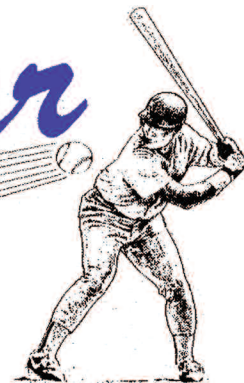




The Messenger



November 2008 — Section 3

Official Publication of the Wisconsin ASA

Junior Olympic News

By Dale Ferron
WASA JO Commissioner

The 2008 softball season has once again seen increased registrations for the Wisconsin Junior Olympic program.

We currently have over 9,600 individual registrations for the year. These numbers increase our youth team registrations to 2,359 for 2008, an increase of 200 teams over 2007.

The WASA will keep the same number of berths for the USA/ASA national tournaments in 2009 as we had in 2008.

We have almost doubled the number of SCS tournaments from last year. These SCS tournaments have increased the opportunity for our ASA teams to play in a tournament every weekend and there is a possibility that we may have some SCS tournaments in the northwestern part of Wisconsin.

The WASA has added more youth teams to our program in Mosinee, Sheboygan and the entire Junior Valley Classic League, and we will be looking to add more areas to the WASA family for the 2009 season.

I want to take the time to thank my JO staff for all of their help during 2008. I especially want to thank Dick Buskov and Arleen Case for all of their help with the ACE coaching program. The WASA has also increased the number of coaches attending ACE coaching schools to 122, which includes first-, second-, and third-year participants.

I also need to thank Dick, Arleen, Dan Sonnenberg and John Roth for help at the SCS tournaments throughout the 2008 season. With their help we were able to attend all of the SCS tournaments.

I want to thank all the teams that have participated in our

SCS tournaments, the WASA state tournaments and the teams that have gone on to play in the ASA national tournaments.

The number of teams playing in nationals has increased this year and these teams have produced better finishes.

I take my hat off to the players and the coaches dedicating this much time to the softball program.

The listing on page 34 shows how our Wisconsin teams finished in ASA national championships for the 2008 season.

I am currently working on the listing and information for all of the SCS tournaments to be held during the 2009 season. I have posted the results for the 2008 state tournaments and the information for the 2009 state tournaments is all on our web site at www.wisconsin-asa.org

Watertown will host the Class A state tournaments and Kimberly will host the Class B state tournaments. They will be run on the weekend of July 10-12, 2009.

I am looking forward to each of these two sites running great tournaments and I want to thank both sites for the great jobs they did in hosting the 2008 state tournaments despite all of the rain. Participation was up again with Watertown hosting 62 teams and Kimberly setting another record with 103 entries.

My hat is off to both organizations for a great job.

Watertown will again be hosting the ASA/USA National Qualifiers for the 10-, 12- and 14-year-olds in 2009. Tournament dates are June 19-21 and the information for these tournaments and all of the ASA national tournaments will be placed on our web site after I return from the national convention in Oklahoma City around the middle of November.

I will once again conduct ACE coaching schools around Wisconsin in 2009. The sites that have already been set are in the Salem area, Stoughton and Lake Mills.

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Wisconsin JO Team Finishes in ASA Nationals

Northern Nationals Class A

Age Group	Team	City	Record	Place
10U	Xplozion Softball	Columbus	1 - 2	9
10U	Point Fastpitch	Stevens Point	0 - 2	9
12U	Cyclones Blue	Kenosha	2 - 2	13
12U	Lightning Black	Salem	1 - 2	17
14U	Howard Heat	Green Bay	2 - 2	17
14U	Shockers Red	Union Grove	2 - 2	25
14U	Lightning Black	Salem	2 - 2	25
14U	Racine Belles	Racine	1 - 2	33
14U	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	0 - 2	49
14U	Central Wis Rebels	Stevens Point	0 - 2	49
14U	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	0 - 2	49
14U	Shockers White	Union Grove	0 - 2	49
16U	Wisconsin Wildfire	Waupun	0 - 2	33
18U	Chippewa Valley Flash	Chippewa Falls	4 - 2	7
18U	O C Storm	Grafton	2 - 2	9
18U	Lake Country Lightning	Oconomowoc	1 - 2	17
18U	Pride of the Midwest	Brookfield	1 - 2	17
18U	Wisconsin Wildfire	Waupun	1 - 2	17
18U	Badger Blitz	Baraboo	0 - 2	25
18U	Competitors Black	Greenfield	1 - 2	25
18U	Milwaukee Invaders	Milwaukee	0 - 2	25

