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Welcome
To the 2000 Nationall $\operatorname{AAABA}$ Tournament

As President of the National AAABA, I would like to welcome you to Johnstown Pennsylvania, and the finest Amateur Baseball Tournament in the country. This will be my first Tournament as the President, and it is my pleasure to serve the AAABA in this capacity. I would like to thank all the Officers and Board of Directors of the AAABA for all the hard work they put in, and also for all their support.

I would like to offer my special thanks to all the board members of the Johnstown Old Timers, without them this would not be possible. A special thank you to George Arcurio, Jr. who does a lot of work behind the scenes in order for this Tournament to go smoothly as it does every year.

I would also like to thank the news media, both newspaper, and TV for their cooperation, in promoting and covering our great Tournament.

Good luck to all the players and coaches, and I hope everyone has a great week in Johnstown.

Yours in Baseball,


Dave Niro
President AAABA

# JOHNSTOWN CITY COUNCIL 

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July 20, 2000

Dear AAABA Athletes, Fans and Supporters:
On behalf of The City of Johnstown, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the AAABA Athletes, Fans and The Johnstown Oldtimers Baseball Association as you begin the 2000 games.

As I write this letter in the bicentennial year of our City, I look around and I feel great pride in all that we have accomplished in the past century. I continue to envision our future in the new millennium as one with great promise and possibilities. Since 1944, for 56 years, the AAABA organization has been supporting and promoting the all time favorite pastime of America, baseball. That is a remarkable accomplishment and I sincerely commend you and your predecessors for the outstanding work you have done throughout the years in providing opportunities for amateur athletes and enjoyment and entertainment for fans everywhere. Our community of Johnstown has been privileged to host the AAABA games for many years. The City of Johnstown continues to support this worthwhile event and we applaud and encourage your efforts to bring outstanding athletic competition to our region.

Please accept my very best wishes as you conduct the opening games of the $21^{\text {st }}$ Century in the City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

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# George Arcurio IIII 

 on your induction into the AAABA Hall-Of-FameYour dedication has served as an example for us to follow.

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JOE SCALETTA Tournament Chairman 2000


GEORGE ARCURIO, JR. Johnstown Oldtimers President 1981-2000


The Johnstown Oldtimers Baseball Association thanks everyone who has played a part in helping to promote the 56th Annual AAABA Tournament. With the cooperation of the citizens of Greater Johnstown and Cambria County, "YOU" have made this the finest Amateur Baseball Tournament in the United States.

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## In Memoriam



The 2000 AAABA Tournament is Dedicated to the Honor of MIR. DAVIID A. RIZZO

His Contributions to His Community, Various Civic Organizations, His Church, the All American Amateur Baseball Association, and His Family will Always Be Remembered


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# Man had passion for loaseloall|l Friendship with Pirates star lasted decades 

## By TED POTTS

THE IRBUNE-DEMOCRAT

Louis A. Salem of Conemaugh, who had a passion for baseball and politics, died Saturday May 20, 2000 at Atrium Manor in downtown Johnstown. He was 91.

Mr. Salem, known to his legions of friends as Lou, was an organizer of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament, which has been held each year in Johnstown since its inception in 1945, with the exceptions of 1946 and 1977.

Mr. Salem was proud to talk of the many future major league stars he befriended while they competed in the local tournament, said his daughter, Louise Peschock.
He was most proud of his friendship with the late Roberto Clemente, the Pittsburgh Pirates star who was killed on New Year's Day in 1972 when his plane crashed on a mercy mission to help earthquake victims in Nicaragua, Mrs. Peschock said in a telephone interview from her Vinco home.

Mr. Salem first saw Mr. Clemente play in 1953 while visiting Puerto Pico. The future Pirate was playing for Montreal, at the time the top farm club of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

On returning home, Mr. Salem passed along what he had seen of Mr. Clemente at a Pirates' banquet in Pittsburgh. Shortly after, two Pirates scouts were in Montreal to see Mr. Clemente, who was signed to a Pirates contract in 1955.

Mr. Salem was instrumental in Mr. Clemente's having his star-studded career in a Pittsburgh uniform, Mrs. Peschock said with pride in her voice.

She said Mr. Clemente and his wife, Vera, named their oldest son after her father.

Mr. Salem played first base in the PNA and Bethlehem Steel baseball leagues. His daughter said he turned down a chance to play first base for the former St. Louis Browns major league team in the 1930s because he did not want to uproot his wife and children for the $\$ 75$ a month the team was offering him to play.
Mr. Salem played a key role in starting a Little League in East Conemaugh Borough in 1950 and coached the team that won the league's first championship.

Mr. Salem was born in the Dominican Republic, which was and still is a baseball hotbed. His Lebanese parents had settled there for a time, with Mr. Salem born April 7, 1909, in Santo Domingo.

Mr. Salem was induced into the Pennsylvania Voter Hall of Fame in 1988 for voting in 50 consecutive general elections. But he went beyond that criteria, voting in every primary and special election.

