2019 PINK FLAMINGO CLASSIC

Proceeds Benefit Various Local Charities

Free Admission—No Carry Ins

14" SLOW PITCH FESTIVAL

36th Anniversary!

July 12th, 13th, 14th

Legion Park

De Pere, Wisconsin

Saturday

8:30 a.m. Run with the Flamingos

9:00 a.m. Parade

7:00 p.m. Big Mouth

Sunday

Championship Game

Gathering with Friends

Legion Park

De Pere, WI

***Thank You** players, workers, sponsors, and fans!*

36 years and still going!

The Pink Flamingo flag shown in this picture was flown over the skies of Syria in the Middle Euphrates River Valley while conducting Offensive Operations against ISIS on 30 September 2018.
Thank you for your continuous support of those who defend our Great nation's way of life. ATTACK!

the Flamingos played on Thursday nights and participated in local tournaments. Flamingo fun at a softball diamonds in those days would occasionally cross the line, so civic organizations were hesitant to associate their group with the pink partiers.

Enter Tom Hurley.

Tom invited David Vande Hei and Todd Danen to attend a Kiwanis meeting to pitch the idea to their club sponsoring the Flamingos. During their presentation, a spirited debate arose, as several Kiwanis members were leery of the risk associated with sponsoring the Flamingos. At one point, the Kiwanis leadership asked Vande Hei and Danen to leave the room and the debate heightened.

However. Hurley went to bat for the flamingos, arguing something special was likely to occur and the club should be supportive. Risking his reputation, Hurley convinced Kiwanis membership to vote in favor of the sponsorship and thank goodness, he did. The first tournament, remembered as "The Greatest", was a huge success. The Flamingos are forever grateful for Tom Hurley and the sponsorship provided by the De Pere Kiwanis Club in 1984.

Dick "Blackie" Baeten

It was late 1983 and the Flamingos decided we were going to run our own slo-pitch tournament. People were given jobs to do and one of mine was umpires. At this time, umpires were working a lot, giving up their nights and some weekends to earn a few bucks. I approached our league umpires hoping they could give me some names and direction. After talking with Wayne Pansier, Ralph and Dick Baeten, it was Dick "Blackie" Baeten who said he could get us some umpires and it won't cost us anything...well, maybe a few beers! You see Blackie ran the KC fastpitch tourney for 10 years and he understood the dilemmas of running a tournament.

So with Blackie's expertise of running his own tourney, he not only supplied us with free umpires, he set up their work schedule, and made sure either himself, Wayne, or his brother Ralph was at the tourney at all times to cover any potential controversial calls. Blackie and most of his fellow umpires were in their upper forties or lower fifties when they donated their time and effort. So for 10 years, these guys gave up one of summer's few precious weekends to give us quality umpiring. So, to Blackie (and his lovely wife Elaine, who allowed him to help us) I want to five a big Flamingo "thank you" and welcome you to the Pink Flamingo Hall of Fame!

Pink Flamingo Hall of Fame

Mary Ann & Harry Baeten

We all know if it is one thing you need at any tournament it is good ball games; however, more importantly it's good food! Harry and Mary Ann Baeten were two of our initial chefs. In the first years the cooking setup was not what it is today, there was no large grill (there were two Weber grills). There was not the food line setup of today. There was Harry and Mary Ann cooking, wrapping, and walking the cooked product to the Nescos. Harry and Mary Ann did this for 15 years. As if raising and feeding 9 Baeten kids wasn't enough, these two decided to try to feed hundreds more on Flamingo weekend. These two saw many changes in the 15 years behind the grill. They went from feeding hundreds of hungry patrons on tournament weekends to feeding thousands.

However, a couple of things that need to be pointed out about this job in the early years were, first there was no such thing as pre-cooked brats, so Harry and Mary Ann had to precook 500 brats on the Wednesday and Thursday before the tournament, they also had to hand peel and chop bags and bags of onions.

However, during their time behind the grills they met and talked to many of their friends. I've been told they enjoyed all of the conversations along with a few manhattans! So Harry and Mary Ann Baeten, welcome to the Pink Flamingo Hall of Fame!

Thomas Hurley

Tom Hurley, a De Pere resident and insurance salesperson, was a key figure in the creation of the first Flamingo Classic in the summer of 1984.

In the spring of that year, the Flamingos contacted the De Pere Park & Recreation Department and booked a July date at Legion Park. Booking the park was an easy task; however, securing a license to sell beer and food presented a bit of a problem. A non-profit organization was required to secure the temporary license the Flamingos needed to host the tournament.

