadoff double and 2-out hits by Steve Simmons and David Russ levelled the score at 8-8. Things looked good for us when Steve Simmons turned a double play in the ninth, but a series of errors allowed Hull to go up 9-8. It was now or never. Failing to score would end our hopes of "doing the triple".

Oscar Marcelino led off the inning with a walk and went to third on Ron Murphy's fourth hit of the contest. Then it was my turn. Thurston's first pitch was in the dirt, sending Murphy to second. Manager Jack Akers then called time and simply said: "Take a strike and lay one down - I want that tying run". As Jack returned to the third base coaching box, I could see the Mets infield moving in on the dirt. They knew what was coming.

My bunt would have to be perfect to score Oscar.

The pitch was a little high but I squared around to lay it down. It wasn't a good bunt and Brian Thurston pounced on it. Oscar was caught off third but Brian's throw went over the third baseman's head. Marcelino scored. As the ball bounced around in foul territory out in left, Rob Murphy raced around third and crossed the plate just before the throw. We had, as they say, snatched victory from the jaws of defeat.

The Mets gave us a run for our money. Brian Thurston logged 14 strikeouts, rapped out three hits and deservedly collected the Match MVP Award. As for us, a win over Sutton in the next week's National Club Championship Final would put the finishing touches on our Dream Season.

Gary Bedingfield is the Enfield Spartans' first string catcher and a G.B. International.

Spartans 10
Mets 9

HULL					ENFIELD				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Marshall 1b	3	2	0	1	R Lanario ss	4	1	0	0
B Thurston p	5	3	2	1	Simmons 2b	4	2	1	1
Turtle ss	4	0	1	2	Russ cf	5	1	4	2
Parker 2b	5	1	2	1	I Lanario p	4	1	0	0
Maltby c	4	1	1	1	Marcelino 1b	4	1	0	0
MThurston rf 3b 4	0	0	0	0	Murphy rf	5	3	4	2
Peacock cf	5	1	2	0	Bedingfield c	4	0	1	1
Brown 3b	3	0	0	0	Cruickshank lf 4	1	1	1	0
P Thurston rf	1	0	0	0	S Lanario 3b	4	0	1	0
Asquith lf	4	1	1	0					
Totals	38	9	9	6	Totals	38	10	12	6

Hull 101 010 411 9
Enfield 011 121 022 10

E: Brown (2), R Lanario (2), Bedingfield (2), Marshall, B Thurston, Marcelino, Murphy. DP: Enfield 1. LOB: Hull 11, Enfield 9. 2B: Turtle, Parker, Murphy, Cruickshank. 3B: Murphy. SB: B Thurston (3), R Lanario (2), Parker, Simmons, Cruickshank. S: Bedingfield. SF: Turtle. Struckout: Mets (Marshall, Turtle, M Thurston, Brown (3)); Spartans (R Lanario (3), Simmons (3), Russ, Marcelino (2), Murphy, Bedingfield, S Lanario (3)).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hull						
Thurston (L)	8*	12	10	6	4	14
Enfield						
Lanario (W)	9	9	9	5	4	6

* Pitched to 3 batters in 9th.
HBP: Marshall, P Thurston (by Lanario). WP: Thurston (2). PB: Maltby (3), Bedingfield T: 2:46. Umpires: Thesingh, Foster, Benson.

1990 BBF KNOCK OUT CUP DRAW

The draw for the 1990 BBF Knockout Cup was made in late March. Thirty seven teams entered the competition, all with the aim of reaching the final on the 7th October.

Defending Champions the Enfield Spartans will play their first round match against the winners of Hoddesdon v Sidcup. The full draw for the preliminary round and the first round is shown below with the home team being shown on the top line. The eight teams that win through to the quarter-finals will enter a second draw which will produce random ties. Use this table to track the progress of the teams as we bring you the match reports and results over the next 5 months.

PRELIMINARY ROUND By APRIL 29	FIRST ROUND By MAY 7	SECOND ROUND By MAY 28	QUARTER FINALS
Hoddesdon Sharks Sidcup Tamber Eagles	Crawley Giants High Wycombe Enfield Spartans	_____	_____
Bournemouth Bees Torbay Tigers	Waltham Abbey Totteridge Trailblazers ANC Reading Royals	_____	_____
Bristol Black Sox Wedmore Brewers	Crawley Comets Barnes Stormers Witham Crusaders	_____	_____
	Arun Panthers Sutton Braves Cambridge Royals Milton Keynes Rockets	_____	_____
	Liverpool Trojans Liverpool Tigers	_____	_____
Ashby Royals Long Eaton Sluggers	Nottingham Pirates Southglade Hornets Harrogate Redwings	_____	_____
	Sutton Royals Birmingham Braves Hull Giants Hull Mets	_____	_____
Kirkcaldy Warriors Clydesdale Kestrels	Glasgow Diamonds Leeds City Royals Sheffield Bladerunners	_____	_____
	Huddersfield Heroes Barnsley Old Town	_____	_____

FOR THE LATEST NEWS, SCORES AND INFORMATION, CALL THE
BASEBALL UK HOTLINE on 0898 121738

Around First by the Slapper

Lots of changes for Division I of the BBFS this year:

Keith Wilesmith has left the Croydon Blue Jays in favour of a new entry in Division III (Sidcup). Keith batted .494 in 1989 and belted 10 homers - two-thirds of the Jays' dingers.

Second-year manager Norman Laing has a big gap to fill... Glenn Libby has resigned as player-manager of the Barnes Stormers, and has joined the Reading Royals. Replacing Glenn at the Stormers' helm is pitcher Jason Godfrey.

Sutton Braves have bolstered their lineup by luring Steve Keeping from the Witham Crusaders of Division II. The lefthander will give Braves player-manager Alan Bloomfield plenty of pitching depth.

The Hemel Red Sox have folded. Their place in the top flight will be taken by the Arun Panthers, who are led by G.B. pitcher Julian Fountain.

Waltham Abbey Arrows were relegated to Division II at the end of the '88 campaign and have come straight back up after winning the division.... Cambridge Monarchs finished higher than Arun but were denied a place in Division I because they are located outside the geographical boundaries of the BBFS. As members of the East Anglia region, they are virtually assured a BBF playoff place every year and are not eligible to represent the BBFS in post-season play...

Barnes Stormer and Southern Tiger Julian Dodwell is the new president of the BBFS. Julian has played baseball in three countries: England, Australia and the U.S.A. (where he relieved for a team called the Brooklyn Dodgers)... Rose Hill, home to the Sutton Braves and the Croydon Blue Jays, is being renovated and will be unavailable for the 1990 season. Croydon will be playing this year's home games at Roundshaw. Sutton are looking into the possibility of sharing Barn Elms with Barnes (confirmed - Ed)

Long-time Croydon Blue Jay Phil Laing is celebrating 30 years with the club. He joined the Jays at the age of 13 in 1960...

The Reading Royals had to put off their pre-season trip to Paris. Jack Fragucla's crew will head to the French capital in October instead.

SOUTH SCOUT

ENFIELD SPARTANS

The reigning champs have now got the task of keeping what they've earned. Iain Lanario should continue to receive mound support from Oscar Marcelino and now Ed Duff.

Their infield remains intact with Gary Bedingfield (c), Rob Lanario (ss) and Steve Simmons (2b) all returning to hold down the middle. Their outfield is full of lads who can hit and carry their weight on defense, notably Rob Murphy and Dave Russ.

SUTTON BRAVES

This team came as close as you can in '89 and look to 1990 to do it. Their effort will be greatly helped by the addition of lefty Steve Keeping on the mound and in the batting order.

Their middle of Brad Thompson (c), Barry Mayfield (ss), Alan Bloomfield (2b) and Alan Smith (cf) offer their experience that is unmatched throughout the 1st division.

READING ROYALS

Strong young club here. Veterans Steve Frost and Peter Edwards will be back along with fellow GB international Paul Bullock.

BARNES STORMERS

Team of good players. Again will be in the running. GB internationals include Julian Dodwell, Ben and Dan Godfrey and newly appointed manager Jason Godfrey.

CRAWLEY GIANTS

Rick Soan holds down line up at no. 3 in batting order and hopefully will be backed by Steve Chin in one of the division's more potent 1-2 punches. A building team that is usually tough.

CROYDON BLUEJAYS

With National League MVP Keith Wilesmith departed, this club will be in transition. Veterans Darrin Ward, Paul Collins and John Harrington will continue to make Croydon tough to beat.

WALTHAM ABBEY ARROWS

Look out for this club. Back in the first division, they could be tough. Lefthander Simon Bowden along with righthander Kevin Pickston give this club some good pitching to start with.

ARUN PANTHERS

This team has developed steadily over the last few years. This being their first "go" in division 1, they should have an interesting year. With GB international Julian Fountain heading the pitching staff there should be some good ballgames in Arun this season.

YORKSHIRE SCOUT

HARROGATE RED WINGS

With the presence of good American players, Harrogate were a strong side last year and should continue improving in 1990. However, they may well struggle in BBF competitions where restrictions on the number of foreign players apply.

LEEDS CITY ROYALS

Always good competitors, the Royals return to form should make them hard to beat. Pitcher Keith Dewhurst could be the key to their season.

BARNESLEY OLD TOWN

An unpredictable side - the dark horses of the division. Always good for an unexpected upset somewhere in the season.

SHEFFIELD BLADERUNNERS

A reformed team a with great deal of potential. An overall lack of experience has been their undoing over the last 2 years when they faded during the latter part of the season. This could be the year when this changes.

HUDDERSFIELD HEROES

Last seasons whipping boys, they gave quite a few shocks to the overconfident and should do the same again this year. Yet another dark horse.

BRAMLEY JETS

The "New Boys", this being their first year in the BBF. A combination of some raw recruits and former Leeds City Royals they could cause problems.

WANTED MORE SCOUTS A Brief Message From "Chief Scout"

Can you provide brief capsule reviews of teams in your BBF division? Merseyside, Humberside, Scotland, Wales the Midlands and the South West are just a few of the BBF regions that we want to cover. Every region needs to be covered.

