

BallTown Bombers win Championship @ Florida Fall Classic

The BallTown Bombers were proudly sponsored by BallTown Athletic Club owned and operated by Doug Kepple. BallTown shares a building with Kepples Carpet @ 110 Cushman Ave, W. Berlin NJ (609)254-9724. Balltown provides (6) spacious batting tunnels, 2 tunnels have pitching machines along with throwing lanes and multiple hitting T's. BallTown caters to all age groups including men and women's softball.

The BallTown Bombers started their Fall Season by winning two Regional Tournaments; Quakertown and Delco. We won in impressive fashion. Good pitching, good defense and strong timely hitting. The competition we faced in these two tournaments was adequate. The team was confident but a daunting task of some stiff competition awaited in Florida. During our (5) guaranteed games (in Florida), there would be some low points, some doubt and grumbling. Our team was not used to losing. Instead of "having the better horses on the field" as we did in the Regional Tournaments, the BallTown Bombers turned into a team that ultimately grinded out wins with Dick Tate's speed, solid defense, timely hitting (I didn't forget about you Angel Rivera) and a strike throwing pitching staff. Steve Alemi threw (2) complete game wins including the Semifinal Game. Barry Blundin threw two complete games, including (1) quarter final playoff win. John Dipetro had a complete game win and Doug Kepple threw (17) innings including a nine inning Championship Victory. Keep in mind those innings were thrown in a six day period. Also remember, Steve Alemi and Doug Kepple played every inning in the field defensively. True Iron Men.

There were some setbacks though in the Delco Championship game. Marty Nemorofsky (Nemo) was put on the season ending DL with a serious groin and hip flexor injury. The loss of Nemo was significant. He could hit, was versatile in the field, and could pitch, all very well. And most importantly, you could count on Nemo to be prepared to play in Florida.

Unexpectedly, two players, Doug Kepple and John DiPietro, stepped up to fill the void left by Marty and committed to playing in the Fall Classic. Both Doug and John played exceptionally well.

Still our roster was light but solid. We had (11) position players and (2) pitcher only's. Having to potentially play (8) nine inning games in (6) days against top notch teams would be excruciating.

October 9th & 10th The BallTown Bombers Win The Quakertown Tournament

Team stats for Quakertown: record: 3-0-1 Team Batting: 54 hits/ 130 AB's .415
4 errors 17 stolen bases 44 Runs scored 14 runs allowed

October 16th & 17th The BallTown Bombers Win Delco Tournament

Championship:

Pittman Sox 1

BallTown Bombers 13

Picture: Delco 45+ Champs 2010

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BallTown Bombers	000505102	13	15	2
Pittman Sox	000000100	1	5	1

Winning Pitcher: Barry Blundin, 2BB, 5 hits, 0 ER

Catcher: Marty Burman

HR: Doug Kepple

2b: Neil Hourahan (2), Marty Burman

Top Hitters: Marty Burman 3/4 w/double 2 RBI, Doug Kepple 3/4 w/HR 2 RBI, Neil Hourahan 2/4 w/2 Doubles 2 RBI, Dave Hyatt 3/4 2 RBI, John Kosmoski 2/5 4 RBI

In the top of the 4th, Marty Burman led off with a single, Doug Kepple followed with a walk, Neil Hourahan doubled to break the ice (2 RBI), Dave Hyatt singled, Steve Alemi walked and John Kosmowsky singled (2 RBI)

In the top of the 6th, Doug Kepple singled, Neil Hourahan reached on an error, Dave Hyatt singled (1 RBI), Steve Alemi singled (1 RBI) and John Kosmowsky singled (2 RBI)

Tournament MVP's: Steve Alemi 8/12 & Neil Hourahan 8/14

Team Stats:

Record: 4-1

Team Batting Average: 59 hits in 154 @ Bats = .383

Runs Scored: 42

Runs allowed: 14

Errors: 6

Florida Fall Classic

Game #1 November 15th @ 9:30am @ DodgerTown Stadium, Vero Beach FL
vs. Long Island, Yankees

BallTown Bombers: 5 Long Island Yankees: 7

Barry Blundin was the starting pitcher for the Bombers and deserved a win. The Bombers uncharacteristically made 4 errors and lost a couple of balls in the sun. To Long Island's credit they managed 8 hits and played well on defense. The Bombers made it interesting scoring 4 in the last two innings, but came up short in the end.

