

2009 ISA FASTPITCH WORLD SERIES

The 2009 ISA Fastpitch World Series was held on July 13th through July 18th, 2009 along Florida's Space Coast. Fastpitch diamonds in several venues came alive as softball's future stars put their skills to the test. Seventy-four teams registered to play as the young athletes laced up their cleats and grabbed their gloves for a week of fast paced action.

ISA CEO Don Stratton told us, "ISA would like to thank our partners, Space Coast Sports Promotions and Softball Magazine, for adding to the World Series and making this a great event where the focus was all about the girls and the game. The tournament started off with an impressive Bat Wars event out at Space Coast Stadium fields and the girls were able to log over 15,000 swings with various bats and win some great prizes courtesy of Eastbay and the vendors. Selected championship games were also broadcast on Softball Central with a live video feed and archived so that the kids could listen to them later. It takes a lot to bring an event like this together successfully. On that note, I would like to extend a special thanks to the Brevard County Parks and Recreation grounds crews at Stradley Park in Cocoa and those that worked at the Merritt Island Lassie League Fields



- these folks were just incredible. As Mother Nature can in the Summer, she made erratic appearances on several of the fields we were using on four of the tournament days with exceptionally heavy weather, causing them to be unuseable.

The very personal pride that the grounds crews at Stradley and MI Lassie League Fields took in rendering their fields available for play to keep the tournament going and insuring that the kids got to play all of their games was truly above and beyond. As it was, Stradley Park and the MI Lassie League Fields handled the weather and Stradley ended up hosting the webcasts. The tournament wrapped up with ISA presenting over \$13,000 in awards including Championship watches to the winners and bats by Engraved To Last were a nice touch as well. ISA was proud to uphold their "Teams Come First" mantra and offer a great Youth Fastpitch World Series for our teams! Thanks to everyone who came and participated and we hope to see you all again next year!"

In the 8U, the Kentucky Sidewinders earned the trophy as they defeated the Sarasota Quicksilver in the final game. The West Pines Diamond Dusters had a great tournament, placing third.

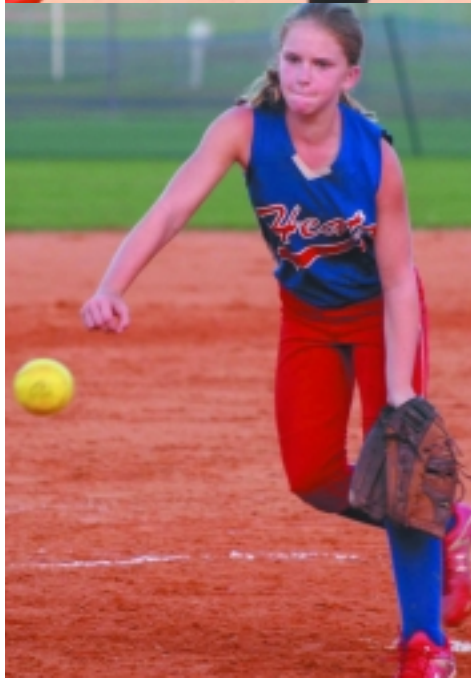
The 10U-A division saw some great action as the Pembroke Lakes Bandits stole the show and defeated the Orlando Aftershock for the win while the Jacksonville Players settled for a third place finish.

The 10U-B division showed the Sarasota Heat and the White Lightning scrapping it out for the win, but when all was said and done, the Sarasota Heat pulled it out and took the win.

In the 12U-A division, two teams from Orlando, Florida were battling it out to see who would get the local bragging rights for next year. After the last out, it would be the Orlando Flames over the Orlando Aftershock with the Royal Palm Panthers placing third. Finishing up in the 12U-A were 4. Brevard Stealers '96; 5. Central Florida Impact; 5. Outrage '96; 7. Ambush; 8. Gainesville Gold; 9. Seminole Warriors.

The 12U-B division saw action all over the place as the Port Orange Blazers burned up the championship defeating Ambush Fastpitch in the final innings while the Gainesville Gators settled for a third place finish.

