

## OUTSTANDING RESULTS

### 2006 Schneider's ISC Tourney A Repeat Success

**KITCHENER, ON – February 2007**

**Kitchener Fastball Promotions** and partner, the **City of Kitchener**, announced that surveys and financial results from the **2006 Schneider's ISC World Fastball Tournament** were outstanding!

Survey feedback touted the event as very successful and "one of the best". More than 500 highly-rated volunteers logged 14,000 hours, supported by excellent maintenance staffs from Kitchener and Cambridge. Turnstile attendance of 47,000 surpassed the 2002 tourney (42,000) and fans were treated to exciting and competitive fastball.

**County Materials of Marathon, WI** prevailed as three-peat champions, defeating **Patsy's of New York** 7-1 in the final and had earlier squeaked by the host **Kitchener Hallman Twins** by a score of 4-3 in the quarterfinal.

In the **ISC II Tournament of Champions**, **Tavistock, ON Merchants** emerged as Champions, narrowly defeating **Palermo, ON Athletics** 3-2 in the title match-up.

Seven "not-for-profit" groups, including **Children's Wish Foundation**, **Kitchener Minor Boys and Minor Girls Softball Associations**, **Country Hills Optimist Club**, **Preston Kinsmen Club**, **K-W Kinsmen Club** and the **Kitchener Fastball League**, shared net proceeds of \$82,000 from the nine-day/three venue event. The majority of the dispersed funds are invested back into local youth ball and athletic programs.



#### **2006 HOST COMMITTEE- Kitchener, ON**

**Back(l-r)** Dennis Dosman, Pete McIlwraith, Dave Clinton, Chris Wettlaufer, Dave Schnarr, Keith Baulk, Ray Alviano, Jerry Kempel, Sheila Thompson, Sandra Quehl, Dave Faller, Bud Stanley, Henry Zwambag, Duncan Matheson, Larry Cox

**Front –** Ann Bilodeau, Ben Blackwell, Sue Sherry, Tom Clancy (**2006 Chair**), Rick Boyd (**2006 ISC II Chair**), Jim Walker, **Missing from photo –** Sheila Brown, Don Chapman, John Thompson, Donna Weber

#### **2007 HOST COMMITTEE UNDERWAY**

Hosting back-to-back ISC Tourneys is a challenge, and the 2007 Host Committee is revving up from its 2006 experience. A short break was enjoyed, and then it was back to business in the fall of 2006. **Duncan Matheson** will serve as the 2007 Chair, building on strong leadership established by **Tom Clancy** in 2006. **Rick Boyd** returns to most capably fill the role of Chair of the ISC II, with many other returning volunteers in senior roles.



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# ISC Governance Re-Structured

## Changes strive for efficiency and effectiveness



**SALT LAKE CITY, UT** – The ISC Board of Directors approved a re-organization impacting the structure of the organization, as well as the manner in which teams will qualify for the 2007 ISC World Tournament and ISC II Tournament of Champions.

In total, 11 commissioner positions were eliminated, and three committees disappeared. Both decisions will save the tournament host expenses (hotel accommodation and meeting room costs), and the net benefit is a more stream-lined and efficient organization. Previously each commissioner held a qualifying tournament or a travel league from which each would send one team to both tourneys (ISC I and II).

**ISC Executive Director Ken Hackmeister** explains “Now, (for 2007) we’re utilizing many traditional invitational tournaments as qualifiers. This makes our team expense of traveling to a tournament more meaningful.”

Previously, some qualifying tournaments hosted only one or two teams who were seriously interested in qualifying, and the quality of the tournaments’ competitions were weak because entrants were limited to a relatively small geographical area. By competing in a qualifying ISC Tournament, a given team can win an outright berth to the championship tournaments in August, or become eligible to be invited.

The changes appear to be “win-win” and beneficial to teams, tournament hosts and the ISC.

## ISC II TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS CONDENSED FOR ECONOMY

The 2007 ISC II Tournament of Champions (ToC) will be shortened from 6.5 days to 4.5 days, running Tuesday Aug. 14 to Saturday Aug. 18 in Kitchener and Cambridge. This condensed schedule will make it more affordable for teams to attend the premier intermediate fastball championship.

**ISC II Vice-President Bob McGowan** stated – “We’re looking forward to the return to Kitchener – Cambridge - topping 2006 will be a tough act, but we have every confidence the host committee will once again put on a great show.”

Seven pools of five teams will compete, featuring four round-robin games. The top three in each pool, plus three wild cards will advance to a single elimination round of 24 teams. Fierce competition in 2006 resulted in three pools having three-way ties for 1st, and another two having two-way ties for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The bulk of games will be play at **Budd Park (Kitchener)** and **Kinsmen Park (Cambridge)**. The semi-finals and Championship are scheduled for Saturday morning at **Peter Hallman Ballyard in Kitchener**. Fastball fans will be rewarded with both the ISC II ToC and the ISC World Championship games in the same venue.

**ISC II Commissioner Blair Setford** stated: “We’re expecting a competitive field from across North America to challenge the Ontario teams for ISC II supremacy.”

**SECURED BERTHS** have already been awarded to **Tavistock, ON** (2006 Champion); **Palermo, ON** (2006 Finalist), **Bridgeport, ON** (2007 Host); **Kitchener, ON Phoenix** (Canada East); **Perkasie, PA** (U.S. East) and **Frankenmuth, MI** (U.S. East).

**VIDEO BROADCAST** – Plans are underway to have the ToC Final Game on video/audio streaming for fans across North America.

