



# Beacon

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A publication of the Ban Johnson Amateur Baseball League

## Regular season is over, finally

Yes, Tuesday marked the end of the 2015 regular season, but it was far from a complete season.

League officials decided that there would not be a regular season champion because of the uneven number of games played by the 13 teams.

The decision was made to use the standings to determine the seedings of the post-season tournament (see story below).

The rains cancelled a large number of games with Natural Baseball Academy and MSBL Royals playing

the most games at 25, but this is still short of the 28 games scheduled.

UMB Bank and KCSC Blaze played the least games at 19.

UMB got the number one seed with a 16-3 record. The team won 10 straight games since the last edition of the Beacon on July 10.

“We are hoping to continue our recent success,” veteran manager **Cary Lundy** said.

See Regular, page 6



**GET BACK?!-** Micah Dillman, BJ Raider designated hitter, scampers back to first base as Cole Doherty, UMB first baseman, prepares to make a play. UMB won both games of the doubleheader July 17 at Mid-America Sports Complex.

## *2015 Post-Season Tournament is underway*

The 2015 Post-Season Tournament is underway and expected to be finished by August 1.

Because of all the rain that shortened the regular

season, the tournament just includes nine teams.

Building Champions opened the tournament by

See 2015, page 7

*Notable Numbers presented by Independence Ridge Apts.*

(FINAL UNOFFICIAL)

## Batting Average

(based on a minimum of 44 at bats)

1. Daniel Reilly, KCSC Blaze	.472
2. Seth Ell, UMB Bank	.453
3. Andrew Vogelbaugh, Prodigy Baseball	.413
4. Matt Milner, Milgram Mustangs	.404
5. Zach Pirello, Natural Baseball	.386
6. Brett Macary, Seaboard	.383
7. Curtis Boyer, UMB Bank	.382
8. Jeremy Lufft, NKC Apts. Giants	.377
9. Louis Pener, NKC Apts. Giants	.375
10. Jack Pauley, Natural Baseball	.368

## Home Runs

1. Mitchell Rogers, Seaboard	5
2. Jordan Robben, Prodigy Baseball	4
3. Andrew Vogelbaugh, Prodigy Baseball	3
3. Tim Mahoney, NKC Apts. Giants	3
3. Chris Pinne, Seaboard	3
5. (10 tied with two each)	

## Runs Batted In

1. Jack Pauley, Natural Baseball	21
2. Mitchell Rogers, Seaboard	18
3. Andrew Curry, Milgram Mustangs	16
4. Daniel Reilly, KCSC Blaze	15
4. Dylan Christie, Milgram Mustangs	15
4. Cameron Dean, Milgram Mustangs	15
4. Nicholas Gutzmer, Regal Plastics	15
4. Chris Pinne, Seaboard	15
9. (three tied with 14 each)	

## Pitching Earned Run Average

(based on a minimum of 19 innings)

1. Samuel Gilbert, KCSC Blaze	0.36
2. Dalton Moats, UMB Bank	0.78
3. Jacob VanVacter, UMB Bank	0.82
4. Dakota Graham, Milgram Mustangs	1.13
5. Wally Nellor, Seaboard	1.20
6. Taylor Ross, BJ Raiders	1.27
7. Shamus Kearney, Milgram Mustangs	1.40
8. McConnell Preston, UMB Bank	1.57
9. Hayden Edwards, KSSC Blaze	1.59
10. RJ Burrola, MSBL Royals	1.60

## Strikeouts

1. Zachary Maskill, Midwest Orioles	62
2. Zachary Hegger, Prodigy Baseball	53
3. Dakota Graham, Milgram Mustangs	47
4. Taylor Ross, BJ Raiders	44
4. Tanner Strickbine, Seaboard	44
6. Wally Nellor, Seaboard	43
7. Dylan Pollock, BJ Raiders	42
8. Jacob VanVacter, UMB Bank	41
9. Drake Herrman, Building Chamions	39
10. Alex Smith, MidAmeriCare Nationals	38

# Beacon

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## FINAL Ban Johnson League Standings

	W	L	GB
UMB Bank	16	3	---
BJ Raiders	18	5	---
NKC Apts. Giants	16	5	1.0
Milgram Mustangs	16	8	2.5
Seaboard	12	9	5.0
Natural Baseball	13	12	6.0
KC Sports Club Blaze	9	10	7.0
Building Champions	10	12	7.5
MidAmeriCare Nationals	8	12	8.5
MSBL Royals	9	16	10.0
Regal Plastics	8	16	10.5
Midwest Orioles	6	15	11.0
Prodigy Baseball	3	21	15.5

# All-Star Game provides lifetime memories

The J All-Stars won the 47th Annual Ban Johnson League All-Star Game hosted by the Kansas City Royals by a count of 3-2.

