



Issue 1

Friday August 11, 2006

## Welcome to Fastball Country

Players, Officials, Fans converge for 60<sup>th</sup> annual ISC Championship

### Welcome back, some for the first time....

The facilities are in pristine condition,, the weatherman is co-operating, the volunteers are pumped! Can a simple collective wish for daily sunshine, the shared yearning of the 1,200 plus members of team rosters, the 500+ Host Community volunteers and 100+ officials become reality?

The internet's **Weather Network** predicts near perfect conditions for the competition – plenty of sunshine, with temperatures in the low-mid twenties, ideal conditions for fastball to be played at its peak and champions to be crowned.

**Tom Clancy**, Chair of the **Schneiders 2006 ISC Tournament**, and partner **Rick Boyd**, chair of the **ISC II Tournament of Champions** exude the modest confidence that is appropriate on behalf of a community that is proud to have succeeded in convincing “y’all come back again”. In 2002, the first foray by the ISC into **Waterloo Region**, resulted in the event being a huge success. Kitchener’s host committee raised the bar on so many aspects of the tournament. With a publicly announced **#1 priority** that the needs of the competitors come first, the playing conditions “on the field and between the lines” for the players was second to none. The off-field events such as the hugely successful **Bridge to the Future Skills Clinic** was launched, the **Hall of Fame** breakfast was fast-paced and well-attended, ball-park food boasted favourable-pricing for an expanded menu, featuring the flag-ship eatery – **Donna’s Diner**. The efficiency of the volunteers, who exhibited enthusiasm and community spirit throughout the entire event, was appreciated by the turnstile count that exceeded 40,000 clicks.

### What about 2006....

What’s in store for 2006?

Good news! Quite simply, **more of the same**  
Plus even more.

The feedback from the 2002 survey stated the obvious about the **#2 priority**, which was the needs of the fans. **Peter Hallman Ball Yard Diamond #1** needed improvement for the fans. The re-positioning of the backstop provides space for more prime field-level seating. The new grandstand seating on the expanded pad ensures great sight-lines for those who enjoy the infield action.

For the expanded **ISC II Tournament of Champions**, the return to **Budd Park** made sense. The 35 competing teams required more diamonds, and the partnership with the **City of Cambridge** and the provision of the diamonds (recently topped with player-friendly red clay) at **Kinsmen Park** has added another jewel to the event.

The 67 competing teams will play 171 games, and with competitive match-ups in the World Tourney’s foray into EGC32 (Every game Counts 32 teams) and the seven balanced ISC II pools, there will be lots of action spread over the next nine days .

**TODAY'S FEATURE GAME**  
**ORILLIA Riversharks (Seed #3) Vs**  
**COPENHAGEN Danish Dynamite**  
*(International Invite)*

**Peter Hallman Ball Yard #1**  
**Friday August 11<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 pm**



**CHECK OUT OUR DAILY ISC BALL SPECIALS**  
**COME OUT AND TRY OUR FAMOUS SCHNITZEL OR BONELESS WINGS**

**LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO EVERY THURS AND SAT**  
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**AUG 19 - THE DANIEL DAVIES BAND**

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## Owen Sound Fastball Star Recognized... Brad Underwood among 4 to be inducted into Hall of Fame

**Brad Underwood**, the fire-balling lefty from Owen Sound, will be provided his due recognition on Sunday when he becomes only the third Canadian player to be inducted into the prestigious **International Softball Congress Hall of Fame**.

Other Canadian current player inductees, both from Ontario, include **Larry Bodashefsky**, outfielder from Oshawa, inducted in 1997 and Waterloo's own pitcher **Dan Yantzi**, inducted in 2002. Other Canadian inductees are **Bob Minshall**, Burlington, ON (Umpire/Administrator in 2000) and **Neil Fennell**, Perth, ON (Administrator in 2002). Suffice to say that Undy's credentials are awesome, as he led his 1988 Owen Sound Canadian Tire team to 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the ISC Championships in Decatur, IL (best finish by Canadian team at that time).

Three years later, the Tiremen followed up with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish (losing to host team and **Champion Sioux City, IA Penn Corp**) in 1991 when Brad was named the top pitcher. Brad was also named the ISC Outstanding Pitcher in 1994, and collected a Championship ring as a member of the **Green Bay, WI All Car Roadrunners**, defeating the **Toronto Gators** in the final match. Brad was nominated by long-time fastball enthusiast and historian **Roger May** of Brampton, and will be introduced by **Jamie Simpson** of Owen Sound, assisted by Brad's catcher from many memorable games, notably the memorable 1991 ISC tourney, **Chuck Hendricks** of Tillsonburg, ON.



