

Monday, May 17, 2004 –

Junior East – If you didn't know any better, you'd think that the race for the division pennant is over. Waterford has a commanding 2 game lead with 4 games to play. They've been flawless, up to and then after a 14-5 trimming at the hands of Berlin Boro in the beginning of May. But, with Berlin Boro and Glendora each having 6 games left to play, none of which are against each other, you just can't dismiss either of these outstanding teams. Each has the talent to get to the top and both of these teams just don't quit. Hey and don't count the girls from St. Judes out of the picture just yet. They have a couple big tests coming up this week and we'll just have wait and see. My money is still on Waterford to take the Division, but I don't like the odds.

Junior West – The dominating gals from Glendora were handed their first lost of the season by Haddonfield last week proving that A) Glendora can be beaten and B) when Haddonfield shows up they can play. With Runnemedede as tough as ever and Oaklyn playing excellent ball, it has become a four horse race. The smart money is on Glendora to repeat, but if Haddonfield can hold it together and keep winning, it will be an exciting first week of June.

Majors – Both Major divisions have a few too many games left play to analyze the playoff situation. Sewell 2 and Gloucester Twp 2 are battling in the North and Runnemedede pulling away in the South ... but it's still early. We'll be watching the races as they start to heat up. Stay tuned.

Minor East – A fun little “sibling” rivalry is going on here. The two Runnemedede teams are battling it out trying to claim the top playoff slot while Berlin Twp 2 is trying to hold their lead over Berlin Boro 1 for the third playoff spot. Unlike Runnemedede, who split their series, these teams still have yet to play each other. It should be fun couple weeks. I like Runnemedede 2 in this race. I don't see either Runnemedede team losing again in the regular season, and that'll give Runnemedede 2 the pennant.

Minor West – Another four horse race here in the West. Oaklyn continues to

remain undefeated keep their edge over Magnolia. The Gloucester Township gals are fighting each other for a shot at the third playoff slot. My money is on Oaklyn to edge the Magnolia gals out of the top slot in the division, but there is still a lot ball to be played here and it should be an exciting finish.

-- Jane Doe

Monday, May 24, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

I managed to catch a few games this week. The races are heating up. Here are my thoughts.

Senior -- The season is just about at the halfway point and everyone is suffering from a UGSL form of "pink-eye". Glendora has been unstoppable in the first half of play going 5 and 0 and outscoring their opponents 73 to 29. This team has obviously come to play and is the clear favorite take the division. The question is can they run the table and do it in un-defeated fashion? Gloucester City 1 is playing solid ball and Runnemedede has put together a solid team that is keeping pace. Both of these teams will win more than they lose and I believe each have a playoff spot waiting for them in June.

Junior East -- Waterford and Berlin Boro have sewn up playoff spots and Glendora 2 is just about a lock for the 3rd spot. My early prediction has Glendora playing at Berlin Boro for right to play Waterford. That game is going to be a good one. I'll have to think on it a bit more before I make a call on that game.

Junior West -- The only excitement in the Junior League is in the West. Glendora is leading the pack and with 4 games to play, need only to play .500 ball to lock up the Division title. It looks really good for Haddonfield, if they can stay together and that, sports fans, and remains a huge question mark.

Runnemede and Oaklyn are battling with, not only the .500 mark, but also each other for that coveted 3rd spot. They play each other this week and I am looking forward to the game. I believe the winner of that game will have a place in the post season.

You'd better start camping at the advance ticket window. The Junior World Series is going to be a HOTTEST ticket around.

Majors -- Does anybody know what is going on in the Majors? The standings show 24 plus games to play and just 12 days to play them. How is that going to work? Where are the commissioners? What's going on? It looks like the 2nd and maybe the 3rd playoff positions may be decided by the toss of a coin. What a shame. Most of the Major teams seem to be in contention and it just too close to call. Stay tuned.

Minor East -- The safe money is on both of the Runnemede teams to finish atop the Division and Berlin Township 2 to finish 3rd. Mathematically, sure there is still a race, but Boro has such a hard schedule remaining and at 2 and 5 will need to run the table to make a go of it.