If you think you could give brief and simple reports on an area or division that you know about, write now to:

The Editor. BASEBALL UK
31 Maryon Mews, London NW3 2PY

NATIONAL BASEBALL LEAGUE Northern Conference Schedule

The 12 week schedule for the Northern Conference of the National League is shown below in full. The Southern Conference schedule as well as the venue for the season final will be in our next issue.

JUNE 9TH		
Yorkshire	v	Nottinghamshire
Humberside	v	Lancashire
JUNE 16TH		
Humberside	v	Yorkshire
Lancashire	v	Nottinghamshire
JUNE 23RD		
Yorkshire	v	Lancashire
Nottinghamshire	v	Humberside
JUNE 30TH		
Lancashire	v	Humberside
Nottinghamshire	v	Yorkshire
JULY 7TH Mid-season Rain Date		
JULY 14TH		
Nottinghamshire	v	Lancashire
Yorkshire	v	Humberside
JULY 21ST		
Humberside	v	Nottinghamshire
Lancashire	v	Yorkshire
JULY 28TH Mid-season Rain Date		
AUGUST 4TH		
1st team	v	4th team Match 1
2nd team	v	3rd team Match 2
AUGUST 11TH		
Winner Match 1	v	Winner Match 2
AUGUST 18TH Rain Date		
AUGUST 25TH		
North Winners	v	South Winners

BASEBALL UK NOTICEBOARD

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS

Got a camera? We need shots of baseball from all over the country. If you can provide us with 35mm black and white contact prints (plus the negatives) then you could see your shots in the next issue of BASEBALL UK. Write or call us on 071 433 1709)

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR TEAM

Each issue we want to turn the spotlight on one team from the BBF. Send us a team photo (black and white print or negative) and the story behind your club. Players names, ages, positions and experience will be needed as well as the aims and goals for the club. To arrange to have your club in the spotlight call us or write.

LEARN TO BE A SCORER

If you want to score BBF games then Lynn Marshall the Treasurer/Registrar of the National Scorers Association would like to hear from you.

You will find out how to complete score sheets, box scores and stats and in the process, become a valuable asset to your club.

For more information, write to:
Lynn Marshall
National Scorers Association
3 Ashendon Drive
Woodhall Street
Hull HU8 8DY

WANT TO BE AN UMPIRE?

How would you like to run baseball games? The hot seat in baseball needs new umpires, people who can run a game, maintain its competitive integrity and foster good attitudes and standards of behaviour amongst the players.

If you fit the bill, or simply would like to find out more information about what it takes to be an "UMP", then contact Colin Dormer, BBF Umpiring Scheduler on the address below.

Colin Dormer
7 Sunnyhurst Close
Sutton
Surrey SM1 2PT

COACHES WANTED

The future of the game in this country is entirely dependant on developing highly qualified, competent coaches that can inspire, lead and develop outstanding ballplayers. It is at the grassroots level that the game will either thrive or die. Coaches are vital to the success of the sport in the UK.

If you want to become a coach, if you're an ex-player looking for a new way to contribute to the game, then Alan Wilson, Head of The National Coaching Association would like to hear from you. Contact him at:

10 Watson Avenue. Hull.
Telephone. (0482) 76169

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GETTING THE MOST



PURPOSE

Winning games comes from being well organised and keeping everyone active. To organise practice and make it work, the players and coach must believe in their potential ability, work with enthusiasm and believe in organisation. This is a selling job on the part of the coach. You are a teacher, salesman and coach. Believe it and work with enthusiasm.

PROCEDURE

I try to keep everybody busy every minute of the two and one-half to three hours of practice as follows:

3:00 pm

- a Loosen Up - 1) Exercises
2) Throwing
- b Play Pepper
- c Condition Drill Pick-Ups
- d Ball-in-Dirt Drill

3:15 pm

SQUARE DRILLS FOR GROUND BALLS

- a Catchers practice throws from home to second base.
- b Pitchers and extra outfielders hit fungos or shag for fungo hitters.

c Fungo hitters hit to infielders in their positions. Each position has a fungo hitter. The first baseman's fungo hitter is down the third base line about 20 feet from home plate. The third baseman's fungo hitter is about 20 feet down the first base line. The shortstop's fungo hitter is down the first base line about 55 feet. The second baseman's fungo hitter is about 55 feet down the third base line.

Each infielder is backed up by at least one outfielder. The fungo hitter hits ground balls to the infielder who fields the ball and throws it back to the fungo hitter's shagger. Outfielders back up missed ground balls.

3:30 pm

FLY BALL SQUARE DRILL

Keep the players in the same position but hit fly balls to the outfielders. The outfielders catch the ball and throw it in to the infielders who act as cut-off men. The infielder relays the ball to the shagger of the fungo hitters.

3:35 pm

INFIELDER SLOW ROLLER DRILL

Coach stands at home plate with a

catcher. Infielders are in their proper positions. All other players assemble at homeplate area.

One extra player stands in left-hander's batting box and breaks for first base as the coach hits the slow roller to the third base area. Third baseman fields the slow roller and attempts to throw out the runner. First baseman throws ball back to catcher for the coach.

Next extra player steps in batter's box and runs to first as the coach hits a slow roller to shortstop area. Shortstop attempts to throw out the runner. First baseman returns the ball to the catcher for the coach.

Next player steps into batter's box and runs to first as the coach hits a slow roller to second base area. Second baseman attempts to throw out the runner. First baseman returns the ball to the catcher for the coach.

Next player, with a pitcher on the mound, steps in the batter's box and runs to first as the coach hits a slow roller to the first baseman. The pitcher covers first for a put out at first.

If you have more than one infielder for a position, hit balls to the rest of the fielders in that position before you hit to the next position. The first baseman or first basemen, if more than one is in that position, should be taught the proper footwork on these throws.

3:50 pm

INFIELDER DOUBLE PLAY SQUARE DRILL

a Catchers work at the backstop on ball-in-dirt drill.

b Pitchers out in first base foul area play pepper.

c Outfielders out in third base foul area play pepper.

d Infielders pair off as shortstops and second basemen. Each base is assumed to be a second base. You have a shortstop and second baseman at first, at second, at third and at homeplate. They all face the mound.

Each second baseman rolls a ball to the second baseman diagonally opposite him across the pitcher's mound. That second baseman flips the ball to his shortstop who throws the ball counterclockwise around the baseline to the other second baseman who is assuming the position of a first baseman to complete the double play.

After five minutes, the same procedure is used to make the double play but the

OUT OF A DAY'S PRACTICE by Ken Perrone

shortstop throws diagonally across the infield to the other shortstop who flips to the second baseman, who throws counterclockwise around the baseline to complete the double play. This lasts for five minutes.

4:00 pm

PITCHERS AND INFIELDER IN POSITION

a Pitchers field ball hit to them and throw to bases. Concentrate on pitchers using crow hop to throw to bases. Infielders cover the bases.

b Catchers roll out with ball and call bases for pitchers to throw.

c Outfielders work on pop-ups.

4:05pm

PICK-OFFS AND RUN DOWNS

a Two groups work on run downs, one between first and home and one between third and home.

b Pitchers work on pick-off plays at second base.

c With runners on third and first, have pitchers practice defense of double steal.

1 Pitcher steps back off rubber.

2 Back off the rubber and fake throw to first, whirl and check third or throw to third for pick-off.

3 If runner breaks from first, check the runner on third, whirl and throw to second base.

4 The second baseman or shortstop runs the runner back to first but never takes his eye off the runner on third. First baseman follows the runner stealing second to get a short rundown. Don't follow too closely.

4:25 pm

OFFENSE

Keep two running groups, one at first and one at third.

a Delayed steal - break just as the catcher makes the catch. Go full speed and slam on the brakes about fifteen feet from second base. If there is a play on you, attempt to get in a run down. If no play, go into second base.

b Walk off steal - break when the pitcher takes his first look at you. Slam on brakes after ten-foot break. Get in run down. This will allow runner on third an opportunity to steal home.

c First-and-second steal (hoping to set up a first and third situation).

1 Man on first breaks toward second as the pitcher releases the ball. He slams

on the breaks after ten feet and scrambles back toward first attempting to draw the throw from the catcher. Runner slams on brakes short of first base so he cannot be tagged by first baseman.

2 The runner on second base takes a good lead and breaks for third as soon as the catcher releases the ball toward first base for the pick-off.

3 If the man on first gets caught in a run down, we then treat it as a first-and-third situation. Runner on third breaks for home when he has the infielder with the ball at a disadvantage such as a left handed first baseman running toward second at full speed.

4:35 pm

PRE-GAME INFIELD-OUTFIELD DRILL

Take a regular infield-outfield practice every other day. Alternate every other practice using situation drills. Situations - use pitchers and extra players for runners. Set up defensive team.

a No one on base, hit to right, left and center.

b Runner on first, hit to all fields.

c Runner on second, hit to all fields.

d No one on base, extra base hit to all fields.

e Runner on third, fly out to all fields.

f Runners on first and third, deep fly to all fields.

g Double plays.

1 Pitcher to second to first.

2 Pitcher to third to first.

3 Pitcher to home to first.

h Priority drill on pop flies and outfield-infield fly balls.

i Throwing procedure after an out.

1 Strikeout - first to second to shortstop to third to catcher to first.

2 Ground out - first to catcher to second to shortstop to third to catcher to first.

3 Fly out - to relay man and around infield as above.

4:50 pm

BUNTING - Four Areas for Bunting

Put bunters at home, at first at second and at third. Each bunter has a pitcher throwing to him. The pitchers stand near the pitching mound. Each bunter has two fielders to bunt to. If catchers are available you can have a catcher in full gear for each bunter. Catchers should catch with one hand only. Bunts are too easily fouled, which can injure the bare hand.

5:00 pm

SUICIDE BUNTING

Discuss proper time of breaking from second and third. Put all bunters at home plate and runners on second and third. Have a complete defensive infield including a catcher and a pitcher. Players should switch positions as fielders, pitchers, runners and bunters.

