



Schedule & Info

May/June

				28 LAC 8:05	29 LAC 8:05	30 BC 7:05
31 BC 1:05	1 EC 7:35	2 EC 7:35	3 GB 7:05	4 GB 7:05	5 DUL 7:05	6 DUL 7:05
7 OFF	8 MAN 8:05	9 MAN 8:05	10 ROC 8:05	11 ROC 8:05	12 BC 7:05	13 BC 7:05
14 BRD 6:05	15 BRD 7:05	16 ALX 7:05	17 ALX 7:05	18 MAN 8:05	19 MAN 8:05	20 ALX 7:05
21 ALX 6:05	22 OFF	23 BRD 8:05	24 BRD 8:05	25 STC 8:05	26 STC 8:05	27 ROC 7:05
28 ROC 6:05	29 STC 7:05	30 STC 7:05	All games are Eastern Daylight Time			



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Front office personnel:

Brad Jorgenson Owner & GM
Janice Jorgenson Vice President &
 Business Manager
Bryan Graham Assistant GM

Field Staff:

Bobby Meier Field Manager

Game day staff:

Dave Valente Official Scorer
Joanna Sanchez Trainer
Slugger Mascot

Media:

Brody Mark Chronicle Journal
John Nagy Chronicle Journal
Bryan Wyatt Dougall Media
Vic Krasowski Giant 105.3 FM
Darlene Palmer Magic 99.9 FM
Gerald Graham CBC Radio
Lynda Dipiero TBAY Sports Scene
Leith Dunick Thunder Bay Source

July

			1 STC 1:05	2 STC 7:05	3 BRD 8:05	4 BRD 1:05
5 OFF	6 DUL 7:05	7 DUL 7:05	8 EC 7:05	9 EC 7:05	10 ROC 8:05	11 ROC 8:05
12 WAT 4:05	13 WAT 8:05	14 GB 8:05	15 GB 8:05	16 WAT 7:05	17 WAT 7:05	18 STC 8:05
19 STC 7:05	20 OFF	21 *ALL STAR	22 OFF	23 LAC 7:05	24 LAC 7:05	25 DUL 8:05
26 DUL 6:05	27 ALX 7:05	28 ALX 7:05	29 MAN 7:05	30 MAN 7:05	31 MAN 7:05	

August

						1 MAN 7:05
2 OFF	3 ROC 7:05	4 ROC 7:05	5 ALX 7:05	6 ALX 7:05	7 DUL 8:05	8 DUL 8:05
9 BRD 6:05	10 BRD 7:05	11	12	13	14	15
16	Division Playoff Aug. 11-13 Championship Series Aug. 14-16					

Home games shaded

*All-Star game in Thunder Bay, Canada

alexandria
beetles

brainerd
junkies

duluth
buskies

mankato
moondogs

rochester
honkers

st.cloud
river bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS





Brad Jorgenson
Owner & GM

Following his role as Acting General Manager, Brad purchased the Border Cats in the fall of 2007 making him the new Owner and General Manager. He is a lifelong resident of Thunder Bay and a graduate of the Business program at Confederation College, majoring in marketing. Brad owned and operated a franchise in the music retail industry. He was also the Canadian representative to the Franchise Advisory Council of Grow Biz International. Brad brings a vast amount of entrepreneurial experience to the business and shares the responsibility with his wife Janice and three boys Bryce, Devan and Porter. Capturing the 2008 NWL Championship during the first year of ownership far exceeded the Jorgenson's expectations. The Organization looks forward to another great season and welcomes the challenge of seizing back-to-back championships.

Entering her second season, Janice will continue extensive efforts that were implemented in the Jorgenson's inaugural year. As an Organization, meeting the players' needs to ensure that a winning product was placed on the field was first and foremost. Giving back to the fans runs parallel with this priority. Her organizational skills that come from 13 years experience as a business owner coupled with an honour's diploma at George Brown College in Toronto will be significant for 2009.



