

30



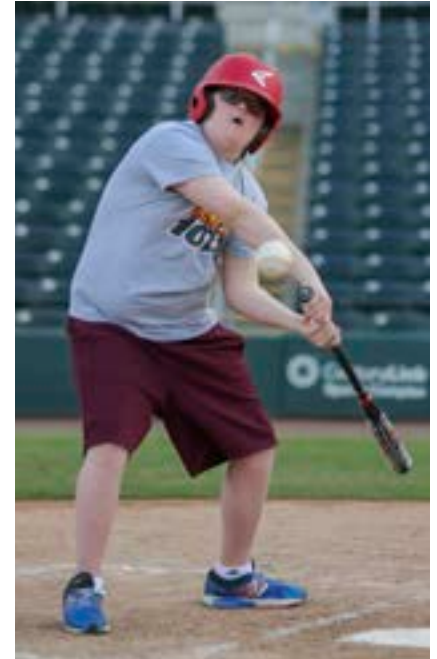
# THE INSIDE PITCH

2018  
WEEK 2

LEGENDS / VINTAGE  
FOREVER YOUNG

NOV. 5<sup>th</sup>

## Challenger: Everyone wins!



Photos By: Greg Wagner

**BY GLENN MILLER**  
**Roy Hobbs Baseball**

The only game during the 4 weeks of the Roy Hobbs World Series where no score was kept was played Saturday at Hammond Stadium.

Nobody cared about the score. Heck, nobody kept score. Nobody counted runs, hits or errors.

The annual Tri-County Challenger Baseball Game was played on a delightful fall evening with mentally and physically challenged youngsters. They hit and

threw and fielded and had fun.

Challenger games are a sanctuary from the rest of the world for the youngsters and their parents.

"Nobody here makes fun of you," said Annamaria Seward, who was there with her 14-year-old son Parker. "Nobody here questions your ability. It's a safe place. Lots of love."

The annual game is as much a Roy Hobbs Baseball tradition as games where the score is kept, championships are counted and matter a great deal to

the participants.

Not on the fall Saturday when the Challenger game is played. The game is a bit different than the one Roy Hobbs players have played since boyhood.

The ball looks a bit like a baseball but is softer. The bases are set about the distance of bases on softball fields. There is never a case of three strikes and you're out in Challenger Baseball.

It's about fun and participation. That's why Annamaria Seward takes Parker

see *CHALLENGER* on page 2

## Sunday rain damage to be addressed Monday

The rains came Sunday, accompanied by their companion Lightning; however, the damage was limited.

Three night games were rained out, and 13 afternoon games were suspended after completing 5 innings of play.

Roy Hobbs will evaluate the situation today (Monday) and make decisions on if and/or when games will be completed.

Games involving AAAA teams will be first to be addressed inasmuch as that pool play ends on Tuesday; second will be the Sunday night games that were rained out.

With 98 teams playing this week, there is minimal wiggle room on the scheduling.

– Tom Giffen



# CHALLENGER

*continued from page 1*

from their Naples home to a game just about every Saturday.

Debi Risch does the same from her Cape Coral home with her 18-year-old son Shane. He is in a wheelchair because of a genetic disorder, suffers from seizures and has autism.

Count Debi Risch as a Challenger Baseball fan.

"What's not to like about it?" Risch said before Saturday's game. "Seriously. The kids are socializing. The kids are making great friends. The parents are getting out of the house socializing, making friends and networking."

Everybody is welcome at Challenger. Nobody is judged.

"It doesn't matter if your kid is high functioning or low functioning," Risch said. "Shane is completely non-verbal. Yet he goes out there and has as much fun as the most high-functioning kid."

Shane can't tell his mother he looks forward to the games and enjoys them, but she knows as only a mother could that he does.

"My philosophy is there is no reason for us to sit at home," Risch said. "There's no reason for him to sit at home."

Who lost the Challenger game?

Nobody.

Who won the Challenger game?

Everybody.



*Photo By: Greg Wagner  
Kenmore Eastern Brewers catcher Tom Allio makes a throw on a Lehigh runner at 1st base*

## NOTEBOOK

### Playoff pitching guidelines

Roy Hobbs requirement is that all pitchers who will be starters or closers in save situations (3-run or less difference in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> innings) qualify for the playoffs by pitching at least 2 innings – 6 outs or 10 hitters – during pool play.

