



International League News & Notes

June 12, 2008



CURRENT INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERS IN ONLINE FAN VOTING FOR TRIPLE-A ALL-STAR GAME

Catcher

1. **Jason Jaramillo**, Lehigh Valley
2. Chris Stewart, Scranton/WB
3. Dane Sardinha, Toledo

Shortstop

1. **Brent Lillibridge**, Richmond
2. Reid Brignac, Durham
3. Nick Green, Scranton/WB

Outfield

1. **Brent Clevlen**, Toledo
2. **Matt Joyce**, Toledo
3. **Clete Thomas**, Toledo
4. Brett Gardner, Scranton/WB
5. Jeff Bailey, Pawtucket
6. Justin Christian, Scranton/WB

First Base

1. **Larry Broadway**, Columbus
2. Jeff Larish, Toledo
3. Brad Eldred, Charlotte

Third Base

1. **Mike Hessman**, Toledo
2. Josh Fields, Charlotte
3. Cody Ransom, Scranton/WB

Starting Pitcher

1. **Homer Bailey**, Louisville
2. **Eddie Bonine**, Toledo
3. Brian Mazone, Lehigh Valley
4. Charlie Morton, Richmond
5. Chris Lambert, Toledo
6. Dan Giese, Scranton/WB

Second Base

1. **Josh Barfield**, Buffalo
2. Mike Hollimon, Toledo
3. Pete Orr, Columbus

Designated Hitter

1. **Timo Perez**, Toledo
2. Eric Duncan, Scranton/WB
3. Dan Johnson, Durham

Relief Pitcher

1. **Ian Ostlund**, Toledo
2. **Blaine Neal**, Toledo
3. T.J. Beam, Indianapolis
4. David Robertson, Scranton/WB
5. Scott Patterson, Scranton/WB
6. Vladimir Nunez, Richmond

Online voting concludes June 27

BUFFALO BISONS

OFF THE SNYD: OF **Brad Snyder** has been one of the hottest Bisons hitters of late. The outfielder has hit in 10 of his last 12 games with seven multi-hit performances. Since May 26, Snyder has averaged .388 (19-49) with five doubles, a home run, 10 RBI and seven runs scored. The strong stretch has helped Snyder raise his season average 50 points from .203 to .253. On the year, Snyder leads the Bisons with 21 extra-base hits and is 2nd with 27 RBI.

A FARM TEAM'S FARM TEAM: For the second time in nine days, the Cleveland Indians found an arm they liked on the roster of the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs of the Independent Atlantic League. On Sunday, the Tribe signed LHP **John Halama** and assigned him to Buffalo. The 36-year old pitched well in his Bisons debut, allowing just three runs in six innings to collect a victory in Pawtucket. Halama has a career 56-48 record in 262 Major League games with a 4.65 ERA. On May 31, the Indians also signed RHP **Dan Reichert** from the Blue Crabs and assigned him to Buffalo.

LOVULLO COLLECTS 500TH WIN: Bisons skipper **Torey Lovullo** collected his 500th win as a manager in style. Last Wednesday, the Bisons roared back from 6-0 down in the 9th inning to defeat Rochester, 8-7, in 10 innings of play. Lovullo has since upped his career win total to 502. Lovullo has never had a losing season as a Minor League manager, including back-to-back winning seasons in Buffalo in 2006 (73-68) and 2007 (75-67). Of his 502 wins, 178 have come in a Bisons uniform. Overall, Lovullo is 502-406 as a Minor League manager, good for a .554 winning percentage.

CHARLOTTE KNIGHTS

ROSTER MOVES: The Knights have had a flurry of roster moves over the past few days. The team added LHP **Clayton Richard** from Double-A Birmingham. Richard appeared in 13 games for Birmingham this season, all of them starts. He went 6-6 for the Barons with a 2.47 ERA. Richard pitched 83.2 innings giving up 66 hits and allowing 23 earned runs. Richard struck out 53 and walked 16. Richard takes the roster spot of INF **Gookie Dawkins** who was traded to the Kansas City Royals organization on June 9. The White Sox also released Charlotte pitchers **Matt Anderson** and **Rob Bell**. The Knights activated RHP **D.J. Carrasco** from the disabled list.

