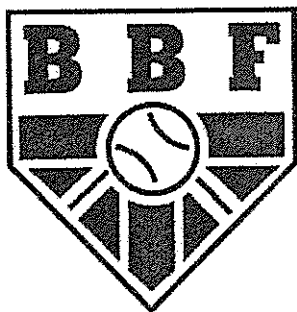


26th - 27th August 2000



# British Baseball's Final Four National Championships





Supporting the  
community in  
Brighton & Hove

## Schedule of Events

### Saturday 26th August 200

- 10am **Semi-final**  
London Warriors v Menwith Hill Patriots
- 11am + **Bronco Youth Tournament**  
On youth diamonds
- 1 – 3pm **Exhibition Pony Youth All-Star Game**  
North v South
- 1.30 – 3.15pm **ASDA Kids Clinic**  
At Major League Baseball *Roadshow*
- 3.30pm **Semi-final**  
Brighton Buccaneers v Preston Jazz

### Sunday 27th August 200

- 11am **Knockout Cup Final**  
Richmond Flames v Yorkshire Puddings (7 innings)
- 10am + **Pony Youth Tournament**  
On youth diamonds
- 2 – 3pm **3DO's Sammy Sosa High Heat Baseball 2000**  
**National Home Run Derby**
- 3.30pm **Premier Division Final**



I've watched and listened to baseball games in a bunch of weird and wonderful settings over the past 50 years, ever since I got the bug as a kid listening to Mel Allen on the New York Yankees radio network while hiding under the covers so my parents wouldn't know I was still awake. That started during the year DiMaggio retired and Mickey Mantle took over for the Yanks in centre field. There's a Todd's Teaser for you: name the year!

In 1975, I caught the seventh game of the World Series on a shortwave radio while sheltering from a thunderstorm in a whitewashed chapel atop the highest hill on the Greek island of Sifnos. Before that, when I first joined the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* as a late-shift reporter, I would get off work at 10 at night and sneak into Forbes Field past abandoned ticket windows to catch the last couple of innings of Pirates games: Clemente, Mazeroski and Stargell working their magic under late-night lights. I've seen baseball in a bunch of dead stadiums: the Kingdome, the Astrodome, Candlestick and the old Memorial Coliseum in Cleveland, the "Mistake by the Lake", where I once sold hot dogs to crowds so small it took a tracker dog to find the punters. I've caught baseball games on wandering radio signals in countries from France to Nepal.

But to my shame, I've never seen a baseball game in Britain, and that's why I've been looking forward with huge anticipation to this year's Final 4 in Brighton. Not to mention the fact that my job now compels me to explore every nook and cranny of British baseball, just as I've done with British football since a friend and I started a famously seminal pick-up game on Harewood Heath – later to move to Regents Park and never look back – in 1972.

Watching the best four teams in Britain go for the ultimate prize, I'll be haunted by the ghosts of baseball past; but what I've really come to Brighton's magnificent ground to see is British baseball's present – and intimations of a glorious future. I know there will be ballpark hot dogs to weld the past and present together. But can even Skip Murray provide the peanuts and Cracker-jacks...?

**Bob Fromer**  
Chief Executive

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# Brighton Buccaneers

**Manager:** Craig Savage, 114-65 coaching record, 1 National Title, 1 European  
B runners up.

**Season Record:** 14-1

## Top Three

### Pitchers:

Ace - Nick Carter

No. 2 - Mark Mills

No. 3 Martyn Dutton

### Defensive:

Alex Malihoudis CF

Martyn Dutton LF

John Downes SS

### Offensive:

Alex Malihoudis CF

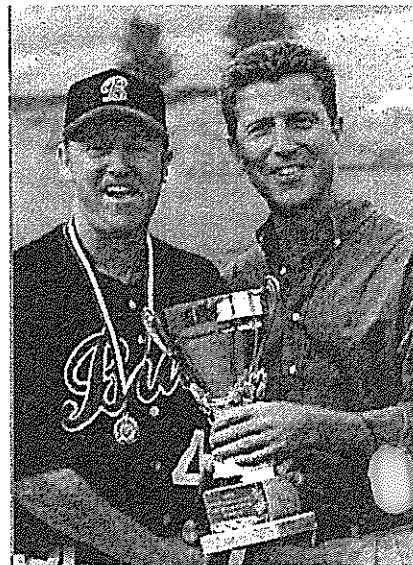
Nick Carter P OF

Kevin August 1B

## Predicted Starting Line-up

- 1 Nick Carter RF / P
- 2 Alex Malihoudis CF
- 3 Maurice Mirosolin DH / RF
- 4 Kevin August 1B
- 5 John Downes SS
- 6 Martyn Dutton LF
- 7 David Donaldson 3B
- 8 Ed Jeffrey C
- 9 Ben Gogan 2B

