

# Diamond Dirt

## 2009



**FASTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**  
St. Thomas, Ont.



The Official Newsletter  
of the Canadian Championship

Issue #2

Monday August 31, 2009

John Thompson, Editor

## CANADIANS' TOURNEY OFF TO GREAT START

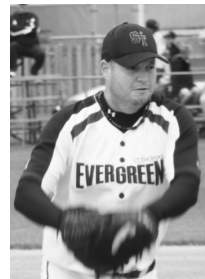


Host committee leaders Tom Edie (Co-Chair), Bob Churchill (Program & Sponsorships) and Bill Horne (Co-Chair) at Opening Ceremonies

The 2009 Canadian Men's Softball Championships held a successful Day 1, enduring the elements as clouds dumped on the crowds a couple of times. Using a 2nd playing field, all games were played on time, a great omen for the week ahead.

## HOST EVERGREEN CENTENNIALS ON TOP WITH TWO KEY WINS

Paced by solid pitching from **Scott Wagar** and newcomer **Sean Whitten** (both 1-0), St. Thomas Centennials raced to the top of the eight-team leader-board with a pair of exciting opening day victories. Wagar, a mainstay of the team during the regular season, effectively scattered 5 hits and his team-



Centennials Wagar

mates capitalized on three errors to double up the **Glace Bay Mets** 4-2. In the evening's featured game, Centennials overcame a 2-1 deficit to **St. John's Kelly's Pub** and rebounded for a 5-2 win. Whitten limited Kelly's batters to three safeties, two by **Brad Ezekiel**, in front of a fine opening night crowd.



Fireballer Whitten

### Today's Key Games ...



### Double Life at Stake

2 pm - Jarvis Gamblers vs Kitchener Rivershark Twins  
6 pm - Vancouver Grey Sox vs Jarvis Gamblers

Fish Fry Dinner Thursday Night \$10.00

### Diamond Dirt 2009

Diamond Dirt newsletter is published daily for the enjoyment of fans at the 2009 Canadian championships. Feedback is welcome - leave your message for **DIAMOND DIRT** at the Media Office, Attn: John Thompson, Editor or e-mail him at [sstj99@yahoo.com](mailto:sstj99@yahoo.com)



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## RESULTS – Sunday Aug. 30 Harrah's Mildmay Picks

(Predicted winning team in

**BOLD UPPERCASE UNDERLINED**)

(Record to date (4-2))

### W 9:00 am BROOKFIELD ELKS 7

vs Glace Bay Mets 1

Brookfield, NS 7R 10H 0E

WP Cory Avery (1-0) 8K; Mike Grant 3x3;

Glace Bay, NS 1R 11H 0E; LP Trevor

McCabe (0-1); John MacArthur 3x4

L 11:00 am Vancouver Grey Sox 2

vs **KITCHENER /HALLMAN**

**RIVERSHARK TWINS 0**

Vancouver, BC 2R 8H 1E

WP Derek Mayson 1-0 8K

Derek Mayson, Scott Newitt and Rob

Giesbrecht 2x3;

Kitchener, ON 0R 2H 0E

LP Don Scott (0-1) 8K

W 1:00 pm Glace Bay Mets 2

vs **ST. THOMAS EVERGREEN**

**CENTENNIALS 4**

Glace Bay, NS 2R 5H 3E

St. Thomas ON 4R 7H 1E

WP Scott Wagar 11K; Tyler Lessard 2x2;

Mark Coleman 2 rbi; LP Donnelly

Archibald 4K; Ernie Pyke 2x3; Derek

MacDonald 2 rbi

L 3:00 pm Brookfield Elks 5 vs

**ST. JOHN'S KELLY'S PUB 4**

**(10 innings)**

1<sup>st</sup> extra-inning game was 1-1 after 7, with international tie-breaker creating 7 more runs in next 3 innings; Elks scored 2 in T10, and Kelly's plated 1 in B10.

Brookfield, NS 5R 5H 3E

WP Brian Urquhart (1-0) 10K;

St. John's, NL 4R 5H 2E

LP Darrell Tilley (0-1) 20 K;

Dan Corbett 3x5; Brad Ezekiel 2x3

W 7:00 pm St. John's Kelly Pub 2

vs **ST. THOMAS EVERGREEN**

**CENTENNIALS 4**

St. John's NL 2R 3H 1E

St. Thomas, ON 5R 8H 2E

WP Sean Whitten (1-0) – 13 K; LP Sean

Cleary 13K; Mark Coleman 2x3; Brad

Ezekiel 2x3

W 9:00 pm **JARVIS GAMBLERS 5**

vs Charlottetown Fawcetts 4

Jarvis was cruising with a 3-1 lead into 7<sup>th</sup> with Fawcetts scoring 3 om T7 to take 4-3 lead; Gamblers win in B7 on unearned run on pinch hitter Rob O'Brien's bases loaded single.