The pitcher throws the pitch to the bunter and the suicide action takes place. Infielders cover the bases, runners move up as timed with the pitch, bunter bunts ball, pitcher breaks in as do the third baseman and first baseman. Catcher covers home and calls the play. The best timing for the runner's break from a base on a suicide bunt is to break when the pitcher's striding foot hits the ground.

Alternate this suicide drill with the defensive play of the third baseman and pitcher on bunts with first and second occupied.

5:10pm

END PRACTICE WITH BASE RUNNING

Players take turns acting as base coaches.

a Close play at first.

b Round the base.

c Extra base hit.

d Hook slide at second.

e Pop-up slide at third.

f Head first slide at home.

g Catchers blocking plate at home.

Caution players not to hit catcher hard. Teach catcher how to give base runner part of the plate and have runners slide for that area of plate.

Note: Twice a week review signals for:

a Straight steal.

b Delayed steal.

c Walk-off steal.

d Walk - steal as pitcher starts his set motion.

e First and second double steal.

f First and third double steal.

g Suicide bunt.

h Bunt.

i Take.

j Hit.

k Hit and run.



Training, proper execution of the fundamentals and increased knowledge of the tactical elements of baseball are vital to promoting high standards in the the UK game.

BASEBALL UK intends to be a forum of education as well as information. Each issue we will run an article or extract that covers areas that we feel are beneficial to improving every team's standard of play.

The drill session described by Ken Perrone opposite is one of many that are featured in the excellent book Treasury Of Baseball Drills by Danny Litwhiler. The book describes over 250 drills that cover every area of the game. Should you want a copy, you can write to Parker Publishing Company Inc, West Nyack, New York, USA.

If there are drills or other aspects of the game that you would like to see featured here, then please write to us. We are also interested in hearing about your teams practice drills, how they work and why you feel they could be of benefit to others.

And if you think you know a better way of achieving the same ends, then let us know.



Great Britain expects every man . . . The GB squad line up before the start of their game with Belgium at the 1989 European Baseball Championships - Paris France.

I Love Paris In The Fall

Last September, Great Britain sallied forth to do battle with the best in Europe. The result was encouraging, but as Dick Lane reports, there's still a long way to go.

by Dick Lane

Ahh! September in Paris. Warm breezes, young wines, delectable food and the ding of aluminium? Oh well, the pounding of the baseball into leather can still be heard as it always has been.

This past September '89, the European Baseball Championships were held at three separate diamonds located in the towns of Sarcelles, Savigny and in Paris at Bois de Vincennes. These towns are all on the outskirts "periphirique" that belts the inner city of Paris. All were easily accessible by car and to some extent public transport. And the traffic wasn't too bad either.

And then there was the Baseball, or "Honkball" as the Dutch call it, and a good amount of it too. The competition was the 21st of its kind and when it began September 1 there were eight countries represented, the teams being split into two "Poules". Group A consisted of Holland,

and Great Britain. Group B consisted of Italy, Spain, France and Germany. Between them they played 34 games in 9 days. It was really nice to be around these lovely ballfields (built specially by The French Government) and to watch some pretty good players.

The tournament, in the end, was won by Italy. As was to be expected, they met Holland in the final, Italy's catcher giving them an early lead with a 2-run homer. They also changed pitchers often, 3 in the last 4 innings. Holland are a very serious team on offence and had repeated opportunities throughout to establish a lead and put the Italians under pressure.

It must be understood that both Holland and Italy play at a level that puts them in a category well apart from the rest of the competition.

The other teams played some well matched and hard fought games. The Great Britain team was successful in

retaining its European "A" status that had been achieved by their 1988 performance in Birmingham. Apart from the odd blow-out, the GB squad did very well. They fought hard and played with spirit. There was good clutch hitting from Rick Soan and Julian Dodwell throughout the tournament. Oscar Marcellino pitched a complete game against Belgium as well as driving in 5 runs in the same game. And to any one who is not sure, Brian Thurston is an excellent ballplayer, Dan Godfrey is the best 1st baseman in the country and Steve Nero, before being forced out of the competition by a serious injury (sustained during the game against West Germany) could provide leadership through his talent and maturity.

Team manager Mike Harrold of Nottingham and his staff deserve credit as their team handled themselves well both on and off the field and won the tough one at the end when they had to.

Belgium 8
Great Britain 7

GREAT BRITAIN					BELGIUM				
ab	r	h	b	bi	ab	r	h	b	bi
Bloomfield ss	3	1	0	0	Vandermeer 2b	5	1	1	1
D Godfrey 1b	1	1	0	0	Vanthillo rf	3	0	0	0
Soan cf	4	1	1	0	Vertommen rf	2	0	0	0
Dodwell rf	4	2	2	1	Vanwoensel rf	1	0	1	0
Marcelino 3b	4	1	0	0	Brouwers ss	2	2	0	0
G Sewell lf	1	0	0	0	O Boermans 1b	5	3	3	1
Nero 1b-p	2	1	1	2	Delannoy cf	3	1	0	2
Bedingfield c	5	0	1	2	Ouzia dh	6	0	3	1
Smith 2b	4	0	0	0	Segers lf	1	0	0	1
Strout p	2	0	0	0	Verhey/gen lf	2	0	0	0
Bullock lf	2	0	0	0	Heuten c	4	1	0	1
					J Tiliaros 3b	4	0	1	0
					R Tiliaros p	0	0	0	0
					D Boermans p	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	7	6	5		38	8	9	7

Great Britain	000	340	000	0	7
Belgium	410	101	000	1	9

E: Vantillo (2), Bloomfield, Dodwell, Marcelino, Sewell. DP: Great Britain 1, Belgium 1. LOB: Great Britain 7, Belgium 18. 2B: Nero, Vanwoensel. 3B: Soan. HR: O Boermans. SB: Godfrey, Dodwell, Brouwers, O Boermans. S: Brouwers. SF: Delannoy. Caught stealing: None. Struck out: Great Britain (D Godfrey, Soan 2, Marcelino, Nero, Bedingfield, Smith 2, Strout, Bullock 2); Belgium (Anthillo, Vertommen, Brouwers 2, Dealnnoy, Verheylewegen, Heuten 2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Great Britain						
Strout	4.1	4	6	2	6	1
Nero (L)	5.1	5	2	2	7	7
Belgium						
R Tiliaros	4.1	3	6	5	6	1
D Boermans (W)	5.2	3	1	1	2	7

HBP: O Boermans, Segers (by Strout), Smith (by Tiliaros). WP: Nero (2). PB: Bedingfield. T: 3:42. A: 350 (est). Umpires: Palares, Magnin, L Johansson.

France 14
Great Britain 4

GREAT BRITAIN					FRANCE				
ab	r	h	b	bi	ab	r	h	b	bi
Bloomfield ss	3	1	0	0	Munoz ss	4	2	1	1
D Godfrey 1b	3	2	1	0	Baudin 2b	4	3	2	1
Soan cf	3	0	1	1	Lebhar c	2	1	1	2
Dodwell rf	3	0	0	0	Levy c	0	0	0	0
Sewell lf	3	0	0	0	Bonnot 1b-rf	2	0	0	1
Bedingfield c	2	0	0	0	Chich'liche dh	5	3	2	2
B Godfrey 3b	2	0	0	0	Xuereb 1b-c	3	2	1	0
Marcelino 3b	1	0	0	0	Bowwery cf	4	1	4	3
Smith 2b	3	1	1	0	Didot rf	2	0	0	0
Strout p	0	0	0	0	Fau rf	2	0	0	0
					Tuffraud 1b	1	0	1	2
					Capparos lf	3	0	0	0
					Meurant 3b	4	2	3	0
					Thomas p	0	0	0	0
Totals	26	4	4	3		36	14	15	12

Great Britain	003	010	0	4
Belgium	250	121	3	14

E: Bloomfield, Dodwell (2), Strout (2), D Godfrey, Bedingfield, Smith, Munoz, Baudin, Levy. DP: Great Britain 1. LOB: Great Britain 5, France 9. 2B: Baudin, Meurant. 3B: Bowwery, Meurant. SB: Munoz (2), Baudin (2), Meurant (2), Chichportiche, Fau, Capparos, Bedingfield. Struck out: Great Britain (Bloomfield (2), D Godfrey, Soan (2), Dodwell (2), Sewell, Bedingfield, B Godfrey, Marcelino, Smith); France (Munoz, Baudin, Bonnot).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Great Britain						
Strout (L)	6.2	15	14	9	7	3
France						
Thomas (W)	7	4	4	0	4	12

WP: Strout, Thomas. PB: Bedingfield, Xuereb. T: 2:26. Umpires: Pieters, Hardies, Johansson.

Sweden 5
Great Britain 4

GREAT BRITAIN					SWEDEN				
ab	r	h	b	bi	ab	r	h	b	bi
Bloomfield ss	3	2	1	1	Lindstrom 2b	5	1	2	1
D Godfrey lf	3	0	0	0	Falk cf	3	1	0	0
Soan cf	3	0	1	1	Hasselstrom dh	4	0	1	1
Nero 1b	4	1	1	0	Nielsen c	3	0	1	0
Marcelino 3b	4	0	0	0	Johansson c	2	0	1	1
Dodwell rf	4	0	1	1	Flinth lf	3	1	1	0
Bedingfield c	4	0	0	0	Sundstrom rf	3	0	0	0
Smith 2b	3	0	0	0	Klingvall 1b	4	0	1	1
Thurston p	4	1	1	0	Rantzen ss	4	1	2	0
					Reimer 3b	3	1	0	0
					Astland p	0	0	0	0
					Fasten p	0	0	0	0
					Lindfors p	0	0	0	0
Totals	32	4	5	3		34	5	9	4

Great Britain	011	020	000	7
Belgium	010	010	201	9

E: Lindstrom, Sundstrom, Klingvall, Bloomfield, Godfrey, Marcelino, Thurston (2). DP: Great Britain 1, Belgium 1. LOB: Great Britain 5, Sweden 10. 2B: Johansson. 3B: Thurston. SB: Falk (2), Lindstrom, Rantzen. S: Smith. Struck out: Great Britain (Bloomfield, Soan, Nero, Marcelino (2), Bedingfield); Sweden (Hasselstrom (2), Flinth (2), Sundstrom, Rantzen, Klingvall, Johansson).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Great Britain						
Thurston (L)	6.1	9	5	3	6	8
Sweden						
Astland	7	5	4	4	1	5
Fasten	0.2	0	0	0	2	0
Lindfors (W)	2	0	0	0	0	1

WP: Astland (2), Thurston. PB: Nielsen. T: 2:35.

