



CHAMP'S CHATTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ISF XII WORLD MEN'S
SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP – TUESDAY, JULY 21 EDITION



Monday was a great day to be at the ball park. The intensity seems to be rising as each game appears to have more and more meaning. If you wanted to see hard fought international play this was the place. The scoreboard shows we had three close games and one incredible upset

GREAT BRITAIN 4 JAPAN 3

Britain was indeed "Great", dramatically scoring 4 runs in its final inning to snatch victory from the jaws of a defeat by Japan, winning by a single run in a key match-up in Pool 'B'. The outcome deadlocks the two teams in identical 2-2 win-loss records, and greatly enhanced Britain's potential to grab a playoff spot. The Brits' 2B **Brandon Horn** with two hits sparked the rally. For Japan, SS **Ryuji Hazeyama** was best with a pair of safeties and RBI

Japan (2-2) meets **Philippines (2-2)** in this evening's night-cap while **Great Britain (2-2)** faces **Mexico (1-3)** as teams jockey for a playoff position.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Japan	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Great Britain	0	0	0	0	0	4	x	4	8	2

WP: James Darby LP: Iida Kunihiko,

GREAT BRITAIN MEN'S FASTPITCH TEAM

(With assistance from the British Softball Federation website) The team met up in Vancouver on Tuesday, July 7 for training and exhibition games, and then played in Vancouver Challenge, where they met some of the best club teams from Western Canada. They finished with a 2-1 record and were eliminated as result of 8-3 loss to Japan. On July 14, the team traveled to Saskatoon and played exhibition games against the Czech Republic losing 4-1 and beating South Africa 4-3. "Most of the teams in our pool are well known to us," GB Team Manager **Steve Fullan** said, "except for the Philippines and Mexico, but Head Coach **Russ Snow** knows the Mexicans well based on his days playing in Southern California and knows that they can't be taken lightly. "New Zealand, the US and Japan will fight it out for the top three places in the group," Steve continued, "and the rest is a free-for-all between GB, the Philippines, Denmark and Mexico." We know Denmark very well

but feel our team is much stronger than at the European Championships last year (when GB lost to Denmark in the Page Playoff), so we hope to come out on top against them. Botswana should end up in last place and we beat them 10-0 in 2004, but we won't take any team lightly. We're going out to win all the games and hope we can upset a few of the favorites." Great Britain finished a very creditable ninth out of 16 teams in the 2004 World Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand, and according to **Steve Fullan**, "The goal this time is to get past the first round and qualify for the playoffs by coming at least fourth in our pool. With the new players we have added to the team we feel we are more experienced and stronger than in 2004.

"the medal round is not impossible if things go our way." One of the key GB players, as in 2004, will be Canadian-based **Rich Haldane**, who won the Best Pitcher and MVP awards at the 2008 European Championships. "He's important both because of his pitching and leadership," Steve Fullan said. Backing Rich up on the pitching staff are **James Darby**, **Mark Elson**, **Curt Taylor** and **James Chalmers**.

Another key player is outfielder **Rik Morgan**, who was the top batter at the 2004 World Championships and is hitting well again this season. "His experience in the outfield is essential," according to Steve Fullan, "and his partnerships with **Pat Walsh**, **David Hutton**, **Jean-Paul Mauger**, **Curt Taylor** and **Tony Kelly** mean we have a very reliable outfield, much improved from 2004." Third baseman **Scott Sunley** had previous World Championship experience with Australia in 1996 and 2000 and will add stability to the infield, playing with **Clive Evans**, **Brandon Horn**, **Neil Davies** and **James Chalmers**

JEREMY'S FIRST AT BAT

Have you ever wondered what it be like to have a softball coming at you at 135km/h and the only thing to protect you is a bat? Saskatoon Star Phoenix reporter **Jeremy Warren** will do just that. **Adam Folkard** - the man that many feel throws a softball faster than any man in the world will give Jeremy a chance to get a hit off of him. One shot, one chance for glory. The action will take place tomorrow at Glenn Reeve Diamond #3, directly behind Bob Van Impe Stadium at 4:15. Fans are welcome to check it out and see just how tough it is to hit a fastpitch softball.

TEAM CANADA AUTOGRAPH SESSION

Team Canada will have an autograph signing session following their 3:30 game against South Africa. Kids of all ages can bring their programs, hats, gloves or balls to the Media Tent in the right field sideline to have them signed by their favorite Team Canada star.