But that wasn't the major item to come out of the game July 12 at Kauffman Stadium.

The big item for the players were the memories that will be cherished down through the decades.

BJ Raider outfielder **Tyler Cox** was named the MVP of the game going one-for-one with a walk and a run scored.

"It's a great honor and I was shocked to get it," the 2015 Blue Valley West graduate said. "This is something I will always remember."

And looking at the wide spaces in the outfield at the K, he said, "There is sure a lot of ground to cover."

KCSC Blaze shortstop **Luke Vierstanz** said, "I was thinking of all the great shortstops that played on this field. People like Derek Jeter.

The BV West graduate and William Jewell player had two singles for the B All-Stars in the game.

J All-Star and Prodigy Baseball shortstop **Andrew Vogelbaugh** was thrilled to play at Kauffman Stadium.

"This is where my grandpa **Steve Mingori** pitched," he said. "I wanted to play where he did."

See All-Star, page 9



**LIVE COVERAGE** - **Dakota Graham**, Milgram pitcher (left), and **Nick Gavin**, Building Champions catcher (center), were interviewed by KMBC news reporter Angie Ricono before the Ban Johnson All-Star Game July 12 at Kauffman Stadium.



**MVP RECOGNITION** - **Tyler Cox** (right) was recognized as Ban Johnson All-Star Game MVP by Scott Sharp, Royals' assistant general manager/baseball operations, prior to the Royals-Blue Jays game July 12 at Kauffman Stadium. (Photo by Chris Vleisides)



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# Awesome performances

## July 13

The BJ Raiders scored nine runs in the bottom of the first in a 13-1 win over KCSC Blaze. **Tyler Cox** was two-for-four with a double and grand slam homer.

Building Champions' **Jordan Honing** went three-for-four with two doubles and an RBI in an 7-2 win over Prodigy Baseball.

UMB Bank tallied nine runs in the top of the sixth in a 12-2 victory over the Milgram Mustangs. **Tyler Burgess** went three-for-four with a double and two RBIs.

## July 14

**David White** of Seaboard was two-for-four with a homer and four RBIs in a 14-0 win over the MSBL Royals.

The BJ Raiders' **Neal Boyce** was two-for-four with four RBIs in a 9-3 victory over Building Champions.

**Christian Patterson** of Natural Baseball Academy went four-for-five with a double and four RBIs in a 13-2 win over the Milgram Mustangs.

The BJ Raiders' **Nico Codemo** was two-for-two with a homer and two RBIs as the Raiders' beat Building Champions 8-4.

**Dylan Christie** of the Milgram Mustangs had a double and two RBIs in going two-for-three in the Mustangs' 4-3 win against Natural Baseball Academy.

## July 15

**Jacob VanVacter** of UMB Bank gave up one run on four hits in a 2-1 win over KCSC Blaze. He fanned 10 and walked one.

## July 16

**Eric Ross** of UMB Bank had a two-run homer in his team's 2-0 victory over Regal Plastics.

Seaboard's **Andrew Warner** was two-for-three with a homer and three RBIs in a 12-0 victory over the Midwest Orioles.

## July 17

**Dalton Moats** of UMB Bank tossed a five hitter in a 2-1 win over the BJ Raiders. He fanned 13 and walked four.

**Gabe Greenbaum** of Regal Plastics singled to right field to drive in two runs in the top of the seventh as his team beat the KCSC Blaze 7-6.

## July 19

**Miles Kilgore** of the NKC Apts. Giants threw a three-hitter as the Giants beat the Midwest Orioles 4-0.

**Nick Pascuzzi** of the NKC Apts. Giants went two-for-three with a triple and two RBIs in the Giants 6-0 victory over the Midwest Orioles.

## July 21

UMB Bank pitcher **Jacob VanVacter** tossed a one-hitter in his team's 1-0 victory over Building Champions. He fanned 11 and just walked two.

**Seth Ell** of UMB Bank went two-for-four with a triple and two RBIs in a 8-0 victory over Building Champions in the second game.



