

64th Annual Central Athletic Association of the Deaf

Hosted: Greater Milwaukee Association of the Deaf

July 19 - 21, 2007

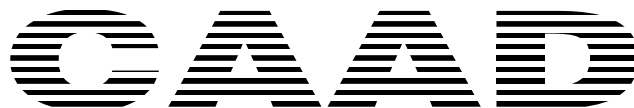
Reported by Commissioner Bonnie R. Schwebke

After 37 years, the Central Athletic Association of the Deaf (CAAD) Softball Tournament returned to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This year there were some changes to the format of the tournament. After many years of the Tournament lasting for 2 days, CAAD decided to experiment with a one-day format for the 64th Annual CAAD Softball Tournament, in order to find out if the best interests of the five men's teams and two women's teams and the host would be better served with a shorter tournament. The experiment showed that a 2-day tournament is better, because everyone was extremely worn out from playing an average of 7 games in one day. The CAAD Softball Tournament started at 8 AM and ended at 1:20 AM. Indeed, it was a very long day and, by the end of the day, everyone's energy was drained, and many people were falling asleep after being at the softball field all day.

Whether it's an amazing catch of a fly ball in the outfield, a diving catch of a ground ball, or sliding into home with the winning run, all of us have been a part of CAAD's success to date, with great sportsmanship. Amazingly, both teams had the energy to play as the last game started at 12 Midnight. It was incredible to watch the West Suburban Association of the Deaf (WSAD) men, who fought a hard battle to capture this year's CAAD Championship, beating Chicago Catholic Ephpheta (CCE), 35-36. The Most Valuable Player went to Kenneth LaVoy.

Proving that history repeats itself, the WSAD Women easily whipped Greater Milwaukee Association of the Deaf (GMAD) and claimed the CAAD Championship for the 11th consecutive year with a score of 29-0. Caro Depik-Smith of WSAD gave a fine performance and was awarded the Most Valuable Player.

Men	CAAD	Women
WSAD	Championship	WSAD
CCE	Runner Up	GMAD
Columbus	3 rd Place	
GMAD	4 th Place	
Detroit	Team Sportsmanship	GMAD
Men - 1st String All Stars	Men - 2nd String All Stars	Women - All Stars
Michael Brady - WSAD	Brian Fruits - CCE	June Prusak - WSAD
David Copen - Columbus	Keith Longino - WSAD	Becca Janssen - WSAD
Patrick Deas - Columbus	Mark Ostrander - GMAD	Aleris Fraats - WSAD
John Little - CCE	Bobby Blessing - Columbus	Ryan Gunnlaugsson - GMAD
Derrick Jull - CCE	Timothy O'Jack - Detroit	Mary Sanderson - WSAD
Chris Barrett - WSAD	Andrea Cisneros - WSAD	Rachel Hamilton - WSAD
John Parson - Columbus	Ronald Tkachuk - GMAD	Andrea McNeill - WSAD
Norman Edwards - CCE	Albaro Cisneros - WSAD	Meredith Kiss - WSAD
Stewart Ferguson - WSAD	Joey Kutcka - CCE	Jennifer Schwebke- GMAD
Daniel Fiscus - Columbus	Nathan Jellison - CCE	Sarah Faber - WSAD
Michael Morsoville - WSAD	Kurt Dams - WSAD	Jill Bianco - WSAD
Kenneth LaVoy	Most Valuable Player	Caro Depcik-Smith
Gregory Huffman - WSAD	Coach of the Tourney	Meredith Kiss - WSAD



The highlights of the CAAD Meeting are brief, as follows:

- A motion was made and passed that CAAD Softball Players play in their own state except for NSAD Free Agent Rules. After this motion passed, CAAD received many protests regarding the motion, and had a meeting last week for further discussion. After a lengthy reasonable discussion and checking the CAAD Bylaws, all of CAAD Officers voted to veto this motion #1 for 3 reasons:
 1. *CAAD should not divide our very own Region. We have 8 Regions and why divide our Region that all States must play for their own state and not able to play for their other states in this same Region.*
 2. *The motion clearly is discrimination to play for our own state while other Regions can play for any states in their Regions. Instead of bringing or holding players together, this motion is pushing them apart and it discriminates against players in this same Region.*
 3. *The most important of all, it conflicted with CAAD Bylaws, Article III, Region indicated: The region under the jurisdiction of this Association shall be **composed** of the states of ILLINOIS, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MICHIGAN, OHIO and WISCONSIN, the environs of BUFFALO, NEW YORK, PITTSBURGH AND ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.*
- It was moved and passed that CAAD will have its own Softball Registration Form.
- A record-breaking 35 motions with 7 amendments, for a total of 42 motions, were moved, debated and voted:
 - 20 motions/amendments passed
 - 12 motions failed
 - 4 motions dead
 - 2 motions out of order
 - 1 motion referred to Law Committee
 - 3 motions withdrawn.
- NSAD Commissioner, Mark Bella, gave a presentation after CAAD Delegates Meeting. The highlights of his presentation are as follows:
 - He informed us that he is juggling two positions (NSAD Secretary/Treasurer and NSAD Commissioner) just for this time.
 - He assured us that Pittsburgh will return to CAAD after this year.
 - He clearly assured us that he will be in charge and have the final decision of any disputes in NSAD Softball Tournament.
 - He shared his concerns about the dwindling number of teams in several Regions.
 - He gave his efforts to have two ways communication with all Regions.
 - He planned to change the image of the NSAD website by hiring someone to do it professionally.

Waving hands in the air, I, on behalf of CAAD Officers, athletes, club members, fans, and their families, very much appreciated Chairperson Jamie Kane, Greater Milwaukee Association of the Deaf and the GMAD committees for their job of hosting this tournament with only 8 months of preparation.

All of the CAAD men's and women's teams (except the GMAD men's team) will be participating in the NSAD Softball Tournament at Dayton, Ohio this coming August 8 - 11, 2007.