His voting record remained unblemished. He cast his ballot in the spring primary, Mrs. Peschock said.

The Dominican Republic was a dictatorship when her father was born there, Mrs. Peschock said. She said he recalled soldiers with rifles on every street corner.

That is why he cherished his opportunities to vote, she said. He began voting, registering as a Democrat, after receiving his American citizenship in 1938. He remained a Democrat all of his life.

He was involved in local politics, starting as a committeeman in East Conemaugh Borough's Precinct No. 1. He later served for
six years on East Conemaugh Borough Council and for 20 years on what then was East
Conemaugh


School Board.
He was a member of many clubs and organizations throughout Cambria County.

He worked as a craneman for Bethlehem's Steel's Johnstown Plant before being hired in 1949 in the Personal Property Tax Office for Cambria County. He retired in 1974 as chicf clerk.
"He was a dedicated person in whatever he would do," Mrs. Peschock said.

She said her father was mild-mannered and had the patience of Job. She said when people who needed something would seek help from her father, he responded with assistance.
When he could not provide the help, he would find those who could she said.

He made it a habit to visit friends in hospitals and nursing homes, his daughter said.

She said her father continued to drive until April, when he became ill.

In addition to his daughter, mr . Salem is survived by another daughter, Shirley, of North Royalton, Ohio, widow of George Strippy; four grandchildren; and four greatgrandchildren.


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## Articles Appreciated

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in the establishment and continued success of AAABA
baseball in Johnstown, always makes available its many fine
articles for publication in this report.
Without that great contribution, this edition certainly would
be far less attractive to all readers. The AAABA and
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Squeeze Play: Romance in the stands.
Pop Fly: An excited fan who jumps up with a glass of pop in his hands.

Slide: What happens when you walk through a puddle of spilled drink.
Steal: What happens when change for your hot dog is passed down the row of seats.

Hot Grounder: What happens to your hot dog when someone knocks it out of your hand
Sacrifice: When you hate the game, but your date loves it.
Full Count: Making sure your whole scout troop is still with you when you get in the car after the game.
Pick-Off: What you need to do with the ice cream that fell on your lap.
Home Run: What you try to do after the game to avoid the traffic jam.

Grand Slam: What happens to you car as you pull out of the stadium parking lot.
Single: The amount of money in your wallet at the end of the game.
Short Hop: Tripping on the stadium stairs.
Bullpen: Your car of rowdy kids on the way to the game.


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## ALL-TIME AAABA TOURNMENT TEAM STANDINGS

| FRANCHISE | TS. | WON | LOST | PCT. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Baltimore, Maryland | 53 | 199 | 74 | . 729 |
| Detroit, Michigan | 31 | 120 | 53 | . 693 |
| New Orleans, Louisiana | 49 | 168 | 83 | . 670 |
| Washington D.C. | 51 | 190 | 91 | . 677 |
| Pittsfield, Massachusetts | 9 | 23 | 16 | . 590 |
| Clarksburg, West Virginia | 2 | 5 | 4 | . 556 |
| Milford, Massachusetts | 31 | 75 | 61 | . 552 |
| Concord, New Hampshire | 3 | 7 | 6 | . 538 |
| Cincinnati, Ohio | 7 | 15 | 14 | . 517 |
| Amsterdam, New York | 8 | 16 | 15 | . 516 |
| Ann Arbor, Michigan | 12 | 25 | 24 | . 510 |
| Birmingham, Alabama | 16 | 33 | 32 | . 508 |
| Garfield, New Jersey | 1 | 2 | 2 | . 500 |
| Marietta, Georgia | 1 | 2 | 2 | . 500 |
| Livonia, Michigan | 15 | 27 | 31 | 466 |
| Brooklyn, New York | 46 | 78 | 87 | . 473 |
| Youngstown, Ohio | 18 | 27 | 36 | . 429 |
| Buffalo, New York | 41 | 42 | 82 | . 339 |
| Maryland State | 40 | 69 | 80 | . 463 |
| Central Jersey | 6 | 10 | 12 | . 454 |
| Columbus, Ohio | 15 | 22 | 28 | . 440 |
| Schenectady, New York | 23 | 36 | 46 | . 439 |
| Lansing, Michigan | 18 | 23 | 36 | . 371 |
| Chicago, Illinois | 8 | 13 | 16 | . 448 |
| Johnstown, PA | 55 | 79 | 110 | . 420 |
| Waterbury, Connecticut | 6 | 8 | 12 | . 400 |
| Pittsburgh PA | 32 | 41 | 63 | . 392 |
| New York City, N.Y. | 45 | 56 | 88 | . 389 |
| Harrisburg, PA | 8 | 10 | 16 | . 385 |
| Cleveland, Ohio | 9 | 10 | 18 | . 357 |
| Philadelphia, PA | 36 | 67 | 76 | . 469 |
| Allentown, PA | 18 | 19 | 36 | . 345 |
| New Brunswick, NJ | 27 | 27 | 54 | . 334 |
| Nassau, New York | 1 | 1 | 2 | . 333 |
| Johnstown, PA (runnerup) | 1 | 1 | 2 | . 333 |
| Zanesville, Ohio | 41 | 40 | 82 | . 328 |
| Holyoke, Massachusetts | 11 | 10 | 22 | . 313 |
| Altoona, Pennsylvania | 25 | 25 | 50 | . 334 |
| Clifton, New Jersey | 6 | 5 | 12 | . 294 |
| Mt. Pleasant, Michigan | 4 | 3 | 8 | . 273 |
| Toronto, Canada | 6 | 4 | 12 | . 250 |
| Indianapolis, Indiana | 3 | 2 | 6 | . 250 |
| Springfield, Mass | 5 | 3 | 10 | . 231 |
| Chicago (So. Shore IL) | 2 | 1 | 4 | . 200 |
| Fort Wayne, Indiana | 8 | 3 | 16 | . 138 |
| Elmira, New York | 3 | 1 | 6 | . 143 |
| Cambria County, PA | 3 | 1 | 6 | . 143 |
| Newark, Ohio | 4 | 0 | 8 | . 000 |
| Wilkes Barre, PA | 3 | 0 | 6 | . 000 |
| Binghamton, New York | 1 | 0 | 2 | . 000 |
| Patterson, New Jersey | 1 | 0 | 2 | . 000 |
| Dayton, Ohio | 1 | 0 | 2 | . 000 |
| Bristol, Tenn-Virginia | 1 | 0 | 2 | . 000 |
| Elk Co., Pennsylvania | 3 | 2 | 6 | . 250 |
| Cranston, Rhode Island | 0 | 0 | 0 | . 000 |