AAAA qualifier teams may not add pitchers to their lineup after Pool Play concludes; however, Open Division teams may have pitchers arrive Wednesday – those pitchers must throw 5 innings or 25 hitters to qualify for the playoffs.

Finally, in the playoffs, those "non-qualified" middle-inning pitchers will come to the mound from their normal defensive positions where they started the game. That is as important as the "spirit of the rule" that these *non-qualified* pitchers who are used as "inning-eaters" are players who ordinarily are playing other positions.

And, please remember that any players leaving the RHWS today (Monday) to return on Thursday MUST turn in their player ID Card and re-register upon their return. They must return before the quarterfinals of the playoffs, regardless of division.

Managers should email a list of their qualified pitchers to Roy Hobbs in case of [rg@royhobbs.com](mailto:rg@royhobbs.com) by 7 p.m. the night before their playoffs begin.

*see NOTEBOOK on page 6*

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## RESULTS

### 53's

Atlanta Astros 7, Carolina Thunder 6  
Aurora Islanders 7, New Jersey Railriders 4  
Baltimore Thunder 3, Americans Baseball Club 2  
Chicago Knights 8, Bahama Breeze Islanders 1  
Chicago Knights 9, Minnesota Goats 0  
Cuyahoga Indians 10, Baltimore Thunder 7  
Cuyahoga Indians 8, Bahama Breeze Islanders 7  
DuPage Angels-Lugnuts 5, St. Louis Patriots Blue 1  
Long Island Athletics 6, Americans Baseball Club 5  
Long Island Athletics 22, Michigan Stars 3  
Midwest Pirates 17, Carolina Thunder 3  
Minnesota Bandits 8, South Chicago Yaquis 5  
New Jersey Railriders 12, Pensacola Barracudas 2  
Oakville Golden A's 11, Midwest Pirates 3  
Oakville Golden A's 10, Atlanta Astros  
Orlando Blazers 10, Chicago Giants 4  
Staten Island Bombers 19, Pensacola Barracudas 9  
Staten Island Bombers 18, Aurora Islanders 3  
Texas Stars 19, Kodak Reds 8  
Windy City Warriors 12, Michigan Stars 2  
Windy City Warriors 13, Wright Field Reds 2  
Wright Field Reds 15, Minnesota Goats 1  
Banana Sharks @ Omaha Indians SUSP  
Border City Brewers @ Puerto Rico Orioles SUSP  
Carolina Rockies @ Rhode Island Waves SUSP  
Huntsville Cardinals @ St. Louis Grays SUSP  
Kennebec Cubs @ Bergen Yankees SUSP  
Massachusetts Chiefs @ South Dakota Rushmores SUSP  
PSOF Rangers @ Salem/Pitt Warlocks SUSP  
Sacramento Royals @ Minnesota Bees SUSP  
St. Louis Patriots Red @ Chicago Blues SUSP  
Summa Ortho Brewers @ Nova Scotia Monarchs SUSP  
Tuscaloosa Tornados @ Charlotte Kings SUSP

Boston GoodFellas @ Bridgewater Cardinals PPD  
DuPage Indians @ Ohio Indians PPD  
Steel City Hawks @ Lansing Blue Jays PPD

### 65's

ASBA Indians 8, USA Volkers Group 5  
Asheville Sox 11, Kent Mudhens 6  
DHBA Athletics 17, Wilmington NC Thunder 10  
Houston Colt .65s 4, Midwest Nine 3  
MBI Baseball 19, Houston Colt .65s 1  
Michigan Stars 17, Nova Scotia Monarchs 8  
Minnesota Bees 8, Sacramento Solons 1  
Naturals 10, Cincinnati Colt 45s 9  
NorCal Antiques 13, Kenmore Eastern Brewers 8  
North Coast Nationals 6, Livingston Dodgers 2  
Philadelphia Brewers 16, Baltimore Baseball Club 6  
Raynham Baseball Club 11, Toledo McGuire Insurance 3  
TSP Fire 7, Tallahassee Classics 3  
Vintages Baseball Club 9, Philadelphia Gray Rocks 0  
Washington Titans 26, Maine Woods Baseball 4  
Youngstown Astros 7, San Antonio Texans 2  
Kenmore Eastern Brewers @ Lehigh Baseball SUSP  
Kent Mudhens @ St. Louis Braves SUSP  
Potomac Senators @ Silver Foxes BB Club of RI SUSP

