

Baseball's Premier Magazine *Street & Schmoody's* brings you the SPB1 June 1985 season review.

In the AL East, the Cuyahoga River Flames maintained their two game lead over second place Cleveland Spiders. The Collierstown Highlanders are starting to separate themselves a bit from the Dayton Triangles and the Preble Zorros, however, 20 games back of first place at the end of June has pretty much written off any playoff hopes. The Flames offense was led by 1B Greg Walker (.313 7 29), CF Fred Lynn (.300 14r), and LF Mike Young and 3B Pedro Guerrero's 6 hrs along with an AL leading 154 runs in June. SP Mario Soto won all five of his decisions (5-0 1.54 30k) with Mike Scott and Fernando Valenzuela chipping in three wins apiece. The Cleveland Spiders pitching staff tops the SPB1 with a 2.68 ERA (2.00 in June). June performances by Matt Young (2-1 1.13 24k), Atlee Hammaker (3-1 1.77 27k), and John Tudor (2-0 2.01 29k) are the primary reasons why. 2B Billy Doran (.364 3 10 18r) sparked the Spiders offense. The Spiders also have three starters in the AL ERA top ten with John Tudor (1.36) and Atlee Hammaker (1.90) one and two. The Collierstown Highlanders started to trend upwards with some home cooking. C Lance Parrish (.370 7 18) and CF Rickey Henderson (.323 4 14 9sb) along with Willie Upshaw (.313 5 13) and Enos Cabell (.310 4 17) helped inched the Highlanders towards respectability. 1B Jason Thompson (.392 7 22), SS Hubie Brooks (.333 5 16), and CF John Shelby (.313 1 10) paced the Triangles as Thompson's .392 led the AL in June. The Zorros offense was led by RF Harold Baines (.312 3 11), 3B Jim Presley (.305 2 10), and Graig Nettles (.295 2 6) but a June SPB worst 5.48 doomed the Zorros.

In the AL West, three teams have .600 or better records led by the Bloomington Hoosiers league best 58-23 record, followed by the Rockford Forest Citys four games back and the distant Indy Alley Cats, nine back. The Frankfort Tigers, Kenosha Eagles, and Evanston Black Sox still harbor wildcard hopes, but the distance between qualifiers is growing larger. The Hoosiers lead the SPB1 with a season road record of 31-11. Hoosier starters Brett Saberhagen (2-2 1.69 175k) and Ron Guidry (3-0 2.61 18k) paced the pitching staff. The Forest Citys sputtered with an 11-10 record in June but you can not blame the offense as seven hitters hit in a range from .292 to .377. The Alley Cats led the AL in home runs (38) and slugging (.496) in June, helping them climb over the .600 mark as a team even though posting a June ERA of 5.79. Rick Reuschel (3-1 2.05 15k) paced the Alley Cats pitching while four players clubbed at least five homers led by catcher Carlton Fisk's eight. The Frankfort Tigers continued their trend downwards with a 12-15 June record, though they led the AL in June batting average (.294) paced by 3B George Brett (.384 8 26) and their pitching staff had the most June AL strikeouts with 166 led by Dwight Gooden's June pitcher of the month award (5-1 2.25 57k). The Kenosha Eagles went back to losing ways with a 10-17 month and the Black Sox are still hanging out to dry as they slowly gain ground with a 13-14 record.

In the NL East, the New York Mets increased their lead to four games over the second place Blue Ridge Mountaineers. All the other teams are now double figures off the lead. The Mets continue to ride the arms of their starters as three starters had ERAs below 3.00 in June. June Pitcher of the Month Roger Clemens (4-0 1.74 26k), Oil Can Boyd (1-1 2.67) and Sid Fernandez (3-0 1.52) helped the Mets dominate June. RF Dave Parker (.292 5 14) led the Mets attack. The Mountaineers may have a stranglehold over one of the wild cards, but they are within striking distance of the Mets. They will need to improve on their 14-13 June record. The Rats seem to be fleeing a sinking ship. An 8-13 June record didn't help even

with a fine June 3.27 ERA, timely hitting seems to be lacking as the Rats scored two or fewer in 12 of the 21 games played. The Tourists are still in the middle of the pack in team pitching and team batting. If the Tourists are to gain traction, they need to support their starting pitching with some thunder from their bats. The Brushbacks and Peppers both had matching June 12-15 records and only one game separates them in the standings.

