



**VIDEO AVAILABLE: Classic Sports Releases New Baseball Hitting Tool, Corkball**

*Designed To Improve Hand-Eye Coordination, Hone Hitting Skills*

For Immediate Release

NEWTOWN, Conn./EWorldWire/April 26, 2005 --- Classic Sports Distributors, Inc., along with former New York Yankees' catcher Lou Blanco, has developed and released Corkball, a new hitting tool and backyard baseball game designed to improve baseball hitting skills.

A Corkball is a small tapered object that resembles a wine bottle cork covered with PVC imitation leather. By holding the Corkball in various positions, it curves, sinks, or dips, making it a hitting challenge - improving a hitter's hand-eye coordination and concentration level. Contact with the Corkball generates a "whack" noise which sounds like hitting a real baseball. Corkballs travel around 75 - 100 feet depending on the age and strength of the hitter, making it ideal for use in limited field space.

Classic Sports brings back the concept of a form of corkball that was played in the early 1900's using a cork, tape, and a broomstick as a bat, while enhancing it as more than backyard baseball fun - as an advance hitting tool.

Testing at local youth leagues was hugely successful. "The first time we used Corkballs was before a tournament game. Because we were not allowed to use the field for batting practice, I took our kids out into right field to hit Corkballs toward the fence. The activity ended up being sort of a home run derby with the Corkballs - the kids had such a great time doing it, they didn't want to come in to start the game. Now we use Corkballs during every practice and before game time. They are a great baseball training device for all hitters," explains youth baseball coach Brendan Conway.

Lou Blanco, the founder of Corkball and [www.corkballusa.com](http://www.corkballusa.com) explains, "When I was a kid, the greatest backyard baseball game my brother and I played every day was a form of corkball - we wrapped tape around a cork. The problem was tape would get wet and ruin, and the weight always varied, making our 'ball' very inconsistent to throw and hit. With Corkball, the balls are all the same and the PVC leather is virtually indestructible."

Corkballs are convenient for indoor use when hitting outside is impossible, like in school gyms when batting cages are not available. Corkballs are perfect for limited playing areas, a small portion of the baseball diamond, or when the field comes up too wet for baseballs since water does not damage or affect Corkballs.

Distributed exclusively through Classic Sports Distributors, Inc. and at [www.corkballusa.com](http://www.corkballusa.com), a dozen Corkballs and Corkball bag set retails for \$29.95. Check for availability through local and national retailers in all areas.

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**CONTACT:**

Lou Blanco

Classic Sports Distributors, Inc

87 South Main Street  
Suite 13  
Newtown, CT 06470  
PHONE. 203.364.1923 x 102  
FAX. 203.364.1592  
EMAIL: sales@corkballusa.com  
<http://www.corkballusa.com>

**WEBSITES:** <http://www.corkballusa.com>, <http://www.classicpins.com>

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**AVAILABLE MEDIA:** Video Clip: CorkBall (size: 3,300.0 k)  
Video  
<http://eworldwire.com//mediauploads/Corkball May 2.wmv>