

DAILY NEWS



WORLD SERIES OFFICE NUMBER (480) 858-7521

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19th, 2022

Jackie Piro-Hardball Magazine

By Steve LaMontia,
MSBL Director of Communications

No 35th anniversary of the Men's Senior Baseball League would be complete without a re-visit with the managing editor of the beloved Hardball Magazine, a staple in the MSBL environment from the spring of 1991 through 2012. The inception of the immediacy of websites and social media necessitated a change in direction in 2012, so MSBL discontinued the quarterly lifeline to all things going on within the MSBL world and addressed different communication needs.

MSBL World Series Tournament Director Tom Prendergast recently asked previous Hardball Magazine managing editor and 2012 MSBL Hall of Fame inductee, Jackie Piro, to outline for us the inception and journey of Hardball Magazine, up until the final edition in 2012. Jackie was nice enough to supply us with a history lesson, which includes some of her personal images from years past. Enjoy the trip down memory lane!

HardBall Magazine...It was in the early 1990s, when my late husband Dan Piro* informed me that we were going to be in the magazine business. This came as a bit of a shock to me since we had only been doing 12-page banking newsletters up until that time. We were transplanted New Yorkers living in California when Dan heard about the MSBL from my brother-in-law Lee DeMeo who was a member of Steve Sigler's Long Island league. So, Dan found out there was a Southern California MSBL and he joined it, thrilled to be able to play baseball again. He also got involved in running the local league and he made it a point to visit Steve Sigler during our visits back east.

Dan told Steve he thought the organization needed a newsletter; Steve said "Why not a magazine?" and that was that! It was quite a leap of faith for Steve, as printing and mailing a magazine is very expensive. But it was a great decision. Remember, the internet was in its infancy, no one had websites, so mailing to all the MSBL members throughout the country was the only way to communicate to the entire organization. (continued on page 2)

"Play Ball!" - Games Back On Track After A Slow Start



70+ Cactus Division Paladin pitcher, **Richard Zamora** delivers a pitch to the plate in his teams game with the So Cal Dodgers yesterday morning at Tempe Diablo Stadium.

Halfway Through Week 1 - Teams Looking to Lock In A Playoff Berth

Triple Headers On Tap Today For Some Teams Making Up Rainout Games

By Tom Prendergast

On Thursday, our Father & Son divisions begin play and most of the sons weren't around for the first ten years of the MSBL. Kind of a sobering thought as we continue to reminisce about the early days of the league. Any meaningful stroll down the MSBL memory lane needs to include HardBall magazine. Without a doubt, this publication was instrumental in getting the word out about the MSBL. My three favorite printed publications include; Mad Magazine, Playboy and HardBall Magazine. Whenever one of these magazine arrived, I would always stop what I was doing and read them cover to cover. HardBall magazine contained lots of action photos and interesting stories about the different leagues around the country. Long before Billy Beane came on the scene, HardBall publisher, Dan Piro was already thinking analytically about baseball. Many of the articles that appeared in Hardball were on the cutting edge when it came to teaching fundamentals and finer points of the game to our players.

Dan's first editor of the magazine, was David Krival. He was coarse, unrefined and a no nonsense kind of guy. David's best quality, was his ability to craft an article about our one of our players or league Presidents that people could relate too and understand. As a baseball player himself, David had a way of writing compelling and interesting articles about all things MSBL related. Jackie on the other hand was just the opposite. Pleasant and outgoing, dealing with her was always a pleasure. She was our own Mary Poppins! Together these people came through - time and time again. This trio performed a tremendous service to the MSBL and the members. And while all of the issues were of high quality, the gala MSBL World Series and Fall Classic recaps were just outstanding. The magazine came along at the right time and the Steve Sigler / Dan Piro partnership flourished. Every issue included a letter from the Steve that updated the membership on the league. HardBall magazine was the quintessential vehicle for the MSBL/MABL and one that helped the league to grow and expand nationwide.