Janice Jorgenson
Vice President & Business Manager



Bryan Graham
Assistant GM

Bryan Graham begins his fourth season with the Border Cats. This comes after serving two prior years as a public address announcer under previous ownership. His role as Assistant GM in the Jorgenson's second season is a welcome contribution to the Organization. The Thunder Bay native spent seven years at CKPR and 94 FM Radio, where he served as sports director and the play-by-play voice of the Thunder Bay Flyers of the United States Hockey League and the Thunder Hawks/Senators of the Colonial Hockey League. He also worked as PA announcer for the Thunder Bay Whiskey Jacks of the Northern League and was the team's play-by-play man during their final season in 1998. Graham spent six seasons officiating minor professional hockey in the United States, and also served as Vice President of Hockey Operations and Director of Officiating for the East Coast Hockey League from 2000-05.

The man who had his finger prints on the 2008 Border Cats NWL Championship season will be in the dugout in 2009. Bobby Meier, a native of Lutz, FL has agreed to take over as manager of the Cats. Meier was originally hired as Cats skipper on November 14, 2007, but had to turn the position back due to summer work commitments. A former catcher in the New York Yankees organization, Meier recruited several of the players on the 2008 Cats roster that captured the league title under manager Devin McIntosh. Meier is also a scout with the Atlanta Braves and is excited about the opportunity to manage the defending league champions. "Obviously there is a very good core of players who are eligible to return, we need to solidify that base and build from there." Meier, who becomes the seventh manager in Cats history has NWL experience after serving two seasons as pitching coach with the Mankato MoonDogs.



Bobby Meier
Field Manager

alexander
bellis

bratford
hunkers

duluth
hushes

mankato
moondogs

richester
hunkers

st. cloud
flyer bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS





All-Stars

Mid-Season All-Stars



Left to Right - Jimmy Stanley (Belmont), Derek Wiley (Belmont), Nate Woods (Belmont), and Mike O'Neill (Southern California).

Postseason All-Stars



Jimmy Stanley

*Belmont
Pitcher*

4-1, 0.49 ERA

37 IP, 45 K, 4 BB

15 Saves - 1st NWL

29 Games Finished - 1st NWL

29 Games - T-2nd NWL



Dan Zehr

*Northeastern
Pitcher*

4-0, 1.15 ERA

55 IP, 46 K, 8 BB

1.15 ERA - 1st NWL

alexandria
beetles

brainerd
lunkers

daboth
buskies

markato
moondogs

rochester
hunks

st.cloud
rivers bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS



Border Cats Capture NWL Title

by Brody Mark, The Chronicle-Journal



Border Cats owner Brad Jorgenson couldn't have asked for a better introduction to the league this season.

In his first season as the team's new owner and general manager, Jorgenson sat back and watched as his Thunder Bay Border Cats captured the franchise's second Northwoods League title.

"As far as the baseball goes, my expectations have all been met and exceeded by far," said Jorgenson. "This team has come together and obviously coming in first place in the whole league, there's not much more you can ask for than that."

Jorgenson took over the roles after finishing 2007 as the team's interim-GM. In late 2007, he shocked many by announcing that not only would he become the team's full-time GM, but that he had purchased the Cats from their original owner, John Wendel.

Jorgenson suffered ups and downs in his rookie season. A 2-7 start to the year had fans cringing at the thought of a repeat performance from the 2007 team, who finished a franchise-worst 28-40.

Coupled with the losses, the team had to deal with more than their fair share of rainy nights and poor weather, which dropped attendance for the third straight year.

"You don't want to keep using that as an excuse when we were getting some lower crowds, but really, you just can't fight the weather. It's impossible," Jorgenson conceded. "It is what it is and when it's not very nice out, people aren't going to come out."

But throughout it all, the Border Cats came through to put together the best record in baseball, finishing 42-26 and securing homefield advantage throughout the playoffs.

"We definitely never quit," said Cats first baseman Derek Wiley. "We started off the season kind of slow, then came back strong. . . . We really (gelled) as a team and became a great unit and we were able to win a championship."

In the first half, they came just a game from winning the North Division title, but made up for it in the second-half by winning 23 games to earn a berth in the post-season.

"This team loves to play together. That's the best way I can say it," said Cats field manager Devin McIntosh. "These are unbelievable guys both on and off the field. They enjoy playing together and they came to the ballpark day after day, played loose, played confident."

