

# THE ROUND TRIPPER

**QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER**  
April, 2010



South Park Baseball Assn.  
PO Box 240  
South Park, PA 15129  
[www.spbaseball.org](http://www.spbaseball.org)

## WHAT'S NEW

### “PLAY BALL!”

**SPBA kicks off the 2010 season with Opening Day festivities on Sunday, April 25, at Evans Park.**



Along with food and games, a helmet painter will be on-hand, and SPBA Sprit Wear will be on sale. Players will gather on C Field beginning at 11 a.m. for Opening Day ceremonies, including the flag raising, 12 year-old jacket presentation and the first pitch.

We're looking forward to the efforts of all coaches and parents in making 2010 another great season for South Park Baseball!

Remember that SPBA Lucky Lotto fundraising tickets are still available - ask any baseball player for details. Winning tickets will be drawn on Opening Day and prizes include: \$1,000 cash, a 46" HDTV, GPS unit and more!

### SPBASEBALL.ORG

Have you visited our league website lately? It's better and more informative than ever! Visit our website throughout the season – it's the perfect way to stay informed. You'll find:

- Practice and game schedules.
- Details on our special events, like the Adult Social and Night at the Wild Things.
- Membership meeting schedules.
- Important reminders about the Evans Park complex.
- Standings (during the season).
- Contact information for each SPBA board member.
- And more!

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## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

### BE INVOLVED WITH YOUR LEAGUE!

Mark your calendar with these dates for upcoming meetings and other events. Meetings take place at the Community Center on Brownsville Rd.

Sun 4/11	7pm	SPBA Membership Meeting
Tue 4/20	5:30-8:30	Team/Player Pictures (managers will have details)
Wed 4/21	5:30-8:30	Team/Player Pictures (managers will have details)
Sun 4/25	11am	SPBA Opening Day 2010
Sat 5/8	5pm	Adult Social/Race Night @ Library Fire Hall
Sun 5/16	7pm	SPBA Membership Meeting
Sun 6/13	7pm	SPBA Membership Meeting
Thu 6/17	7pm	SPBA Night at the Wild Things, Consol Energy Park

\*\* A full calendar of upcoming meetings and events can always be found at [spbaseball.org](http://spbaseball.org). \*\*

## OPENING DAY 2010

### GREAT PRIZES TO BE AWARDED!

Remember to sell and turn in your Lucky Lotto fundraising tickets. During Opening Day ceremonies, we will draw the winners of the \$1,000 cash, 46" HDTV, Sony PS3, Nintendo Dsi, and Garmin GPS unit!

## ADULT SOCIAL

### ANNUAL "RACE NIGHT" IS MAY 8<sup>th</sup>

Tickets are available for SPBA's annual Adult Social "Race Night", Saturday May 8 at Library Fire Hall. Get a sitter and get out with friends and neighbors! The food is great the racing action is a blast and you can win great Chinese Auction prizes. Among this year's prizes: an **autographed Paul Maholm Pirates jersey!** Besides being a lot of fun, the Adult Social is an important fundraiser for our league. Bring you friends and help support SPBA.

## SPIRIT WEAR

### AVAILABLE OPENING DAY

Support your players and show your pride in South Park Baseball! SPBA Spirit Wear will be available for purchase on Opening Day. Stock up on t-shirts, hoodies, hats and magnets and let everyone know you're a part of South Park Baseball. Jackets, pullovers, golf shirts and more will also be available for order – again featuring *quick turn-around* on delivery! A list of items and prices available on our website: [spbaseball.org](http://spbaseball.org) (click on "Forms & Downloads").

Stay in touch with SPBA: [www.spbaseball.org](http://www.spbaseball.org)

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## **NIGHT AT THE WILD THINGS**

### **SPBA NIGHT IS JUNE 17**

The Washington Wild Things hold their annual South Park Baseball Night on Thursday, June 17. Get up close and personal with the action of Wild Things baseball at beautiful CONSOL Energy Park. SPBA players get in *free* ... other kids 12 and under get a \$5 ticket discount ... and SPBA earns \$2.00 for each adult ticket sold. Order your tickets by June 10. More information on our website, at [spbaseball.org](http://spbaseball.org) (click on "News and Events").

## **EVANS PARK REMINDERS**

### **CONCESSION STAND**

The SPBA Board of Directors reminds all managers, coaches and parents that ***only adults*** are permitted to work in the Evans Park SPBA concession stand. It is the responsibility of each team to make sure their concession stand schedules are fulfilled. Every team from every division helps cover concession duty. Please make the effort to help your league run smoothly and ensure the best possible baseball experience for our players and their families.

### **PARKING**

Vehicles may be parked only in designated parking areas. Parking lots must be used for all vehicles, except those with a legal PD (Person with Disability) placard. PD parking spaces are available between the Concession Stand and the batting cages, and behind the D field left-field fence. Remember, under Township rules and for the safety of all children, vehicles are ***not permitted*** in the "Common Area" between C field and the batting cages. Any coaches and parents involved in All-Star tournaments should also help spread the word to visiting teams and their families. Everyone's cooperation in this matter will help keep the Evans Park complex safe for our players and their families.