Belgium 8 Great Britain 7

A strong outing by Steve Nero, who could have easily won this close contest. Well matched and well played, Dodwell led the offense with two hits. An RBI double by Nero and single by Bedingfield pushed the offense who in the end were overcome by Boermans strong relief performance.

GB defense held tough continually throughout the game as Belgium left eighteen stranded.

Sweden 5 Great Britain 4

Another excellent quality baseball game. Both teams well matched in skill and determination. Heartbreak loss for lefty Brian Thurston as he struck out 8 going the distance.

On offense a Thurston triple driving in Steve Nero and Alan Bloomfield's RBI

single and two runs scored was the best Britain could manage this day.

Holland 35 Great Britain 0

Score tells it all. Fountain, Marcelino and Frost clearly felt the power of Hollands attack. Dodwell managed a double and that was it for the offense. It just goes to show what 30 years of amateur baseball with proper coaching can achieve as this Holland team showed poise, patience and skill in all aspects of their game.

France 14 Great Britain 4

Rick Strout's second outing. Again he could not contain the opposition. 8 errors did not help on the defensive side as France collected 15 hits to end this game after 7 innings.

RBI singles by Steve Nero and Rick



Dan Godfrey picks one out of the dirt.



Players three - Marcellino, Lanario and Fountain.



Soan was the offense.

**Great Britain 8
West Germany 7**

Even when Great Britain wins, Thurston doesn't, despite 6 and one-thirds

very gutsy innings to keep his team within reach. Steve Nero suffered HBP in the seventh inning after going two-for-two with two doubles and three RBI's. The injury forced Nero out of the game and subsequently the competition.



Julian Fountain was given his chance after the Holland massacre to secure the win in relief of Nero. He gave up three hits in two innings, held the opposition scoreless and greatly helped his own efforts by picking off two runners at first base. Truly

**Great Britain . . . 8
West Germany . . 6**

GREAT BRITAIN				WEST GERMANY					
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi		
Bloomfield ss	3	2	2	0	S Jager dh-1b	5	3	3	0
D Godfrey 1b	3	2	2	0	Possl rf	5	1	2	1
Soan cf	4	1	3	3	Wentz cf	5	0	1	1
Dodwell rf	4	1	1	0	Lods 1b	2	0	0	0
Marcellino 3b	4	1	1	2	Knuttel p	2	1	1	1
Thurston p	3	1	0	0	Winterrat II	4	0	3	2
B Godfrey lf	4	0	0	0	Mihlik 3b	4	0	0	0
Bedingfield c	3	0	1	2	Schinho c	5	0	2	0
Smith 2b	5	0	0	0	Stender 2b	4	0	0	0
					Zische ph	1	0	0	0
					F Jager ss	4	1	1	0
					Heidecker ph	1	0	0	0
					Schon p	0	0	0	0
Totals	38	8	8	7		42	6	13	5
Great Britain					302	100	020		8
West Germany					002	200	020		6

E: Bloomfield, D Godfrey, B Godfrey, Possl, Loos, F Jager. DP: West Germany 1. LOB: Great Britain 10, West Germany 12. 2B: S Jager (2), Possl (2), Soan, Winterrat. 3B: D Godfrey, Marcellino, S Jager. SB: Bloomfield, Soan, Thurston, Bedingfield, Winterrat. SF: Marcellino. Struck out: Great Britain (Soan, B Godfrey (2), Smith); West Germany (Loos (2), Mihlik (4), Schinho, Stender (2), Zische).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Great Britain						
Thurston (W)	9	13	6	4	3	10
West Germany						
Schon (L)	3.1	6	6	4	3	3
Knuttel	5.2	2	2	2	7	1

HBP: Bloomfield (by Schon). WP: Thurston (2), Knuttel. PB: Bedingfield (2), Schinho. T: 2:54. Umpires: Loperfido, Daubry, Garcia.

**France16
Great Britain . . . 8**

GREAT BRITAIN				FRANCE					
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi		
Munoz ss	4	1	1	0	R Lanario ss	3	1	1	2
Baudin 2b	4	3	0	1	S Sewell 3b	4	0	1	0
Lebhar c	4	3	0	1	Soan cf	4	0	2	0
Melera 1b	5	2	3	5	G Sewell rf	4	1	1	0
Chiche'tiche dh2	1	0	1	0	B Godfrey lf	4	2	1	0
Fau rf	0	0	0	0	Simmons 2b	1	0	0	0
Bowwery cf	5	1	3	1	Bassey 1b	2	1	1	2
Xuereb lf	5	1	2	1	Bullock pr	0	0	0	0
Didot rf-p	5	2	3	1	King c	4	0	1	0
Millio 3b	5	2	2	1	Strout p	1	1	0	0
Coste p	0	0	0	0	Frost p	2	0	0	0
Kaladgew p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	39	16	14	12		29	6	8	4
France					522	010	6		16
Great Britain					050	010	0		8

E: Bassey (4), Lanario, S Sewell, G Sewell, King, Frost, Munoz, Millio, Kaladgew. DP: Great Britain 1. LOB: France 10, Great Britain 8. 2B: Soan, Godfrey, 3B: Melera, Bowwery, Didot, Lanario. SB: Simmons (3), Munoz, Millio. S: Munoz, Lebhar. Struck out: France (Xuereb (2), Bowwery); Great Britain (Frost (2), Godfrey (2), Simmons, Bassey, S Sewell).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
France						
Coste	1.2	6	5	2	0	1
Kaladgew (W)	5	2	1	0	5	6
Didot	0.1	0	0	0	0	0
Great Britain						
Strout (L)	2	8	9	4	2	1
Frost	5	7	7	0	1	2

HBP: Lanario (by Kaladgew), Baudin, Chicheportiche (by Strout), Chicheportiche (by Frost). WP: Coste. PB: Lebhar. T: 2:33. Umpires: Johansson, Barkhuist, Daubay.

**Great Britain . . . 8
West Germany . . 7**

WEST GERMANY				GREAT BRITAIN					
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi		
S Jager dh	5	0	1	1	Bloomfield ss	4	1	0	0
Possel rf	4	1	0	0	D Godfrey lf-1b2	1	0	0	0
Wentz cf	4	2	1	0	Soan cf	2	3	0	0
Loos 1b	5	0	1	2	Nero 1b-p	2	1	2	3
Mihlik 3b	5	1	2	1	Lanario pr	0	1	0	0
Heidecher 2b	4	1	2	1	Fountain p	0	0	0	0
Eberlein pr	0	0	0	0	Thurston p-lf	3	1	1	1
Winterrat c	3	2	1	0	Dodwell rf	4	0	3	4
P Jager ss	3	0	1	0	Marcellino 3b	4	0	1	0
Hebig lf	4	0	1	1	Bedingfield c	4	0	0	0
F Jager ph	1	0	1	0	Smith 2b	4	0	1	0
Thuringer p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	38	7	11	6		29	8	8	8
Great Britain					302	100	020		8
West Germany					002	200	020		6

E: P Jager, Bloomfield (3), Marcellino, Bedingfield, Smith. DP: West Germany 2, Great Britain 1. LOB: West Germany 12, Great Britain 5. 2B: Mihlik (2), Nero (2), Dodwell, Hebig. SB: Soan (2), Bloomfield, Godfrey, Lanario, S Jager, Wentz, Heidecher. SF: Nero. Struck out: West Germany (Wentz, Loos, Mihlik, Heidecher, Winterrat (2), Jager, Hebig); Great Britain (Bloomfield (2), Thurston (2), Dodwell, Marcellino, Bedingfield, Smith).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
West Germany						
Thuringer (L)	8	8	8	8	6	8
Great Britain						
Thurston	6.1	8	7	5	7	7
Nero (W)	0.2	0	0	0	0	0
Fountain (SV)	2	3	0	0	1	1

HBP: Nero (by Thuringer). WP: Thurston. PB: Winterrat. T: 3:09. Umpires: Barkhuist, Anefalos, Garcia.

exciting moments.

The British offense was led by Dodwell with three hits and four RBI's, Rick Soan with three runs scored and Brian Thurston with an RBI single.

**Great Britain 9
Belgium 5**

Oscar Marcellino pitched nine innings of up - down - in - and - out, and stymied the Belgian offense repeatedly. He struck out five and gave up ten hits as he put his team in position to secure their place in the European A group. At the plate Marcellino had three hits and five RBI's including a triple. Rick Soan chipped in with two hits and two RBI's. Two runs scored by Dan Godfrey and Steve Sewell each contributed to a moving offense, on the run and aggressive.