"Their talent level combined with the way they play got this thing done."

Despite losing key players to injury and to begin their professional careers, the Cats swept the Mankato MoonDogs in the Northwoods League North Division final 2-0. From there, they advanced to the league championship for the second time since winning it in 2005.

alexander
boell

bradford
hunkers

dustin
hushes

mark
moondogs

rochester
hunkers

st. cloud
silver bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS





Border Cats Capture NWL Title (cont.)

In a series reminiscent of 2005, the Cats faced the Madison Mallards. And just like that year, needed three games to win the title in front of their fans at Port Arthur Stadium with a come-from-behind 6-5 victory in Game three.

Several lone Cats enjoyed tremendous seasons on the diamond. Relief pitcher Dan Zehr led the league in pitching by registering a NWL-best 1.15 ERA in 55 innings of work. Fellow reliever Jimmy Stanley also dominated opposing hitters, topping the league in saves (15) while posting an outstanding 0.49 ERA.

Both Zehr and Stanley's work on the mound was recognized when the two were named NWL post-season all-stars.

Outfielder Mike O'Neill broke several single-season stats this season, becoming the new leader in runs scored (53), walks (59), doubles (19) while tying Wiley for most games played in a season (68).

It comes as no coincidence that O'Neill and Wiley, along with Stanley and Nate Woods were named to the league's mid-season all-star game.

The 2008 season provided its share of excitement and 2009 should be no different. Thunder Bay is set to host the NWL all-star game and now that the season is done, Jorgenson can't turn his attention to that and defending the league title.

He says he learned a lot in his first season on the job and will try and impart that on putting together a good product next year.

"We're really pleased the way things have gone, I'm really happy the way things have gone," he said. "Are we where we want to be? No . . . are we going in that direction? I believe so and I think that's what's important."



NWL President Dick Radatz, Jr. with Cats owner Brad Jorgenson.



Head to Head Records



Year	Record	ALX	BRD	DUL	EAU	LAC	MAD	MNK	ROC	STC	WAT	WIS	BC	GB
2003	31-33	3-5		5-3		4-4	1-3	6-2	3-5	5-3	2-2	2-6		
2004	32-32	5-3		5-3		4-4	1-3	6-2	3-5	2-6	3-1	3-5		
2005	44-24	4-4	3-5	10-2	3-1	3-1	3-1	6-2	2-2	6-2	3-1	1-3		
2006	29-38	1-7	2-6	6-6	1-3	3-1	3-1	5-3	1-3	3-4	2-2	2-2		
2007	28-40	4-4	4-4	4-4	1-3	1-3	2-2	3-5	4-4	3-5	X	2-2	X	0-4
2008	42-26	4-4	6-2	6-2	2-2	X	2-2	4-4	7-1	5-3	0-4	2-2	4-0	X
Totals	206-193	21-27	15-17	36-20	7-9	15-13	12-12	30-18	20-20	24-23	10-10	12-20	4-0	0-4

ALX-Alexandria Beetles, BC-Battle Creek Bombers, BRD-Brainerd Blue Thunder, DUL-Duluth Huskies, EAU-Eau Claire Express, GB-Green Bay Bullfrogs, LAC-La Crosse Loggers, MAD-Madison Mallards, MNK-Mankato MoonDogs, ROC-Rochester Honkers, STC-St. Cloud River Bats, WAT-Waterloo Bucks, WIS-Wisconsin Woodchucks.

alexandria
beetles

brainerd
blue

duluth
huskies

mankato
moondogs

rochester
honkers

st. cloud
river bats

thunder bay
border cats





Miscellaneous Records

alexandria
beetles

brainard
lunkers

dubuoh
hunkies

mankato
moondogs

rocchester
honkers

st.cloud
river bats

	Home Record			Road Record			Extra Inning Record			One Run Record			Shutout Record		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
2003	21	11	.656	10	22	.313	3	1	.750	12	10	.545	6	2	.750
2004	18	14	.563	14	18	.438	2	2	.500	11	9	.550	2	5	.286
2005	23	11	.676	21	13	.618	6	1	.857	19	7	.731	9	3	.750
2006	18	15	.545	11	23	.324	2	5	.286	9	11	.450	5	9	.357
2007	19	15	.559	9	25	.265	1	3	.250	12	14	.462	7	5	.583
2008	21	13	.618	21	13	.618	7	1	.875	13	14	.481	8	5	.615
Totals	120	79	.603	86	114	.430	21	13	.618	76	65	.539	37	29	.561



