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Seeking perfection

USPBL has established a niche in Metro Detroit

By Joey Yashinsky

Across the country, there are countless baseball leagues all trying to make their mark.

The battle for America's live entertainment dollar is perhaps more fierce than ever before. Not only are leagues and sports competing against one another, they are also fighting people's natural instinct to just stay on the couch and binge-watch television for hours on end.

But Andy Appleby and the United Shore Professional Baseball League have bucked the odds, opening their doors in 2016 and still flourishing today.

"We are just so pleased with how well the first three years have gone," Appleby said. "This season projects to be our best one ever. We've really been able to establish a great niche in Metro Detroit for wonderful, affordable entertainment."

"We bill ourselves as a premium experience at a less-than-premium price."

The four-team USPBL stages all of its games at Jimmy John's Field, a gem in the heart of downtown Utica.

"When fans come to their first game here, they are blown away," Appleby said. "The fantastic ballpark, great service, great baseball. I do not exaggerate when I say that we have improved the ballpark and the overall experience virtually every single day since we opened. "When people come now, we are really hitting on all cylinders in terms of entertainment value."

A key factor for Appleby when putting his grand idea in motion is that he stands as sole owner in the USPBL. While commissioners of other leagues might have to gain approval of 20 or 30 owners to pass certain measures, Appleby sheds those potential roadblocks entirely, leading to fresh ideas and constant innovation.

"I told myself if I started my own league, I'd begin our games in mid-May and end in mid-September," Appleby said. "That's not just the best weather Michigan has to offer, but arguably the best weather in the country for those four months of the year. So let's play all our games then."

Appleby did just that. The USPBL stages its season when the sun is out, the temperatures are perfect and the snow is nothing but a distant memory.

And he had one more quirk of the calendar to pull off.

"Since we are catering our games mostly to families, let's play all our games on the weekend," Appleby said. "Now it



works out great because moms and dads don't have to work the next day. So we play Thursdays through Sundays where our fans can just relax and enjoy their time at the park. We kind of created the holy grail of scheduling."

With the USPBL thriving, there's a good chance further growth could be right around the corner. Appleby believes at least one — if not two or three — new ballparks will be announced in the next 18 months.

"We're now getting calls from cities that are interested versus us having to reach out to them," he said.

Without a doubt, the 2019 season promises to be the most memorable USPBL summer of all. ♦

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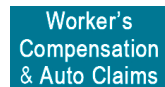
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Time to Play Ball!

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Welcome to the fourth season of the United Shore Professional Baseball League (USPBL) at Jimmy John's Field! We are thankful for the nearly 750,000 fans that have made their way into the ballpark to enjoy a wonderful game experience.

Over the course of my career, I have experienced opening The Palace of Auburn Hills and winning two NBA championships as a senior vice president

of the Detroit Pistons. I have owned an English Premier League Football (soccer) Club — the Derby County Football Club — and experienced the excitement of the club playing a major playoff match in front of 90,000 fans at Wembley Stadium in London. I learned a great deal from each of those experiences, and in 2016, I was afforded the opportunity to employ every best practice that I have learned over 30 years at the highest level of sports



Andy Appleby, Commissioner, Chairman and Founder, USPBL

management and marketing with the founding of the USPBL, metro Detroit's first-ever independent professional baseball league, and the opening of this magnificent ballpark in historic downtown Utica.

The 2018 season was a banner year for the USPBL. We produced 61 sell outs in 75 games, we had over 1,000 charities and non-profits leverage the ballpark to raise funds, and set a new single-game attendance record at 4,499. Two players made spectacular catches that were featured on the Emmy-Award Winning ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays, and the league had 10 games that aired on ESPN3. We also reached a league-best half-billion people through media coverage this past season and look forward to continuing to grow our brand.

With the USPBL designed as a developmental finishing school for players trying to make it to the Majors,



we have produced 27 that signed with Major League Baseball organizations over the first three seasons. That number certainly exceeds my expectations, especially considering that many of these players would not even be playing baseball without this great opportunity.

We are particularly excited about the progress of former Utica Unicorns' player, and Fraser product, Taylor Grzelakowski who was an All-Star selection for the Fort Myers Miracle which is the Single-A affiliate of the Minnesota Twins — and is now in Double A.

We expect another outstanding summer of baseball and family

friendly entertainment at Jimmy John's Field. The most lovable bat dog in the country, JJ, The Field General is back, as well as our very talented USPBL Dance Crews. We also invested in some very experienced coaches — adding two-time World Champion Mariano Duncan, former Washington Nationals Coach Mark Weidemaier, Pecos League champion Bryan Kloppe, and former Major League Baseball player and hitting instructor Von Joshua.

We look forward to seeing the ballpark continue to bring families, friends and coworkers alike together to enjoy America's pastime. We

will continue to maintain Jimmy John's Field as the cleanest and safest ballpark in America, with triple the service levels so that we deliver a premium experience at a less than premium price. We believe this ballpark is a crown jewel and the place to be for families in Macomb and Oakland County.

It's time to Play Ball! I invite you to sit back and enjoy the game- and I thank you for being a part of the 2019 season at Jimmy John's Field!

*Andy Appleby
Commissioner,
Chairman and Founder
United Shore
Professional Baseball
League*



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Mark Weidemaier

Manager, Westside Woolly Mammoths

Paul Niggebrugge

Field Coordinator

Shane McCatty

Pitching Coordinator

Alan Oaks

Assistant Pitching Coordinator



On the move

15 questions with Tyler Palm of the Minnesota Twins' organization, one of 27 proud USPBL graduates

1 *You had arm issues at Oakland University that prevented you from reaching your normal velocity, what did the DVS do for you here at the USPBL to help you get past those issues and have you had any arm troubles since utilizing the DVS?*

It revitalized my arm health. I haven't had arm issues since working on my

arm path and mechanics with Justin Orenduff.

2 *What makes the USPBL so special for players?*

It is special because there is so much individual work there. I was able to work one-on-one with Justin (Orenduff) on some days and that sets people apart. The managers and Justin are here to help us with anything we need to work on.

3 *Being from Michigan, what did it mean for you to start your professional career in the state you grew up in?*

It was ideal for sure because I went to school at Oakland University, just 15 minutes away from Jimmy John's Field. I had an easy commute and was familiar with the area and people in it. It is so much different playing in a place that you're very familiar with.

4 *When did you first realize that the USPBL and Justin Orenduff was going to be able to help you reach your full potential?*

When I started seeing results I started to believe in the system even more. Normally when we don't see results it's easy to give up,

but you just have to stick to the process and believe that what you are doing is going to put you in the best position to succeed.

5 *What was it like for you when you were first notified that you were getting picked up by the Minnesota Twins?*

Definitely shocking for sure, but overall I was just happy to get that chance that I've always been working toward, belonging to an affiliated club.

6 *Can you describe the experience of celebrating on Jimmy John's Field with your family that you were moving on to the Twins?*

It was surreal. Justin helped set the whole thing up and I cannot thank him enough because that was



a moment I won't forget. Cannot thank him enough for all he's done for me.

7 *Take us through your arrival with the Twins and competing in Elizabethton?*

I came in with all of the draftees and we all had workouts together for a week trying to get to know each other. Right after that we rolled into Elizabethton not knowing what we would accomplish in two-and-a-half months later. We were complete strangers going in and became great friends with a bond that couldn't be broken.

8 *You were able to get the win in the championship game for the Elizabethton Twins. What was that experience like?*

That was a special moment for me. I hadn't won a championship in so many years and then being able to celebrate with

the team, throwing the last pitch to win it all was awesome. That was a special group of guys and we all earned every bit of that championship.