BACK END BULLPEN: With RHP **Ehren Wassermann** being added to the club, the Knights have made their bullpen stronger. Wassermann (6 SV, 0.00 ERA), joins RHP **Adam Russell** (3-0, 1.67 ERA) and RHP **Jason Childers** (3-1, 4 SV, 0.98 ERA) as the primary men in the bullpen. The three pitchers have combined to give up a total of 36 hits in 69 innings of work. They also have struck out a combined 45 hitters and have walked only 26.

ALL-STAR CANDIDATES: With the All-Star Game approaching, the Knights find themselves with several potential All-Stars. INF **Chris Getz** has been the Knights most position player this season as he is hitting .308 in through 59 games. Getz is 2nd on the team in doubles with 14. OF **Dewayne Wise** has been great for the Knights as well. Wise is hitting .310 on the season with 9 home runs and 20 RBI. No one has shown off as much power as INF/OF **Brad Eldred**. The 6'5" slugger is among the League leaders in home runs with 20 and RBI with 55. RHP **Jason Childers** has been exceptional out of the bullpen as he has gone 3-1 with a 0.98 ERA in 25 games. Childers has been recently been made the closer and has gone 4-for-4 in save opportunities. Opponents are hitting just .141 against Childers this season.

COLUMBUS CLIPPERS

JOHN STOCKTON IN THE OUTFIELD: Tuesday night **Tommy Murphy** recorded his team-leading 7th outfield assist, throwing out **Buck Coats** in the 1st inning on his attempt to stretch a single into a double. It was Murphy's second consecutive game with an assist from the outfield and third in the last week. He is currently tied with Syracuse's **Russ Adams** for 2nd in the IL, two behind **Chris Roberson** of Norfolk. As a team, the Clippers are tied for 3rd with 18 outfield assists, three behind League-leading Syracuse. Of the 18 runners caught trying to advance an extra base, six have been thrown out at the plate (Murphy has three assists at home).

COLUMBUS LEATHER COMPANY: Tonight the Clippers enter play as the best defensive team in the International League with a .984 fielding percentage. Columbus has committed just 40 errors this season, making a miscue in 30 of 67 games (14-16 when committing an error). Columbus has not made an error since **Patrick Nichols** made an errant throw in the 6th inning on June 5 at Syracuse (39 innings ago). Individually, **Tommy Murphy** has a 56-game errorless streak going, while **Larry Broadway** has also been flawless in 56 straight games.

MOCK REWARDED WITH BIG LEAGUE START: **Garrett Mock**, currently 10th in the IL in ERA (3.06), was recalled to the Nationals on Sunday and made his Major League debut against the Giants. He threw 4.0 scoreless innings before being chased in the 5th with the bases loaded and one out. All three of his runners bequeathed to the bullpen scored, to make his final line 4.1 IP, 7 H, 4 R, 4 ER, 3 BB, 0 K. He was the second Clipper to have made his Major League debut this season, following **Charlie Manning** (May 24).

DURHAM BULLS

GOING DEEP: One night after allowing four homers, the Bulls hit four yesterday off Rochester pitching in a 9-7 victory. In the first two games of the series with the Red Wings, 11 homers have been hit between the two teams, five by the Bulls, and six by the Red Wings.

RICH GETTING RICHER: **Chris Richard's** two-homer game yesterday was his second this year for the Bulls. He also went deep twice against Charlotte on May 17. It's two of the four multi-homer games by a Bulls player this year. Richard's second homer was the front end of back-to-back homers last night. It was the second time the Bulls have hit back-to-back homers this season.

