

THE PRESSBOX

By Lenny Luchtefeld
May 2000

2nd Month of Play in the Books

The second month is now complete and some of the same teams are still on top and some are not. Glen Allen increases its lead in the East to 6 games ahead of Racine. Ocala extends their lead in the West to 4 games over Gem City. Ocala also has the best record in the NL with a .696 winning percentage and 39 victories. After being in 3rd place last month, Stanley has forged ahead in the Central by 2 games over Bloomington.

National League Standings

East

<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>GB</u>
Glen Allen	36	20	.643	
Racine	30	26	.536	6
Long Island	28	28	.500	8
Wauwatosa	24	28	.462	10

Central

<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>GB</u>
Stanley	34	22	.607	
Bloomington	32	24	.571	2
Fleetwood	29	27	.518	5
Columbus	25	31	.446	9

West

<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>GB</u>
Ocala	39	17	.696	
Gem City	35	21	.625	4
North Georgia	26	30	.464	13
Metropolis	12	44	.214	27

Wildcard

<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>GB</u>
Gem City	35	21	.625	
Bloomington	32	24	.571	3
Racine	30	26	.536	5
Fleetwood	29	27	.518	6

Helling Tosses a No-Hitter

The May 25th game at Stanley will be one to remember for the Sioux. North Dakota native, Rick Helling, had home state success and pitched a no hitter. This is the first no hitter manager Paul Wertz has ever been a part of with any version of Strat. Helling (4-1) pitched a rare no-hitter as the Stanley Sioux toppled the Brooklyn Bulldogs 9-0. He gave his hometown fans a game they'll never forget! The box score from the game is posted below.

[1]BOXSCORE: 2000 Brooklyn Bulldogs At 2000 Stanley Sioux 5/25/2000

[1] Bulldogs	AB	R	H	RBI	AVG	Sioux	AB	R	H	RBI	AVG
E.Young 2B	4	0	0	0	.355	M.Cairo 2B	5	1	3	1	.274
K.Young 1B	3	0	0	0	.231	T.Shumpert 3B	4	0	2	1	.462
D.Justice LF	3	0	0	0	.217	B.Williams CF,LF	3	1	1	1	.326
D.Palmer 3B	3	0	0	0	.218	J.Gonzalez DH	5	2	2	4	.310
M.Ordonez RF	3	0	0	0	.248	B.Trammell LF	4	0	0	0	.283
C.Davis DH	3	0	0	0	.240	A-D.Lewis PH,CF	1	0	0	0	.282
C.Allen CF	3	0	0	0	.261	J.Dye RF	5	1	1	0	.265
K.Osik C	3	0	0	0	.174	R.Brogna 1B	4	0	1	1	.315
W.Weiss SS	2	0	0	0	.244	J.Valentin C	4	2	2	0	.250
						N.Perez SS	3	2	2	1	.281

[1] Totals 27 0 0 0 Totals 38 9 14 9

A-Pinch Hit For Trammell In 8th Inning

Bulldogs..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 0 1
Sioux..... 0 1 2 1 0 1 0 4 - 9 14 1

[1]Bulldogs IP H R ER BB SO HR ERA SCORESHEET
A.Pettitte LOSS(3-1) 5 1/3 11 5 4 2 7 2 6.17 A1 D2
F.Rodriguez 2 3 4 4 2 5 1 6.48 D3 E4
E.Yan 0 2/3 0 0 0 0 0 0 8.03 E5
[1]Totals 8 14 9 8 4 12 3

[1]Sioux IP H R ER BB SO HR ERA SCORESHEET
R.Helling WIN(4-1) 9 0 0 0 4 5 0 3.00 A1
[1]Totals 9 0 0 0 4 5 0

ATTENDANCE- 27,068 DATE- TIME- Day

T- 3:03

LEFT ON BASE- Bulldogs: 4 Sioux: 9

DOUBLE PLAYS- Bulldogs: 1 Sioux: 1

ERRORS- W.Weiss, N.Perez

DOUBLES- M.Cairo(4th), J.Dye(9th)

HOME RUNS- J.Gonzalez-2(7th), N.Perez(4th)

STOLEN BASES- T.Shumpert(2nd)

WALKS- K.Young, D.Justice, D.Palmer, W.Weiss, T.Shumpert, B.Williams-2, N.Perez

STRIKE OUTS- K.Young, D.Palmer, C.Davis, C.Allen, K.Osik, T.Shumpert-2,

B.Williams, J.Gonzalez-2, B.Trammell-3, J.Dye, R.Brogna-2,

J.Valentin

GIDP- D.Justice, B.Trammell

NL EAST

GLEN ALLEN METS 17-11

The Mets stayed out in front in the division and actually increased their lead to 4 games. Tatis has led the team offensively by batting .316 with 16 homers and 44 RBI's. The pitching staff led by Erickson, Nagy and Ritchie leads the league in ERA at 4.06. Erickson has 8 victories and Nagy has chipped in with 7. Ritchie is 4th among ERA leaders with a sparkling 3.15 ERA. Hernandez has saved 12 games for the Mets and turned in an impressive 1.27 ERA.