9 *What are some of the differences between competing professionally in the USPBL and in affiliated baseball?*

I would say there isn't a huge difference at all between the two leagues, however the hitters I've been facing are able to capitalize a little bit better on missed pitches.

10 *What is your off day routine versus your game day routine?*

Well, we don't get many off days haha, but when I get an off day I take full advantage of it and decompress and hang out with the guys, but when it's game day I get to the field by 2 p.m. After that I chill out for a little bit then have stretching that

leads into throwing. After we throw we have our pregame meetings about the opponent, which leads right into the game.

11 *Favorite place to eat in Utica?*

Muldoons

12 *If you weren't a baseball player, what would you be?*

I would probably be doing sales ideally.

13 *At 6-foot-9, were you pressured into basketball instead of baseball?*

Yes, to this day I get asked if I play basketball and my usual response is no, I work in construction. When I was in high school I loved basketball way more than baseball, but then I started to get looked at more in baseball and focused more on that.

14 *How difficult is the minor league*

schedule? Do you ever get any down time during the season and if so, what do you enjoy doing?

We don't get many off days so just hanging out and decompressing is actually very beneficial for me.

15 *If you had to pick a defining moment for your baseball career, what would that be?*

My defining moment was trusting Justin (Orenduff). I didn't get drafted out of college and this is the only place that wanted me. I talked to him and he said hey man this is where you're at, and then this is where you can go. I had to take that conversation to heart because if I didn't, I wouldn't be where I am now. I had to use my work ethic along with his help to reach my goal. ♦



Hometown hero

Beavers' Hranec is a hulking, improving first baseman

By Joey Yashinsky

Growing up, Jack Hranec could not get enough of Jim Thome. After all, Thome was a left-handed hitter. Hranec was the same.

Thome was menacing at the plate, famously pointing his bat toward the mound before the pitcher began his windup. Hranec similarly intimidated Little League hurlers all over Metro Detroit, growing up just about a half-hour from where the USPBL would eventually call home.

The Hall of Famer Thome wore No. 25; so did Hranec.

And just to be sure he followed in lockstep with his baseball hero as he entered adulthood, Hranec grew to be 6-foot-4, Thome's height to the inch.

"As a kid, I just always loved Thome," Hranec said. "I always watched him. Cool guy, big dude. Just like me."

The hulking first baseman for the two-time defending champion Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers is coming off a very productive year at the plate.

There were early murmurs of Ted Williams and .400 when after 11 games, Hranec was hitting a robust .405. That batting average dropped a little, but stayed above .300 every day through almost 70 percent of the season, finally sinking to .297 in late-July. Hranec eventually finished fifth on the USPBL leaderboard with a .285 mark in 2018.

While the 23-year-old Hranec's power stroke continues to mature (four home runs in 2018), he is still adept at knowing what to do when guys get on base: drive them in. His 33

RBI were good enough for a second-place finish in that department, just one off the league lead.

As the Beavers embark on their journey for a landmark third consecutive title, they'll do so with one of the most feared sluggers in the USPBL manning first base.

Hranec's approach to hitting is a simple, yet effective one.

"I'm just trying to be relaxed at the plate. Get a good pitch to hit. Put the barrel on it. Hit it hard somewhere."

"Just have to control what you can control and let the pieces fall where they may."

A local product, Hranec was born in Roseville, then moved to Ortonville at age 12. After playing junior college ball in Illinois and then at Murray State in Ohio, Hranec has been overjoyed to be back in the midst of family in the USPBL.

"It is really cool," Hranec said. "I was always playing out of state in college and my first year of pro ball, so just getting to come back home and my family getting to watch me play, it's been special. The atmosphere here was great last season."

And if it sounds like the cheers inside Jimmy John's Field get a little louder when Hranec strides to the plate, your ears have not deceived you.

"Family, friends, they all love it," Hranec said. "They come to pretty much every game. I can hear them up in the stands."

"You will definitely notice my grandma every single game. She's the loudest one in the group." ♦



Changing his stripes

Well-traveled Unicorns' Goodson can pitch, too

By Joey Yashinsky

When Donald Goodson played at Detroit Mumford High School, he was a shortstop.

When he moved on to Northeastern Junior College in Colorado, he was a shortstop.

But when Goodson showed up to an open tryout for the United Shore Professional Baseball League, the narrative began to change.

"When I got there, I decided to work out at all three positions: infield, outfield and pitcher," said Goodson, a member of the Utica Unicorns. "And I wound up making a throw 95 miles per hour from the outfield. So they saw that I had an arm, and right there I converted to becoming a pitcher."

But making such a transition is anything but simple. It's not uncommon for a left fielder to switch over to right, or for an infielder to rotate a little bit around the diamond.

Going from a position player to the pitching mound, however, requires learning a new set of skills entirely.

"When I first joined the USPBL, I was a development player for five weeks," Goodson said, meaning he held a roster spot, but was not eligible to play. "But then the last month, I started pitching in games. Mostly out of the bullpen, a couple short starts for two innings, but this season, I'm going to be a starter."

"Got a lot of room to improve. I've only been a pitcher for about a year."

Goodson does not have prototypical size for a flame-

thrower, checking in at a lean and mean 5-foot-10, 180 pounds. But he knows full well there is a track record for shorter pitchers excelling at the highest level.

"I look at guys like Pedro Martinez, Yordano Ventura and Marcus Stroman," Goodson said. "None of those guys are over six feet, but they're all righties with a lot of power."

Goodson most definitely has the speed element taken care of, often registering fastballs in the mid-90s on the radar gun. He also features a curveball, slider and most wicked of all, a changeup that meanders to the plate at 83-mph, a stark difference in velocity from his overpowering heater.

Like with so many other pitchers, the key for Goodson will be to throw strikes. In just over 11 innings of work last season, he offered 11 free passes.

"My goal this year is to always stay around the strike zone. Don't walk anybody."

After graduating from Mumford, Goodson attended five different junior colleges across the country. So you better believe he is thrilled to be back home.

"My family tells me all the time how excited they are and how happy they are for me," Goodson said. "They encourage me to keep going and that one day, my dreams will come true. That's what motivates me."

Being a shortstop is what started Goodson playing the game of baseball.

But now it will be his excellence from the pitcher's mound that could take him all the way to the top. ♦

Control freak

Beavers' Salisbury follows a proven pitching philosophy

By Joey Yashinsky

As young lads on the baseball diamond, we are taught certain undeniable truths about the grand old game.

There are three outs to each inning.

Hitting the ball over the fence results in a home run.

And perhaps the most critical lesson of all for those brave athletes that choose to stand atop the mound: collecting three strikes before tossing four balls is the simplest secret to lifelong pitching success.

Gerry Salisbury of the Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers doesn't merely grasp that baseball axiom. He could write the book on it.

In the 2018 USPBL season, Salisbury struck out 58 batters while handing out a scant 12 walks. In a brilliant two-game stretch at the end of July, he posted a pair of near-flawless box scores: seven innings pitched, eight strikeouts and zero base on balls. Combined over the two starts, just one measly run was surrendered.

It was a 14-inning run of pure dominance that officially launched Salisbury into the USPBL stratosphere.

Ever the crafty southpaw, he is able to rack up those impressive whiff totals without the aid of a high-90s heater.

"Originally, I modeled my mechanics off Cliff Lee," Salisbury said, recalling the longtime ace of the Cleveland Indians who was also deathly allergic to the free pass. "I'm from Ohio, so I got to watch him pitch a bunch. That's kind of where it all started for me."

Salisbury features a devastating slider and a fastball that, while not of the radar gun-shattering variety, has still proven to be plenty effective.