Other inductees at the **Hall of Fame Breakfast** on **Sunday August 13** at 8:00 am (doors open at 7:30 am) at the **Delta Hotel** at **King and Benton** in downtown **Kitchener** include **Saginaw, Michigan's Art Gillies**, the 81-year-old icon who has done-it-all as a many-faceted supporter of the ISC as administrator, ambassador, commissioner, manager, tourney host, etc.; **Greg Sepulveda** of **Mission Viejo, California**, an outstanding infielder who was named All-World twice in the mid-80's; and **Ed Klecker**, a dominating pitcher from **Sunset Beach, California**, a 3-time ISC All-World player in the 70's.

**TICKETS** for the **Hall of Fame breakfast**, open to the public and expected to attract 200 fastball enthusiasts, are available at \$20 each at the **Souvenir Tent** at **Peter Hallman Ball Yard**, with sales cut-off at 12:00 noon on Saturday August 12... **OR CONTACT John Thompson**, Local Committee Hall of Fame Chair at (519) 884-4050 or [ssstj99@yahoo.com](mailto:ssstj99@yahoo.com)

## CHARITY AUCTION

The host committee's **Molson Beer Tent** will be home to a silent auction on Saturday and Sunday of Opening weekend. Items available include **NY Yankee** framed photos; **Blue Jays** pennants; **Molson Golf Carry Bag**; collectible trucks; **Harley Davidson** clothing apparel; **Molson Beer** fridge; Golf green fee packages - **Grey Silo** and other courses; **Booster Juice** gift pack; gift certificates-**Blackshop Restaurant**, **Sport Chek** & others; tickets to **Canadian Football League** game featuring **Hamilton Tiger Cats**; **Toronto Blue Jay** tickets; chairs in a bag and sun umbrellas (perfect for fastball fans); **PLUS** ISC team and individual memorabilia. Proceeds to be shared by **Carrol Forbes Foundation** of the ISC and local youth charities - the **Children's Wish Foundation** (thanks **Anne Boehm**) and **Family & Children's Services Foundation** (thanks **Candi Harrington**).

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# OPENING DAY ODDS – Pick your favorites...

## HARRAH'S MILD MAY

OPENING DAY AUGUST 11

ODDS TO WIN THE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
ISC CHAMPIONSHIP

(Listed pitchers in brackets)

### TOP BAKER'S DOZEN TEAMS

MARATHON County Materials – 1-1

(Gollan, Kirkpatrick, Mata)

#1 seed/defending champs difficult to displace- awesome offense, experience, confidence – engrave the trophies early.

ORILLIA River Sharks – 3-2

(Cox, Jackson, O'Brien, White)

#3 seed is the Ontario team that is built to win -will Denny motivate players to potential?

KITCHENER Hallman Twins – 2-1

(Koert, Martin, Scott)

#4 seed hometown crew needs balanced attack and pitchers at their peak.

MADISON The Farm Tavern – 3-1

(Gareau, Holoien, Wilson)

#2 seed vulnerable, but tradition may, yet again carry Rod's team to the Championship game.

MASSAPEQUA Patsys – 4-1

(Cameron, Folkard, McClinton,

Muizelaar, Platt, Scheller, Shannon)

#5 seed has lots of pitching, but only one toes the rubber at one time; modified softball experience great offensive threat

VANCOUVER Grey Sox – 5-1

(Careless, Mason, Smith, Underhill)

#6 seed can beat the best, but can they beat all the best

SASKATOON Black Sox – 7-1

(Ethier, Hill, Whitten)

#9 seed capable of great games, could reach the final four, but lack of timely hits could keep Sox out of the top ten.

