

BRIT BALL

The Official Voice of the British Baseball Federation

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The following items are available from the BBF to help develop your club.

Diamond Development - contains details of who you can apply to for funding.

Diamond Construction - Full details on how to construct a baseball diamond.

Introduction to the Game - briefly explains the rules and what equipment is required.

History of the Game - a brief history of baseball in the UK.

How to set up a Baseball Team - How do you go about starting your own team - ideas for fund-raising, recruiting players, details of fees, where the BBF spend the money etc.

Teeball - an instructional leaflet on the game of tee-ball.

Baseball Information Sheet - ideal for people new to the game, it explains what the BBF is and what we can provide.

Parent Information - a leaflet designed for you to hand out to your junior players parents.

Baseball Qualifications - gives the aims and objectives of the coaching association and details on how to attain level A, AA and AAA qualifications.

The Sporting News Official Baseball Rules - 1996 Edition - only £1 per copy.

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If you require more information on any of the above please contact:
 British Baseball Federation, P O Box 45, Hessle, HU13 0YQ
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SENIOR RESULTS**4 May**

All games not mentioned were postponed due to weather.

Coors Extra Gold Baseball League

Lancashire Tigercats 23 Hesse Warriors 17
Mark King took the win for the Tigercats with Chris Foster taking the loss.

Kingston Cobras 6 Birmingham Bandits 7
Martin Godsall took the win with Martyn Dutton taking the save for the Bandits. Martin Godsall also hit a two run homer with teammate Joey Yarnold hitting a triple. For the Cobras Frank Parker went 2 for 3 and hit a mammoth two run

blast with Cobras catcher Andy Maltby going 3 for 4 with two runs.

Brighton Buccaneers 9
Hounslow Blues 12
Don Knight took the win with Mark Mills taking the loss. Bucs James Pearce hit a two run homer and Brighton's Jim Clarke came up with play of the day with a spectacular diving catch in the outfield.

Essex Arrows 17 London Warriors 21
Alan Smith took the win with Paul Thompson taking the loss.

Northern Conference England

Barnsley Strikers 21 Sheffield Bladerunners 17
Strikers Stephen Bennett and Tony Allott both homered with Glyn McQueen and Nigel Whitehead both stealing five bases each. Chris Hewitt took the

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Northern Conference Scotland

Edinburgh Reivers 9 West Lothian Wildcats 0

Southern Conference Division One

Croydon Pirates 41 Milton Keynes Truckers 13
Iain Pilcher took the win with a home run from teammate Tomo Oshimi.

City Slick Sidewinders 26
Tunbridge Wells Royals 19

Bracknell Blazers 24
Bournemouth Bs 23
Bracknell scored ten runs in the bottom of the ninth to go ahead for the first time in the game. Paul Vernon went 6-7, Rob Rance 5-6 with a home run, Phil Herbert 4-5. Wayne Wardle, winning pitcher.

Southern Conference Division Two

Caterham A's 18 Essex Arrows II 16
Caterham trailed 9-0 in the first inning but came back to take the win with John Delaney taking the victory on the mound.

Caterham A's 20 Essex Arrows 8

In the second game of this double-header the score was tied 8-8 in the bottom of the sixth when Caterham exploded for twelve runs. Mike Fox took the win.

Guildford Mavericks 19
Bracknell Inferno 17
Guildford Mavericks 5
Bracknell Inferno 27 (DH)
Triples by Chris Brookes and Paul Raybould and a double by Alan Newell. Jamie Cooney winning pitcher of second game.

Cambridge Monarchs B 1
Windsor Bears 16
Toby Everett pitched a no hitter striking out eighteen. Bears John Boyd homered.

Southern Conference Division Three

Bushey Falcons 6 London Exiles 38
Joe Butler took the win and hit a home run along with Steve Jenkins

Tiptree Rays 21 Southend Peers 14
Gareth Francis took the win and hit two home runs.

Guildford Mudcats 27
Maidstone Lasers 5

11 May**Coors Extra Gold Baseball**

League**11 May**

Hessle Warriors 2 Menwith Hill Patriots 12

Paul Lapointe's second pitch home run set the tone for this game as the Patriots took advantage of a strong wind blowing out to centrefield. Home runs from Gary Abbott and a grand slam from McHugh sealed a convincing win for the Patriots.