Minor West -- Oaklyn, Magnolia, and Gloucester Township 2 have made the playoffs. Oaklyn has to win just one of their remaining three games to clinch the division crown. Magnolia has to win their remaining two games and, by the way, Magnolia and Oaklyn play Tuesday at 6:15p at Magnolia. The real excitement is the fight for home field advantage between 2nd place Magnolia and 3rd place. GTP 2 plays

their remaining game this week and should win it against Sewell. On the same day, Magnolia plays Oaklyn. If Oaklyn defeats Magnolia, the race is over and Twp 2 will lock 2nd place. If Magnolia wins it and then goes on to beat Lindenwold, they will have 2nd place and that coveted home field advantage.

-- Jane Doe

Friday, May 28, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

It was a great week of softball and I wanted to give you the playoff picture before I head down to the shore for the Holiday.

Senior -- Well, the top three teams continue to make the bottom three teams suffer.

Glendora is still undefeated. Gloucester City 1 and Runnemedede are maintaining the 2 and 3 spots by playing superior ball. No much happened this week except for a "basement" highlight; Clementon picked up its first win by beating Magnolia.

Junior East -- The Division is set. My prediction held and the Waterford, Boro, Glendora "trifecta" played out. There were a couple of interesting developments during the week. Glendora spanked Waterford 13-3, which must have been sobering for the Waterford gals and St. Jude's gave Boro a tough time in their last regular season game. Both surprises. With Boro and Waterford waiting at least a week to play and Glendora has 2 to play next week, are we looking at an upset in the making? I am not ready to call it yet, but don't be surprised...

Junior West -- You have got to love this race. Glendora locked up first place, but did their best to make it exciting yielding to a stunning 9 to 5 upset at the hands of Magnolia early in the week. I could have made some money on that game. Oaklyn certainly held up their end of the bargain this week going 3

and 0 including taking Runnemedede on a reluctant trip to the woodshed in an 11 to 3 rout. With Haddonfield involved in another forfeit to, of all teams, Glendora, they're done (barring a miracle). If they fly true to course, Oaklyn and Runnemedede are going to end up tied for 2nd which means, according to the tie breaker rules, Oaklyn will end up hosting the playoff as their record against each other is 1-1, but Oaklyn has out scored Runnemedede 11 to 10 in both of those meetings.

Majors -- Somebody got on the commissioner's collective cases this week, but not enough. The standings are still a little sketchy. In the North, Sewell 2, GT 2 and Oaklyn are the only teams at or above .500. With so little time left that's where the smart money always goes. Not really a prediction, but I'll stick with that line up for the finish. In the South, you have Runnemedede 1 and five other teams. Runnemedede has been just outstanding the last, well, 7 weeks. Who's second? Third? Dunno ... if the remaining five teams put together and All-Star team for the playoffs, maybe I'd get interested.

Minor East -- The two Runnemedede teams have clinched the one and two spot in the playoffs. Now there's News. The only question is who is going to be number one and who is going to be number two? Looking at the schedules, it's going to stay just like it is; Runnemedede 2, then Runnemedede 1. Berlin Twp 2 can take the 3rd slot with a win against Boro 1 next week. Playoffs? See me after the "Wild Card" game.

Minor West -- Oaklyn sits a top the Division with the

much-deserved crown. Magnolia failed for their bid to secure the 2nd slot falling to Oaklyn. As you know, Sports Fans, that left Gloucester Township 2 all the room they needed to secure the number 2 slot. A big factor in this Division playoff will be that both Magnolia and Gloucester Twp 2 are idle until the regular season ends. Oaklyn has 2 more games to tune-up those bats and their defense. for the big show.

That's it Sports Fans! Have a Great Memorial Day Weekend.

-- Jane Doe

Friday, June 4, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Hope everybody enjoyed the Memorial Day weekend. I know I sure did.

Senior -- Glendora remains atop the division with a win against number 2 Gloucester City 1. With the season at the halfway mark, Glendora, City 1, and Runnemedede all remain in striking distance.

Junior East -- Waterford and Berlin Boro are waiting for the season to end. Glendora still has two to play and will be at Boro for the Wild Card game early next week. Boro has beaten Glendora twice this year and outscored them 29 to 13. Everything points to a Boro victory and that's where my money is.