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No alcohol or tobacco products are allowed before - during or after the game at any MSBL WS locations or stadiums!

MSBL WS DAILY NEWS

The MSBL WS office is located inside
Tempe Diablo Stadium
Located on the second floor

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2200 W. Alameda Drive
Temp, Arizona 85282

WS Office Phone Line 480-858-7521

WS Text Score Line 760-898-3700

MSBL National Web Site Address:

www.msblnational.com

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MSBL Coordinator Brian Sigler

Tournament Director Tom Prendergast

Umpire In Chief Jon Browar

Office Assistant Marvin Feldman

Office Assistant Phil Harris

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Publisher / Editor Tom Prendergast

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50+ Desert Division

Red Deer Legends 8

NSEW Connection 3

Cal Vets 5

Connecticut Navigators 19

Colorado All Stars 15

Wild Things 10

Nationals 17

NSEW Connection 6

Red Deer Legends 13

Cal Vets 6

NSEW Connection 0

Connecticut Navigators 18

Wild Things 3

Nationals 13

Red Deer Legends 16

Colorado All Stars 4

**70+ National/Central**

Minnesota Bandits 2

Sacramento Tribe 8

Chicaggo N TSP Fire 17

North County Mudcats 3

LA Athletics 0

Colorado Cardinals 15

70+ Cactus Division 1

Cal Vets 3

Kansas City A's 18

Lehigh Valley Moondogs 2

Mudville 9 16

Fresno Grizzlies 3

MBI 6

MBI 10

Mudville 9 10

70+ Cactus Division 2

Pacific Reds 10

Red Door Legends 17

Paladin 3

So Cal Dodgers 10

Tucson Toros 18

Cal Vets 3

Cal Vets 3

Cal Vets 3

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50+ National Division

Dupage Angels 20

3n2 Rangers 12

Aberdeen Baseball 2

San Antinio Bombers 3

Dupage Angels 17

Aberdeen US Baseball 8

OC Sox 6

San Antonio Bombers 7

3n2 Rangers 18

San Antonio Bombers 3

Aberdeen US Baseball 4

OC Sox 6

50+ Central Division

Chicaggo North TSP's 6

Long Island Panthers 13

Caballeros 4

Mustangs Baseball Club 8

Mustangs Baseball Club 5

Chicaggo North TSP 8

Yonder Travelers 3

Caballeros 4

Long Island Panthers 2

Yonder Travelers 9

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Jackie Piro Hardball Magazine (from page 1)

Our job was to report on all the national and regional tournaments plus have baseball training articles and spotlight various leagues and people in the organization. HardBall Magazine served to legitimize and elevate the National organization and unify the affiliated leagues. It added a lot of value to MSBL membership, in my extremely biased opinion.

We started out with just me as Managing Editor, Dan as Publisher and David Krival** as Editor (David was also an MSBL member). David came up with the "HardBall" name. What we lacked in experience we made up for in enthusiasm and hard work. We were on a shoestring budget and produced two issues a year. We worked out of our house in Oceanside, California. David would come down on weekends from his home in Rancho Palos Verdes. The first issue as I recall covered the MSBL World Series which at that time had maybe two divisions. Dan and David found various subcontractors to help, like Denevi & Jones, two women who loved baseball and were professional photographers and their friends to shoot and caption photos of the Championship Games. Then when the Fall Classic in Florida was born, we found Jerry Esposito, an MSBL member from Rochester who took great photos for us there. Of course, Steve Sigler would write his "Letter from the President" for each issue and suggest topics for us to cover, and he would get final review before we sent it to the printer. Later, when we needed a new Editor, Jeff McGaw from the Harrisburg MSBL stepped up and did a great job for us, especially after my husband Dan got sick.

As we approached the end of HardBall's 20-year tenure, we were producing four issues per year and covering every championship game in the MSBL World Series and Fall Classic, plus a slew of regionals and the Vegas and Palm Springs tournaments. And the Yearbook issue!