STILL ON TOP: A win last night, coupled with a Richmond loss, moved Durham 1.5 games ahead of Richmond in the South Division. The Bulls have been in 1st place for all but one day since moving into a tie with Richmond atop the South Division standings on May 23.

DOUBLE TROUBLE: Shortstop **Reid Brignac** went 1-4 yesterday with a walk and a strikeout, but remains the League-leader in doubles with 24. Six of his last eight hits are doubles. **Steve Cox** has Durham's Triple-A record with 49 in 1999.

ON THE MOVE: Durham's roster was relatively steady this week, but moves are expected today that will push the total above the current number of 85, including the activation of **Ben Zobrist** from the DL. Durham had only 97 moves all of last year (including the playoffs).

INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS

WE WILL RUN ON YOU: Indianapolis leads the International League with 81 stolen bases. The Indians have paced the IL in thefts in each of the past three seasons (163 in 2007, 180 in 2006 and 163 in 2005). The Tribe has recorded 40 swipes over the last 28 contests (1.43 pg) while its opponents have tallied just 15 (0.53 pg).

CONTRIBUTING RIGHT AWAY: In four Triple-A games since being optioned from Pittsburgh, C **Ronny Paulino** is batting .625 (10-16) with two homers, five runs, and four RBI. He went 5-5 with three RBI and four runs on Saturday evening at Louisville. It was the first five-hit effort of his 11-year professional career and the Tribe's first five-hit performance since **Chris Jones** went 5-5 against Louisville on July 4, 2002.

BIXLER'S BAT IS HEATING UP: Indians INF **Brian Bixler** is hitting .417 (5-12) with four runs, two homers and four RBI over his last three contests. The 25-year-old belted home runs in back-to-back games (June 8, 10) for the first time since June 3-4, 2007, against Charlotte.

BEAM KEEPS HANGING ZEROS: Tribe RHP **T.J. Beam** has recorded a 0.90 ERA (2 ER in 20.0 IP) over his last 14 relief appearances. The 27-year-old is 2-1 with a 1.93 ERA and four saves in 24 games this season. He has yielded just a .193 batting average while walking 13 and striking out 39 in 37.1 innings.

TY SHOOTS AN "EIGHT BALL": In his last start on Friday against Lehigh Valley, RHP **Ty Taubenheim** became the first Indian in nearly a year to fire eight scoreless innings (8.0 IP, 4 H, 0 R, 1 BB, 4 SO). LHP **Shane Youman** was the last Tribe hurler to accomplish the feat on June 11, 2007, at Charlotte (8.0 IP, 4 H, 0 R, 2 BB, 6 SO).

LEHIGH VALLEY IRONPIGS

GAINING GROUND: Once at least 9.0 games behind every team in the IL (5-30 on May 8), the Lehigh Valley IronPigs have: (1): Pulled to within 1.0 game of Norfolk (2.5 behind Charlotte) as they try to climb out of the IL cellar; (2): Pulled to within 3.0 games of Rochester as they try to climb out of the IL North Division cellar; (3): Climbed up another spot in MILB on Wednesday by pulling ahead of New Hampshire (EL, Toronto) -- and now has a better record than 4 other teams.

WALK THIS WAY: The IronPigs had their fourth walk-off victory of the season on Sunday. It was the first time someone other than OF **Jon Knott** had the game-winning hit -- as 1B **Andy Tracy** drove in INF **Mike Cervenak** in the 10th inning for the win. It was LHV's first walk-off victory on May 9 vs. Columbus that coincided with the IronPigs turnaround. They were 5-30 at the time of that first walk-off win; they are 20-13 since.