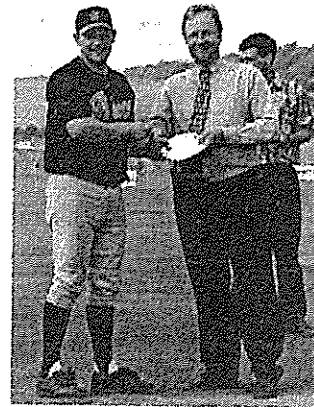
P. Mark Mills / Nick Carter



'It's a one game situation and I personally believe that on the day any one of the teams can win. We've faced the best level of competition this year in the European Championship and I think that should be a distinct advantage.' - **Craig Savage, Brighton Buccaneers Head Coach**

## How they got here

Brighton Buccaneers finished National Champions in 1999 and have gone 17-1 since (including the play-offs). The only loss came at the hands of the London Warriors 9-2 on 30 April. Since then, they have won 12 straight, including a 14-1 thrashing of London. This playoff win insured the Bucs of a number 1 seed throughout the playoffs.



**David Donaldson –  
1999 Final Four MVP**

## How it could all go wrong

How does any team lose in baseball? They don't play catch, they don't throw strikes and they don't put the ball in play. Although they are the best, baseball is not a sport where you can guarantee a win. For this reason alone, Brighton can be beaten. Part of the joy of watching two baseball teams is the suspense of not knowing for sure what that outcome will be. A pitcher has a bad day, umpire's decision goes against you or another team plays out of their socks, any team can lose.

## How they will win it

Brighton are this year's odds on favourite to win the Final 4, and for good reason. The Bucs' talented roster is filled with good quality athletes and smart baseball players. Among them are no less than ten players with National Team experience. When you play Brighton you are going up against a buzz saw. Make no bones about it, they can hammer you from all angles.



**1999 National Champions – the Brighton  
Buccaneers**

# London Warriors

Season Record: 23-1

## Top Three

### Pitchers:

Kevin Coldiron,  
Michael Osborn,  
Alan Smith

### Defensive:

Chris Ackley (1b),  
Maurizio Mosca (cf),  
Craig Perry (c)

### Offensive:

Alan Bloomfield,  
Kevin Coldiron,  
Simon Pole

## Predicted Starting Line-up

### Semi-final

- 1 A Bloomfield (ss)
- 2 M Mosca (cf)
- 3 S Pole (lf)
- 4 K Coldiron (2b)
- 5 C Perry (c)
- 6 M Osborn (p)
- 7 C Ackley (1b)
- 8 R Perez (rf)
- 9 N Margetts (3b)

## Predicted Starting Line-up

### Final

- 1 A Bloomfield (ss)
- 2 M Mosca (cf)
- 3 S Pole (lf)
- 4 K Coldiron (2b)
- 5 C Perry (c)
- 6 M Osborn (3b)
- 7 C Ackley (1b)
- 8 B Thompson (rf)
- 9 A Smith (p)

'We have a strong team and if we play as well as we can, we have as good a chance of winning the Championship as any of the other teams.'

**- Alan Smith, London Warriors Player/Manager**

## How they got here

The London Warriors have dominated baseball in the South for a number of years. This season has been no different. They finished the season with an astonishing 23-1 record, only losing to Brighton on 30 April. Opposition has hardly even come close to beating the Warriors – they've only been in one one-run ballgame all year – against the Windsor Bears on 14 May.

## How it could all go

### wrong

Last year, London were knocked out of the play-offs in the first round by the Essex Arrows. This year, they were beaten by Brighton in a one game play-off to decide the Southern Championship. London have been known to lose big games and this weekend, the pressure will be on against long-standing rivals, the Menwith Hill Patriots. Only one team can win – will it be London?

## How they will win it

London are one of the most experienced teams around. They are very hard to beat. Their line-up is stacked with great hitters and their pitching has only got stronger this year. Defensively, they're not flashy, just very good. They'll be a tough team to beat.