UMPIRE PROFILE - WIREMU TAMAKI:

Wiremu, better known as Wu, is a human resources advisor in the New Zealand school system that hales from Newlands, Wellington. He is 40 years of age and has been with

his wife, Sherra-Lee, for some 24 years. They have two sons and one grandson. He likes a lot of things besides softball, including rugby, mountain biking and ball room dancing. He started umpiring in 1996 attaining Softball New Zealand (SNZ) qualification in 1999. He received his ISF Badge in 2003. Has been an ISC umpire for the past six years this will be his third ISF World Championship, as he has worked at the Men's Worlds in 2004, Christchurch, NZ and the Junior Women's Worlds in 2007, Enschede, Netherlands. He was assigned the ultimate privilege for a working umpire, as he was behind the plate for the gold medal game of the Beijing Olympics.

AUSTRALIA 11 SOUTH AFRICA 2 (5 innings)

Andrew Humble drew the starter's role on the mound for the Aussie Steelers and responded with a one-hitter, as Australia started its march to one of the top two positions in Pool 'B'. With the 9-6 loss to Canada on Sunday, the Steelers would like to sweep the table for the balance of the round-robin in hopes that Canada may drop a game. Possibilities exist for a three-way log-jam for the top two positions (and double life). Outfielder **Heath Wells** notched three hits and scored three times in leading the 12 hit attack, while 2B **Nick Shailes**, 3B **Jeff Goolagong** and OF **Josh Davison** each chipped in with a pair. 1B **Gerhard Van Niekerk** spoiled Humble's no-hitter early, with a single in B1.

Australia (3-1) will maintain its momentum with a game today with **Indonesia (0-4)** while **South Africa (1-3)** will tangle with **Puerto Rico (1-3)**

DENMARK 6 MEXICO 4

Denmark spotted Mexico a 4-2 lead, but rebounded with two runs in each of the 4th and 6th innings to win a crucial match in an uphill battle for a playoff spot. The top of the batting order was comprised of Great Danes who were tough outs, as CF **Frederik Terkelsen**, RF **Thomas**

Hansen and DH **Jesper Panduro** each collected two hits and a pair of RBI. Panduro also served a brief 2.2 innings stint on the mound as the middle reliever between starter **Thomas Bonde** and closer **Kim Hansen**. For Mexico, OF **Raymond Parra** and 2B **Horacio Berrones** each stroked two hits, while pitcher **Panfilo Valdez** scattered 10 hits before giving way to **Oscar Martinez** who faced two batters. **Denmark (2-2)** has its hands full today with a huge challenge against the defending champion Black Sox of **New Zealand (4-0)**, and **Mexico (1-3)** meets **Great Britain (2-2)**.

UNITED STATES 9 PHILIPPINES 4

In a crucial match-up between teams contending for the 2nd spot in Pool 'B', United States got the job done in a free-wheeling contest. The Philippines scored twice in T1 off starter **Terry Luster** to place a degree of urgency on the Red-White-Blue offence. USA responded quickly, with a pair of matching runs in B1. After a scoreless second inning, Luster's mates provided some breathing room, scoring five to effectively put the game out of reach. Luster completed five innings, scattering 3 hits, and **Tyron McKinney** limited Philippines to two hits in closing out the game. 3B **Daryn Miller** and OF **Matt Palazzo** were 2x3 in the batter's box and chipped in with two RBI each. DH **Kyle Magnusson** also had a two-hit outing. The Philippines' hits were scattered amongst five batters. **United States (3-1)** will waltz to another W in today's luncheon date with **Botswana (0-4)**, while **Philippines (2-2)** will face the house of the rising sun in the last game of the day with **Japan (2-2)**.

ARGENTINA 8 PUERTO RICO 6

Up and down performances by Argentina continued as the South American team required some late scoring to nail down a victory and remain in contention for an anticipated appearance in the playoffs. Trailing 6-4, Argentina rallied for a single run in the 5th and three more in the 6th. In a sluggish match that featured six pitchers and a multitude of manager dialogues and conferences, it was indeed the last team to score that ultimately grabbed the much needed win. Argentina's starter **Jose Guerrinieri** went three innings, giving up 4 runs on 4 hits, and middle reliever **Juan Potolicchio** allowed two runs on a pair of hits. Both hurlers struck out six, allowing **Lucas Mata** to take the mound for the 7th and strike out three to nail the win. For the islanders from Puerto Rico, **German Diaz** went 5.1 innings, while **Roman Leonardo** and **Lara Carlos** each were credited with 1/3 inning trying to stem the Argentinean tide. Offensively, it was a "grande dias" for **Gustavo Godoy** leading Argentina with three timely hits, driving in five runs. **Bruno Motroni** was 2x2 with a pair of RBI. For Puerto Rico, **Jorge**

Arandamendi was “quatro por quatro” and scored twice.

