

NEW YORK STATE COSMO STRIGARO

by Jim Wright

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Winner's Bracket

Play-In Games

Stottville 17 Pleasant Valley #3 4, and Claverack 9 Penfield 5

First Round

Greenport #3- 17, Andes 4; Monell #2- 21, Athens 2; Port Washington 12, Hudson 5; Hastings 15, North Patchogue 13; New Hyde Park 15, Greenlawn 5; Stottville 18, Roslyn Highlands 5; Pleasant Valley #2- 21, Commack 5; Sidney Center 12, Merrick 11; St. Johnsbury by forfeit over Manhasset-Lakeville; Roslyn Rescue 11, East Branch 10; Whitesboro 18, Claverack 5; Pleasant Valley #1- 19, Bayville 1; Amenia 13, Glenwood 6; Monell #1- 15, East Meadow 1; Syosset 10, Grandview 5; and Baldwinsville 6, Sea Cliff 5.

Second Round

Greenport #3- 20, Monell #2- 9, Port Washington 18, Hastings 2; New Hyde Park 19, Stottville 5; Sidney Center 18, Pleasant Valley #2- 5; Roslyn Rescue 16, St. Johnsbury 4; Whitesboro 5, Pleasant Valley #1- 4; Monell #1- 12, Amenia 3; and Syosset 18, Baldwinsville 9.

Quarter Finals

Port Washington 19, Greenport #3- 1; New Hyde Park 23, Sidney Center 6; Whitesboro 21, Roslyn Rescue 13; Monell #1- 19, Syosset 6.

Semi-Finals

Port Washington 21, New Hyde Park 8; and Whitesboro 20, Monell #1- 12.

Winner's Bracket Final

Port Washington 15, Whitesboro 11.

Loser's Bracket

Play-In Games

Greenlawn 20, Pleasant Valley #3- 6; and Penfield 18, Bayville 3.

First Round

East Branch by forfeit over Manhasset-Lakeville; Greenlawn 14, Claverack 5; East Meadow 15, Glenwood 2; Sea Cliff 18, Grandview 15; Andes 26, Athens 8; Hudson over North Patchogue; Penfield 17, Roslyn Heights 3; Merrick 18, Commack 5.

Second Round

East Branch 13, Baldwinsville 1; Greenlawn 18, Amenia 5; Pleasant Valley #1- 26, East Meadow 22; St. Johnsbury 28, Sea Cliff 25; Andes 16, Pleasant Valley #2- 5; Hudson 12, Stottville 4; Hastings 13, Penfield 8; Merrick 9, Monell #2- 8.

Third Round

East Branch over Greenlawn; Pleasant Valley #1- 26, St. Johnsbury 8; Hudson 21, Andes 6; Merrick 19, Hastings 6.

Fourth Round

Greenport #3- 18, East Branch 17; Pleasant Valley #1- 22, Sidney Center 4; Hudson won by forfeit over Roslyn Rescue; Merrick 10, Syosset 2.

Fifth Round

Greenport #3- 16, Pleasant Valley #1- 14; Hudson 12, Merrick 2.

Quarter Finals

Monell #1- 11, Greenport #3- 10; and New Hyde Park 9, Hudson 8.

Semi-Final

New Hyde Park 18, Monell #1- 6.

Loser Bracket Final

Whitesboro over New Hyde Park.

Overall Championship Final

Port Washington (Winner's Bracket) 15 over Whitesboro (Loser's Bracket) 9.

Consolation Bracket

Play-In Games

Monell #1- 25, Pleasant Valley #3- 7; and Manhasset-Lakeville 18, Pleasant Valley #2- 9.

Quarter Finals

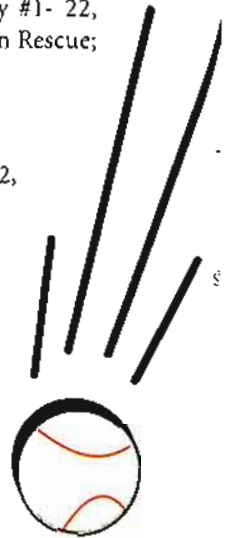
Grandview 13, Athens 4; Monell #2- 17; Claverack 8, Stottville 31; Manhasset-Lakeville 20, Andes 15, Amenia 12.


Semi Finals

Monell #2- 19, Grandview 1; and Stottville 33, Andes 29.

Consolation Final

Monell #2- 6, Stottville 5.





The 26th annual New York State Volunteer Firemen's softball championship was again won by Port Washington, which captured six straight games. The team has won the event held at the Firemen's Home numerous times. They defeated Hudson, Hastings, host Greenport #3, New High Park, and Whitesboro twice.

