

# Women in Baseball

© SABR-Fall Issue

Please send all updates, ideas, suggestions etc.. To [Lheaphy@kent.edu](mailto:Lheaphy@kent.edu) or call 330-244-3304

## Welcome to another post season and the closing of a season.

Sept. 2011

Volume I, Issue 5

Baseball season is winding to a close and still lots of exciting things are happening in the world of women's baseball. If you have been watching this summer you saw Justine, the Sparks, the Dream Team, Marti, Ghaz, Tiffany, Shawna and so many others out there promoting and playing the game of baseball.

Baseball for all has a great website—check it out and see all the changes.

[www.baseballforall.com](http://www.baseballforall.com)

At SABR 41 the WIBC was held on Friday, July 8th from 3-4 p.m. It was an exciting meeting with lots of enthusiasm and good discussion. More will be said later in the newsletter.

Follow all the news of the day on facebook by checking out the Slaterettes page, the USA Dream Team, the Cal Women's Baseball League, the Aussie Hearts, Sydney Women's Baseball, Chicago Gems Womens Baseball and so much more.

Check out the August issue of the NY Yankees magazine which is devoted to women in their organization. Great issue.

Congratulations go out to Justine Siegal being named chairperson of the International Baseball Federation's Women in Baseball Commission. She also just started work at Northeastern University in their Sport in

society program where she will help with a program to allow professional athletes to get their degrees.

Lots of exciting tournaments have also taken place this summer and we have reports and results of some of these games. If you are a player, fan, umpire, etc.. At one of these games please send us the news, photos etc.. For inclusion in a future newsletter.

Please send us all your stories and let us help share the news.

Leslie and Justine

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## Needs Your Help

As you may or may not know, there are two of us on the national team, Marti Sementelli, and myself who are living YOUR DREAM and playing baseball at the collegiate level this year, the only girls to do that in the history of our school, or our conferences. My University is the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Every year, each player is set to fundraise money, a 200 dollar minimum for the program for items like new baseballs, practice equipment, travel meal money, and gas. Our fundraiser this year is to sell UMPI Owls Baseball gear. If you choose to purchase the owls baseball gear, not

only are you buying a t-shirt, cap, or beanie, but you are supporting a University that actually supports you. During the recruiting process my senior year of high school, I was disappointed to see the reality of the world that we live in. The truth is, most collegiate coaches want a female to play softball, not baseball, regardless of heart, desire, or skill. The reason I chose the University of Maine Presque Isle is because the first thing Coach Saucier said to me is "If I have 9 girls on the field better than the 9 boys I currently have, I

don't care, I will play with the 9 girls on the field. Baseball players are baseball players, no matter boy or girl."

If you wish to support this team, and keep a program alive that will actually give you a fair opportunity to play at a collegiate level, it is only to your benefit.

If you want owls gear, the t-shirts are 12 bucks, gray or white and come in any size, fitted caps are 20 bucks, and beanies for cold days are just 10. The truth is the apparel of the university you wear now, are schools that probably won't let you play college baseball.

If you are interested please write to me with what you want: the size, item, how many and mail a check to me at:

**Ghazaleh Sailors**  
181 Main Street  
Presque Isle, Me 04769

# Women in Baseball Operations-More updates

**Meredith Montgomery**, director of baseball operations at TCU.

**Marla Miller**, Sr. Vice President, Special Events, MLB.

**Jacqueline Parks**, Sr. Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer, MLB.

**Kathleen Torres**, Sr. Vice President, Finance, MLB.

**Wendy Lewis**, Sr. Vice President, Diversity, MLB.

**Mary Beck**, Sr. Vice President, Marketing Promotions, MLB.

**Sallie Andrist**, Vice President, Human Resources, Milwaukee Brewers.

**Wilna Behr**, Vice President, Stadium Initiatives, Toronto Blue Jays.

**Laura Broderick**, Sr. Vice President, Brand Development, SD Padres.

**Laura Day**, Sr Vice President, Business Development, Minnesota Twins

**Karen Forgas**, Sr. Vice President, Public Affairs, Cincinnati Reds.

**Susan Jaison**, Sr. Vice President, Finance, Florida Marlins

**Ellen Hill Zenringue**, Vice President , Marketing, Detroit Tigers.

**Nona Lee**, Vice President and General Counsel, Arizona Diamondbacks.

**Melanie Lenz**, Vice President, Development, Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

**Laura Lukin**, Vice President, Broadcasting, Los Angeles Dodgers.

**Jennifer Germer**, Vice President, Marketing, Houston Astros.

**Jennifer Flynn**, Vice President, General Counsel, Boston Red sox.

**Lisa Pantages**, Vice President, Finance, SF Giants.

**Patti Paytas**, Vice President, Communication, Pittsburgh Pirates.

**Marianne Short**, Vice President, Human Resources, Seattle Mariners.

**Elizabeth Stecklein**, Vice President, Human Resources, Colorado Rockies.

**Molly Taylor Jolly**, Vice President, Finance/Administration, Los Angeles Angels.

**Marti Wronksi**, Vice President, General Counsel, Milwaukee Brewers.

**Joyce Thomas**, Vice President, Human Resources, SF Giants.

**Lee Ann Lassiter**, Director of Baseball Operations, Rice University.

## Committee Book Project

At our meeting in Long Beach it was announced that we are going to begin work on a book project from our committee. The book will involve the history of the Colorado Silver Bullets. We will be looking for writers and researchers to help make the book a reality. If you are interested in helping in any way please let Leslie know by the end of September. Assignments will then be made in October with first drafts of all writing assignments due in April 2012. We will also be looking for photographs we can use in our publication so please keep your eyes open for pictures we can use. I hope we can get

Team USA Tryouts.

Photo Courtesy of Richard Hopkins.





Dream Team USA Olympic Visit and practice-2011.

Photo Courtesy Richard Hopkins.

## **News**

Saint Mary's hosted a Student Diversity Leadership Conference in March. Emma Johnson, Zoe Magrid and Irina Kovach presented about their experiences with baseball's gender barrier.

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At our committee meeting in Long Beach we had good attendance and enthusiastic participation. We got to hear from Cami Kidder about her documentary film and the progress she is making on it. We also heard from a number of others on different projects and Cecilia Tan suggested we host an online bakesale which sounded intriguing so watch for more details.

We also discussed a couple of questions from Merrie Fidler. She asked for thoughts and ideas about where the AAGPBL might want to house all their remaining records. Ideas ranged from the BBHoF in Cooperstown to creating their own museum to sending things to the 3 or 4 places that already have parts of their collection. We also heard about an essay contest the AAGPBL will be hosting this year for the first time. The contest will be announced at the annual Reunion in October.

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Baseball for All Maud Nelson Tourney held in June in Watervliet Michigan ended with the Baseball for All Red Sox winning with a 3-1

Record. The Royal York Cardinals from Ontario came in second and the Western Bloomer Girls from Watervliet came in third. Congrats to all those who took part.

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The Southern Cal Cal Women's Baseball League just completed its first season and congratulations go out to all who played and supported them. The league was won by the Legends—nice job!!! The San Jose Spitfires won the Northern League—congrats to all!! If you want to support their efforts check out their website and all their merchandise for sale.

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The Northwest Women's Independent Baseball League has put out a call for players for 2012. Check it out at [http://www.nwibl.org/NWIBL\\_Women\\_baseball.html](http://www.nwibl.org/NWIBL_Women_baseball.html)



At the SABR National in Long Beach, following our lunch with Jan Wood who played in the National Girls Baseball League in Chicago. Thanks to Jan for sharing some of her stories with us.

**Did you Know....** that Rita Briggs was a catcher on her high school baseball team in Ayer, Ma. in 1945. She later went on to play in the AAGPBL from 1947-54. Thanks to Bob Brady for sharing this information.

The 2011 AAGPBL Reunion is being held Oct. 19-23rd in San Diego, CA. The cost of the reunion is \$50 for players and associates and \$75 for guests. Send questions or inquiries to: [reunion2011sd@aol.com](mailto:reunion2011sd@aol.com).

What a great chance to meet former players and share the history with other fans.

## Articles and more

Articles for this newsletter sent from: Natalie Adams-Hartley, Mark Aubrey, Bob Brady, Bill Dougherty, Cami Kidder, John Kovach, Larry Lester, Carol Sheldon, Justine Siegal, Wayne Stivers, Available for SASE \*\*\*

“Mamie Johnson” by Jean Ardell in *Nine*, Vol. 10, 1.