Argentina (2-2) has a key match-up with the **Czech Republic (2-2)**, while **Puerto Rico (1-3)** is in a ‘must win’ scenario in its game with **South Africa (1-3)** sporting an identical record.

NEW ZEALAND 10 BOTSWANA 0 (5 innings)

As defending champions and that’s three times defending champions, New Zealand understands the importance of staying focused on the task at hand. While it may appear that the Black Sox are running up the score, it just makes good sense to keep churning out the base hits. Last night’s match-up with the winless Botswana was perhaps a foregone conclusion, but taking a night off is not in the playbook of champions in any sport. As is their custom, the Black Sox scored early, crossing the plate three times in T1, the first a solo home run by OF **Gareth Cook**. That was all that veteran pitcher **Marty Grant** needed, tossing a combined no-hitter with **Jeremy Manley**. Grant threw four innings, allowing one walk, while Manley walked one in closing Botswana in the B5. Grant with eight Ks and Manley with one, were sharp. C **Patrick Shannon** with two men aboard, and SS **Nathan Nukunuku** with one on base, drove in five runs with bases clearing homers, while 3B **Brad Rona** was perfect at the plate with two singles and a walk. Still perfect as defending champs, **New Zealand (4-0)** meets **Denmark (2-2)**, while **Botswana (0-4)** will strive to eke out a win while entertaining **United States (3-1)**.

CANADA 9 INDONESIA 0

After a scoreless first inning Indonesia parlayed a single, a wild pitch and a passed ball to have a runner at 3B. Canada’s starting pitcher **Dean Holoien**, who struck out the side in T1, duplicated the feat to retire the first half dozen via strikeouts. **QUESTION** - Was Deano throwing heat.... undoubtedly, as a high hard one eluded catcher **Sean O’Brien** and shattered the unbreakable glass in the scorer’s booth. In B2, DH **Colin Abbott** launched an offering from Indonesia pitcher **Jajat Darajat Kujumanegara** onto the centre field refreshment tent to open the scoring. Singles by 1B **Derek Mayson**, 3B **Craig Crawford**, OF **Rob Giesbrecht** and OF **Jeff Ellsworth** scored four. SS **Kevin Schellenberg** took one deep to the tent again, and the automatic made it 6-0. In B3, Mayson and Crawford singled again and **O’Brien** legged out a stand-up double to plate them both. In T4, Indonesia threatened when **Otto Wahyuminarto** led off with a single, but with two out, 2B **Ian Fehrman** dove to his right to steal a line drive base hit off the

bat of **Michael Trisnadi**. Moments later in B4, still adrenalin-induced from his defensive gem, Fehrman drove another Kujumanegara offering over the right-centre field fence. Fehrman recalled “I feel comfortable at second as we move guys around. And the homer – I wasn’t looking for a pitch, but in the previous at bats, he had thrown quite a few change-ups. It worked out okay for me.”

Canada wins in five innings, scoring 9 runs on 11 hits. Holoien was consistent and combined with catcher O’Brien to minimize any offence from Indonesia, allowing only two singles.

Iwan Pujiharto, field manger of Indonesia admits “We don’t expect to win against the super teams like Canada, but we want to expose our players to this level of competition.” The Indonesians were far from disconsolate despite the score, and Iwan continued “We encourage our players to have fun, make noise with some cheers, and respect our opponents and each other. We hope to build on this team with our young players to be more competitive in the Asian Region, and for the next worlds (ISF championships) in four or five years.”

Looking ahead to Tuesday’s match-up with Venezuela, Team Canada coach **Mark Smith** stated “We know this team and have played against them for several years. They have a good team and we must be prepared.”

Canada (4-0) remains perfect and meets the surging **Venezuela (3-1)** today at 6:30 in a key encounter in Pool “B” while **Indonesia (0-4)** has a huge challenge in facing **Australia (3-1)**.