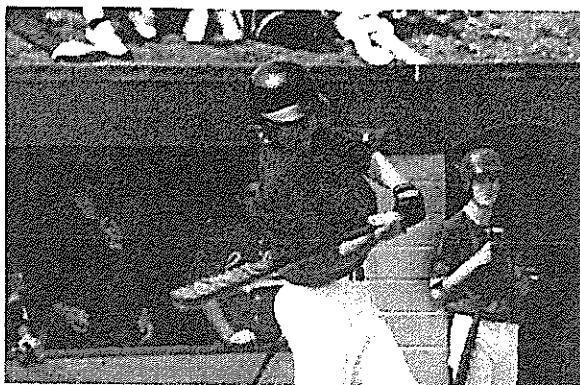
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## Pony All-Star Teams



Pony All-Stars in action last year

### NORTH

### SOUTH

- 1/ Steven Child, Bradford Crusaders.
  - 2/ Nicky Plummer, Leeds Lugnuts.
  - 3/ Ky. Englestone, Hessle
  - 4/ AJ, Menwith.
  - 5/ Chris Greer, Menwith.
  - 6/ Chris McKinny, Menwith.
  - 7/ Robin Thatcher, Razerbacks.
  - 8/ Rob. Mills, Halton Polecats.
  - 9/ Seb C. ell, Halton Polecats.
  - 10/ Mark Erick, Halton Polecats.
  - 11/ Mat Thompson, Halton Polecats.
  - 12/ Neil Moony, Manchester Saints.
  - 13/ Will Fearon, Preston.
  - 14/ Warwick, Preston.
- Coaches, John Mills, Halton Polecats.  
 Kevin Slater, Menwith. Nigel Moss,  
 Leeds Lugnuts. Russell Plummer,  
 Leeds Lugnuts.  
 Team Manager Tony Child, Bradford  
 Crusaders.

- Bracknell :
- Phillip Matthews  
 Ryan Trask  
 Paul Lawrence  
 Andrew Hare
- Burgess Hill :
- Louis Chestney  
 Gary Still  
 Chris Stewart-Brown  
 Daniel Gurney
- Tonbridge :
- Will Lintern  
 Ben Lucocq  
 Euan Martin  
 George Lintern
- Windsor :
- Matt Hooker  
 Branden Dean  
 Chris Doherty
- Chiltern
- Alan Sellinger

## Senior League Standings

### Premier Division North

	W	L	%
Menwith Hill	27	3	0.900
Preston	25	5	0.833
L'pool	14	16	0.467
Manchester	13	17	0.433
Hessle	11	19	0.367
Edinburgh	0	30	0.000

### Premier Division South

Group A	W	L	%
London	23	1	0.958
Cambridge	9	13	0.409
Windsor	8	12	0.400
Essex	5	19	0.208

Group B	W	L	%
Brighton	14	1	0.933
Croydon	8	12	0.400
Enfield	6	10	0.375
Bracknell	2	7	0.222

### Division One North

	W	L	%
Yorkshire	8	0	1.000
Barnsley	6	3	0.667
Sheffield	8	6	0.571
Manchester	2	8	0.200
Durham	1	7	0.125

### Division One South

	W	L	%
Richmond	12	5	0.706
Guildford	12	5	0.706
Alconbury	10	5	0.667
Bournemouth	9	6	0.600
Tonbridge	8	9	0.471
Bushey	5	12	0.294
Sidewinders	5	12	0.294
Milton Keynes	5	12	0.294

### Division Two South

	W	L	%
Oxford	12	3	0.800
Croydon	12	3	0.800
London	6	3	0.667
Chiltern	7	5	0.583
Brighton	7	7	0.500
Mildenhall	1	1	0.500
Richmond	5	8	0.385
Guildford	2	8	0.200
Bracknell	2	11	0.154
Brentwood	0	6	0.000

# The Richmond Flames

Flames league record 12-5  
 London tournament - 5th place, 3-1  
 Dortmund (Germany) Challenge 2000 tournament - 5th place, 2-2  
 Friendlies 1-1 Total 18-9

### Pitching Stars

Steve Jarnet  
 Anthony DeVries  
 Greg Blair

### Defensive Stars

Anthony DeVries  
 Greg Blair  
 Charles Smith

### Offensive Stars

Greg Russell  
 Vinny Connare  
 Dan Ehrismann

Starting Lineup for Cup game v Yorkshire:

Greg Blair, 3rd base  
 Steve Jarnet, Pitcher  
 Dan Ehrismann, Left Field  
 Greg Russell, Centre Field  
 Vinny Connare, 2nd base  
 Georg Blaschke, Right Field  
 Lee Cao, Short Stop  
 Charles Smith, 1st base  
 Anthony DeVries, Catcher