"Shockingly enough, even though I'm a finesse guy, I use my fastball the most," Salisbury said. "I like to go inside and break a lot of bats with it."

A healthy dose of championship mettle was evident for Salisbury in last season's title game, when he was called upon to wiggle out of a bases-loaded jam in the sixth inning and the rival Eastside Diamond Hoppers trailing by just two runs.

The unflappable lefty doused the flames on the Hoppers' threat and tossed two more scoreless frames for good measure.

"My first year in the USPBL was an awesome experience," Salisbury said. "Winning a championship was huge. That was the third title team I've been part of over the last five years, so it's been a lot of fun."

The former Ohio Bobcat will be a major part of the Beavers' quest for a three-peat, and if he continues his



pristine mastery of the strike zone, there could be some bigger clubs that start to notice, too.

"One of my personal goals is obviously to get picked up and move into affiliated ball," Salisbury said. "But as long as I'm here, the goal is to just do whatever I can to help us win another championship."

A perfect team-first attitude for one of the USPBL's brightest stars. ♦



Power player

Wiskur has made ‘Mammoth’ strides in the past year

By Joey Yashinsky

What a difference a year makes.

In 2017, Ethan Wiskur struggled to find his footing in the United Shore Professional Baseball League. His batting average finished at .191 and he managed just a pair of home runs.

The script was completely flipped last summer as Wiskur took the USPBL by storm.

He raised his average by 113 points to .304, good for second on the league leaderboard. He thumped 10 homers, a total eclipsed again by just one player. And he drove in 34 runs, setting the pace in that department.

It was a near Triple Crown type of effort from Wiskur and he was rewarded by being named a USPBL co-MVP, along with Dan Ward of the Utica Unicorns. He also earned USPBL Player of the Week honors three times, with two of the awards coming consecutively, the first USPBL player to accomplish that feat.

As you take in Wiskur’s multidimensional game and ability to not just hit for average, but serious power as well, it comes as no surprise which ballplayer he admires the most.

“I’ve always loved Mike Trout,” Wiskur said, invoking the name of MLB’s two-time MVP, who is perhaps the toughest out in all of baseball. “Watching his at-bats, he always has such a good approach. He’s got a little bit of an inside-out swing and just crushes the low ball. He’s the perfect role model.”

Wiskur, an outfielder and part-time first sacker for the

Westside Woolly Mammoths, hails from Clio, a small town of just about 2,500. He refined his game at Flint Powers Catholic High School, then moved on to play college baseball at Hillsdale.

The atmosphere at Jimmy John’s Field has been a shock to Wiskur’s system, but in a good way.

“Just playing in front of crowds this large, that’s something that never happened before in my life,” Wiskur said. “At college, we’d be lucky to get 50 people to show up, and most of those would just be our parents.”

“But coming here to play, the atmosphere is just incredible. It really gets your blood flowing and your adrenaline rushing.”

Wiskur’s stellar on-field performance has undoubtedly been fueled at least in part by the strong contingent of fans that continually pack the park on his behalf.

“That’s the really nice thing about playing here is that I get so many family and friends coming down to the field to support me,” Wiskur said. “I think the USPBL gets a lot of business from them.”

The ultimate competitor, Wiskur has not just been basking in the glow of last year’s MVP performance. He spent the winter months becoming even more of a force at the dish.

“Hitting is the number one thing for me, the most important,” Wiskur said. “I worked really hard this offseason to get stronger. I’m working to hit the ball hard every single time I come up. I’m excited for the season.”

“I think it’s going to be a great year.” ♦

Up, up and ...

Higher pitching mound one of several USPBL innovations

By Joey Yashinsky

Any current discussion of Major League Baseball inevitably winds up in the same place: time of games and pace of play.

Our national pastime that was so beloved at its inception for its constant action and rapid nature has ground to a halt, simple nine-inning games now lapping the three hour mark and barreling towards four.

The USPBL, a league that has come to be known for its innovation, is working to reverse that trend.

Similar to last year, no game this season will begin a new inning after two hours and 45 minutes.

“Last year, with the time limit at 2:30, eight out of 10 games went the full nine innings,” said Justin Orenduff, the USPBL’s executive director of baseball operations. “When we moved it to 2:45, 21 of 24 games went all nine.”

A result of the new time limit was that players competed with a sense of urgency, making for a more exciting, fan-friendly game.

“We noticed a lot more action in the first three pitches of each at-bat,” Orenduff said. “Pitchers were attacking the strike zone, hitters were seeing a first-pitch strike and trying to make contact. It was a faster game and it led to more offensive production.”

The USPBL will be unveiling another interesting new wrinkle this summer, raising its pitching mound to 12 inches, two more than the standard 10-inch slope used everywhere else.

Following the 1968 season in which Denny McLain and Bob Gibson mowed through MLB lineups with alarming ease, the league decided to lower its mound to boost offenses. But research from the USPBL has shown that change might have come at a cost.

“We have done studies that suggest from a health standpoint, the higher mound could potentially be advantageous for pitchers,” Orenduff said. “If they know how to use the slope in their deliveries properly, the energy will transfer better and that can actually take stress off the arm.”

While the new mound height might feel a little unfamiliar at first, the USPBL is helping pitchers make a smooth transition.

“All of our indoor mounds are at 12 inches, the bullpen mounds are 12,” Orenduff said. “So when these guys are working throughout the course of the season, they will always be practicing off that same degree of slope.”

A final change to traditional baseball rules could be the most thrilling USPBL innovation of all: overtime. While the



sport has had the same extra-inning format for over 100 years — often resulting in grueling, marathon affairs — the USPBL is set to introduce something new.

“We are finalizing a plan for a fast, exciting conclusion to a tie game,” Orenduff said. “It would be something different than the current rule or even the international rule. The most this overtime would last is about 10 minutes.”

The USPBL is constantly looking for ways to add drama to the sport and enhance the overall fan experience.

This year’s changes will do just that, and with the raised mound, also provide a little relief to pitching arms that are so valuable in today’s game. ♦



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Home away from home

Local families step to the plate for USPBL players

By Joey Yashinsky

In 2008, Sandy Wilton volunteered to be a host family for the Frontier League's Oakland County Cruisers. Needless to say, she loved every part of the experience.

So when the USPBL started up three years ago, she offered her services again. But this time, a host family program was yet to be established. Wilton came to the rescue.

"I saw this league going up in Utica and tried to get a player," Wilton said. "But I found out there wasn't a program, so I stepped up and created it. I've been running it as a volunteer ever since."

About 50 percent of the USPBL's players choose to be housed by a host family.

Those volunteers can get involved by going to the USPBL website and making inquiries on their own, but most times

it is Wilton hitting the pavement and recruiting possible families on her own. After just three families offered up their homes in year one of the USPBL, that number has skyrocketed to 42 families for the 2019 season.

"For both sides, it's just very positive," Wilton said. "The player receives that support and family atmosphere they might miss from home."

"And for the families, it's like having a 'summer son.' Our families can't believe how quickly they wind up bonding with their player. It's been a wonderful program."

One of those volunteers, Kate Lochner, has been hosting USPBL players all four seasons with her husband, Mike.

"Just awesome," Lochner said, about the host experience. "These players are polite, they're great to our friends,



amazing to the kids in the neighborhood that look up to them. They will sign autographs, they'll bring home baseballs for the kids.

"As far as living in the house, they are so respectful and it's just helpful having an extra set of hands around."

The Lochners support their players not just by providing a cozy bed to sleep at night, but by attending upwards of 50 USPBL games each summer, cheering on their adopted baseball son. Kate, who runs the Happy Tails Learning Center for Dogs in Shelby Township, will be pulling double-USPBL duty this year, serving as the handler for JJ the Bat Dog in addition to her duties as a host mom.

