

RH celebrates Hall of Famers

BY GLENN MILLER
Roy Hobbs Baseball

New Roy Hobbs Hall of Famers talked Saturday night about moms, dads, coaches and a brother who instilled love and respect for the game in them.

Seven men were inducted from the class of 2018 and one from 2017 who couldn't make it to last year's ceremony.

"These are special people," said Roy Hobbs president Tom Giffen, who was master of ceremonies. "They have a passion and love for the game and have a reverence for baseball."

The ceremony was held at Ron Dao's Sports Grill in Fort Myers. The first man inducted Saturday was Canadian Rich Knight.

"He's for all practical purposes the Godfather of adult amateur baseball in Canada," Giffen said.

Knight had to leave early to catch a flight to Ontario, where he said it was 14 degrees on Saturday.

"You want to go home?" Giffen asked him.



Photo By: Greg Wagner

Roy Hobbs Hall of Fame Class of 2018 leads the assembled friends and teammates in a rendition of "Take Me Out To The Ballgame" ... from left: Paul Doucette, Mike Shevlin, Steve Eddy, Rick Scheetz, Jim Ahlborn (2017), Rob Fester and Joe Adams.

Before the event kicked into gear, Giffen honored Randy Pavlak, a veteran player who suffered a serious stroke earlier this year and is now in a wheelchair. Pavlak's wife and father were by his side.

"We're behind you, buddy," Giffen said to Pavlak. "Thank you for being here tonight."

Pavlak received a standing ovation from the more than 100 people in the room.

The first member of the class of 2018 who was honored was the late Jim Corte, the founder of Detroit-based Jet Box Baseball.

see HALL OF FAME on page 2



Photo By: Greg Wagner

Sunday was Veterans Day, and across the Roy Hobbs landscape teams honored veterans prior to their games; here the Massachusetts Chiefs and 2 red-white-blue umpires celebrate the sacrifices made by veterans throughout the years.



Photo By: Greg Wagner

Randy Pavlak, a long-time Roy Hobbs participant from Dayton who is recovering from a major stroke, gets a standing ovation from the Hall of Fame crowd Saturday night.

HALL OF FAME

continued from page 1

Hall of Famer Joe Adams talked about his late brother, Dr. Mike Adams, who died in 2016 of brain cancer. They were teammates at Holy Cross High School in Delran Township, N.J.

"I was pushed by him my entire life," Adams said.

Giffen called Hall of Famer Rob Fester a "very special person." Fester and his wife, Michele, adopted two Guatemalan infants who are now in their teens.

"They're the reason I get up every morning," said Fester, a UPS driver. "This is for fun. They're for real."

Hall of Famer Rick Scheetz was pushed by his dad to honor the game and be a complete player. "My dad didn't let me screw around too much," Scheetz said.

Is his dad the most important person in his baseball life?

"No doubt about it," Scheetz said.

Paul Doucette was born the day Babe Ruth died – April 16, 1948. Maybe he was destined to be a baseball player. It wasn't Ruth but a former umpire who coached him in Little League who molded Doucette as a player.

Steve Eddy is more than an excellent player. He organizes teams and leagues.

"He's created a lot of opportunities for a lot of people," Giffen said.

Eddy singled out his 86-year-old father, Dick, for his baseball development. "He's sitting right over there," Eddy said, pointing toward his dad.

Jim Ahlborn (class of 2017) couldn't make it to last year's induction ceremony because of back surgery. His father died when he was very young and then his mom, Ruth, died when he was 20. But his mom was there for him until her death from cancer at the age of 44.

At the end of the night it was about the Hall of Famers and their undying love for baseball.

"I don't have too many more years to play," Shevlin, 69, said, standing next to Giffen. "Maybe 20 or 30. I hope you're going to start a 90-and-over division."

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 8th and 9th 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 by 7 p.m. the night before their playoffs begin.



see NOTEBOOK on page 6

POTTS Sports CAFE

OUR STARTING LINEUP

- ★ 5 for \$12.00 domestic Buckets of beer ★
- ★ 10% off Food with Player ID Card ★
- DAILY 2 HAPPY HOURS 3pm - 7pm 11pm - 2am
- NFL SUNDAY TICKET