2008 Final Border Cats Statistics

W-L Record: 42-26



PLAYER	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	SLG	OBP	E
*Ashenbrenner, Josh,SS	.281	60	203	27	57	11	0	3	25	27	19	1	1	.379	.377	8
Benedetti, Danny,C	.258	28	93	8	24	2	0	0	7	10	10	0	2	.280	.333	3
Curley, Chris,3B	.249	64	233	38	58	11	0	7	33	21	43	4	0	.386	.323	13
Darr, Matt,C	.205	14	39	4	8	1	0	0	0	2	11	0	0	.231	.244	2
Forthun, Dean,C	.244	24	86	11	21	6	1	0	6	11	10	0	0	.337	.330	1
*Kelton, Jon,OF	.225	52	187	24	42	4	1	1	19	20	35	2	3	.273	.303	1
Kubal, Alex,OF	.274	44	168	23	46	4	1	0	19	16	30	16	4	.310	.337	1
Lagadin, Alex,P	.000	4	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	.000	.286	0
Lind, Connor,2B	.247	62	198	26	49	5	2	0	25	26	32	4	0	.293	.341	6
McCall, Brandon,2B	.160	8	25	5	4	0	0	0	0	4	8	0	0	.160	.300	1
*O'Neill, Mike,OF	.297	68	246	53	73	19	2	0	29	59	28	20	4	.390	.431	3
*Palinscar, Tim,OF	.284	55	190	31	54	17	3	3	43	29	54	4	1	.453	.387	0
Schmidt, Jake,P	.316	15	19	1	6	1	0	0	4	1	3	1	0	.368	.350	0
Terry, Ryan,OF	.215	44	130	21	28	3	1	1	14	13	34	2	1	.277	.297	7
Wiley, Derek,1B	.277	68	253	41	70	16	0	7	43	47	52	4	2	.423	.397	8
Woods, Nate,OF	.266	53	143	22	38	2	0	4	15	13	24	2	0	.364	.342	0
All Others	.250	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	.250	.250	14
Total-All Batters	.261		2222		579		11		284		397		18	.355		
				337		102		26		301		60		.351		68

PITCHER	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	SO	WP	AVG
Brach, Brett	4-8	4.10	13	11	2	0	0	68.0	61	36	31	2	7	34	67	1	.247
*Breese, Kyle	4-3	4.95	12	12	0	0	0	63.2	71	37	35	5	4	17	49	4	.291
*Dorsett, Jordan	1-2	4.50	9	2	0	0	1	20.0	21	11	10	2	1	17	7	2	.309
Evans, Austin	3-1	2.95	13	4	0	0	0	39.2	27	18	13	0	4	22	31	8	.185
Frankoff, Seth	3-1	2.08	7	4	0	0	0	30.1	21	8	7	1	3	15	22	6	.204
Garcia, Bryam	0-0	5.40	3	0	0	0	0	3.1	4	2	2	0	2	3	0	0	.286
Grijalva, Jeff	0-1	13.50	1	0	0	0	0	2.0	1	3	3	0	1	2	2	3	.167
Groom, Garrett	0-1	7.20	2	0	0	0	0	5.0	6	4	4	0	1	5	1	0	.286
*Hardy, Blaine	1-0	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	7.0	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.231
Holland, Brett	3-2	2.33	20	1	0	0	1	46.1	41	19	12	1	1	20	47	5	.233
*Lagadin, Alex	0-0	12.46	2	0	0	0	0	4.1	5	6	6	1	3	4	2	0	.294
Raymond, Michael	5-3	3.33	12	10	1	0	0	54.0	47	24	20	0	4	35	51	14	.235
*Rosenbaum, Dann	y3-1	1.64	10	8	0	0	0	49.1	29	15	9	1	1	24	32	7	.177
Schmidt, Jake	2-1	2.30	9	4	0	0	1	31.1	33	16	8	2	0	11	37	0	.275
Stanley, Jimmy	4-1	0.49	29	0	0	0	15	37.0	16	2	2	0	3	4	45	4	.128
Woods, Nate	5-1	2.04	11	11	2	2	0	66.1	48	17	15	1	7	23	38	7	.209
*Zehr, Dan	4-0	1.15	23	0	0	0	2	55.0	45	10	7	1	4	8	46	3	.227
All Others	0-0	0.00	3	0	0	0	1	3.0	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	.100
Total-All Pitchers	42-26	2.83		68		8		585.2		228		17		244		64	
				5		21		483		184		46		487		.228	