## PRIINCIPLE DEVELOPMENT, LTD.

ALL-TIME AAABA TOURNAMENT INDIVIDUAL RECORDS
BATTING - 800 Don Szen, Buffalo, 8 for 10 in 3, 1951.
HITS - (one game) - 6 - Mike Culotta New Orleans, 1969
Guy Hubert, New Orleans, 1979, Jim Leyritz, Detroit, 1983 Mark Leavitt, New Brunswick, 1985
HITS - 19, Joe Burnett, New Orleans, 1988.
RUNS (one game) - 7, Mark Piehlman, Baltimore, 1976
RUNS BATTED IN (one game; - 9, John Orkis, Columbus, Ohio, 1978.
RUNS BATTED IN - 23, Jim Crowley, Baltimore, 1989. (22 team field). 16, Jim Crowley, Baltimore, 1990. (16 team field).
RUNS BATTED IN - 17, Steve Bourgeois, New Orleans, (16 team field).
STOLEN BASES - (one game) - 5 , Ron Golebiewski, Pittsburgh, 1962 Derek Lee, Washington, DC, 1985
STOLEN BASES - 10, Jeff Grantz, Baltimore, 1972.
TWO BASE HITS - 7 - Art Cleassures, Baltimore, 1957.
THREE BASE HITS - 4 - Art Ciany, New York City, 1977
Brian Stemberger, Detroit, 1977
HOME RUNS - 6 Bob Verseen, Maryland State, 1982
PITCHERS WINS - - 4 - Steve Mura, New Orleans, 1974, (all in relief).
STRIKEOUTS (one game)-24-
Roger Bowman, (twice)
Amsterdam, 1945
Arnold Umbach, Birmingham, 1960.
STRIKEOUTS - 71 - Roger Bowman (27-1/3 inns.) Amsterdam, 1945.
BASE ON BALLS (one game) - 12 -
Gene Pentz, Johnstown, 1970.
BASE ON BALLS - 22 - Howie Stethers, Washington DC, 1960.
NO HIT NO RUN GAMES - 5-1950
Hugh Waln, Washington DC, 1,
Johnstown 0.
1960 Arnold Umbach,
Birmingham 5, Johnstown 0.
Howie Stethers,
Washington DC 8, Baltimore 0.
1969 Bob Grossman,
Washington DC 8, Maryland St, 0.
1973 Joe Kerrigan and Charles Porter, Baltimore 20, Newark, Ohio, 0.