Even with the USPBL season in full swing, the hard-working athletes still find time to put the bat and ball away for some quality time at home.

"We know how busy they are," Lochner said. "The players we've had worked out seven days a week, on top of their own games and practices. But if there's no game, it's pretty typical that we'll all have dinner together. My husband loves watching sports at night with our player. He feels like he's got a brother in the house to hang with all summer."

And while the baseball season is but a few months long, this program has spawned relationships that have lasted far longer.

"We talk with our old players all the time," Lochner said. "We get really close with their families, too, and they're so appreciative. I stay connected with the players' mothers. We're friends on Facebook, we text each other.

"I imagine we'll be in touch for the rest of our lives." ♦



Sandy Wilton, USPBL host coordinator.



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Cutting-edge stuff

Delivery Value System has a proven track record

By Joey Yashinsky

There is perhaps no appendage in sports more precious than that of the right or left arm of a baseball pitcher. These elite athletes can lift weights, eat all the right foods, get 10 hours of sleep each night, yet still feel the dreaded elbow discomfort as the season rolls along.

Justin Orenduff, the USPBL's executive director of baseball operations, knows this situation all too well.

"I got hurt three years into my professional career and lost 80 percent of my tendon. I wanted to figure out exactly why I got hurt and other pitchers did not."

And so, the DVS System was born.

Orenduff's creation, the Delivery Value System, analyzes each part of a pitcher's delivery and determines the future risk for injury or arm trouble. After careful video review, pitchers are scored 0 to 24, with 24 indicating the least amount of risk and the potential for highest inning outputs down the road.

"The evidence is there," Orenduff said. "You just need to have enough time and passion for the research to put it all together."

"Every pitcher that comes in during spring training, we take their video and do an hour-long review. From that, we will prescribe the movement progressions and protocols that will help them improve their delivery and continue to decrease risk."

No less than a dozen MLB teams have expressed interest in Orenduff's system and there is the possibility of an official partnership down the road.

But the DVS System is just a piece of the analytics-driven approach that the USPBL employs.

Great Lakes Bat Co. has collaborated with the league to find the perfect piece of lumber for each USPBL player. Great Lakes will evaluate each player's swing, recording the ball's exit velocity off the bat, where on the bat contact is being made, among other factors. They compile those results and determine the best possible bat for each player.

"Any player that comes into our league, we'll go test and have you swing different bats," Orenduff said. "You might have the right bat already and you may not. But we just want to give our players that extra edge in their development and performance."

FlightScope is one more way that the USPBL is staying ahead of the curve. This in-game, doppler-tracking system of the baseball allows the league to gather key metrics such as



pitch velocity and spin rate for hurlers, and exit velocity and overall distance for hitters.

"We can combine these statistics with our initial videos of each player, then work on making adjustments to improve the delivery or swing," Orenduff said. "So we can have them start working on those changes, then a few weeks later break down the numbers from FlightScope and determine if players are actually getting better in those areas."

Analytics have become a major part of baseball's culture in 2019.

The USPBL, with its potentially game-changing DVS System and focus on player improvement through statistical analysis, stands at the forefront of that revolution. ♦

MORE THAN THREE GUYS ^{IN A} FIRE TRUCK

It is remarkable how three firemen/paramedics agreed to venture into a business in the healthcare industry and, 10 years later, are still friends running a very successful company.

The three owners of 1st Call Home Healthcare, Bob Mlynarek, Mike Barnhard and Jason Groth, met in 1998 at the Harrison Township Fire Department, and became good friends. They worked well together and in 2010, Preferred Care at Home was born. The three partners launched a non-medical home care service that would allow the elderly to have safe and comfortable lives in their own homes, rather than being obliged to move into assisted living facilities. The three entrepreneurs recognized the home-crisis situations facing many of the seniors in their community. An aging population wants to stay safely in their own homes, and many of them needed help to make that happen.

In 2015, they saw the need for added medical services, and began providing full-service skilled nursing care and

auto-injury care by starting 1st Call Home Health Care. The trio now has more than 200 employees and a cloud-based

computerized system that allows their staff to access the files of each patient from their personal computers/tablets/

phones electronically. This innovation allows 1st Call to provide continuous full-service care to all their clients.



As first-responders with more than 20 years of assisting patients at the onset of an injury, the men began to wonder what happens to those patients after they have been stabilized, loaded into ambulances and taken to hospitals. They realized that they spent only 20 to 30 minutes with each patient. What happens when patients leave their care? The patient might be in the hospital for weeks or months, and then transferred to a rehab center, where it may be many more months before the patient is actually able to go home. The patient's lives might have changed dramatically, perhaps forever, and simple tasks that might have only taken a few minutes before the accident could now take hours.

1st Call became aware of the possibility that their business could

in the region. Because they provide full-service treatment from a unified source, they are better equipped to watch for conditions in their patients that might need additional attention. When medical services are combined and provided by the same team, very little can fall through the cracks.

1st Call's director of nursing teaches the staff to recognize changes

in patients' conditions and bring such needs to the attention of the patient's doctor, avoiding an unnecessary trip to the Emergency Room.

Many of 1st Call's staff have personal experience with home healthcare,

// We are like a family - not just the staff, but also the clients we serve. //



"We are like a family—not just the staff, but also the clients we care for."

The three owners are family men with children, but all three partners are committed to this entire endeavor. They are extremely

proud of their company's progress, and the ability to help a great number of many patients and their families during difficult times. Success will only continue to grow for 1st Call Home Healthcare as the business continues responding to increased needs for private home care. Technology will play a large part in caring not only for the aging population but also for children and adults.

1st Call has five distinct areas of care available:

- Non-medical senior care in the home
- Skilled nursing care at home for high acuity patients

- Auto injury—helping the patient back on the road to recovery
- Mental health at home
- Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, language

Having all its services under one roof allows 1st Call Home Healthcare to build relationships within the community and offer the best care available to all their patients. Referrals by current and previous clients are their primary source of new business, with requests and recommendations from area hospitals as a close second.

Bob, Jason and Mike conduct their business with the conviction that quality patient care, attention to detail, and recruiting staff who really care for their patients, will continue to be the hallmark of 1st Call Home Healthcare. Their business will continue to grow as an increasing number of seniors need home care, and the needs of the dependent community grow more complex.



extend the life-line to the outside world for many of these patients. 1st Call's caretakers can, and do, provide more than just 24-hour home care—they become like part of the family. The company recognizes that home healthcare is still a cottage-type industry that is uniquely positioned to offer the best care

so they possess genuine care and concern for their clients. Staff members are respected and appreciated. "They are never told they are employees and have to do a certain job," explained Bob.



i nformation:

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What do scouts look for?

It all starts with the right approach, a positive attitude and a little hustle

By Joey Yashinsky

In minor league baseball, one question is asked more than most: “What can I do to get noticed?” Dozens of scouts track every movement equipped with notebooks, grading charts and the like. For a developing player, there might be an instinct to take a mighty swing and try to wallop the ball 450 feet, or rear back and go for triple-digits on the radar gun.

The USPBL’s executive director of baseball operations, Justin Orenduff, says that approach can be problematic. “Everyone that comes into our league has innate talent and certain skill sets that have allowed them to be successful. But sometimes players feel if they work out hard enough or get enough technical training, they can hit the ball as hard as Aaron Judge. But that’s not exactly true. We can definitely help to raise your level of output, but it’s important not to always be reaching for a false standard or be somebody you’re not.”