* Bats Left for Batters, Throws Left for Pitchers

Switch-Hitter

The Border Cats celebrate their 2008 NWL Championship.

Photo courtesy of Jim Addis



alexandria
boeils

brantford
lunkers

duluth
huskies

manhato
moondogs

rochester
bonkers

st.cloud
river bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS





Team Records

alexandria
beetles

brainerd
lunkers

duluth
huskies

mankato
moondogs

rochester
honkers

st. cloud
silver bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS

Single-Season Batting Records

Category	Name	School	Year
Average	.345 J.R. Voyles	Texas-San Antonio	2005
RBI	45 Dan Soukup	Belmont	2003
	45 Matt Mangini	NC State	2005
Runs Scored	53 Mike O'Neill	Southern California	2008
Stolen Bases	33 Quinn Ciccarelli	Cal State Northridge	2003
Hits	81 J.R. Voyles	Texas-San Antonio	2005
Doubles	19 Mike O'Neill	Southern California	2008
Triples	5 Gabe Marchant	Howard CC	2006
Home Runs	8 Dan Soukup	Belmont	2003
Walks	59 Mike O'Neill	Southern California	2008
At Bats	253 Derek Wiley	Belmont	2008
Strikeouts	87 Brooks Shankle	UT-San Antonio	2003
Games Played	68 Mike O'Neill	Southern California	2008
	68 Derek Wiley	Belmont	2008

Single-Season Pitching Records

Category	Name	School	Year
ERA	1.15 Dan Zehr	Northeastern	2008
Wins	9 Casey O'Rourke	Iowa	2005
Games	32 John Hunton	Hutchinson CC	2003
Strikeouts	86 Matt Fields	Gonzaga	2007
Walks	35 Jon Mueller	Minnesota	2005
	35 Michael Raymond	Belmont Abbey	2008
Saves	20 Shawn Williams	Coll of Charleston	2005
Games Started	13 Eric Wordekemper	Creighton	2003
Losses	8 Brett Brach	Monmouth	2008
Innings	84.2 Justin Jordan	Belmont	2004
Hits	89 Justin Jordan	Belmont	2004
Runs Allowed	48 Andy Kreidermacher	Viterbo	2003
Earned Runs	42 Andy Kreidermacher	Viterbo	2003

Top Five Border Cats Attendances

August 21, 2005	Madison	3,391
August 20, 2005	Madison	3,105
August 18, 2005	St. Cloud	2,971
August 16, 2005	St. Cloud	2,940
August 14, 2005	Duluth	2,178





Career Batting Records

Category	Name	School	Year
Average	.281	Danny Benedetti	St. John's (NY)
RBI	56	Chris Curley	Campbellsville
Runs Scored	62	Chris Curley	Campbellsville
Stolen Bases	49	Gabe Marchant	Coll of Charleston
Hits	120	Chris Curley	Campbellsville
Doubles	24	Chris Curley	Campbellsville
Triples	8	Gabe Marchant	Coll of Charleston
Home Runs	12	Chris Curley	Campbellsville
Walks	59	Mike O'Neil	Southern California
At Bats	469	Chris Curley	Campbellsville
Strikeouts	107	Gabe Marchant	Coll of Charleston
Games Played	125	Chris Curley	Campbellsville