Birmingham Bandits 7 Lancashire Tigrercats 5
Martin Godsall pitched his sixth win of the season with Martyn Dutton homering for Birmingham and Ged Bassey homering for the Tigrercats.

Enfield Spartans 15 Essex Arrows 5
Ian Lanario took the win.

London Warriors 7 Brighton Buccaneers 1
Alan Smith took the win, Mark Mills took the loss. A grand Slam from Warriors Harry Attwood and a three run homer from Roy Crook helped the Warriors on their way.

Liverpool Trojans 6 Nottingham Stealers 12
Mark Sharp took the win striking out seven helped by Ian McCutcheon who hit a triple and

Tony Ellis who hit a two run homer. Trojans Chris Gee hit a triple.

Northern Conference Division One England

Stretford A's 25 West Midlands Razorbacks 13

Newark Yankees 14 Barnsley Strikers 21

Northern Conference Division One Scotland

Edinburgh Reivers 27 Glasgow Comets 17

David Quigley took the win with Laurent Lot taking the loss. Two home runs from Bob Schanz and one from Gary Crawford for Edinburgh with a home run for Glasgow from Gary Smith.

Dundee Dragons 9 West Lothian Wildcats 0

Southern Conference Division One

Milton Keynes Truckers 0 Cambridge Monarchs 25
Matt Gilbert took the win Andy Simmons took the loss.

Tunbridge Wells Royals 14 Bournemouth B's 13
Jason Stopps took the win with Ian Macleod taking the loss.

Bracknell Blazers 16 Croydon Pirates 22
Ian Pilcher took the win with Tomo Oshimi homering for the Pirates.

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Rob Rance hit a home run and went 4 for 4.

Andy Peacock tripled.

Gillingham Dodgers 9 City Sick Sidewinders 0

Hessle Warriors 13 Liverpool Trojans 8
Rob Dixon took the win.

Southern Conference Division Two

Stevenage Knights 17
Cambridge Monarchs 7

Enfield Spartans 9 Hounslow Blues 7
Iain Lanario took the win.

Stevenage Knights 13
Cambridge Monarchs 12

Enfield Spartans 13 Hounslow Blues 3
Rob Barry took the win giving up five hits.

Brighton Buccaneers B 20
Caterham A's 24

Essex Arrows 12 Brighton Buccaneers 8
Shane Kirkpatrick took the win with Paul Thompson taking the save. Mark Mills took the loss.

Southern Conference Division Three

London Exiles 28 Tiptree Rays 8

Northern Conference England

Chiltern Blue Jays 11 Guildford Mudcats 21

Barnsley Strikers 17 Preston Bobcats 16

Bushey Falcons 9 Thames Valley Maulers 0

Chris Hewitt took the win as Barnsley came from four runs behind in the bottom of the ninth.

18 May

COORS EXTRA GOLD BASEBALL LEAGUE

Kingston Cobras 17 Lancashire Tigrercats 10

Phil Thurston took the win striking out seven with Bobby Alger taking the loss. Andy Maltby and Stuart Eskrett both scored three runs assisted by Paul Reading who went 3 for 4 with two rbis. Cobras

West Midlands Razorbacks 30
Cartmel Valley Lions 25

A ten inning game with Nick Simpson taking the win and Damien Porter the loss.

Northern Conference Scotland



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Glasgow Comets 9 West
Lothian Wildcats 0

Southern Conference Division One

Cambridge Monarchs 30
Bracknell Blazers 0
Matt Gilbert took the win.

Arun Panthers 9 Milton Keynes
Truckers 0

Bournemouth B's 14 Gillingham
Dodgers 12

Southern Conference Division Two

Burgess Hill Red Hats 13
Brentwood Stags 23

Caterham A's 21 Bracknell
Inferno 2

Caterham A's 31 Bracknell
Inferno 3

Guildford Mavericks 2 Windsor
Bears 6

Brighton Buccaneers 26 Essex
Arrows II 25

Southern Conference Division Three

Tiptree Rays 9 Thames Valley
Maulers 0

Bracknell Dynamite 0 Chiltern
Blue Jays 9

Southend Peers 6 London
Exiles 33

Coors Extra Gold Baseball League

Kingston Cobras 23 Liverpool
Trojans 0

Phil Thurston took the win.

