

BRIT-BALL

*The Official Voice
of the
British Baseball
Federation*

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75p



British Baseball Federation

BBF YOUTH BASEBALL GETS MASSIVE BOOST

Welcome to the fifth edition of Brit-Ball. Flicking through the pages you will see that a considerable amount of this issue has been devoted to our younger players - and they deserve it.

The GB Junior and Cadet squads have both competed in Europe during July and we should all be extremely proud of their performances. This is the first time they have competed in European competition and for the Juniors to finish 1st was a great achievement.

We also have a report of the trip made by five of our youngsters to the World Children's Baseball Fair in San Diego. I'm sure all those involved, and the children who have been in previous years, will agree with me when I say that this was an experience of a lifetime for them.

We would like to hear more from our younger players, including match reports or results of any tournaments they have competed in, plus articles from them on their experiences in baseball.

As usual we have all the results from games played during July. Is your team getting the coverage it deserves - if not let me know what's happening in your neck of the woods. Unless you tell me, I can't print anything. We also have the draw for the semi-finals of the knockout cup.

On a final note, I'm sure you will join me in sending a big thank-you to all the MLB Envoys who have been staying in this country for the past 12 weeks. I'm sure many of you will have benefited from their assistance and expertise. Write and let me know how your envoy has helped your team. In this issue you will find a short report on some of the experiences of Cam Stephens, just to prove English is not always English!

THE ROADSHOW TRAVELS ON.....

The roadshow has been out and about again, this time to the Ministry of Defence Sports day held in Hendon, London. A few tips and ideas which have emerged from this event are as follows:

1. When erecting the batting cage, lay the structure on the ground in the approximate position it is to be erected. With two people supporting the uprights, drive the transit van (used to transport the roadshow) between them and use a 'roof mounted ballplayer' to connect the uprights to the horizontal sections. Continue this until the framework is complete, and then hook on the net, again using the transit to reach the hooks - who needs ladders eh!
2. At this event a pitching area was also set up, consisting of a home plate and pitchers plate. This attracted as many customers as the batting cage.
4. A charge was made of 50p for 10 balls in either the batting or pitching area, which raised a total of £107 on the day. Money raised at this event was donated to Cancer Research.
3. Always allow at least 1½ hours to set the roadshow up before your event.

Should and registered team wish to hire the BBF Roadshow to raise awareness of the game in your area (as well as to make some money for your club), then please contact Barry Mayfield, on 081 751 3080.

One of the next events the roadshow is at is The Town and Country Festival, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire on 28, 29 and 30 August. If your planning to be in the area, why not join us and have a go! With a possible attendance of 130,000, hopefully we can transform some of these people into our baseball players of the future.

Here comes summer, baseball and a few sunny skies.

Having made the decision to have a MLB envoy coach I made the trip to the local supermarket to start stocking up on essential provisions for his stay, you know the usual must haves lager, pizza and more lager. Little did I realize then that my main over-sight would be custard creams.

I travelled back to Sheffield from Dundee with Cam Stephens my envoy from Santa Barbara, California. The long journey gave us ample time to feel comfortable with each other and my planned itinerary for the next six or so weeks. The first two weeks we would be in two schools before the summer term ended and then we would travel around doing camps for the Sheffield Recreation.

The schools were both enthusiastic and in the main the pupils were keen to learn. We started to organise several competitions and fun game evenings and Saturdays. A day with Kevin Macadam in Grimsby revealed a lot of untapped children eager to play in an organised team.

My guest easily became one of the family and astounded us by making several jugs of water disappear at each meal. Having heard the riling of the biscuit tin

and observed the diminishing number of custard creams I quickly restocked with a case of said items.

I stood at our 12th camp and listened to the introduction Cam gave the kids, I'd heard it word for word before and started to wonder how many times he'd said it before and how many times he'd say it again. It made me realize just how difficult it is for the coach to keep it both simple and interesting without scrambling his own brains with repetition.

The recreation camps have generally been good except for one session that came at the end of a gruelling five days coaching with probably the only under 14 branch of the minor



demons from hell in Sheffield. Boy did we drink some lager and hit the custards that night.

Variety came in the form of several visits to the American Adventure to help coach the staff on the new batting cage sponsored by MLBIP. BBC Radio Sheffield also gave us a slot to both explain a bit about the game and its legends and to voice our hopes for the game in Britain.

As we approach the final two and a half weeks I can see several possible junior teams emerging from this program and a much greater awareness of baseball in the city and surrounding areas. The momentum will have to be kept up after Cam leaves us. We still need more adults to take an interest and help supervise. As coaches we must not become baby-sitters or else our efforts will be diluted and we will become over-stretched. The word is spreading, it's

different and exciting and the kids want to play it. We must do our best to embrace them into our family or lose them to other sports. It's in our own hands to grasp this opportunity for the future of baseball in Britain.

El Presidente

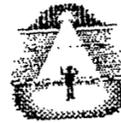
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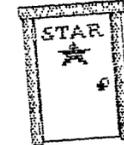
Each team has its star player. The player who without his dedication and considerable talent the team would lose week in, week out, or so he likes to think!

Now 'BRITBALL' offers you the chance to bring your team's prima donna down a peg or two with an in-depth comical look at your star man.

This month we look at one of the British games gentleman, Barry Mayfield. Barry's claim to fame is that he is a personal friend of Bob and Anne Feller and that in 1953 he had the opportunity to go for a professional try-out with the Baltimore Orioles. However, his team know him for his excessive 'wind' and, to his credit, when hot air is needed, Barry is there!



PAGE THREE PIN-UP



SPOTLIGHT ON:

Barry Mayfield

AGE:

55

PLAYING POSITION: Pitcher/Outfielder/Club Administrator

TEAM:

Old Timers Baseball Club

LIKES:

Baseball/Organising

DISLIKES:

Disorganisation/Unnecessary Controversy

FAVOURITE TV:

The Bill

FAVOURITE FOOD:

Basic Cooking

FAVOURITE DRINK:

Rum and Coke

AMBITIONS:

When he retires to visit friends in Africa, USA, Australia and see the Pyramids.

