

THE PRESSBOX

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September 2000

NL News



Glen Allen takes the East title.

Ocala wins going away.

Stanley finishes on top in the Central.

Gem City and Bloomington are the Wildcards.

N. L. Playoffs Set To Get Underway

The playoffs are set to begin. Congratulations to the teams that made the post season. The teams have been notified and the games will begin as soon as possible. The first series of the playoffs will be between the 2 Wildcards. Gem City will have home field advantage over Bloomington in the series. There are considered to be two rest days between the final day of the regular season and the beginning of the Wildcard round. The division winners have a bye during the Wildcard round and as such, will be completely rested for their initial series.

After the completion of the Wildcard round, the Second Round Playoff Series match-ups in each league are as follows: *Remaining playoff team with worst winning % @ Division*

Winner with best record, and remaining playoff team with 3rd best record @ remaining playoff team with 2nd best record.

The League Championship and World Series match-ups are as follows: *the team with the best record hosts the other team, except that a wildcard team can never host a series, unless two wildcard teams make the World Series.* All series are 7-game series and are conducted using the 2-3-2 format.

The winner of the Wildcard round will be taking on the speedy Ocala Ocelots. The Ocelots will have home field advantage all through the National League playoffs. I will keep you posted on all match-ups as they happen. I will also publish a full report in the next newsletter as to all the playoff activities to date. Good luck to all the teams.

National League Final Standings

East					Central				
Team	Won	Lost	Pct.	GB	Team	Won	Lost	Pct.	
Glen Allen	92	70	'.568		Stanley	92	70	'.568	
Long Island	81	81	'.500	11	Bloomington	89	73	'.549	
Racine	77	85	'.475	15	Fleetwood	80	82	'.494	
Wauwatosa	68	94	'.420	24	Columbus	71	91	'.438	

West					Wildcard				
Team	Won	Lost	Pct.	GB	Team	Won	Lost	Pct.	
Ocala	105	57	'.648		Gem City	96	66	'.593	
Gem City	96	66	'.593	9	Bloomington	89	73	'.549	
North Georgia	81	81	'.500	24	North Georgia	81	81	'.500	
Metropolis	41	121	'.243	64	Long Island	81	81	'.500	

End of the Season Team Wrap-up

NL EAST

GLEN ALLEN METS 92-70

The Mets cruise to their first division title in Brassball. Last year they won 67 games and now this year 92. Tatis lead the offense batting .320 with 39 homers and 152 RBI's. Excellent defense and team speed were the big assets as the Mets only committed 86 errors, stole 213 bases and were caught just 38 times. They could be matched-up with the

powerful Stanley Sioux in the playoffs. Glen Allen won the season series against Stanley 4 games to 3.

LONG ISLAND TIGERS 81-81

Long Island was the division champs just a year ago. They slipped this year to the .500 level. In their defense, they did start the year in a hole and fought their

way back to the break-even mark. The Tigers finished with a better road record than at home. They faired well against lefties going 28-19 but the right handers did them in at 53-62. Long Island also featured 4 pitchers who won 10 or more games.

RACINE HEAT 77-85

Racine started the year strong but as the season wore on so did the players. They finished below .500 on the road, at home, against lefties and righties for the year. Racine did check in with 20 more wins this year over last. Chris Singleton is the team's MVP for 2000. Singleton batted .332 with 21 homers, 92 RBI's

NL CENTRAL

STANLEY SIOUX 92-70

The Sioux rolled to the division title this year out lasting the Bees. Management did their part acquiring key players to get them to this point. Now it will be up to the players to execute in the playoffs. If there is a weakness on this team it could be against lefties. The Sioux only won 18 of 38 games against southpaws. B. Williams lead the league in hitting (.370) and Gonzalez lead in homers (56). 5 Sioux pitchers notched 10 or more wins lead by Randy Johnson's 18.

BLOOMINGTON BEES 89-73

The Bees locked up the 2nd Wildcard spot with a solid final month. They will face Gem City in the first round. Bloomington also has a weakness against lefties. They went 18-25 against them this year. Palmeiro is the teams MVP for the season. Palmeiro batted .325 with 54 homers, 183 RBI's with 200 hits. McGwire finished a

and 17 stolen bases. Billy Koch led the team in ERA (3.44) and saves with 26. Racine will need to continue to re-tool the team in hopes of better things next year.