Lancashire Tigercats 15 Leeds
Luddites 5

Mark King took the win with Mark King, Steve Smith and Simon Crumbleholme all hitting home runs for the Tigercats.

Menwith Hill Patriots 4
Birmingham Bandits 3
Gary Abbott took the win with Martin Godsall taking the loss in a close fought game which was a great advert for British Baseball.

Nottingham Stealers 11 Hessele
Warriors 5

Mark Sharp took the win also hitting two home runs in reply Darren Butler also homered for the Warriors. Stealers Nathan Gaunt had an unassisted double-play.

Brighton Buccaneers 1 Enfield
Spartans 0
In another great advert for the game, Mark Mills pitched a four hit shut-out to win with Rob Barry the losing pitcher for Enfield.

Brighton Buccaneers 7 Enfield
Spartans 23

Game two was completely different as Iain Lanario took the win for the Spartans.

London Warriors 2 Hounslow
Blues 6

Don Knight took the win and Alan Smith took the loss.

London Warriors 10 Hounslow
Blues 7

Chris Ackley took the win aided by two homers from Alan Bloomfield.

Northern Conference Division One England

Preston Bobcats 13 Sheffield
Bladerunners 8

West Midlands Razorbacks 15
Barnsley Strikers 39

Stretford A's 19 Cartmel Valley
Lions 7

Northern Conference Division One Scotland

Glasgow Comets 0 Edinburgh
Reivers 9

Edinburgh Wildcats 0 Dundee
Dragons 9

Southern Conference Division One

Croydon Pirates 12 Tunbridge
Wells Royals 2

Cesar Lozano took the win with Alex Vlieland hitting a home run.

Cambridge Monarchs 32
Milton Keynes Truckers 3
Matt Gilbert took the win.

Southern Conference Division Two

Brentwood Stags 13 Caterham
A's 17
John Delaney took the win.

Windsor Bears 18 Burgess Hill
Red Hats 11

Bracknell Inferno 24 Essex
Arrows II 10

Southern Conference Division Three

Thames Valley Maulers 17
Tiptree Rays 10

Guildford Mudcats 26 Bushey
Falcons 5
Phil Zulli took the win with Larry House hitting a grand slam.

1997 European Junior Baseball Championship

Group 1 Great Britain, Sweden, Poland, Romania

Group 2 Georgia, Israel, Ukraine

All games to take place at Sydney Smith School, First Lane, Anlaby, Hull

Tues 22 July	9.30hrs	Georgia	V	Israel
	13.30hrs	Sweden	V	Poland
	17.30hrs	Great Britain	V	Romania
Weds 23 July	9.30hrs	Romania	V	Poland
	13.30hrs	Ukraine	V	Georgia
	17.30hrs	Great Britain	V	Sweden
Thurs 24 July	9.30hrs	Romania	V	Sweden
	13.30hrs	Israel	V	Ukraine
	17.30hrs	Poland	V	Great Britain
Fri 25 July	9.30hrs	4th Group One	V	3rd Group Two
	13.30hrs	1st Group One	V	2nd Group Two
	17.30hrs	1st Group Two	V	2nd Group One
Sat 26 July	9.30hrs	3rd Group One	V	3rd Group Two
	13.30hrs	Loser of A	V	Loser of B
	17.30hrs	Winner of A	V	Winner of B

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VETERAN BALL PLAYER KEEPS COMING BACK

by Gary Bedingfield

Circling the pitcher's mound, the rotund left-hander pounds a fresh white baseball into his glove. He steps onto the rubber, looks towards the catcher for a sign, and after giving a barely noticeable nod, begins a slow, deliberate wind-up that sends a lazy curve-ball on its journey towards home plate.

This quintessential fragment of everyday American life could be taking place anywhere across the United States, but the accents of the chattering infielders are distinctly Anglo Saxon, and the game is, indeed, taking place on one of the few baseball diamonds in England.