**Holland35
Great Britain . . 0**

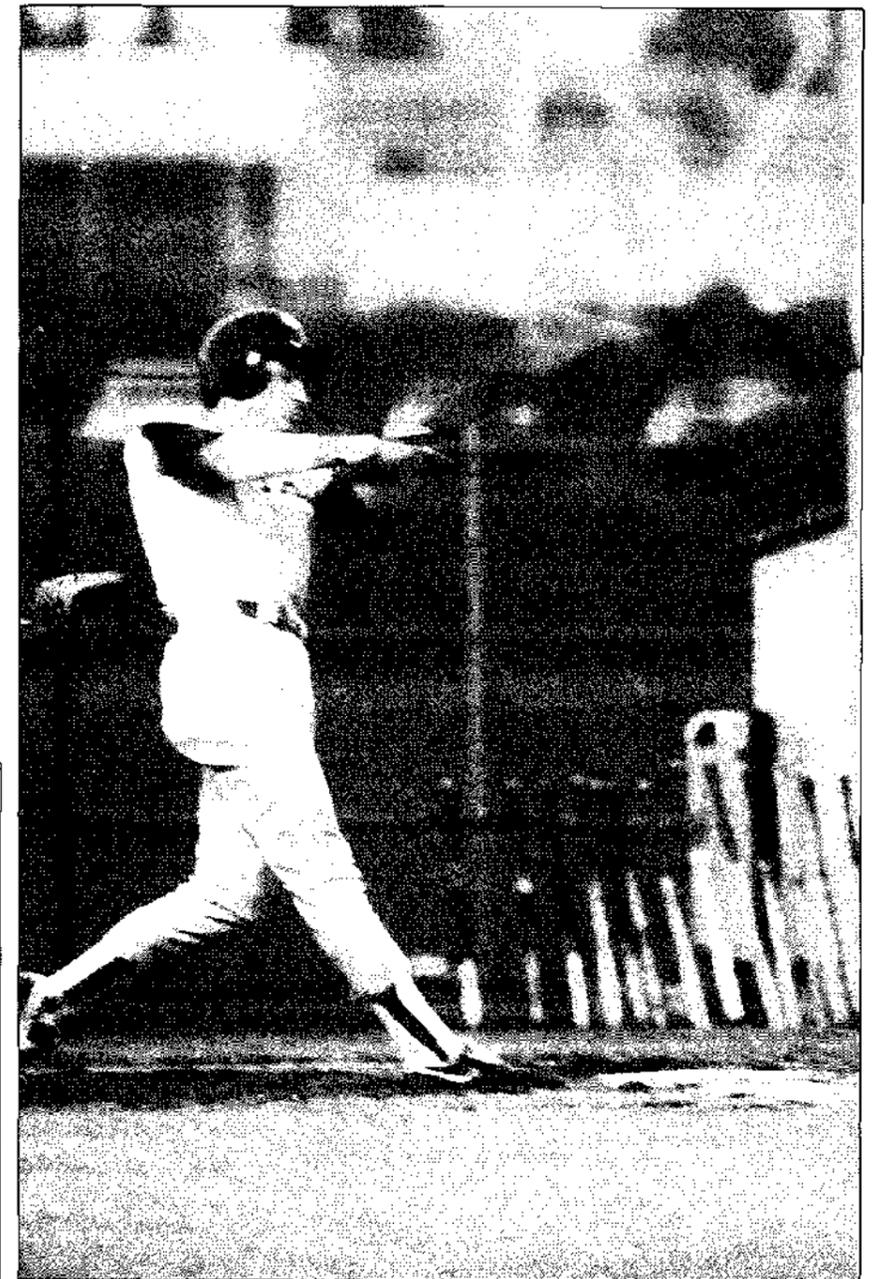
HOLLAND				GREAT BRITAIN					
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi		
Niggebrugge ss	7	4	7	3	D Godfrey 1b	3	0	0	0
Dalen cf	7	2	1	1	S Sewell 3b-lf	3	0	0	0
Anselena 2b	2	1	1	2	Bloomfield lf	0	0	0	0
Blazviere 3b	5	2	3	0	Soan cf	2	0	0	0
De Bruin 1b	3	1	1	1	Bullock rf	1	0	0	0
Vanaalan 2b	4	3	3	2	Dodwell rf-cf	3	0	1	0
Krut rf	2	1	1	0	G Sewell lf	1	0	0	0
Crowel rf-1b	5	3	4	3	B Godfrey 3b	1	0	0	0
Renselaar dh-lf7	5	5	5	2	Thurston dh	2	0	0	0
Rijst lf-p	7	5	5	8	Nero dh	1	0	0	0
Fluonia c	1	1	0	0	R Lanario ss	2	0	0	0
Stoovelaar c	5	3	2	3	King c	2	0	0	0
Wilson 3b-rf	7	4	4	6	Bedingfield c	0	0	0	0
De Vries p	0	0	0	0	Simmons 2b	2	0	0	0
Wanne p	0	0	0	0	Frost p	0	0	0	0
Totals	62	35	37	31		23	0	1	0

Holland 801 (12) 51 8 35
Great Britain 000 000 0 0

E: Lanario (3), S Sewell, B Godfrey, King, Lommerde, Blazviere. LOB: Holland 9, Great Britain 3. 2B: Crowel (2), Dalen, Blazviere, Krut, Wilson, Dodwell. 3B: Niggebrugge. HR: Wilson (3), Rijst (2), Niggebrugge, Anselena, De Bruin, Crowel, Stoovelaar. Struck out: Great Britain (D Godfrey, S Sewell, G Sewell, B Godfrey, Thurston, Nero, Lanario, Simmons (2)).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Holland						
De Vries	2	1	0	0	0	2
Nanne	1	0	0	0	0	2
Lommerde	2	0	0	0	1	3
Rijst (W)	2	0	0	0	0	2
Great Britain						
Frost (L) *	0	4	8	5	2	0
Fountain	4	17	13	5	0	0
Marcellino	3	16	14	13	1	0

* Pitched to 8 batters in 1st.
WP: Frost, Marcellino (2). T: 2:48. Umpires: Johansen, Loperfido, Anefalos.



Julian Dodwell in full flow against Belgium.

**France 16
Great Britain 6**

Another seven inning game with the French, and this one hurt. Rick Strout in his third outing again could not contain the opposition as they ran wild in the first three. GB came back tough with five of their own in the second. Rob Lanario starting at short had two RBI. Gary Bassey at first had two RBI as well, despite severe defensive problems. Rick Soan again with two hits and Ben Godfrey with 2 runs scored showed an offense that was ready to be in the game. Steve Frost, back from his outing against Holland gave up hits and runs but pitched well, better than the stats may suggest.

**Great Britain 8
West Germany 6**

This was the one. The outcome of this game determined who stayed in the A group and who was relegated. Winning the game that you have to win says a lot for any team involved. Brian Thurston finally got the win he deserved and rightly so, having waited through so many excellent performances. He gave up four earned runs and struck out ten as he wasn't allowing this one to get away. Again Rick Soan with a double, two singles and three RBI's led the offense. Oscar Marcellino and Gary Bedingfield contributed timely singles for 2 RBI's a piece. Alan Bloomfield and Dan Godfrey worked well to -



Steve Simmons gets friendly with a Dutch baserunner.

gether at the top of the order each scoring two runs.

This was in effect Britains best effort as timing and skill came together. It was unfortunately the last game in their schedule and only makes one think what this team, or in fact this country, could achieve with even a reasonable facility at the disposal of Manager Mike Harrold and his coaches. It is true that when this competition started it took the British team a few games simply to get going, much less play highly competitive ball. For many of this team it was their first experience of night-game competition and full infield cut diamonds.

The GB team will be highly active in 1990. National assesment day on April 28th will be covered in the May issue of BASEBALL UK as well as scouting reports and comments from GB manager Mike Harrold.



TEAM TOTALS															
PITCHING															
	G	W	L	SA	IP	BB	H	SO	R	ER	ERA				
NERO	2	1	1	0	6	7	5	7	2	2	3.00				
THURSTON	3	1	1	0	23.2	16	30	25	8	12	4.50				
FOUNTAIN	2	0	0	1	6	1	20	1	13	5	7.50				
FROST	2	0	1	0	5	3	11	2	15	5	9.00				
STROUT	3	0	2	0	13	15	27	5	29	15	10.38				
MARCELINO	2	1	0	0	12	4	26	5	19	18	21.83				
TOTALS	8	3	5	1	65.2	46	119	45	97	57	7.77				
HITTING															
	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	SO	BI	BA	BB	SAC	TAB	OBA
BASSEY	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	500	2	0	4	750
NERO	5	12	3	5	3	0	0	0	3	7	417	2	1	15	533
SOAN	8	27	7	10	2	1	0	4	7	7	370	6	0	33	485
DODWELL	7	24	4	8	1	0	0	2	4	5	333	3	0	27	407
D GODFREY	7	22	8	5	0	1	0	2	5	0	227	8	0	30	433
MARCELINO	7	22	2	5	0	2	0	5	7	227	0	1	23	261	
THURSTON	5	14	4	3	1	1	0	1	3	2	214	3	0	17	353
S SEWELL	3	12	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	167	0	0	12	167
LANARIO	4	6	3	1	0	1	0	2	1	2	167	2	0	8	375
B GODFREY	5	15	2	2	1	0	0	0	7	0	133	2	0	17	235
BEDINGFIELD	6	18	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	4	111	3	0	21	238
G SEWELL	4	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	111	2	0	11	273
KING	3	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	100	1	0	11	182
SMITH	6	21	1	2	0	0	0	0	6	0	095	1	1	23	174
BLOOMFIELD	7	18	7	1	0	0	0	2	6	1	056	7	0	25	320
FOUNTAIN	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	000	0	0	0	000
FROST	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	000	0	0	2	000
BULLOCK	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	000	0	0	3	000
STROUT	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	000	0	0	3	000
SIMMONS	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	000	3	0	7	429
TOTALS	8	254	46	39	8	6	0	18	68	37	154	45	3	292	29
FIELDING															
	PO	A	E	DP	FA		PO	A	E	DP	FA				
SOAN	22	0	0	0	1000	DODWELL	11	1	3	0	800				
NERO	14	2	0	2	1000	BLOOMFIELD	12	14	7	3	788				
SIMMONS	6	6	0	1	1000	B GODFREY	5	3	3	0	727				
FOUNTAIN	0	2	0	0	1000	BASSEY	8	0	4	1	667				
BEDINGFIELD	36	4	2	0	952	STROUT	1	4	3	0	625				
D GODFREY	42	1	3	3	935	LANARIO	2	3	4	0	556				
SMITH	15	9	2	3	923	G SEWELL	1	0	2	0	333				
KING	9	4	2	0	867	FROST	0	0	1	0	000				
THURSTON	4	9	2	1	867	BULLOCK	0	0	0	0	000				
S SEWELL	5	5	2	0	833										
MARCELINO	4	9	3	1	813	TOTALS	197	76	43	7	864				

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS ALUMNI

THE LEGENDS OF BASEBALL V THE BRITISH OLYMPIC TEAM

OLD TRAFFORD CRICKET GROUND SEPTEMBER 1989

MAJOR LEAGUERS PUT ON A SHOW

Old Trafford is regarded by many as the home of Busby's Babes. Last September 24, that other Old Trafford (as in Lancashire cricket) was home to Briles' Babes. With former big league hurler Nellie Briles at the helm, the Legends of Baseball took on the G.B. national team. "Briles' Babes?", I hear you ask. Okay - Bob Feller is seventy and fellow Hall of Famer Billy Williams packed it in after the 1976 season, but the Legends were most certainly babes at heart. They had a good time out there, and that's what it's all about. It was an enjoyable afternoon for them, their opponents and the fans.