Taylor Grzelakowski stands as perhaps the best hitter the USPBL has seen over its first three years; he has now ascended to the AA level in the Minnesota Twins organization. In just 29 games, the former Utica Unicorns slugger smashed nine homers and knocked in 23 runs.

“A guy like Grzelakowski, his approach was exactly what we (and scouts) want to see,” Orenduff said. “He hit the ball where it was pitched, used the middle of the field, and as a result, his home runs were all in the gaps. He had a difficult time in the home run derby because he doesn’t train that way. Home runs are a byproduct of hitting the ball hard, so that’s what we want our guys to understand over the course of a year.”

The same thought process applies to pitchers.

“You can efficiently attack the strike zone throwing 90-92 miles per hour,” Orenduff said. “When you try to kill your arm throwing 95, the body can’t sustain it and performance suffers. The guys that are most successful understand who they are, attack with the pitches they throw well and don’t chase that dangling carrot of velocity over execution.”

And while on-field production has always been a major factor in player evaluation, the overall attitude and behavior of an athlete is noted just the same.

“Scouts are always looking to see how a player hustles on and off the field, how he communicates with teammates, how



he reacts after a strikeout or an error,” Orenduff said. “Those types of intangibles are always noticed.”

“One of the first questions I’ll get from MLB clubs is, ‘What can you tell me about him as a person?’ Because when it comes down to it, there are so many players of similar ability and they ultimately want the one with the strongest character that will align with their organizational philosophies. It can be the difference in one guy over another getting pushed to the next level.”

It’s the dream of every minor league ballplayer to one day make it to “The Show.”

But it all starts with the right approach, a positive attitude and a little hustle.

To quote *The Sound of Music*, these are a few of baseball scouts’ favorite things. ♦



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Experience matters

Coaches, staff show players what it takes to advance

By Daniel Lupo — USPBL intern

The United Shore Professional Baseball League is quickly becoming a hotbed for coaching and player development, boasting over 100 years of coaching experience across all levels of baseball, as well as major league playing experience.

The results speak for themselves: 27 players signed to major league affiliated contracts since 2016.

With an emphasis on player development, Director of Baseball Operations Justin Orenduff wanted to recruit the best available coaches that understood what it takes to make it to the big leagues.

When the league first started in 2016, Founder and CEO Andy Appleby envisioned six to eight players getting signed with Major League Baseball organizations by 2018. With 27 signing with MLB teams over the last three seasons, it's no wonder why the USPBL is the premier developmental professional baseball league in the country.

"To have 27 players getting signed is a fantastic thing," said Appleby. "Most would not be playing baseball today if not for the advent of our league."

One of the main reasons that the USPBL has seen a ton of success on the diamond is Director of Baseball Operations, Orenduff, a former first round draft pick of the Los Angeles Dodgers, selected 33rd overall in 2004.

Orenduff has pitched alongside Justin Verlander and Jared Weaver for Team USA, in 2003 notching a shutout against Brazil in the medal round to send the United States to the semifinals. He is also the founder of the Delivery Value System and creator of the DVS scoring system which researches throwing patterns among pitchers.

Orenduff's focus is to spread awareness and educate the baseball community about movements in pitching delivery that cause injury, making him invaluable to the development of pitchers coming up in the game.

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD BEAVERS

Manager Chris Newell spent numerous years in professional baseball as a Major League Scout for the Tampa Bay Rays and New York Yankees, as well as a Manager in the Frontier League and the USPBL. He has led the Beavers to back-to-back championships and tutored 45 players that were either drafted or signed Major League contracts. He has been in Major League Baseball since 1997 not only as a player but as a manager and a scout.

Since becoming manager of the Beavers he has not only found success but thrived, leading the team to three consecutive USPBL championship games and winning it all going back-to-back in '17 and '18.

Beyond the championships, Newell has managed a team that not only achieved the best record in the regular season three years running, but has also produced eight players that have gone on to sign MLB affiliated contracts.

Two of the most notable of the players Newell has coached include 2016 National League Batting Champion DJ LeMahieu and 2015 Tampa Bay Rays draftee Jacob Cronenworth.

Newell is a homegrown baseball product, a graduate of Our Lady of the Lakes High School in Waterford, where he won a state championship in 1991, Newell then went on to play his college ball at Northwest Missouri State.

Beavers Assistant Manager Mariano Duncan comes to the beavers with 12 years playing experience in MLB as an All-Star in '94 and a two-time World Series champion with the Cincinnati Reds in 1990 and the New York Yankees in 1996, as well as a member of the 1993 National League championship Philadelphia Phillies' team.

In his rookie year, Duncan stole 38 bases and finished third in Rookie of the Year voting.

Duncan joins the USPBL with 16 years coaching experience under his belt in the minor leagues with team affiliates for the Dodgers, Miami Marlins, Oakland Athletics, Chicago Cubs and Reds as well as coaching first base for the Dodgers from 2006-2010.

"Duncan is an essential part of our ongoing efforts to bring highly-respected coaches with track records of developing players at the highest level," said Orenduff. "Duncan's experience as a MLB player and coach will be immensely valuable as we communicate to our players what it takes to get signed into a MLB organization. We are excited to have Duncan as a part of the USPBL."