WAUWATOSA WIZARDS 68-94

3 years ago the Wizards were in the playoffs and were knocking off the Bees in the first round of those playoffs. Last year and this year they seem to be stuck in a funk. 67 wins last year and 68 this year. 3rd and 4th place finishes each of the last 2 years. Biggio had a good year by most standards but not by his. Biggio batted .287 with 18 homers and 46 steals. Hermanson and Finley both did their part adding 14 wins each to the team effort this year.

disappointing year at .255 with 53 homers and 123 RBI's. Pedro Martinez led the pitching staff with a 20-8 record with a 2.95 ERA. Playoff experience is on the side of the Bees. If McGwire gets hot and with Pedro pitching games 1,4 and 7 who knows how far the Bees can go in the playoffs.

Fleetwood Walkers 80-82

First year manager, Joal Kjarsgaard, piloted the Walkers to a 3rd place finish in the Central. They were in the hunt for a Wildcard spot until the final couple of months. Fleetwood finished 3 games under at home and that may have been their downfall this season. They did improve from 63 wins just a year ago. The Walkers may have a strong candidate for ROY in Paul Konerko. He has a .296 BA with 21 homers and 90 RBI's.

COLUMBUS BUCKEYES 71-91

The Wolfpack could just never just untracked this season. They were locked in division that was very tough this year. They finished with a .438 winning percentage and were very consistent with that number at home, on the road,

NL WEST

OCALA OCELOTS 105-57

The Ocelots lead the division from the very first month and never looked back. Corey was surprised at the start they got off to in April but now we all know that this is a very good team. You think of squad as a team with speed and OBP but they do have 4 players who hit 25 or more homers this year. Edgar Martinez led the team in most categories and put up some monster numbers. Martinez batted .364 with 33 homers and 124 RBI's. Ocala can rest for now but they will meet the winner of the Gem City Bloomington series.

GEM CITY WOLFPACK 96-66

Gem City turned in a fine season this year. A season, that in most years, would have won them the division title. Had it not been for Ocala's fine performance, they might have finished first. Ivan Rodriguez just missed being a 30-30 man. He hit 29 homers with 29 stolen bases. Larkin finished 5th in the batting race at .332. The Wolfpack will have home field advantage in the Wildcard series against Bloomington.

against lefties and against righties. Ron Belliard will be a strong candidate for the rookie of the year award voting next month. Belliard batted .320 this season.

NORTH GEORGIA YELLOW JACKETS 81-81

The North Georgia came back strong the last couple of months to finished at .500 for the year. They made a real push for a Wildcard spot this season but fell short. The Jackets did their part at home winning 49 games. It was the road performance that caused them their greatest pain. The Jackets on notched 32 wins away from home. Jeter turned in a great season batting .362 with 26 homers and 123 RBI's. Reynolds was the ace of the staff going 19-9 with a 3.02 ERA.

METROPOLIS AVENGERS 41-121

The objective of the management staff was to secure that first pick in next year's draft and they did it going away with 121 losses. Morris did put up a battle for the pick only finishing 3 games behind the Avengers with 118 losses. Metropolis has several first and second round picks over the next 2 years and a bundle of money to build a future dynasty.

Trades



Glenn Allen trades T Howard and R. Mahay to **Metropolis** for \$100,000.

Box City trades Jeff Kent and their 6th round pick to **Plaza** for 5 million dollars and Travis Lee.

Box City trades their 7th round pick to **Brooklyn** for Scott Hatteberg.

Contract Signings

Stanley signs Gil Meche, Felix Rodriguez, Kevin Barker, Paul Loduca, Jose Nieves and Angel Pena to MO contracts. Amaury Telemaco signed to an MA contract and Carlos Febles signs and remains an MO-1 contract.

Ocala signs all of the following to MO contracts: Eric Gagne, Ryan Glynn, Joe Nathan, Carlos Perez, Jose Santiago, JeffWallace, Luis Alicea, Adrian Beltre, Russ Branyan, JD Drew and Mario Valdez.

North Georgia signs Scott Schoenweis, Jin Cho and Terrell Lowery to MO contracts.

Bloomington signs Pat Mahomes to a 1-yr deal. They also sign Travis Miller, Makoto Suzuki and Wilton Veres to MO contracts. Dan Wheeler to and M0-1 and Adrian Brown to an MA contract.

Fleetwood signs A.J. Burnett, Raul Ibanez, Ben Molina, Dan Plesac, and Kevin Witt to MO contracts. Fleetwood also signs Manny Aybar to an MA contract.

Metropolis signs Vernon Wells, Peter Bergeron, Wiki Gonzalez, Jeremy Giambi, Abraham Nunez, Ron Mahay, Mike Lowell and Aramis Ramirez to MO contracts.