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RESULTS

60's

Baltimore Orioles 10, Bronx Cardinals 7
Border City Brewers 11, Massachusetts Chiefs 3
DC Mets 13, Toledo McGuire Insurance 3
DuPage Lugnuts 16, JB Jaguars 5
DuPage Lugnuts 11, Kennebec Cubs 5
Huntsville Stars 12, Tampa Bay Sharks 2
Kent Mudhens 12, Long Island Braves 4
Long Island A's 20, Cecil's Margin Service 1
Michigan Stars 12, Bahama Breeze Bandits 0
Minnesota Bandits 12, Stay Thirsty My Friends 1
Minnesota Bees 9, Youngstown A2Z 1
Nova Scotia Monarchs 12, Pensacola Salt Bandits 4
Orlando Wrinkles 4, Carolina Rockies 2
Orlando Wrinkles 14, San Antonio Texans 13
Philadelphia Athletics 10, Atlanta Heat 5
Philadelphia Cutters 13, Blue Ridge Rangers 0
Rhode Island Rockies 13, Bahama Breeze Bandits 6
Richmond Riverdogs 11, Midwest 3
San Antonio Texans 15, Bergen Yankees 5
St. Louis Patriots 14, Livingston Dodgers 4
St. Louis Patriots 19, Cleveland Spiders 9
Team Top Lumber 14, St. Louis Dodgers 6
Tidewater Drillers 14, Minnesota Goats 4
Washington Titans 13, Long Island Yankees 4
Windy City White Sox 13, Cincinnati Colt .45s 12

70's

Detroit 70's 14, Minnesota Saints 4
Kent Mudhens 13, Silver Foxes of R.I. 0



Mudhens CAN fly! Leadoff hitter John Catalano vs. the Long Island Braves

Photo By: Greg Wagner

Philadelphia Mustangs 5, Team America 2
Potomac Senators 11, New Jersey Wonderboys 10
Sacramento Solons 16, San Diego Padres 3
Toledo McGuire Insurance 16, New England Red Sox 9
USA Volkers Group 12, New England Bo Sox 4
Washington Titans 21, Maine Woods Baseball 2



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STANDINGS

Classics Team

	Win	Loss	PCT	RA					
Michigan Stars	1	0	1.000	0	Stay Thirsty My Friends	0	1	0.000	12
Philadelphia Cutters	1	0	1.000	0	Tampa Bay Sharks	0	1	0.000	12
Long Island A's	1	0	1.000	1	Blue Ridge Rangers	0	1	0.000	13
Minnesota Bandits	1	0	1.000	1	Cincinnati Colt .45s	0	1	0.000	13
Minnesota Bees	1	0	1.000	1	Long Island Yankees	0	1	0.000	13
Huntsville Stars	1	0	1.000	2	Toledo McGuire Insurance	0	1	0.000	13
Border City Brewers	1	0	1.000	3	Livingston Dodgers	0	1	0.000	14
DC Mets	1	0	1.000	3	Minnesota Goats	0	1	0.000	14
Richmond Riverdogs	1	0	1.000	3	St. Louis Dodgers	0	1	0.000	14
Kent Mudhens	1	0	1.000	4	Bergen Yankees	0	1	0.000	15
Nova Scotia Monarchs	1	0	1.000	4	JD Jaguars	0	1	0.000	16
Tidewater Drillers	1	0	1.000	4	Cleveland Spiders	0	1	0.000	19
Washington Titans	1	0	1.000	4	Cecil's Margin Service	0	1	0.000	20
Philadelphia Athletics	1	0	1.000	5	Bahama Breeze Bandits	0	2	0.000	25
Rhode Island Rockies	1	0	1.000	6					
Team Top Lumber	1	0	1.000	6	Timeless Team	Win	Loss	PCT	RA
Baltimore Orioles	1	0	1.000	7	Philadelphia Mustangs	1	0	1.000	2
DuPage Lugnuts	2	0	1.000	10	Washington Titans	1	0	1.000	2
Windy City White Sox	1	0	1.000	12	Sacramento Solons	1	0	1.000	3
St. Louis Patriots	2	0	1.000	13	Detroit 70s	1	0	1.000	4
Orlando Wrinkles	2	0	1.000	15	USA Volkers Group	1	0	1.000	4
San Antonio Texans	1	1	0.500	19	Toledo McGuire Insurance	1	0	1.000	9
Carolina Rockies	0	1	0.000	4	Potomac Senators	1	0	1.000	10
Youngstown A 2 Z	0	1	0.000	9	Kent Mudhens	1	0	1.000	13
Atlanta Heat	0	1	0.000	10	Team America	0	1	0.000	5
Bronx Cardinals	0	1	0.000	10	New Jersey Wonderboys	0	1	0.000	11
Kennebec Cubs	0	1	0.000	11	New England Bo Sox	0	1	0.000	12
Massachusetts Chiefs	0	1	0.000	11	San Diego Padres	0	1	0.000	13
Midwest Nine	0	1	0.000	11	Silver Foxes 70s	0	1	0.000	13
Long Island Braves	0	1	0.000	12	Minnesota Saints	0	1	0.000	14
Pensacola Salt Bandits	0	1	0.000	12	New England Red Sox	0	1	0.000	16
					Maine Woods Baseball	0	1	0.000	21