The team's attitude was surly. We picked up our equipment and ventured to DodgerTown Field#6, where Puerto Rico was waiting. It wasn't a fun walk.

Notable offense :

Don Davis 2 for 3 BB, 2 runs

Angel Rivera 2 for 3, 2 RBI

Dave Hyatt 1 for 1 HBP & BB, RBI

Game #2 November 15th @ 1:30am @ DodgerTown Field #1, Vero Beach FL
Vs. Puerto Rico

BallTown Bombers: 3 Puerto Rico: 2

Steve Alemi throws a gem. 6 Hits, 0 BB's. Our defense played better (2) errors. *After this game it was apparent we needed to play well to win. Our lopsided Regional Tournament victories were distant memories.*

Notable Offense:

Doug Kepple 2 for 4

Neil Hourahan 2 for 4, (1)2b, (2) RBI, run

Frank Lojewski 2 for 3

Game #3 November 16th @ 1:30am @ Tradition Field #6, Port St. Lucie, FL
Vs. Raleigh Braves

BallTown Bombers: 8 Raleigh Braves: 8

Doug Kepple throws 8 innings allowing 4 runs, scattering 13 hits and 1 BB.

The Bombers went into the top of the 9th trailing 5-4. They erupted for (4) runs taking a 3 run lead into the bottom of the ninth. Angel Rivera had the tying RBI with a double and Tom Donahue appeared to have the game winning hit. The Raleigh Braves stormed back to tie the game in the bottom of the ninth. John Skarynski came in relief of John Dipetro to strand runners on second and third with one out. John Dipetro swallowed the tie. *We were lucky to walk away with a tie. "You gotta be f---ing kidding me" was murmured amongst allot of the players. With high expectations most of us didn't know what to think. A few things we knew... beer and a jacuzzi waited at the hotel and we had another game tomorrow*

Notable Offense:

Tom Donahue 2 for 4, 2 runs. (2) RBI

Dick Tate 2 for 5, (1) steal

Neil Hourahan 2 for 3, HBP, RBI, Run, (1) 2b

Steve Alemi 2 for 3, (2) Run

Angel Rivera 2 for 3, BB, (2) RBI, (1) run

Notable Defense:

Don Davis had two put out throws, one to second and one to third. As we know, offense rules (which is BS). Put outs and good defense change the momentum of games. Donnie's outfield play was exceptional. He not only made the routine play, but made difficult plays look easy.

During this game Tom Donahue injured his groin and hip flexor. Tom wouldn't be the same after this game. He could only jog slowly. His commitment to contribute to the team, after his injury, was a testament to his character. Defensively, Tom would come up big in the Championship game.

Game #4 November 17th @ 1:30am @ DodgerTown #1, Vero Beach FL
Vs. South Atlanta Twins

BallTown Bombers: 21 South Atlantic Twins: 3

The South Atlantic Twins were 0-3 before this game and knew they would be heading home Friday. The Bomber's obliged by stomping on them. John Dipetro threw a complete game allowing (3) runs, (3) hits and (3) BB.

Notable offense:

Dick Tate 2 for 4, Run, (2) RBI, BB

Neil Hourahan 3 for 4,(1)3b, (4) RBI, BB, (3) run

Doug Kepple 2 for 6, (2) Run, (2) RBI

Don Davis 2 for 4, (3) Run, (3) RBI, BB

Steve Alemi 2 for 2, (3) BB, (3) Runs, (2) RBI
John Skarzynski 3 for 3, BB, (2) Run, (3) RBI
Angel Rivera 2 for 3, (2) Run, (2) RBI
Frank Lojewski 3 for 5, RBI, Run
Marty Burman 2 for 4, RBI

Game #5 November 18th @ 9:00am @ Roger Dean Marlin #5, Jupiter, FL
Vs. Long Island Yankees

BallTown Bombers 2 LI Yankees 9

With the playoffs 95% certain without this win, the Bombers still went into this game playing hard for a victory. It wasn't happening... In the third inning the Yankees scored (2) and never looked back. Again to Long Island's credit they hit the ball and made the plays in the field. Frank Lojewski got the loss. Thank God Skeets came in and put the fire out again. *Getting beaten by Long Island again hurt. But we've been in Long Island's position before, (4) wins and (1) loss. A cherished #1 seed. They knew they were in the playoffs Tuesday. They coasted and rested Wednesday and Thursday. Long Island faced a #4 seed team (that featured Dante Bichette) and lost in the first round of the playoffs 4-1. Coasting into the playoffs feels good but our Florida teams have never had success coasting. I'm sure many Long Island guys are bitching on the flight home that they pissed on us twice and we won it all. We know that feeling too well.*