Chris Newell, manager, Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers



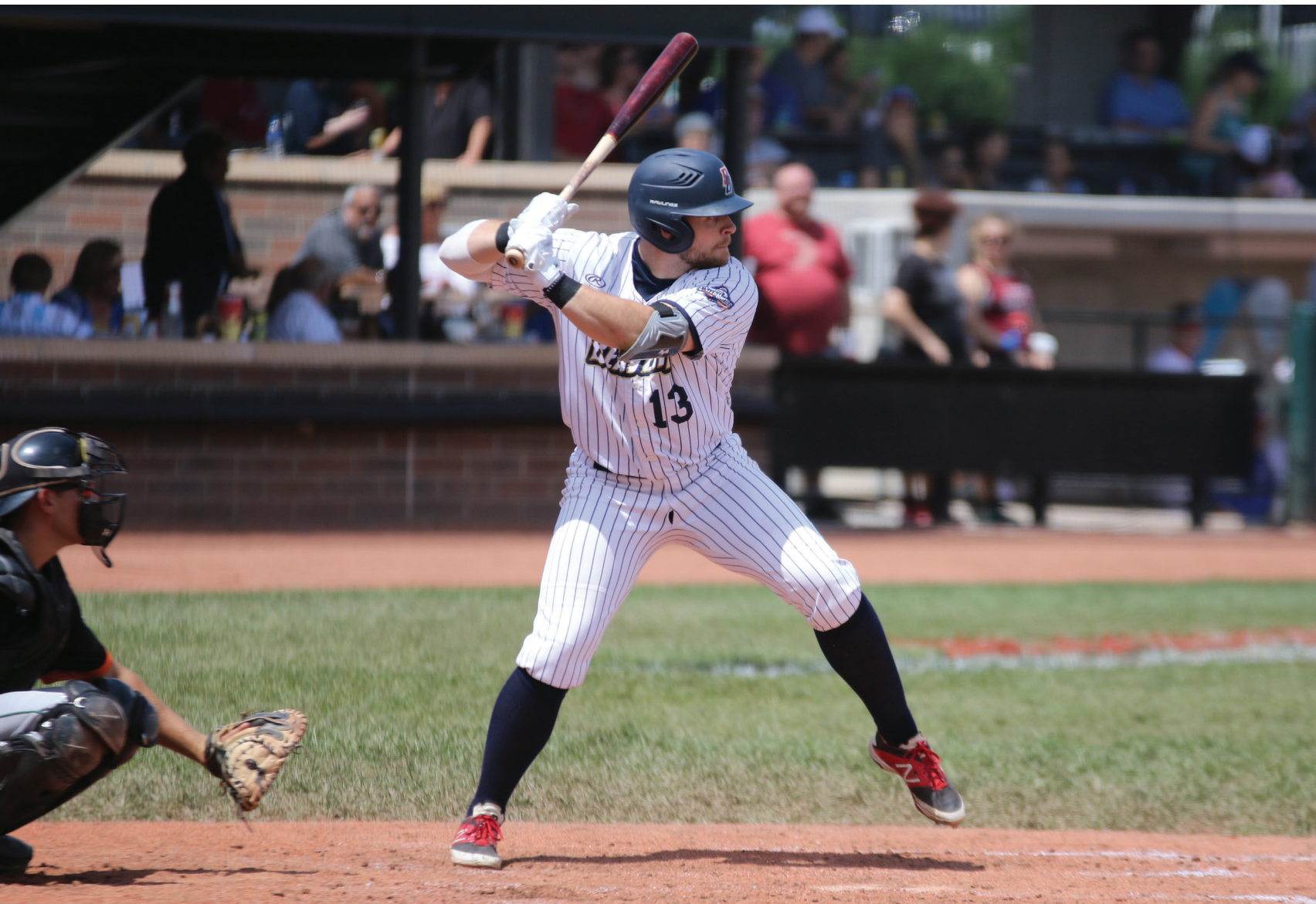
EASTSIDE DIAMOND HOPPERS

Manager Paul Noce boasts an over 35-year career in baseball that includes time with the Cubs and Reds. As a player, Noce found success as an All-Star at the AA level as well as winning the 1988 World Series in AAA and the 1990 World Series with the Cincinnati Reds in MLB. As a coach, Noce has led the Diamond Hoppers since the league's inception, mentoring seven players who have signed MLB affiliated deals.

Diamond Hoppers Assistant Manager Von Joshua is a former first-round pick in MLB with the San Francisco Giants



Paul Noce, manager, Eastside Diamond Hoppers



and over the course of 10 seasons played for the Dodgers, Milwaukee Brewers and San Diego Padres, playing in 822 games. Joshua has a 30-year history as a hitting coach with the Cubs, Toronto Blue Jays, Chicago White Sox and Dodgers.

“Von will provide immense value to our players this season,” said Orenduff. “As both a former MLB player and coach who is widely respected in the game of baseball, Von will mentor and communicate to our players what it takes to play at the next level.”

UTICA UNICORNS

Utica Unicorns Manager Jim Essian has spent what seems like a lifetime in professional baseball at 47 years and counting. Earning honors as the 1970 Topp’s Rookie All-Star with the Philadelphia Phillies, Essian excelled at all levels of minor league baseball before breaking into Major League Baseball with the Phillies in 1973.

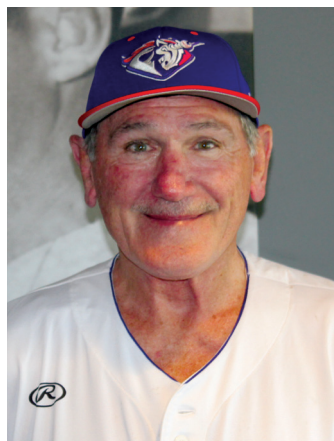
He then went on to have an 11- year playing career in the big leagues that also saw him spend time with the Athletics, White Sox, Seattle Mariners and



Cleveland Indians.

With major league coaching experience that includes taking the reins as head man for the Cubs in 1991, Essian has led seven players to MLB affiliated deals in only two seasons as the Unicorns' manager.

Unicorns' Assistant Coach Willi Martin is a former first baseman and designated hitter for the Utica Unicorns who previously played collegiate ball at Liberty University and Mount Olive in North Carolina. While at Mount Olive Martin compiled a stellar batting average of .342 and an impressive .470 slugging average. Martin has a history in professional baseball with time spent in Schaumburg, Southern Illinois and River City of the Frontier League.



Jim Essian, manager, Utica Unicorns

WESTSIDE WOOLLY MAMMOTHS

Manager Mark Weidemaier joins the USPBL with over 35 years of coaching and scouting experience, including two seasons with the Washington Nationals as the defensive positioning coach under Matt Williams. In his first season with the Nationals, Weidemaier was a part of a team that won the NL East Division, holding the NL's best record of 99-66 before falling to the eventual World Series champion San Francisco Giants in the NL Division Series.

Before landing with the Nationals, Weidemaier worked with the Arizona Diamondbacks, Kansas City Royals,

California Angels, Indians, White Sox and Dodgers, holding a litany of scouting and coaching positions. With player development being of the highest priority of the USPBL, Weidemaier's time with the New York Yankees in that capacity makes him an ideal fit for the league.

"We are very excited about Mark joining our league," said Orenduff. "As we continue to attract top baseball talent, Mark will be instrumental to our development of these young players."

Woolly Mammoths Assistant Coach Bryan Kloppe comes to the Woolly Mammoths fresh off a Pecos League championship with the Bakersfield Train Robbers in 2018.

One of the youngest coaches in professional baseball at just 28 years old, Kloppe also spent five seasons as a minor league pitcher with Edinburg and Brownsville in United League Baseball and Roswell and Bakersfield in the Pecos League.

His ability to motivate players, combined with having spent time working with MLB managers Tony Pena, Tommy John, Tom Foley, Buck Showalter and Ron Washington will helped Kloppe make a difference this season.

"Bryan encompasses a passion for coaching, teaching, and building a positive environment for our players to develop," said Orenduff. "With his recent managerial success in the Pecos League and ability to motivate players, we know he will make an impact in 2019." ♦



Mark Weidemaier, manager, Westside Woolly Mammoths

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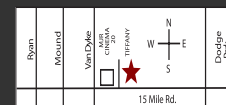


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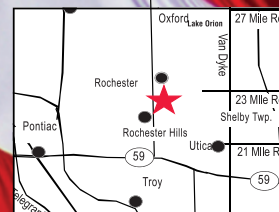
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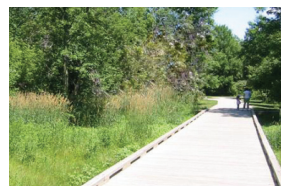
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Macomb Township

Dynamic growth brings new amenities

Macomb Township is now on the cutting edge of urban growth with an estimated population of more than 90,000 residents, new housing being added regularly, infrastructure improvements, a vibrant parks and recreation system and much more.

In recent years, Macomb has been named as one of the fastest growing communities in Macomb County and throughout Michigan. According to SEMCOG, the township was the 17th largest community in the state in 2012. By 2017, it had become the 12th largest community. Among the many reasons are strong industrial/commercial corridor for growth that is balanced with our beautiful residential neighborhoods and wonderful parks.

There were more housing starts in Macomb Township than any other community in Michigan in 2017 (more than 500) according to Township Supervisor Janet Dunn. From the Town Center area that includes homes with a more old-fashioned design, to newer, two and three-level homes, the township offers different types of housing for its residents to choose from on a variety of parcel sizes that allow for optimum space and design.

In addition to single family homes, there are condominiums and apartments available for purchase with different layouts and styles. Dunn estimates that most homes have a current value of at least \$200,000 and that prices have continued to rise quickly in recent years.

"From what we're seeing we have homes that are being sold in a day or two pretty regularly," Dunn said. "It is a desirable (community) right now for new residents."

From an infrastructure standpoint, Macomb Township's growth has caused a few challenges with traffic flow and road conditions but steps are being taken to right-size that infrastructure. One example is the 23 Mile Road expansion starting at the eastern boundary line of Macomb Township to Romeo Plank. This multi-phase project will result in a five-lane, continuous road from Van Dyke Avenue to the border of Chesterfield Township.