Although the pitcher, Rob Nelson (everyone affectionately calls him Nellie), is in his mid-40s and facing batters half his age, he did toil briefly in the minor leagues back home, and what his

fastball lacks in pace he more than adequately makes up for in experience and guile. But what Nellie really brings to baseball is dedication and a sense of fun, fuelled by a lifelong passion for the game.

Off the field, the blonde haired Nelson, a native of Massapequa, NY, bares the appearance of an overweight Californian surfer. But do not be fooled, he is a self-made man with a sound business mind. As a struggling minor-league pitcher in the Pacific north-west he created "Big League Chew", the bubble-gum equivalent of tobacco that has become an essential ingredient for young Americans wanting to emulate their major-league heroes.

When Nelson sold the idea to Wrigley's with his business partner and former team-mate Jim Bouton (Of Ball Four fame), he had an income for life - a comfortable one, that allowed him to pursue his dreams and pitch competitive



baseball around the world. Subsequently, Nelson has played for teams in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Australia and since 1991, the Enfield Spartans in England.

Clocking up a mass of "frequent flyer miles", Nelson spends the summer months between the north London suburb and business commitments in the States, and declares there is something special about playing the game here. "British baseball is fun to play", he says, "Some of the games are ragged, others are well played. But the fact that these games really matter to the players, coaches, fans and umpires is a wonderful thing".

During his first season in England Nelson's 12 wins helped guide the Spartans - already a competitive team with a 22 year history - to the national championships. His baffling curveball has since beaten the best teams from Merseyside, Humberside and all across the south of England, but each game is a new challenge and, as he explains, a special experience

"Everyone in life should get the chance to feel as good, and as proud, as I do when I walk on to the ball field on a shining Sunday morning. To me it's Christmas every time".

Last year, the Spartans hopes for an appearance in the finals ended at RAF Menwith Hill, a remote US Air Force base on the wind-swept moors of North Yorkshire. It was meant to be Nellie's final year in England and he displayed iron-man capabilities, hurling all 18 innings of a double header - but lost both games.

No career should end that way and Nelson will be back this summer. In addition, he has decided upon one more goal before hanging up his glove for good. "I want to win a hundred games as a Spartan," he declares. If he makes it, it should coincide with his 50th birthday and the new millennium.

Junior League Results

3 May

All games not mentioned were postponed due to weather.

Southern Conference

North

Alconbury West 0 Hemel Red Sox 9

Cambridge Monarchs 13 Milton Keynes Braves 12

South

Burgess Hill Red Hats Colts 16
Tonbridge Bobcats Cougars 14
Alaistair Clemet took the win with Aaron Cooper taking the loss.

Maidstone Four Jays 38 South London Ravens 16

Greenwich Troopers 0 Brighton Jaguars 9

West

Swindon Royals 9
Bournemouth

Chiltern Blue Jays 15 Bracknell Scorchers 18
Luke Russell went 3 for 3 with a double and triple and was winning pitcher. Dave Blackman went 3-3 with a double and the save. Simon Welch went 3-3 with two doubles, Stuart Blackman, 2-2 with a triple. Jason Coke and Paul Rance also hit doubles as did Anna Clough, her first ever extra base hit for the youth team.

Windsor Shooters 22 Plymouth Bladerunners 10

East

Brentwood Bucks 0 Leyton Cardinals 9

Clacton 9 Maldon 0

Northern Conference

North West

Cartmel Valley Lions 4 Bolton Knights 22
J Sherlock took the win with J Milner

Preston Panthers 30 Cross Hall Chippers 0
Alex Macdonald struck out ten and hit a three run home run.

Kirby Braves 10 Trafford Saints 15
Daniel Gardiner took the win with Saints Jason Cromes hitting a

Our latest technology didn't improve just the Franklin line-up this off-season...



single two doubles and a home run. Robert Denham also homered and David Fisher went 4 for 4

North East

Hessle Apaches 14 Hunslet Harriers 10

Winning pitcher Lee Englestone notched up his third win of the season.

Hull Mets 5 Sheffield Pumas 15

Scotland

Aberdeen Reds 21 Dundee Dragons 2

Fife Phantoms 17 Edinburgh Blue Jays 33

10 May**North East**

Hull Rebels 24 Hunslet Harriers 22

David Rogers hit a three run homer in the seventh as Rebels clawed back a eleven run deficit.