MORE FROM MAZONE: LHP **Brian Mazone** turned in the first IronPigs complete game and shutout in franchise history the second game of Lehigh Valley's doubleheader sweep of Buffalo on Wednesday. In his seven innings, the 31-year-old lefty retired 17 of the last 18 batters faced and allowed just three hits and two walks while fanning seven to improve to 7-4. After starting 0-2, 6.23 in his first 2 GS, Mazone is now 7-2, 2.39 in his last 12 GS (79.0 IP, 21 ER, 14 BB, 38 K). In his IL career, Mazone is currently 23-9 with a 2.38 ERA in 40 GS (257.0 IP, 68 ER). As a pro, he has gone 79-47 -- a .627 winning percentage. The California native leads the IL in IP (92.0) -- a total that is tied for first in MILB (**Jhoulys Chacin**, Asheville).

HAPPY DAYS!: LHP **J.A. Happ** has won 4 of his last 5 decisions and is 4-2, 3.45 in his last 10 GS (62.2 IP, 24 ER). He remains the IL leader with 87 K -- which is third best in Minor League Baseball. Happ's 13 K on May 9 vs. COL is still tied for the most in the IL in 2008 with **Charlie Morton** (Richmond).

IT'S GOOD TO BE KING: On offense, 3B **Brennan King** has hit in 9 of his last 10 G (13-35, .371-2-8) and in 16 of his last 18 G (23-66, .348-2-13) -- raising his average from .212 to .252. On defense, King hasn't committed an error in his last 45 G at third base and has only 3 errors this season.

WHO'S HOT: C **Jason Jaramillo** has hit in 15 of his last 16 G (.407-0-6, 22-54, 11 R)... OF **Rich Thompson** has hit in 5 of his last 6 G (9-24, .375-1-7, 4 R) and in 9 of his last 11 (15-43, .349-1-11, 7 R)... OF **Jon Knott** has hit safely in 5 of his last 6 G (9-25, .360-1-5, 3 2B)... 1B **Andy Tracy** has hit in 8 of his last 11 G (15-37, .405-1-6) raising his AVG by 29 pts... INF **Mike Cervenak** has hit in 22 of his last 25 G (.355-2-13, 36-99)... RHP **Steve Green** has gone 2-0, 0.95 (19.0 IP, 2 ER) in his last 9 G... LHP **Travis Blackley** has gone 1-0 with a 2.25 ERA (12 IP, 3 ER) and 2 QS in his last 2 GS. He also went 2-2, 2B... RHP **Gary Knotts** pitched 6.0 scoreless IP for a W in his last start and is 1-1, 1.02 (17.2 IP, 2 ER) in his last 5 G... LHP **Stephen Randolph** has a 6.2 scoreless IP streak (3+ G).

LOUISVILLE BATS

SWEET MOVES INTO SECOND: Manager **Rick Sweet** managed his 496th game in a Louisville uniform Sunday and is now in sole possession of 2nd place of all-time games managed in franchise history. The record for most games managed in a Louisville uniform is held by current Scranton/Wilkes-Barre skipper **Dave Miley**, who managed 541 games. Sweet trails Miley by 44 games and will break the record for most games managed in Louisville history on July 29 in Charlotte.

RISING AGAINST THE CREAM OF THE CROP: The Bats are an impressive 25-16 against +.500 teams this season; however, when playing sub-.500 teams, they are 11-10 and are 3-2 versus teams at the .500 mark.

13 PLEASE: For the second time since Saturday, the Bats reached their high-water mark of 12 games over .500 on Tuesday night. Before Saturday's victory, the last time the Bats were 12 games over was July 22, 2006 (56-44), but they lost 11 of their next 13 games to fall to 58-55 and finish the season at 75-68. Louisville had a chance last night to reach 13 games over last night but lost to the Paw Sox 11-3. If they are able to reach 13 games over, it would be the first time since they finished the 2003 season at 79-64. In 2003 they first eclipsed the 13-game over mark on June 20 (43-30) and fell less than 13 games over only once. On August 5, the team fell to 65-53, but won their next four and didn't fall below 13 games again.

