

DAILY NEWS



WORLD SERIES INFORMATION DESK: 602-438-7528

FRIDAY OCTOBER 25th, 2002

2002 MSBL World Series TRADE SHOW

Today

11:00a - 9:00p

Tempe Diablo Stadium

Trade Show Vendors Donate Top Prizes For All Star Games' MVPs

By Tom Prendergast

The players participating in today's 1st Annual All Star games will each receive a special edition WS T-shirt. In addition, each MVP today's selected in games will get a prize donated by one of the Trade Show vendors and will be recognized in *HardBall* magazine. Each of the games today will be seven innings. The rosters will be introduced before the game, followed by the national anthem.



Saturdays Championship Games

28+ Continental Championship Game

10:00a Papago # 4

28+ Federal Championship Game

10:30a Papago # 1

28+ Central Championship Game

10:15a Papago # 2

MSBL WS Welcome BAR-B-Q

5:00p - 9:30p

Tempe Diablo Stadium

Home Run Derby

7:00p - 9:00p

INSIDE TODAY'S WS EDITION

- MSBL WS TRADE SHOW HOURS
- TOURNAMENT PHONE NUMBERS
- FATHER-SON DIVISION RESULTS
- DIARY OF AN AGING BALL PLAYER
- WS INFORMATION DESK HOURS

Web site: www.msblnational.com

All Stars Take The Field In 1st Ever WS Showcase Game



Washington, D.C. Rangers southpaw **Juan Otno** goes to work on the mound in the first round 28+ Continental division game at Tempe Diablo Stadium yesterday afternoon.

World Series Set To Showcase It's All Stars - 28+ Playoffs Start Today

By Joel Becker

Tempe Diablo Stadium will be a busy place today as the site of the first ever MSBL WS All Star Game(s). Beginning at noon, three All Star games will be played back-to-back. On the stadium concourse, the MSBL WS Trade Show will get under way again starting at 11:00a. Once the All Star games have concluded, the Home Run Derby will take center stage as both the 28+ players and the Father-Son players will participate in two separate contests. The MSBL WS Welcome Bar-B-Q will serve dinner to all players from 5:00p to 9:30p. Around town, the 28+ division playoffs will be taking place as pool play in the Father-Son division wraps up. The 28+ Championship games are set for Papago Saturday.

**28+ Continental
All Star Game**
noon

**28+ Federal
All Star Game**
2:30p

**28+ Central
All Star Game**
5:00p



Providing daily player
and team statistics for
all World Series Teams

MSBL WORLD SERIES DAILY NEWS

The MSBL WS office is located inside Tempe Diablo Stadium (by the Buttes) on the second floor in the press box area.

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THE WS DAILY NEWS PLATFORM

This publication is provided by the Men's Senior Baseball League for its members and is intended to provide information about the World Series tournament and its players. The opinions stated and expressed in this publication represent the editor's personal views and may not reflect the views or the official policy of the MSBL.

The MSBL WS Daily News is published every day during the WS Tournament and is available at several tournament hotels.

WS DAILY NEWS CAN BE FOUND AT:

Tempe Diablo Stadium - WS Info Office
Inn Suites Tempe Dobson Ranch
Hospitality Suites Holiday Inn Tempe
Airport Marriott Sheraton Mesa
Spring Hill Suites
Inn Suites Scottsdale
Hampton Inn and Suites
Ramada Suites (Mesa and Tempe)
Quality Inn at South Mountain

Color copies of this edition are available at Kinko's (Ray Rd. & I-10) 480-893-0700 4940 Ahwatukee (located in the Albertson Shopping Center) cost \$1 per page.

**Diary of an Aging Ballplayer**

By Max Utsler

The Curse of Being Mediocre

I spent several hours pondering the wording of this headline. Should I describe myself as good or mediocre?

Deep down, I think I am good. Upon further review, I know I am mediocre.

In the context of this story, they are one and the same. So let us not spend our time together splitting rhetorical hairs. The real point here--I strive to be *great*.

I would suggest that is where the curse begins. If I were truly *lousy*, I wouldn't waste my time trying to be great. And I probably wouldn't waste my time trying to be mediocre. Who wants to be mediocre?