Hessle Apaches 28 Sheffield Pumas 3

Lee Englestone took the win with home runs from Stephen Cracknell, Neil Wells and Lee Englestone.

Scotland

Edinburgh Blue Jays 27 Dundee Dragons 12

North West

Bolton Knights 10 Trafford Saints 11

Drew Latimer took the win and hit a double with Jason Cromes hitting a home run. For the Knights Richard Farney went 3 for 3 and Aaron Davidson hit two doubles.

South

Cambridge Monarchs 9 Alconbury East 0

Milton Keynes Braves 9 Alconbury West 0

South London Ravens 9 Brighton Jaguars 0

Tonbridge Bobcats Cougars 9 Greenwich Troopers 0

Bournemouth B's 13 Windsor Shooters 12

Plymouth Bladerunners 8 Bracknell Scorchers 15 Simon Welch hit two grand slams.

Plymouth Bladerunners 12 Bracknell Scorchers 10

Maidstone Four Jays 19 Burgess Hill Colts 18

Grand slam from Tom Spellane and a home run from James Williams for the Jays.

Southern Conference**South**

South London Ravens 10
Tonbridge Bobcats - Cougars 15
South London Ravens 19
Tonbridge Bobcats - Cougars 20

Brighton Jaguars 0 Maidstone Four Jays 9

Greenwich Troopers 0 Burgess Hill Colts 9

North

Milton Keynes Braves 0 Hemel Red Sox 9

17 May**North East**

Hessle Apaches 28 Leeds Lugnuts 0
Lee Englestone took the win with both Lee and Jae Saleh homering.

Hull Mets 3 Menwith Hill Pirates 19

Hull Rebels 6 Sheffield Pumas 20

North West

Cartmel Valley Lions 10 Preston Panthers 11
Ryan Standlee took the win with Jonathan Spodafora taking the loss.

Bolton Knights 15 Kirkby Braves 14

Trafford Saints 32 Cross Hall Chippers 5
Robert Wolstenhulme took the win with David Fisher hitting a home run.

Scotland

Fife Phantoms 6 Aberdeen Reds 30

East

Brentwood Bucks 9 Clacton 0

Leyton Cardinals 9 Maldon 0

West

Bracknell Scorchers 13 Bournemouth Bs 12
Simon Welch and Jason Coke homered. Dave Blackman took the win. Scorchers won in the bottom of the seventh but were never headed in a close game.

24 May**North East**

Menwith Hill 10 Hessele Apaches
11

Lee Englestone took the win as the Apaches held on for a famous victory in a nailbiting game right down to the final out. Menwith had runners on first and second with two outs and trailing by one but Englestone held his nerve and struck out the last batter.

Hunslet Harriers 9 Hull Mets
21

Wayne Evans hit a home run.

Leeds Lugnuts 14 Hull Rebels
7

North West

Bolton Knights 35 Crosshall
Chippers 0

Scotland

Alyth Adders 19 Dundee
Dragons 22

Midlands

Waddington Wildcats 17
Nottingham Angels 8

West Midlands Junior Razorbacks
3 Sileby Vikings 23

South East

Brentwood Bucks 9 Leyton
Cardinals 0

South West

Bournemouth B's 28 Plymouth
Bladerunners 27

Swindon Royals 3 Bracknell
Scorchers 35

Chiltern Blue Jays 12 Windsor
Shooters 11

South

Tonbridge Bobcats - Cougars 7
Brighton Jaguars 0

Tonbridge Bobcats - Cougars 7
Brighton Jaguars 0

Burgess Hill Colts 24 South
London Ravens 11

Maidstone Four Jays 9
Greenwich Troopers 0

South - North

Hemel Red Sox 9 Alconbury
East 0

Alconbury West 0 Milton Keynes
Braves 9

ON THE MOVE....

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Please note the following changes to your 1997 British Baseball Federation Handbook.