## AAABA TEAM RECORDS

BATTING - Baltimore . 422 (six games) 1990.
FIELDING - Zanesville, 1,000
(2 games) 1963.
HITS (one game) - 28 - New Orleans - 1981.
TEAM HITS - 126, Baltimore, 1989 total
RUNS (one game) - 29-Baltimore, 1976.
RUNS - 98 - Baltimore, 1989.
RUNS BATTED IN (one game) - 25 -
Baltimore, 1976
RUNS BATTED IN - 91 Baltimore, 1990.
STOLEN BASES (one game) - 10 -
Maryland State 1982,
Washington, DC, 1985.
STOLEN BASES - 23 - Pittsfield, 1952.
TWO BASE HITS - 23 - Baltimore, 1989.
THREE BASE HITS - 12 - Detroit, 1964.
HOME RUNS (one game) - 10 -
Washington DC, 1978.
HOME RUNS - 16 - Baltimore, 1990.
DOUBLE PLAYS (one game) -
New York City, 5, 1988.
DOUBLE PLAYS - 14 - Philadelphia, 1986.
TRIPLE PLAYS - Schenectady, 1955;
Clifton, 1961
Pittsburgh, 1965;
Birmingham, 1975
Columbus, 1980
Lansing, 1985
Altoona, 1994.
ERRORS - (one game) - 14 - Windber, 1947
ERRORS - 24 - Milford, 1959, Brooklyn, 1963.
RUNS - (one inning) - 17 -
New Orleans, 1979.
SHUTOUTS - 3 - Birmingham, 1960;
Baltimore. 1973 \& 1977, Milford, 1978
SHORTEST NINE INNING GAME - 1:40-
Baltimore 1-0 over Detroit 1973.
LONGEST NINE INNING GAME - 4 hours
19 mins. Youngstown 17,
Johnstown 16, 1983.
LONGEST GAME - (time and innings) - 4:45
15 innings - Maryland State 7,
Buffalo 3-1985.
CHAMIPIONSHIPS - Baltimore - 20
(five in a row 1979 to 1983) 14 of last 19.

# AAABA Tourrney Swings to Wood Bats 

## BY MIKE MASTOVICH

THE TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

The crack of the bat will return to the All American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament in August.

The national tournament will switch to wooden bats instead of aluminum during the 56th annual tournament, beginning on August 7 in Johnstown. The AAABA's national board voted to make the move during its meeting last weekend in Hollywood, Fla.
"I'm excited to see how the tournament comes out with the wooden bats," said outgoing AAABA national president John Austin of Altoona. "It's getting back to the way baseball should be played. From our experience in Altoona, using the wooden bats, I think the scores are going to be lower and the quality of play will be better. They are baseball scores now, not football scores."

Like Altoona, the Johnstown AAABA League already had switched to wooden bats for regular-season play in 1999, a move that made the league more competitive from top to bottom. Other AAABA franchises, such as threetime defending tournament champion Washington, D.C., have had success using wooden bats instead of aluminum during the summer.

Now teams participating at two AAABA regional tournaments and the national tournament will be required to use wooden bats.
"A lot of the decision was based on the fact that major league scouts like to look for prospects using wood bats," said Bob Wolfe, the AAABA national secretary and executive director, during a telephone interview from Florida, "The other main reason was to eliminate potential injuries resulting from the use of aluminum bats."

Hitters are at an advantage using the lighter aluminum bats. Baseballs typically are hit with more velocity coming off an aluminum bat.

The use of wooden bats will bring back fundamental baseball, Wolfe said. The disadvantage is the additional cost to replace wooden bats that break during the course of a season. One aluminum bat might last for years.
"If you're operating a team, this will add $\$ 1,000$ to your operation," Wolfe said.

## In other developments at the league meetings:

- An AAABA franchise has been added in Cincinnati, Ohio, Wolfe said. The Cincinnati team will compete in regional play with an opportunity to advance to Johnstown.
"They haven't been in the AAABA for years," Wolfe
said of Cincinnati, whose last appearance at Johnstown was in 1983. "They used to come here years ago, but their sponsor died. Now they have a new sponsor."

Previously, Cincinnati appeared in seven tournaments and had a 15-14 record.

There will be two fourteam regional tournaments this season instead of the eight-team regional qualifier held in Altoona.

Altoona still will host a regional, but there also will be a four-team regional in Schenectady, N.Y.
"With two regionals, it doesn't make one franchise have to go out and raise all the money," Austin said, "It makes it easier on us as far as fundraising. It's split up."

Altoona held eight-team regionals in 1999, 1996, 1995 and 1993. In 1998 both Zanesville and Altoona had fourteam regionals, and in 1997, Schenectady and Altoona were regional sites.

- Wolfe announced the five inductees to the AAABA Hall of Fame Class of 2000.

They are Chester Goisovich, a longtime umpire from Johnstown; Austin, a past AAABA president and promoter of the Altoona AAABA franchise and regional tournament; George Arcurio III, a tireless tournament committee member responsible for overseeing numerous aspects of the national tournament each year; Vincent "Cookie" Lorenzo, a past national president and part of the Brooklyn franchise; and Jim Abbott, a former Detroit franchise pitcher who struck out 15 Johnstown batters in a 1986 game. Abbott, who was born without a right hand, had an inspirational career in the major leagues with the Anaheim Angels, Chicago White Sox, New York Yankees and Milwaukee Brewers.