### Subs:

Vinny Gibbs  
 Wayne Nash  
 Steve Atack  
 Neil Cohen  
 Frank Sekula  
 Nigel Stephens

### Quote from General Manager of the Richmond Flames, Wayne Nash:

"The Richmond Flames have had an unbelievable 2000 season winning the 1st Division and getting to the final of the Cup. I believe this cup final has the opportunity to be a great game. Our competitors in the final have also won their 1st Division and their hard working coach Ian Smyth is a member of the GB coaching staff, a great guy and a great motivator. However, I believe we can win the cup. There is a great spirit and a sense of family in the Flames. We play for each other, but to win this game we have to be at our very best. We look forward to the game ahead and are ready for the challenge."

# The Yorkshire Puddings

Joint coaches Barry Marshall, Nigel Moss, Frank Parker, Ian Smyth. All GB coaches. Have won several national titles between them with Hull and Leeds.

2000 Record – played 8, won 8. 12 games forfeited to the Puddings.

### Top Three:

Pitching:  
 Chris Pearson,  
 Barry Webb,  
 Frank Parker

Defense:  
 Simon Radge,  
 Gavin Marshall,  
 Julian Padbury

Offense:  
 Nigel Moss,  
 Nick Whittaker,  
 Andy Whittaker

Played 8 won 8



Many of the 1999 Kingston Cobras, who lost to Brighton in the 1999 Semi-final, now play for the Yorkshire Puddings

### Projected line-up for the final:

1 Moss	DH
2 Radge	3rd
3 Whittaker N	SS
4 Whittaker	C
5 Parker	1st
6 Child	LF
7 Marshall	CF
8 Padbury	RF
9 Webb	2nd

Pearson P

### Subs:

Child  
 Plummer  
 Smyth  
 Marshall  
 Jarvis

We are very confident, however we will not underestimate Richmond. They are the best team in the Southern Conference, and we will give them the respect they deserve. – Ian Smyth, Player/Manager, Yorkshire Puddings

# Preston Jazz

Season Record: 25-5

## Top Three

### Pitchers:

Jeremy Silva  
Vince Garcia  
Damien Mullen

### Defensive

Phil Cocks  
Dennis Grogan  
Rob Davies

### Offensive

Dennis Grogan  
Jeremy Silva  
Vince Garcia

## Predicted Starting Line-up

### Semi-final

1 Vince Garcia C  
2 Jeremy Silva P  
3 Rod Davies 1B  
4 Dennis Grogan CF  
5 Rob Rance LF  
6 Luke Russell SS  
7 Jonathan Spodofora 2B  
8 Dave Cocks 3B  
9 Damien Mullen RF

## Predicted Starting Line-up

### Final

1 Vince Garcia C  
2 Jeremy Silva 3B  
3 Rod Davies 1B  
4 Dennis Grogan CF  
5 Rob Rance LF  
6 Luke Russell SS  
7 Jonathan Spodofora 2B  
8 Dave Cocks RF  
9 Damien Mullen P

## How they got here

The Preston Jazz were the team to beat this year in the North. There was never a doubt that they would finish in the top two – at one stage, it looked as though they could have taken the title from Menwith.

## How it could all go wrong

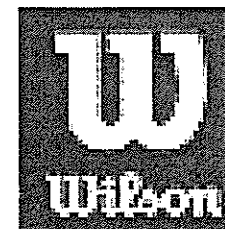
Preston are a new team to the top ranks. Will their nerves hold out against the best of the South? Will they raise their game to play with Brighton? Unless they play good defence, have the edge with pitching and produce some runs, they may find the mighty Bucs too much.

## How they will win it

With a 25-5 record, the Jazz are used to winning. They demonstrated the killer instinct in the playoffs beating the Windsor Bears (1999 National Finalists) 6-4 and 6-5 (in extra innings). In a close game, they'll be tough to beat. A good Semi-final pitching performance and Preston could be in the final. Then, who knows?

'A good chance if we all play on the day. Everybody's excited about playing in the Final Four - we're just ecstatic. I just hope the nerves hold out. But the pressure's not on us - it's on Brighton. We've got nothing to lose. Everybody loves an under-dog.'