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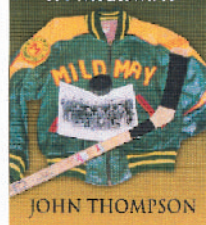
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## DARREN ZACK – Career featured on TV Legendary Ace Profiled on APTN'S "Chiefs & Champions"

**Darren Zack**, one of the most prolific fastball pitchers of all-time, is featured in a nationally-aired documentary "Chiefs and Champions" produced by the **Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)**. The 30 minute profile, including footage of the ISC 2006 Tournament in **Kitchener, ON** and scenes from Darren's home community of **Garden River, ON** is one of a series of biographies of successful Aboriginal athletes who have made their marks internationally. In the 1990's, Darren dominated the fastball scene, with a "smooth as silk" delivery of an assortment of pitches that mystified the best players that the sport could send to the batters box. A consummate team player, Darren was courted by many of the best fastball squads in the 90's, and drew international renown at many events, not the least of which were the ISC Championships held throughout the US and Canada. In 1995, Darren toed the rubber for a performance that still has fastball fans raving, carrying **Toronto Gators** to the coveted ISC crown, with 10 wins, fanning 150 batters in 73 innings.



### DARREN ZACK "CHIEFS AND CHAMPIONS"

The series "Chiefs and Champions" was launched in 2006, and returns for a 2<sup>nd</sup> season on APTN, which is available on various Cable systems throughout Canada. *(Locally in Kitchener-Waterloo, APTN can be*

*found on Channels 65 & 295).* The Darren Zack story is scheduled for :

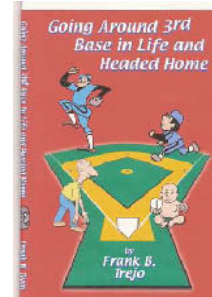
**Thurs. Feb 15 – 2:30 & 10:30 pm**

**Saturday Feb. 17 – 7:30 pm**

**Sunday Feb. 18 – 8:30 pm**

Other profiles include **Roger Adulph** golden gloves boxing Champion of the 1960's (Feb.8-11); **Billy Two Rivers** (Feb.22-25) and **Coach Ted Nolan** (Tues.Feb.20) of the N. H.L. **New York Islanders**, and Darren's friend from **Sault Ste Marie, ON**.

### MEMORIES CHRONICLED IN FASTBALL BIOGRAPHY



An interesting read for fastball fans is Frank Trejo's biography, available at a book signing at the 2007 ISC Tourney. More in next issue of Diamond Dirt.



Sam Forbes

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## ISC Travel League of Eastern Canada Host Kitchener Hallman Twins Start Season in Florida

In November, seven teams expressed interest in competing in the ISC Travel League of Eastern Canada. Potential entries included **Innerkip Eagles, Jarvis Merchants, Niagara Snappers, Palermo Athletics, Orillia Riversharks, Scarborough and Elmira.**

At that time, plans were uncertain for the Kitchener Hallman Twins, who have a long unbroken history of ISC Travel League participation and will once again serve as the host team for the 2007 ISC World Tournament.

**QUALIFIERS** for the ISC Eastern Canada Region include:

**June 8-10** – Torbay, NL  
**June 22-24** -Innerkip, ON  
(ISC and ISC II West)  
**June 22-24** – Sydenham, ON  
(ISC II East)

Information on the league is available at:

<http://www.alsfastball.com/>  
under "Links"

### TWINS COMPETITIVE IN FLORIDA TOURNEY

The Kitchener Hallman Twins, host team for the 2007 ISC Tournament, launched its season by participating in the AAU Disney World Tourney in January in Florida.



**TODD MARTIN**

**ISC Veteran Remains a Twin**

The roster for the tourney included newcomers **Blake Miller** and **Todd Budke**, while returning pitchers **Paul Koert**,

**Todd Martin** and **Don Scott** were joined by youngster **Dan Martin** for plenty of depth on the mound. The Twins enjoyed a successful week, preying on opposing pitchers and winning the close battles to advance to the Saturday quarter-finals in the 32 team event.

### QUARTER-FINAL ACTION

Jamie Simpson assembled a composite team of players from the **Innerkip Eagles, Jarvis Merchants, Linwood Chiefs** and **Elmira Juniors**, entered under the banner of **Millwood Logistics Countrymen**. The "all-sorts" pushed the Twins to the limit, leading by a pair with two outs in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup>. With a man aboard, **Dale Levy** did what he does best – taking a **Scott Wagar** offering deep, tying the score. This provided the all the impetus Twins need, scoring the winning run on International tie-breaker rule with a pair of singles in the 8<sup>th</sup>. **Paul Koert** earned the "W" with battery-mate **Dave Bailey**.

### SEMI-FINAL MATCH-UP

Coach **Tom McEvoy** built a contender around his mainstay roster, and **Mac's Marauders** of **Ballston Lake, NY** ousted the Twins 4-3 in a semi-final nail-biter. The **Colin MacKenzie / Mike Gasaway** battery out-duelled Twins combo of **Todd Martin** and **Pat Humphries**.

### CHAMPIONSHIP TILT

Mac's boys faced rival **Gremlins/Broken Bow** and trailed 1-0 in the bottom of 7<sup>th</sup> until **Eduardo Leonardo**, in dramatic ninja-like fashion, stroked a memorable homer tying the score at one apiece. That set the table for venerable **Frank Perez** to hit a "walk-off" championship-deciding 2-run homer in the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup>. The Marauders were Champs, and are perhaps a new team to be reckoned with in ISC play.

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**THANKS** to **Rick Boyd, Tom Clancy, Al Doran, Ken Hackmeister, Duncan Matheson** for contributing materials & **Tom Tsczerboski** for photos for Diamond Dirt Edition #1 – Watch for Edition #2 in Spring 2007.



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