If you want to include your team or star player in the spotlight (plus photo if you have one), send in the details.



GREAT BRITAIN JUNIORS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS SPAIN 19 - 26 JULY 1993 COACHES DIARY

Monday 19 July

Arrived Barcelona 10.00am - tired and excited. Hotel is better than Youth Hostel in Germany last year (but only just!) The Spanish seem to have a problem telling the time (they never arrive when they say)! Trained in the afternoon (bus was 20 minutes late). Good training session but playing surface at training ground is poor. After session we are handed a revised playing schedule (Ukraine were not coming). This threw our plans into chaos as we now have a game Tuesday (10.00am), originally we were not schedule to play until Wednesday. Being philosophical, we realise we now have an extra game, which is great and promptly work out our pitching rotation (again). Technical meeting at 5.00pm (transport arrives 5.45pm) - finally arrive at technical meeting to be told they have yet another revised playing schedule (Russia and Georgia were not coming but Ukraine may be here tomorrow). Pitching rotation sheet ends up in

bin! Nice meal after meeting then back to our hotel. Finalised starting line-up for tomorrow (it is now 1.45am) Breakfast is due at 6.30am.

Tuesday 20 July

The day started badly when we realised the bat bag had been left on the coach from yesterday's training session (where's Ian Smyth when you need him!). From this 'high point' of the day things deteriorated rapidly. Going into the game things had gone pretty well, training had been good and expectations were high. The game, as a contest, was over after 1½ innings with Austria leading 17 - 1. Many of the players 'froze' in the magnificent surroundings of the Olympic baseball stadium and therefore did not do themselves or the team justice. Seven innings, 4 pitchers and 25 walks later we were put out of our misery when the game ended with a score of 27 - 10 in favour of Austria. Pick of the GB side were Neil Eggleston (Catcher) and Glen Matsell (2nd base) who both had good defensive games. Martin Bladon finished top batter with 3 walks and a hit whilst Phil Cocks was the pick of the pitchers. At the end of the day, our boys did not perform well and although Austria looked a very well organized outfit, we can play a lot better than this! Life at the top can be cruel but if lessons have been learned then this pain, frustration and humiliation we are feeling will not have been all in vain. Romania tomorrow - can't wait!

Wednesday 21 July

Still no bats but coach arrives on time! Just when we think things cannot get any worse - they do! Lee Ingham is hit in the face by a thrown ball during infield warm-up, later taken to hospital as a precaution (OK though). We

score 6 runs in the 1st innings. We look a lot better than yesterday (Romania look poor). After working our way into a 9 - 2 lead we stop playing. Romania start to pull the runs back. Ross Chell replaces Mark King on the mound after 6 innings and slows down the Romanian charge, but after 8 innings we are clinging on to a slender 12 - 11 lead. Excitement on both benches is at fever pitch. The Atlanta Braves "chop" and "chant" is echoing round the stadium (from the benches). It's times like this that age me years and turn my hair grey! Enter Gavin Marshall (rather him than me) to close the game in the bottom of the 9th. 1st batter hits safe to centrefield, 2nd batter strikes out. Meanwhile the runner has stole to 2nd base, conveniently for us he decides to walk off his base and is tagged out by Glen Matsell (2 down). Final batter hits straight back to the pitcher for a simple out at 1st. Victory is sweet but really we should have won this game with something to spare.

Thursday 22 July

All teams are on 1 - 1 records. We are playing Croatia who defeated Austria 22 - 8 yesterday. We struggle in the early innings and find ourselves 8 - 1 down after 4 innings and 10 - 2 down after 6. This has not been a bad performance though, and then the best news we have had all week, "the missing bats arrive in the dug-out". A spirited rally in the 8th scores 3 runs to make the score 10 - 5 but Croatia score 2 in their final bat to extend the lead to 12 - 5. After scoring a run with one out, management inspiration takes over, the pinch hitter rule is applied 4 times with great success and the gap is narrowed to 12 - 10. With runners on 1st and 2nd and the winning run at the plate, the fight back ended with a strike-out

(Croatia were very relieved to see the final out). The pitching duties were shared by Matthew Atkinson and Ben Gogan (who did a good job, conceding 4 runs). This was a pleasing performance and although this meant we finished 4th in the group we feel quietly confident of success against Romania in the semi-final tomorrow. Can we do it!!

Friday 23 July

What a difference 3 days make! The lads are in danger of looking like a ball club!! This was the best performance by us in the tournament so far - won 15 - 8. Phil Cocks pitched superb for 7 innings then Lee Loverseed and Gavin Marshall came on in relief and did the business. The stats showed we gave away only 4 walks and conceded only 2 errors (an acceptable level at this standard). Glen Matsell and Lee Evans were top batters with 3 hits each and the infield made some excellent plays. The first game against Austria must have been "one of those days" as that is the only game they have won!! The pitching rotation, I feel, has been handled excellently and we will be going into the final against Croatia "healthy" although they also seem to have a strong pitching staff. I feel I have learned a lot from this tournament and only hope the lads have too!! Victory means we can have a sleep in (until

Saturday 24 July

What an eventful day! A great day for British Baseball. I only hope everyone back home appreciates the effort we (players and coaches) have put into this. Not a great game for the purists but one of the great

come-backs for many a year. This one will be talked about in 20 / 30 years time by all who were present. At 10 - 1 down after 3 innings, many a team would have thrown in the towel, but not his lot. Gavin Marshall was brought on to the mound at 8 - 1 down and asked to pitch the game of his life. The first batter he faced hit to left field to score 2 runs but this was the last hit Croatia had as they went scoreless and hit-less for the next 6 innings. The batters responded and suddenly the 10 - 1 became 10 - 3, 10 - 3 became 10 - 4 and the Croatians were really rocked when 10 - 4 became 10 - 9 in the 6th. A change of pitcher couldn't stop the rot as unbelievably Great Britain, took the lead in the 7th at 11 - 10. The pressure and excitement was intense as we reached the bottom of the 9th with Croatia needing one run to tie the game and two to win it. (it's times like these when I'm glad I'm not a pitcher). The lead-off batter gets a lucky break with the ball bouncing over the pitchers head and advances to 2nd base on an overthrow and to 3rd base on a wild pitch. Things are not looking good then the next batter walks to 1st and 'steals' to 2nd. We badly need inspiration! Gavin Marshall and Glen Matsell provide it by 'picking off' the runner on 2nd for the vital 1st out. The next batter strikes-out and when the final batter flies out to the pitcher the bench is cleared and the scenes of celebration are in full swing. I am alone on the bench, I feel totally drained, but to be involved in and witness this come-back has been a privilege. It's moments like these that keep you going! Later we saw the 'A' group final - what a game! - Holland beat Italy 5 - 3 in a classic. The thought of playing one of these teams next year is both frightening and exciting! We have a lot of hard work to do to keep our 'A'

group status in 1994. Will the BBF Membership give us the backing?