No, I wanted to be great at something, and I chose baseball. In those early days on the farm in Illinois, I would bribe my 6-year old sister into pitching corncobs to me in exchange for helping her cut paper dolls. (I'm proud to say I never held up my end of the deal). I would also like to point out hitting corncobs did not improve my ability to make contact with a breaking ball as one of the locals once instructed me. I should have known better than to believe him. Yeah, he knew his corncobs. He was a seed corn salesman. He just didn't know his baseball.

I would also spend hours, bouncing tennis balls off the back porch steps, to improve my fielding ability. Then I would throw Randy Johnson-like innings to a target I painted on the side of the barn. Three years of pitching brought a defining moment when I broke one of the boards on the barn. I figured it must take 90 MPH to splinter the barn siding, so I was impressed with the development of my fastball. My Dad was not. The farm changed hands 10 years ago, but to this day, the broken boards stand as a testament to my pitching career—which by the way, lasted until I was 13-years old.

I read every baseball "how to" book I could get my hands on. I studied the great ones such as Willie Mays and Ted Williams. I worshipped some not-so-great ones such as Bobby DelGreco and Don Blasingame. (Hey, they were Cardinals). I played every chance I got, and as a result, carved out an impressively consistent record. I made the team at every level I tried.

I played Little League, Connie Mack League, American Legion, college, summer collegiate league, semi-pro, and later, Men's Senior Baseball. I was never the best player on any team. But I don't think I was never the worst. Thus, the curse of being mediocre.

No coach would ever cut me. I came to ever practice, didn't complain about riding the bench, and even offered to keep the scorebook. While I can only recall a handful of game-winning hits or fielding plays, I can not recall a time where I single-handedly lost a game. I was consistent—mediocre.

But my mediocrity was not limited to baseball. I spent a good part of my youth (and probably too much of my adulthood) demonstrating mediocrity in other sports. You've heard of the "natural athlete"—a star at anything he attempts. Meet the "mediocre athlete"—downright average at anything I ever tried.

Let's take Track and Field. In the sixth grade I finished third in the 50-yard dash behind a classmate who was wearing a hearing aid and lugging its five-pound battery in his pocket and my girlfriend.

Let's take swimming. At a summer camp where I was a counselor (and baseball coach), I wanted to dodge a nasty mountain-hiking trip. I opted for a canoe trip with 8-year olds in its stead. But I first had to pass a swimming test. I never did learn how to swim, but I somehow treaded water for the necessary five minutes to earn my certification. I knew, like any good seafarer, that at the first sign of capsizing, I should go down with my ship (canoe). Of course I would. I needed something to hang onto.

Let's take football. I am proud I played four years of Div. III football. More accurately, I participated in four years of Div. III football. The Knox College record book will show I completed a few passes, scored a few touchdowns and kicked a few extra

(continued on page 5)

Federal Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Stanislaus Indians	5	1	0	10	30
Kansas City Rockies	5	1	0	10	32
San Diego Diegans	5	1	0	10	33
Long Island Mets	3	3	0	6	46
Orange County Black Sox	2	4	0	4	75
Arkansas Diamonds	1	5	0	2	74
Indianapolis Brewers	0	6	0	0	77

Federal Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Tucson A's	6	0	0	12	36
Arizona Outlaws	5	1	0	10	53
Redwood Empire Reds	3	3	0	6	46
Antelope Valley White Sox	3	3	0	6	60
Long Island Angels	2	4	0	4	69
Foothill Victory A's	1	5	0	2	55
Utah Pirates	1	5	0	2	97

Federal Division 3	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Maine Diamond Dogs	5	0	1	11	33
LA Westside Cubs	4	2	0	8	46
Northwest Blaze	3	2	1	7	31
Seattle Mariners	3	3	0	6	61
Denver Capitals	2	4	0	4	53
Bay Area Rockies	2	4	0	4	84
S. California Sundevis	1	5	0	2	87

Federal Division 4	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Inland NW Mets	5	1	0	10	40
Arlington Mets	5	1	0	10	39
Buffalo Indians	3	2	1	7	67
Tri Valley Oaks	3	3	0	6	78
Milwaukee Rangers	2	4	0	4	77
Denver Braves	1	3	2	4	55
Pacific Coast Barracudas	0	5	1	1	58

