



Beacon

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A publication of the Ban Johnson Amateur Baseball League

Post-Season Tournament is underway

The 2010 Ban Johnson League Post-Season Tournament is underway. The tournament winner will be the league champion.

The defending champion is the MSBL Royals.

The games to decide the eighth seed were played Thursday with the Blues grabbing the eighth seed.

All the remaining games will be played at the Mid-America Sports Complex, except for the Saturday games.

The best of three quarterfinals start tonight.

No. 1 UMB meets KC Blues; No. 2 MSBL Royals vs. the Vipers; No. 3 Bandits vs. BJ Raiders and No.

4 Milgram Mustangs vs. Building Champions.

There will be a single game tonight with a doubleheader if needed on Saturday at Grigsby and Longview CC.

The best of three semifinals will see a doubleheader on Sunday and if necessary game on Monday.

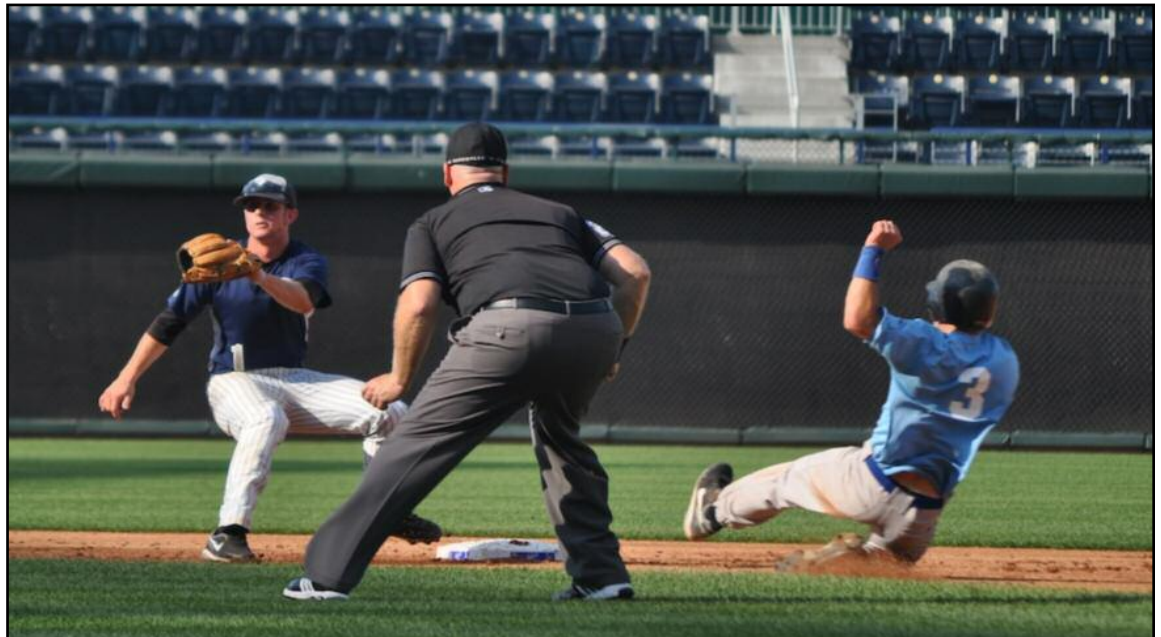
The best of five championship series starts on Tuesday. There will be single games played each night until one team wins three games.

That is if there is no more rain.

All tournament games will be seven innings.

Green Light - Cody Cobb, Vipers outfielder, had back-to-back stolen bases in the third inning of the All-Star Game July 18 at Kauffman Stadium. Here, **David Smith**, BJ Raiders shortstop, covers second base as umpire **Woody Haywood** prepares to make the call. Cobb was selected MVP in the annual classic.

For more information on the All-Star Game see page 2.



UMB Bank narrowly ahead at the end

The abbreviated season saw UMB Bank in first place, but with just a narrow half-game lead on the MSBL Royals and just a game ahead of the Milgram Mustangs, Building Champions and the BJ Raiders.

Veteran observers of the Ban Johnson League note that this is likely the closest six teams have ever finished the regular season.

The fact that not all teams played the same number of games factored into this.

The regular season standings decided seeding for the post-season tournament.