DENMARK Circle Tap – 7-1

(Bramwell, McKenzie, Roberts)

#10 seed responds well to ISC competition and should finish above their seeding

YUCAIPA So Cal Bombers – 9-1

(Brand, Peeples, T. Price)

#7 seed looking for a breakthrough year

GREEN BAY Townline – 11-1

(Guerrinieri, Richardson)

#8 seed goes as the "lack of depth" pitching prevails – appears to be a sleeper, but may not respond to the call

MIDLAND Explorers – 14-1

(M.Crawford, Gillis, Patterson)

#12 seed generally finishes in top ten, but will struggle to advance to Friday

FARGO Kegel Knights – 14-1

(Boom, Byrne, Gosse, Macumber)

#13 seed benefits from maritimers on the mound – will scare some top teams

MOORHEAD MinnDakMillers–16-1

(Lang, Sabate, Schweyer)

#14 seed could have everybody fooled – a good bet to surprise oddsmakers

## MISSING

Where's BALLSTON LAKE Heflin (20-1)

## SLEEPERS

JARVIS Merchants (17-1) have Orr, Phibbs, Wagar and Wardell to tame opposing bats – not to be taken lightly

CR PORTLAND (19-1) paced by

"Peaches" who is still going strongly, supported by Bahler, Bennett and Linton



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## Musings from the Ball Yard.....

### TWINS THOUGHTS

*Who's your most memorable team-mate or opponent?*

**Outfielder Dale Levy states –**

“Former Twin **Brian Paton** of the Toronto Gators showed me that a great centre-fielder has to have speed, agility, power and the ability to be a threat at all times.”

**Infielder Jody Eidt confirms**

“Madison Farm Tavern’s **Ryan Wolfe** is a memorable team-mate because he has a knack for playing his best against the best players, and in the biggest situations. He’s a great friend as well.”

**Outfielder Bill Simmons shares**

“I want to say team-mate **Todd Martin** so that he won’t hit me in batting practice, but my favorite player is **Sean O’Brien**. I like his cool demeanor, the knowledge he brings to the game and his leadership. And, he’s a poor loser; - that’s a good quality. At the same time I like to watch **Paul Rosebush** slap and run, **Jarrad Martin** swing effortlessly and **Dale Levy** unload his cannon.”

**Catcher Chris Shewfelt states –**

“Owen Sound’s southpaw **Brad Underwood** – I got to catch a legend and he helped me learn a lot.”

*(Editor’s note – Brad formally becomes a legend on Sunday when he will be inducted into the ISC Hall of Fame).*

### JAY'S PICKS

Predictions for today's  
World Tourney Games

(Projected winner **bold underlined**)  
(Record to date 0-0)

4:00 **Green Bay** vs Wilkes-Barre  
6:00 Pueblo vs **Jarvis**  
8:00 **Orillia** vs Copenhagen  
10:00 **Saskatoon** vs Abaco

### YOGIISMS...

Are quotes of **Yogi Berra**, revered catcher for the New York Yankees, who was also famous for fracturing the English language in peculiar, provocative and interesting ways. Perhaps his most famous line was uttered during the 1973 National League Pennant race – “It ain’t over ‘til it’s over.”

Regarding a restaurant that had become very popular, Yogi cited that “Nobody goes there anymore because it’s too crowded.”

When managing the 1960 New York Yankees who lost the World Series – “We made too many wrong mistakes.”

## YOU

### MAKE THE CALL

(First of a series by Superfan and former umpire Pat Smith)

**Let's confess!** Everyone at the ballyard is also an umpire. So, grab your mask and indicator and **YOU MAKE THE CALL!**

**The play....** There are runners on 1st and 3rd with two out. The batter singles and the runner on 1st goes to 3rd. Before the next pitch, the defensive team appeals that the runner now on 3rd missed 2nd base. The base umpire agrees and that runner is declared out for the third out of the inning.

**Question:** Does the run count?

**Answer:** Bottom of next Column.

Check this section daily for the winning 50/50 numbers  
**Thanks for your support.**

### DIAMOND DIRT

Will be published daily for the enjoyment of fans at the Schneiders 2006 ISC Tournament. Any and all suggestions for content will be considered – leave your message at the **Media Office – Attention John Thompson, editor** or send e-mail to: [sstj99@yahoo.com](mailto:sstj99@yahoo.com). Thanks and enjoy a great fastball week.

### Diamond Dirt On-Line

Thanks to **Al Doran (Al's Fastball)**, Diamond Dirt is on-line at [alsfastball.com](http://alsfastball.com)

### YOU MAKE THE CALL

**Answer:** Rule 8:7G & "Points of Emphasis" 1J: No! Run does not count as this is considered a "force out", and no runs will score if it's the third out.



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