The task of securing a non-profit sponsor faced a roadblock. As history recalls, prior to their own tournament

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MVP's Through The Years

Year	MVPs	Team
1986	Pete Bloemer (owner)	
1987	Joe Van Deurzen (owner)	
1988	Paul "Whitey" McDonough	Generics
1989	Pete Thomson	Thomson Meats
1990	Herb Foote, Dave Heuvelmans	Ivan's Bar
1991	John Danen	Generics
1992	Al "Ferris" Buehler (deceased)	Andy's Fish Market
1993	Andy Stuckart	Thomson Meats
1994	Stan Scheffen	
1995	Jim Rottier, John DeRuyter	Thomson Meats
1996	Mike Hanrahan, Steve "Woody" Allen	Andy's Fish Market
1997	Tom Aerts, Mike Gentile	Generics
1998	Luke Dantoin, Lance Koltz, Bryan Vande Hei	Kocken Dumpers
1999	Jerry Bos, Jason Schweitzer	Auntie Ann's
2000	Dan "Dish" Disher	
2001	Pete Lamers	BallBusters
2002	Todd LeMieux	Andy's Fish Market
2003	Tim Jolly, Pete VanSistine	SideKicks
2004	Matt Danen	Kocken Dumpers
2005	Phil Corbin, Jeff Hoffman	D&S Machine
2006	Chad Thomson	Auntie Ann's
2007	Chris Brault, Mark Leidel	Auntie Ann's
2008	Corey Haese, Jeremy Rotzenberg	SideKicks
2009	Bob Van Rens	Nelson Machine
2010	Darin Black	D&S Machine
2011	Jeff Behrendt (pitcher)	Swan Club
2012	Brett Spaeth	Nelson Machine
2013	Drew Nowak	D&S Machine
2014	Jordan Koch	D&S Machine
2015	Matt Freeman, Ryan Waldschmidt	CBS Sportsters
2016	Brandon Byrne	CBS Sportsters
2017	Travis Mason, Dakota Perock, Josh Teske	Perock Flooring
2018	Nick Pierre	Perock Flooring

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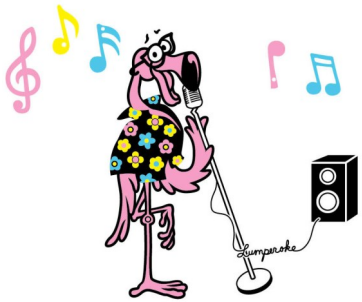

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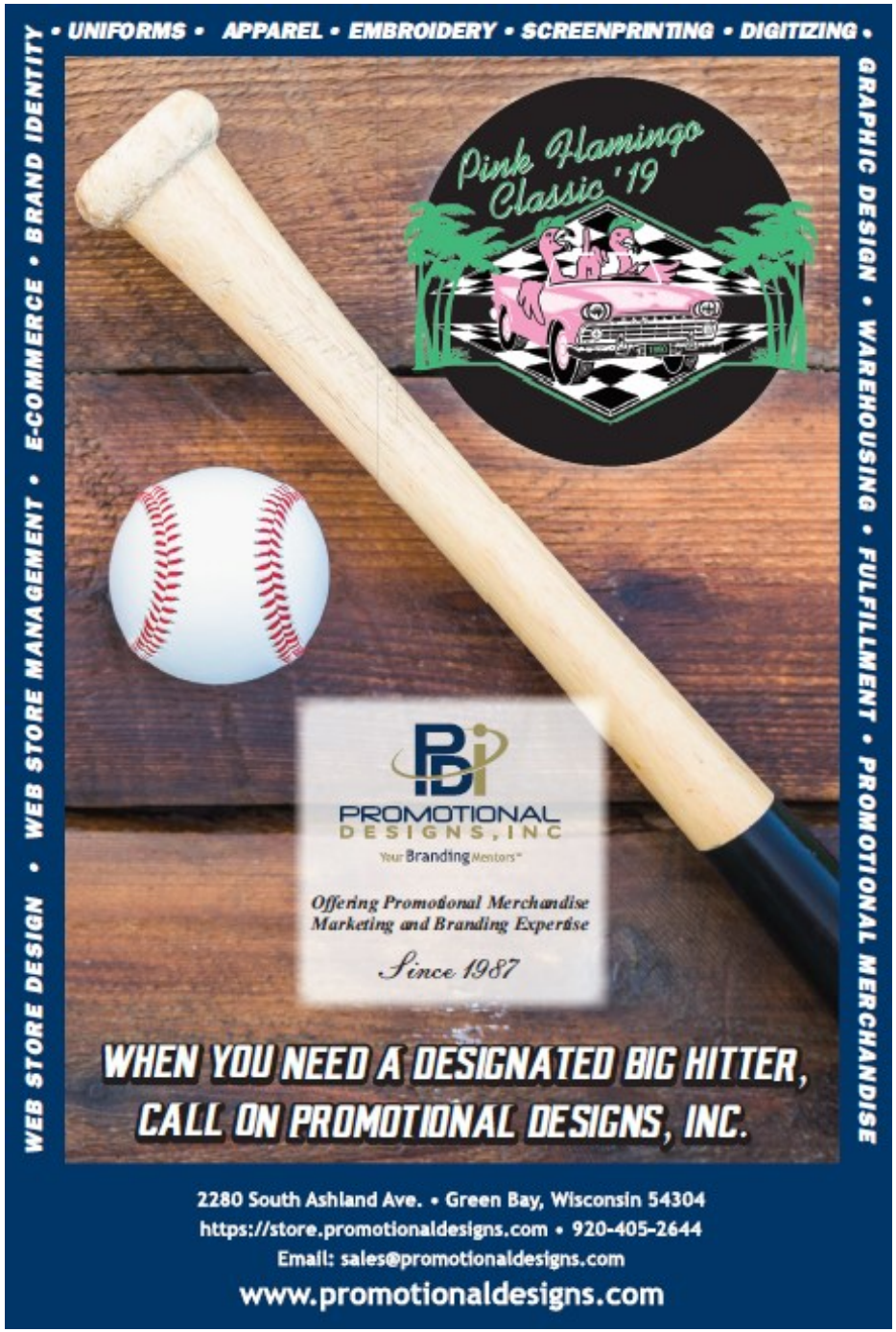