Alan Bloomfield had the honour of leading off against Bob Feller. "Rapid Robert" is still plenty rapid, despite his years. Alan was not overawed, however. He went the opposite way and drilled a worm-burner between second baseman Roy White and first sacker Dick Allen. By the time Billy Williams retrieved the ball, Alan was standing on third with a triple. Alan later scored and Great Britain went up 1-0.

Brian Thurston held the Legends scoreless for a couple of frames but in the third the former big leaguers scored six times. Willie Stargell scampered, if that's the right word, all the way around from first on a Dick Allen double. Willie was a big hitter with the Pittsburgh Pirates for many years, and he's an even BIGGER hitter now. Willie ended up with 2 hits on the day and scored 3 runs. He was obviously enjoying himself and merely grinned at the ribbing he was getting from his teammates.

Willie Stargell was not the only crowd-pleaser on the Legends squad: George

Foster, still sporting the pointed sideburns that he wore with the Cincinnati Reds and the New York Mets, launched a Steve Nero pitch into the centre field stands (and, incidentally, straight into the hands of a certain Baseball UK editor). George had put on quite a show in batting practice, and his eighth inning shot was a fitting finale that the fans had been waiting for all afternoon.

Mark "The Bird" Fidrych threw one frame for the Legends. It's been a while since "The Bird" had a 19-win season with the Detroit Tigers, but he's still talkin' to that ball.

The Legends' lineup was full of stars: Bobby Bonds, Graig Nettles, Mike Hargrove (whose nickname, "The Human Rain Delay", has got to be one of the strangest in all sport) and Luis Tiant all strutted their stuff, among others. Tim "Crazyhorse" Foli hit a homer for the Legends and Tug McGraw showed the G.B. team a wicked deuce during his short appearance.

The Legends of Baseball were not the only ones in the spotlight: The Great Britain team gave it their all. Ben Godfrey pulled a Luis Tiant curve to left for a single. Luis called time and promptly retired the ball. You can rest assured that Ben is real proud of that baseball.

In the end, the Legends defeated Great Britain 16-3. Tim Foli gave an impromptu post-game clinic, and a sunny Manchester afternoon ended. Rumour has it that the Legends of Baseball will be back in 1990 as part of British Baseball's Centennial celebrations. If you get the chance to see "Briles' Babes", take advantage of it.

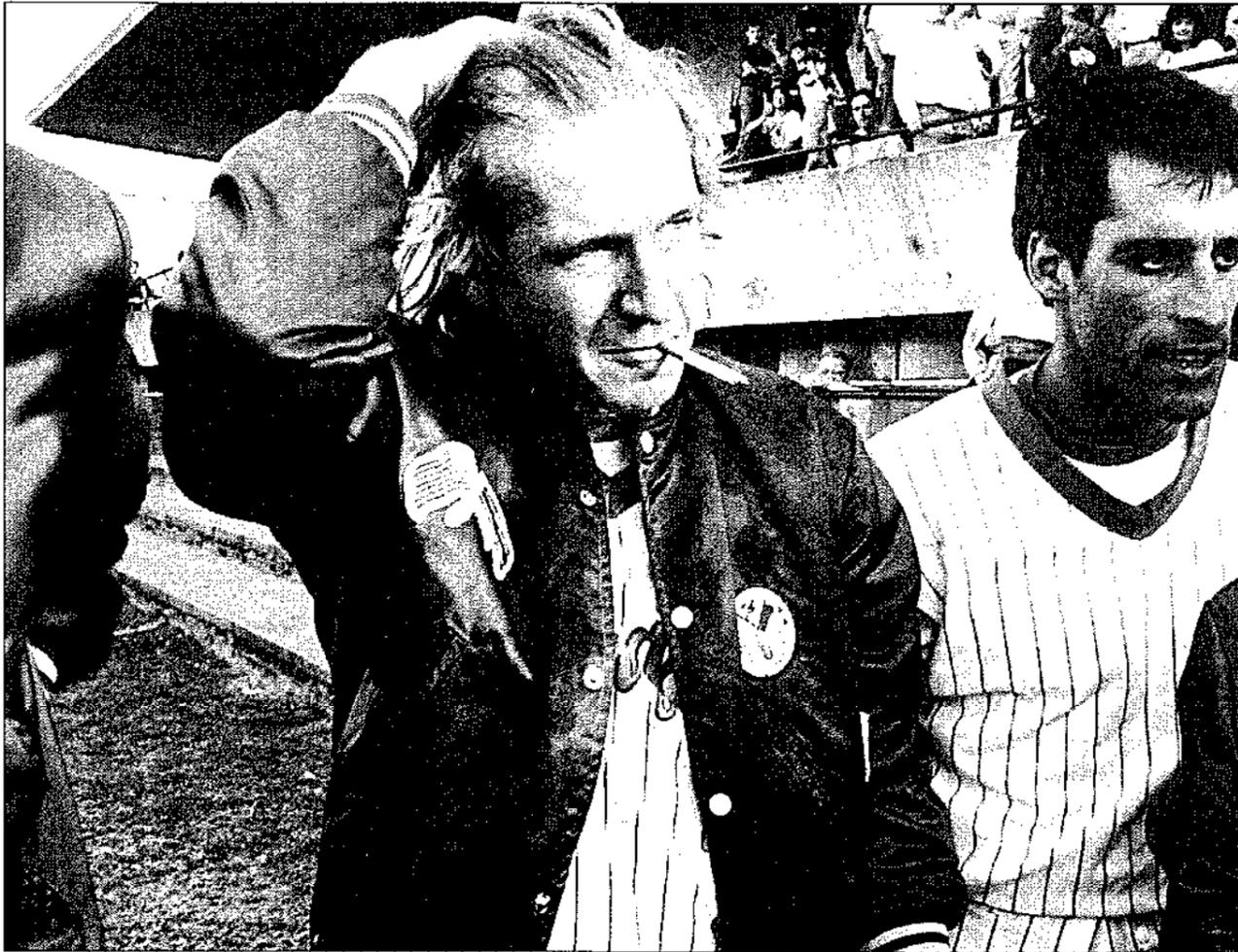
ML Alumni16 Great Britain3

M L ALUMNI				GREAT BRITAIN					
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Campaneris ss2	1	1	0		Bloomfield ss	3	1	1	0
White lf	6	1	3	2	D Godfrey 1b	4	0	0	0
Williams lf	2	0	0	1	Soan cf	2	0	0	0
Foster rf	2	2	1	3	Dodwell rf	3	0	1	1
Bonds cf	5	1	2	1	Marcelino 3b	2	0	0	0
Stargell dh	5	3	2	1	Thurston p	1	0	0	0
Allen 1b	2	1	1	2	B Godfrey II	2	0	1	0
Decinces 3b	2	0	1	1	Bedingfield c	2	0	0	0
Grote c	4	2	2	1	Smith 2b	2	0	1	0
Stennet 2b	4	2	1	0	Bullock rf	1	0	0	0
Foli ss	4	1	1	2	Lanario ss	1	1	1	1
Hargrove 1b	3	0	1	1	Bassey cf	2	0	1	1
Nettles 3b	3	2	2	1	Nero p	1	0	0	0
					S Sewell 3b	1	0	0	0
					Fountain p	1	0	0	0
					G Sewell lf	1	0	1	0
					King c	1	0	0	0
					Simmons 2b	1	1	1	0
Totals	41	16	18	16		31	3	8	3

Major League Alumni 006 051 04 16
Great Britain 100 000 02 3

E: S Sewell, Smith. DP: Alumni 1. LOB: Alumni 11, Great Britain 4. 2B: Allen, Hargrove, Nettles, G Sewell. 3B: White, Nettles, Bloomfield. HR: Foli, Foster. SB: Stennet, Lanario (2), Simmons. Struck out: Alumni (Stargell, Hargrove, Grote); Great Britain (D Godfrey (2), Soan, Thurston, Bedingfield).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Major League Alumni						
Feller	0.2					
Tiant (W)	1.1					
Campbell	1					
Fidrych	1					
McGraw	2					
Sorensen	2					
Great Britain						
Thurston (L)	3	6	6	6	2	0
Fountain	3	6	6	6	3	1
Dodwell	1	1	0	0	0	2
Nero	1	5	4	4	1	0
HBP: Bonds (by Dodwell). WP: Thurston (2). PB: Bedingfield, King T: 2:35. Umpires: Foster, Thesingh, Hope.						



Keith Wilesmith, just after pitching The Southern Tigers to a classic 8-7 win over The Humberside County Bears in the National League Final at Richmond.

SPLIT ENDS

BY
TIM TURNER

The third season of the Scottish Amicable National League marked a time of expansion and division. In the off season, expansion from the original six team league to ten was strongly mooted, but in the end - and shortly before the season was due to start - a compromise of eight teams was settled.

To keep the number of games roughly the same and cut down travelling at the same time, the league was split into North and South divisions with one newcomer in each - Bedford Dukes in the South and Yorkshire Yankees in the North.

So, no more early morning starts and long bus rides to the delights of Humberside and Skelmersdale - you could feel the disappointment.

