

CURVEBALLS



...SECRETS TO THE GAME OF LIFE!

COMING SOON

**CURVEBALLS FILM © DREAMTIME ENTERTAINMENT DIGITAL John Biffar Director / Producer
David Van Sleet Executive Producer • Craig Handel Producer • Gustavo Sagastume
Producer / Distribution • Dave C. Beaty Producer.**

Curveballs Documentary Synopsis

For most of his professional life, David Van Sleet worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs, fabricating and managing prosthetics for those who had “curveballs” thrown at them. They served our country, only to suffer serious debilitating injuries while protecting us.

Two thoughts came to mind when Van Sleet worked with these injured military servicemen – they were athletic and they needed an outlet when they returned home.

‘Curveballs’ tells the inspirational true story of the world’s first competitive baseball team made up of amputees.

Players on the Louisville Slugger Warriors National Amputee Baseball Team have been dealt curveballs. However, their bond and their brotherhood combined with their tenacity have helped them beat able-bodied foes and win tournaments.

They enjoy nothing more than toppling opponents who underestimate them. As US Army Veteran and below-knee amputee player Carlo Adame said: “This team means a lot more than just playing baseball. We get a chance to defeat the odds, which are definitely stacked against us, and adapt and overcome. I get a chance to play a sport with brothers who have fought a lot of the same battles. We are not just a team we are a family.”

The Head Coach, Curtis Pride is a former Major League Baseball player who knows about overcoming adversity, he’s been deaf since birth. Former MLB Pitcher and now team pitching coach Len Whitehouse has a shoulder replacement prosthesis.

Whether born without a limb as youths, or military members who returned home requiring a prosthetic device, one thing is certain, these guys have inspired others to persevere!

You’ll laugh and shed a tear while hearing from these players. You’ll also want to see them play and cheer them on. And no matter what curveballs life may have in store for you, you’ll see how attitude, perseverance, and action can make a difference in everyone’s lives.



Curveballs

Documentary Principals



Director / Producer
John Biffar

John Biffar is a nine-time Emmy award-winning director, and producer with a passion for telling inspirational stories. Over the past three decades, he and his team at Dreamtime Entertainment Digital have produced documentary films for major networks including HBO, The History Channel, PBS, The Travel Channel, and others. John's latest sports film "Worth The Fight" has been selected to screen in competition at the International Olympic Film Festival in Milan Italy in late 2023.

Executive Producer
David Van Sleet



David Van Sleet was employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs for 30 years and had an extremely successful career in both the clinical and administrative areas of Prosthetics. In 1998, Mr. Van Sleet was nominated and selected as the VA National Prosthetic Chief of the Year. In 2011, David was awarded the Department of Veterans Affairs top award, the Olin E. Teague Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Rehabilitation of War Injured Veterans. In 2013, Mr. Van Sleet received The George Washington Medallion of Merit Award by the Military Order of the Purple Heart for exceptional, selfless and patriotic support to the United States military servicemen and women.

Since retirement from the Department of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Van Sleet has founded and managed the nationally known Louisville Slugger Warriors, an extremely competitive amputee baseball team. David is an honorably discharged US Veteran who resides in Estero, FL

Producer / Cinematographer
David C. Beaty



Emmy-Award-winning television producer and cinematographer David C. Beaty is a filmmaker and former broadcast journalist. His career in non-fiction television and documentary spans 25+ years with the production company Dreamtime Entertainment. Career highlights include national programs on Travel Channel, History Channel, and PBS and, more recently docu films with WWII Foundation including "The Enterprise", "Rommel", "Merrill's Marauders" and "Iwo Jima The Final Landing".



Producer
Craig Handel

Craig Handel has written for newspapers in Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Massachusetts, and Florida since he started writing in junior high.

Craig also has collaborated or is collaborating on six books ranging from George Toma working the first 57 Super Bowls as a groundskeeper; optimizing mental performance in sports and life; building and developing nonprofits; and celebrating people's lives through legacy books.

He considers working on 'Curveballs' with John Biffar and David Van Sleet to be one of the most inspiring and rewarding in his life. He feels these men offer an amazing perspective on overcoming adversity and living a life of purpose and meaning.

An avid gardener and swimmer, Craig and his wife Isabel live in Fort Myers, Florida.



Producer
National Distribution & Marketing
Gustavo Sagastume

Gustavo Sagastume with International Media is an established distributor throughout the 200 plus station PBS system. Marketing and distribution services include distribution to all 200 stations via satellite & server and marketing to each of the markets for carriage of the program in the best possible time slot. International Media will also generate a pre-air projected carriage as well as a year total carriage report.

Some of International Media's distributed specials include: The Osmond Family Reunion, The Tenors, David Garrett, Andre Reiu, Yanni, John Paul II: A Saint for our Times, The Gipsy Kings, and many others.

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