### 75's

National Spirit 17, Kent Mudhens 6  
New Jersey Cardinals 4, New England Red Sox 1  
San Diego Padres 5, Tri-Cities 1  
South Dakota Rushmores 6, Avengers 1

All decisions about suspended and postponed games will be addressed tomorrow. Please be patient.



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## STANDINGS

### AAAA Legends

	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
DuPage Angels-Lugnuts	1	0	1.000	1
St. Louis Patriots Blue	0	1	0.000	5
Minnesota Bees	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Puerto Rico Orioles	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Sacramento Royals	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
South Dakota Rushmores	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Border City Brewers	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Massachusetts Chiefs	0	0	#DIV/0!	0

### Legends

	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
Chicago Knights	2	0	1.000	1
Orlando Blazers	1	0	1.000	4
Windy City Warriors	2	0	1.000	4
Minnesota Bandits	1	0	1.000	5
Oakville Golden A's	2	0	1.000	7
Long Island Athletics	2	0	1.000	8
St. Louis Patriots Red	1	0	1.000	8
Texas Stars	1	0	1.000	8
Staten Island Bombers	2	0	1.000	12
Cuyahoga Indians	2	0	1.000	14
New Jersey Railriders	1	1	0.500	9
Baltimore Thunder	1	1	0.500	12
Midwest Pirates	1	1	0.500	14
Wright Field Reds	1	1	0.500	14
Atlanta Astros	1	1	0.500	16
Aurora Islanders	1	1	0.500	22
South Chicago Yaquis	0	1	0.000	8
Americans Baseball Club	0	2	0.000	9
Chicago Giants	0	1	0.000	10
Bahama Breeze Islanders	0	2	0.000	16
Kodak Reds	0	1	0.000	19
Chicago Blues	0	1	0.000	21
Carolina Thunder	0	2	0.000	24
Minnesota Goats	0	2	0.000	24

Pensacola Barracudas	0	2	0.000	31
Michigan Stars	0	2	0.000	34
Banana Sharks	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Bergen Yankees	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Boston GoodFellas	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Bridgewater Cardinals	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Carolina Rockies	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Charlotte Kings	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
DuPage Indians	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Huntsville Cardinals	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Kennebec Cubs	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Lansing Blue Jays	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Nova Scotia Monarchs	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Ohio Indians	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Omaha Indians	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
PSOF Rangers	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Rhode Island Waves	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Salem/Pitt Warlocks	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
St. Louis Grays	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Steel City Hawks	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Summa Ortho Brewers	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Tuscaloosa Tornados	0	0	#DIV/0!	0

### Vintage Team

	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
Vintages Baseball Club	1	0	1.000	0
MBI Baseball	1	0	1.000	1
Minnesota Bees	1	0	1.000	1
North Coast Nationals	1	0	1.000	2
Youngstown Astros	1	0	1.000	2
Raynham Baseball Club	1	0	1.000	3
TSP Fire	1	0	1.000	3
Washington Titans	1	0	1.000	4
ASBA Indians	1	0	1.000	5
Philadelphia Brewers	1	0	1.000	6
Asheville Sox	1	0	1.000	6

Michigan Stars	1	0	1.000	8
NorCal Antiques	1	0	1.000	8
Naturals	1	0	1.000	9
DHBA Athletics	1	0	1.000	10
Houston Colt .65s	1	1	0.500	22
Midwest Nine	0	1	0.000	4
Livingston Dodgers	0	1	0.000	6
San Antonio Texans	0	1	0.000	7
Tallahassee Classics	0	1	0.000	7
Sacramento Solons	0	1	0.000	8
USA Volkers Group	0	1	0.000	8
Philadelphia Gray Rocks	0	1	0.000	9
Cincinnati Colt .45s	0	1	0.000	10
Kent Mudhens	0	1	0.000	11
Toledo McGuire Insurance	0	1	0.000	11
Kenmore Eastern Brewers	0	1	0.000	13
Baltimore Baseball Club	0	1	0.000	16
Nova Scotia Monarchs	0	1	0.000	17
Wilmington NC Thunder	0	1	0.000	17
Maine Woods Baseball	0	1	0.000	26
Lehigh Baseball	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Potomac Senators	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
Silver Foxes BB Club of R. I.	0	0	#DIV/0!	0
St. Louis Braves	0	0	#DIV/0!	0