Rains force early ending

The very unusual July rains in the early part of the month plus the deluge that hit the area on Tuesday afternoon, night and Wednesday morning, forced league officials to cut short the regular season schedule.

The plan at the beginning of the season was to have the season completed by Sunday, Aug. 1.

Barring further heavy rains that goal can be met with the present tournament schedule.

Notable Numbers presented by Independence Ridge Apts.

(Statistics are through July 19)

Batting Average

(based on a minimum of 46 at bats)

1. Jason Solma, KC Bandits	.421
2. Jarid Renzelman, MBSL Royals	.413
3. Devin O'Rourke, Building Champions	.412
4. David Smith, BJ Raiders	.398
5. Taylor Sibala, BJ Raiders	.391
6. Joe Kassanavoid, UMB Bank	.373
7. Jonathan Pomatto, KC Bandits	.371
8. Joshua Dennett, KC Vipers	.368
9. Chad Shannon, Seaboard	.367
9. Joshua Barnes, KC Blues	.367

Doubles

1. Freddie Adamson, BJ Raiders	10
1. Taylor Sibala, BJ Raiders	10
3. Andrew Kuhn, NKC Apartments	9
4. Sean McHugh, Building Champions	8
5. Joe Kassanavoid, UMB Bank	7
5. Nick Doughty, UMB Bank	7

Triples

1. Freddie Adamson, BJ Raiders	3
1. Joe Kassanavoid, UMB Bank	3
1. Cameron Bentley, UMB Bank	3
4. (Four tied with two each)	

Home Runs

1. David Wade, NKC Apartments	2
1. Clarke O'Dowd, Milgram Mustangs	2
3. (10 tied with one each)	

Runs Batted In

1. Freddie Adamson, BJ Raiders	26
2. Andrew Kuhn, NKC Apartments	17
3. John Calhoun, Seaboard	14
3. Cody Cobb, KC Vipers	14
3. Taylor Sibala, BJ Raiders	14

Earned Run Average

(based on a minimum of 25 innings)

1. Chad Gordon, UMB Bank	1.19
2. Matthew Bergin, MSBL Royals	1.30
3. Kyle Gehrs, Building Champions	1.41
4. Christian Witt, KC Bandits	1.46
5. Ryan Hafner, Building Champions	1.62
6. Kyle Seithel, Building Champions	1.75
7. Eric Silkwood, KC Blues	1.97
8. Brett Perner, Seaboard	2.27
9. Eric Schmid, Seaboard	2.30
10. Benjamin Rister, BJ Raiders	2.47

Strikeouts

1. Christian Witt, KC Bandits	56
2. Vince Spilker, Seaboard	43
3. Ryan Hafner, Building Champions	38
3. Jeremy Tate, KC Vipers	38
5. Christopher Conner, Regal Plastics	37
6. Kyle Gehrs, Building Champions	36
6. Mark Spreckels, KC Bandits	36
8. Colin Warren, UMB Bank	33
9. Eric Silkwood, KC Blues	32
10. Zach DeValle, UMB Bank	31



Beacon

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Ban Johnson League Standings

	FINAL		
	W	L	GB
UMB Bank	17	9	----
MSBL Royals	15	8	.5
KC Bandits	16	9	.5
Milgram Mustangs	14	8	1.0
Building Champions	15	9	1.0
BJ Raiders	16	10	1.0
KC Vipers	13	14	4.5
Seaboard	11	15	6.0
Regal Plastics	8	18	9.0
NKC Apts.	7	18	9.5
KC Blues	6	20	11.0

B's capture All-Star Game 9-5 at the K

The B All-Stars scored two runs in the top of the first inning to take command of the game in beating the J All-Stars 9-5 July 18 following the Royals-Oakland game at Kauffman Stadium.

This marked the first time that the annual game was played following a Royals game. Usually the games have been played prior to Royals games. The last two years, the games have been played on dates where the Royals were not in town.



This is the 42nd game involving the Ban Johnson League that has been hosted by the Royals. The first came in 1969, the first year for the franchise

The teams on each of the All-Star teams were based on league standings on the date the players were selected for the game.

The Vipers outfielder **Cody Cobb** was picked by league officials as the Most Valuable Player for the game.

Cobb tripled in the first run of the game, reached on an infield hit in the third inning, stole second and third and scored on a ground single past the third baseman by NKC Apartment's Andrew Kuhn.