Coach Lance Bruno of the Ambush Fastpitch 12U told us, "The Ambush Fastpitch team had a wonderful time at the ISA World Series. Our ladies played with desire, dedication, and determination. As their coach, I was extremely proud of how they played and fought to the very end. I would like to thank all of our sponsors who made it possible. Also I would like to thank ALL the par-



ents for their hard work and dedication to our organization. Flames; 7. St. Pete Lady Flames; 9. Central Florida Sting-Black; Central Florida Sting-Red; 9. FCGSA Cyclones; 9. Sarasota Heat '97.

The 14U-A division was a hard fought contest, but the final innings showed that CAT-5- Black was the stronger team, defeating the scrappy Georgia Buzz for the trophy while Plantation Softball fought for the third place finish.

Coach Brian Wilson of the Georgia Buzz said, "It was a blast to be a part of the tournament. I really can't distinguish from the great

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directors and the great ball that was played. They both were a pleasure to be associated with. But I must say how PROUD I am of everyone, from the directors all the way down to the athletes and their families. I understand how hard it is to go to the beach and be disciplined enough to realize that you're there for softball. Lord knows I wanted to go and jump in the ocean with 107 degree temperatures. To all the athletes... please keep up the great work and share your knowledge with the younger players and hopefully the sport will always be around for everyone to enjoy." Finishing up the 14U-A were: 4. Jacksonville Players; 5. Central Florida Sting; 5. Oviedo Blaze; 7. Osceola Overdrive; 7. Tampa Diamond Smashers; 9. Blue Ridge Explosion; 9. Clearwater Bullets.

The 14U-B division was a hard fought contest between the Silver Eagles and team TNT. The Silver Eagles bested TNT in the final game with the Ohio Lady Flames recording the third place finish.

Calvin Monroe of the Silver Eagles said, "As a first year 14 Under team all the coaches and parents are very proud of these young ladies' accomplishments. To finish off the Summer with an ISA World Series win makes it even better. Coming in to the tournament, the coaching staff was confident we could do well. The day before the final day of the tournament our team lost in the winners' bracket finals. This game went to three 'international tie-breakers' and the Florida heat about got the best of them. The loss took a lot out of our team both physically and emotionally. All us coaches kept wondering how our team was going to rebound from a tough loss like that. Well, the next morning, "The Final Day," our team began gathering for our pre game warm-ups. We didn't change anything; we were consistent with what we normally do. As a coach you can always tell if your team is ready to play, and looking into those young ladies' eyes, we knew they were ready to compete. From the beginning of the first game until the end of the championship game, top of the lineup to the bottom, our team was solid on both sides of the ball. If it wasn't a huge defensive stop to end the inning, it was a run scoring hit with two outs. Our girls just refused to lose. Great Tournament! Hats off to every team we played. Thank you Softball Magazine for your coverage of this World Series.

Calvin, along with coaching staff Todd Wicks (Head Coach), Jeff Spurgeon (Coach) and Billy Richardson (Coach) wanted to tell the Silver Eagles... Great job!"

Finishing up for the 14U-B were: 4. Tampa Bay Odyssey; 5. Morristown Hurricanes; 5. Seminole Warriors '95; 7. Adrenaline-Green; 7. Orlando Flames;

9. Adrenaline-Black; 9. FCGSA Cyclones; 9. Gainesville Gold; Venom Fastpitch.

In the 16U-A division, the Brevard Stealers stole the championship trophy from Puerto Rico-Red as went head to head in the final game. Puerto Rico-Blue placed third while the Prime Time Elite-Red placed fourth and NJ Thunderbolts finished fifth.

The 16U-B division, Upper Deck Elite had the upper hand in the bracket when they defeated the Port Orange Blazers for the win, while the Twilight Twister recorded a third place finish.

Brian Huffman with the Upper Deck Elite out of West Virginia told us, "As you know we went 9-1 to win the division. The whole experience was outstanding for our girls. We are midseason right now, 50-6, so to win a tournament this size was great. This was our third championship win of the season, including the WV ISA State Championship. Our entire team stepped up so it's impossible to name one play or one player that stood out. We had big homeruns from Katelyn Prince and Emily Bower. Aggressive small ball from Julia Hightower, Lani Wynn, and Ashley Gill. Our games were won defensively by huge plays by centerfielder Beth Huffman and right fielder Whitney Hill. Making not only routine plays but laying out, digging balls out of the dirt, and making heads up plays with runners in scor-