Northern Nationals Class B

10U	Oshkosh Raiders	Oshkosh	6 - 1	1
10U	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna	2 - 2	5
10U	De Pere Fire West	De Pere	2 - 2	9
10U	Lightning Black	Twin Lakes	1 - 2	13
10U	De Pere Fire East	De Pere	0 - 2	13
12U	Algoma	Algoma	4 - 2	5
12U	Wisconsin Bandits	Horicon	1 - 2	17
14U	Raiders Black	Oshkosh	3 - 2	5
14U	Wis Bandits White	Horicon	6 - 2	7
14U	Freedom Irish	Freedom	2 - 2	9
14U	Seymour Flames	Eau Claire	1 - 2	25
16U	Freedom	Freedom	4 - 2	4
16U	Kimberly Cardinals	Omro	3 - 2	7
16U	Neenah-Menasha	Menasha	0 - 2	17
18U	Wisconsin Elite	Appleton	5 - 2	2

USA/ASA Nationals

16U	Competitors Black	Oak Creek	2 - 2	49
16U	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	0 - 2	97
18U	Wisconsin Bandits	Horicon	1 - 2	65
18U	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	1 - 2	65
18U	Fast Pitch USA	Orfordville	1 - 2	65
18U	Kimberly Cardinals	Kimberly	0 - 2	97

Junior Olympic News

(Continued from page 28)

These classes take about 1 1/2-to-two hours and we show extremely helpful videos.

Dick Buskov, the WASA Fast Pitch Umpire-in-Chief will also be presenting many umpire clinics for any umpires interested in attending. The WASA would like to see more youth take up umpiring. We are always in need of good umpires and we offer many opportunities for them to work in our weekend tournaments and in some of the leagues that we schedule umpires for.

During our annual WASA meeting this Oct. 4 in Stevens Point, legislation was passed to better define classifications for youth teams. This led to the creation of a Class C for youth softball.

The entire youth classification criteria will be posted on our Web site when I return from ASA's National Council Meeting.

The main change is that the new Class C is league teams with their league rosters. This means they cannot be league all-star teams and they will not be able to advance to any national tournaments.

At the present time we are looking for more areas to become ASA affiliates. If you are interested in playing or officiating youth softball in Wisconsin please contact me by e-mail at: ferron.softball@charter.net

I hope everyone has a good fall and winter, and we will see you in the spring.



To be added to *The Messenger* mailing list, please send an e-mail request to:
matt@stevenspointsoftball.com

2008 ASA Girls Fast Pitch 10 & Under Class B Northern National

July 30-August 3 - Rochester, Minnesota

1.	Oshkosh Raiders	Oshkosh, WI	6-1
2.	Central Iowa Storm	Des Moines, IA	5-2
3.	Iowa City Jaguars	Iowa City, IA	5-2
4.	Altoona Rams	Altoona, IA	4-2
5.	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna, WI	2-2
	Waukee Gold	City Unknown	4-2
7.	Johnston Jaguars Gold	Johnston, IA	2-2
	Indiana Force	Montezuma, IN	3-2
9.	Edina Hornets Black	Edina, MN	1-2
	Beach Park Thunder	Beach Park, IL	2-2
	De Pere Fire West	De Pere, WI	2-2
	Mokena Blue Wave	Mokena, IL	2-2
13.	Lightning Black	Twin Lakes, WI	1-2
	De Pere Fire West	De Pere, WI	0-2
	Forest Lake Rangers	Forest Lake, MN	0-2
	Northwest Diamonds	Rogers, MN	0-2
17.	Blue Earth Area	Blue Earth, MN	0-2
	Eden Prairie Fire	Eden Prairie, MN	0-2
	Rochester Diamonds	Rochester, MN	0-2
	Tremont Lady Turks	Tremont, IL	0-2

