

# The New Field Project

After the 2004 season the leagues "home field" on 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue was closed because it became unsafe to use. The field had been built on the site of the old city landfill and the ground had become unstable. With the help of the park board the City Council approved the use of a parcel of city owned land for the development of a new field. This approval was given in July of 2005. The parcel of land is located at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 24<sup>th</sup> Street in the heart of Rock Island.

Fundraising began immediately and construction plans were made. Over the past four years almost \$100,000 has been spent on the field and it is nearing completion. The new field will include an automatic irrigation system, new fencing, electronic scoreboard, and top of the line "green" lighting. The league has begun to use the field but only one game can be played each night until the lighting is installed. The league currently has some money available for the lighting but another \$30,000 is still needed.

After the field lighting is finished the next phase of the project will begin. This phase will include the construction of a permanent concession stand with restroom facilities. The concession stand will allow the league to raise funds through food sales to support the league. The costs to operate the league continue to rise and the board's goal is to keep this a low- cost organized summer activity for every girl in the Rock Island / Milan area. Other plans for the area include the rebuilding of the adjacent field for the league's use. The park board is currently in the design stages for this upgrade. This project could potentially put all of our games within a one block area.

Fundraising efforts continue today with the application for grants, sale of commemorative bricks, and fundraising events like trivia nights and taco dinners.

If you would like more information on fundraising or would like to contribute to the project please contact any board member. Contact information for the board is located on the website.