### Forever Young

	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
New Jersey Cardinals	1	0	1.000	1
San Diego Padres	1	0	1.000	1
South Dakota Rushmores	1	0	1.000	1
National Spirit	1	0	1.000	6
New England Red Sox	0	1	0.000	4
Tri-Cities	0	1	0.000	5
Avengers	0	1	0.000	6
Kent Mudhens	0	1	0.000	17



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## SCHEDULE

### 53's 10:00 AM

Banana Sharks @ Steel City Hawks CSP1  
Bergen Yankees @ Texas Stars CSP3  
Chicago Blues @ Lansing Blue Jays CSP4  
DuPage Angels-Lugnuts @ Sacramento Royals PDC2  
Kennebec Cubs @ Omaha Indians CSP2  
Massachusetts Chiefs @ Puerto Rico Orioles TP3  
Minnesota Bandits @ Summa Ortho Brewers CL-S  
Salem/Pitt Warlocks @ Carolina Rockies JB4  
South Dakota Rushmores @ Minnesota Bees PDC1  
St. Louis Patriots Red @ Kodak Reds CSP-S  
Windy City Warriors @ Long Island Athletics TP-S

### 53's 1:45 PM

Baltimore Thunder @ Chicago Knights PDC5  
Border City Brewers @ Massachusetts Chiefs TP4  
Bridgewater Cardinals @ Tuscaloosa Tornados CL2  
Charlotte Kings @ Boston GoodFellas CL6  
Chicago Giants @ Huntsville Cardinals PDC1  
Cuyahoga Indians @ Americans Baseball Club JB4  
Kodak Reds @ Chicago Blues CSP1  
Lansing Blue Jays @ Banana Sharks CSP2  
Michigan Stars @ Wright Field Reds TP-S  
Midwest Pirates @ Staten Island Bombers JB1  
Minnesota Bees @ DuPage Angels-Lugnuts PDC4  
Nova Scotia Monarchs @ DuPage Indians CL4  
Oakville Golden A's @ Aurora Islanders JB2  
Ohio Indians @ South Chicago Yaquis PDC3  
Omaha Indians @ Bergen Yankees CSP-S  
Pensacola Barracudas @ Carolina Thunder CL-S  
Puerto Rico Orioles @ St. Louis Patriots Blue TP2  
Rhode Island Waves @ Orlando Blazers TP3  
Sacramento Royals @ South Dakota Rushmores CP-S  
St. Louis Grays @ PSOF Rangers PDC2

Steel City Hawks @ Kennebec Cubs CSP3

Texas Stars @ St. Louis Patriots Red CSP4

### 53's 5:30 PM

Bahama Breeze Islanders @ Minnesota Goats TP2  
New Jersey Railriders @ Atlanta Astros CL-S  
St. Louis Patriots Blue @ Border City Brewers TP-S

### 65's 10:00 AM

Asheville Sox @ St. Louis Braves JB-S  
Cincinnati Colt .45s @ NorCal Antiques JB6  
Kent Mudhens @ USA Volkers Group JB3  
Lehigh Baseball @ Raynham Baseball Club CL4  
Maine Woods Baseball @ Houston Colt . JB2  
Minnesota Bees @ Philadelphia Brewers PDC5  
North Coast Nationals @ DHBA Athletics PDC4  
San Antonio Texans @ Potomac Senators CL6  
Toledo McGuire Insurance @ Silver Foxes BB Club of R.I. CP-S  
TSP Fire @ Michigan Stars JB5  
Washington Titans @ MBI Baseball JB1  
Wilmington NC Thunder @ Midwest Nine CL2  
Youngstown Astros @ Sacramento Solons PDC3

