



Shangri La' Wiffleball

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Embattled Commissioner and Front Office Respond to Allegations *New Information Surfaces on Inaugural Hall of Fame Class*

Colorado Springs, Colo. – After a quiet start to the year, Shangri La' Wiffleball has been shaken to its core the last two days. On the heels of Wednesday's request for a change of the guard in the SLW Front Office, suspended President Geoff Hixson of the SLWAA fired back. Geoff made outrageous claims in a poorly attended press conference Thursday morning linking the Commissioner to a gambling ring similar to the "Black Socks" scandal of 1908 involving members of the Chicago White Sox major league organization.

"Wifflegate? I have absolutely no idea what he is talking about," the Commissioner commented from the league office late Thursday afternoon. "They made no attempt to contact me regarding this information before it went public. This 'J. Gordon' character has made some pretty serious allegations, all of which are completely untrue. It seems to me that Geoff has created a smoke screen create a diversion from the real issues. Jed will corroborate all of this information"

Several were quick to rush to the Commissioner's aid after his character was called into question. "I find these unsubstantiated claims besmirching the integrity of Commissioner Hixson to be astonishing," said Mountain West Conference Deputy Commissioner Bret Gilliland. "His performance as a member of the MWC staff has been exemplary and above reproach. Certainly, these accusations are unfounded."

Gilliland continued,"I have only recently become familiar with the workings of Shangri La' Wiffleball, but am amazed at the lengths to which certain parties are willing to go to advance their own personal agenda. I have gotten to know Geoff Hixson over the past several months and I have serious doubts regarding his credibility."

"I fully support the raising of the wall and Commissioner Hixson," 2006 League Champion and Hall of Famer Chris Shoemaker stated. This is a devastating blow to the anti-renovation group as Shoemaker, the big hitting lefty, was thought to be opposed to the upgrades. Shoemaker continued, "I won the tournament last year and I can say with a great deal of certainty that a higher wall will in no way impede me from winning again. It's a team sport."

The most shocking news of the day came late in the press conference when Hixson shifted topics. "Jeff Cain has been on a fact finding mission the past week which turned up some very damaging information on two Hall of Famers. I didn't make it public last year, but we began a rigorous drug testing program after the 2004 season. Suspicions were raised when I saw two of our great players had hat sizes close to 10. What normal, clean person has a hat size of 10? Shangri La' Wiffleball does not condone the use of body enhancing substances. I'm surprised more people weren't a little leery after the zero-win performance of these teammates in the 2005 tournament. I understand guys that are getting older will do anything to get that edge back, but that does not make it right. I will not name names at this time."

The Commissioner went on to say that the SLW policy calls for a one-year ban for players who test positive for foreign substances. "I think we all know what the real issues are for this great league. The President better be careful how far he wants to take these false claims about wiffleball gambling."

Jeff Cain summed up the information yet to be revealed in one word. "Unpardonable," Cain said in disgust.

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