Columbus signs R. Wolf and M. Meluskey to 4 yr deals, J. Nelson to a 2 yr deal, W. Delgado to a 1 yr contract and D. Ward, R. Castro, C. Peters and T. Evans all to MO contracts.

Glen Allen signs Mike Venafro to a 2-year contract .

Gem City signs Mike Fyhrie to a 2 year deal, Adam Kennedy, Eugene Kingsdale, Rocky Copping, Mike Grace, Kyle Peterson resign M0 contracts.

Wauwatosa signs Elarton to a 5-year deal, Quinn, Mulder, Ramon Ortiz and Jered Washburn to MO contracts

Long Island signs Ankiel to a 6-year deal, Rose, Taylor, Baughman, Berkman, Cancel, Frank, Garcia, C. Guillen, Powell and Rivera to MO contracts.

Roster Cuts

Stanley cuts Nerio Rodriquez and Carlos Castillo.

Ocala cuts Jim Abbott, Jim Corsi, Scott Radinsky and Jason Ryan.

North Georgia cuts Reggie Jefferson, Cole Liniak and Greg Hansell.

Bloomington cuts Jesse Orosco, Creighton Gubanich, Ryan Minor and Otis Nixon.

Fleetwood cuts Pep Harris and Arquimede Pozo.

Metropolis cuts Micah Bowie.

Columbus cuts D. Borkowski, M.Brownson, and T. Coquelllette.

Glen Allen cuts Mark Sweeney and Oscar Henriquez.

Wauwatosa cuts Turner Ward.

Racine cuts Clontz, Barte, Decker , Garcia Fr and Monahan.

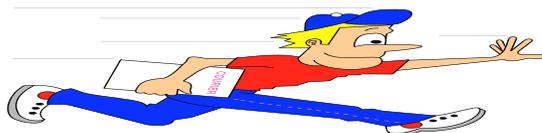
Around the Horn

- Σ If you wish to change ballpark dimensions by an amount within plus or minus 2 on all weather effects, the construction costs are \$2,500,000. Such a change may be made every season.
- Σ Post season awards ballots will be sent out shortly. Now with the centralized stats it should make it much easier this year to select the players for the awards. When you get the ballot, please select your top 5 choices in each category. To find out which players are rookies, please look at the roster sheets and anyone who was signed to a 1,A* contract would qualify. Ballots are due back by October 25th. **It is mandatory for you to vote.**
- Σ League proposals are for future changes in league operations, potential changes to rules or improvements to the league. Brian has posted some questions on the web site that we have had league discussion about during the summer and most of these have made the list this year. We have some very interesting changes to vote on this year. Some of them include, using HAL as the road manager, a lottery style draft order, increasing player usage, increasing the number of amateurs, unbalanced schedule and realignment of the divisions. Kevin and I will send out the entire list in a separate mailing and ask for your vote. Proposal votes are due back by October 25th. **It is mandatory for you to vote.**
- Σ We still have 2 league openings. Morris and Milwaukee are ownerless. If anyone knows of any good candidates, please send them our way. As is customary, we award 1.5 million to any owner who recommends a new member and he remains in good standing for 1 year. Just ask Paul Wertz about the payoff!

Fines

Bloomington is fined 3.5 M for over using R. Kelly (8), Huson (5) and McGwire (1).
Glen Allen is fined 500K for over using M.Munoz by 1 IP's.
Long Island is fined 1.75 M for over using Durham by 7 PA's.
North Georgia is fined 750K for over using T. Lowery by 3 PA's.
Wauwatosa is fined 9.5 M for over using Brumfield (7), Burnitz (1), Holbert (2), Johnson (6), Koskie (2), Sanchez (11), Snow (7) and Finley (1).

Upcoming Deadlines



Oct. 10 - new contract and roster cut report sent out

- League Awards Ballot sent out by LD

Oct. 25 - League Awards Ballot due to LD
- League proposal votes due to LD.

Nov. 10 - list of restricted and unrestricted free agents sent out by
Free Agency Conductor (Mark Lentz).

Nov. 25 - sealed bids for free agents due to Free Agency Conductor (Mark Lentz).

Dec. 15 - free agent signing report sent out by Free Agency Conductor (Mark Lentz).

Jan. 25 - your 30-man protected list due to Draft Conductor (Corey Weisser).

Feb. 1 - 30-man protected lists sent out by Draft Conductor (Corey Weisser).