Career Pitching Records

Category	Name	School	Year
ERA	1.41	Dan Zehr	Northeastern
Wins	10	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville
Games	48	Dan Zehr	Northeastern
Strikeouts	98	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville
Walks	56	Blake Brannon	Texas-San Antonio
Saves	20	Shawn Williams	Coll of Charleston
Games Started	24	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville
Losses	8	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville
	8	Brett Brach	Monmouth
Innings	155.1	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville
Hits	105	Jimmy Brettl	Cal State Northridge
Runs Allowed	64	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville
Earned Runs	56	Morgan Carlile	Campbellsville

Dan Zehr (Northeastern) holds the Border Cats single-season and career ERA record as well as the Northwoods League record for ERA.



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st. clout
river bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS



The Home of the Border Cats

Port Arthur Stadium "The Cat House"

Stadium Facts:

Stadium Name: Port Arthur Stadium

Year Built: 1951

1st NWL Game Played at Stadium: June 7, 2003

Seating Capacity: 2,950

Ballpark Dimensions: 330 L, 400 C, 330 R

Ticket Prices: Reserved Adult \$10, Reserved Senior \$8,
Reserved Kids (12 & under) \$5, General Admission \$5,
Season Adult \$199, Season Reserved \$179, Season Kids \$129

Parking: Parking available on site at Port Arthur Arena and Canada Games complex. Parking Free.



The Home of the Border Cats



Directions: From Duluth...Approximately 190 miles

Take US 61 North to the Canadian Border Crossing at Pigeon River. After going through the International Border Crossing, continue on 61 and the 4th light will be Harbour Expressway (about 40 minutes from the border). Take a right on Harbour Expressway and go to the 2nd light which is Balmoral St. and take a left. After getting on to Balmoral St. take a right at the 2nd light which is Beverly St. Go to the bottom of Beverly St. and take a left on Winnipeg Ave. (just after the large community auditorium building on the left). Port Arthur Stadium is on the right hand side.

Thunder Bay's Port Arthur Stadium was built in the early 1950's. Used as a football and baseball stadium over the years it's history is deep with extraordinary stories and tradition. Today it is used solely by the Thunder Bay Border Cats Baseball organization who over the last four years have written their own history. (Two Northwood League Championships and one North Division Championship.)

Port Arthur Stadium main seating area (1800+) was retrofitted in the

Whiskey Jack days and now lays claim to some of the most comfortable seating in the league. Unless you are behind one of the old style pillars there is not a bad seat in the house. The Sports Deck lines the left field and is scheduled to have a new deck installed in 2009. With corporate outings being one of



Cars fill the parking lots behind Port Arthur Stadium before game three of the 2008 NWL Championship Series.

the largest growth areas in the Cats business this is a much needed improvement. General admission bleachers are down the right field line and corporate suites are above looking over home plate. (Have been accused of possessing the best view in the Northwoods League.)

The seating is as only as good as the fans that are in them. Thunder Bay has some of the most ardent loyal fans in the Northwoods League. With the recent success of the team this fan base should continue to grow.

alexandria
bozies

brainerd
hunkers

duluth
hussles

markate
northwoods

rochester
honkers

st. cloud
river bats

**THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS**





Letter to the Editor

By Cindy Benedetti
8/18/2008

To Our Friends in Thunder Bay-

First and foremost **Congratulations to the Thunder Bay Border Cats and their Northwoods League Championship in 2008!**

It is very noticeable what a properly run franchise spearheaded by exceptional owners, front office staff, good coaching and a supportive community can do when things are done correctly. Although both seasons are memorable to our family for different reasons, it is important to note that this year the club has experienced some important and positive changes. Changes which no doubt made a difference in the overall feeling and success of the club. Changes like a clubhouse for the guys to bond in before and after games, GREAT post game meals, uniforms, and hugs from Janice and Brad on a regular basis have had a bold effect on the morale of the team. They have felt important and appreciated. It was now easy for these grown guys to put everything they had into each and every game in order to give back to their team, owners, staff, coaches and community.