Federal Division 5	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Tri Valley Red Sox	5	1	0	10	35
Tacoma Tugs	5	1	0	10	40
San Antonio Orioles	3	3	0	6	52
California Giants	3	3	0	6	53
Chicago Reds	2	4	0	4	44
North Valley Bears	2	4	0	4	71
Long Island Tides	1	5	0	2	73

Continental Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Fresno Tribe	5	1	0	10	68
South Dakota Rushmores	4	2	0	8	49
Washington DC Rangers	4	2	0	8	44
LA Westside Dawgs	3	3	0	6	45
Central Coast Waves	2	4	0	4	92
Phoenix Rattlers	2	4	0	4	62

Continental Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Columbus A's	4	1	1	9	54
LA Grays	4	2	0	8	49
Orange County Cardinals	2	3	1	5	52
Arizona Cardinals	2	4	0	4	54
Millennium Properties Pirates	2	4	0	4	43
Fedlock Federals	1	5	0	2	66

Father-Son National	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Sacramento Senators	1	0	1	3	8
Minnesota Crosstown Traffic	1	0	1	3	15
Tri Valley Grizzlies	1	1	0	2	9
Sacramento Cardinals	1	1	0	2	12
World Trans Angels	0	2	0	0	17

Central Division 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA
LA Bulls	5	1	0	10	42
Iowa Oaks	5	1	0	10	41
So. California Redbirds	3	3	0	6	56
Puget Sound Tigers	3	3	0	6	72
Tucson Indians	3	3	0	6	51
Santa Barbara Alley Cats	3	3	0	6	62
Arizona Diamondbacks	2	4	0	4	87
New Mexico Lobos	0	6	0	0	94

Central Division 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Tri Valley Giants	5	0	1	11	56
Seattle Blues	5	1	0	10	44
Utah Indians	3	2	1	7	58
Colorado Springs Explorers	3	3	0	6	67
Arizona Durham Bulls	3	3	0	6	78
Des Moines Bruins	2	4	0	4	45
Oklahoma City Dodgers	1	5	0	2	62
St. Thomas Tropical Waves	1	5	0	2	93

Central Division 3	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Austin Rangers	5	1	0	10	29
Bay Area Beavers	4	1	1	9	31
Boise Hawks	4	2	0	8	38
Omaha Titans	3	3	0	6	47
N Colorado Reds	3	3	0	6	58
Connecticut Navigators	2	4	0	4	69
Tucson Cactus Rally Reds	1	3	2	4	87
Kansas City A's	0	5	1	1	76

Central Division 4	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Rogue Valley Reds	5	1	0	10	32
So. California Storm	5	1	0	10	40
Ft. Worth Rangers	5	1	0	10	43
Kansas City Giants	4	1	1	9	55
Sun Valley Suns	2	4	0	4	51
Eugene Evergreens	2	4	0	4	58
New Mexico Cubs	1	3	2	4	40
Tucson Old Pueblo Padres	1	5	0	2	63
So. California Indians	0	5	1	1	96

Father-Son American 1	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Atlanta Braves	2	0	0	4	3
Orange County Giants	2	0	0	4	9
Seattle Mariners	1	1	0	2	7
Reising's Chicago Cubs	1	1	0	2	14
DC Nationals	0	2	0	0	14
Cleveland Indians	0	2	0	0	19

Father-Son American 2	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Oregon	2	0	0	4	11
Elk Grove Tribe	2	0	0	4	12
LA Athletics	1	1	0	2	21
Riverside Cardinals	1	1	0	2	24
Faigin's Chicago Cubs	0	2	0	0	19
Philadelphia Phillies	0	2	0	0	31

Father-Son American 3	W	L	T	Pts	RA
Terre Haute Volkers Group	2	0	0	4	3
LMA Pirates	2	0	0	4	14
Sacramento Stars	1	1	0	2	14
Nor Cal Antiques	0	2	0	0	25
Northern Illinois Razorbacks	0	2	0	0	48

DENEVI & JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

DAILY 9:30a - 4:30p Tempe Diablo Stadium

Fed Div 1 Thursday Results

Indianapolis Brewers	2
Long Island Mets	22
Orange County Black Sox	6
Kansas City Rockies	10
San Diego Diegans	15
Arkansas Diamonds	3
Stanislaus Indians	6
San Diego Diegans	3