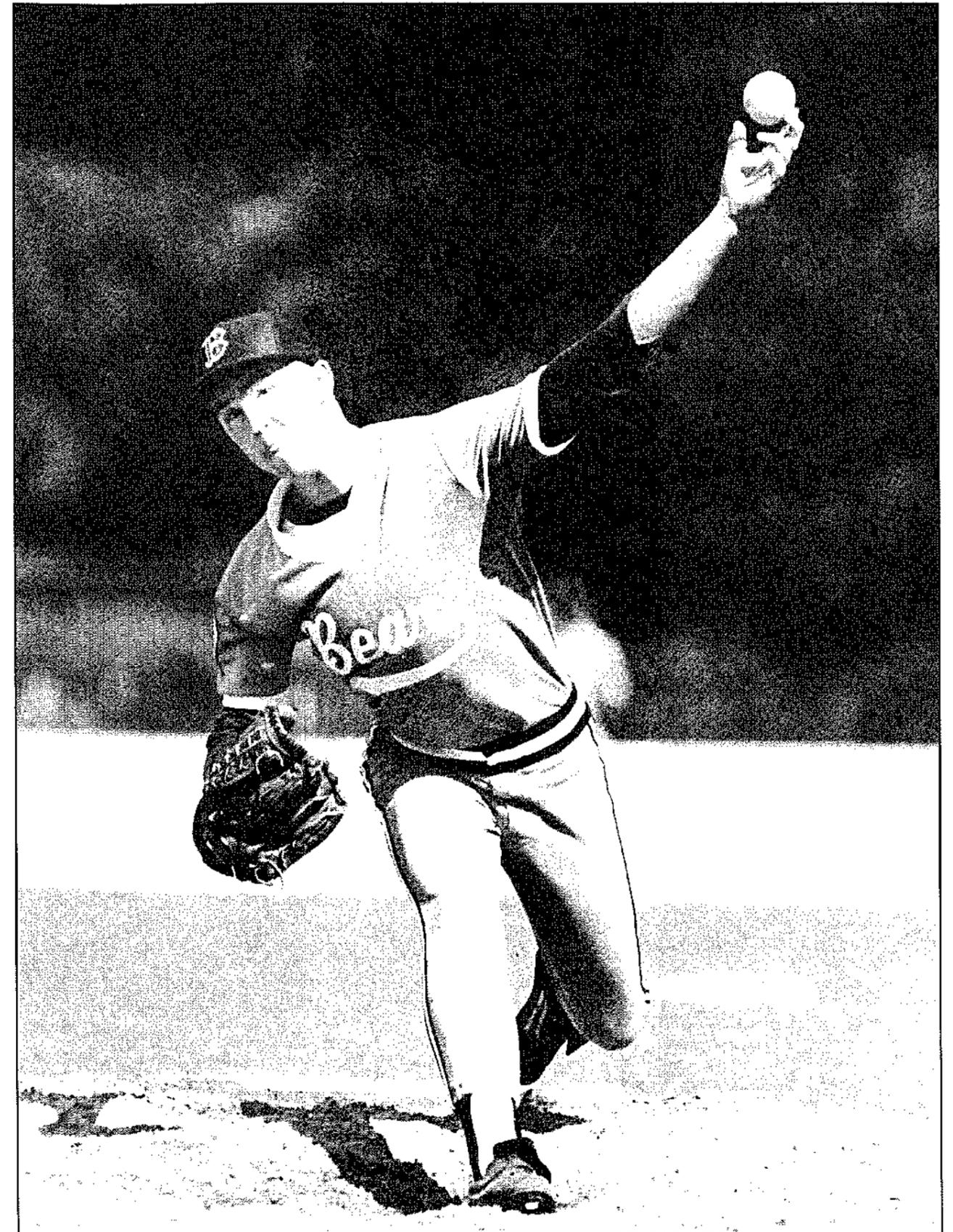
The presence of two unknown quantities added a frisson to pre-season preparations, but in the south, defending champions London Warriors and their Richmond stablemates Southern Tigers were tipped to finish first and second with a possible repeat championship for the Warriors when it came to play-off time. Carefully ignored was the fact that the Warriors has lost their star pitcher Tony Kuramitsu (back to Japan) and top reliever Mike Saur over the winter. The north was a little more tricky to predict, with any one of the three original league members seen as possible winners.

Warriors pitching losses didn't seem to matter too much on opening day as, with the crowds flocking back to Richmond, they squeezed past the Tigers to win a 11

inning thriller 15-11. In the only other game played that day, the injury-hit Mersey Mariners struggled to beat the newcomers from Yorkshire and stake their claim for a division win.

Highlight and lowlights of the first half of the season included a 22 strike-out performance by Mariner's Steve Nero against the Humberside Bears, which he capped with a massive home run out of the park and unexpected defeats for the Warriors by the Nottingham Knights - their first ever win in the league after two years, and by Bedford. The last result was even more unexpected as Warriors had hammered 39 runs off Bedford in their first meeting - a slight case of overconfidence perhaps?

In the second half of the season, the



Brian Thurston. Stole a base, got a hit, scored two runs and pitched brilliantly in the final only to walk 3 batters in the final inning and lose the game.

excitement increased right up to the last of the regular games. In the north the Mariners need to beat the Lancashire Red Sox,

with whom they'd split their two previous games, to finish second and clinch a play-off place. Meanwhile, the Warriors needed

a third win over the Tigers to tie for first place but take the southern title by virtue of their record against their opponents.

Neither possibility happened: Mariners lost and finished the season level with the Red Sox, who went through to the play-offs with a superior record against Mersey; Warriors also lost to finish second in their division.

This left the Warriors travelling to Humberside in the semi-final play-off to face the 8-1 Bears, while the Tigers stayed at Richmond for their game against the Red Sox. On the day the form book held up, with both divisional champions easily defeating their opponents to set up an intriguing final match-up the following week. Were the Bears really that good? Were the Tigers good enough?

In front of the biggest crowd of the season at Richmond, the game proved worthy of a final, see-sawing several times both ways before the Tigers edged through to keep the championship in the south and leave the fans begging for more. Can they do it again this year? Will their be a National League this year? More changes are in store and the only certainty is that it's going to be tight again.

NATIONAL LEAGUE FINAL

Tigers 8
Bears 7

HUMBERSIDE					SOUTHERN				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Marshall 1b	2	1	0	0	Edwards 2b	5	1	1	0
Turtle ss	2	2	1	3	Bloomfield ss	4	2	1	1
M Thurston II	4	0	0	0	Dodwell cf	3	1	1	1
Radge 2b	4	0	1	0	Wilesmith p	4	0	2	3
P Thurston rf	4	0	0	0	Walker c	4	0	0	0
Todd 3b	4	0	1	0	Keeping 1b	4	0	0	0
Peacock cf	1	1	0	0	Bullock lf	4	1	0	0
Robinson cf	1	0	0	0	Abbott 3b	3	1	1	0
Maltby c	4	1	1	0	Collins rf	3	2	1	1
B Thurston p	2	2	1	0					
Totals	28	7	5	3		34	8	7	6

Humberside 001 040 011 7
Southern 140 000 003 8

E: Bloomfield (2), Dodwell, Wilesmith (2), Walker, Marshall, Turtle, Radge, Todd, Peacock. DP: Southern 1. LOB: Humberside 5, Southern 7. 2B: Dodwell, Wilesmith, Abbott, Collins. 3B: Edwards. HR: Turtle. SB: Dodwell, B Thurston. SF: Turtle. Struck out: Bears (M Thurston (3), P Thurston (2), Todd (2), Robinson, Maltby); Tigers (Edwards (2), Bloomfield (2), Wilesmith, Walker (3), Keeping (3), Bullock, Abbott).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Humberside						
Thurston (L)	8.1	7	8	5	5	13
Southern						
Wilesmith (W)	9	5	7	3	9	9

HBP: Dodwell (by Thurston), Turtle (by Wilesmith). WP: Thurston, Wilesmith. T: 3:06. Umpires: Thesingh, Hope. Scorer: Marshall.

NATIONAL LEAGUE FINAL 1989
SOUTHERN TIGERS 8
HUMBERSIDE COUNTY BEARS 7

Humberside was led by Brian Thurston on the mound. In 8 and one-third innings Thurston walked 5, gave up 7 hits, he also had one hit himself and scored 2 runs while walking twice. Darren Turtle homered for the Bears with two men on in the fifth inning which gave Humberside its first lead of the game.

The Tigers came back and were led on offence by Alan Bloomfield and Keith Wilesmith despite 6 errors in the field.

Turtle was caught stealing in the first for the second out as Humberside couldn't push a run across until the third.

The Tigers, scoring 4 in the second took command and it was not until the eighth

inning that Humberside took the lead and looked as though they might be the National Champions.

Down to their last three outs, Matt Abbott doubled down the right field line for the Tigers. Paul Collins followed with a walk. The next batter, Peter Edwards, was struck out as Thurston reached back. Alan Bloomfield walked to load the bases and Julian Dodwell walked as well. Keith Wilesmith then bounced a groundball up the middle to the right side to score Bloomfield with the winning run and secure the Tigers and owner Peter Hunt's dream of a National Championship.



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SPARTANS MARCH TO VICTORY

HARVEY
SAHKER

Last season's Club Championship Final at Sutton United Football Club was played by the two top clubs in the BBF South, the Enfield Spartans and the Sutton Braves. The final was a little later in the autumn than usual. For the Spartans, it was worth the wait.

Plagued by uncharacteristic wildness that soon proved to be his undoing, Sutton starter Russell Thompson walked three Enfield batters in the top of the first, virtually handing them a 1-0 lead.

The Braves bounced back in their half of the inning. With one run already scored and two out, Hugh Neffendorf poked a fly ball over the right field stand with Alan Smith on third and Sutton were up 3-1.

The next inning, Russell Thompson appeared to have regained his control, striking out the side. But in the third, the Sutton pitcher walked four of the first five batters he faced, then gave up a 2-run double to Ed Duff. Russell was then yanked in favour of Elco Wiersma, who had made two sparkling plays at first for the Braves in the early going. Enfield batted around and grabbed a 6-3 lead.