Kentucky Sidewinders



Pembroke Lakes Bandits



Sarasota Heat



Sarasota Quicksilver



Orlando Aftershock



White Lightning



Orlando Flames



Port Orange Blazers



CAT-5 Black



Orlando Aftershock



Ambush Fastpitch



Georgia Buzz



Royal Palm Panthers



Gainesville Gators



Plantation Softball



Silver Eagles



TNT



Brevard Stealers



Puerto Rico-Red



Upper Deck Elite



Port Orange Blazers



Puerto Rico-Blue



Twilight Twister



Team Madness



Twilight Twisters

from the tournament: Total hits: Kristi 13; KK 11; Batting avg.: Kristi, KK, Caitlin and Katie all hit over .500 for the tournament; RBI: KK 6; Caitlin and Brittany Gloyd both had 5; Runs scored: Kristi 9, Caitlin 8; Strike outs: team only struck out 15 times in 7 games; Pitching: Sara Pettigrew pitched 27 of our 35 innings and had a 1.04 ERA."

Finishing up for the 18U were: 4. Central Florida Sting; 5. Central Florida Twisters; 7. Space Coast Stars; 7. Tennessee Red Hotz; 9. Clearwater Bullets-Welch.



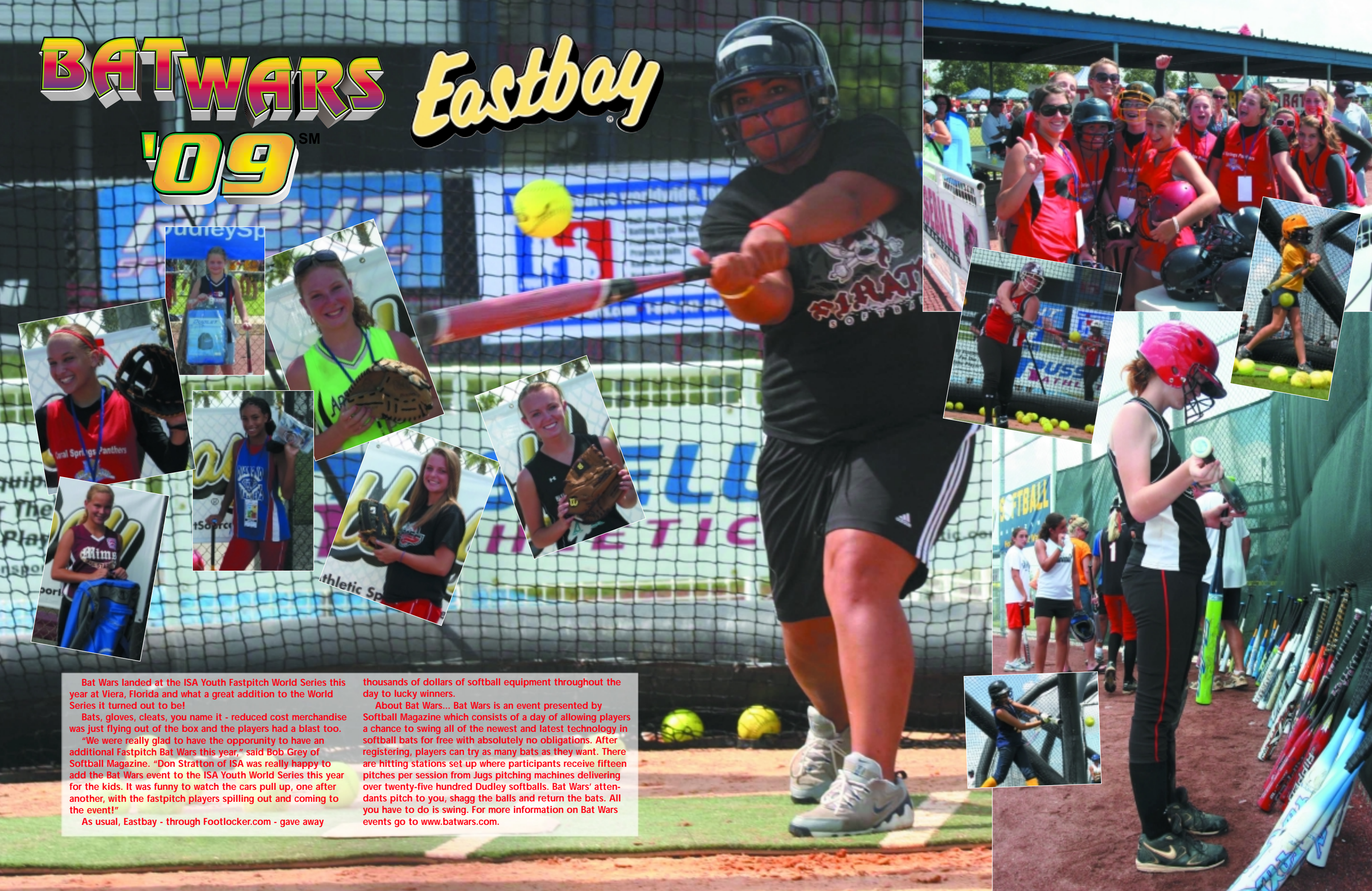
Lady Cobras

ing position, we had second baseman Kayla Epling, first baseman/pitcher Kelsey Whitt and shortstop Emily Bower and our whole defense was controlled by pitchers Summer Athey, Brandi McGraw and Kelsey Whitt. The three had a combined seven runs scored on them during the ten game run. As a team we outscored our opponents 47-7 during the tournament. The Upper Deck Baseball/Softball Training Academy in Beckley, West Virginia proudly sponsors us. They provide an indoor training facility that is second to none, which enables us to be a 12-month a year program. Assisting me is Coach Bill Cook, with whom I've coached upwards of 500 ball games over