

# COP CORNER

With Jeff Blair

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allowed officers from all over the country to discuss issues important to them and one thing he continues to hear from veteran players was how much they wished they had a website like this during their prime. These statements made it clear to Del that the older players or retired players missed out in not having their accomplishments recognized like the current players do. The PS.Com HOF will allow our sport to recognize players who played before the information age of Internet, e-mail, and websites.

To be eligible for the HOF is simple.

- 1) Be 45 years of age or older.
- 2) Have made a significant and positive impact on the sport of Law Enforcement Softball.

Nominations are currently being accepted and on August 1st, 2006, all the nominees will be placed on a ballot and be voted on by the registered members of PoliceSoftball.com. Any member receiving 75% of affirmative votes will be inducted.

PS.Com hosts the Law Enforcement World Series every year in October and during the World Series is the very popular East vs. West All Star game. It will be before that game that the inductees will be named and if they are present they will be recognized in an on field ceremony.

While many people will focus on the players and rightfully so, Del was very careful to include the #2 eligibility clause because there are people who did not play at a high level who promoted and helped the sport greatly with their vision, efforts and ability to make a significant impact on the game. Teams can function and play without their star player but many times tournaments or teams would fail miserably without the special person doing the little things behind the scenes. It is for these people that the second eligibility clause was written for. When it all shakes out and the first round of inductees are named, they will have their virtual "plaque" placed in the PS.Com Hall of Fame and their efforts will hopefully be remembered by many who will come after them. Webmaster Leo Zayas will be designing the virtual plaque. Wayne-Oakland/Michigan manager Andy Wurm is explor-



New York Metro



SoCal Alliance/Easton



Eastbay Combo/Quake

In the arena of Major League Baseball, the greatest honor is unquestionably the induction of a player into the Hall of Fame.

The competition for inclusion in the Hall is stiff and extends beyond a player's contributions on the playing field...right Pete? In our humble corner of the sporting universe known as Law Enforcement softball there is some exciting news I am reporting this month. The creation of the PoliceSoftball.com Hall of Fame is long overdo but I am pleased to announce that it is in the works and should be implemented by the end of the 2006 season. The goal of the HOF is to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of people who have either played Law Enforcement softball at a high level or who have somehow contributed in a great way to promote the sport of Law Enforcement Softball.

PoliceSoftball.com has been in existence for almost two years now and it has quickly become the clearinghouse for all Law Enforcement softball issues so it only seemed reasonable to founder Del Pickney to create the Hall of Fame. Del is a Sergeant at his police agency, so like most supervisors, Del specializes at delegating work (Translation: He comes up with good ideas and has others do the work for him.) The creation of the HOF is no different and he has sought a great deal of input from the PS.Com community. When asked why he wanted to create the HOF, Del said the website has

ing the possibility of having a brick and mortar location for the HOF in the Wolverine State to compliment the "virtual" HOF. In unrelated news, I have some follow-up information from the article I ran last issue regarding the "Minimum Standards" of player eligibility. If you recall the standards are what PS.Com recognizes as to the definition of a Law Enforcement officer for purposes of tournament softball. The standards were a collaborative effort from our softball community and everyone was invited to share their thoughts. Several tournament directors decided to implement these standards and in exchange their tournaments would receive considerable coverage in both the Cop Corner and on the website. Anytime you implement something new there will be wrinkles to iron out and that is just what we are doing. Overall, the standards have been a big success although checking every player's credentials has proven to require quite a bit of elbow grease from the directors. But, most will say the extra work has paid off and we are well on our way to cleaning up our sport. For those unfamiliar with the competitive Law Enforcement softball

circuit I will let you in on a little secret. We struggle with the same issues the rest of you do: Illegal players, hot bats, fake credentials etc., are not exclusive to civilian softball. The good news is that most directors are making huge strides in regulating these problems and the Minimum Standards give them solid footing to make a stand.

Enough of me pontificating, here are some tournament results:  
**MARCH: Bacon Ball Tournament; Las Vegas, NV:** 1. LAPD Blue/Easton; 2. Miami Metro; 3. RSO Red. **Wally Karp Memorial Tustin, CA:** 1. SoCal Alliance/Easton; 2. OCSD Hitmen; 3. LAPD Lawmen. **Mesa Police/Fire Games, Mesa, AZ:** 1. Cal-Quake; 2. DEA Combo; 3. Nevada Combo.  
**APRIL: Budweiser/Syndicate Tournament, Fullerton, CA (The Yard):** 1. SoCal Alliance/Easton; 2. OCSD Hitmen; 3t. RSO Black; 3t. San Bernardino Hitmen. **Jacksonville Police Softball Tournament, Jacksonville, FL:** 1. New York Metro; 2. Jacksonville PSC; 3. Ohio Lawmen. **Concord Police Softball Tournament, Martinez, CA:** 1. East Bay Combo-Quake; 2. Corcoran Prison Hardcore; 3. Folsom/Sacramento J-Cats.