CABRERA & HERRERA GET CALL: INF **Jolbert Cabrera** had his contract purchased by the Reds Tuesday and takes the roster spot of INF **Jerry Hairston, Jr.** who suffered a broken left thumb in Monday's Reds game. In 54 games with the Bats, Cabrera batted .288 with 16 doubles, five triples, four home runs, 30 RBI, and five stolen bases. He has 18 multi-hit games on the season, and has hit safely in 25 of his last 31 games. LHP **Danny Herrera** was recalled by the Reds for his second stint; he was promoted June 3 and made his only appearance in that night's 3-2 loss to Philadelphia (1.0 IP, 1 IBB, 2K). Herrera takes the roster spot of RHP **Gary Majewski** who was put on the bereavement list due to the birth of his child (Kylee Jade, born June 10 in Houston, 7 lbs, 19 inches).

NORFOLK TIDES

STREAKING BACKSTOP: With another hit Wednesday night, Tides catcher **Omir Santos** extended his hitting streak to 16 games, which is the longest for Norfolk this season, and the longest by a Tides player since **Russ Johnson** had a 19-game stretch during the 2003 season. Over the 16-game stretch, Santos has batted .419 (26-62) with eight runs scored and six RBI, and he's collected seven multi-hit games over that span. Santos has upped his average from .203 to .310 over the streak, which is now just two games shy of matching the longest hit streak in the IL this season - an 18-game stretch by former Tide and current Lehigh Valley IronPig **Mike Cervenak**.

HIT MAN HEADS TO BALTIMORE: On Tuesday, Norfolk infielder **Oscar Salazar** had his contract selected by the Baltimore Orioles. Salazar was leading the International League with 78 base hits when he was promoted, and had batted .311 with seven home runs, 23 doubles and 44 RBI in 63 games for Norfolk this season. Salazar's only previous Major League experience came with Detroit in the 2002 season, as he hit .190 (4-21) with a homer and three RBI in eight games for the Tigers. On Wednesday night Salazar made his Orioles' debut, as he collected a pinch-hit run-scoring single off of **Mike Timlin** at Fenway Park.

FIRST AT SECOND: Through 66 games, Norfolk's second basemen have made just one error in 289 total chances. The Tides have had seven different players appear defensively at second base this season (**Travis Brown, Alex Cintron, Brandon Fahey, Mike McCoy, Scott Moore, Oscar Salazar** and **Eider Torres**), and the grouping has posted a .997 fielding percentage while playing second base. Not surprisingly, Tides second basemen have posted the best fielding percentage among teams in the IL, with the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees placing 2nd after committing four errors in 275 total chances (.985 fielding percentage).

PAWTUCKET RED SOX

HALFWAY HOME: The Pawtucket Red Sox – who own the best home record in the International League at 23-12 – reach the halfway point to their home season tonight (scheduled opening #36 of 72 home games) when they play game three of their 4-game set against the IL West-leading Louisville Bats at McCoy Stadium. The PawSox had dropped three in a row for only the third time all season earlier this week but they avoided a season-high 4-game skid with an 11-3 victory over the Bats last night.

THREE OF A KIND: The PawSox hope their recent pattern continues on course tonight. The Sox lost three in a row from June 2-4, immediately followed that with a 3-game winning streak from June 5-7, then lost three in a row again from June 8-10, but last night righted the ship with a win.

A TEST THIS HOMESTAND: Pawtucket has a losing record against just two teams this season – their current opponent on this homestand, Louisville (2-4) along with Buffalo (5-7) as the Bisons recently departed town earlier this week after taking 2-of-3 from the PawSox to begin the homestand.

LOST SERIES: The PawSox lost a series for the first time in 42 days (after going 10 series without a loss) when they dropped 2-of-3 against Buffalo earlier this week to begin this homestand. It marked Pawtucket's first series loss since they were swept in a 2-game set in Buffalo back on April 26 & 27. The PawSox had posted four series victories and six series splits in 10 sets from April 28 – June 6. They are even at 1-1 in this 4-game set vs. Louisville.