RACINE HEAT 14-14

Racine saw themselves just 1 game back in April and now have lost 5 more games in the standings and now are a full 6 games back. Pitching is the major reason for the fall. Racine's team ERA went up from 4.55 to 5.26 in the month of May. They may be looking for a new pitching coach. The Heat are still tearing the cover off the ball offensively and led the league in team batting at .311. Joe Randa is the leagues 3rd leading hitter at .356. The Heat need to get the pitching turned around and start working at chipping away at the Mets lead.

LONG ISLAND TIGERS 16-12

Long Island made a nice comeback with 16 wins after a disappointing first month. The Tigers have a new manager taking over in June. His name is Jeff Juenger. He comes with many years of Strat experience and should be able to guide the Tigers back on course. Tony Fernandez is 6th in batting at a .346 mark. Fernandez is also 2nd in the league in OBP at .460. On the pitching side, the Tigers improved their team ERA from 5.22 to 5.08. Hoffman saved 8 more games this month and is among the leaders with 16 saves. This team has the offense and pitching to get back in the race.

WAUWATOSA WIZARDS 12-16

Wauwatosa dropped a bit with only 12 wins this month and now find themselves in last place in the division. They still have some impressive pitching to boast about. The Wizards are 2nd in the league in ERA at 4.31. They are only behind division leader, Glen Allen, in that category. The Wizards are using a closer by committee this year, as 4 players have saved games so far. Biggio and Burnitz have carried the load on offense through the first 2 months. Biggio is hitting .314 with 18 steals and Burnitz has a .276 batting average, 13 homers and 34 RBI's.

NL CENTRAL

STANLEY SIOUX 19-9

The Sioux got a wakeup call and find themselves 2 games ahead after May's games. 19 wins will sure help that cause. After hitting .302 in April, they actually raised their batting average to .309. Juan Gonzalez stepped up this month and is now hitting .314 with 17 homers and 52 RBI's. Bernie Williams climbed to .338 and has been flawless in CF. Helling spurred the team's success, pitching a no-hitter over Brooklyn, on May 25th. A 9-0 masterpiece and Paul Wertz's first playing Strat. Congratulations Paul, what a wonderful thrill.

BLOOMINGTON BEES 16-12

The Bees turned in another fine 16-win month but it was not enough to stay ahead of the rising Sioux. The Bees fall into unfamiliar territory, second place. They have managed enough offense as McGwire has 18 homers and 45 RBI's and Palmeiro is hitting .324 with 18 homers and 54 RBI's. The pitching has left a little something to be desired. Pedro Martinez has an ERA of 4.30 and a record of 6-4. Please tell me how teams are getting over 4 runs a game off of that card! Clemens is at 4.62 and Maddux is at 5.63.

Fleetwood Walkers 14-14

The Walkers went from 1 game back and second place to 5 games out and 3rd place. They have a potent offense on paper but hasn't lived up to the billing yet. Chipper Jones has his homers at 18, and his RBI's at 42 but is hitting just .261. He has committed 13 errors and grounded into 10 DP's so far. Leiter leads the team in wins with 6 and Nomo leads the team in ERA at 4.36. The bullpen has been by committee, as 6 pitchers have collected saves. Management feels they may not have enough to win this year and are quietly trying to trade Carl Everett for future help.

COLUMBUS BUCKEYES 13-15

Brian Jordan has slowed down after an impressive start last month. Jordan is now hitting .288 with 12 homers and 38 RBI's. Millar and Belliard have carried the team this month. The Buckeyes are hitting .265 overall as a team. Jose Lima is just about finished as a Buckeye. Coach Winter's has become soured on his antics and is guaranteeing that he will be traded next month. Lima does have 7 wins and an ERA of 3.56. Columbus sees that trading Lima will bring in players for help in the future.

