# GEORGE CORONA



Most softball players begin playing the game at early ages, but not George Corona.

Corona, who played 12 years of professional baseball, began his softball career at the young age of 32. During 1955-57, Corona played for Rips All-Stars and represented metro Detroit in the world tournaments.

In pro baseball, Corona played outfield

In pro baseball, Corona played outfield and third base. His true athletic ability showed during his softball career as he pitched, caught and played just about every infield position.

In only his fourth year playing slow pitch softball, Corona was a member of the 1958 world championship East Side Sporting Goods team. He led the team in home runs and batting average during the tournament.

Corona also played on the 1959 East Side team that placed third in the world tournament. His talents continued to shine as he participated on the 1966 Michaels Lounge and 1970 Little Caesars world championship teams. In the 1966 tournament, Corona was selected to the all world team.

His honors also include many MVP and all tournament team selections to various local tournaments. Corona has yet to hang up the glove and bat as he continues to play on a Senior Citizens team - the Warren Raiders. He helped guide the Raiders to world titles in 1985 and 1986 and also third place finishes in 1987 and 1988.

## **JACKIE HUGGINS**



When one mentions women's softball in the Detroit area, the name of Jackie Huggins is at the top of everyones list.

Huggins has played organized softball for the past 27 years, of which 23 of those years has been in the women's A division. Huggins began playing slow pitch softball at the age of 10 in a Harrisburg (PA) Parks and Recreation summer league.

During the summer of 1964, Huggins was recruited by Lonzell Stokes to play on his

travel team the following year. In 1965, she played on the newly formed Hi Fi Stars which played in a league at Detroit's Jayne Field. From 1966-75, Huggins travelled throughout the mid-west and represented the metro Detroit area in 10 national ASA tournaments while playing for the Soul Sisters.

Huggins, who has played on numerous tournament championship teams, has acheived many local and national all-tournament selections. She was twice named a national tournament all-star (1969 and 1972) as a shortstop.

Huggins career in softball continued in the late 1970's and early 80's as she played on such prominent teams as Stingers softball club and Little Caesars, Since 1985, Huggins returned to the ASA national tournament while a member of the Steele's softball club. The Steele's powerhouse continued as they finished in fourth place in 1986 and third place in 1988.

# FRED AND KARL NOTHDURFT

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The story of Fred and Karl

Nothdurft started with a notice that appeared on the company bulletin board in the spring of 1961. The notice invited all employees to tryout for a fast pitch team that would be sponsored by Nothdurft Tool and Manufacturing Company of Mount Clemens.

Little did they realize what

repercussions that notice would bring about, but the rest is history. During the first tryout session, they realized



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that the company did not have enough talent to compete in the Detroit Parks and Recreation fast pitch league with such teams as Club 500 and Burch Gage. So the recruiting began.

The Nothdurft team captured their first regional title in 1969 and qualified for the world series in Springfield, Missouri. In their first world series,

they finished 4-1 good for fourth place.

In 1970, Nothdurft produced one of their better teams by placing as a national runner-up. They lost their first game of the tournament, but went on to win eight straight games behind the pitching of Bonnie Jones before losing 1-0 in the finals.

After an 11 year absence, Nothdurft decided to get back in the hunt for a national fast pitch title in 1987. In 1988, Nothdurft began sponsoring a men's 35 & over slow pitch team.

That slow pitch team has had remarkable success in the past four years as they have won the Men's Master national tournament since its inception in 1985. Their record is an astounding 29-1 in national tournament play and have won their last 26 games in a row. They have played only one game over the minimum (29) required to win the championships.

The Nothdurft story stands by itself in the softball record books

### TOM TROMPICS



The Trompics family has a strong tie with the game of softball...and Tom is no exception.

Trompics played softball during the prime years of the slow pitch game. He began his softball career during 1957 and continued through 1975 playing on such teams as Sox Inn. Michaels Lounge and Little Caesars.

He was a member of the world championship teams of Michaels (1966) and Little Caesars (1970). Trompics played in 12

world tournaments during his illustrious career. He was twice picked up as a player at large to go to a national tournament.

Some of his achievements over the years include being selected to the all tournament team in the Southgate tournament seven times and the Ecorse tournement five times. One of the most memorable moments include his participation in the Milwaukee Open tournament in 1966 when he belted 18

hits in 19 times at bat.

#### ED TYSON



Ed Tyson was a powerful force for the Briggs Beautyware fast pitch teams in the late 1930's through the early 50's.

His ability to control the bat against some of the finest fastball pitching in the area, helped make the Detroiter a star on the softball diamond. Tyson was an infielder, playing the short-center field position when softball was a 10-man game. He later shifted to shortstop where he performed equally as good during the nine-man rules of fast pitch.

Tyson guided the Briggs teams to two world titles - one in 1937 in Chicago, Illinois as he batted .478 (11 for 23) and the other title in 1948 at Portland, Oregon (.434 batting average, 10-23).

Tyson also competed in three other national tournaments - 1942 (.428 batting average, 9-21), 1943 (.473, 9-19) and in 1950 where he slugged an impressive eight hits in 13 at bats for a .615 batting average. Tyson, a left-handed batter possessing a keen eye for the ball, led the Briggs teams in hitting from the years 1934 to 1950.

Hustle - that was the key word that described Tyson's performance on the softball diamond (both fielding and hitting). He was a lead-off batter during the majority of his softball career. His ability to get on base, plus his speed on the basepaths, provided the Briggs team with that ONE big run that resulted in many 1-0 victories.

Tyson was elected to the Polish American Sports Hall of Fame on his

Tyson was elected to the Polish American Sports Hall of Fame on his first ballot in 1974.