In the only division where all the teams are separated by only eight and a half games, the NL West continues to provide divisional drama. The Bolton Hill Scotties dominated June with an 18-9 record, pulling away from second place Milwaukee Road by three games. The Scotties led the NL in June in runs (176), home runs (32), and slugging (.463). June Batter of the Month 3B Wade Boggs (.404 2 21) and slugging 3B Mike Schmidt's seven home runs paced the Scotties attack. Despite leading the NL in June batting average (.305), the Road had a losing month (9-12) as they led the NL with a June ERA of 6.06. The Las Vegas Thunder, Spirit Mountain Volcanoes, and the Ottawa Lynx separate themselves by a game and a half and will furnish competition for the rest of the season. Can anyone on the Thunder top a .300 batting average for the season? Can the Volcanoes RF Kirk Gibson keep up his .360+ 10hr 51 rbi production? And will Lynx starter Jimmy Key keep up his torrid pace of 15 decisions in 16 starts?

For the Season to June 30, 1985

Best Home Record:	28-11	Cuyahoga River Flames
Best Away Record:	31-11	Bloomington Hoosiers
Best Division Record:	14-1	Cleveland Spiders
Best Interleague Record:	31-11	Bloomington Hoosiers
Most extra inning games:	12	Asheville Tourists
Best extra inning record:	4-1	Las Vegas Thunder
Most one run games:	30	Asheville Tourists
Best one run games record:	16-7	Rockford Forest Citys

AL Batting Ldrs - June AL Player of the Month: Jason Thompson, Triangles (.392 7 22)

BA:

.392 Jason Thompson, Triangles

.384 George Brett, Tigers

.370 Lance Parrish, Highlanders

OBP:

.510 Jason Thompson, Triangles

.466 George Brett, Tigers

.432 Rickey Henderson, Highlanders

SLG:

.770 Jason Thompson, Triangles

.734 Lloyd Moseby, Cats

.697 George Brett, Tigers

HR:

8 Carlton Fisk, Alley Cats

8 George Brett, Tigers

7 4 tied w/

RBI:

29 Greg Walker, Flames

26 George Brett, Tigers

24 Pedro Guerrero, Flames

Total Bases:

70 Hubie Brooks, Triangles

69 George Brett, Tigers

60 Greg Walker, Flames

NL Batting Ldrs - June NL Player of the Month: Wade Boggs, Scotties (.404 2 21)

BA:

.404 Wade Boggs, Scotties

.376 Cecil Cooper, Road

.375 Cal Ripken, Rats

OBP:

.455 Wade Boggs, Scotties

.432 Cal Ripken, Rats

.418 Jerry Mumphrey, Road

SLG:

.663 Cal Ripken, Rats

.615 Jerry Mumphrey, Road

.612 Cecil Cooper, Road

HR:

7 Mike Schmidt, Scotties

6 4 tied w/

RBI:

27 Mike Schmidt, Scotties

23 Glenn Wilson, Peppers

23 Dwight Evans, Scotties

Total Bases:

61 Mike Schmidt, Scotties

59 Tim Raines, Scotties

56 Jerry Mumphrey, Road

56 Wade Boggs, Scotties

AL Pitching Ldrs - May AL Pitcher of the Month: Dwight Gooden, Tigers (5-1 2.25 57k)

Wins:

5 Mario Soto, Flames

5 Dwight Gooden, Tigers

4 3 tied w/

ERA:

1.13 Matt Young, Spiders

1.54 Mario Soto, Flames

1.69 Brett Saberhagen, Hoosiers

IP:

48.0 Dwight Gooden, Tigers

44.1 Lamarr Hoyt, Black Sox

47.0 Mario Soto, Flames

K's:

57 Dwight Gooden, Tigers

30 Mario Soto, Flames

29 John Tudor, Spiders

Sv:

6 Dave Smith, Black Sox

6 Lee Smith, Highlanders

NL Pitching Ldrs - June NL Pitcher of the Month: Roger Clemens, Mets (4-0 1.74 26k)

Wins:

4 Roger Clemens, Mets

3 10 tied w/

ERA:

1.33 Dave Stieb, Tourists

1.36 Dan Petry, Volcanoes

1.52 Sid Fernandez, Mets

IP:

42.2 Bob Ojeda, Rats

40.2 Dave Stieb, Tourists

40.0 Charlie Hough, Mountaineers

K's:

40 Nolan Ryan, Scotties

31 Sid Fernandez, Mets

31 Orel Hershiser, Thunder

31 Dave Stieb, Tourists

Sv:

6 Randy O'Neal, Thunder

5 Cecil Guante, Volcanoes

5 Jeff Reardon, Scotties