

Hill 2000, Inc. Neighborhood Organization

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PRESS RELEASE

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ST. LOUIS SOCCER GREATS TO RE-CREATE CLASSIC 1955 SOCCER GAME ON "THE HILL"

Players include St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay

(The Hill) The year is 2004, but on June 5, they'll play soccer on The Hill like it's 1955. A weekend celebration honoring four Hill soccer legends includes a rematch of the classic Simpkins vs. St. Ambrose Open Cup game. In 1955, Frank Borghi, Charlie Colombo, Gino Pariani and Frank "Pee Wee" Wallace were riding high as Simpkins players, having brought notoriety home to the United States in 1950 after an unexpected victory over England.

"This is an exciting time for The Hill," said Tom Stremmlau, president of Hill 2000, Inc., The Hill's neighborhood organization. "We're honoring four soccer greats who hail from The Hill, and the neighborhood is going to be on the big screen." Scenes from the upcoming movie 'The Game of Their Lives', based upon the 1950 World Cup game, were shot on The Hill in July 2003.

A soccer game and picnic will be held Saturday, June 5 at Berra Park. Borghi and Pariani will attend, along with Eleanor Colombo and Ann Wallace, widows of Charlie and Frank. In addition, 1950 World Cup teammate Harry Keough will attend.

St. Louis Soccer All-Stars will represent Simpkins in the classic rematch. They include Denny Vanninger, Mike Sorber, Daryl Doran, Dan Donigan and Ty Keough. Notable players for St. Ambrose will be St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay, Jeff Cacciatore, Steve Cacciatore, Mike DiRaimondo and Eric Delabar. *(For a complete team roster, including coaches and referees, please see attached.)*

Pre-game festivities begin at 2:30pm, with game time set for 3pm. After the game, there will be a picnic in the park, where food and beverages will be for sale.

On Sunday, June 6 at 1:30pm, the four 1950 World Cup players will be further honored in ceremonies at the intersection of Marconi and Daggett on The Hill. Plaques will be placed in the carriage walks of the homes where they lived.

Both events are FREE and open to the public.

For more information, contact:

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Following are the rosters for the game to be played on June 5.

SIMPKINS

<u>Name, Last</u>	<u>Name, First</u>	
Brown	Terry	St. Louis Storm
Clarke	Joey	STL Stars, California Surf, STL Steamers US National Team
Demling	Buzz	San Jose Earthquakes, US National Team
Donigan	Dan	Coach - St. Louis University, STL Storm, STL Ambush, Wichita Wings, Tampa Bay Rowdies, US National Tem
Doran	Daryl	St. Louis Steamers, St. Louis Ambush, St. Louis Storm
Droege	Don	Chicago Horizon, Chicago Sting, STL Steamers, US National Team
Dueker	Paul	Cleveland Cobras (ASL)
Frederickson	Mark	KC Comets, STL Steamers, LA Lazars, St. Louis Storm
Hayes	John	St. Louis Steamers, Kansas City Comets, US Olympic Team
Howe	Tom	St. Louis Stars, Denver Dynamos, Minnesota Kicks
Huber	Don	Tulsa, Baltimore, US National Team U-19
Kavanaugh	Jim	LA Lazars, STL Steamers, US Olympic Team
Keough	Ty	San Diego Sockers, STL Steamers, KC Comets, US National Team, ESPN Analyst
Maurer	Steve	STL Ambush, Canton Invaders, Cleveland Force
McDoniel	Scotty	U-17 US National Team
Robben	Jeff	
Smugala	Brian	
Sorber	Mike	Pumas Unam, Kansas City Wiz, NY Metrostars, Chicago Fire, US National Team, '94 World Cup
Stremlau	John	Dallas Tornado, STL Stars, Houston Hurricane, Houston Summit, STL Steamers, KC Comets, US National Team
Twellman	Tim	Chicago Sting, Minnesota Kicks
Vanninger	Denny	STL Stars, Ft. Lauderdale Strikers, STL Steamers, US National Team
Walters	Tim	St. Louis Steamers
Wier	Pat	