It is easy to see how the boys of the Thunder Bay Border Cats feel beyond the perimeters of the baseball field. They feel a sense of true loyalty and dedication towards the community of Thunder Bay as demonstrated by their actions before one game not so long ago, when the boys took it upon themselves to learn the national anthem of Canada so they could honor their hometown by singing it to the crowds to open a game pretty much says it all...it demonstrates how much the guys love their summer team and community. Their actions spoke more loudly than words that day. These very same actions illustrate that the boys like Thunder Bay, like playing baseball in Canada and will come if the opportunity is there. Actions such as these, coupled with word of mouth sets the stage for how and why boys come to Thunder Bay to play ball. The word truly does get around as demonstrated by this little story below...

The reputation of the Thunder Bay Border Cats and the town of Thunder Bay began long before Danny was sent to the Border Cats in 2007. While at a local baseball game in our area (Long Beach, California) we ran into some old friends whose son played baseball at Los Alamitos High School with Danny. He was playing at California State University, Fullerton at the time and had played in the summer of 2005 with the Border Cats. Their comments when they heard Danny was headed your way were overwhelmingly complimentary and encouraging. They told us about the hospitality of the host families, the support of the fans and all about the area in general. This 2005 Border Cat was Brandon

alexandria
benites
brainerd
junkies
daulton
hunkies
manabato
moondogs
rochester
honkers
st.cloud
river bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS



Letter to the Editor (cont.)



Tripp. His family was genuinely excited for Danny. We soon learned that everything the Tripps had told us was absolutely true multiplied by 1000!

Your reputation precedes itself and contributes to the success of the team in recruiting young baseball players. When parents and coaches hear these positive reports they do not hesitate to send their boys to Thunder Bay to play baseball for the summer! American or Canadian, it is a desirable place for baseball players to play and yes they will come! It is important for you (the community of Thunder Bay) to know that guys from the United States DO WANT to play baseball in Thunder Bay and they certainly like to return. Our son Danny Benedetti could not wait to get back to Thunder Bay this summer and work as hard as he could to proudly represent your city and all it stands for. He has a real and sincere fondness for the organization, fans, the community and his fantastic host parents Gary & Evelyn Bakich. Gary and Evelyn are the best of the best!

After two wonderful summers rooting for the Thunder Bay Border Cats from our home in Long Beach, California we wanted to extend our heartfelt thanks to the people of Thunder Bay for providing such a fantastic atmosphere for baseball, great support for the players, a TOP NOTCH, CARING host family and a community that any parent would love their son to reside in, even for just the summer. We cannot offer enough praise and thanks to the Border Cat community and organization.

With all this said and done, we wish everyone in Thunder Bay, the Border Cats, their owners, front office staff, coaches, trainers, interns, host families and players only the very best in the future. There are experiences in life and then there are special experiences in life-Danny has had it all with the Border Cats! THANK YOU for two wonderful summers, our new dear friends the Bakich Family and the opportunity for Danny to play with and be surrounded by such great people. We look forward to keeping our Border Cat relationships close and will be fans for life.

Finally, we offer a "HUGE SHOUT OUT" to Brad and Janice Jorgensen, Gary and Evelyn Bakich and every single supporter of the Thunder Bay Border Cats! It has been our honor to be connected with such a special town and exceptional team. GO BORDER CATS!

Sincerely,

The Benedetti Family
John, Cindy, Danny & Teresa

alexander
benles

bratford
hinkers

duffin
hushes

markham
moonings

richester
hokkers

st. catherines
riverdale

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS





alexandria
beetles

brainerd
lunkers

duluth
huskies

mankato
moondogs

rochester
honkers

st. cloud
river bats

THUNDER BAY
BORDER CATS

Lynn Peterson, *Mayor*

City of Thunder Bay



"This was an incredible summer for Thunder Bay as the Cats and the Chill won their respective league titles. Congratulations to the Cats who once again thrilled the dedicated fans with their second NWL Championship. On behalf of City Council and the citizens of Thunder Bay, continued success in 2009!"

Dwight Gessie, *Park and Recreation Director*

City of Thunder Bay



"The 'Cathouse' was rockin again in 2008. An incredible season culminated with another Championship. The Community Services Department congratulates the whole organization and looks forward to 2009! Back to back has a nice ring to it."

