

Archived  
12/31/06

### Ding...ding..

Round one complete for Mike Wozniak (Bar-B-Quau) of Brimfield, Illinois on the [VERSUS Television](#) Barbeque Championship Series. The match went to Mike (the Challenger) in the network's first 'Champion' upset! Mike narrowly pulled out a win over legendary Johnny Trigg in a three round bout that pitted them against one another, and a New York City Firefighter. Down 60 points, with one category to go, Mike whipped out some Illinois bred mojo to work his magic on fresh Rainbow Trout...pulling ahead of the Smokin' Triggers pit boss by a slim 3 points and taking the win. To follow Mike, and the other contestants, through this contest of a lifetime, visit [VERSUS Television](#) to find out more about the Barbeque Championship Series.

**CONGRATS TO MIKE AND BAR-B-QUAU!**



### Featured writer...

ILBBQS Member **Peter Cravath** (Ring of Fire - Des Plaines, Illinois) was recently selected as the Blogger of the Month on Steven Raichlen's [BarbecueBible.com](#) website! Be sure to [click over](#) and check out the great article about Peter and his amazing [Beef Clod preparation!](#) Also, be on the look out for Peter's feature article in the now-being-developed ILBBQS Newsletter...**you won't want to miss it!**



[VERSUS Television](#) (formerly OLN) Barbeque Championship Series Presented by Kingsford Charcoal, this competitive bracket-series tournament features the world's top BBQ chefs vying for \$100,000 in prize money – the biggest in 'cue history.

**BAR-B-QUAU (ILBBQS Member) is a featured competitor!**

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### Contest Reports...

- **The Jack** (Jack Daniel's Invitational) This prestigious annual event draws the best of the best. An invitation only contest that is as tough to get into as the contest meat is tender...extraordinary! Held over the last weekend of October in 2006, this event draws the best teams from all over the United States. The smoke has cleared, the winners announced, and **BAR-B-QUAU placed 7th Overall! CONGRATULATIONS to BAR-B-QUAU!** (Mike & Beth are on a roll!)
- **Lamb's Farm** ([Libertyville, Illinois](#)) held their first ever KCBS contest. Kate Cothell, ILBBQS Member under the name [Dr. Porkenstein](#), was the organizer for this **36 team event**. By all reports, it was a SMASHING success! Congrats to Kate & Alex for their hard work paying off, and a **BIG CONGRATS to Bar-B-Quau** for strong finishes in Chicken, Pork, Brisket, and finishing **9th Overall!**
  - [Click Here](#) for the complete [KCBS Contest Results](#).
- **Central Illinois Bragging Rights** (Arthur, Illinois) Nearly 50 teams, bitter cold weather, one fierce competition in Illinois' Amish Country; when all the smoke had settled, **FOUR Illinois BBQ Society members placed in the**

**Top 15! INCLUDING Grand Champion AND Reserve Grand Champion!**

**Bar-B-Quau, Grand Champion in [Arthur, IL](#)**

**Dr. Porckenstein, Reserve Grand Champion  
in [Arthur, IL](#)**

**Rick's Pit Stop, 4th Overall in [Arthur, IL](#)**

**Smokin' T's, 11th Overall in [Arthur, IL](#)**

- **Prince Pig Cook-Off** (Pittsfield, Illinois) Although we have not received the full line-up as of yet, word has been received that ILBBQS member **Rick's Pit Stop**, are the reigning **GRAND CHAMPIONS!** Way to go Rick & Debbie!

**12/12/06**

This year sure has been a fast and furious fling into the building of our ever expanding group! We are well on our way to becoming a BIG voice on the BBQ scene, and it couldn't happen without the help of our members.

We're hoping to launch an official newsletter; plans are in the works for putting together an official Illinois State Championship to determine the top dogs in the state; as well as a recognition program to spotlight the 'Teams of the Year'...all thanks to our members.

We are still in need of ILBBQS Volunteers who would like to volunteer as 'BBQ Ambassadors' of sorts to act on behalf of the ILBBQS at events around the state; folks to write articles, help find new members, help find sponsors, and help locate cook-offs around the state...KCBS, MIM, Backyard, or otherwise.