ST. AMBROSE

<u>Name, Last</u>	<u>Name, First</u>	
Beckerle	Jerry	Midwest Soccer Academy
Berra	Tim	South Carolina
Cacciatore	Chris	SIUE
Cacciatore	Jeff	Ft. Lauderdale Strikers, STL Steamers
Cacciatore	Jim	SIUE
Cacciatore	Steve	LA Skyhawks
Delabar	Eric	STL Steamers
DiRaimondo	Mike	Quincy
Gasparovic	Andy	US Military Academy
Guarino	Gary	SLU
Licavoli	Frank	Fontbonne
Long	Jon	Southern Indiana
Malle	Tom	SLU
Merlo	Steve	NC State
Miriamonti	Tim	SLU
Oldani	Mark	Meramec
Perniciaro	Joe	Harris Stowe
Pike	Marty	Coach - Meramec
Polizzi	Joe	Washington Univesity
Radici	Bob	Quincy
Savio	Rob	McKendree
Slay	Francis	Quincy
Thee	Roy	South Florida
Torretta	Tony	
Torrisi	Phil	
Traina	Ron	
Vinciguerra	Frank	Quincy

Simpkins will be coached by **Pete Sorber** and managed by the original manager of the Simpkins teams, **Joe Numi**. Special appearances on the Simpkins team by **Harry Keough** and **Val Pelizzaro**.

Gene Cucchi and **Charlie Miramonti**, both members of the original St. Ambrose team and former members of Simpkins will coach **St. Ambrose**

Referees will be noted St. Louis Soccer officials **Larry Donovan**, **Marty Templin** and **Ray Puricelli**

FRANK C. BORGHI

Born: April 9, 1925

Played for: Schumakers
Simpkins
St. Ambrose

Born and raised on The Hill, Frank grew up playing baseball and soccer and was offered a professional baseball contract. Frank was a field medic in the U.S. Army during World War II while still a teenager. His huge hands were a great asset to him as a goalkeeper. He played for numerous teams in St. Louis including the Schumakers, Simpkins, and St. Ambrose. While a great goalkeeper earning U.S. Open Cup titles with Simpkins-Ford in 1948 and 1950; he is best known in soccer circles for his play in the 1950 World Cup. During that same year he played for Simpkins-Ford against Manchester United, and for the U.S. Stars against the Turkish club Besiktas in St. Louis and the English F.A. touring team in New York. He played four games for the U.S. in World Cup qualifying in Mexico City in 1949 and all three games in the finals as well as for the U.S. against Mexico in 1954 World Cup qualifying. Frank is a member of the St. Louis Soccer Hall of Fame, the Spanish Society Hall of Fame and the National Soccer Hall of fame.

GINO PARIANI

Born: February 21, 1928

Played for: Wildcats
Schumakers
Rafferty's
Simpkins Ford
St. Ambrose

Gino was also a member of the U.S. Olympic team in London in 1948 and of the U.S World Cup team in 1950. Playing on the same team as Frank Borghi, Gino won U.S. Open Cup medals with Simpkins-Ford in 1948 and 1950. He entered the amateur leagues in 1945 with Rafferty's S. C., winners of the St. Louis Cup. Remained with Rafferty's through 1947 when he was voted Most Valuable Player. A perennial St. Louis all-star, he was selected for the team every year from 1946 through 1953. His playing career continued through 1963 and included seasons with Schumakers, National Set-ups and Wildcats A. C. Gino is a member of the St. Louis Soccer Hall of Fame and the National Soccer Hall of Fame.

CHARLIE "LEFTY" COLOMBO

Born: July 20, 1920

Died: May 7, 1986

Played for: Simpkins
St. Ambrose

Charlie Colombo was born and raised on The Hill. Colombo was one of the most colorful players in the long history of soccer in St. Louis and won U.S. Open Cup medals with Simpkins-Ford in 1948 and 1950. Nicknamed "Lefty" or "Gloves", Colombo trademarks on the field were his intense style of play and his gloves, which he wore regardless of the weather. However, he gained his greatest notoriety for his famous rugby tackle on Stan Mortensen during the game against England in the World Cup of 1950. He continued to play locally for the Simpkins club and in later years

coached the St. Ambrose team. Charlie is a member of the St. Louis Soccer Hall of Fame and the National Soccer Hall of Fame.

FRANK “PEE WEE” WALLACE

Born: July 15, 1922

Died: November 13, 1979

Played for: Rafertys
Simpkins

Frank “Pee Wee” Wallace played the early years of his career with the St. Louis Wildcats before serving in the U.S. Army during World War II as a member of the 191st Tank Battalion. When the war ended, he returned to playing soccer in St. Louis at first with Rafertys and later with Simpkins-Ford where he won U.S. Open Cup medals in 1948 and 1950. “Pee Wee” played for the St. Louis All-Stars against Liverpool and Djurgarden in 1948. Born Frank Valicenti, his family changed their name to Wallace. He married Ann Baudo on October 2, 1948. Ann grew up at 5119 Daggett. After they were married, Ann and Frank lived on Daggett before moving to Wilson Avenue. Frank is a member of the St. Louis Soccer Hall of Fame and the National Soccer Hall of Fame.