NOTE:

Manager Mike Harrold spotted that the Croatian pitchers best pitch was a low and away slider but he was spitting on the ball to get the effect. Mike complained to the base umpire 3 times. The umpire determined to 'toss' someone in his final game of the tournament chose Mike. He was duly 'tossed' in the 4th - the pitcher threw no more spitballs. "Did the 'toss' of the Boss inspire the lads?"

Barry Marshall Great Britain Coach

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WORLD CHILDREN'S BASEBALL FAIR

26 JULY - 2 AUGUST 1993

San Diego, California was the venue for the 1993 World Children's Baseball Fair.

This event, the brain child of Japanese legend Sadaharu Oh, brought together children from all over the world, from Australia to Zambia. In all kids from 22 nations attended. The children from Britain who were fortunate enough to go were; Seth Halton (Liverpool), Sean Gaynor (Scotland), Kerri-Lyn Roelofse (Sussex), Ben Jones (London) and James Thompson (Sussex). They were chaperoned by Ian Smyth.

After a long journey via San Francisco, we finally arrived at the Naval Training Centre in San Diego, which was to be home for the next week. Upon arrival all the kids were issued with uniforms and equipment courtesy of Mizuno, then were hastily dispatched to bed to get some sleep in before our 5.00am wake up calls!!

The schedule was generally baseball clinics in the morning, with the kids being coached by

Hall of Famers, Lou Brock, Graig Nettles, Duke Snider, Luis Aparicio, Roy White and of course Sadaharu Oh.

The afternoons and evenings consisted of fun events, including sight seeing tours of San Diego, beach parties, barbecues, visits to see the Angels and Athletics at Anaheim, and the legends of baseball at Jack Murphy Stadium, and the kids favourite, a visit to Disneyland. Throughout the week the kids were followed around by the



crew of American sports channel ESPN who were filming a documentary about the event. The kids enjoyed being filmed and interviewed, it just added to the special nature of the fair. It was also great to see the kids from different countries playing, talking and as in the case of the British, Canadians and Australians in our dorm, pillow fighting whenever the opportunity arose.

Another of the nice touches of the fair was the trading mart

where gifts and souvenirs were exchanged, and in some cases the trading was as intense as the baseball. Everybody traded hats, pins, stickers, baseball cards etc, and the great thing was it was all done in a good spirit, with everybody getting something.

For the kids this was the opportunity of a life time, and each of them realised this, and appreciated how lucky they were. The organisation was of the highest quality, which made this

a truly memorable trip. Although the week was very tiring it was a fantastic experience for me as well. I thoroughly enjoyed the clinics, the games, chatting with the Hall of Famers and the tourist trips. However the best part of the week was the closing ceremony, when Britain won the Outstanding Country Award, for overall commitment, attitude and enthusiasm. This was the icing on the cake, but our five kids were superb, and although I may be biased, deserved to win it.

Overall a great experience, if you get the opportunity to go as a kid or a chaperon, do not hesitate to go and "Live the Dream".

Ian Smyth

TIPS ON HITTING

Following on from last months issue of Brit-Ball where I looked at baserunning, in this issue I thought I would look at a few issues concerning batting.

Over the years general batting techniques have not varied much from the days of Babe Ruth through Hank Aaron to todays sluggers. What has changed is pitching, equipment (the bat) and filming techniques. Over the last decade or so advanced technology in camera's, film etc has allowed batting techniques to be broken down into milli-second slices. The result of this is the ability to compare the techniques of Babe Ruth (re-filming) old films of the great man) with those of the modern day hitters and to analyse in minute detail every part of the Major League swing. And you know what, the style and techniques are the same and they found some key critical parts of the swing which are consistent in good hitters. As a result of this batting technique - as taught to me thirty years ago for example - is different to how I am coaching now. I have learned my current techniques from Ernie Rosseau, a college head coach at Brevard County and minor league hitting instructor in the White Sox organisation. And from listening to ex minor league and professional players (now coaches) as well as my own experiences. Ernie Rosseau, who was an ex Major Leaguer himself has analysed batting down to a science covering 1000's of Major League hitters. The three most important features of my coaching batting is a) loose hands, b) stride early (to allow the batter to get into the

hitting position, not to give bigger power) and c) bring the hands inside. The following should be used as a guide by every coach, manager and player to better more consistent hitting:

GRIP

The hands are the most important part of the swing. Line up the knuckles and hold the bat loosely.

STANCE

Do not get too close to the plate. Feet shoulder width (or more) apart. Weight on the back foot (60:40). Keep the legs flexed for body control (like sitting on a high stool). Keep the hips closed and the front shoulder down.



BAT POSITION

The stance should be (and look) natural and relaxed with the bat up, in and back (45° angle). The head should be level with both eyes on the pitcher. The bat should be slightly moving either in small circles or the like.

TRIGGER

Also known as the coil. Just as the pitcher is about to release the ball the hands are pushed back to the point of strength before exploding, ie the hands move first for any swing.