2008 ASA JO Girls Fast Pitch 18 & Under National Qualifier

June 20-22 - Watertown

1.	Wisconsin Bandits	Horicon, WI	3-1
2.	Compuware	Northville, MI	4-2
3.	Colorado Xplosion	Windsor, CO	2-2
4.	Lake Country Lightning	Oconomowoc, WI	1-2
5.	Fast Pitch USA	Orfordville, WI	1-2
	Kimberly Cardinals	Kimberly, WI	0-2

2008 ASA JO Girls Fast Pitch 16 & Under National Qualifier

June 20-22 - Watertown

1.	Windmills	Oak Park, IL	4-0
2.	92 Georgia Impact Black	Canton, GA	4-2
3.	Kalamazoo Klash	Kalamazoo, MI	3-2
4.	Minnesota Renegades	St. Louis Park, MN	4-2
5.	Plover 16s	Plover, WI	2-2
	Compuware	Trenton, MI	1-2
7.	Xplosion	Columbus, WI	1-2
	Windmills Red	River Forest, IL	1-2
9.	Waukesha Firebirds	Waukesha, WI	0-2
	Lake Country	Hartland, WI	0-2
	Great Lakes Lightning	Coloma, MI	0-2

2008 WASA Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch State Tournaments

Final Standings

Class A @ Watertown - July 11-13

18 & Under

1.	Racine Belles	Racine	7-0
2.	The Danes	Eau Claire	5-2
3.	Kimberly Cardinals	Kimberly	3-2
4.	Wisconsin Bandits	Horicon	5-2
5.	Appleton Rockers	Appleton	2-2
	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	3-2
7.	Badger Blitz	Baraboo	3-2
	Fast Pitch USA	Orfordville	3-2
9.	Chippewa Valley Flash	Chippewa Falls	1-2
	Pride of the Midwest	Brookfield	2-2
	New Berlin Magic	New Berlin	1-2
	OC Storm	Grafton	1-2
13.	Hallie Hotrodders	Chippewa Falls	1-2
	Hartland Lady Hawks	Hartland	1-2
	Waukesha Firebirds	Waukesha	0-2
	Xplozion	Columbus	0-2
17.	Competitors Black	Milwaukee	0-2
	Lake Country Lightning	Oconomowoc	0-2
	Milwaukee Invaders	Milwaukee	0-2
	Wisconsin Wildfire	Waupun	0-2

16 & Under

1.	Wisconsin Bandits	Horicon	5-1
2.	Plover	Plover	4-2
3.	Competitors Black	Oak Creek	4-2
4.	Chippewa Valley Flash	Chippewa Falls	4-2
5.	The Danes	Eau Claire	2-2
	West Wisconsin Bat Girls	Bloomer	2-2
7.	Lightning Black	Twin Lakes	2-2
	Xplozion	Columbus	2-2
9.	Germantown Gems	Germantown	1-2
	Kenosha Cyclones Blue	Kenosha	1-2
	Racine Belles	Racine	1-2
	Union Grove Shockers	Union Grove	1-2
13.	Belmont	Belmont	0-2
	Milwaukee Invaders	Milwaukee	0-2
	Wisconsin Wildfire	Waupun	0-2

14 & Under

1.	Lightning Black	Salem	8-1
2.	Racine Belles	Racine	3-2
3.	Central Wisconsin Rebels	Custer	3-2
4.	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	2-2
5.	Howard Heat	Green Bay	2-2
	Watertown Thunder	Watertown	2-2