Preston Bobcats

1st contact is now:

Damian Mullen

18 Lostock Meadow, Clayton Le
Woods, Chorley, Lancs, PR6 7UG

Tel: 01772 321794

2nd contact is now:

Peter Howarth, details as listed

Halton Polecats (Pony and Rookie)

1st contact is now:

Richard Jones

5 Clover Court, Brookvale,
Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2TU

Tel: 01928 716148

2nd contact is now:

Elaine Crosbie

42 Wenlock Road, Beechwood,
Runcorn, Cheshire

Tel: 01928 710090

Guildford Mavericks

New telephone number for

Michael Burdett is 01483

832527 or 0171 379 7236

Sheffield Pumas (Bronco and Rookie)

Contacts for both these teams are now:

1st Contact

Jennifer Brownhill

325 Newman Road,
Wincobank, Sheffield

Tel: 0114 249 1038

2nd Contact

Hayley Longford

Tonbridge Bobcats

2nd Contact is now:

Mrs Kay Luker

6 Monk's Walk, Tonbridge, Kent

Tel: 01732 360682

Menwith Hill Patriots

2nd contact is now:

Paul Lapointe

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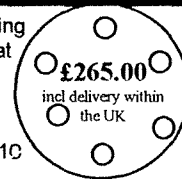
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All rides and attractions, including Lazy Lil's Saloon Show and the New Orleans Jazz Band, will be open from 10am - 5pm. Should you wish to join in with all the fun and razzmatazz, contact either Isobel Taylor or Anna Broome on 01773 531521.



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From the 1998 season onwards the Franklin 1570D will become the official baseball of the British Baseball Federation. Cost to teams will be £36 per dozen including postage and packing. However, these balls are available for purchase this season. Send your cheque (payable to the British Baseball Federation) for your required quantity to:

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P U Z Z L E

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PUZZLERS PREFERENCE

(Devised by Will Cosgrave)
As a complete change from baseball, see if you can work out my interests, likes and preferences in life:

- 1 R _ A _ I _ G
- 2 W _ I _ I _ G
- 3 C _ I _ B _ G
- 4 C _ I _ B _ G _
- 5 B _ C _ G _ M _ O
- 6 T _ L _ V _ S _ O _
- 7 D _ Y _ T _ I _ S
- 8 E _ G _ I _ H _ F _ O _
- 9 C _ U _ T _ Y _ M _ S _ U _ S
- 10 V _ R _ O _ S _ S _ O _ T _
- 11 V _ S _ T _ N _ M _ S _ U _ S
- 12 O _ I _ I _ A _ R _ S _ A _ C _
- 13 R _ V _ R _ I _ E _ W _ L _ S _
- 14 Y _ R _ S _ I _ E _ B _ T _ E _
- 15 T _ A _ S _ O _ T _ H _ S _ O _ Y

Answers to the puzzle in the April edition of Brit-Ball are as follows:

STRANGE STANDINGS

WON LOST

REDS	9	3
ACES	8	4
METS	6	6
CUBS	5	7
BEES	2	10

PLAYING BETTER BASEBALL

(Inside tips to improve all areas of your game) by RICK WOLF

This book is another one in the series that this author has written about improving your performance in the game of baseball.

The reviewer found that this book will be very helpful to players of all ages to improve their baseball skills. It was well written and

informative. It deals mostly with the mental aspect used in all phases of the game.

This book is worth the effort of sitting down and reading it. Each chapter has a step by step progression on how to develop your mental approach to the game.

All budding ballplayers should read this book.



Ralph Rago

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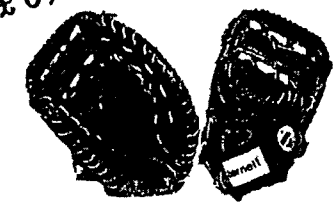
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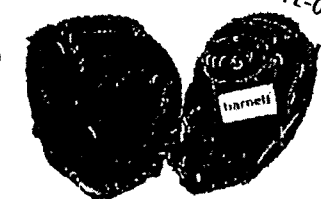
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Dear Editor

It was with great sadness that I heard of the death of an old friend, Frank Caunce.



I first met Frank about 1949, not long after he came out of the Armed Forces. He was passionately fond of baseball and always wanted to have his own team. He sent off to the States for a team uniform with Tigers written across the front of the shirt, but try as he could he never managed to get the team off the ground. At the time I was playing for Liverpool Robins, and Frank also played for the Robins for a while. He mentioned to the Manager, Alan "Pop" Robertson that he had a new team uniform for sale, and hence Liverpool Robins became Liverpool Tigers thanks to Frank.