SWING

A small stride straight back to the pitcher (keeping the stride foot closed) as the ball is on its way - not as part of the swing. Use the hands to throw the bat. Hips should explode open on the swing driving the back hip at the ball and the back foot must pivot. Keep the legs flexed (staying low). Transfer the weight onto the front foot as you explode (40:60) but not moving the head forward. Keep the nose down on the plate throughout and swing in a downward motion. Always finish the swing by following through.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Loose hands. Stride early. Bring the hands straight down into the hitting point (not out in an arc). When something is wrong with the swing, check the stride and that the back foot is pivoting. make sure the nose is down at the plate throughout the entire swing and follow through to prevent: a) poor vision, b) pulling the front shoulder off the ball.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Stride in time so that you can use your hands. Hit the pitch where it is thrown. Loose and relaxed hands ensure a quick bat. Flexed legs help body control and strength. Body control helps give quick hands. Power is generated by bat speed not bat weight. Learn the strike zone.

But remember all managers, coaches and players - the learning process never ends, be prepared to listen, evaluate and learn all the time.

If any manager or coach has any problems coaching batting techniques write to me c/o Brit-Ball and I will try to help you with advice.

MIKE HARROLD
GREAT BRITAIN MANAGER

JULY 4TH

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Leeds City Royals 0 Humberside Warriors 7
Leeds City Royals 10 Humberside Warriors 3
Rob Lopez took the win for Leeds in the second game of a double-header.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Milton Keynes Truckers 9 Crawley Comets 0

Chicksands Raiders 10 Hounslow Rangers 1
In game one, Carlos Baez not only pitched a three-hitter, striking out ten and giving up 1 walk, but also hit a three run homer along with team-mate Kevin Slater. Losing pitcher was Rangers Gus Berutich. Lee Mayfield homered for Hounslow.

Chicksands Raiders 6 Hounslow Rangers 2
In game two, it was Kevin Badey's turn to pitch a three-hitter, and once again Carlo Baez homered. Indians Mike Muller and Joe Thompson combined for a double-play. Mark Powell took the loss for Hounslow and Rangers Pedro Figuero hit a double.

Essex Arrows 16 Brighton Buccaneers 15
The Arrows proved what a topsy-turvy league the NPL South is proving to be by turning over the Buccaneers in a thrilling game. Essex broke the game open in the fifth with 11 runs off Brighton's Naoki Shiga. Winning pitcher Simon Bowden hit two doubles and a triple but Brighton hit back and with the tying run at second and the go-ahead run at the plate, Arrows reliever Kevin Pickston struck out the last Brighton batter to start scenes of jubilation in the Essex camp.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Sheffield Bladerunners 8 Hull Mets 33

Hull Royals 11 Barnsley Strikers 2

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Preston Bobcats 17 Leeds City Royals 4

Stretford A's 27 Cumbria Lakers 16
Winning Pitcher was Louis Marsh.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Dalriada Demons 8 Glasgow Comets 18

Clyde Valley Knights 9 Tayside Cobras II 0

Dundee Dodgers 19 West Lothian Wildcats 1

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE

Tunbridge Wells Royals 0 Bristol Black Sox 9

Bournemouth B's 7 Gloster Meteors 19

Arun Panthers 19 Hemel Red Sox 8

Croydon Pirates 9 City Slick Sidewinders 12

Gillingham Dodgers 26 Totteridge Trailblazers 11

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Reading Royals 24 Caterham A's 14
Shane Fletcher took the loss for the A's as Reading proved too strong.

Lashings Sluggers 6 Burgess Hill Red Hats 4

Chichester Titans 19 Waltham Abbey Cardinals 18

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE

Bracknell Blazers 34 Fulham Flames 6

Brighton Buccaneers B 10 London Wolves 17
The Wolves trailed throughout but rallied to score 11 runs and come from behind. Jacobi (wasn't that the weird doctor from Twin Peaks!!!) hit a triple and Masakito, in his last game for the Wolves went the distance to take the win, striking out 13 along the way.

JULY 11TH

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Brighton Buccaneers 2 Milton Keynes Truckers 13
Brian Antis took the loss for Brighton, and the Rockets Shiomi, the win as Milton Keynes edged a step nearer to the NPL South title. Brighton's Kevin Lorne hit a 350ft home run with team-mate Craig Savage going 3 for 5.

Crawley Comets 11 Hounslow Rangers 16
Crawley Comets 9 Hounslow Rangers 8

Essex Arrows 5 Bedford Chicksands Indians 11
The Arrows were stunned by the speed of Carlos Baez and his fastball and Essex errors in the field made it worse as the Indians crept into joint second place in the league.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH

Nottingham Hornets 4 Leeds City Royals 14
Ray Brownlie took the win for Leeds despite Hornets Steve Sewell striking out 11 in relief.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Menwith Hill Pirates 17 Hull Mets 7
Terreal Bailes led the Pirates batting with 2 triples with team-mate Jerry Foreman helping out with a home run. Mets Pearson and Ellerington had two hits apiece.

Hull Giants 10 Liverpool Trojans 11
With the score at 10-5 to the Trojans going into the bottom of the ninth, the Giants looked dead and buried but they rallied for five runs to take the game into extra innings. However, Trojans Martin Godsall held on for the win to keep their unbeaten run going aided by a homer from Bobby Orme. Darran Cross homered for Giants.

Barnsley Strikers 1 Liverpool Tigers 21

Hull Royals 32 Sheffield Bladerunners 4

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Dalriada Demons 16 Tayside Cobras II 41

West Lothian Wildcats 29 Edinburgh Reivers 17
David Banks homered for the Wildcats whilst team-mate Paul Clark pulled off an unassisted double-play as the Wildcats bounced back from their previous weeks disappointment.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Durham Demons 20 Preston Bobcats 6
Demons' Nakanura and Matsura combined for a double-play as Durham edged closer the top of the division.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE

Bristol Black Sox 16 Bournemouth B's 0
Black Sox catcher Mike Coleman hit a grand slam as Bristol powered past Bournemouth.

Gloster Meteors 20 Arun Panthers 12
Gloster's win and City Slick and Stevenage's losses mean that only half a game separates the top four clubs in an extremely tight division. It looks as though the Division One West will go to the team that can show some end of season form.

Stevenage Knights 16 Croydon Pirates 18
Back to back home runs from Stevenage's Mike Shuster were not enough as the Knights slump continued.

