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# THE INSIDE PITCH

2018  
WEEK 4

CLASSICS / TIMELESS

NOV. 15<sup>th</sup>

## These Spiders a far cry from 1899 Ohio namesake

BY GLENN MILLER  
Roy Hobbs Baseball

The Cleveland Spiders are the worst team in baseball history.

Oh, to be clear, we don't mean the Cleveland Spiders who are playing in the Classics Division of the 2018 Roy Hobbs World Series.

The worst team in baseball history is the namesake and forefathers, so to speak, of the 2018 Spiders. That would be the 1899 Cleveland Spiders, who went 20-134 in the National League, finishing 84 games behind the first-place Brooklyn Superbas.

The 2018 Spiders know about their predecessors.

"I've done my research," Spider Pat Dolney said. "I think we're all probably aware that team existed."

But Dolney and his teammates likely didn't know the extent of the 1899 team's historic wretchedness.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century Spiders compiled a .130 winning percentage. To put that in perspective the 1962 Mets, widely considered the worst team ever, were 40-120 and had a .250 winning percentage.

The 1899 Spiders lost their season-opened 10-1 to the St. Louis Perfectos. Everybody in Cleveland and all northeast Ohio likely knew the Spiders would be very bad.

This was the Cleveland Plain Dealer's headline after that game: "The Farce Has



Photos By: Greg Wagner

*Cleveland Spiders Manager Kim Carpenter with a Spider in his uniform tail.*

Begun."

That headline was not fake news.

The 1899 Spiders didn't attract many more fans than attend Roy Hobbs games. Through the first 16 home games that year they attracted an average of 199 fans per game.

Those Spiders had some great names

– Highball Wilson, Kid Carsey, Crazy Schmitt and Sport McCallister.

Two pitchers combined for 52 losses. That would be Jim Hughey (4-30) and Charlie Knepper, who was 4-22.

At one point in 1899, the Spiders lost 24 consecutive games.

Dolney didn't know all that.

## Playoff schedule will be set at Thursday's player party

Friday's playoff matchups and schedule will be announced at Thursday evening's Classics-Timeless Players Pairings Party at PDC Lanai, hosted by Sidelines Sports Grill and Roy Hobbs Baseball.

The Party will start at 6 p.m.

Schedules will be posted on royhobbs.com around 8 p.m. and be posted at the Player Development Complex headquarters.

All playoff divisions begin play Friday and will be single elimination, unless the 4A division has a minimal

number of teams.

PDC will be open for business as usual Wednesday and Thursday, including time for players to pick up T-shirts from noon to 5:30 p.m., etc.

■ Tom Giffen



Photos By: Greg Wagner

Tom Alley of the Spiders

## SPIDERS

continued from page 1

"I didn't do that much research," Dolney said.

The 2018 Spiders are doing a lot better.

"We changed all that when we won the championship," Manager Kim Carpenter said.

The 2018 Spiders won the Northeast Ohio Roy Hobbs title earlier this year, which is a big improvement over their performance at the 2017 World Series when they lost every game.

How did the 2018 World Series start?

"We lost the first game this year," Carpenter said with a laugh.

But they will never lose as much as the old-time Spiders. Their ancient and historically inept forefathers folded after the 1899 season. In 1901, Cleveland got another team, this one called the Blues in the start-up American League.

Fans now know that franchise as the Indians.

## NOTEBOOK

### 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.



### ❖ Broadcast plans

Roy Hobbs is working on a plan to broadcast selected World Series games, both live-streaming via the internet and as a posted post-game podcast on the Roy Hobbs website.

The immediate goal for 2019 is to be able to offer teams the opportunity to have one of their games broadcast from Hammond Stadium at the Centurylink Complex. Teams buying into the plan – we would broadcast 2 games a day Sunday through Wednesday – would have their stadium game at Centurylink. Roy Hobbs would then broadcast 2 championship games each Saturday. We are talking broadcasting 48 games.