This season Liverpool Tigers have become Lancashire Tigercats, so a part of Frank still plays on in the Tigers, as indeed it does with his Preston teams.

In 1952, I was working near to Sealand Airforce Base near Chester, and after work I would go over to the Base and watch them train. Eventually I got to know them and would train with them. Being a catcher, I asked if I could have some expert tuition from their Major League catcher, John

Reed, of the St Louis Brownes (Frank's favourite team). He was doing his National Service. In 1953 I was picked to play for a Merseyside All Star Team against the US Sealand Air Force Team at Edinburgh Pak, Liverpool. John Reed was the catcher, and I had got to know him quite well by then. I introduced him to Frank, and at long last he had met someone from his beloved "Brownies".

It was rather strange that Frank's last letter to Brit-Ball was about the old St Louis Browns. Frank used to listen to the games on the AFN from Germany, and was able to give you all the scores.

Since I moved to London I have only seen Frank at the Baseball Clinics. He always greeted you with a warm smile, then it was on to "baseball talk".

Frank was a good man and he will be missed in the baseball world, but he has left his mark in the Tigers and his teams in Preston.

He will not be forgotten.

John Thomas
Old Timers Baseball Club
London Exiles Manager

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION.....

The South London Ravens Pony league team were used in a film shoot for NBC/Chrysalis program about MLB stars last month. The program will be shown on Sky Sports 3 in the UK over the first weekend of July.

Filming took place in the back streets of London and the set looked like downtown Chicago or New York. The Ravens acted out the roles of current MLB players when they themselves were young and dreaming of playing major league.



Filming took a whole day to complete but was a day all players enjoyed and will remember for some time.

Robin Webb
South London Ravens

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BARCLAYCARD VOLUNTEER INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Barclaycard Champion of British Sport is a £6 million, four year commitment to provide resources, recognition and expertise to sport in Britain, at every level.

Part of this initiative, the Barclaycard Volunteer Investment Programme in conjunction with the Sports Council, aims to help the grassroots of sport in Britain. Our 1.5 million sports volunteers are worth £1.5 billion annually. By encouraging and better coordinating the volunteer effort, the Barclaycard VIP aims to improve opportunities for everyone involved in sport.

Barclaycard VIP is a comprehensive information, training and support programme, coupled with a series of national and regional cash awards.

WHAT ARE THE BARCLAYCARD VIP AWARDS?

The Awards are designed to give recognition to sports clubs and governing bodies that lead the way in recruitment and management of volunteers. Award winners will be selected on the basis of achievement in the following aspects:

- ✓ Planning Volunteers
- ✓ Policy and Practice
- ✓ Volunteer Recruitment
- ✓ Volunteer Retention
- ✓ Volunteer Recognition
- ✓ Volunteer Motivation

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Organisations that deliver sport

services under the following categories:

- ✓ **Clubs** - an organisation that has a single activity or focus
- ✓ **Regional / County Governing Bodies** - an organisation that oversees a number of clubs / associations / an organisation at regional / county level
- ✓ **National Governing Body of Sport**

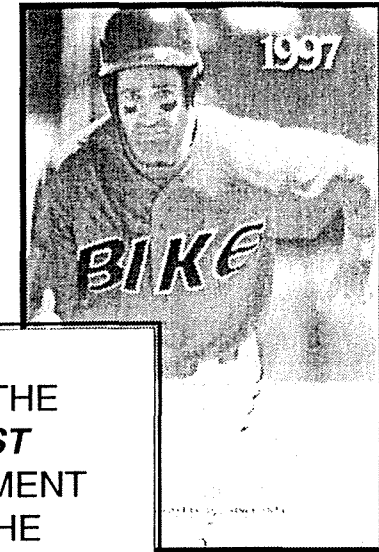
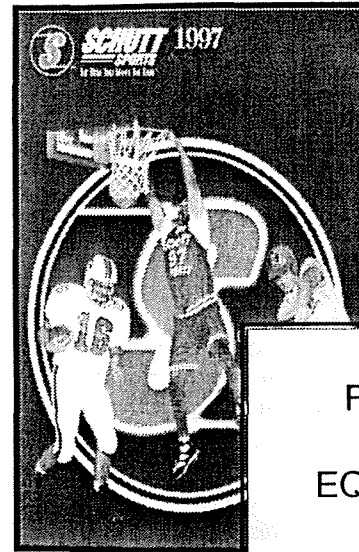
If you are involved in a sporting club / organisation that relies on volunteers then you could enter the Barclaycard Volunteer Investment (VIP) Awards.