"We recognize that with growth we have to take a look at our roads and we are working with the county on planning for future updates," Dunn said.

Located at 20699 Macomb Street, the township's Recreation Center could be considered the envy of other communities throughout southeastern Michigan. The Macomb Township

Recreation Center is a 92,000 square foot facility providing both residents and non-residents with a wide array of recreational activities and amenities. The state of the art Recreation Center facilitates a fitness center, two gymnasiums, three birthday party rooms, two aerobics rooms, an indoor playground, meeting space, a feature pool, an activity pool, a lazy river, water slide and a hot tub.

There are classes held throughout the year from swimming to personal training and everything in between. The classes are available for youth, teens, adults and seniors. Residents can become members or pay small daily fees to use the facility throughout the week.

Other parks around Macomb Township are also well received and used on a regular basis. Waldenburg Park offers a variety of children's equipment while Macomb Corners Park houses a sports-oriented collection of fields for football, baseball and soccer. A 40-acre parcel of township-owned property at 24 Mile and Foss will likely be turned into another park in the future although Dunn does want to maintain much of the natural vegetation.

A variety of development options are being considered, including picnic areas, a dog park and more for that space. The township is working with an engineering firm to develop that plan. Additionally a new township library is being planned right across from the township's main offices for a 2020 open. That will replace the existing "north" library that is a converted office building at 24 Mile and Romeo Plank. Macomb Township will continue to partner with Clinton Township for its library system services.

Finally Macomb Township holds many events, often in conjunction with its parks and recreation department, throughout the year. Events like Tons of Trucks, Halloween Hoopla and Music in the Park Summer Concert Series attract residents and guests to the community.

Visit www.macomb-mi.gov to learn more.

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Founded: 1834
Population (2010 census): 79,580
Square miles: 36.3



Historic ambition

Beavers aim to go where no independent league team has gone

By Emma Puzzuoli, USPBL intern

The United Shore Professional Baseball League is looking to have a record-breaking fourth season, but while the league aims to reach new milestones in 2019, so too are the league's Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers.

They are looking to win their third consecutive championship, having already won back-to-back USPBL titles under Manager Chris Newell.

The Beavers are looking to make history in 2019 by doing something no other independent league team has accomplished. Win three straight league championships!

The Beavers have posted the best regular season record in all three seasons since the league started and they have seen themselves in three consecutive championship games, only falling in the inaugural championship game to the Utica Unicorns in 2016. With an ever-changing roster, Newell and his staff have found the key to success.

Newell says the key to his success so far in this league has been being able to “focus on finding players who share a winning mentality. Almost all of the players have won championships before joining the organization, in college or on the professional level and share the same winning mentality,” said Newell.

When asked if the Beavers feel any pressure this season, Newell said: “They feel no pressure at all, because when you have guys with a winning mentality they know what to do, how to do it and what it takes to get the job done.”

Newell knows how to get his team prepared to compete in this league with no nerves.

The Beavers are trying to join an exclusive club in

professional baseball with a three-peat. Major League Baseball has only had two organizations win three straight titles, the New York Yankees (1949-53, 1998-2000) and the Oakland Athletics (1972-74). So the Beavers understand what is at stake.

“In America’s game, achieving records like this are hard to do,” said Newell. “But we have thrived over the years in pressure situations and I know that we have put together a solid group that have experience in performing at their best when the stakes are high.”

Newell leads the league with eight players being signed by Major League Baseball organizations during his time in the USPBL. His ability to find highly-skilled players comes from his experience as a MLB Scout with the New York Yankees and Tampa Bay Rays. Newell has trained or managed over 40 players that have gone on to play professional baseball, including former MLB All-Star DJ LeMahieu who currently plays second base for the Yankees.

“I have been fortunate to work in a game that I have been very passionate about since I was a young boy,” said Newell. “I have had other opportunities that have sprung up, but I love working here in the USPBL and we have built a winning culture that I am very proud of.”

The Beavers have 11 returning players, all looking to continue the tradition of winning that Newell has created. During this season, be on the lookout for Nick Campana in centerfield, TJ Ward at third base and Gerry Salisbury to be impact players as the Beavers look to capture their third consecutive championship. ♦

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Family atmosphere

Fun is the name of the game at Jimmy John's Field

By Alyssa Hall, USPBL intern

At Jimmy John's Field, guests can expect an exciting and cheerful atmosphere at every game. With entertaining theme nights and a range of activities, there is fun for the whole family. The staff, from owner Andy Appleby to the fresh-faced interns, makes it their duty to create memories for families that will last a lifetime.

Guests at Jimmy John's Field have many compliments about the venue and shared some of their favorite things about attending the United Shore Professional Baseball League games.

Fan Mel Rutkoske spoke highly of the players at Jimmy John's Field, recalling a memory that involved a kind-hearted Diamond Hopper.

"I was standing next to the Hoppers' dugout with my youngest granddaughter and one of the players came over to give her a signed baseball. It was very special," Rutkoske said.

Even the players of the USPBL work hard to make sure every guest enjoys watching their games. They appreciate the support their fans give and try to give back in any way they can.

Darrell Seelinger has been a host for multiple USPBL players in the past years. "The events for kids and the kid-friendly things to do are fantastic," he says of why he loves being involved at Jimmy John's Field. "The variety of

concession items is large. The staff are all so friendly and welcoming. Seeing Andy Appleby out there every night shows us how much he really cares."

Seelinger forms a bond with each player he hosts and looks forward to watching them play each season. This year, he will be hosting a Unicorn, so he will be rooting extra hard for them to win.

Fans Amy and Fred Hansen spoke highly of Jimmy John's Field and how well it measures up to the big leagues. "Parking is so much better than downtown to see a Tigers game. Don't get us wrong, we love the Tigers, but Jimmy John's Field is just a more relaxing, fun atmosphere. No rushing, a smaller venue; but with a big league feeling!"

At Jimmy John's Field, it is important that the fans get to enjoy a big league quality game, without the big league prices.

Fan Mary Schmidt looks forward to the many theme nights Jimmy John's Field hosts each year. "My favorites from the 2018 season were ZOOooperstars!, Country Nights, Beatles Night, and Margaritaville Jimmy Buffett Night."

The USPBL offers a range of themes from Lego Day to '70s Night. This year's promotional schedule can be found at uspbl.com/promotions.

The guest's experience is the number one priority for the USPBL with fun for the whole family at affordable prices. ♦

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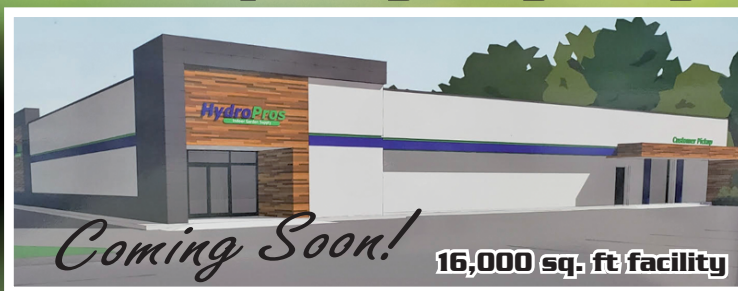
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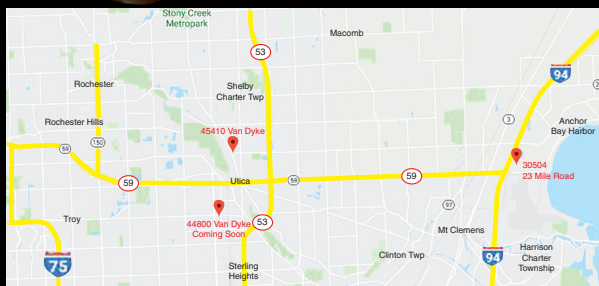
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Big-league fun

USPBL 2019 promotion schedule

The United Shore Professional Baseball League will welcome several elite entertainment performers, while also bringing back some of the top captivating acts from previous seasons to highlight this year's promotional calendar at Jimmy John's Field.