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## RESULTS

### Classics 60's

Atlanta Heat 6, Livingston Dodgers 4  
Bergen Yankees 12, St. Louis Dodgers 1  
Bronx Cardinals 11, Team Top Lumber 1  
Cecil's Margin Service 9, Kennebec Cubs 4  
JD Jaguars 9, Long Island A's 5  
Minnesota Bandits 8, Baltimore Orioles 7  
Minnesota Bees 13, Washington Titans 2  
Minnesota Goats 10, DC Mets 9  
Nova Scotia Monarchs 14, Toledo McGuire Insurance 4  
Philadelphia Athletics 12, Cleveland Spiders 4  
Philadelphia Cutters 5, Huntsville Stars 2  
Tampa Bay Sharks 12, Blue Ridge Rangers 4  
Tidewater Drillers 10, Long Island Braves 0  
Windy City White Sox 8, Bahama Breeze Bandits 4  
Youngstown A2Z 13, Long Island Yankees 3

### Timeless 70's

Detroit 70's 14, Team America 1  
Kent Mudhens 6, Toledo McGuire Insurance 4  
Maine Woods Baseball 8, Potomac Senators 7  
New England Bo Sox 16, New England Red Sox 4  
New Jersey Wonderboys 12, Philadelphia Mustangs 8  
Sacramento Solons 14, Silver Foxes of R.I. 7  
San Diego Padres 13, USA Volkers Group 4  
Washington Titans 13, Minnesota Saints 5



Photo By: Greg Wagner  
Batter is out. His foot was on the plate when he bunted.



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## STANDINGS

### Classics Team

	Win	Loss	PCT	RA					
Michigan Stars	4	0	1.000	10	DC Mets	1	3	0.250	36
Tidewater Drillers	4	0	1.000	12	Kennebec Cubs	1	3	0.250	42
Philadelphia Cutters	4	0	1.000	16	Cleveland Spiders	1	3	0.250	43
Minnesota Bees	4	0	1.000	17	Cincinnati Colt .45s	1	3	0.250	43
DuPage Lugnuts	4	0	1.000	26	Carolina Rockies	1	3	0.250	46
Orlando Wrinkles	4	0	1.000	36	Pensacola Salt Bandits	1	3	0.250	46
Midwest Nine	3	1	0.750	21	St. Louis Dodgers	1	3	0.250	47
Team Top Lumber	3	1	0.750	23	Stay Thirsty My Friends	1	3	0.250	56
St. Louis Patriots	3	1	0.750	24	Massachusetts Chiefs	0	4	0.000	47
Minnesota Bandits	3	1	0.750	24	Livingston Dodgers	0	4	0.000	52
Richmond Riverdogs	3	1	0.750	28	Bahama Breeze Bandits	0	4	0.000	55
Nova Scotia Monarchs	3	1	0.750	30	Long Island Braves	0	4	0.000	60
Minnesota Goats	3	1	0.750	31	Toledo McGuire Insurance	0	4	0.000	63
JD Jaguars	3	1	0.750	31	Blue Ridge Rangers	0	4	0.000	65
Rhode Island Rockies	3	1	0.750	32					
Huntsville Stars	2	2	0.500	12	<b>Timeless Team</b>	<b>Win</b>	<b>Loss</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>RA</b>
Border City Brewers	2	2	0.500	21	Washington Titans	4	0	1.000	26
Atlanta Heat	2	2	0.500	25	New England Bo Sox	3	1	0.750	23
Long Island A's	2	2	0.500	26	Sacramento Solons	3	1	0.750	25
Philadelphia Athletics	2	2	0.500	26	USA Volkers Group	3	1	0.750	31
Bronx Cardinals	2	2	0.500	26	Maine Woods Baseball	3	1	0.750	35
San Antonio Texans	2	2	0.500	29	San Diego Padres	2	2	0.500	21
Youngstown A 2 Z	2	2	0.500	29	Detroit 70s	2	2	0.500	24
Washington Titans	2	2	0.500	31	Kent Mudhens	2	2	0.500	28
Baltimore Orioles	2	2	0.500	36	Philadelphia Mustangs	2	2	0.500	31
Tampa Bay Sharks	2	2	0.500	37	Team America	2	2	0.500	35
Windy City White Sox	2	2	0.500	39	Silver Foxes 70s	2	2	0.500	46
Long Island Yankees	2	2	0.500	40	Potomac Senators	1	3	0.250	34
Cecil's Margin Service	2	2	0.500	41	Minnesota Saints	1	3	0.250	41
Kent Mudhens	2	2	0.500	51	New Jersey Wonderboys	1	3	0.250	46
Bergen Yankees	1	3	0.250	34	Toledo McGuire Insurance	1	3	0.250	47
					New England Red Sox	0	4	0.000	62