It was an all-consuming job for us, requiring many late nights, a rigorous production schedule, and a slew of subcontracted reporters and photographer, mostly members of the MSBL, to send us content.

(continued on page 3)

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Keep up to date on what's happening at the MSBL / MABL World Series!



twitter.com/MSBL_National

2023 MSBL / MABL WS Dates

The MSBL / MABL National office has released the individual division dates for the 2023 MSBL World Series, our 36th year in Arizona.

Week 1 Divisions

50+ Div Sun - Fri Oct 15th - 20th

70+ Div Sun - Sat Oct 15th - 21st

40+ Div Mon - Sat Oct 16th - 21st

25+ Div Wed - Sun Oct 18th - 22nd

Week 2 Divisions

55+ Div Sat - Thur Oct 21st - 26th

65+ Div Sat - Fri Oct 21st - 27th

35+ Div Mon - Sat Oct 23rd - 28th

73+ Div Mon - Sun Oct 23rd - 29th

F/S Div Thur - Sun Oct 26th - 29th

Week 3 Divisions

75+ Div Sun - Sat Oct 29th - Nov 4

45+ Div Mon - Sat Oct 30th - Nov 4

60+ Div Mon - Sat Oct 30th - Nov 4

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scores to
(760)
898-3700**

50+ National Division							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 OC Sox	4	1	0	8	32	800	
2 Dupage Angels	3	1	0	6	32	750	
3 San Antonio Bombers	2	2	0	4	34	500	
4 3/2 Rangers	1	2	1	3	39	250	
5 Aberdeen US Baseball	0	3	1	1	26	0	
50+ Central Division							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 Chicago North TSP's	3	1	0	6	30	750	
4 Caballeros	2	1	1	5	27	500	
5 Yonder Travelers	2	2	0	4	12	500	
6 Mustangs Baseball Club	1	3	0	2	39	250	
7 Long Island Panthers	0	2	1	1	15	0	
50+ Cactus Division 1							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 DFW White Sox	4	0	0	8	18	1000	
2 Arizona Cubs	3	1	0	6	18	750	
3 Sacramento Marlins	2	2	0	4	20	500	
4 Indiana Blue Jays	2	2	0	4	30	500	
5 Madison Blues	2	2	0	4	44	500	
6 Rochester Redwings	1	1	0	2	17	500	
7 Sultanes Rockers	1	3	0	2	24	250	
8 Chicago Pinch Hitters	1	3	0	2	39	250	
50+ Cactus Division 2							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 Sonoma County Cardinals	4	0	0	8	23	1000	
2 Spokane Cubs	2	1	1	5	32	500	
3 Fresno Hardcor	2	1	0	4	16	500	
4 So Cal Indians	2	2	0	4	27	500	
5 Seattle Steelheads	1	2	0	2	32	333	
6 Santa Barbara Stingrays	1	3	0	2	52	250	
7 Carolina Cobras	0	1	1	1	19	500	
50+ Desert Division							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 Red Deer Legends	5	0	0	10	23	1000	
2 Connecticut Navigators	3	0	0	6	11	1000	
3 Nationals	2	2	0	4	42	500	
4 Cal Vets	2	3	0	4	63	400	
5 Colorado Springs All Stars	1	2	0	2	41	333	
6 NSEW Connection	1	3	0	2	29	250	
7 Wild Things	0	2	0	0	35	0	
70+ National							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 Sacramento Tribe	0	1	0	2	12	500	
2 Minnesota Bandits	1	1	0	2	10	500	
3 LA Athletics	1	1	0	2	23	500	
70+ Central Division							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 Colorado Cardinals	1	1	0	2	10	500	
2 Chicago North TSP Fire	1	1	0	2	11	500	
3 North County Mudcats	1	1	0	2	26	500	
70+ Cactus Division 1							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 MBI	2	0	1	5	16	677	
2 Mudville 9	2	0	1	5	16	677	
3 Fresno Grizzlies	2	1	0	4	10	667	
4 Kansas City A's	1	1	0	2	19	500	
5 Lehigh Valley Moondogs	0	2	0	0	31	0	
6 Cal Vets (2)	0	3	0	0	58	0	
70+ Cactus Division 2							
	W	L	T	Pts	RA	Win %	
1 Tucson Toros	2	0	0	4	4	1000	
2 So Cal Dodgers	2	0	0	4	10	1000	
3 Red Deer Legends	2	0	0	4	13	1000	
4 Pacific Reds	0	2	0	0	29	0	
5 Paladin	0	2	0	0	26	0	
6 Cal Vets (1)	0	2	0	0	37	0	