several years. The knowledge Bill brings to the game is remarkable, making my job much easier. Last but not least, I have to credit Coach Tim Epling (owner of the Upper Deck Facility). Tim not only helps with hands on training but also is in charge of physical conditioning. This plays a tremendous part in our success in the heat and the three back to back games it took Saturday morning to win the World Championship." Finishing up for the 16U-B were: 4. Sunrise Thunder; 5. Flagler Cyclones; 5. Jax Fusion; 7. Brevard Stealers-Green; 7. Coral Springs Panthers-Red; 9. Augusta Cobras.

The 18U division saw Team Madness and the Twilight Twisters dig for every run and fight for every out. As the final innings were recorded, it was Team Madness that took the trophy and the bragging rights for next year with third place going to the always scrappy Lady Cobras.

Jody Huggins of Team Madness noted, "As far as the team goes, everyone contributed and it would be hard to point out just one player so here are some highlights

BATWARS Eastbay '09SM



Bat Wars landed at the ISA Youth Fastpitch World Series this year at Viera, Florida and what a great addition to the World Series it turned out to be!

Bats, gloves, cleats, you name it - reduced cost merchandise was just flying out of the box and the players had a blast too.

"We were really glad to have the opportunity to have an additional Fastpitch Bat Wars this year," said Bob Grey of Softball Magazine. "Don Stratton of ISA was really happy to add the Bat Wars event to the ISA Youth World Series this year for the kids. It was funny to watch the cars pull up, one after another, with the fastpitch players spilling out and coming to the event!"