- The 200 officers are: president Dave Niro of Milford, Mass; first vice president Bob Mingo of Youngstown, Ohio; second vice president George Arcurio III of Johnstown; third vice president Doug Poilock of Zanesville, Ohio; treasurer Bill Fertitta; and Wolfe. Altoona's Austin completed his term as president.


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1957 - Washington, D.C.
1958 - Johnstown, PA
1959 - Washington, D.C
1960 - Birmingham, Ala.
1961 - New York City
1962 - Clifton, N.J.
1963 - Zanesville, Ohio
1964 - Pittsburgh, PA
1965 - Harrisburg, PA
1966 - Detroit, Mich.
1967 - Toronto, Canada
1968 - Ann arbor, Mich.
1969 - New Orleans, La.
1970 - Toronto, Canada
1971 - Schnectady, N. Y.
1972 - Allentown, Pa
1973 - Brooklyn N.Y.
1974-Maryland State
1975 - Ann Arbor, Mich.
1976 - Cincinnati, Ohio
1977 - Altoona, PA

1978 - Milford, Mass.
1979 - New Brunswick, N.J.
1980 - Phildadelphia, PA
1981 - Columbus, Ohio
1982 - Buffalo, N.Y.
1983 - Schenectady, N.Y
1984 - Cleveland, Ohio
1985 - Johnstown PA
1986 - New York City
1987 - Lansing, Mich.
1988 - Brooklyn, N.Y.
1989 - Livonia, Mich.
1990 - Zanesville, Ohio
1991 - Milford, Mass.
1992 - New Brunswick, N.J.
1993 - Lansing, Mich. 1994 - Chicago, IL
1995 - Washington, D.C.
1996 - Youngstown OH
1997 - Elk County, PA
1998 - Livonia, MI
1999-New York City

## MOST HITS IN TOURNAMENTS

1955 Rosky \& Lopreato, Maryland State, 11 each, 7 games
1956 Treon, Washington; L. Cassidy, Milford, \& Bryan, New Orleans, 11 each, 7 games.
1957 Copper, Washington, 16
1958 McCall and Azar, Johnstown, 12 each, 6 games.
1959 Nichols, 12 in 5 games; Cunis, Milford, 12 in 7 games.
1960 Ciatti, Washington, 13 in 7 games.
1961 Pietri, New Orleans, 14 in 6 games.
1962 K. Mahoney, Washington, 11 in 7 games.
1963 Novick, New York City, 11 in 5 games and Swoboda, Baltimore, 11 in 7 games.
1964 Monin, Buffalo, 17 in 7 games.
1965 Cooke, Pittsburgh, 16 in 7 games.
1966 T. Davis New Orleans, 11 in 7 games.
1967 Hines, Washington and Scrivener, Baltimore, 13 each in 6 games.
1968 Balsamo, New Orleans, 13 in 6 games.
1969 Oliver, Baltimore, 13 in 7 games.
1970 S. McGugan, Washington, 13 in 6 games.
1971 Hrapmann, New Orleans, 13 in 7 games.
1972 Fulk, Baltimore, 16 in 7 games
1973 Hamann, Detroit and Grantz, Baltimore, 12 in 6 games.
1974 Tony Toups, New Orleans, 18 in 7 games.
1975 Steve Morrison, Detroit, 12 in 6 games.
1976 Duke Duncan, Washington, and John Crocker, Washington 15 in 6 games.
1977 Dick Fiala, Washington, 12 in 6 games.
1978 Mike Olejarz, Detroit, 17 in 7 games.
197911 each - Dixon, Columbus in 4 games; Hubert and DeLaune, New Orleans in 6 games; Seid and Nash, Detroit in 7 games.
1980 Dave Spalt, Baltimore, 12 in 6 games.
1981 Renard Brown, Baltimore, 16 in 7 games.
1982 Ron Russell, Milford, 15 in 7 games.
1983 Jim Leyritz, Detroit, 18 in 7 games.
1984 Ron Marigny, New Orleans, 12 in 7 games.
1985 Dan Raley, Baltimore and Mike Weglein, Maryland State, each 14 in 6 games.
1986 Bob Helm, Philadelphia, 12 in 7 games
1987 Mike Sarbaugh, Baltimore, 13 in 6 games.
1988 Joe Burnett, New Orleans, 19 in 7 games.
1989 Mike Bradley, Chicago, 17 in 6 games
1990 Jeff Dahley, Detroit, 14
1991 Lou Merloni, Milford, 16
1992 Brad Burckel, New Orleans, 14
1993 Thom Denney, Columbus, 16
1994 Julio Lugo, Brooklyn, 13
Robert Garvey, Altoona, 13
Stacey Kleiner, Altoona, 13
1995 Brian Hughes, New Orleans, 16
1996 Eric Herndon, Washington, 16
1997 Mike Colangelo, Washington, 18
1998 Rich Thompson, Washington, 19
1999 Craig Boggs, Altoona, 17