"This is a big deal (winning the MVP Trophy)," the St. Thomas Aquinas High School graduate said. "It was quite an honor to be part of this and playing here at Kauffman Stadium.

Cobb attended University of Central Missouri last year, but will be at Park University this fall.

The B's never trailed in the game, but the J's did narrow the margin to 6-5, but three runs in the top of the eighth put the game away for the B's.

The MBSL Royals **Jarid Renzelman** had a big game with a triple, two walks and two stolen bases.

"This was a great experience playing here," he said. "It is nice to play where the pros play."

The J's did not have a hit until the fourth when the BJ Raiders' **Taylor Sibala** looped a single to center.

MSBL Royals manager **Mike Evans** guided the B All-Stars.

"I am proud of our guys," he said. "It is tough in an all-star game to put your differences aside and come together as a team."



Shining Star - Cody Cobb of the Vipers accepts the MVP trophy from **Bob McFarlane**, executive director, at the annual All-Star Game July 18 at Kauffman Stadium.



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Highlights

Here is a look at the game highlights since the last issue of the BJ Beacon:

July 1

Milgram Mustangs 7, NKC Apartments 3
Caleb Shaw and **Curtis Bunch** had two RBIs each.
Andrew Kuhn had two hits and two RBIs for NKC.

July 2

UMB Bank 6, MSBL Royals 5

UMB over came a 6-1 deficit with the winning run scoring on a wild pitch.

Milgram Mustangs 8, Building Champions 1

Gilberto Pena and **Miles Shelton** each went two-for-four with two RBIs.

Building Champions 5, UMB Bank 3

Building Champions took advantage of five UMB errors. **Kyle Seithel** fanned seven.

UMB's **Nick Doughty** went three-for-four with a double and RBI.

Milgram Mustangs 9, MSBL Royals 7

The Mustangs trailed 7-0 after two innings.

July 7

BJ Raiders 2, Vipers 1

Taylor Sibala had a two-out double to tie the game in the bottom of the seventh inning. **David Smith** had the game-winning single to score Sibala.

The Vipers **Nick Allen** was three-for-three with an RBI.

Building Champions 3, Regal Plastics 0

Adam Giacalone had a two-run double in the bottom of the third.

July 9

MSBL Royals 4, Seaboard 1

Mike Rezin had two hits and two RBIs and **Hunter Johnson** had two hits and an RBI. **Jered Berman** surrendered an unearned run on seven hits, fanning eight.

Milgram Mustangs 7, NKC Apts. 5

Kaleb Shaw went two-for-three and **Josh White** had a two-run double.

Vipers 5, UMB Bank 2

Cody Cobb went two-for-three with a two-run double.

KC Bandits 3, NKC Apartments 0

Christian Witt tossed a one-hitter, striking out 11.

Milgram Mustangs 6, Vipers 5

Jordan Miller went two-for-four with two RBIs while **Ryan Bontrager** was two-for-three with two doubles and an RBI.

July 10

UMB Bank 4, Milgram Mustangs 3

Kyle Clifton was one-for-three with a homer and two RBIs while **Frank Saladino** was two-for-four.

Milgram's **Clark O'Dowd** had a solo homer.

BJ Raiders 9, KC Bandits 4

Eddie High was four-for-four, **Angelo Christino**, two-for-three with an RBI and **Joseph Summers**, one-for-three with a two RBIs.

July 12

Seaboard 7, MSBL Royals 0

Chad Shannon was three-for-four with three doubles.

Seaboard had 11 hits.

See Highlights, page 5



Never in Doubt - **Brett Gearbeart**, Regal outfielder, calls off teammate **Jonathan Pomatto** of KC Bandits and makes a running catch in the All-Star Game July 18 at Kauffman Stadium.

MSBL Royals 6, Seaboard 2

Devin Hupp went three-for-four with a double and an RBI.

Seaboard's **Chad Shannon** was two-for-four with two RBIs.

July 13

UMB Bank 4, KC Bandits 3 (9)

Jimmy Smeller's two-out walk-off single gave the victory to UMB.

UMB needed a two-out RBI single by **Nick Doughty** to send the game into extra innings.