### **ZERO TOLERANCE**

An important reminder to Managers, Coaches and all parents: SPBA has a "Zero Tolerance" policy in regards to yelling at, and verbally abusing, our youth umpires. Umpires have the right, with the full support of the SPBA Board, to eject any Manager, Coach or parent from a game for abusive behavior. Please remember that we want our youth umpires to enjoy their experience on the field just as much as all of our players. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

***Have an idea for the league?  
Bring it to an SPBA Membership Meeting***

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## BASEBALL QUOTE

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*"It's like drinking coffee with a fork."*

-- Pirates hall of famer **Willie Stargell**, when asked what it was like trying to hit against the Dodger's Sandy Koufax.

## BASEBALL FACTS & FUN

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### DID YOU KNOW?

**2s and 3s...** According to Baseball Almanac.com, these are the players that led the Majors in doubles and triples over the last couple of seasons:

- Doubles - 2009: (NL) Miguel Tejada, Houston, 46  
(AL) Brian Roberts, Baltimore, 56
- Doubles - 2008: (NL) Nate McLouth, Pirates, 46 & Lance Berkman, Houston, 46  
(AL) Dustin Pedroia, Boston, 54
- Triples – 2009: (NL) Shane Victorino, Philadelphia, 13  
(AL) Jacob Ellsbury, Boston, 10 & Denard Span, Minn., 10
- Triples – 2008: (NL) Jose Reyes, NY, 19  
(AL) Curtis Granderson, Detroit, 13

### TRIVIA QUESTION

A two-parter...

- What Pirate tied for the NL lead in triples in 2004, with 12?
- What Pirate lead the NL with 43 doubles in 1973?

Answers on page 5

### WHAT HAPPENED ON... MAY 8<sup>th</sup> ?

SPBA Adult Social is May 8. What else happened in baseball on that date?

*(from NationalPastime.com)*

- 1992** -- The Astros' Butch Henry becomes the first player ever to hit an inside-the-park HR for his first hit in the Major Leagues. It came off of the Pirates' Doug Drabek.
- 1984** -- Twins' rookie Kirby Puckett hits four singles in his first major league game, helping Minnesota beat the Angels, 5-0.
- 1971** -- Willie Mays (634) and Hank Aaron (604) both homer in the Braves 5-2 victory over the Giants at Candlestick Park. It is first time in baseball history two players with 600 career home runs go deep in the same game.

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## BASEBALL PUZZLE

**Word Search: "CONCESSION STAND"**

Search for these items found in the SPBA Concession Stand!

S J G B I E S E P P C V Y Y L  
P L H O M U D E T T Y Z Q D Z  
O T U A D A G J E U Q I S H X  
P R K S R T C X R D T M Q W G  
Z N O O H J O G E L S I Q L P  
I Q T Q O I C H X T C Z N O X  
C A N D Y O E S O H C A N D A  
G O B X O B J E Z P O S S Z Q  
V L K K R R B E B E E K Z U K  
W G I M T E R P Q A D I H T O  
P E J H T T U T J N P E W X A  
S Y K U Z A I X W U N R E G U  
Y L J C J W D O W T G K I G E  
O P R E T Z E L S S K R I B H  
B F L D Q N U Q V F E I M A N

CANDY	COOKIES	GATORADE
HOTDOG	NACHOS	PEANUTS
PIZZA	POP	PRETZELS
SEEDS	SLUSHIE	WATER

## BASEBALL FACTS & FUN

### TRIVIA ANSWERS

2004 NL Triples leader: Jack Wilson

1973 NL Doubles leader: Willie Stargell

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## TIP OF THE QUARTER: HAND-EYE COORDINATION

From [baseball-tutorials.com](http://baseball-tutorials.com)

Young players can have fear of the ball and poor hand/eye coordination when facing live pitching. Part of the issue may be that players are not “seeing” the ball hit the bat, but swinging at where they *think* the ball is headed (or swinging at the same place/level each time regardless of the ball location).

Here a fix: During live pitching, have the player at the plate hold the baseball bat out over the plate (don’t swing) and simply let the ball hit it. Throw a few pitches (high and low) so that they need to move the bat up and down to make contact. Once they get focused on “seeing the ball contact the bat” you can move them on to a half swing. During the half swing, they should continue to focus on bat/ball contact. Once they have gained confidence that they can hit the baseball, let them swing away.

## 2010 SPONSORS

### SPBA THANKS OUR SPONSORS – PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!\*

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Dees Collision  
Dorido’s Restaurant  
Everfresh of Pittsburgh  
Mattress Discounters  
Chad R. Morris, DMD,  
Family Dentistry  
Pasta Too  
Patriot Pest Control, Inc.  
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South Park Youth Football  
Strength Fitness & Speed  
Target Freight Management  
TSS Photography  
Weiss Insurance Agency

\* Confirmed sponsors as of press time.

SPBA also thanks **Dick’s Sporting Goods** for a generous donation made to the league which helped us purchase necessary equipment.

**DID YOU KNOW?** It takes less time to attend an SPBA Membership Meeting than it does to attend just one game?