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## Notes from around the Ban Johnson League

### *More spring honors*

**Gabe Greenbaum** of Regal Plastics was named a 2015 Daktronics NAIA Baseball Scholar-Athlete at Baker.

Three MSBL Royals received various honors while in high school last spring.

Lawrence Free State infielder **Cooper Karlin** was a first team All-Sunflower League pick and a second team in the 6A All-State team picked by the coaches.

Free State outfielder **Joel Spain** was All-Sunflower and first team coaches all-state pick.

Shawnee Mission North outfielder **Chase Redick** was an All-Sunflower and first team All-State pick by the Kansas coaches.

Spain and Redick were first team picks by USA Today Kansas.

Seaboard outfielder **Zach Hanna** was a second team pick by USA Today Kansas. He played in high school for Mill Valley and has committed to play for Western Community College.

Karlin is committed to play for Pittsburg State while Spain is headed to Cowley County Community College. Redick will be playing for Kansas City Kansas Community College.

### **Rosenthal to 2015 All-Star Game**

**Trevor Rosenthal** was selected to play in the 2015 MLB All-Star Game but was unable to play because of a sore arm.

The St. Louis Cardinals closer played for Building Champions in the Ban Johnson League.

The six-foot, two-inch, 220-pounder graduated from Lee's Summit West High School and played for Cowley County Community College.

He was mainly a shortstop in junior college, but was drafted by the Cardinals in the 21st round of the 2009 draft.

The Cardinals saw him as a pitcher and that is what he played in the club's farm system.

He had an outstanding year for the Cardinals in 2014 with 45 saves.

He had 27 saves in games through July 17.

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# Regular season is over, finally

(continued from page 1)

Lundy said that the team lost late leads in the three games they lost during the regular season.

“Left-handed pitcher **Dalton Moats** is throwing shutouts to the seventh inning and left-handed pitcher **Jake VanVachter** has been outstanding with his swing and miss stuff,” Lundy said. “Left-handed pitcher **Mack Preston** has been really good also.”



**COMPLETE GAME** - UMB Bank pitcher **Dalton Moats**, threw a season-high 13 strikeouts against the Raiders July 17 at Mid-America Sports Complex. The left-handed pitcher gave up one run, five hits and four walks in the seven-inning contest.

Lundy noted that the team’s team speed has been important on offense.

“(Outfielder) Tyler Burgess our leadoff hitter has set the table,” he said. “**Shane Boyer** (shortstop), **Henry Weilers** (third base), **Seth Ell** (outfield) and **Cole Doherty** (first base) have all hit well in key situations in games.”

The BJ Raiders claimed the second seed with an 18-5 record. The Raiders were second seed because their winning percentage was lower than UMB Bank.

The North Kansas Apartments Giants were third seed with a record of 16-5.

The defending champion Milgram Mustangs grabbed the fourth seed with a mark of 16-8.

Defending regular-season champion Seaboard finished in fifth at 12-9.

Seaboard lost to the Mustangs in the 2014 Post-Season Tournament after claiming the title in 2013.

“I’m hoping that our recent success continues,” veteran manager **Will Meier** said. “Great team play and execution at the right time has been the key.”

He said that pitcher **Wally Nellor** has been the team’s ace.

“It seems like a different guy each night has been key, but outfielder/first baseman **Chris Pinne**, outfielder **Austin Hoegrel**, catcher/first baseman **David White** and shortstop **Mitchell Rogers** have been the most consistent.”

Natural Baseball Academy grabbed the sixth seed at 13-12, while KCSC Blaze came in seventh at 9-10.

Building Champions claimed the eighth seed by beating the MidAmeriCare Nationals 10-0 on Wednesday.



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# Post-Season Tournament is underway

(continued from page 1)

beating the Mid-AmeriCare Nationals 10-0 in a game shortened to five innings by the 10-run rule in the play-in game.

The best of three quarterfinals started on Thursday at the Mid-America Sports Complex in western Shawnee.

The defending champion Milgram Mustangs met the team that they defeated in the 2014 post-season tournament Seaboard in a doubleheader at Mid-America.

The Mustangs were the No. 4 seed while Seaboard was the No. 5 seed.

In the other doubleheader yesterday, No. 3 seed NKC Apts. Giants played No. 6 seed Natural Baseball Academy.

There are two doubleheaders on the schedule this evening at Mid-America.

The number two seed BJ Raiders meets the seventh seeded KCSC Blaze while number one UMB Bank plays Building Champions which won the play-in game on Wednesday.