The main blow was struck by Port Washington center fielder, Gordon, a grand slam home run in the late innings of the winner's bracket finals, a blow that broke up a tie game. The home run was one of three he hit in gaining 15 hits.

The bridesmaid finish marked the third straight year Whitesboro has been runner-up. The team finished in the runner-up position this year playing without last year's tournament's Most Valuable Player and home run leader, Bubba Montrose.

Defending champion, New Hyde Park finished third and Monell #1 was fourth in the 36-team field that played on four diamonds, two at the home, one at Hudson High School and one at the Town of Greenport Park.

Ken DiLeo finished with a 6-0 record and was named Most Valuable Pitcher, an award he has captured numerous times in the past. His victories included one and two run games. He also helped his own cause with 13 hits including a perfect 4-for-4 in one game.

The Most Valuable Player Award was presented to D. W. "Dick" Wood and was accepted by his son, first baseman, Scott Wood, who was also a candidate for the honor, with 13 hits and a home run, and wife, Irene Wood, to whom the team had already presented the game ball.

Wood, 70, died in June and had been part of the team in a player's position as well as that of coach and manager for the past 20 years. Team members had dedicated themselves to win the tournament in his honor. Wood had been a member of the Protection Engine Company of Port Washington.

The tournament's annual Sportsmanship Awards went to Roslyn Rescue, Manhasset-Lakeville, Grandview Heights and Monell #2. Roslyn Rescue, despite winning, was forced to eventually forfeit to return home for a Sunday funeral of department member and former longtime FASNY Treasurer, William 'Bill' Bernstein.

Manhasset-Lakeville was confronted with a funeral on Saturday and forfeited its opening game and the first loser's bracket game Sunday. They returned to play in the consolation round and won a game.

The tournament's newest award, the Wilbur Ritter Memorial Award, given in honor of past Home and FASNY Firemen's Museum Trustee Wilbur Ritter, was given to Sidney Center Pitcher, Tom MacDonald, who was literally knocked out of the box in an opening round game of a 12-11 win over Merrick. MacDonald displayed Ritter's true grit when after a considerable delay, while being given emergency treatment as he lay partially conscious beside the pitcher's mound, he retired to the slab and finished pitching not only that game but the team's next victory despite a humongous lump on his head. MacDonald had been nearly knocked out by a one hop hard

liner that was on its way up when it struck him. Fortunately MacDonald did not take a direct face-on hit.

A rotating trophy bearing each winner's name will remain in the Nassau Room where the Board of Trustees meets at the new Firemen's Home and the winner, a player best exemplifying Wilbur's traits, will receive a special award featuring the Home's trademark entry arch and gates for himself and his team.

Wilbur, in addition to being a Home trustee, was a member of the Board of Trustees Softball Committee and also was the tournament's designated B Field keeper of the scoreboard.

The Board of Trustees dedicated the new C Field to Wilbur Ritter in special ceremonies held Saturday at noon, at which time the field's scoreboard, donated by Ritter's Sayville Fire Department, was also dedicated.

Ritter died a line-of-duty death last year having suffered a fatal heart attack while answering a call.

A dedication was also held for a scoreboard for Field B in honor of long time Hastings on the Hudson Fire Chief Robert J. Schnibbe, Jr. The scoreboard was donated by the Hastings on the Hudson Fire Department, which won its first game in the tournament.

The consolation tournament winner was Monell #2 with Stottville as runner-up. Monell #2 won 6-5 but Stottville may have been slightly tired having scored 33 and 31 runs in the two games prior to that.

No one kept track of the elapsed playing time when Stottville nipped Andes 33-29 in the wildest tournament game on record in the consolation bracket semi-finals. Stottville actually won the game with a five-run seventh inning but Andes rallied for seven runs in the bottom of the inning.

Stottville had 11 and 9-run innings and three times came from behind. They had 43 hits and three of their players had six hits each. Andes stayed in the game with a record 18 walks.

Had there been a Charlie-hustle Award, it would have gone to the J.W. Hoysradt Hose & Chemical Company team from Hudson who actually ran a couple teams off the field.

There were no shutouts this year. There were five one run games and there were numerous one and two run thrillers including Whitesboro's 5-4 win over Pleasant Valley #1, one of the teams to defeat them in recent years in the championship finals.

Start planning for next year and get applications in early as this year teams were actually turned away when the maximum of 36 was reached! Although the third Firemen's Home field will be ready next year, it will only be available for daytime games.

A good time was had by all. Even Athens (0-3) is preparing for next year, as one team's shirt said, "Lose Two and Barbeque."

It was another successful tournament run by Greenport Engine #2.