- **Damien Mullen, Preston Jazz Player/Manager**



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# Menwith Hill Patriots

Record as coach: 27-3

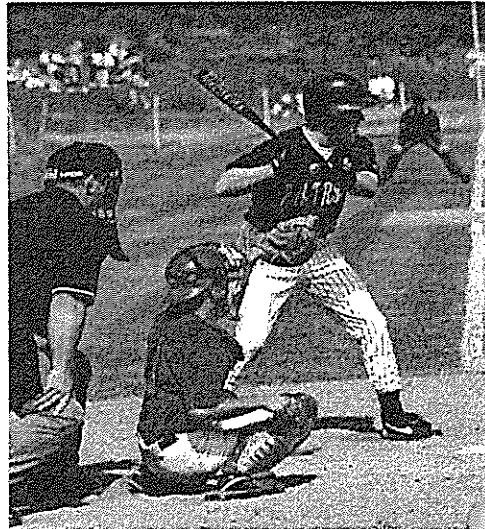
## Top Three

Defense  
 Bill Keeler  
 Marc Soileau  
 Bob Benitez

Offense  
 Bob Benitez  
 Dave Stephens  
 Doug Gaydon

## Predicted Starting Line-up

- 1 M Soileau CF
- 2 F Rivera P
- 3 B Benitez C
- 4 D Stephens SS
- 5 D Gaydon LF
- 6 T Cuddy 1B
- 7 R Schneider 3B
- 8 B Keeler 2B
- 9 M Campise RF



*Menwith Hill at last year's Final*

'if we play to our capabilities, we have as good a chance as any other team.'

- **Kevin Slater, Menwith Hill Player / Manager**

## How they got here

The Patriots were present at the Final Four last year and have been a regular feature of the finals over the last few years. This they again dominated the Premier Division North, finishing the regular season with a 27-3 record, losing to Preston and Manchester.

## How it could all go wrong

Déjà vu 1999, when they were knocked out in the Semis, by the underdogs, the Windsor Bears. London has good pitching, fielding and can hit with the best. All it will take is Menwith to have a bad day.

## How they will win it

The Patriots are used to being at the big show. If their nerves hold out and they don't put too much pressure on themselves, then they can repeat their dominating performances of the 1990s. Solid 1-9, defensively and offensively, they'll be a tough team to beat. They know they could have won last year, and will be determined to reinstate their reputation this year.

## Officials for the weekend

### Scorers

**Saturday**  
Menwith Hill v London  
 Clive Maude, Linda Douglas  
Pony All-Star Team  
 Brian Holland  
Brighton v Preston  
 Linda Douglas, Paul Pollard

**Sunday**  
Knockout Cup Final  
 Brian Holland  
Final Four  
 Paul Pollard, Clive Maude

### Umpires

#### **Saturday 26th**

Menwith v London  
 HP-Lakin, 1B- Edsall, 2B-Rusbridge, 3B-Newell;

#### Youth All-Star Game

HP-Edsall, 1B-Rusbridge, 2B-Newell, 3B-Greer;

#### Brighton v Preston

HP-Rusbridge, 1B-Newell, 2B-Greer, 3B-Lakin;

#### **Sunday 27th**

Div 1 Cup Final  
 HP-Newell, 1B-Greer, 2B-Lakin, 3B-Edsall;

#### 2000 NPL Final

HP-Greer, 1B-Lakin, 2B-Edsall, 3B-Rusbridge.

## Here Come the Kids!!

- by Vince Garcia

BaseballSoftballUK's Director of Game Development

It has been a wild summer. In the beginning, we (BaseballSoftballUK staff) knew there would be a lot of work to do but that it would all pay off. In just a few weeks we'll all be heading off to Spain or Florida but first, let's have a look back at a truly historical summer.

2000 was the year for change. With the intentions of maximising both time and resources, the British Baseball Federation and the British Softball Federation linked up to form BaseballSoftballUK. We shared office space, we shared initiatives and we shared the workload. Development takes time. We are all in a rush to put both baseball and softball firmly on the sporting map in Britain. There is no doubt about the fact that we have 14,000 members out there pushing for new fields, trying to get sponsors and just aching for more people to play. We took some large steps forward in the beginning of the new Millennium.

Our development staff successfully executed the expansion of the *Play Ball!* Program. Young kids were imitating Sammy Sosa and Ken Griffey Jr. up and down the country from Plymouth to Edinburgh with stops along the way for expansion in Birmingham, Bristol, Bracknell, Clacton on Sea, Windsor, Wigan, Harrogate and Nottingham to name a few. The *Play Ball!* World Series saw more teams involved with more kids screaming their heads off while running the bases, hitting the ball and making diving catches. Battles are won in the trenches. These *Play Ball!* areas are the trenches and our biggest weapons in convincing others at how amazing our game is.