PAW PRINTS: SS **Jed Lowrie** currently owns a 13-game hitting streak (19-50, .380) which follows immediately after he returned to the lineup after missing 12 games with an injured left wrist. He is batting an even .300 on the season which has included two different stints in Boston where he batted .310 in 17 games for the Red Sox...INF/OF **Joe Thurston** is equally as hot, batting .438 (14-32) with 3 HR & 9 RBI in his last 7 games and is now hitting .313 on the year...OF **Chris Carter** did not hit his first HR for the PawSox until May 7 (his 32nd game played). Since that point, however, he has blasted 13 HR in his last 31 games including stretches of a HR in four straight games from May 28-31 and again in three consecutive games June 7-9.

RICHMOND BRAVES

MAKING AN IMPACT: OF **Brandon Jones** and LHP **Jeff Ridgway** earned promotions to Atlanta Wednesday. The Braves have had nine different players promoted to Atlanta this season. 14 of the 25 players on Atlanta's active Major League roster have seen action in Richmond in 2008 or 2007. All three projected starting pitchers in the Braves weekend series with the Los Angeles Angels (**Jorge Campillo**, **Jo-Jo Reyes**, and **Charlie Morton**) have been members of Richmond's rotation this season.

STOP THIEF: **Sal Fasano** has thrown out 13 of 22 runners attempting to steal (59%). As a team the Braves lead the IL in percentage of opposing runners caught stealing (32-76, 42.1%). Fasano has not played in enough games to qualify for the League lead, but no IL catcher who has faced more than one stolen base attempt has a better percentage. **Clint Sammons** is 6th in the IL (19-54, 35.2%).

MOWING THEM DOWN: Braves pitchers claimed nine more strikeout victims Wednesday. Braves hurlers have fanned nine or more in 12 of their last 20 games, and eight or more in three straight games and seven of their last nine. Richmond is currently 5th in the IL in strikeouts.

ROCHESTER RED WINGS

CHICKS DIG THE LONG BALL: The Red Wings offense has hit at least one home run in 13 of their last 14 games (23 total home runs) with infielder/designated hitter **Randy Ruiz** hitting six home runs in the last nine games. Rochester has hit 55 home runs this season which is tied for 8th (Louisville) in the International League (Toledo leads the IL with 110 home runs).

HIT PARADE: The Red Wings offense has heated up the last 17 games, batting .307 (192-625) as a team. Rochester has scored 101 runs (5.9 runs per game) and had 10 or more hits in 13 of those 17 games. Rochester has just a 9-8 record over those 17 games.

RANDY, RANDY, RANDY: First baseman/designated hitter **Randy Ruiz** has been scorching the ball the last nine games batting .378 (14-37) with one double, six home runs, 13 RBI and five multi-hit games during this nine-game stretch. Ruiz has hit safely in 12 of his last 13 games batting .377 (20-53) with seven multi-hit games.

I NEED SOME ROLAIDS: The Red Wings bullpen has been very ineffective the last 22 games, going 2-8 with seven saves and a 6.09 ERA. In 75.1 innings of work, the pen has allowed 56 runs (51 earned) on 84 hits while walking 42 and striking out 89. The bullpen watched its ERA climb from 3.01 to 3.98 in this 22-game stretch.

SCRANTON/WILKES-BARRE YANKEES

GREAT GONZO: **Alberto Gonzalez** has been on some kind of tear for Scranton/Wilkes-Barre since being optioned from New York on May 27. The slick fielding shortstop got back in SWB's everyday line up on May 28 and has proceeded to reach base in 13 of the 15 games he has played since returning to the IL. "Gonzo" also carries a six-game hitting streak into Thursday night's game at Richmond. In his last half-dozen games Gonzalez is hitting .545 (12-22) with 3 R, 2 2B, 9 RBI, 3 BB, 3 K, SB, 2 SF, and 2 HBP. With a 1st inning single at Richmond on Wednesday, Gonzalez reached base in his ninth consecutive plate appearance, setting a Yankees record in Scranton/Wilkes-Barre and coming within one of the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre franchise record of 10 straight set by **Rob Butler** in 1995.