City Slick Sidewinders 4 Gillingham Dodgers 15

Totteridge Trailblazers 8 Tunbridge Wells Royals 11

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Burgess Hill Red Hats 14 Caterham A's 4
Red Hats Andy Wilson earned man of the match striking out 15, scoring 3 runs and hitting a homer as Caterham continued their losing streak.

Chichester Titans 17 Lashings Sluggers 15
The Titans shock win has enabled them to do an Houdini act as their win lifts them off the bottom of the table and dumps the Cardinals into the cellar.

Guildford Mavericks 22 Waltham Abbey Cardinals 2

Reading Royals 20 Hounslow Hawks 8
Winning pitcher for Reading was Mark Bullock as the Royals relieved Hounslow of the top spot at just the right time. Mark Sullivan homered for Reading.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE

Tunbridge Wells Wanderers 10 Tiptree Hotsports Rays 23

Fulham Flames 22 Hounslow Sentinels 11
Flames winning pitcher was Shane Jarvis.

London Wolves 14 Bracknell Blazers 11
In a tough contest the Wolves took the win to keep the pressure on Tiptree with London's Adam Roberts taking the win and striking out 10 in 8 1/3 innings. Chris Fournier homered for the Wolves.

JULY 18TH

NATIONAL KNOCKOUT CUP ROUND THREE

Hull Mets 1 Hull Royals 16
Andy Wiltshire pitched a two-hitter as the Royals swept past the Mets in to the quarter-finals of the cup.

Crawley Comets 5 Humberside Warriors 4
Mark Mills and Ian Burton combined for the win as the Comets clinched this game in the bottom of the ninth. Crawley led 3-0 up until the seventh at which point the Warriors fought their way back into the game tying it up at 4-4 going into the bottom of the ninth. Darren Butler took the loss for Humberside.

Brighton Buccaneers 16 Gloster Meteors 14
Winning pitcher Brian Aims who along with Marco Vettesse hit a grand slam. Losing pitcher was Steve Hord.

Menwith Hill Pirates 6 Liverpool Trojans 5
Billy Bains hit a 2 run homer in the second inning whilst Ken Wells pitched a four-hitter striking out 13 to take the win. Gabrielle Brito-Coll had two of Liverpool four hits. Martin Godsall struck out 7 for the Trojans.

Milton Keynes Truckers 7 Stevenage Knights 11
Stevenage dumped NPL South leaders Milton Keynes out of the cup and booked themselves a place in the quarter finals. Mike Shuster took the win in what proved to be a dream result for the Knights and the shock of the round.

Hounslow Rangers 17 Preston Bobcats 2
Gus Berutich took the win for the Rangers aided by two double-plays by his team-mates.

Bedford Chicksands Indians 15 Essex Arrows 5
Chuck Chandler and Tom White combined for the win as the Indians trailing 5-4 exploded for 10 runs in the bottom of the eighth inning. Carlos Baez went 5 for 5 hitting two singles, two doubles and a triple! Whilst Indians relief pitcher Tom White homered.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Liverpool Tigers 20 Hull Giants 13

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Glasgow Comets 22 Edinburgh Reivers 12
Winning pitcher Stevey Arthur for the Comets

Clyde Valley Knights 15 Dundee Dodgers 16
Knights pitcher Kenny Watson took the loss but struck out 12 along the way.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Stretford A's 31 Leeds City Royals II 5
Keith Kushner took the win for the A's.

Durham Demons 32 Cumbria Lakers 1
Winning pitcher was Tom Yard who was helped by two stand-up triples from Kenji Ozaula, and Peter Johnson, and two double-plays when Tom Yard, Colin and Kenny Hindmarch combined for a 1-3-5 and Kenji Ozaula and Nakito Saita combined with an F6-3.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE

Arun Panthers 7 Bristol Black Sox 14
Arun's lead over Gillingham slips to half a game following the Panthers second consecutive defeat.

Croydon Pirates 24 Hemel Red Sox 21

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Lashings Sluggers 8 Guildford Mavericks 7
Mark Tynan took the win for the Sluggers.

Waltham Abbey Cardinals 6 Hounslow Hawks 21
Julian Babb took the win for Hounslow despite a double-play from the Cardinals to keep the pressure on Reading.

Caterham A's 7 Chichester Titans 12
Caterham's slump continued at the hands of up-and-coming Chichester who have practically secured their division two safety with this victory. The A's Tony Bennett went 2 for 2, Anthony Weakner 3 for 3 and team-mate Gary Cope doubled.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE

Tiptree Hotsports Rays 9 Fulham Flames 0

London Wolves 9 Hounslow Sentinels 0

Bracknell Blazers 20 Brighton Buccaneers 10

JULY 25TH

NATIONAL KNOCKOUT CUP ROUND THREE

Leeds City Royals 1 Humberside Mets 16
Brian Thurston pitched a one hitter and placed Mets into the Quarter Finals against Hounslow Rangers. Ray Brownlie homered for Leeds and Andy Maltby hit a solo shot for the Mets whilst Frank Parker hit an inside-the-park triple.

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH

Crawley Comets 7 Brighton Buccaneers 6
Mark Mills went the distance in another fine performance from the Comets. Brighton applied the pressure late on but Crawley held on for another crucial win.

Hounslow Rangers 14 Essex Arrows 16

Milton Keynes Truckers 0 Bedford Chicksands Indians 21

Carlos Baez took the win in the first game of this double-header.

Milton Keynes Truckers 4 Bedford Indians 7
Brian Ruffin pitched in game two with Baez finishing the game in relief.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - ENGLAND

Barnsley Strikers 14 Hull Mets 21
Mets Ian Asquith took the win with help from "Woolly" Thundercliffé who hit a double, a triple and a home run.

Hull Royals 2 Liverpool Trojans 16
Martin Godsall continued the Trojans unbeaten run

Hull Giants 9 Menwith Hill Pirates 8
Andy Cox's steal home on a passed ball in the bottom of the ninth clinched this one for the Giants. They came from 8-7 behind going into the ninth but some clever thinking enabled them to snatch this one at the death.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO - ENGLAND

Durham Demons 9 Leeds City Royals II 0

NORTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - SCOTLAND

Glasgow Comets 30 Tayside Cobras II 13
Stevy Arthur took the win for the Comets assisted by two double-plays.