7.	Milwaukee Invaders	Milwaukee	2-2
	Union Grove Shockers White	Union Grove	2-2
9.	Kenosha Cyclones Blue	Kenosha	1-2
	Lightning Silver	Trevor	0-2
	Milwaukee Competitors Black	Milwaukee	1-2
	Union Grove Shockers Red	Union Grove	0-2
13.	Competitors Red	Milwaukee	0-2
	Wisconsin Bandits Red	Horicon	0-2

12 & Under

1.	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	4-0
2.	Franklin Force	Greenfield	3-2
3.	Lightning Black	Trevor	4-2
4.	Milwaukee Invaders	Milwaukee	2-2
5.	Hallie Stars	Chippewa Falls	1-2
	Racine Belles	Racine	2-2
7.	Stevens Point	Stevens Point	0-2
	Tornadoes	Beaver Dam	0-2
9.	Deerfield Girls	Deerfield	0-2

10 & Under

1.	Stevens Point	Stevens Point	3-0
2.	West Wisconsin Bat Girls	Bloomer	2-2
3.	Xplozion	Columbus	1-2
4.	Watertown Thunder	Watertown	0-2

Class B @ Kimberly - July 11-13

18 & Under

1.	Wisconsin Elite	Appleton	7-1
2.	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna	4-2
3.	Rock Valley Rage	Orfordville	3-2
4.	Door County Mavericks	Brussels	3-2
5.	The Zone	Denmark	3-2
	Plover	Plover	3-2
7.	North Shore Stars	Menomonee Falls	2-2
	Oshkosh Raiders	Oshkosh	2-2
9.	Stateline Stars	Beloit	1-2
	Little Chute	Little Chute	1-2
	Ashwaubenon Jaguars	Ashwaubenon	1-2
	Orange Crush	Oakfield	1-2
13.	Tri-County Force	Chetek	0-2
	Seymour Flames	Eau Claire	0-2
	Wisconsin Twisters	Racine	0-2
	Pride of the Midwest	Brookfield	0-2

(Continued on Page 32)

2008 WASA Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch State Tournaments

Final Standings

16 & Under

1.	Freedom	Freedom	7-1
2.	Neenah-Menasha	Neenah-Menasha	5-2
3.	Kimberly Cardinals	Kimberly	4-2
4.	Mequon Rage	Mequon	4-2
5.	Appleton Rockers	Appleton	3-2
	Oshkosh Raiders	Oshkosh	2-2
7.	Appleton Sizzle	Appleton	3-2
	Plover 15s	Plover	
9.	Competitors Red	Greenfield	
	Southwest Baserunners	Platteville	
	Waterford Firehawks	Waterford	
	Waukesha Firebirds Black	Waukesha	
13.	92 Rage Fast Pitch	Beloit	
	Hartland Lady Hawks	Hartland	
	Falls Angels	Menomonee Falls	
	Seymour Flames	Eau Claire	
17.	Fondy Fusion	Fond du Lac	
	Franklin Force	Franklin	
	Sheboygan Strikers	Sheboygan	
	Stateline Stars	Beloit	
	Waterford Firehawks Black	Waterford	
	Wisconsin Twisters	Oak Creek	
	Seymour Flames	Seymour	

14 & Under

1.	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna	6-0
2.	Oshkosh Raiders Black	Oshkosh	5-2
3.	Falls Angels	Menomonee Falls	6-2
4.	Seymour Flames	Eau Claire	5-2
5.	New Berlin Magic	New Berlin	3-2
	Pride of the Midwest	Brookfield	3-2
7.	La Crosse Shelby Quillans	La Crosse	4-2
	Fox River Rush	Wrightstown	4-2
9.	Hallie Hotrodders	Chippewa Falls	2-2
	Wisconsin Bandits White	Horicon	1-2
	Kimberly Cardinals	Kimberly	1-2
	Appleton Rockers	Appleton	1-2
13.	Appleton Tornados	Appleton	2-2
	Oshkosh Raiders Silver	Oshkosh	1-2
	North Shore Stars	Jackson	1-2
	Waukesha Firebirds Red	Waukesha	1-2
17.	Waukesha Firebirds Black	Waukesha	1-2
	Stevens Point	Stevens Point	0-2
	Stateline Stars	Beloit	0-2
	Chippewa Valley Inferno	Eau Claire	0-2