If you have any ideas, thoughts, suggestions, questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to [Contact Us!](#)

**10/10/06**

Membership is definitely growing...We now have members from Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Germany! Plans are currently in the hopper to develop a print newsletter, further develop the team of the year point system (hopefully for the 2007 competition season), and continue to grow our membership base, and find some much needed volunteers who would like to help with our growth. If you have a desire, or some time, to help our club grow, please [Contact Us](#) right away!

**09/28/06**

We're official...we have a Federal Employer Identification Number, a membership bank account, and a fantastic interest in making this a membership organization to be reckoned with!

**07/26/06**

Check out the new file added to the Member's Only Section..."[BBQ Competition Checklist & Tracking](#)". It looks to be a very good tool for tracking a competition from start to finish.

**07/25/06**

As of today, you've probably noticed a couple of new link buttons at the top of the page; and wondered, perhaps, where the '[Event Photos](#)' have gone. Here are the answers to your questions...

First, the '[Event Photos](#)' are still available. Click the '[Events](#)' button at the top of any page and you will soon see the familiar link to the pictures...not gone, but simply relocated.

Second, the two new buttons are pretty self explanatory. The '[Team of Year](#)' link is

where we will be listing the team standings as the numbers become available. Unless we can get a few more volunteers to help put the program in place, this much anticipated section will probably not be fully realized until the 2007 BBQ season.

The '[IL BBQ Joints](#)' button is the home of the abridged list of BBQ joints in the state of Illinois. The restaurants that make the list are not necessarily recommended by **ILBBQS**, but simply a list of restaurants in Illinois that specialize in serving BBQ. As you scan the list, please feel free to [contact us](#) with new and/or updated information.

**07/17/06** The '[Buy It Now](#)' page has been updated to be a '[Join Now](#)' page. We changed the look of the button to more clearly reflect the purpose of the membership, and have included a more inclusive information page.

You may now sign up for either an [Individual or Family Membership](#) from this site. With either membership level, your credit card will only be charged the initial \$25 for an individual membership; a separate email will be sent through PayPal for a 'Request for Payment' to cover the additional \$15 for the family membership. This is a little bit inconvenient, but until we can get the PayPal system to work more effectively with our site, this is a side effect we have to live with...sorry.

**07/13/06** The Southern Illinois Bluegrass & BBQ Festival Officially Announces State Proclamation, which allows them to be a State Championship Contest. Check out [www.BluegrassBBQ.com/press](http://www.BluegrassBBQ.com/press) for additional details.

**FYI...**Press Release assistance (writing and distribution) is available to all **ILBBQS** [recognized events](#) in the state. [Contact us](#) for additional information!

**07/13/06** The Membership 'Buy It Now' process has been streamlined and updated. All payments received via the 'Buy It Now' button will be over PayPal's Secure Network, without the 'secured/unsecured' message that was popping up in the past. The message was due to our logo being included on the payment page. Replacing the logo on that page is our PayPal Email address: [membership@ilbbqs.com](mailto:membership@ilbbqs.com) .

**'Net Tip...**You can tell if a website is secure by checking the web address. The letter 's' should appear after the 'http:' part of the address. Example: **'https://'** indicates a secure network.

**07/10/06** Thanks to some great suggestions, we have added a file to the [Member's Only](#) section of the [Downloads](#) page. This file is a "[Pit Master's BBQ Log](#)" and can be useful for those of you trying to perfect your cook and/or technique. It can be very useful to record everything from Type/Cut of Meat cooked to Cook & Prep Notes to Judge's Scores. Check it out!

**07/05/06** Representatives from the [Southern Illinois Bluegrass & BBQ Festival](#) will be attending the [16th Annual Illinois BBQ Championship](#) in Shannon, Illinois' BBQ Field of Dreams cook-off July 7th. They'll have flyers, registration forms, and information for their cook-off coming up in September (weekend after Labor Day), and will also be able to answer any questions you may have about the **Illinois BBQ Society**.