West Lothian Wildcats 13 Clyde Valley Knights 10
The Wildcats held on to their slender lead at the top with a win over the Knights. Billy Jenkins too the win

for West Lothian.

Dundee Dodgers 14 Dalriada Demons 4
The Demons lackadaisical fielding cost them the game against a Dodgers side they could have beaten. Basic plays were misfielded and hopefully they will have learnt by their mistakes.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - WEST

Gloster Meteors 5 Bristol Black Sox 12
Bristol's win blows the title race wide open with five out of six teams in the division battling it out for the title.

Totteridge Trailblazers 18 City Slick Sidewinders 12
Matt Cook notched up Totteridge's first win of the season to blow

Stevenage Knights 15 Hemel Red Sox 16
The Red Sox kept their title hopes alive and threw the league title battle wide open as they narrowly beat the Knights. Paul McGuinness started on the mound for Hemel but when Stevenage went ahead in the seventh they called Mark Beresford from the bullpen to shut Stevenage down. Back-to-back triples from the Hemel side eventually sealed Stevenage's fate.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION ONE - EAST

Arun Panthers 16 Bournemouth Bees 5

Tunbridge Wells Royals 8 Gillingham Dodgers 11

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION TWO

Reading Royals 21 Waltham Abbey Cardinals 6
Royals pitcher Martin Wilson kept his team in top spot.

Lashings Sluggers 21 Hounslow Hawks 31
The Hawks clawed their way back into this one to keep themselves tied at the top with Reading. Julian Babb took the win for the Hawks.

Guildford Mavericks 16 Caterham A's 11

Chichester Titans 17 Burgess Hill Red Hats 16

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE DIVISION THREE
Brighton Buccaneers 13 Hounslow Sentinels 17
Brighton's Paul Beagley homered but to no avail.
Fulham Flames 9 Tunbridge Wells Wanderers 0
London Wolves 9 Tiptree Hotsports Rays 15
Tiptree practically sealed the Division Three title with this result as the Wolves look to be the only team capable of beating the Rays. This was despite triples from Patrick Frederick and Brian Scallion.

BRITISH BASEBALL FEDERATION

1993 KNOCKOUT CUP SEMI FINALS

The following fixtures are to be played on 22 August 1993
at Wilford Sports Complex, Gresham Close, Wilford, Nottingham

11.00am
Crawley Comets v Humberide Mets

2.30pm
Menwith Hill Pirates v Bedford Chicksands Indians



British Baseball Federation

LEAGUE TABLES

<u>BBF NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - NORTH</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Humberide Mets	6	1	
Leeds City Royals	5	2	1
Nottingham Homets	2	4	3.5
Humberide Warriors	1	7	5.5

<u>BBF NORTH - ENGLAND DIVISION ONE</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Liverpool Trojans	9	0	
Liverpool Tigers	8	2	1.5
Menwith Hill Pirates	5	3	3.5
Hull Giants	5	5	4.5
Hull Royals	4	5	5
Hull Mets	4	6	5.5
Barnsley Strikers	2	7	7
Sheffield Bladerunners	0	10	9.5

<u>BBF NORTH - ENGLAND DIVISION TWO</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Stretford A's	7	0	
Durham Demons	6	2	1.5
Leeds City Royals II	4	4	3.5
Preston Bobcats	2	6	5.5
Cumbria Lakers	0	7	7

<u>BBF NORTH - SCOTLAND DIVISION ONE</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
West Lothian Wildcats	6	1	
Glasgow Comets	6	2	0.5
Dundee Dodgers	4	2	1.5
Clyde Valley Knights	4	5	3
Tayside Cobras II	4	5	3
Edinburgh Beavers	3	4	3
Dalriada Demons	0	8	6.5

<u>BBF NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE - SOUTH</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Milton Keynes Truckers	10	4	
Bedford Chicksands Indians	10	5	0.5
Brighton Buccaneers	9	7	2
Hounslow Rangers	8	9	3.5
Essex Arrows	5	8	4.5
Crawley Comets	3	12	7.5

<u>BBF SOUTH - DIVISION ONE WEST</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
City Slick Sidewinders	5	4	
Gloster Meteors	5	4	0
Bristol Black Sox	5	5	0
Hemel Red Sox	6	5	0
Stevenage Knights	5	4	0.5
Totteridge Trailblazers	1	8	4

<u>BBF SOUTH - DIVISION ONE EAST</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Arun Panthers	9	2	
Gillingham Dodgers	8	2	0.5
Croydon Pirates	5	5	3.5
Tunbridge Wells Royals	3	7	5.5
Bournemouth B's	1	9	7.5

<u>BBF SOUTH - DIVISION TWO EAST</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Reading Royals	8	2	
Hounslow Hawks	8	2	0
Burgess Hill Red Hats	6	4	2
Guildford Mavericks	6	4	2
Lashings Sluggers of Maidstone	5	6	3.5
Caterham A's	4	7	4.5
Chichester Titans	4	7	4.5
Waltham Abbey Cardinals	1	10	7.5

<u>BBF SOUTH - DIVISION THREE EAST</u>	WINS	LOSSES	GAMES BACK
Tiptree Hotsports Rays	9	0	
London Wolves	8	2	1.5
Bracknell Blazers	4	5	5
Tunbridge Wells Wanderers	2	5	6
Brighton Buccaneers B	3	6	6
Hounslow Sentinels	2	5	6
Fulham Flames	2	7	7

**GREAT BRITAIN
CADETS
EUROPEAN
CHAMPIONSHIPS
ITALY
12 - 19 JULY 1993**

The GB Cadet squad (under 16's) in their first competitive games finished 7th out of 10 countries who competed in the CEBA European Championships in Trieste, Italy.