	Freedom	Freedom	0-2
	Wisconsin Bandits Black	Horicon	0-2
	Fort Fast Pitch	Fort Atkinson	0-2
	Wisconsin Twisters	Franksville	0-2
25.	Orange Crush	Oakfield	0-2

12 & Under

1.	Waukesha Firebirds	Waukesha	5-0
2.	Algoma	Algoma	7-2
3.	Pride of the Midwest Red	Brookfield	3-2
4.	Germantown	Germantown	4-2
5.	Kimberly	Kimberly	3-2
	Greenfield Ignitors	Greenfield	3-2
7.	Seymour Flames	Eau Claire	4-2
	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna	2-2
9.	Wisconsin Bandits	Horicon	2-2
	Wisconsin Twisters	Oak Creek	2-2
	Oshkosh Raiders	Oshkosh	1-2
	Plover	Plover	1-2
13.	La Crosse Shelby HSR	La Crosse	1-2
	Appleton Rockers	Appleton	1-2
	Waterford Firehawks	Waterford	0-2
	Little Chute	Little Chute	0-2
17.	Lightning Silver	Trevor	0-2
	Bayport Gold	Green Bay	0-2
	Pride of the Midwest Blue	Brookfield	0-2
	Stateline Stars	Beloit	0-2

10 & Under

1.	Oshkosh Raiders	Oshkosh	5-0
2.	Lightning Black	Twin Lakes	4-2
3.	Kaukauna Ghosts	Kaukauna	3-2
4.	East De Pere Fire	De Pere	4-2
5.	Fox River Rush	Greenleaf	3-2
	Kenosha Cyclones	Kenosha	2-2
7.	West De Pere Fire	De Pere	2-2
	Greenfield Ignitors	Greenfield	2-2
9.	Germantown Thunder	Germantown	2-2
	Kimberly	Kimberly	1-2
	La Crosse Shelby HSR	La Crosse	1-2
	Bayport	Green Bay	1-2
13.	Waterford Firehawks	Waterford	1-2
	Pride of the Midwest Red	Brookfield	0-2
	Appleton Rockers	Appleton	0-2
	Little Chute	Little Chute	0-2
	Stateline Stars	Beloit	0-2

Oshkosh Raiders: The Almost Perfect 10s

OSHKOSH – Al Davis, the cantankerous owner of the National Football League’s Oakland Raiders, whose mantra of “Just win, baby” has fallen on deaf ears as of late, would surely be impressed with another team that wears silver and black, the Oshkosh Raiders age 10-and-under girls fast pitch softball club.

The Oshkosh version of the Raiders culminated a brilliant 36-2 campaign by going 6-1 to win the 2008 ASA Girls Fast Pitch Class B 10 & Under Northern National Championship in Rochester, Minnesota July 30-August 3.

The resilient Raiders rallied from a 3-0 fifth-inning deficit against the Central Iowa Storm of Des Moines to seize the decisive championship game 8-6 and provided the Wisconsin ASA with its second-ever Northern National title in Junior Olympic girls fast pitch.

Oshkosh’s triumph came immediately after the Storm’s 7-2 victory in the first championship game severed the Raiders’ remarkable 32-game winning streak.

That transcendent run of excellence included two previous conquests of Central Iowa in Rochester, which attracted a talented field of 20 teams from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Oshkosh nipped the Storm 5-4 in pool play and then survived a thrilling, nine-inning, 7-6 duel in the pivotal winner’s bracket championship.