Fed Div 2 Thursday Results

Long Island Angels	4
Antelope Valley White Sox	5
Tucson A's	8
Foothill Victory A's	7
Utah Pirates	3
Redwood Empire Reds	24
Arizona Outlaws	12
Long Island Angels	11

Fed Div 3 Thursday Results

Seattle Mariners	13
LA Westside Cubs	9
Bay Area Rockies	6
Maine Diamond Dogs	13
S. California Sundevils	2
Northwest Blaze	11
Maine Diamond Dogs	9
Denver Capitals	8

Fed Div 4 Thursday Results

Buffalo Indians	20
Milwaukee Rangers	11
Arlington Mets	10
Inland NW Mets	12
Milwaukee Rangers	6
Denver Braves	15
Tri Valley Oaks	10
Pacific Coast Barracudas	9

Fed Div 5 Thursday Results

California Giants	19
North Valley Bears	4
Tri Valley Red Sox	8
San Antonio Orioles	4
North Valley Bears	4
Chicago Reds	5
Tacoma Tugs	13
Long Island Tides	9

Cent Div 1 Thursday Results

So. California Redbirds	11
LA Bulls	6
Iowa Oaks	18
Santa Barbara Alley Cats	9
Puget Sound Tigers	10
New Mexico Lobos	7
LA Bulls	12
Tucson Indians	10
Puget Sound Tigers	11
Arizona Diamondbacks	9
Iowa Oaks	19
So. California Redbirds	5
New Mexico Lobos	8
Tucson Indians	18
Arizona Diamondbacks	12
Santa Barbara Alley Cats	19

Cent Div 2 Thursday Results

Oklahoma City Dodgers	3
Utah Indians	6
Seattle Blues	18
Arizona Durham Bulls	12
Colorado Springs Explorers	19
St. Thomas Tropical Waves	13
Tri Valley Giants	7
Des Moines Bruins	3
Colorado Springs Explorers	19
Tri Valley Giants	20
Des Moines Bruins	3
Utah Indians	10
Seattle Blues	6
Oklahoma City Dodgers	4
Arizona Durham Bulls	23
St. Thomas Tropical Waves	11

Cent Div 3 Thursday Results

Omaha Titans	8
Boise Hawks	9
Kansas City A's	10
Connecticut Navigators	17
Austin Rangers	17
N Colorado Reds	5
Boise Hawks	24
Tucson Cactus Rally Reds	8
Bay Area Beavers	10
N Colorado Reds	3
Kansas City A's	0
Austin Rangers	12
Connecticut Navigators	10
Tucson Cactus Rally Reds	14
Bay Area Beavers	5
Omaha Titans	1

Cent Div 4 Thursday Results

Kansas City Giants	12
So. California Storm	11
Rogue Valley Reds	20
Eugene Evergreens	7
Ft. Worth Rangers	21
So. California Indians	9
Sun Valley Suns	9
Kansas City Giants	10
So. California Storm	8
New Mexico Cubs	6
Rogue Valley Reds	5
Ft. Worth Rangers	10
Eugene Evergreens	3
Tucson Old Pueblo Padres	6
Sun Valley Suns	15
So. California Indians	6
Cont Div 1 Thursday Results	
Central Coast Waves	20
Phoenix Rattlers	14
Washington DC Rangers	8
South Dakota Rushmores	11
Phoenix Rattlers	5
Fresno Tribe	14
LA Westside Dawgs	7
Millennium Properties Pirates	6
Cont Div 2 Thursday Results	
Orange County Cardinals	4
Fedlock Federals	5
LA Grays	21
Columbus A's	13
Arizona Cardinals	2
LA Grays	11
F-S National Thursday Results	
Sacramento Cardinals	7
Minnesota Crosstown Traffic	9
Tri Valley Grizzlies	0
Sacramento Senators	5
Minnesota Crosstown Traffic	8
Sacramento Senators	8
World Trans Angels	3
Sacramento Cardinals	11
Tri Valley Grizzlies	6
World Trans Angels	4
Saturdays Championship Games	
28+ Continental Championship Game	
10:00a Papago # 4	
28+ Federal Championship Game	
10:30a Papago # 1	
28+ Central Championship Game	
10:15a Papago # 2	

