



WLS SPORTS CLUB

THE FLIGHT of the OWLS

2005 was a season of seconds for the West Lawn Owls American legion baseball team. But it was the "first" that made the season one for the scrapbooks. 2005 was a season made from a Hollywood script. Only the story was not acted out by professionals on a soundstage, but was acted out by a group of amateurs whose love for the game and love of the game created a memory that will not be forgotten for a long, long time.

This story was played out on baseball fields...Owls Field, George Field, Bear Stadium, Brunner Field...where the fervor and devotion; dedication and intensity; hard work and enduring optimism of this group of young men and their coaches carried them on a "magic carpet ride" to Moline, Illinois and the first National regional tournament appearance in the storied history of the West Lawn Owls.

"People will come..." uttered Terrance Mann. And come they did to John Deere country, to a field of dreams not experienced by an Owls squad or their fans. The fans did come...and the fans did cheer...and the fans did elate in the wins...and the fans suffered in the losses...and the fans did enjoy every pitch, every hit and every out....and the fans elated in the Herculean efforts put forth by these Owls, these very special Owls.

The Flight of the Owls is a yearbook that compresses this once-in-a-lifetime experience into a story worth retelling over and over. It is a work wrought from a passion for the game, and a passion for this special group of Owls, to record this memorable moment. Here is their story...