“Will the Girls Win?” *SF Call*, 10/21/1897\*\*\*

“Field of Dreams, Ponytails and All.” ESPN.com, 9/7/2011.\*\*\*

“Red Sox Women Put final Touches on Season.” 8/11/2011\*\*\*

“Badini Honored for Baseball Acco-

lades.” \*\*\*

“Bacharach Giants Conquer Bloomer Girls in Comedy.” 9/4/1925.\*\*\*

“Bloomer Girls in City today.” 8/21/1925 \*\*\*

“Arizona Shooting still Haunts Youngest victim’s Family.” \*\*\*

“Yankees Publish First Issue Dedicated to Women” August 2011

“Saints Help 11 year old Girl with Cancer Meet Justine Siegal, a Female Pioneer in Baseball.” \*\*\*

Baseball isn’t Just for Boys Anymore-feature on NPR’s Only a Game in July.

“Power Players, Pamela Pitt Does it all

for the Oakland Athletics.”  
espn.go.com

“The Girl of Summer” article on Justine Siegal in Triangle Alumni Magazine\*\*\*

“Baseball Star Henley Playing Out Her Dream with SF Fillies.” 6/26/11\*\*\*

“Cuban Player a Hit in Baseball Heyday.” Miami Herald, 9/6/2011\*\*\*

**Check out:**

<http://www.girlsplaybaseball.org>

### Pawtucket Pitching Clinic

Photo courtesy of John Kovach



Want to share a story from your own playing experience? Have a story or photo to share from attending a game? Please send them along for inclusion in future newsletters. We want to help spread the word and make people more aware of what is and has been happening for women who love the game of baseball.

Please send anything to me at [Lheaphy@kent.edu](mailto:Lheaphy@kent.edu)

Thanks.

## News and more news

The Chicago women's Baseball league is still playing through September. Check out their website for more details.  
<http://alpha.chicagowbl.com/>.

The Chicago Pioneers won the 6th Annual Baltimore-Washington Diamond Classic in May. Congrats to all who played. Baseball for All's just held their International Baseball Academy in July at the Dan Duquette Sports Academy in MA. Check it out next year if you were unable to participate this year. It is a great opportunity to learn and meet other young ladies from all over the world who are also playing baseball.

The Can-Am Challenge held in Toronto was won by the New England Red Sox as they defeated the DC Thunder 13-4.

Did you know that Pelham, NY had a girl's baseball team playing in the 1890s for Mrs. Hazen's School for Girls. The Pelham Historical Society has one photo of the team from around 1896 with no one identified unfortunately.

This photo is from the Western History/Genealogy Dept at the Denver Public Library. The team is from somewhere between the 1890s and 1910 in Colorado.



Women were playing baseball in 1923 at the North Dakota Agricultural College.

There is a new documentary film coming out soon about Women's baseball in Cuba. The writer and producer is looking for sponsorship to make it available in the United States.



Royal York, Ontario at Maud Nelson Baseball Invitational.

Photo courtesy of John Kovach.

## Research Requests:

We have a member looking for information about the National Girls Baseball League in Chicago. Any leads can go to Rachel at [rachelr@thelibrary.org](mailto:rachelr@thelibrary.org).

Another request came in for any articles on the St. Louis Black Bronchos from the 1910s.

And finally, if anyone finds articles or knows anything about Cuban Women who have played baseball beyond those in the AAGPBL please pass along ideas.

Anne Aronson is looking for names of female ball players from Minnesota.

All information can be sent to [Lheaphy@kent.edu](mailto:Lheaphy@kent.edu) and will be passed on to those asking for help.

If you have a request please be sure to send it along in case others can help you.

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Trying to find out more about current games, players, tournaments etc.. Be sure to check out facebook pages for: Cal Women's Baseball League; Chicago Gem's Women's Baseball; Sydney

Women's Baseball League; Baseball for All; Pawtucket Slaterettes; The Girl in Centerfield; Baseball Women; The Dream Team USA Baseball Team; Aussie Hearts.



A development camp for women was held in August in Cary, NC. Players got the chance to learn and to play against the Canadian National team and some local men's team. Watch for future opportunities like this.



Umpire Perry Barber and girls at Baseball Academy.

Photo courtesy of John Kovach.

**Kent State University**  
Contact: Leslie Heaphy  
lheaphy@kent.edu  
330-244-3304

Game at MIT Academy.

Photo courtesy of John Kovach.



Maud Nelson Exhibit at North Berrien Historical Association Museum in Coloma, MI.