F-S American1 Thursday Results

Cleveland Indians	2
Atlanta Braves	11
Seattle Mariners	10
Reising's Chicago Cubs	3
Orange County Giants	7
DC Nationals	6
Reising's Chicago Cubs	8
Cleveland Indians	4
Atlanta Braves	7
DC Nationals	1

F-S American2 Thursday Results

Elk Grove Tribe	14
LA Athletics	9
Philadelphia Phillies	7
LA Athletics	15
Riverside Cardinals	9
Oregon	15
Faigin's Chicago Cubs	3
Elk Grove Tribe	8
Riverside Cardinals	16
Philadelphia Phillies	9
Oregon	11
Faigin's Chicago Cubs	2

F-S American3 Thursday Results

Northern Illinois Razorbacks	6
LMA Pirates	22
Sacramento Stars	10
Nor Cal Antiques	9
Seattle Mariners	3
Orange County Giants	4
Sacramento Stars	1
Terre Haute Volkers Group	5
LMA Pirates	15
Nor Cal Antiques	8
Terre Haute Volkers Group	26
Northern Illinois Razorbacks	2

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 contact Mitch Miles at
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MSBL WORLD SERIES INFORMATION DESK

For the latest game scores
 and divisional standings,
 stop by
 Tempe Diablo Stadium.
 For additional information:

call 602- 438-7528

World Series Awards Banquet - Saturday October 26th
 Rustler's Rooste (at the Pointe at So Mountain) I-10 & Baseline
 Guest Speaker - Jim Lefebvre (former Major League Manager)

Please bring any used baseball equipment that you
 would like to donate to the Philippines MSBL to the
 WS Office located in Tempe Diablo Stadium.



28+ Continental Division Round 1

Arizona Cardinals vs Fresno Tribe

9:30a Papago # 1

Orange Co Cards vs SD Rushmores

9:30a Papago # 2

Washington DC Rangers vs LA Grays

9:30a Papago # 3

LA Westside Dawgs vs Columbus A's

9:30a Papago # 4**28+ Continental Division Round 2**

Game 1 winner vs Game 3 winner

1:00p Tempe # 3

Game 2 winner vs Game 4 winner

1:00p Tempe # 2**28+ Central Division Round 1**

Ft. Worth Rangers vs LA Bulls

9:30a Red Mountain # 1

KC Giants vs Tri Valley Giants

9:30a Red Mountain # 2

Utah Indians vs Austin Rangers

9:30a Red Mountain # 3

Boise Hawks vs Rogue Valley Reds

9:30a Fitch # 1

Iowa Oaks vs Bay Area Beavers

9:30a Fitch # 2

Seattle Blues vs So Cal Storm

9:30a Fitch # 4**28+ Central Division Round 2**

Game 1 winner vs Game 6 winner

1:30p Red Mountain # 1

Game 2 winner vs Game 5 winner

1:30p Red Mountain # 2

Game 3 winner vs Game 4 winner

1:30p Red Mountain # 3**28+ Central Division Semi Final**

tba vs tba

5:30p Red Mountain # 1**"Dad" Shows Sons How To Pitch***By Joel Becker*

Sixty-year-old "Dad" Don Cole of the Father-Son American Division 1 Seattle Mariners showed the league's sons a thing or two about pitching yesterday with a marathon performance in the Mariners double-header.

Cole pitched 17 of his team's 18 innings, finishing with a 1-1 record and allowing only 7 runs over two games. Cole's ancient, yet still effective arm held the Orange County Giants to 4 runs in the Mariners' 4-3 loss and kept the Reising's Chicago Cubs bats at bay in Seattle's 10-3 win.

No word on whether Cole will pitch again.