TOURNAMENT BATTING CHAMPIONS

| Year | Player and Team A | AB | H | Avg. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1945 | Jerry Srevick, Md. State | 21 | 11 | . 524 |
| 1946 B | Bob Schultz, Brooklyn | 13 | 8 | 615 |
| 1947 | Pat O'Neill, Washington | 24 | 15 | . 625 |
| 1948 | Ray King, New Orleans | 15 | 9 | . 650 |
| 1949 | Frank Torre, Brooklyn | 20 | 11 | . 550 |
| 1950 | Bill Maskill, Md. State | 12 | 7 | . 583 |
| 1951 | Don Szen, Buffalo | 10 | 8 | . 800 |
| 1952 | Charles Garivaltis, Pittsfield | 29 | 14 | 483 |
| 1953 | Charles Garivaltis, Pittsfield | 16 | 10 | . 625 |
| 1954 | Tony Salem, Johnstown | 12 | 8 | . 667 |
| 1955 | Gene White, Milford | 11 | 7 | . 636 |
| 1956 | Louis Shiavo, Schenectady | 14 | 9 | . 643 |
| 1957 | Frank Copper, Washington | 26 | 16 | . 615 |
|  | James Goodwin, Birmingham | 13 | 8 | . 615 |
| 1958 | Joe Torre, Brooklyn | 17 | 11 | . 647 |
| 1959 | Larry Nichols, Birmingham | 20 | 12 | . 600 |
| 1960 | Wayne Pietri, New Orleans | 12 | 6 | . 500 |
| 1961 | Larry Anderson, Birmingham | 20 | 13 | . 680 |
| 1962 | Ray Papania, Pittsburgh | 15 | 8 | . 533 |
| 1963 | Jim Barfield, Birmingham | 12 | 8 | . 667 |
| 1964 | Jim Monin, Buffalo | 29 | 17 | . 586 |
| 1965 | Gene Bracken, New Orleans | 14 | 9 | . 643 |
| 1966 | Bob Lawrence, Altoona | 10 | 6 | 0 |
| 1967 | Charles Hines, Washington | 26 | 13 | . 500 |
|  | Frank Cipot, New Brunswick | 20 | 10 | . 500 |
| 1968 | Mike Eden, Detroit | 16 | 10 | 625 |
| 1969 | Jeff Harris, Zanesville | 16 | 10 | . 625 |
| 1970 | Dick Trumbauer, Allentown | 14 | 9 | . 643 |
| 1971 | Bill Daniel, Washington | 12 | 6 | . 500 |
| 1972 | Zigmond Brown, New Brunswick | 11 | 6 | . 545 |
| 1973 | Mike Dixon, Buffalo | 11 | 7 | . 635 |
| 74 | Larry Hockenberry, Zanesville | 14 | 8 | . 571 |
| 75 | Charles Kane, Altoona | 1 | 6 | . 545 |
| 976 | Ted Lyons, Zanesville | 11 | 7 | . 636 |
| 1977 | Joe Martino, New York | 11 | 17 | . 636 |
| 1978 | Mike Olejarz, Detroit | 30 | 17 | 7.567 |
| 1979 | Kirk Dixon, Columbus | 19 | 11 | 1.579 |
| 1980 | Mickey Lager, Lansing | 16 | 10 | 0.625 |
| 1981 | John Mitchell, Milford | 16 | 9 | . 563 |
| 1982 | Ken Dibucci, Pittsburgh | 13 | 1 | . 615 |
| 1983 | Jim Leyritz, Detroit | 29 | 18 | 8.621 |
| 1984 | John Kelly, Cleveland | 12 | 7 | . 583 |
| 1985 | Mark Leavitt, New Brunswick | 15 | 10 | 0.667 |
| 1986 | Jim Richbourg, Washington | 17 | 10 | 0.588 |
| 1987 | Duane Rhine, Maryland State | 19 | 10 | O . 526 |
| 1988 | Joe Burnett, New Orleans | 28 | 19 | 9.679 |
| 1989 | Mike Bradley, Chicago | 23 | 17 | 7.739 |
| 1990 | Gary Goad, Lansing | 20 | 13 | 3.650 |
| 1991 | Louis Merloni, Milford | 16 | 24 | . 667 |
| 1992 | Winnie Polsinelli, Schenectady | 14 |  | 9.643 |
| 1993 | Jason Williams, New Orleans | 16 |  | $9 \quad .562$ |
| 1994 | Jeff Keaveney, Milford | 16 |  | 8.500 |
|  | Casey Curtz, New Orleans | 20 |  | 10.500 |
| 1995 | Brian Huges, New Orleans | 24 |  | 16.667 |
| 1996 | Casey Trout, Baltimore | 26 |  | 13.500 |
| 1997 | Liam Healy, Baltimore | 19 |  | 14.737 |
| 1998 | Leonard Biernbaum, Philadelphi |  |  | 13.722 |
| 1999 | Alberto Gonzalez, Altoona | 15 |  | . 533 |

## MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS

1951 - Bill Tanner, Baltimore, pitcher
1952 - Bob Brennan, Holyoke, outfielder-pitcher
1953 - Tony Chirmento, New Orleans, pitcher
1954 - Ron Abel, New Orleans, second baseman
1955 - Frank Szymanski, Maryland State, outfielder
1956 - Gary Treon, Washington, second baseman
1957 - Art Cleassures, Baltimore, outfielder
1958 - John Kulevitch, Milford, pitcher
1959 - Dan Baier, Baltimore, third baseman
1960 - Howie Stethers, Washington, pitcher
1961 - Wayne Pietri, New Orleans, pitcher-first baseman
1962 - Clay Bittinger, Washington, pitcher
1963 - Ken Wirell, Brookly, pitcher
1964 - Jim Monin, Buffalo, shortstop
1965 - Mike Reilly, Pittsburgh, outfielder
1966 - Dave Davis, New Orleans, pitcher
1967 - Wayne Scrivener, Baltimore, shortstop
1968 - Dan Camp, Ann Arbor, pitcher
1969 - Jim Burton, Detroit, pitcher
1970 - Gene Pentz, Johnstown, pitcher
1971-Jim Chamberlain,
Washington, pitcher-first baseman
1972 - Brad Ful, Baltimore, third baseman
1973 - Paul Hartzell, Baltimore, pticher
1974 - Steve Mura, New Orleans, pitcher
1975 - Larry Sorenson, Detroit, pitcher
1976 - Tom Qualters, pitcher, Baltimore Duke Duncan, outfielder, Baltimore
1977 - Frank Thomas, Baltimore, second baseman
1978 - Ken Mehall, Detroit, outfielder
1979 - Phil Warner, Baltimore, catcher
1980 - Chuck Coker, Baltimore, first baseman
1981 - Renard Brown, Baltimore, outfielder
1982 - Richard Bosley, Baltimore, P-DH
1983 - Carlos Diaz, Baltimore, catcher
1984 - Wally Whitehurst, New Orleans, pitcher
1985 - Dan Faley, Baltimore, third baseman
1986 - Cary Grubb, Johnstown, third baseman
1987 - Mike Sarbaugh, Baltimore, shortstop
1988 - Joe Burnett, New Orleans, outfielder
1989 - Jim Crowley, Baltimore, third baseman
1990 - Dave Willman, Baltimore, catcher-outfielder
1991 - Steve Bernhardt, Baltimore, shortstop
1992 - Steve Bourgeois, New Orleans, outfielder
1993 - Joe Kail, Baltimore, seond baseman
1994 - Julio Lugo, Brooklyn
1995 - Brian Hughes, New Orleans, catcher
1996 - Brian Foster, Baltimore, outfielder
1997 - Liam Healy, Baltimore, outfielder
1998 - Rich Thompson, Washington, outfielder 1999 - Taylor Wood, Washington, shortstop



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Ray Rizzo, President
AAABA Tournament Pitcher 1947, 1948, 1950

# AAABA Readers Reach to Kids 

By JASON HORNICK<br>THE TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

A bubbly group of 35 young women who act as city liaisons for Johnstown's AAABA tournament is branching out to create enthusiasm off the field - for reading
"Storytime with the AAABA Ambassadors" is hosted by Johnstown Oldtimers and The Galleria in Richland Township. Children can come and enjoy stories presented by guest readers every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. The 45 -minute storytimes will run through August 1.

Guest reader Jack Michaels, a disc jockey at Key 95, sat on a bench Tuesday reading from the collection of works on hand.

In front of J.C. Penney at The Galleria, about 20 kids scrunched their way across the marbleized floor to get closer and better hear the readings over the commotion at the mall.

Some of the literary themes being tackled in the oversized books: Cows that say oink, corssspecies adoptions and bear family values.

Fidgeting children listened to takes of Stellaluna's bovine adventures, a bat adopted by a family of birds, the Berenstein Bears solving their family problems and the enigma of why mosquitoes buzz in our ears.

The ambassadors, who act as city liaisons to out-of-town clubs at the AAABA competition in August, also tried their hands at storytelling, jumping in to read after Michaels was finished.
"The community is so good to the tournament, so we wanted to do something back," said Mark Critz, coordinator for the ambassadors. "I fell good about (storytime). I think the kids get something out of it."

The sessions have been a success for the most part during this, the first year the ambassadors hosted the reading hour.

Tuesday tends to be one of the mall's least
> "The community is so good to the tournament, so we wanted to do something back."

> Mark critz, AAABA Ambassadors
busy nights. It is hoped the program will help bring in a few more people, Critz said.

The guest readers are usually from the local media, and organizers hope they will serve as a drawing card.

Since the mall closes early July 4, the next reader will be Mike Moore, Johnstown Johnnies manager, on July 11.
And the storytime standards of milk and cookies haven't been forgotten. Galliker Dairy and Pretzel Gourmet are two of the sponsors bringing treats to the kids.
"I think (storytime) is a good idea. We need to get more kids to come," said Amanda Wilan, a 20 year old ambassador. "We are here for them."