### 65's 1:45 PM

ASBA Indians @ Asheville Sox JB3  
Baltimore Baseball Club @ Livingston Dodgers JB6  
Kenmore Eastern Brewers @ Naturals CL3  
Nova Scotia archs @ Philadelphia Gray Rocks JB5  
Vintages Baseball Club @ Tallahassee Classics JB-S

### 75's 10:00 AM

National Spirit @ New Jersey Cardinals CL1  
New England Red Sox @ Kent Mudhens CL3  
San Diego Padres @ Avengers TP2  
South Dakota Rushmores @ Tri-Cities TP4



**SUPPORT THE ROY HOBBS  
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## NOTEBOOK

continued from page 2

### Picking up T-Shirts

The tournament T-shirt is available **through Friday only** for all registered players outside the Roy Hobbs Store in the screened in patio at the Player Development Complex. **No Shirts will be given out on Thursdays or Saturdays.**

Hours to pick up the Tournament T-shirt are from Noon to 6 p.m. With the shirt, each player will get a tournament patch and a World Series Gift.

Players will need their RHWS ID card to get their shirts, no exceptions – No drivers licenses needed.



### 50/50 raffle

50/50 raffle tickets, to benefit the Roy Hobbs Foundation, are available each day at the Player Development Complex. Tickets are \$1 apiece or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held in the patio area at the Player Development Complex at 5 PM Friday.

The Roy Hobbs Foundation was established to raise monies for research on finding a cure for Leukemia and to assist our Challenged Athlete friends.

Revenues from the 2017 RHWS led to some \$15,000 in contributions to MD Anderson Cancer Center, St. Jude Hospital in Memphis and to Southern Florida Challenger Athletes.



### Results corrections

Please check the posted results and standings each day.

Managers should contact Rob at the Tournament Headquarters (330.352.2175) with corrections to scores.

That's the best way to make sure that playoff seedings and pairings are as accurate as we can make them.



### Please help with dugouts

Roy Hobbs Baseball and the grounds crews need your help in the dugouts.

When your games are over and you are leaving the dugout, please police it for trash and cups, etc. Your assistance in cleaning up the dugouts each day will be greatly appreciated.



### First Aid

**Two key First Aid items:** Drink plenty of fluids while playing; don't just wait until the game is over. Water will be available at the fields.

Second, be sure to stretch and loosen up before playing, or even re-entering a game.

In case of an emergency, contact the field manager at your site. He has the First Aid supplies and will contact 911 services as needed.

**Ice is available for injuries ...** check with the field manager on duty or go to the nearest concession stand to have the appropriate personnel paged. Roy Hobbs requests that managers plan for pitchers needing ice for their arms and to supply it.



Photo By: Greg Wagner  
*You can't catch it if you can't see it. Lehigh Legends catcher Doug Hauer*



**Services available on site:**  
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## NOTEBOOK



*Houston Colt 45's Billy Moreland lays down a perfect bunt vs. the Midwest Nine*

*Photo By:  
Greg Wagner*

## Game Highlights

### Sunday

53's DuPage Angels-Lugnuts 5, St. Luis Patriots Blue 1 – PDC5 DuPage: PITCHING: T. Mangan 6 IP, W; T. Foote 3 IP, 0 R, SV; BATTING: J. Zurawski H; C. Douthit, H; C. Cassidy H; M. Fenn H; J. Ivkovich H

65's Asheville Sox 11, Kent Mudhens 6 – TP2 Sox: PITCHING: T. Pressley CG, 13 H, 2 ER, 0 BB, W; BATTING: D. Fielder 4/5, 2 RBI, 2 R; G. McDonald 3/4, RBI, R, SB; R. McAlister 3/5, 1 RBI, 3 R; R. Alexander 2/4, RBI; B. Jenkins 1/2, 2B, 3 RBI; G. Graham 1/3, RBI, R

65's Michigan Stars 17, Nova Scotia Monarchs 8 – TP4 Monarchs: BATTING: R. Knight 2/3, BB; L. Sampson 3/5

65's North Coast Nationals 6, Livingston Dodgers 2 – JB4 Nationals: PITCHING: Lindberg 9 IP, 8 H, 2 R, W

75's New Jersey Cardinals 4, New England Red Sox 1 – JB2 Cardinals: PITCHING: K. Weisinstein 7 IP, 6 H, 1 BB, 1 R, 3 K, W; BATTING: P. Nextel 3B, R

To view your Roy Hobbs photos go to:  
[www.wagnerphotography.com](http://www.wagnerphotography.com)



Lehigh Legends  
starting  
pitcher vs.  
the  
Kenmore Eastern  
Brewers  
Sunday afternoon  
at City of Palms  
Stadium.