Although we won only two of the six games we played, the squad played hard and did as well as can be expected for a team who consisted of some players who had never played in a proper game which involved umpires and a mound, let alone skinned infields, fences, batting cages, tunnels, stadium seating, concession stands and a PA system with commentary as well as national anthems. Our first game was against France and although we led 4-2 for four innings, our defense eventually caved in and we lost to a superior team 17-5.

As usual, pitching was the difference. The French brought on a real fireballer in the second inning who struck out 16 out of a possible 18 batters in his six innings. Steve Hibbert took the loss

for Great Britain. Steve drove in two runs in the first inning with a double and also scored twice himself. David Martin was the only GB player with 2 hits in the game and he scored twice as well. Game two was a complete blowout with the Republic of Czech winning 27-2. James Blaydon of Brighton did highlight the third inning with a lead off triple but was



stranded. To make matters worse, Gary Walton of Tonbridge was lost for the series with a broken nose, Gary received some consolation in the form of a trophy for bravery after the tournament.

On the 14th July, all hell broke loose as we got it together. We scored 6 runs in the first, 4 in the 2nd and 6 more in the 3rd to pull away 16-3

after just three innings against Slovenia. Philip Walmsley playing 1st base had 2 doubles, 2 runs and an rbi, Nathan Gaunt had two hits and scored three runs. The big guns for GB were Simeon Maas who fielded well and went 2 for 4 with 3 runs and 2 rbis, James Blaydon went 3 for 4 with a triple 3 runs and 3 rbis and Alex Malihoudis scored 5 runs hitting a triple, 2 singles and driving in three runs. Steve Hibbert held the Slovenians at bay for the first 5 innings and then came back and closed the game as well. Steve struck out 11 batters over 8 innings walking only three.

The next game was against Russia and although we lost 19-6 we played well and just couldn't get a hold of the Russian pitcher, who hurled in every game for his country.

We led 6-2 after two innings but our lack of pitching depth hindered us. James Blaydon pitched for the first time learnt a lot on route to his loss.

The batting star for GB was Philip Walmsley, who went 3 for 4 with a double and 3 rbis. Trystan Rice, our catcher went 2 for 4 with a run and an rbi whilst Darren Trent blasted a home run in the 2nd inning.

With a 1-3 record we faced Slovenia again and once

again emerged victorious. Alex Malihoudis started and pitched well for 4 innings, however Alex injured his hip and had to retire from the game. Before leaving he went 2 for 3 with 2 stolen bases and we were ahead 4-3. Andrew Gilbert replaced Alex and delivered an rbi line drive single in the 6th inning which put us ahead for the last time in a game which we won 15-10. Steve Hibbert took his second win as well as hitting a bases loaded triple and an rbi single in five trips to the plate. Nathan Gaunt played great defense at 3rd base, short-stop and centre-field and was 2 for 4 with 2 runs.

Philip Walmsley had 2 hits and drove in 2 runs and James Blaydon drove in 3 runs with a bases clearing double in the ninth inning to end the game. Simeon Maas also collected three hits and 3 rbis. Our final game was against Poland and although we matched them in skill we lost because of our lack of match practice. The final score was 8-3 with James Blaydon going the distance. David Martin had 2 hits, an rbi and a run scored and played flawless defense at 2nd base. Trystan Rice caught his best game and pulled a double down the left field line but had to be

replaced because of injury by Matt Blaydon, who despite being only twelve years old plays a mean game. The loss of William Tavoulaareas after the second game of the tournament with an arm injury cost us a pitcher which was something we could have done without. However, the team did us proud and although Chris Wood, Matt Cockrell, Matt Wood, and Robert Farrer-Brown only played in limited roles they were an important part of the team and were excellent ambassadors for our country. A special thanks must go to the Major League Baseball International Envoys Jim Frye, Kevin Reali and Dominic Pedretti who all did great jobs and deserve a big thank you for their assistance. We travelled to Italy not knowing what to expect and came home with more than we bargained for! To win two games in our first competition proves that we have definite potential for the future and is a good omen for the British game. To be given the opportunity of competing at this level is down to the backing we received from the BBF Membership. Let's hope that we can emulate what the Juniors achieved next year.

**GREG WELCH
TEAM MANAGER**

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SAME GAME, DIFFERENT LANGUAGE



Cam Stephens,
Envoy Coach

The American Adventure Theme Park, Ilkeston Derbyshire

The theme park has just made a first. It is now the proud owner of the only permanent purpose built baseball batting cage in Great Britain. The cage dressed with MLB banners and surrounded by all the Major League team flags is the latest attraction. There are also plans to have more in the future and possibly a full diamond for baseball. The cage was officially opened on Monday 9th of August by Mike Carlson of MLB, Stan Hawkes of Home Run Promotions, Mark Harris, American Adventure Park Personnel and Development Manager and both the BBF President, Steve R Herbert, and the National Team Manager, Michael Harrold.

If you require more information on opening times and admission prices to the park, then call 0773 531521.

On June 1st I headed off from sunny California to Great Britain. I had no idea what to expect, except some funny talking people driving on the wrong side of the road. I arrived in Dundee, Scotland with four pair of shorts, only two pair of pants, and a great suntan. Now two months later I've lost my tan, and my shorts still haven't left my suitcase.

I figured I'd be okay though since we spoke the same language. It didn't take me long to realize that all our words don't have the same meanings. It was our first game and the Dodgers' wanted me to organize batting practice. So wanting to make a good first impression I immediately took charge. I told one to go hit, two more to grab a bat and get loose, and the rest to spread out in the field and "shag" the balls. They all looked at me with a blank look on their faces. So I repeated myself. They all burst out laughing. When they finally calmed themselves they explained! So now totally

embarrassed I asked how do you tell someone to go pick up the balls. The team comedian, Gary, answered, "you just say 'go pick-up the balls.'" It was a funny start to a great month. Right as I had about mastered the Dundonian accent, it was time for me to head South to Sheffield, England. The English were much easier to understand, but I've still had my funny moments in the local P.E. classes. After the first day I decided to stop trying to explain what the "rubber" was, because of their idea of a different kind of one. The kids also loved to imitate every word I said. Their two favourites were "fouulll baa!!!!" and "give me five man." Two weeks and 28 classes later I was glad it was summer break. When I head home in two weeks it will be with many great memories. Most I will remember and unfortunately some I will forget. But I'll always remember that even though we speak both speak English it is not the same language.