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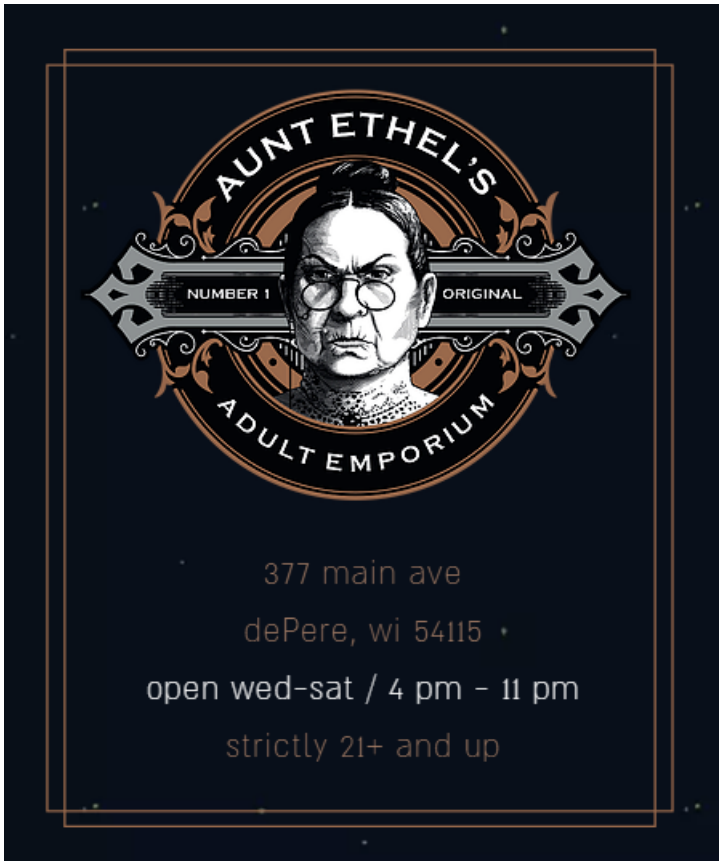

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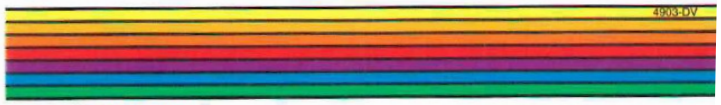

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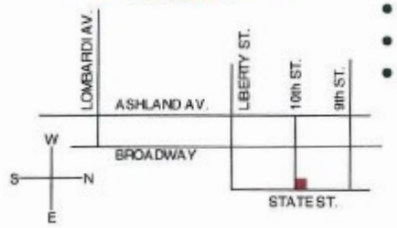

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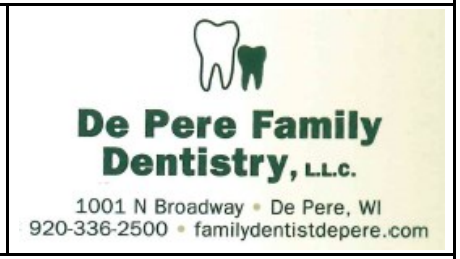