*Is your team playing next week?  
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Welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> renewal of the Roy Hobbs World Series.

As the Hobbs internal family talked about what to do to make #30 special, we decided to ask participants – after all you are the ones who make the Roy Hobbs World Series special – why it is special to them.

We received many, many comments and stories, thank you.

Please enjoy ...

30 30 30 30

#### Tom Allio, Kenmore Eastern

**Brewers:** When all the leaves have fallen in Northeast Ohio and a winter chill is in the air, there is no place I'd rather be than on the diamond in Fort Myers. For 28 years, I have come to this magical place to smell the fresh air, put my spikes in that orange dirt, put on "the tools of ignorance" and join my longtime teammates in a week of which there is no comparison.

The Kenmore Eastern Brewers have played in every age group from 30 and over to our current status as a 65 and over team. Remarkably, 9 of us have been together for some 25 years! Despite a World Series Championship in 2016, we have lost more games than we have won. What we will never lose is the desire to compete to our full capacity, to laugh at our errors on the field, and to celebrate our longstanding friendships that are forever true and ageless. The Roy Hobbs World Series has given us this opportunity. It is more than a tournament to us. It is that safe space devoid of politics, sorrow, race, or economic status where men can become boys again.

**RJ Bailey, Lehigh Baseball:** In my town, there was no adult baseball, so if you wanted to play ball after high school or college, it had to be softball. Now that's okay, if that's all there is, but it isn't baseball. After 19 years of playing ball "in the Hobbs", the World Series is every bit as important to me as it was at that first inning of that first game back in 1999. Several years ago, we started our team, Lehigh Baseball, and since then, we are either playing in the Hobbs or talking about it. It remains a huge part of our lives. Hardly a day goes by that we don't think about how grateful we are for the impact Roy Hobbs Baseball has had on us.

**John Berger, Kent Mudhens:** When I first came to the RHWS, I remember how great it felt to play on major league quality fields where greats like Ruth, Speaker, Cobb, and Clemente played. Think of it! I was standing right where Babe Ruth stood. Since then, what keeps me coming back is so much more. It's the game itself, the camaraderie, the dugout experience, the teammates, and the friendships. I've met and played with teammates from Nashville, Spokane, Huntsville, and Chicago, just to mention a few. All of us playing the game we love and getting a chance to be kids

again. My favorite memory at RHWS is what my Mudhen teammates and I like to refer to as "the longest home run in Roy Hobbs history." I was catching, Don Bullock pitching, and the Baltimore Baseball's cleanup hitter was up in the first inning with the bases loaded. He hit a home run at TP4 that cleared the high fence in right field and was last seen flying over Terry St. When Don got home, he received a package postmarked from Sanibel Island. Inside was a baseball with a message, "Found this on the beach, thought you'd like to have it back."

#### Brian Blevins, Orlando Blazers:

There are so many things that come to mind when I think of the Roy Hobbs World Series. It's tough to write something like this without sounding like a Ken Burns retread, but the timeline of our lives is marked and distinguished by the annual fall pilgrimage to Ft. Myers. In no particular order, I love being one of the first in the morning to the game site, with the grounds crew making final preparations, the sun peeking over the horizon of azure blue skies, and that familiar anticipation roiling in your gut. I've grown old, or older, to the incantations of that nice gentleman who asks if I would be interested in a 50/50 ticket, coming and going, no matter how many times I've walked by. He is my muse, he levels me, reminding me of my indistinguishable appearance. The fine folks of the Hobbs staff, and the cadre of dogs that lounge nearby, are a sure sign of games to be played. The camaraderie, the fellows, the friends, renewing old acquaintances, finally the long walk to the parking lot when you've been eliminated for another year, to the faint strains of "there's always next year." Simply nothing better.



Photo By: Greg Wagner  
Teammates. Staten Island Bombers