Junior West -- You still have got to love this race. The last weekend of play and the playoff picture is still not set. Oaklyn holds their own destiny in their hands. If they beat Sewell, they're in, they lose and they're out and Haddonfield is in. If this happens, Runnemedede will have to beat Magnolia to retain the home field. If Haddonfield manages to hang on and get into the playoffs, they are my pick to win it all!

Majors -- Still fuzzy. Too many games left to make a prediction. Except the South; stick with Runnemedede it's the only bet.

Minor East -- It's going to stay just like it is; Runnemedede 2, then Runnemedede 1. Berlin Twp 2 will

have its hands full with Runnemedede 1 in the wild card game. I am definitively going with Runnemedede in that game. The LCS? Still, I have to wait.

Minor West -- Magnolia against Twp 2 in the wild card. Both teams are evenly matched and split their regular season meetings. I am going to go with the underdog here and say the Magnolia sticks will get the better of the Twp girls in this game.

That's it Sports Fans! Have a great weekend. Remember all that served ... D-Day; it's been sixty years".

-- Jane Doe

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Junior East - Oh well, I was wrong. Boro beat Glendora 4-2 in the wild card game. The game was very exciting and, as you can see by the score, was well played and hard fought. Boro must face the gals from Waterford. I am told Waterford is charged up and hungry for a quick victory. I think that's not going happen. Boro may go, but they will not go gently... Waterford in three.

Junior West -- Runnemedede gave Haddonfield all it could handle last night, at least for four innings. The problem is the game is seven innings. The Haddonfield sticks came out in the 5th and the pitching took over from there. Final score; 13 - 03 in favor of the Dames. Glendora is next for the Dames. This series will go only two and Haddonfield will head to World Series.

Minor East -- Runnemedede 1 handled Berlin Twp 2 last night in a 9 - 0 rout. The fun starts tonight with Runnemedede 1 going against Runnemedede 2 in the LCS opener. My call Runnemedede 2 in three. Too much pitching.

Minor West -- Magnolia squandered an early lead and lost the opener to Oaklyn last night. That's one down with one to go. Oaklyn will not let Magnolia breath next time around and finish off the Knights Thursday.

That's it Sports Fans! See ya later in the week.

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-- Jane Doe

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Junior East -- This division continues to baffle me. Waterford was set down in three games, going quietly in the final game against Berlin Boro 16-6. The Boro bats were just too much for them, outscoring Waterford 33 to 18 in the series.

Junior West -- Amid the thunder and lightning, Haddonfield wrapped up their series against Glendor a last night in fine fashion. Although the game was eventually called in the 5th, it was all Haddonfield needed to advance to the World Series.

I am told that the series will not start until next week, which I think a good thing as it will give both team adequate time to rest and prepare themselves for battle. This is going to be a good one! The obvious underdog here is Berlin, but if Boro can set up a good defense i.e. outfield to manage the absolutely dynamic bats of Haddonfield, it will be a series to remember. Boro will need a zero defect defense if they expect to win this thing. To win, Haddonfield will need to keep hitting and keep their starting pitcher healthy. Boro has enough bats to force the Haddonfield defense to play well or lose and a crafty coaching staff that seems to be able to produce runs on demand. In the end, both are excellent offense teams. The winner of this series will be the one with better defense. If you get to the game (and for my fans, I'll be there), count the errors; the team with the least will own the Cup!

Major North -- Sewell 2 and Gloucester Township 2 continue to slug it out for the right to represent the League in the World Series. As it stands, the series is tied and Game 3 is set for Thursday at Sewell. With a 4-3 home record, Sewell has had trouble winning at home; but not against GT 2. They won both regular season meetings at home, and I suspect this will to continue Thursday.

Major South -- The fun started last night with Runnemedede 1 going against Runnemedede 2, but did not end with a result. Thunder and Lightning suspended the game in the top half of the 5th with Runnemedede 1 in the lead. They're going to finish it tonight, but I'll stick by my call of Runnemedede 1 in three.

Minor League -- The stage is set; Oaklyn against Runnemedede 2 for the title. I think Runnemedede's pitching and the bats are going to prove to be too much for the gals of Oaklyn, but hey, I've been wrong before. Still, I'm sticking with Runnemedede in two.

That's it Sports Fans! See ya later in the week.