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SCHEDULE

60's 9:30 AM

Cecil's Margin Service @ Philadelphia Athletics CP-S

60's 10:00 AM

Cincinnati Colt .45s @ Tampa Bay Sharks JB4

DC Mets @ Midwest Nine JB2

Huntsville Stars @ Michigan Stars JB3

Massachusetts Chiefs @ Youngstown A2Z CL2

Nova Scotia Monarchs @ Minnesota Goats PDC3

Philadelphia Cutters @ Windy City White Sox JB6

Rhode Island Rockies @ Blue Ridge Rangers JB5

Richmond Riverdogs @ Kent Mudhens CL4

San Antonio Texans @ Baltimore Orioles CL-S

St. Louis Dodgers @ Carolina Rockies PDC5

Stay Thirsty My Friends @ Team Top Lumber PDC2

Washington Titans @ Border City Brewers PDC1

60's 12:45 PM

Minnesota Bandits @ Orlando Wrinkles CP-S

60's 1:45 PM

Border City Brewers @ Minnesota Bees PDC4

Bronx Cardinals @ Bergen Yankees CL-S

Carolina Rockies @ Stay Thirsty My Friends PDC3

Cleveland Spiders @ Long Island A's PDC5

Kennebec Cubs @ JD Jaguars TP-S

Kent Mudhens @ Pensacola Salt Bandits CL3

Livingston Dodgers @ DuPage Lugnuts JB-S

Long Island Braves @ Richmond Riverdogs CL6

Long Island Yankees @ Massachusetts Chiefs CL4

Michigan Stars @ Cincinnati Colt .45s JB5



*JetBlue still life
w/ a side of
infield dragging*

*Photo By:
Greg Wagner*

Midwest Nine @ Toledo McGuire Insurance JB3

St. Louis Patriots @ Atlanta Heat TP3

Windy City White Sox @ Rhode Island Rockies JB4

60's 5:30 PM

Pensacola Salt Bandits @ Tidewater Drillers CL-S

70's 10:00 AM

Maine Woods Baseball @ New Jersey Wonderboys TP-S

New England Red Sox @ USA Volkers Group TP3

Philadelphia Mustangs @ Minnesota Saints CL3

Sacramento Solons @ Kent Mudhens PDC4

San Diego Padres @ New England Bo Sox TP2

Silver Foxes of R. I. @ Toledo McGuire Insurance TP4

Team America @ Potomac Senators CL6

70's 1:45 PM

Washington Titans @ Detroit 70's TP2



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CHALLENGED ATHLETES PLAY BASEBALL.**





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



Long Island Braves 2nd baseman takes the throw in an attempt to thwart a Kent Mudhens stolen base

Photo By:
Greg Wagner

appropriate personnel paged. Roy Hobbs requests that managers plan for pitchers needing ice for their arms and to supply it.



see NOTEBOOK on page 7



**Bennett Chiropractic
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NOTEBOOK

continued from page 6

Admission, \$1 a game

Admission continues at the Roy Hobbs World Series.

Admission is \$1 per game or \$5 for a tournament pass. Players will pay their \$1 at check-in for their player ID card that guarantees them access to all games in which they are not playing. Spectators will pay \$1 for entrance into each complex and are good for one day.

The \$5 tournament pass is available at RH Headquarters or from the Site Concierges at each security table; there is no family pass. The tournament pass is a plastic card that guarantees admission for that person for the duration of the RHWS. A loop comes with the tournament pass card for easy attachment to purses, belt loops, etc.



Playing site security

The active steps taken several years ago to deal with parking lot security will continue as parking lot theft issues have – knock on wood – not been an issue the last 7 years.

Are we out of the woods? No, it is a daily procedure and effort to make sure parking lots are safe.

Once again, Roy Hobbs will have personnel posted at the player/spectators' entrances to Terry Park, PDC, JetBlue Complex and at the entrance to the Quad fields at Lee County.

These individuals will have a view of the parking lot, and they will be available in emergencies, be enforcing cooler guidelines and handling admissions.