BJ Raiders 4, KC Blues 2

The Raiders scored all their runs in the bottom of the first. The key blow was an RBI double by **Matthew Watkins**.

BJ Raiders 6, Building Champions 2

Freddie Adamson went three-for-four with a double and three RBIs.

Regal Plastics 5, Milgram Mustangs 2

Bret Stratton and **Eric Pickett** each went two-for-three. Pickett had three RBIs.

Regal Plastics 4, Seaboard 3

T.J. Lorson and **Benjamin Loughman** each had two hits and an RBI. Seaboard's **John Calhoun** was two-for-four with an RBI double

July 14

UMB Bank 3, NKC Apartments 1

Cameron Bentley and **Bubba Dotson** were each two-for-four. Bentley had a triple and Dotson an RBI.

KC Bandits 6, Seaboard 3

Jason Solma had two hits and an RBI while **Peter Ingles** had a hit and two RBIs.

KC Bandits 11, KC Blues 1 (6)

Jonathan Pomatto had two hits and an RBI; **William Schiller** had a double and three RBIs and **Peter Ingles** had a two-run double.

KC Vipers 8, Building Champions 7

Riley Price was three-for-four with an RBI and **Boone Plager**, two-for-four.

July 15

Milgram Mustangs 6, Seaboard 0

Clarke O'Dowd had a grand slam home run. Seaboard's **Chad Shannon** had two hits.

Vipers 6, BJ Raiders 3

Arron Ray and **Boone Plager** were each two-for-

four with a double. **Cody Cobb** and **Jason McBride** were two-for-four with an RBI.

BJ Raiders 2, Vipers 1 (8)

The Raiders scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth on an error.

Tyler Riddle of the Vipers had an RBI double.

July 16

UMB Bank 11, KC Blues 9

Alex Mills hit a three-run triple in the bottom of the seventh for the victory.

Eric Dawson went three-for-three with two RBIs.

The Blues' **John Kane** went three-for-four with three RBIs.

KC Blues 8, UMB Bank 3

Joshua Barnes went three-for-four with two RBIs and **John Kane**, three-for-four with a double and three RBIs.

July 19

Seaboard 3, NKC Apartments 0

John Calhoun went three-for-four with a double and two RBIs.

Milgram Mustangs 7, NKC Apts. 6 (10)

Steve Scheelk hit a bloop single to right field to push across the winning run in the bottom of the 10th.

KC Bandits 3, MSBL Royals 2

Andy Stewart's two-out RBI double in the bottom of the sixth proved to be decisive. **Kanon Peterson** had two hits and an RBI.

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Ban Johnson League Hall of Fame

Here is a look at the members of Ban Johnson League Hall of Fame. Who will be next? Stay tuned.

The list is in alphabetical order:

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 Mel Bergman
 Bud Birt
 Carl Blando
 Bob Boyle
 Don Bridges
 Annie Briggs
 Guy Caldwell
 David Cone
 Walker Cooper
 Lew Denny
 Chuck Dobson
 Mike Fabac
 Alex George
 Jim Gleeson
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*Bill Kelso
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 Keith Lieppman
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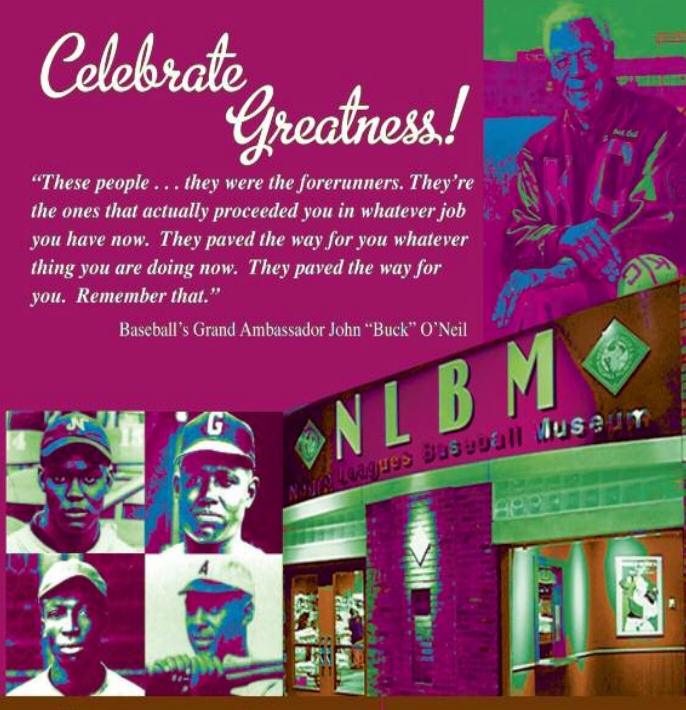
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Alumni Corner presented by Moe Lago

Minnis has long baseball history

Doug Minnis has a long history in the sport of baseball in Kansas and Missouri.