NL WEST

OCALA OCELOTS 19-9

Ocala puts 19 more wins in the record book this month. The Ocelots have the best record in the NL. They climb to a 4 game advantage over Gem City. The Ocelots are batting .295 as a team and Edgar Martinez is hitting .358, second in the league, and has 10 homers with 41 RBI's. Gardner and Tomko are off to 5-1 starts and Stottlemeyer is right behind at 5-2. Percival is off to a great start at 2-0 with 17 saves. It has taken all Ocala has got to stay ahead of the Wolfpack. This should be a close race all year with Gem City.

GEM CITY WOLFPACK 16-12

The Wolfpack have an offensive machine. They have the Triple Crown going. Larkin is leading the league in hitting at .370, Bagwell leads the league in homers with 22 and Rodriquez has the RBI leadership with 56. Radke is 7-3 with an ERA of 3.50. Besides Radke, the team could use a little pitching help with an ERA of 5.08. Management is not going to let this race slip away from them as they are actively seeking help for the team.

NORTH GEORGIA YELLOW JACKETS 13-15

The Jackets register another 13-win month. Ocala and Gem City continue to set a fast pace and Jackets are slipping further behind. Jeter is 6th in hitting at .346 with 4 triples. Glanville is batting .330 with 12 steals. Reynolds is 7-3 with a 2.90 ERA. Valdes and Hershiser have been disappointing so far with ERA's of 5.85 and 6.09 respectively. 13 games out and the Jackets are in the middle of the pack in hitting and pitching and are seeing this season get away from them.

METROPOLIS AVENGERS 6-22

Another identical record of 6 wins and 22 losses again this month. The only excitement left here is watching Will Clark for the final 4 months. Attendance is down in Metropolis but the fans that are still coming out are true Avenger fans. Wiesner believes the real excitement here is watching the future stars progress through the organization. This should be a better team next year and even better in 2 years.

Trades



- 1) **Box City** traded Saberhagen (paid) and Pat Kelly to **Cook County** for Jeff Kent (paid) and 100K.
- 2) **Fleetwood** gave 100K to **Metropolis** for Paul Sorrento and Jeff Reboulet.

Contract Signings

Minnesota signs Jason Johnson to a MO-1 contract.

Wauwatosa signs J. Washburn to an MO-1 contract and B. Loooper to an MO-2.

Columbus signs R. Wolf to an MO-1 deal and R. Simon to an MTM contract.

Glen Allen signs Tom Davey, Mike Venafro and Armando Rios to MO-1 contracts.

Fines

Wauwatosa was fined for late games played this month and forfeits its on time record and thus its bonus 3rd round pick next year.

News Article Count

Here is the news article count that I have so far from January to May. The money has not been added to your bank accounts yet. Let me know if this is incorrect.

Bloomington	4
Glen Allen	3
North Georgia	1
Metropolis	1
Ocala	1
Stanley	1

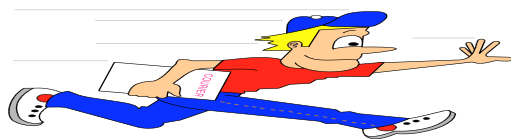
Around the Horn

- Σ I wanted to announce that we have a new member to our league. His name is Jeff Juenger. Jeff will be taking over the Long Island Tigers in the NL East. He comes to us from our sister league, BRASS. Jeff has been a member of the Brass league for several years now. Jeff will make a very fine edition to our league.

Jeff Juenger
725 Foster Dr.
Belleville, Il. 62226
(H) 618-235-7503
(W) 618-236-3466
jjghg@primary.net

- Σ Rumor has it that Jose Lima is about to part company with Columbus. Lima has been in the doghouse all this year with manager John Winters and he is about to ship him out. He is rumored to be headed to Gem City for future help.
- Σ Brian Budzyn has a new address and phone number. The new information is this: 255 Gazania Court Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. Phone number is 805-370-8123.

Upcoming Deadlines



June 15th...Series results are due out to your June opponents. You must send box scores, play by play and subset stats by e-mail to your opponents. Send only the subsets files in one zip file to Dave Little and Lenny Luchtefeld.

June 15th...If you make a trade during the month of June, you must e-mail the trade to your LD for it to take effect for the next months play.

June 20th...If you wish to submit a trade wire listing, you must submit the listing to your LD by e-mail by the 20th of the month for it to be included in the following newsletter.

June 20th...If you wish to submit an article for the newsletter, you must submit the article by e-mail in a Word format to your LD by the 20th of the month for it to be posted on the web site.

June 25th...Instructions due to July opponents. Pitching rotation for July due to your LD and any players you wish to sign to contracts for next month's play.