Game Highlights

Sunday

60's DuPage Lugnuts 16, JB Jaguars 5 – CL3

Jags: BATTING: M. Abbott 2/3, 2 RBI; J. Lazarich 2/3, RBI

60's Minnesota Bees 9, Youngstown A2Z 1 –

CP-S A2Z: BATTING: D. Smercansky RBI; B. Wright 2/2

70's USA Volkers Group 12, New England Bo

Sox 4 – PDC5 USA: PITCHING: B. Bartlett 9 IP, 10 H, 1 ER, W; BATTING: B. Bartlett 3 H, RBI, 3 R; C. Watson 2 H, 2B, 3 RBI; E. Harmon 2 H, 2 RBI; L. Weaver 2 H, SB



Photo By: Greg Wagner

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Kent Mudhens 60's
left fielder
camps under a
Long Island
Braves
fly ball.

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signed up for a photo plan this week.
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30 YEAR MEMORIES

Welcome to the 30th 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

Gary Dover, JD's Jaguars: I read with great interest Tom Giffen's letter in the RH program book. It brought back a great memory for me, as that was a thrilling, well-played game that featured great pitching and defense. One great conversation that stood out for me was with Rich Gale in the dugout that game, where I asked him what he'd thrown to a batter in that inning, who had just missed a home run by about two feet, as it hit near the top of the left field fence. Rich said it was a "BP fastball". When I asked him to define that, he said it was a right down the middle 85 MPH fastball. It then dawned on me that given who was pitching for both teams, this game may likely be the closest I'd come to playing in a professional game. It was tremendous. I can tell you there is a different sound the ball makes when it's being thrown really hard, almost like a squeaking sound as the ball hits leather. I consistently heard that from my position in RF that night. That year was my introduction to Roy Hobbs Baseball as I worked a walk off of Craig Eaton and ended up scoring what turned out to be the winning run. It was a great night.

Wayne Faas, USA Volkers: Dad: "I don't have to grow up until you do." Well, as long as I keep playing baseball, my son doesn't have to grow up. At 71, I still feel like a kid when I'm on the ballfield. Playing ball since I was eight, coaching my two daughters and my son, playing adult baseball, and umpiring for 23 years, I still have a passion for the greatest game on earth. I started participating in the Roy Hobbs World Series in 1995 and haven't missed a year! I really like the format and appreciate the Roy Hobbs staff's efforts to place teams in the appropriate playoff division. Playing with or putting teams together (Asheville Sox, Asheville Tourists, Huntsville Stars, Terre Haute Volkers, USA Volkers) has been challenging and fun. The camaraderie, teamwork, and competition are unparalleled. Umpiring the Roy Hobbs' tournament the last couple of years and working with some really good umpires is very special. It's also fun meeting other baseball fanatics from around the world. I can't envision a November not playing in the Roy Hobbs World Series.



Gary Foran, Nova Scotia

Monarchs: To turn back the clock and play the game of Baseball in an aging body is Truly amazing. Our bodies let us know daily about all the aches and pains but something magical happens when we step between the white lines and forget for a brief time what our body is telling us.

Kirby Gaudin, Huntsville

Stars: Started playing in Roy Hobbs World Series in 1998 and have only missed 2007 since then. Fields are great, competition is tough, but the chance to play baseball with great teammates is what keeps me coming back. Playing with some

of the same guys for the last 20 years is *special!* Through highs and lows we have had each other's back and shared our successes and disappointments. Guys like Benny Woodall, Kenny McKinney, and Bobby Burroughs played the game with a love of the game. Times playing and the team gatherings after always leave me smiling. Playing a kid's game for the pure joy that the game brings to us. We started a 40-year-old pitcher against the Apple Valley A's one year. Their pitcher was a 72-year-old ex- high school coach. They beat us by a score of 12-2. Our right fielder questioned our starting pitcher, "What's the difference between a good pitcher and a pitcher?" Starting pitcher had no idea so his teammate replied, "32 years!" I've made friends for life playing with my Huntsville teams and I know that they will always be there for me. That is very comforting!!

Flip Harrison, Richmond Riverdogs: Every year begins with the moment the previous World Series ends. Upon our return, I send an email to the guys thanking them for playing hard and letting them know that there is only 51 weeks left until the next tournament. We get together from time to time, talk about all of the great plays each guy made as well as all of the bonehead plays we made. And that is what it's really all about. Staying in touch with teammates and friends we've all made over the years, planning on the next RHWS and how this time, we'll all play better. For me, it's about playing baseball and spending time with my best friend. Playing catch, hitting baseballs, making plays in the field. How great those plays are is subjective. (I know I remember them as being spectacular.) It's knowing that my wife has been supportive all these years. At 62 and after 40 years of marriage she still lets me to do this. It's been 22 years of Roy Hobbs so far. I love her. Baseball keeps me young, keeps me wanting more. Just think, in 13 years, we get to play in the Forever Young division!