Hugh Neffendorf took matters into his own hands in the Sutton sixth when he

blasted another Iain Lanario offering over the stand with 2 on and 2 out. A long-tim Brave, Neffendorf was playing in his last game and was doing his darnedest to go out a winner. Six runs apiece.

Sutton's comeback was short-lived: Back-to-back triples by Dave Russ and Iain Lanario highlighted a 7-run Enfield seventh in which the first five batters got on base. The game was as good as over. A Rob Murphy 2-run homer in the top of the ninth offset a 2-run shot by Sutton catcher Brad Thompson in the seventh. The Braves threatened briefly in the last of the ninth but a Steve Simmons to Rob Lanario to Oscar Marcelino double play nipped a potential rally in the bud. A single run scored, making the final tally 15-9, and Enfield were crowned National Club Champions for the first time.

Enfield hurler Iain Lanario was voted Man of the Match. Iain went the distance and allowed only five earned runs. He gave up three homers but otherwise kept the ball low - Iain induced no fewer than seventeen ground ball outs.

True to form, however, the Spartans' victory was a total team effort. A young and talented squad, the Spartans look set to win further honours in 1990 and beyond.

Spartans 15
Braves 9

ENFIELD					SUTTON				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Lanario ss	3	3	0	0	Bloomfield 2b	4	2	1	0
B Murphy rf	4	3	2	2	D'Alessandro rf	4	0	0	0
Russ cf	5	2	2	2	Smith cf	5	3	3	0
I Lanario p	5	1	1	1	B Thompson c	4	2	2	3
Marcelino 1b	4	2	1	1	Neffendorf 1b	5	2	2	5
Bedingfield c	3	1	0	1	Wiersma 1b-p	4	0	0	0
Duff 3b	5	2	3	2	K Murphy lf	4	0	1	0
Simmons 2b	4	1	1	1	Mayfield ss	4	0	0	0
Cruickshank lf	4	0	1	1	Abbott 3b	4	0	1	0
					R Thompson p	0	0	0	0
Totals	37	15	11	11		38	9	10	8

Enfield 105 007 002 15
Sutton 300 030 201 9

E: Duff (2), Russ, Smith. DP: Enfield 1, Sutton 2. LOB: Enfield 8, Sutton 5. 2B: Duff (2), Russ, Smith. 3B: I Lanario. HR: Neffendorf (2), B Thompson, B. Murphy. SB: R Murphy, Duff, Smith, Abbott. S: Bedingfield, R Murphy. SF: Cruickshank. Caught stealing: None. Struck out: Spartans (Duff, Simmons, R Lanario); Braves (K Murphy, Mayfield).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Enfield						
I Lanario W	9	10	8	5	3	2
Sutton						
R Thompson	2.1	2	6	4	7	3
Wiersma L	6.2	9	9	6	2	0

HBP: R Lanario (by Wiersma). WP: R Thompson. T: 2:47. A: 350 (est). Umpires: HP-Thesingh, Mortimer, Barnham.

HOW TO CREATE EFFECTIVE PR FOR YOUR TEAM

by Anne Windley

I've been involved with Press and Public Relations (PR) for the Richmond based National League teams for the last two years. It's been hectic, nervewracking, exciting and rewarding too ... an experience I wouldn't have missed for anything.

But what exactly does Public Relations entail?

Basically, as much or as little as you are willing to do.

With the National League, it was the intention to promote the league as a showcase for baseball in the UK and to gain national media coverage, additional sponsorship and to increase the number of spectators at games. For me, it meant almost total involvement - liaising with press, radio and TV, ensuring the games received maximum exposure, encouraging the media to carry support articles about baseball in general, about star players - about anything that would give baseball a higher profile.

It meant maintaining contact with local schools and youth clubs and finding ways of encouraging young people to take an interest in the game.

It meant publicising the games in whatever way possible - giving tickets away outside cinemas where baseball films were showing, putting up posters in local pubs, restaurants and shops, taking part in local festivals and encouraging the active involvement of American-style restaurants, bars and sports shops.

It meant ensuring that everything ran smoothly at the games - providing announcers, people to work the scoreboard, preparing programme information to keep spectators up-to-date with the standings, new players etc, and encouraging the crowd to return every week.

It meant providing visiting press and photographers with every facility they required and always being on hand to give them facts and figures.

It meant cultivating a list of contacts, gaining access to illustrative material, preparing feature articles, writing game reports, putting together simplified rule sheets and player profiles and always having every fact to hand.

It meant all this and much more.

I must admit that it helped being a journalist. I had all the tools of the trade at my disposal and my work is flexible

enough to allow me to devote a fair amount of my time to baseball PR activities.

But if this all sounds like tremendous hard work, do not be put off. You can easily take on the PR for a team if you only have a couple of hours to spare each week ... and achieve good results.

You may already be receiving adequate press coverage of your team each week. However, if you are doing PR for the first time this season, here are some tips to help you.

1 Decide Who Is In Charge

a) Though there may be a few people who are willing to help out, it is best to have one person in charge to ensure that everything gets done each week. It doesn't have to be a player. A supporter may be only too pleased to assist the team.

2 Make Contact With The Press

a) Find out the names and tel. nos. of all local papers both paid for and free, and of local radio stations and entertainment listings magazines in the area. It may be worth looking in British Rates & Data (BRAD), an invaluable reference publication which lists all publications in Britain and which should be available in your local library.

b) Make contact. Phone each publication before the season starts and speak to the sports editor - note their name. Introduce yourself and your team, explain when the season starts and finishes and the times and venues for the games.

c) Ask if they are interested in receiving regular game reports and/or a profile of the team or overview of last season. Find out how much details will be required each week - it is pointless providing a ball-by-ball account if only a couple of paragraphs are required.

d) Find out the copy date! This is the final day each week/month when information can be received if it is to be included in the next edition. I cannot stress too strongly how important this is - no-one will hold up the paper until your report comes in. If it needs to be in on Monday morning and you don't have access to a fax, the editor may be prepared to take information over the phone.

3 Before The Season

a) Send in a fixture list and some basic information about how the league operates in your area. Also try to send in last

seasons final standings.

b) Tell the editor the team would welcome visits from photographers or journalists.

4 Game Reports

a) You do not necessarily need an extremely detailed account. Note the highlights eg, home runs, double plays etc, and make sure you give the names of the players involved. It may help to keep a note of the score inning by inning.

b) Write the report as soon after the game as possible, while the play is still fresh in your mind.

c) Ensure that the reports are sent to the paper each week. If you are unable to get to a game, do make sure someone covers it for you. This is very important as reliability is essential. You are far more likely to get good coverage if you supply material on a regular basis and the editor can rely on your contribution.

d) Always mention items of special interest, eg, if a player is called up for the national team.

5 Clippings

a) Make sure you get hold of a copy of each paper/magazine contacted each week and take clippings. A scrapbook of the results of your hard work may prove invaluable in many ways.

6 The Value Of Press Coverage

a) Press coverage can help stimulate the interest of local businesses, which may be willing to provide some sort of team sponsorship.

b) It is surprising how many people are ignorant of the existence of a baseball team in their area. Press coverage may encourage more people to take up the game and the more players, the better for the sport in general.

c) Spectators might start showing up at games. Regular support can certainly lift a team.

d) Vanity. There's nothing like getting your name in print!

And finally, even if you don't have time to do any of the above, please make sure you phone your results through each week to Baseball UK on 01-433 1709.

If you need any more advice, or have any other queries, please contact me c/o Baseball UK at 31 Maryon Mews, Hampstead, London NW3 2PY and I'll try to help.

BOX SCORES AND HOW TO READ THEM

Throughout BASEBALL UK you will find box scores of games played. If you've never seen one before, then you may be confused. This article is designed to help you fully understand box scores and the 'enriched' information they provide about a game.

At the top of the box, the visiting team is shown on the left, the home team on the right. The batting summary gives charged at-bats ('ab'), runs scored ('r'), basehits ('h') and RBI's ('bi') for each player, with each team's total below the players. The letters after the players' name indicates the fielding position at which they entered the game, with 'ph' for pinch-hitters and 'pr' for pinch-runners who didn't play in the field.

Below the batting summary is the line score, which shows the number of runs each team scored in each inning. Additional statistical information appears underneath the line score.

'E:' shows fielding errors.

'DP:' shows double plays by each team.

'LOB:' shows the number of baserunners Left On Base; runners who reached base safely and who did not score and were not retired when the third out was made and

the inning ended. This is a barometer of lost opportunity.

'2B' lists players who hit doubles.

'3B' lists players who hit triples.

'HR' lists players who hit home runs. If more than one, then the number is shown in brackets.

'SB' lists players who stole bases.

'Caught stealing' lists players who were thrown out caught stealing.

'S' shows successful sacrifice bunts.

'SF' shows sacrifice flies, saving the batter a charged at-bat and crediting him with an RBI.

'Struck out' lists players from each team who were struck out.

Below this information is the pitching summary. This lists the pitchers for the visiting team first, the home team second, in the order in which they appeared.

(L) shows the losing pitcher.

(W) shows the winning pitcher.

(S) shows the pitcher credited with the save.

There is always an (L) and a (W), not always an (S).

'IP' shows the number of innings pitched. These are sometimes shown as 1.1, 4.2 etc, which means the pitcher left the game with one out in the second, two out in the

fifth respectively.

'H' shows the number of hits allowed.

'R' shows the number of runs allowed.

'ER' shows the number of Earned Runs allowed.

'BB' shows the number of walks (bases on balls) given up.

'SO' is the number of strikeouts the pitcher got.

Below this pitching summary is additional information.

'HBP' shows players hit by a pitched ball and by which pitcher; the batter got to first base and was not charged with an at-bat.

'WP' shows which pitchers threw wild pitches.

'PB' shows the catchers who allowed passed balls.

'Umpires' shows the men who officiated at the game.

'T' shows the time passed on the clock from the first pitch to the last out.

'A' when available, shows attendance at the game.

Once you become an adept reader, it is possible, through Holmesian deduction, to 'see a lot' through the box score and from it, piece together practically the entire progress of the game.

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