Making their debut last season were the USPBL Dance Crews and the most lovable bat dog in the country, JJ The Field General. Both will be performing at all contests again this season and Kids Run the Bases after every game. Headlining the remainder of this year's promotions will be:

- **All-Star Game** (July 6),
- **Faith Night** (July 12), **Andy Appleby Bobblehead Night** (Aug. 1),
- **ZOOperstars!** (Aug. 10),
- **Detroit Pistons Night** (Aug. 24)
- **The Championship Game** (Sept. 8).
- **All-Star Game and Home Run Derby**, presented by Rawlings, Saturday, July 6.

Before the game, catch the power hitters as they battle in the **Rawlings Home Run Derby Challenge** at 5:30 p.m.

- **Faith Night**, presented by Thrivent Financial, Friday, July 12.

Prior to the start of the game, former Detroit professional athletes Andy Dirks (Tigers) and Eddie Murray (Lions) will speak about how faith played an important role in their lives. Kenny Spear will be performing before and during the game, while Christian Rock Band Shiny Penny will play a 30-40 minute concert following a Fireworks Spectacular after the game.

- **Andy Appleby Bobblehead Night**, Thursday, Aug. 1

Owner and CEO Andy Appleby will be on display this year as the USPBL will give away 1,000 Andy Appleby Bobbleheads.

- **ZOOperstars!**, Saturday, Aug. 10

Professional Baseball's most popular act and America's Got Talent Finalist, ZOOperstars!, will be returning to Jimmy John's Field for the fourth consecutive year. These hilarious inflatable characters are based on sports figures with an animal resemblance, such as Clammy Sosa, Cow Ripken, and Ken Giraffey, Jr.

- **Detroit Pistons Night**, Saturday, Aug. 24

Join the Detroit Pistons Entertainment teams, including the Pistons Dancers, Drumline, The Extreme Dunk Team, The Pistons Power Squad and Hooper for a night of fun.

- **Championship Game**, presented by OUR Credit Union, Sunday, Sept. 8

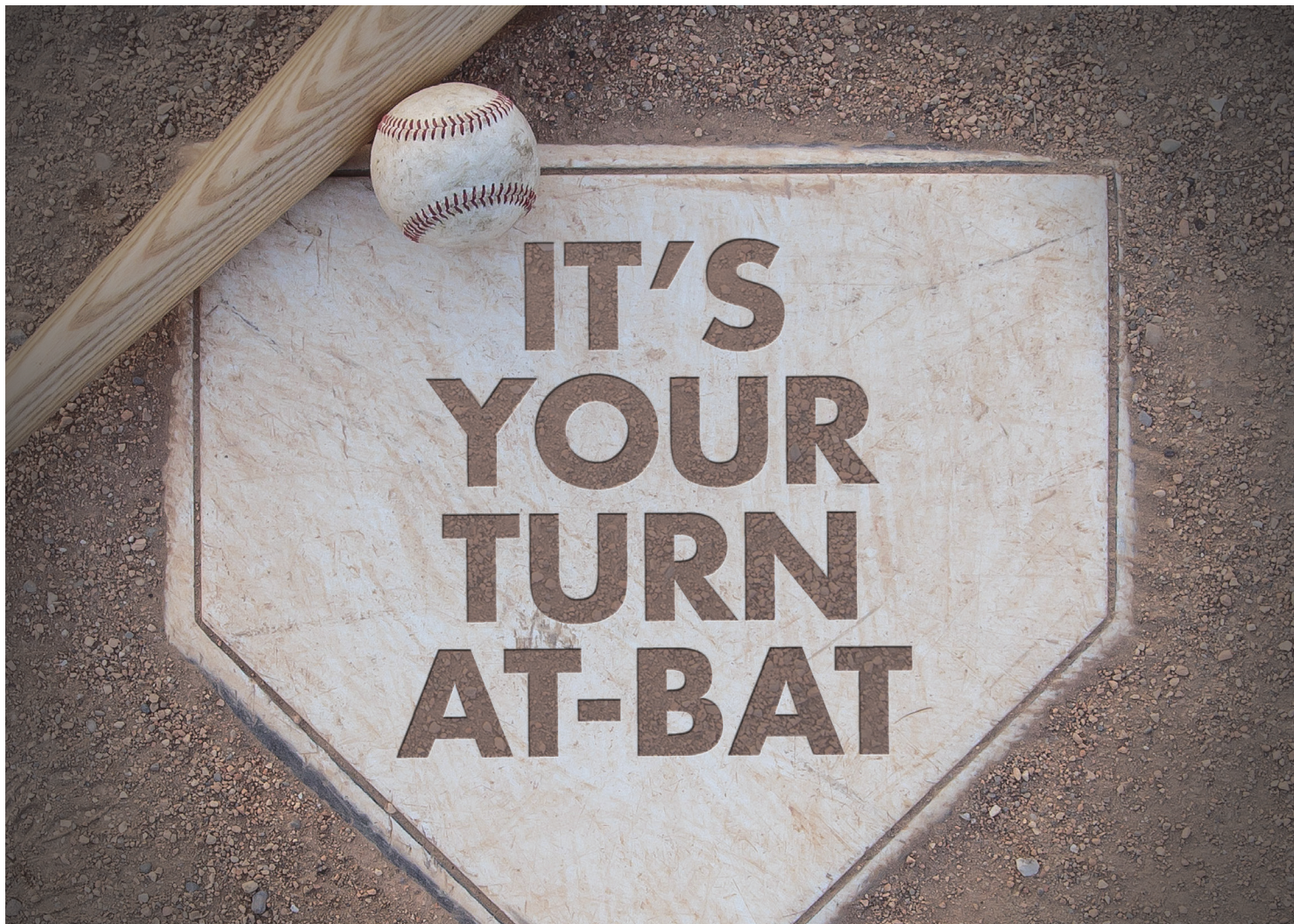
The USPBL Playoffs will run Sept. 6-8, in a one-game elimination bracket that culminates with the USPBL Championship Game.



Theme Nights

- **2-for-1 Wednesdays:** Buy one grandstand ticket, get one free for all eight Wednesday night games. There will also be buy one, get one free hotdogs.
- **Thirsty Thursdays:** \$2 Bud and Bud Lights are back every Thursday night, as well as \$5 Craft Beer specials in the Short Hops Craft Beer Garden, located on the third base side of the ballpark.
- **Friday Fireworks Spectacular:** The Fireworks Spectacular returns to Jimmy John's Field every Friday night immediately following the game.
- **Live Music Saturdays:** WCSX Classic Rock Saturdays will be back at the ballpark this season as well as Country Music Nights. Some of the top local bands will be making appearances.
- **Sunday Fun Day:** Kids Crafts will be on display every Sunday as well as your favorite characters and superheroes, presented by Fairytale Entertainment.
- **Family Campout Opportunity** Saturday, July 6 after the All-Star Game, fans can campout, watch a movie and enjoy the stars on Jimmy John's Field.

For information on ticket packages, call 248-601-2400 or e-mail tickets@uspbl.com. ♦



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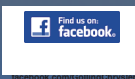


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