WHY BOTHER?

Give your volunteers a 'pat on the back' for their contribution, enthusiasm and dedication

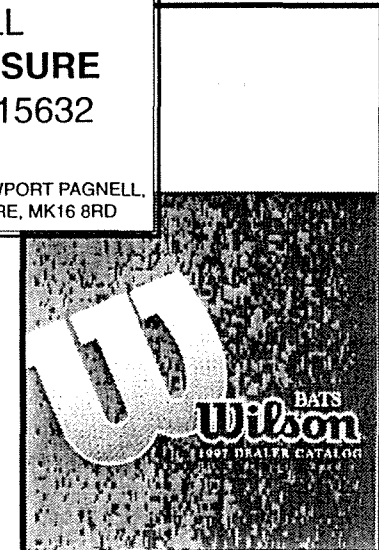
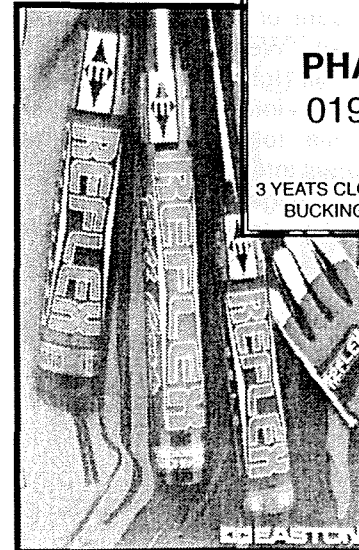
- ✓ Receive public recognition and congratulations for the contribution the organisation is making to the community.
- ✓ An opportunity to win cash for your organisation
- ✓ A great public relations opportunity to positively present your organisation to the public
- ✓ An opportunity to recruit new volunteers to your organisation through media exposure

Nominations forms are available by calling the Barclaycard VIP freephone hotline number. Closing date for entries is 31 July 1997 - 0800 363 373



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PONY Baseball/Softball to Feature Educational Program on the World Wide Web

Washington, PA, May 9, 1997 - PONY Baseball and Softball is pleased to announce that it has established an educational program to be featured on the internet called Coaching Education, Safety and Risk Management on the Internet. Beginning the week of May 12, PONY Baseball and Softball will feature a weekly page on its internet site - www.pony.org - devoted to a topic relating to coaching education, safety or risk management in the games of youth baseball and softball.

Subjects will include, but will not be limited to; field safety, game safety, product development, medical study results, injury frequency and statistics, coaching education, volunteer screening, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and much, much more.

This project is made possible by a grant from USA Baseball, the national governing body of amateur baseball in the United States. PONY Baseball and Softball plans to download 52 (once a week for one year) short coaching education, safety and risk management tips that internet



users, baseball fans and league members of PONY Baseball and Softball can copy, duplicate and distribute to its membership.

"We are very excited about providing this type of information, not only to our membership, but to the baseball and softball public in general", said Abraham Key, President of PONY Baseball and Softball. "We are grateful to USA Baseball for the opportunity to share this information. We hope to be able to provide timely and pertinent information on the safety, risk management and coaching education topics that affect our games".

Feature ideas can be sent to the attention of Chris Headley at pony@pulsenet.com.

Abe Key
President

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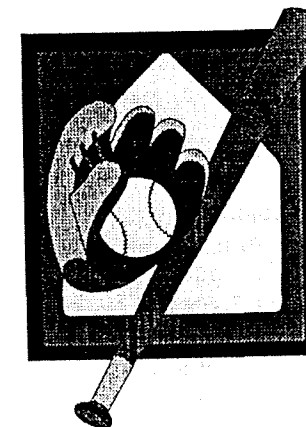
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