Dear El Presidente

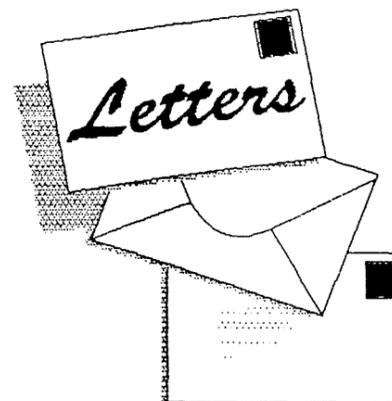
As a spectator at local baseball games for quite a few years, I read your feature in June's Brit-Ball with considerable interest. Though obviously aimed at the membership perhaps I may be permitted some comments. I think the associate membership package is a good idea but should need to be at the lowest possible cost to be a success. We regular spectators get a lot of questions about leagues and teams from casual spectators but if we tell them about BBF publications they often lose interest. Perhaps because watching the games is free they think everything should be free! I know a lot of people would not buy the previous Handbooks because of the cost. For this reason I believe the change to low-key, low cost publications is a good move. If the 'package' is taken up next year I think it would be wise to also offer all the items separately at a higher total cost just in case the scheme does not work out as planned.

Yours faithfully
W E Cosgrave

Editor: Thanks Mr Cosgrave, we always welcome suggestions from both players and supporters.

Dear Kevin

Many thanks for all the material you forwarded to me recently. It made very interesting reading. It is indeed good to know that the game we all love so much is alive and kicking within these shores. It may be of interest to the readers of Brit-Ball that City Sound Radio is a very new and progressive Radio Station that serves the Hospitals of Leeds. We have a potential listening audience of over 4000 and we broadcast a minimum of 60 hours per week. We are very proud of our comprehensive sports service. We operate live broadcasts from all local football, rugby and cricket games and we also have a long running weekly sports magazine programme which includes a 6 minute weekly slot on Sport from Stateside which of course includes baseball. I now intend to expand this slot so as to include a weekly report on the Leeds City Royals. I have attended their home game against Nottingham and was very pleasantly surprised at the standard of play. Everyone at the game was very helpful, particularly Ian Smyth who has kindly agreed to be my guest on a forthcoming show. We like to have firsts on our Station and one in



particular which we are very proud of is that I was able to broadcast one inning of live baseball from Wrigley Field back to City Sound last season. From this I am sure you will agree that our station is trying to help put Baseball into the eye of the public. If anyone feels that we can be of help to their club, then please do not hesitate to contact me. By the way, do any of your readers remember the Thames Raiders. I umpired a few of

the games back in the early 80's. I lost contact with their secretary when I moved to Canada in 1984 - it would be nice to hear from him again.

Yours in sport
Roger Corrie

Editor: This is another good idea for local publicity - contact your local hospital radio station, they may be able to help you. Thanks for the info Roger.

Dear Brit-Ball

Whilst in France the Moldavian's asked me if any team would like to go there this autumn, to play some games. If anyone is interested please contact:

Mr Roman V Ostapenco
Cetatea Alba Str, 17, 277002 Kishinev, Republic of
Moldavia
Tel: 010 7 042 3732 52 71 84
Fax: 010 7 042 3732 55 81 80
They may well pay for accommodation and food.
Regards
Mike Harrold

Dear Sir

Recently, I was given a couple of issues to read of your magazine. The magazine is very good for information on baseball, however, there seems to be a lack of reporting regarding junior games and leagues. Is there any reason for this?

Yours sincerely
Mrs A Ward

Editor: I'm sure you'll agree Mrs Ward, we've done the Juniors proud in this issue, as they well deserve. However, we are also willing to print information in future issues, but we do need people to provide the stories. Come on you Junior teams, let us know what is happening.

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Practical, basic and accurate are the guiding principals of this book, which covers the basics for the beginner coach and more in depth detail for the more advanced coach. Houseworth emphasises how to teach skills, not how to learn them yourself, which is innovative in its approach. Its emphasis is on coaching kids, and to this end the book concentrates on the proper progressions for the teaching of these skills, so as to maximise learning. The book gives over 60 different drills, which will help any coach keep their sessions interesting and enjoyable for the players. Houseworth also gives daily practice plans that can be utilised within your own time constraints, as well as seasonal plans which may be used to form an overall scheme for your practices. Overall this is a very clear, accurate and thorough text which can be used as a reference manual throughout the season. A good buy!



**COACHING
PITCHERS - Joe
'Spanky'
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McFarlands book is a comprehensive study of pitching, which provides the coach with a massive amount of detailed knowledge and information. He provides year round strength and flexibility programmes. Throwing programmes and the necessary mechanics for making a successful and efficient pitcher. It gives a detailed description of the various kinds of pitches, with clear, precise graphics which illustrate

the text, making it easy to understand. There are also chapters on strategy and defensive responsibilities which cover practically all you need to know, in any given situation. The chapter on managing pitchers makes interesting reading. As McFarland points out each pitchers is an individual and your coaching / teaching should be structured around him. As the titles suggests, as a coach you need to coach pitchers, not coach pitching. This way you, the pitchers, and the team will all benefit. Coaching pitchers is a good detailed manual which will help coaches whether working with kids or with adults. Again a good buy. For the more advanced coach it will prove to be invaluable.

Both books are available from Human Kinetics, P O Box 1W14, Leeds, LS16 6TR, Tel: 0532 781708

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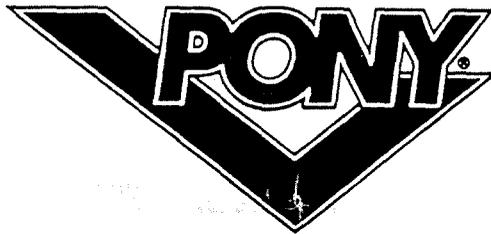
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