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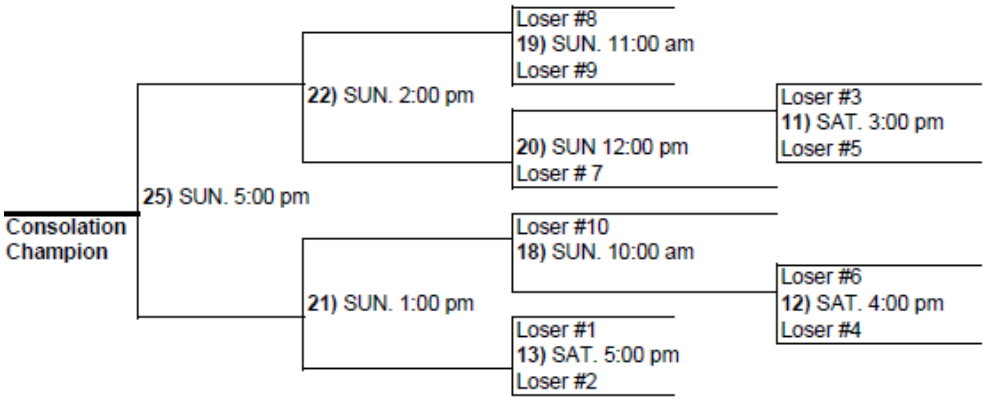
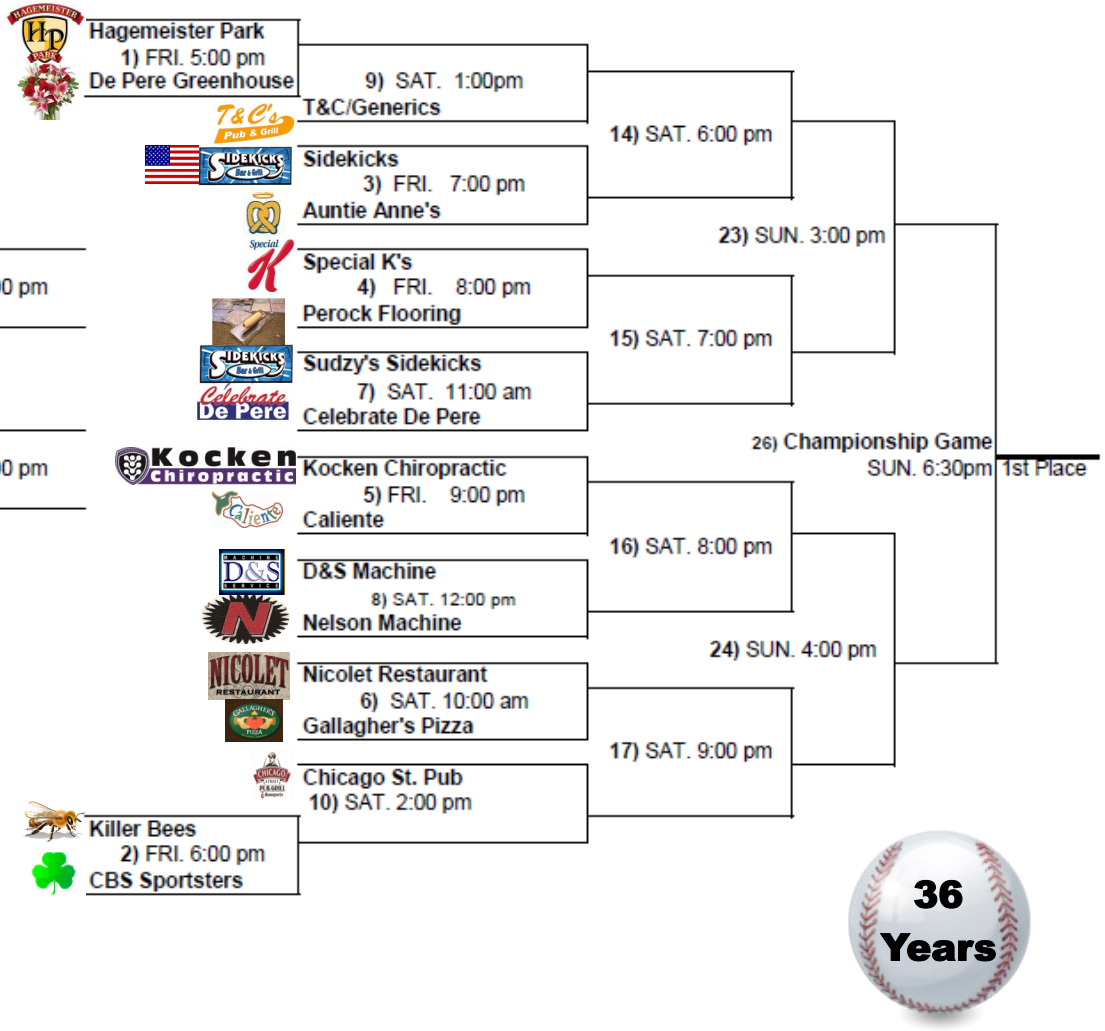
Consolation Bracket



Championship Bracket



July 12th, 13th, & 14th

Legion Park, De Pere, WI