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## SCHEDULE

**Home team determined by coin flip**

### **Classics 60's 10:00 AM**

Bergen Yankees VS. Cecil's Margin Service PDC3  
Border City Brewers VS. Tidewater Drillers JB3  
DuPage Lugnuts VS. Long Island Yankees JB4  
Huntsville Stars VS. Windy City White Sox TP2  
JDs Jaguars VS. Philadelphia Athletics CP-S  
Midwest Nine VS. Rhode Island Rockies JB-S  
Minnesota Bandits VS. St. Louis Patriots PDC2  
Minnesota Bees VS. Philadelphia Cutters CL-S  
Minnesota Goats VS. Richmond Riverdogs PDC5  
Nova Scotia Monarchs VS. Team Top Lumber JB6  
Orlando Wrinkles VS. Youngstown A2Z JB5

### **Classics 60's 1:30 PM**

Atlanta Heat VS. Bronx Cardinals PDC4  
Bahama Breeze Bandits VS. Long Island Braves TP4  
Baltimore Orioles VS. Long Island A's TP2  
Blue Ridge Rangers VS. Toledo McGuire Insurance TP3  
Carolina Rockies VS. Cleveland Spiders CL6  
Cincinnati Colt .45s VS. Pensacola Salt Bandits JB4  
DC Mets VS. Kennebec Cubs CL-S  
Kent Mudhens VS. Massachusetts Chiefs CL4  
Livingston Dodgers VS. St. Louis Dodgers JB5  
Michigan Stars VS. Washington Titans TP-S  
San Antonio Texans VS. Tampa Bay Sharks PDC3

### **Timeless 70's 10:00 AM**

Detroit 70s VS. Philly Mustangs CL3



*Home plate is that way. Kent Mudhens 70's vs. Toledo McGuire Insurance*

*Photo By: Greg Wagner*

Kent Mudhens VS. Team America PDC1  
Maine Woods VS. San Diego Padres TP4  
Minnesota Saints VS. Toledo McGuire TP3  
NE Bo Sox VS. Washington Titans TP-S  
NE Red Sox VS. NJ Wonderboys CL6  
Potomac Senators VS. Silver Foxes CL4  
Sacramento Solons VS. USA Volkers PDC4



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# NOTEBOOK

continued from page 2

Preparing to be able to present that option to its members, Roy Hobbs plans to broadcast 4 games this year – 2 championship games on both November 4 & 11. This is our test drive, so to speak, and our opportunity to be able to show teams what can be done in this format.

Stay tuned!



## 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.



Photo By: Greg Wagner

Maine Woods 70's 1st baseman vs. the Detroit 70's

**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.



## 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.



## Customer Service

Roy Hobbs Baseball is proud of its record on customer service.

Staff members are required to wear identifying staff shirts during the working hours of the tournament and should be easily identifiable. At least two are assigned to each of the satellite complexes daily.

In the case of **emergency**, please go to the nearest concession stand at the satellite complexes, where someone will be available to summon help.

Roy Hobbs field managers and key personnel are Red Cross First Aid **certified**, and Roy Hobbs Baseball has guidelines in place on the handling of injuries. Additionally, **AED devices** are available at each of the facilities, and Roy Hobbs personnel have been trained on those devices.







## HIGHLIGHTS

### Tuesday

#### Classics 60's

Midwest Nine 14, Kent Mudhens 8 – CL6 Kent:  
BATTING: B. reed 2/2, BB; J. Berger 3/4, RBI

Minnesota Bandits 22, Carolina Rockies 3 –  
TP-S Rockies: PITCHING: D. Ball 2 IP, 0 H, 2 K;  
BATTING: D. Ball 2/4, RBI, R; R. Harris 2/2, R; J.  
Johnson 2/2, RBI, R

Washington Titans 6, Youngstown A2Z 5 – CL  
A2Z: BATTING: D. Fairmen 2/3, 2 RBI

#### Timeless 70's

Maine Woods Baseball 8, Detroit 70's 6 – PDC3  
Maine: PITCHING: H. Elson 9 IP, 6 R, 9 H, 2 BB, 3  
K, W; BATTING: D. Williams 4/5, 3 2B; D. Marker  
3/4; S. Casterline 2/4, 2B; S. Lederman 3/3

