



Shangri La' Wiffleball

James R. Hixson, Commissioner (217) 202-4159

Geoff Hixson, President Shangri La' Wiffleball Alumni Association (719) 330-1241

Jeff Cain, Assistant Commissioner for Communications (217) 841-0478

www.SLW.com

For Immediate Use: Tuesday, June 27, 2006

SLW Media Contact: Jeff Cain
(217) 841 0478

2006 Shangri La' Classic Schedule Set *Commissioner Thrilled About This Year's Field*

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The field has been set for Saturday's annual Shangri La' Classic. Once again, the league office has worked diligently to modify any aspects of the tournament that need work. SLWAA President Geoff Hixson said, "I truly believe this is the most competitive and even field we have had in the 13 year history of this event. I think the team that I have assembled this year is the one that will allow me to get the monkey off my back." The eldest Hixson has never won the crown jewel of the SLW season and that is the monkey which he references.

The tournament will feature a six team round robin tournament. Batting practice will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday (July 1) followed by the first pitch at 9:00 a.m. Games have been extended to four innings in length. For the first time in Shangri La' history, two man umpire crews have been assigned to every game. More details on the game and umpire schedule can be found on the attached document.

Commissioner Hixson believes this is the year SLW takes the next step. "You are seeing the rebirth of Shangri La' Wiffleball," Hixson proclaimed. "Not since 1994 have we seen such sweeping changes to Lakefront and the surrounding property. We are excited about the many new additions to this year's tournament."

Hixson was asked to comment on the recent gambling suspensions of Jed Pope and Tank Cain. "I had conversations with both Jeff and Jed about their recent public comments. We have put that ugliness behind us and need to focus on all that is good about Shangri La' Wiffleball."

Home Run Derby has been moved to Friday night to accommodate a more player friendly schedule on Saturday. Some have expressed disappointment with the change. Others have taken it a step further accusing President Hixson of making the move to benefit himself more than the players. One wiffler who wished to remain anonymous said the following: "No one who has won home run derby aside from Geoff will be participating Friday night of due to schedule conflicts. If he wins, he should consider it a hollow victory at best."

Tom Alblinger once again could not be reached for comment.

-SLW-