And part of his baseball legacy involves the Ban Johnson League.

Minnis served in the Korean War and spent some time in Japan with Marines.

After leaving the Marines he got his college degree at Emporia State.

He taught and coached every sport in Waverly, Kansas for two years.

Minnis became the head baseball coach and assistant football coach at Bishop Ward High School in 1956.

His 1958 team won the state title.

He stayed at Ward for 13 years leaving in 1969 to start the baseball program at Missouri Western in St. Joseph, Mo.

Minnis had two players sign with major league teams following the state title season. **Ray Sadecki** signed with the St. Louis Cardinals and Bob Hendrix with the Baltimore Orioles.

Sadecki played in the Ban Johnson League and is a member of the BJ Hall of Fame.

In addition to his duties at Ward, he coached in the BJ. He coached two years at Feld Chevrolet and then went with Milgrams. He stayed there until starting the program at Missouri Western.

"They felt it was too far for me to make it to practices and games," Minnis said.

He enjoyed his time in the BJ.

"We did a lot of traveling with Milgrams," he said. "They had a philosophy if there was a Milgrams store in a community we would play there."

He said the Ban Johnson League was tough in those days.

"Every team in the league was tough," he said. "Every game was a real cat-and-mouse game. Every game was tough."

When he started the program at Missouri Western, he said that he always recruited players from the Ban Johnson League.

He retired from Missouri Western in 1999.

He is still following the league because he has grandchildren involved in the program.

Minnis was at the recent All-Star Game at Kauffman Stadium and really enjoyed watching the 2009 championship series.

Why because his grandson, **Michael Evans** is the manager of the MSBL Royals club that won the championship and another grandson, **Stephen Maurin**, played shortstop and was the winning pitcher in the title game.

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| ◆ Carl Blando | Butternut manager, 1972-78 | ◆ Ken Monaco | Meyer Metalcraft/Moody's/Lapetina's 1952-56 |
| Mike Bray | Western Auto 1968-70 | Larry Mosnick | Lapetina's 1949 |
| ◆ Jim Cash | Katz 1949-52 | ◆ Don B. Motley | Milgram coach/manager 1968-present |
| Darrell Corwin | Moody's/Feld 1957-60 | ◆ Gary Patton | Boyle's 1973-76 |
| Stuart Goldman | Sports Information Director 1992-94
"Diamond Connections" author | ◆ Tim Presko | Boyle's Famous Corned Beef 1974-79 |
| ◆ Don Goodwin | Milgram 1954-59 | ◆ Don Saint | Milgram 1957-60 |
| ◆ Norm Gunderman | Meyer Metalcraft/Rodeo 1955-56 | ◆ Carl Shortino | Lapetina's 1955-57 |
| ◆ Tom Higgins | Guy's 1968-72 | ◆ DeMorris Smith | Milgram 1956-58 |
| ◆ Steve Jacobus | Milgram 1960-62 | ◆ Jack Talley | KC Life 1975-79 |
| ◆ Jerry Lafferty | Scout, Philadelphia Phillies | Lowell Toombs | Milgram 1956-57 |
| ◆ Moe Lago | Lapetina's/Western Auto 1955-59, coach 1965-69 | ◆ Terry Welsh | Umpire 1970s |
| ◆ Richard Ludwig | Boyle's 1977-79 | | |
| Doug Minnis | Milgram/Feld coach 1960s | | ◆ = Diamond Club |

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Strategizing - Coaches **Brad Willis** of Building Champions (left) and **Michael Younghanz** of UMB confer before the start of the All-Star Game July 18 at Kauffman Stadium. Younghanz managed the J All-Stars, which lost to the B All-Stars, 9-5.