Jarvis, ON 5R; WP Paul Koert (1-0)

St. John's, NL 4R; LP Frank Cox (0-1)

## STANDINGS

Monday morning August 31

TEAM	W	L
<b><u>Playoff Double Life</u></b>		
St. Thomas Evergreen Centennials	2	0
Vancouver BC Grey Sox	1	0
Jarvis First Ontario Gamblers	1	0
St. Johns NL Kelly's Pub Canadians	1	1
Brookfield NS Elks	1	1

### **Playoff Single Life**

Kitchener Hallman Rivershark Twins	0	1
Charlottetown PEI Fawcetts	0	1
Glace Bay NS Mets	0	2

## HARRAH'S MILD MAY PICKS FOR Mon. Aug. 31

(Winners **BOLD UPPERCASE UNDERLINED**)

(Record to date (4-2))

12:00 pm – **VANCOUVER GREY SOX**

vs. St John's Kelly's Pub

2:00 pm – Jarvis Gamblers vs

**KITCHENER RIVERSHARK TWINS**

4:00 pm – **CHARLOTTETOWN**

**FAWCETTS** vs Glace Bay Mets

6:00 pm – Vancouver Grey Sox vs

**JARVIS GAMBLERS**

8:00 pm – Brookfield Elks vs

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## SOFTBALL CANADA

Thanks to the Softball Canada team of officials who are donating their time to ensure optimum conditions for the 2009 Championships

### Blue Crew – On the Field

**Terry Barr**, Puslinch, ON; **Dominic Germain**, Donnacona, NB; **Jay Hart**, Dunnville, ON; **Clinton Harvey**, Tatamagouche, NB; **Tim Lederman**, Port Coquitlam, BC; **Michael Noron**, Montreal, QC; **Terry Richter**, Edmonton, AB; **John Ridalkin**, Vancouver, BC; **Doug Webster**, Tyrone, ON; **Tim Whitelaw**, Kitchener, ON; **Jay Hart**, Dunnville, ON.

### Supervising Crew

**Mark Gough**, UIC, Moncton, NB; **Gabe Babineau**, D-UIC, Moncton, NB; **Jim Herbert**, D-UIC, St. Thomas, ON

### Convenors –

**Bob Abbott**, Victoria, BC and **Al Harrison**, Wingham, ON

## CANADIAN NATIONALS

**\*T\*R\*I\*V\*I\*A\***

(answers in tomorrow's DD)

1. **St. Thomas** previously hosted this event twice – in what years?
2. Last year's **2008 Top Player** in the Championship round was also the MVP at the recent ISC Championship in Quad Cities. Name him.
3. Only **one province** has won 4 consecutive Sr. Men's National Championships. Which province and when?
4. Name the two **official suppliers** of RTVs for this week's event.
5. Which team is the **defending Sr. Men's Canadian champion?** (Part "B" – and where are they this year?)

### TOURNAMENT RULES

**Mercy** – if a team is leading by 7 or more runs after 5 innings (or 4.5 innings if home team is leading), the game is awarded to the team leading.

**International Tie-breaker** – if a game is tied after 7 innings, each following half inning, teams will start with a runner at 2B (the last out from prior inning) to assist in generating offence.

**Eight-foot circle** – the line (8' radius) encircling the pitcher's rubber is not a component of the pitching delivery rules. If the pitcher has control of the ball in the circle, and a time-out has **NOT** been called, all base-runners not occupying a base must immediately advance/return to a base, **at their own risk**.

### BASEBALL QUOTE

"You can't sit on a lead and run a few plays into the line and just kill the clock. You've got to throw the ball over the plate and give the other man his chance. That's why baseball is the greatest game of them all." **Earl Weaver, MLB Mgr**

**50/50** draws will be held every day, some times twice a day. The winning numbers for Sunday were:

**Draw #1 – 00138 - \$402 - Diana Pullen**

**Draw #2 – 00822 - \$559 - Unclaimed**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to long time Centennial Sports Club member and avid fastball fan **Gibson Balkwill**. "Gibby" is enduring a bitter-sweet weekend – glad to see the Canadians back in St. Thomas and his extinguishing 74 glowing birthday candles. However the excitement is over-shadowed by the sudden passing of his brother, a decade his junior.

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## MAYSON MAGNIFICENT AS GREY SOX BLANK TWINS

**P Derek Mayson** achieved his own personal triple crown in leading his **Vancouver Grey Sox** to a surprising 2-0 shutout of the Ontario Champion

**Kitchener Hallman Rivershark Twins**. The game was knotted at do-nuts in the fifth as Mayson duelled Twins hard-throwing **P Don Scott**. With none out, Sox loaded the bases in the B5, but Scott maintained his composure, inducing an infield ground ball. On the fielder's choice force-out at home, Mayson easily moved to 3B and quietly bided his time a few paces down the 3rd base line. With a pause in the action as the Twins re-grouped for the next batter, Mayson scampered home uncontested. Time-out had not been called and Mayson's heads-up play proved to be the go-ahead and eventual winning run. In B6 Mayson punctuated the day with a



**Magnificent Mayson**

home-run "automatic" that cleared the centre field fence. He completed his triple-threat outing, going the full 7-inning distance on the mound, taming the Twins offensive roster who appeared to take the day off.

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## The Tale of **JUMBO** (from issue #1)

Jumbo was an African elephant, born in 1861 in the French Sudan. He was exported to France in 1863 and then to London Zoo in 1865, where he became famous for giving rides to visitors. Jumbo's name is from a Swahili word, jumbe, which means "chief." Unfortunately, Jumbo grew bored in London and began to "act up".

Jumbo was sold by the London Zoo in 1882 to the "The Greatest Show on Earth" - the Barnum & Bailey Circus, for \$10,000 and shipped to New York City. In New York, the ship was met by thousands of onlookers who wanted to catch a glimpse of the 12 foot high "monster". He was big, but not a monster. Jumbo became very even tempered in New York. He became the headliner of the B&B Circus and was featured on most of the Circus' posters.

*(more "Jumbo" in Tuesday DD issue #3)*



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