Jackie Piro Hardball Magazine (from page 2)

We all wore multiple hats; writing, editing, designing, formatting, selling ads, answering phone calls and emails from members, etc. No sooner was one issue off to the printer than we started on the next. Dan and I and our son Danny made that trip to the Arizona World Series each year and I remember running from one Tempe Diablo field to another to take photos and do interviews. I even learned to score games. Ditto for other tournaments like Palm Springs and Las Vegas. The Arizona tournament was fun for me, because it was like an annual family reunion where I got to see Steve, Tom (tournament director Prendergast) and all the people, league presidents, players, etc. that I talked to on the phone in person for a change.

The technology to produce the magazine changed drastically over the 20 years we published. In the early 1990s, I had to send the files on disk to a local output house and the photos to another place to be halftoned. I pasted the halftoned photos onto the pages on my dining room table with something called a waxer, then drove the finished pages back to the output house to have them shot to film negatives, which then had to be picked up the next day, examined on a light table, and FedExed to the printer.

Up to a week later I would get a proof back from the printer and only after I reviewed and Fed-Exed back the approved pages would they proceed with the actual printing. In contrast, 2011's final issue was formatted on my laptop computer and then uploaded to our printer's FTP site. I was able to proof and approve each page online almost immediately. *So much faster!*

These days the MSBL website and social media pages fulfill the unifying and communicative purpose, making a printed magazine superfluous. I'm happily retired and remarried, and no longer involved in baseball now that my son is a working man (he played college baseball until he graduated), but I confess to sneaking a peak at Tom Prendergast's World Series Daily News and the articles on the MSBL website occasionally when I'm feeling nostalgic!

Here is a link to the final edition of Hardball Magazine from 2012:

<https://piroportfolio.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/hardball-finalissue2012.pdf>

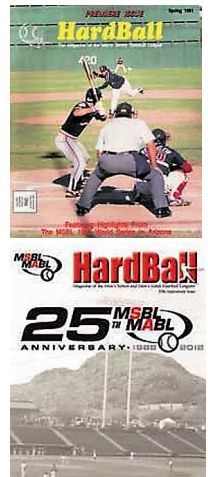
—Jackie Piro Huyck

**Dan Piro passed away on January 27, 2010 in Oceanside, California of Pancreatic Cancer at age 61.*

***Dave Krival passed away on July 23rd, 2020 in Oxnard, California at age 72.*



Jackie with son Danny and husband Paul Huyck





70+ Cactus Division Paladin batter, **Karl Quebe** connects with this pitch for an rbi single Tuesday morning at Tempe Diablo Stadium.



70+ Cactus Division So Cal Dodgers pitcher, **Dave Cripe** came on in relief for his team yesterday during their 10-3 win over Paladin.



50+ Cactus Chicago Pinch Hitters 2nd baseman, **Doug Carofoil** gets ready to snag this throw as DFW **Scott Golden**, steals second.



50+ Cactus Division Chicago Pinch Hitters relief pitcher, **Ron Saslow** delivers a pitch during his teams game at Bell Bank Park.



50+ Cactus Division Indiana Blue Jays pitcher, **Kirt Bennett** was an imposing on the mound yesterday with 4 strike outs and a 0 ERA



50+ Cactus Rochester Redwings 1st baseman, **Tom Leason** keeps his eye on the ball and Madison Blues batter/runner, **Steve Hill**.