Notable Offense:

Dick Tate 2 for 3, Run
Neil Hourahan 2 for 3, (1) 2b, Run, BB, RBI
Dave Hyatt 2 for 5
John Skarzynski 2 for 3, RBI, BB

Quarter Final Playoff @ Roger Dean Marlins #7 @ 9:30am vs Cleveland Steve's Sports

BallTown Bombers: 7 Cleveland Steve's Sport's: 4

Cleveland Steve's drew a #1 seed. We had the lowest seed @ #4. There were (2) division's seeded 1-4.

Cleveland Steve's has been a thorn in our team's side for at least (5) years. Traditionally, they throw a stud pitcher named "Siebert" (righty) against us and we lose 3-2. Cleveland Steve would then go and lose their next game and be on their way home.

On this sunny Friday morning, Cleveland Steve's decided to throw an unknown lefty at us. Chances are they scouted us the day before and figured we sucked (which we did). In the top of the first, Dick Tate led off with a double over 3rd base, Steve Alemi singled (RBI), Don Davis ripped a double (RBI), Neil Hourahan singled (2) RBI, Doug Kepple doubled RBI and Frank Lojewski singled and John Skarzynski singled--- all hits were consecutive. With no outs in the 1st inning, Cleveland Steve's saw enough and brought in Siebert. He threw (5) pitches and no other runs scored. We had scored 5 in the first. In the 3rd Neil Hourahan doubled (RBI), This would be our last hit of the game.

Barry Blundin, a Delco MSBL Ace, would do the rest. He pitched his ass off. Surrendering two in the first, one in the 4th and one in the 9th. There was no quit in Cleveland Steve's fight. Barry Blundin's line read; 9 hits, 1 BB, 4 Runs

Notable Offense

Dick Tate 1 for 4, Run

Steve Alemi 1 for 4, RBI, Run

Don Davis 1 for 4, RBI, Run

Doug Kepple 1 for 4, Run, RBI

Neil Hourahan 2 for 4, (1) 2b, (3) RBI, (2) run

SemiFinal Playoff @ Roger Dean Marlins #5 @ 1:30am Vs Raleigh Braves

BallTown Bombers: 13 Raleigh Braves: 4

The BallTown Bombers scored (1) in the 1st, (2) in the 2nd, (3) in the 3rd, (5) in the 4th and (1) in the 9th. The Bombers had a hit parade against (5) Brave pitchers. Although the Braves had more players than the Bombers, the Braves pitchers were throwing on fumes. Steve Alemi on the other hand found his rhythm. He scattered (12) hits while walking only (2). Lem would be the only Bomber Pitcher to win two games in (6) days.

Notable Offense:

Dick Tate 2 for 6, Run

Neil Hourahan 2 for 4, BB, (2) run, (2) RBI

Doug Kepple 3 for 5, (1) Run, (2) RBI

Frank Lojewski 2 for 3, BB, (3) Run, (2) RBI

John Skarzynski 2 for 2, BB, Sac, Run, (3) RBI

Angel Rivera 3 for 5, (3) RBI

American Championship @ Roger Dean Marlins #5@ 9:00am Vs Dupage Angels

BallTown Bombers: 3 Dupage Angels: 2

The Dupage Angels beat the Grip Shield Hammerheads in the Semi-Finals 1-0 in (13) innings. Dante Bichette (Played 14 years in the Bigs and made \$42 million) pitched for the Hammerheads and absorbed the loss.

The Bombers were the away team and failed to score in the 1st. Doug Kepple toed the rubber for the Bombers and was nearly knocked out of the game in the 1st inning. In the first, the Angels leadoff hitter would single, #2 Hitter K, #3 BB. Cleanup hitter would double (scoring 2), # 5 Hitter BB. With (1) out in the first the Bomber pen was ready. Doug Kepple then recorded (2) pop ups to end the inning. The Angels would score no more. In the most important game (pitched) in Doug's life, Doug would pitch the best game of his life. Doug's pitching line would be (9) hits & (2) BB & (2) ER

Down 2-0 in the 3rd Dick Tate singled and stole second. With (2) outs Steve Alemi would break the ice, hitting a clean single scoring Tate. Down 2-1 in the 6th Neil Hourahan would reach 1st base on an error, Don Davis running for Hourahan stole second. With (2) outs, Dave Hyatt stroked a single to score Davis. In the 9th with (2) outs Lojewski would reach base by an error, Hyatt would walk, Angel Rivera (MVP) would deliver a clean single to left for the game winner.

