



For Immediate Release
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Phone: (404) 468-6222
E-mail: jjones@mjbl.org
www.mjbl.org

BLACK WORLD SERIES TO BE BROADCAST LIVE

RICHMOND, VA – The Metropolitan Junior Baseball League (MJBL), a 44 year old 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, will present its 20th Annual Inner City Classic July 28th – August 1st. MJBL will broadcast its 12U championship game dubbed the “Black World Series” live from Greensboro, NC for the second consecutive year. Last year’s 12U champions, the New Orleans All Stars will return to defend their title. The entire Classic championship series will be offered to a broad range of youth ages 8 to 19. The 19U entitled the “Dr. William Bell Championship” is named in honor of Dr. Bell who was a Tuskegee Airman and a pioneer for African-Americans participating on and off the field in NCAA sports. Defending 19U champs, the Greensboro R&B Aggies are primed for a head on collision with last year’s runner up, Team Cali from Oakland, CA. MJBL now has 17 member states along with the Bahamas and Puerto Rico participating in its programs. The City of Greensboro Department of Recreation and Parks has agreed to partner with MJBL to offer this year’s event.

The Black World Series will be aired Saturday, July 31st starting at 5:00 p.m. Major League Baseball’s home run king, Barry Bonds, will deliver a tape-recorded message in support of this event to the national viewing audience. The game can be accessed by going to www.mjbl.org. This five-day event will also feature a symposium named in honor of Barry’s father and former San Francisco Giant, the late Bobby Bonds, Sr. This year’s symposium will be held July 29, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the Harrison Auditorium on the campus of North Carolina A&T State University. The headline speakers will be Minor League Baseball President and CEO, Pat O’Conner, Ricky Week, Sr., the father of Milwaukee Brewers shortstop Ricky Week along with several other panelists.

Mookie Wilson, a staunch supporter of MJBL, was the color analyst during last year’s Black World Series. Mookie, who is now working for the Mets organization, will be unable to participate this year. Ken Free, Sr. will replace Mookie as the color analyst. Free is noted for turning the Mid Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) into a reputable Division I Athletic Conference during his tenure as commissioner for MEAC. Free, MJBL’s Chairman of the Board, said “I look forward to being a part of this broadcast.

It's important for our kids to be seen competing at a high level in this game. I think this kind of exposure and visibility is essential in getting our youth to embrace the game of baseball once again and dispel the notion that black youth no longer play baseball."

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