VENEZUELA 9 CZECH REPUBLIC 2

This game was projected to be closely contested as both teams arrived at the field sporting identical 2-1 records. However, Venezuela scored early for a 1-0 lead, and then scored often when it erupted for a seven run B3 and an effective Czech – Mate! **Venezuela (3-1)** will be looking to pull even with **Canada (4-0)** at 6:30 today, while the **Czech Republic (2-2)** takes to the diamond with **Argentina (2-2)** as both teams need a victory to stay in contention for the playoff round.

PREDICTIONS FOR TODAY

(Tues. July 21)

WINNERS IN UPPERCASE BOLD (26-6 to date)

11:30 am Botswana vs. UNITED STATES

1:00 pm SOUTH AFRICA vs. Puerto Rico

1:30 pm NEW ZEALAND vs. Denmark

3:00 pm Czech Republic vs. ARGENTINA

3:30 pm GREAT BRITAIN vs. Mexico

5:30 pm AUSTRALIA vs. Indonesia

6:30 pm Venezuela vs. CANADA

8:30 pm JAPAN vs. Philippines

A POOL	PLAYED	WON	LOST	FOR	AGAINST	B POOL	PLAY	W	L	FOR	AGAIN.
NEW ZEALAND	4	4	0	47	1	CANADA	4	4	0	35	9
UNITED STATES	4	3	1	19	19	AUSTRALIA	4	3	1	34	11
JAPAN	4	2	2	19	15	VENEZUELA	4	3	1	38	9
DENMARK	4	2	2	10	19	ARGENTINA	4	2	2	17	25
GREAT BRITAIN	4	2	2	14	21	CZECH REPUBLIC	4	2	2	23	38
PHILIPPINES	4	2	2	16	24	SOUTH AFRICA	4	1	3	16	27
MEXICO	4	1	3	19	20	PUERTO RICO	4	1	3	19	29
BOTSWANA	4	0	4	5	30	INDONESIA	4	0	4	0	43

	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
Australia	3	3	0	5	0	11	12	1
South Africa	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	2
WP: Adam Humble, LP: Tidima Kekana								

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Mexico	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	4	9	1
Denmark	1	0	1	2	0	2	x	6	10	0
WP: Kim Hansen LP: Oscar Martinez										

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Philippines	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	5	3
United States	2	0	5	2	0	0	x	9	11	4
WP: Terry Luster LP: Rogelio Rojas										

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Puerto Rico	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	6	7	1
Argentina	2	0	2	0	1	3	x	8	9	1
WP: Juan Potolicchio LP: German Diaz Save: L.Mata										

	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
New Zealand	3	0	1	4	2	10	9	0
Botswana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
WP: Marty Grant LP: Romeo Tshelametsi								

	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Canada	0	6	2	1	x	9	11	0
WP: Dean Holoien LP: Jajat Kusumanegara								

	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
Czech	0	0	0	2	0	2	5	1
Venezuela	1	0	7	1	x	9	10	0
WP: Erick Alvarez LP: Jonas Mach								

HITTING	Team	AP	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	W	K	OB%	Sac	SB	R	RBI	SA	BA
Brad Rona	New Zealand	13	10	8	3	0	1	3	1	85	0	1	6	5	1400	800
Rafael Flores	Venezuela	8	8	6	1	0	2	0	1	75	0	0	4	5	1625	750
Gustavo Guerrinieri	Argentina	11	6	4	3	0	0	4	1	82	0	1	3	3	1167	667
Frederik Terkelsen	Denmark	14	12	7	2	0	0	1	0	71	0	1	4	2	750	583
Colin Abbott	Canada	13	11	6	2	0	2	2	0	69	0	0	3	4	1273	545
Travis Wilson	New Zealand	13	11	6	0	0	3	2	1	62	0	0	5	7	1364	545
Jorge Aranzamendi	Puerto Rico	13	13	7	1	0	1	0	2	54	0	0	3	2	846	538

PITCHING	Team	IP	Bat	P	H	W	K	R	ER	Wins	ERA
Andrew Kirkpatrick,	Australia	7.0	32	115	1	6	11	4	0	1	0.00
Marty Grant	New Zealand	7.0	22	105	0	2	8	0	0	2	0.00
Monte Sadler	South Africa	9.7	43	153	9	2	8	4	1	1	0.72
Dean Holoien	Canada	7.0	25	88	4	0	10	1	1	1	1.00
Todd Martin	Canada	9.7	41	138	7	4	8	3	2	2	1.45
Leo Barredo	Philippines	9.7	40	139	10	2	9	3	2	1	1.45