Philadelphia Mustangs 7, Potomac Senators 1 –  
PDC3 Mustangs: PITCHING: L. Grohn 9 IP, 1 R, 1  
BB; BATTING: L. Grohn 3/3, BB, RBI, 2 R

San Diego Padres 15, Kent Mudhens 1 – JB3  
Kent: BATTING: J. Hostler 2/3, 2B; A. DiMuro  
2/3, RBI; M. Messaros 2/3, R

### Wednesday

#### Classics 60's

Youngstown A2Z 13, Long Island Yankees 3 –  
TP2 A2Z: PITCHING: D. Smercansky; BATTING: J.  
Wallace 3/4, 2 RBI; G. Strasbaugh 3/4, RBI

#### Timeless 70's

San Diego Padres 13, USA Volkers Group 4 –  
TP-4 USA: BATTING: T. Keyser 2 H, 3 RBI; M.  
Cantrell 2 H



Maine Woods  
Baseball  
runner gets a  
helping hand  
after scoring  
a run vs. the  
Detroit 70's

Photo By: Greg  
Wagner

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





## 30 YEAR MEMORIES

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

**Kevin Marden, New England Red Sox:**

Roy Hobbs baseball has been a tremendous venue for me as both a player and as a team manager. I have been lucky enough to have won 19 Championships in both the Men's division (as a player) and the Women's division as a manager. I've always been impressed with the professionalism of the organization, both on and off the field. Everyone involved treats this tournament with an incredible amount of respect, both for the players and anyone associated with every team. I've been lucky enough to have participated in this event for over 26 years and from day one the competition has always been at the highest level. I guess the greatest commentary on the whole Roy Hobbs experience is the fact that over 75% of the teams involved have been playing in this tournament for well over 10 years. A great deal of credit belongs to both Tom and Ellen Giffen for all the incredible work they've done putting this amazing tournament together.

**Dave Mathews, Washington Titans:** In 2014 I was inducted into the Roy Hobbs Hall of Fame along with my best friend Mic Stump. 2016 70+ RHWS. I hit a grand slam, inside the park home run. That was my 7th RHWS inside the park home run. Next at bat, bases loaded again, I hit a stand-up triple. It was a 10 RBI game. I owe my success to the Washington Titan family. Great coaching, camaraderie, and chemistry are the hallmarks of one of the winningest teams in RHWS history. I started out as a near-do-well and became a ball player with the help of my mentors and coaches, Ron Staples, Bill Ralston, Steve Rapkoch, Jim Goertz, and Mic Stump.

**Bill "Doc" Pollack, Livingston Dodgers:** Overall it is the total picture. Being involved with the great teammates I have had the pleasure of playing with. Competing against so many other worthy opponents. The atmosphere,

great fields to play on and wonderful weather. A tournament so well run. These are the attractions that keeps me coming back. The Challenger program for kids with physical or mental disabilities has provided some measure of therapy for these kids. I am glad that I discovered and have been able to participate in the Roy Hobbs program for 30 years.

**Carl Rakich, Akron Blues:**

I've been attending the RHWS for the past 28 years. In that time, I've witnessed the development of a "culture" of competition, camaraderie, sportsmanship and love - for not only the game of baseball, but for the thousands of individuals who have gained a

renewed lease on their baseball lives that they never would have imagined or experienced without it. Just listen to the RH HoF Inductees acceptance speeches each year and you'll hear these sentiments echoed over and over.

Because of Roy Hobbs and this event, the "magic" dimension of baseball that was so important to us in our youth has been added back into our adult lives. Many of us have been playing Roy Hobbs senior baseball much longer than we played when we were young - and we're still playing! An example of how the "magic" of this culture touches and changes lives is Vincent Santiago. Elderly when he attended his first RHWS, his eyes filled with tears when he walked into old Terry Park for the first time - it was exactly like the stadium in Puerto Rico where his dad took him to see to his first baseball game. That's the magic of Roy Hobbs!

**Bart Waldman:** What most comes to mind is family! Many of our Pacific Northwest players have played together at the RHWS for 20+ years, the last 13 as the Washington Titans. Most of our wives come, some parents, some kids, and once they attend, they rarely miss another World Series. Every November is a family reunion. And, of course, we love the baseball. I can point to lots of highlights in individual games, but at the end of the day, it's about friendship. Many of us have formed fast friendships with opposing players as well as our own teammates. Most of us now block 2 weeks every November, and very little can interfere with this annual pilgrimage.