



**Veterans' Association
of the
Chicago & North Western Railway**



Organized December 9, 1924

The C&NW 16-Inch Softball Team – 1925 to 1977

Abe Saperstein



Here's the 1925 team. Abe Saperstein (then 23) was its player/manager and he's in the bottom row second from the left. Mr. Saperstein played shortstop and managed that team the year before he became the leader of the Harlem Globetrotters in 1926. Mr. Saperstein lived in the Ravenswood area, close to our offices, and at the time worked in the Divisions Department on the 4th floor.



1969 Team

Joe Umana (kneeling, second from right) poses with fellow members of the Chicago & North Western Railway's 16-Inch softball team after capturing the championship in the city-wide Grant Park Industrial Tournament.

Top Row, left to right: Wally Friese, Cliff Edington, Tom May, Sal Pantano, Noel Jullian, Vince Flanagan, Mike Coyne (*Hall of Fame 2004*) & Don Napen.

Bottom Row, left to right: Larry Thompson, Ted Lambrakis, Sy Berman, Joe Jurkisatis, Bud Allen, Joe Umana (*Hall of Fame-2005*) & Don Kalinsky.

CITY-WIDE INDUSTRIAL SOFTBALL
TOURNAMENT
1973 - 2nd PLACE TEAM



CHICAGO NORTHWESTERN R. R.

Ron Ambroziak
Wally Friese
Sy Berman
Tom May
Tony Handzel
Bud Allen
Jim Hallgren

Joe Umana
Paul Blazek
Gary Ogurek
Sal Pantano
Don Napen
Joe Jurkisatis
Nick Poulos

1973 - Second Place

CITY-WIDE INDUSTRIAL TOURNAMENT

1977

3d PLACE

CHICAGO NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD

(HAMLIN PARK)

Larry Prince

Bud Allen

Joe Hill

Jim Hallgren

Thomas May

Sylvester Bobo

Wally Friese

Joe Umana

Bob Franzen

Gary Kolbe

Tim O'Brien

Rich Ginger

Sy Berman

Tom Scully

Bob Madsen

Gary Ogurek

Don Napen

- 13 -

1977 - Third Place



1974 Team – Horner Park Industrial League Champions

Standing, left to right: Tony Handzel, Jim Hallgren, Wally Friese, Lee Bellman, Joe Hill, Gary Ogurek, Don Napen, Ed Lydiksen & Tom May.

Front row left to right: Sy Berman, Rich Ginger, Joe Umana (*Hall of Fame-2004*), Bob Franzen & Dennis Madison.

[Hall of Fame](#) | [1980](#) | [1983](#) | [1984](#) | [1990](#) | [2005](#)

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