28+ Federal Division Round 1

NW Blaze vs Stanislaus Indians

9:30a Peoria Padre # 5

San Antonio Orioles vs Tucson A's

9:30a Peoria Padre # 6

Redwood Empire vs Maine Diamond

9:30a Peoria Mariner # 3

San Diego vs Inland NW Mets

9:30a Peoria Mariner # 4

LI Mets vs Tri Valley Red Sox

9:30a Peoria Mariner # 5

Buffalo Indians vs KC Rockies

9:30a Peoria Mariner # 6

LA Westside vs Arlington Mets

9:30a Peoria Padre # 3

Arizona Outlaws vs Tacoma Tugs

9:30a Peoria Padre # 4**Diary Of An Aging Ball Player** *(continued from page 2)*

points and field goals. When we were down to 18 healthy players at the end of my sophomore year, I returned punts. Actually I never returned one, I just signaled "fair catch" so I wouldn't join the growing legion on the DL. I also played the nickel back on defense. Mind you, I wasn't considered a good enough tackler to play defense in junior high or high school in a school of 235 students. Thank heaven the recruiting at Knox improved so I spent the next two years mostly lugging a clipboard. Come to think of it, I was really great at that.

Let's take skiing. In my early 30's I decided to take up skiing or more accurately, my girlfriend decided I should take up skiing. I didn't want to invest too much money in this venture so I borrowed some clothes from my Dad, his bibs—Carhartt's. Those brownish-gold pants looked exquisite when topped by a red nylon jacket I think I had picked up at Tractor Supply. Keep in mind, I wasn't going to Breckenridge looking for chicks. Skiing soon added another sport to my mediocre list. I learned how to get down the hill (fast) the first day. I've been skiing for 20-some years now, and I can still get down the hill (fast). Someday I hope to learn to actually ski.

Let's take golf. The first time out, when I was 18, I shot a 98. The last time I played this summer, I shot 98. I used to say, "if I played more I could be really good at this." About 20 years ago, I started playing a lot. I think I actually got worse. In that case, being mediocre wasn't so bad after all.

Let's take hockey. I laced on my first pair of skates to play at a brand new rink in Columbia, MO. I was 29 at the time, and I proudly wore on the front of my jersey, our team crest WOHT—"World's Oldest Hockey Team." That was 25 years ago. Today I play on the Canadiens, which I think is French for "The Really Oldest Hockey Team." But wait a minute, no one else on my team is older than 36. But hey, I pay my league fees on time, don't complain about ice time, and show up for every game (except the week I'm in Phoenix playing baseball). So who cares if I'm only a half-step faster than a pylon?

I don't really expect any of the MSBL players who read this to offer any sympathy. Most of you are just like me. And it's not such a bad life. Once you find yourself being mediocre at a number of things, you gain the confidence that you can be mediocre at anything.

I must sign off now. I will start taking guitar lessons in a couple of weeks. You see I need a fall back career plan. That's just in case the Cardinals scouts who will be hawking the Over-48 National games overlook me again—for the 37th straight year.

Max Utsler is a member of the Kansas City Men's Senior Baseball League and is playing in the tournament for the 48+ National Division Kansas City Legends. When he's not playing baseball Max teaches journalism at Kansas University.

28+ Federal Division Round 2

Game 1 winner vs Game 2 winner

12:45p Peoria Mariner # 3

Game 3 winner vs Game 6 winner

12:45p Peoria Mariner # 4

Game 4 winner vs Game 5 winner

12:45p Peoria Mariner # 5

Game 7 winner vs Game 8 winner

12:45p Peoria Mariner # 6**28+ Federal Division Semi Final**

Game 10 winner vs Game 11 winner

5:30p Tempe # 3

Game 9 winner vs Game 12 winner

5:30p Tempe # 2

**Visit the World Series Trade Show
located at Tempe Diablo Stadium**



*Atlanta Braves Father-Daughter Scorekeeper / Player **Lynn Whitman** wraps up a batting order change at home plate.*



***Dave Smith**, of the Atlanta Braves Father-Son American Division 1 team, drills a single to left during first round action yesterday.*



The traditional after game handshake shows typical good sportsmanship after the Braves-Indians Father-Son game yesterday.



*DC Rangers infielder **Fred Villegas** bends to scoop a hot shot to second during the Rangers' game against S. Dakota Rushmores.*



*Indians righty **Ron Guido** prepares to spin a breaking ball across the plate during his team's 11-2 loss to the F-S Atlanta Braves.*



***Keith Gall** of the Father-Son American Division 2 Los Angeles Athletics offers at a pitch yesterday afternoon at Tempe Diablo.*