What else was going on? Well, we had three times as many young kids participating on an international level as ever before. We hosted the Kenko Tournament with sponsorship from the Kenko Corporation. Of course the Japanese team won the competition but that was not the most important thing. We all made amazing relations with our Far East friends. Importantly, they showed us a few things about life, playing baseball and deep respect for both opponents and officials. Oh, they were pretty good.

Our first ever Easter Baseball Camp was a huge success with over 30 kids participating. The 6th annual Cadet Camp also saw an amazing turn out with over 50 kids participating over the course of the week. Next on the expansion of the camps will be our first ever Christmas Camp. Keep an eye out for information.

The Frank Caunce Memorial Youth Tournament had over 500 people on the day witness the best youth competition we've ever had. Over 350 kids took part in the schools, Bronco, Pony competitions and baseball clinic. Oh, and as usual, the weather was amazing. It was the best day of the summer.

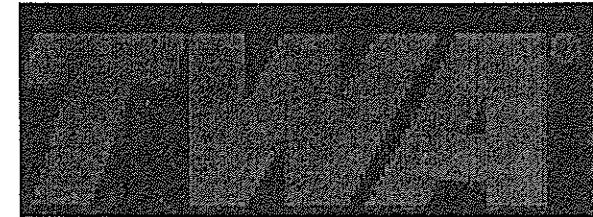
Our domestic youth competitions are nearly over with just our All-Star competitions at the Final 4 for both Pony and Bronco divisions and the Pony National Finals on the 9th of September to go. Again, many of these players will be graduating onto senior teams for 2001.

Finally, this weekend's games signal an end to our senior domestic competition. The Knockout Cup pits North Vs South when Yorkshire take on Richmond in a fight for Division One supremacy. In the Premier Division, our national final is taking place. There are four able teams fighting it out for the right to be called National Champions. In the first Semi-final, old rivals, London Warriors (??-2) take on the Men with a Hat Patriots (29-3). In part two of Semi-final Saturday, 1999 National Champions Brighton (19-1?) take on Preston (27-5). On Sunday, the Semi-final winners will fight it out for the right to be called Champs. Odds are that this will be the most competitive baseball weekend in British Baseball history.

# ASDA

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ASDA are sponsors of the Kids Clinic at the Final Four



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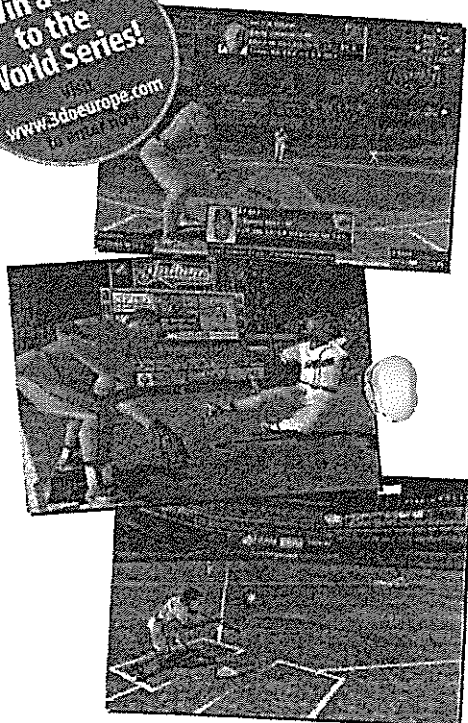
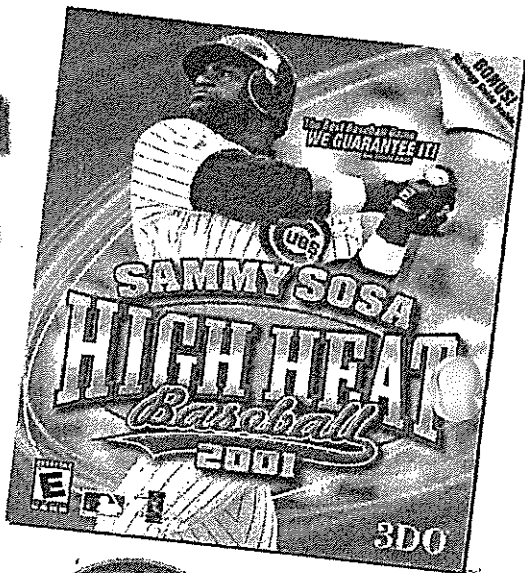
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