Vanquishing Central Iowa also soothed memories of a near-miss second-place finish behind the PV Spartans Blue of Bettendorf, Iowa at the 2007 ASA Northern National in Springfield, Missouri for the Raiders that capped a 31-10 summer.

“The kids kept their composure in



OSHKOSH RAIDERS 10U TEAM: (Front row, from left) Sami Buerger, Hailey Hendrix, Shaye Gauthier, Emily Roberts, Haley Hestekin, Chantal Bougie, (middle row) Lauren Neveau, Amber Tigert, Megan Miller, Cassie Buerger, Jamie Holsten, Lexi Reetz, Erin Neveau, Bailey Schultz, (back row) Coaches Kim Gauthier, Brian Gauthier, Brian Neveau. Not pictured: Coaches Tim Buerger, Jason Hestekin and Bill Miller. (Photo courtesy of Varsity Photo)

the last game with Iowa and fought back,” stated Brian Gauthier, the second-year co-coach of the Raiders along with his wife, Kim.

“This championship was more satisfying to Kim and I than when we were playing,” admitted Brian, who enjoyed a distinguished playing career in softball, as did Kim. “It brought tears to my eyes, literally.”

The Raiders’ superlative season began with a second-place tournament result in Neenah and then blasted off with nothing but championships, including the team’s initial Wisconsin ASA state title over 16 other entries in Kimberly.

“Our kids don’t beat themselves, which is rare for this age group,” Brian Gauthier said while attempting to explain the Raiders’ achievements.

“My wife does the fundamental work with them, so she deserves the credit for that.”

Gauthier then concluded, while deferring from singling out any individual performances against the team’s overall accomplishments, “Our success was a little surprising since we had an all-new pitching staff but this really was a special group.”

“Nine of them are moving up next year but we should have five returnees, including two pitchers, so we’re already looking forward to 2009.”

Al Davis probably wishes he could say the same.

(Standings on page 30)

A Point of History

STEVENS POINT – History was made this summer by the Point Fastpitch 10 & Under girls softball club.

The Stevens Point team won the 2008 Wisconsin ASA Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch Class A 10 & Under State Tournament in Watertown July 12-13 to become the first state champion at any level in the Point Fastpitch organization's 25-year history.

Point won three straight games to take the four-team event's title after a soggy 4-0 loss to the West Wisconsin Batgirls in preliminary pool play.

Stevens Point toppled the Columbus Xplozion 7-1 in the first round of double-elimination action and then seized a pair of 8-7 spine-tingers against the Batgirls to claim the elusive first-ever WASA crown.

Regan Duffin's double plated Haley Williams with the winning run in the first 8-7 triumph while Sydney Alery was balked across with one out and the bases loaded in the bottom of the sixth to clinch the dramatic championship match.



STEVENS POINT 10U TEAM: (Front row, from left) Christonna Shafranski, Jaden Duffin, Mallory Beutow, Brittney Flugaur, Kelsey Godin, Sydney Alery, (middle row) Regan Duffin, Jada Jaworski, Sami Kay Shafranski, Haley Williams, Jordan Kawlewski, Karli Homann, (back row) Team Manager David Alery, Head Coach Mike Duffin, Assistant Coach Chad Godin.

Regan Duffin won both games in the circle versus West Wisconsin and received solid offensive and defensive support from catcher Jordan Kawleski, shortstop Sami Kay Shafranski, third baseman Sydney Alery, first baseman Haley Williams, rightfielder Karli Homann, second baseman Kelsey Godin and centerfielder Jada Jaworski.

In addition, Mallory Beutow, Brittney Flugaur, Christonna Shafranski and Jaden Duffin all contributed to the winning effort either in left field or off the bench.



WINNERS IN WATERTOWN

The Wisconsin Bandits from Horicon won the ASA 18 & Under National Qualifier in Watertown June 20-22. Standings are found on page. 30.

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please send an e-mail request to:
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