The if necessary third games will be played on Saturday at Mid-America.

All games in the quarterfinals are seven inning contests.

The semifinals will all be played at Mid-America.

The highest surviving seed will meet the lowest seed survivor in one doubleheader on Sunday.

The remaining teams will play in the other Sunday

twinbill.

If a third-game is needed it will be played on Monday at Mid-America.

All games will be seven inning games.

The championship series will be best of five at Mid-America.

There will be three nine inning games on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Mid-America.

If a fourth game is necessary it will be on Friday and a fifth game if needed will make that a doubleheader Friday at Mid-America.

Of course with the way that the weather has been so far this season, rain is a possibility.

Be sure to check the Ban Johnson League website for updates to the schedule if games are rained out.

Seaboard has been in the championship series the last three seasons. The team beat Natural Baseball for the title in 2013.

KCSC Blues won the 2012 title defeating Seaboard in the championship series.

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## Alumni Corner presented by Moe Lago

### BJ Alums in professional baseball

There are a number of Ban Johnson League alumni active in professional baseball in various capacities.

Here is a look at a who's who of alums in the professional baseball:

**Trevor Rosenthal**, pitcher St. Louis Cardinals (Building Champions).

**Jason Adam**, pitcher Chattanooga Lookouts, AA Southern League, Twins (Building Champions).

**Lee Ridenhour**, pitcher, Reading Fightin Phils, AA Eastern League, Phillies, (Midwest Orioles).

**Ryne Stanek**, pitcher, Montgomery Biscuits, Southern League AA F, Rays (Building Champions).

**Bralin Jackson**, outfielder, Bowling Green Hot Rods, Midwest Low A, Rays (Milgram Mustangs).

**John Means**, pitcher, Delmarvia Shorebirds, South Atlantic Low A, Orioles (Building Champions.).

**Justin Chigbogu**, first baseman, Great Lakes Loons, Midwest League, Low A Dodgers (Milgram Mustangs).

**Derek Gordon**, pitcher, Idaho Falls, Northwest Short Season Low A, Royals (UMB Bank)

**Bubba Starling**, outfielder, Northwest Arkansas Naturals, AA Texas League, Royals (Building Champions).

**Adam Giacalone**, pitcher, Joliet

Slammers, Independent (Building Champions).

**Ray Chang**, infielder, Pensacola Blue Wahoos, Southern League, AA Reds (Milgram Mustangs).

**Bobby Wernes**, third baseman, Tri-City Valley Cats, NY-Penn Low A Short Season, Astros (Natural Baseball Academy)

**Dean Long**, third baseman, Spokane Indians, Northwest League, Short Season Low A (KC Barnstormers)

**Anthony Miller**, first baseman, Arizona League Indians, Arizona Rookie League (Seaboard).

**Keith Lieppman** is the Oakland A's director of player development.

**Mike Rojas** is the bullpen coach for the Seattle Mariners

**Russ Morman** is the manager of the San Jose Giants in California League (High A) Club is a team in the San Francisco Giants organization.

**Cullen McRae** is the video coordinator for the Florida Marlins.

There are a number of alums in the scouting end of the game, including; **Jeff Cornell**, **Mike Grouse**, Texas Rangers, Tampa Bay Rays; **Mike Hankins**, Detroit Tigers; **Darryl Monroe**, NY Yankees; **Brittan Motley**, Kansas City Royals and **Mike Roberts** of the St. Louis Cardinals.


And who will be the next alum to make it to the big leagues? Only time will tell.



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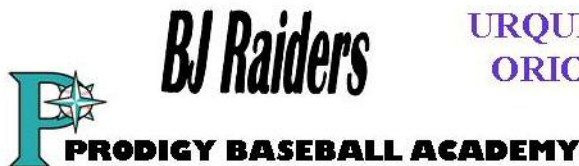
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- Milgram 1970-71

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## 2015 Ban Johnson League Team Sponsors



### *All-Star Game provides lifetime memories*

(continued from page 3)

Mingori is a member of the BJ Hall of Fame and played for Katz. He pitched in MLB for Cleveland and the Kansas City Royals. He died in 2008.

Vogelbaugh, a Liberty North grad and player at Pittsburg State, drove in a run when he was hit by a

pitch.

**Ian Barker**, Midwest Orioles outfielder, said, "I grew up with Frank White. I watched a lot of games from the stands here."

The Turman grad and player at Dakota State had a single in the game for the B All-Stars.