In the bottom of the 9th The Angels 1st batter hit a sharp grounder to short, fielded cleanly but thrown high and up the line, Dave Hyatt would stretch, catch and tag for the first out. Kepple K'd the #2 batter. The #3 Batter stroked a single. The #4 batter stroked a single. With runners on 1st and 3rd (2 outs) The Bombers elected to allow the winning run to take second uncontested. With (2) outs, the tying run at 3rd, the winning run at 2nd, Kepple threw a (2) seam fastball jamming the batter who hit the ball 20 feet over Alemi's head @ third. From the dugout it looked like a game winning "Dink" hit. Tom Donahue had

other ideas though. Without hesitation Donahue raced (with a hip flexor) and caught the ball cleanly in stride. Donahue appropriately spiked the ball into the fence and joined the on field celebration.

Notable Offense:

Dick Tate 2 for 4, RUN
Steve Alemi 2 for 4, RBI
Dave Hyatt 1 for 2, RBI, (2) BB
Angel Rivera 1 for 3, BB, RBI

Notable Defense:

Marty Burman stepped up behind the plate. Marty caught 51 innings in (6) days. Zero passed balls.

Final Team Numbers:

Team: 5 wins 2 losses 1 tie
Runs Scored: 60 Runs Allowed: 39
Errors: 13
Steals: 28
Team Batting: 102 for 317 = .322
BB = 38 (inc. HBP)

Notable individual Final Offense stats

Dick Tate: 14 for 36 = .389, 7 Runs, 3 BB, 21 SB (including when running as courtesy runner)
Neil Hourahan: 13 for 29 = .448, 11 Runs, 12 RBI, 4 BB, (3) 2b, (1) 3b
Don Davis: 10 for 31 = .322, 7 Runs, 9 RBI, (2) 2B
John Skarzynski (Skeets): 9 for 23 = .391, 8 Runs, 8 RBI, (2) 2B, (5) BB
Angel Rivera: 12 for 29 = .414, (2) Run, 9 RBI, 3 BB
Steve Alemi: 10 for 29 = .345, 6 Runs, 5 RBI, 6 BB, (1) 2B

Angel Rivera received a well deserved MVP trophy and the right to engrave "MVP" on his Fall Classic Championship Ring. Angel played flawless defense @ 3rd and was clutch with his bat.

Honorable mentions for MVP include Dick Tate and Steve Alemi. Dick Tate played a solid centerfield and was our sparkplug on the bases. He had in excess of 12 steals and created havoc on opposing defenses. His success in bunting for a hit, with pinched corners was awesome. Dick's selfless attitude and all out effort on every play made him great teammate. Steve Alemi won (2) big games for us; Game #2 vs. a good Puerto Rico team and The Raleigh Braves in the Semi-Final Game. He consistently "set the table" and "knocked in some big RBI's. Steve also played exceptional defense @ Short, 2nd and 3rd.

A special note to Dave Kasen. Dave assisted in many decisions and coached well at 3rd base throughout the tournament. His calm demeanor boded well in a dugout where players could become erratic.

All players should consider playing in the Fall Classic (Florida) or World Series (Phoenix). The competition varies and can be enjoyed at all levels.

"We walk together in life now as champions and that can never be taken away; we did it beaten and battered but not broken. This is an awesome memory that I will never forget, and we did it as a team." Don Davis-Balltown Bombers

It's hard to explain to anyone what a fun thing it is to be able to experience such a thing at an age when you never expected something like that to happen to you again. Mike Dunleavy Quote. An over 60 player who has earned many rings.

Neil Hourahan/Manager/Player 2010 American Fall Classic Champions BallTown Bombers



BallTown Bombers Florida Fall Classic Champs

First Row: (L-R) Marty Burman, Steve Alemi,
Angel Rivera (MVP), Tom Donahue, Doug Kepple,
Dave Hyatt Back Row: (L-R) John Dipetro,
Don Davis, Dave Kasen, Neil Hourahan, Frank Lajweski
John Skarzynski, Barry Blundin & Dick Tate