-- Jane Doe

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Senior -- After a hard fought battle, Clementon yielded to Glendora Sunday, losing to the Pink Ladies by a score of 15 to 4. With that, Runnemedede has earned the third slot in the Division and with it, the final playoff spot. Runnemedede will play Gloucester City 1 in the wild card game this week with the winner to face Glendora in the Series. Having dropped both regular season games to Gloucester City, Runnemedede has a hard row to hoe, but stranger things have happened. Both teams have had a long lay-off and that has a tendency to even up the odds a bit. I am still going to go with GC to win this, but I am keeping my money in my pocket.

Junior -- The Haddonfield Dames took full advantage of a very slow Boro start and won the series opener last night at Boro. Behind splendid pitching and relentless hitting, the Dames put on the cruise control and, despite a few flurries from the Boro gals, were able to show why this team belongs in the Series. I, for one am not counting out Boro girls just yet. They always find a way to come back and surprise me. They are going need more from their outfield and, I think they'll get in game two. I believe this Series is destined for three games. Tonight, at Runnemedede, that itch will be scratched.

Major -- Sewell 2 and Gloucester Township 2 fought it out last night with Sewell 2 leading in every inning . . . except the last. A last inning effort

sealed the victory for GT2 and sent them to the championship. Down South, Runnemedede 1 completed a two game sweep of Runnemedede 2 with a 12 to 4 victory and will meet GC2 for game one of the Major League World Series Wednesday night. Gloucester Township has a lot of talent and a lot of heart, but Runnemedede just has too much stick to for them. I am going with Runnemedede in two on this one.

Minor -- I knew I was going to write this;
Congratulations to the Runnemedede Cardinals for winning the Minor League Championship! Runnemedede beat Oaklyn Sunday to complete a two game sweep to win the pennant!

That's it Sports Fans! See ya later in the week.

-- Jane Doe

Friday, June 25, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Senior -- The stage is set; Gloucester City against Runnemede at City, Tuesday at 6p. I gotta be there for this one! I am picking City to win it, but with Runnemede, you just never know. If they get a good game from their starting pitcher, City will have a tough time keeping up with the Runnemede sticks.

Junior -- The Haddonfield Dames capped off their season with a 6 to 1 victory over Boro taking the Junior Division title. Boro fought a tough battle, but couldn't put together the offense needed to conquer the dominating Dames pitching. Congratulations to the Dames for a series well played.

Major -- Game two had Gloucester Township looking to even series after they dropped a highly contested first game 7 to 4. You knew it early that this game was to be a battle of wills. The game was a chess match for five innings; Twp would take lead, Runnemede would tie it up, Twp takes the lead again, Runnemede would tie it up ... again. Great play by both teams through all six, but Runnemede gained the advantage in the top of 6th and, despite pushing a run across and with the tying run on second, Township just couldn't pull the trigger and fell to the Blue Thunder, 12 to 10. So, congratulations to the Runnemede Blue Thunder for bringing home the second championship pennant to Holly Ave.

That's it Sports Fans! See ya later in the week.

-- Jane Doe

Thursday, July 01, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Senior -- Glendora was obviously caught off guard last night by a well-prepared and energetic Gloucester City ball club. After Gloucester City had staged a late inning come back against Runnemedede on Tuesday night to take the Wild Card game, the girls from City just kept on rolling. When it was all over, the City gals were on top 16 to 8. The question is now; can Glendora rally and overcome their slow start? I still think so, but they are going to have to play flawlessly to manage it AND the City gals have a way of making good teams make mistakes. Hang on!

That's it Sports Fans!

-- Jane Doe

Tuesday, July 06, 2004

Hello Sports Fans,

Senior -- Well, I hate to end the season being wrong, but Gloucester City managed to overcome a late inning deficit and rally to beat the Pink Ladies of Glendora for the Senior Division title last night at Glendora. Smart pitching and a two-out rally in the seventh inning proved to be too much for Glendora. Both teams played an excellent game and I offer my congratulations to both.

That's it for me. I am heading down the shore to relax in the fun and sun of SIC. I hope Ray and Alex want me back next year! TO everyone; thank you for fun this season!

That's it Sports Fans! See ya next spring!

-- Jane Doe