Becoming an ambassador is a community honor and a worth while experience, the young women said.

The 35 ambassadors, ages 16 to 20 , are picked from more than 100 applicants based on grades, activities and who seems to be the most community-oriented. Those who are selected, all volunteers, help promote the tournament through various activities throughout the summer.

Critz said the experience allows the ambassadors to branch out, meeting new people from different areas and backgrounds and leaving them "more mature for future endeavors."

Crystal Rickabough, 17, said the ambassadors program helps show that not all teenagers are apathetic, as many believe. "The ambassadors show how much teen-agers can get together," she said.

Michelle Birk, a 17-year-old Conemaugh Valley High School student, is an ambassador whose boyfriend plays on the Johnstown team. "People from all around come to the city for the games," she said. "I wanted to represent Johnstown."

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| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Vic Gauzza, Washington, DC | 1953 | Mike Vlahos, Washington, DC | 1981 |
| Glenn L. Martin, Baltimore | 1955 | Clarence Hoover, Altoona | 1983 |
| Henry LaRocca, New Orleans | 1957 | John Brown, Pittsburgh | 1983 |
| John McGovern, New York City | 1960 | Sol Langsam, New York City | 1983 |
| Gernon Brown, New Orleans | 1963 | John Ryan, Philadelphia | 1984 |
| Wally Jones, Harrisburg | 1963 | Milan Gjurich Sr. Johnstown | 1985 |
| William Derwin, Waterbury | 1964 | Perry Deakin, Detroit, Michigan | 1987 |
| Fred Crosby, Baltimore | 1967 | Daniel Crossen, Johnstown, | 1988 |
| George McClarren, Baltimore | 1967 | Charles Tomljanovic, Johnstown 1988 |  |
| Julius D'Agostino, Clifton | 1968 | George S. Cooper, Johnstown | 1989 |
| Charles Swan | 1968 | Mike Adray, Detroit | 1992 |
| Edward Brooks, Baltimore | 1968 | Edward Trofino, Johnstown | 1992 |
| Fred Leidig, Baltimore | 1970 | Arthur A. Bellone | 1993 |
| Alex Baker, New Brunswick | 1977 | Ray Pelleteri, New Orleans | 1994 |
| Nash Carmichael, Birmingham | 1977 | Thomas J. Checkush - Zanesville | 1995 |
| Edward Schultz, Buffalo | 1978 | Dr. George R. Walter - Johnstown | 1996 |



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## By RUTH RICR

THE TRBUNE-DEMOCRAT

David A. Rizzo of Johnstown, was a soccer referec for American Youth Soccer
Organization and Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association in Cambria and Somerset counties,
In addition to officiating for AYSO and PIAA, Mr. Rizzo refereed for Laurel Highland Futbol Club. "He coordinated referees, too," Mr. Leverknight said. "Everyone had the highest opinion of his administrative and officiating abilities."

In July, Mr. Rizzo was soccer referee coordinator for the Keystone State Games.
"He made a significant contribution to the Keystone Games," said Bill Horner, who was on the local organizing committee for the games and is president of Greater Johnstown Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Rizzo coordinated the 1,165 soccer players who participated in the games and helped handle the financial aspect of the games.
"Anything you asked him to do, he was there," Mr. Horner said.
Lisa Dailey, executive director of the convention and visitors bureau, worked
closely with Mr. Rizzo even before Johnstown was chosen as a site for the games.

She said Mr. Rizzo was involved with the Keystone games early on, serving on the finance committee and working with sponsorships.
"He was the kind of guy who, when he was involved in something, he was very committed," Ms. Dailey said. "He was an allaround good guy. It's a tremendous loss to th community."

Mr. Rizzo also served on the board of directors of Johnstown Old Timers Baseball Association with Dennis Grenell.
"He and his wife always took care of the Ambassador program," Mr. Grenell said.

A certified public accountant, Mr. Rizzo helped the AAABA with his accounting knowledge.
"He'll be greatly missed," Mr. Grenell said. "He was one of the main cogs in the Old Timers."

Mr. Rizzo went to work as a certified public accountant at Wessel \& Co. 215 Main St., after graduating from Shippensburg University 19 years ago. He was the

company's director of estate and retirement planning and a tax compliance partner. Karen Varga, also a partner in the company, worked closely with Mr. Rizzo at Wessel \& Co.
"It's a personal and a business loss," Ms. Varga said. "He was dedicated to whatever he did. Soccer was his passion."
To honor Mr. Rizzo's dedication, a memorial fund will be set up at the Community Foundation to benefit soccer.

Mr. Rizzo, whose children all play soccer, became a referee when Hilltop AYSO started because no one else wanted to do it.
"He liked being involved with kids, helping out," said his wife.


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