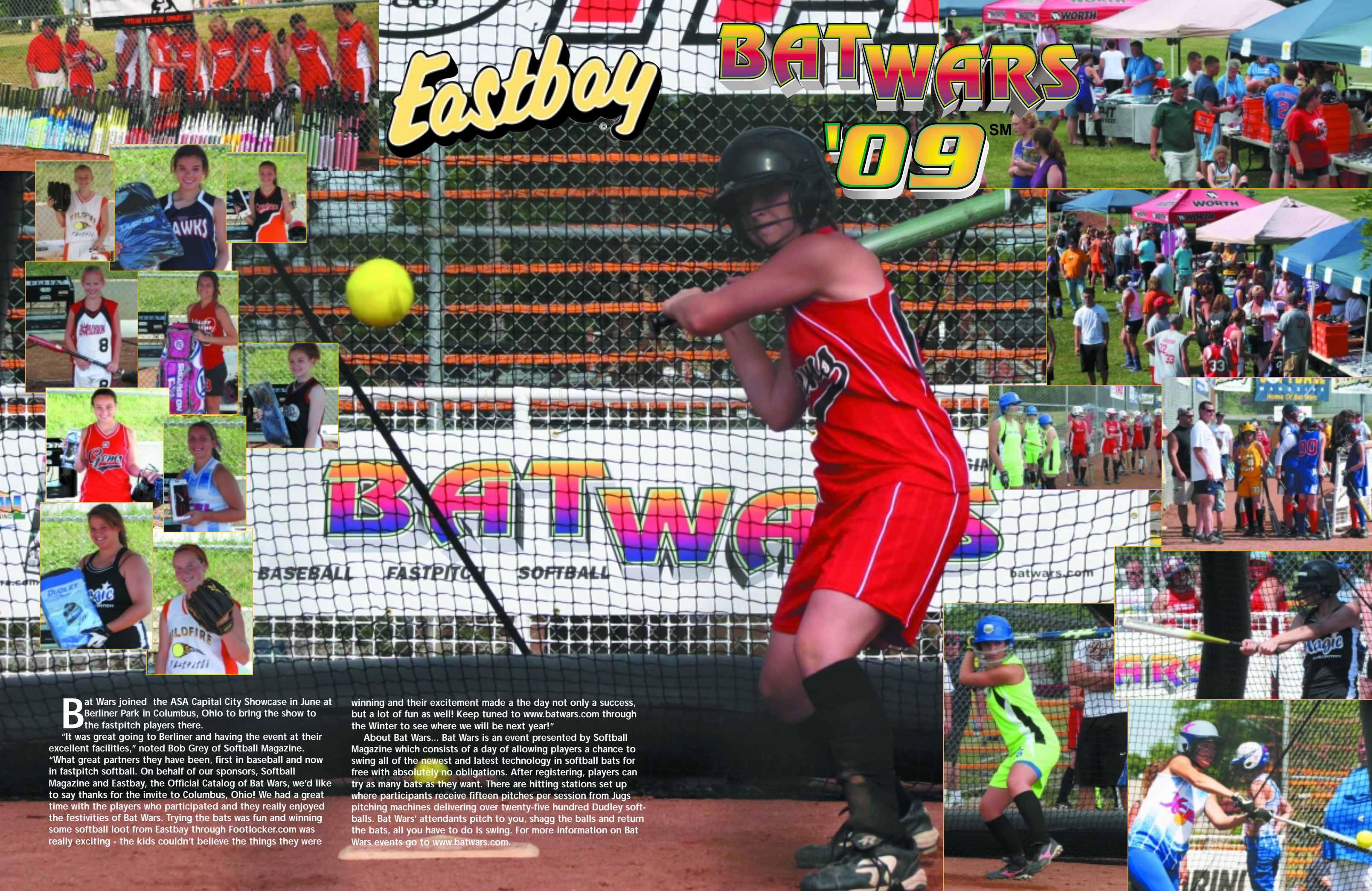
As usual, Eastbay - through Footlocker.com - gave away

thousands of dollars of softball equipment throughout the day to lucky winners.

About Bat Wars... Bat Wars is an event presented by Softball Magazine which consists of a day of allowing players a chance to swing all of the newest and latest technology in softball bats for free with absolutely no obligations. After registering, players can try as many bats as they want. There are hitting stations set up where participants receive fifteen pitches per session from Jugs pitching machines delivering over twenty-five hundred Dudley softballs. Bat Wars' attendants pitch to you, shag the balls and return the bats. All you have to do is swing. For more information on Bat Wars events go to www.batwars.com.

Eastbay

BATWARS '09SM



Bat Wars joined the ASA Capital City Showcase in June at Berliner Park in Columbus, Ohio to bring the show to the fastpitch players there. "It was great going to Berliner and having the event at their excellent facilities," noted Bob Grey of Softball Magazine. "What great partners they have been, first in baseball and now in fastpitch softball. On behalf of our sponsors, Softball Magazine and Eastbay, the Official Catalog of Bat Wars, we'd like to say thanks for the invite to Columbus, Ohio! We had a great time with the players who participated and they really enjoyed the festivities of Bat Wars. Trying the bats was fun and winning some softball loot from Eastbay through Footlocker.com was really exciting - the kids couldn't believe the things they were

winning and their excitement made the day not only a success, but a lot of fun as well! Keep tuned to www.batwars.com through the Winter to see where we will be next year!"

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