JUNE SWOON?: As the weather has heated up the Yankees have had a more difficult time putting together wins. In both April and May the Yankees posted 18 win months. So far in June, SWB is 5-6 (3-4 at PNC Field, 2-2 on the road). The team is batting above its season average at .275 and is averaging 5.3 runs per game. The trouble has come on the mound where the Yankees team ERA is 4.74, over a run and a half higher than April (3.03) and one run an higher than May (3.74).

IT COMES IN WAVES: When Scranton/Wilkes-Barre got on the board in the top of the 8th inning in Tuesday's 8-5 loss to Richmond, it ended the Yankees 16.1 inning scoreless streak that began following the Yankees 3-2 win over Syracuse in the completion of Sunday's suspended game. The Chiefs shutout SWB 5-0 on Monday and then Richmond had the Yankees blanked until one out in the 8th on Tuesday. The longest string of consecutive scoreless innings for the Yankees this season is 20.0 innings from April 7-10. Since the end of the second-longest scoring drought for SWB in 2008, the team has scored 14 runs in its last 11 innings.

SYRACUSE CHIEFS

LYDON KEEPS RUNNING: Chiefs outfielder **Wayne Lydon** moved past **Ryan Freel** and **Lou Thornton** into 3rd place all-time with 73 stolen bases for Syracuse. Next up on the list is **Alex Infante** with 92 and **Walt Cazen** 140.

WHERE DO THEY ALL PLAY?: When C **Robinson Diaz** went on the disabled list May 3, C **Erik Kratz** joined the Chiefs from Double-A New Hampshire and backed-up **Curtis Thigpen**. Thigpen left the Chiefs for Toronto on May 28 and Kratz became the everyday catcher. Since then he has gone 13-41 (.317) with 5 doubles, 7 home runs and 16 RBI in 13-games. Thigpen is expected to return to the Chiefs on Friday and Diaz is beginning his rehab work in Dunedin.

PARRISH TIES RECORD: Lefty **John Parrish** stepped into the Chiefs rotation in early April (when they lost righty **Josh Banks** to the Padres) and has rattled off 9 consecutive wins tying **Alan Koch's** 45-year-old record for wins to begin a season, set in 1963 when he started the season 9-0. Koch lost his next decision to Indianapolis. Parrish will attempt to break that Chiefs record vs. Toledo on June 14 and tie another record for most consecutive wins held by **Willie Smith** (also 1963) and Toledo native **Stan Clarke** (1985).

ZAUN JOINS CHIEFS: The Toronto Blue Jays are starting to get healthy and Jays catcher **Greg Zaun** joined the Chiefs on June 11 to begin a brief rehab assignment. Right-handed pitcher **Jeremy Accardo** also started his rehab assignment in Class-A Dunedin and is expected to move up to Syracuse later in the week.

TOLEDO MUD HENS

RUNNING UP THE SCORE: A recent article featured in the June 16-29 issue of *Baseball America* shows that Toledo's Fifth Third Field's average total of runs per game is amongst the lowest in all of Triple-A Baseball the last three seasons (2005-2007). The 8.26 runs per game average is the second-lowest to Norfolk's Harbor Park (7.31 runs). Buffalo is home to the highest average in the IL with 9.93 runs per game. The Hens lead the International League in runs scored with 351, despite the low average at Fifth Third Field.

HENS IN THE BIGS: OF **Brent Clevlen** and INF **Michael Hollimon** were both promoted to Detroit on June 6. They are just two of the many Mud Hens who are now wearing the Old English D. OF **Clete Thomas**, 1B **Jeff Larish**, and LHP **Casey Fossum** all were playing in Toledo within the last few weeks. Current Tigers LHP **Clay Rapada** and RHP **Armando Galarraga** started the season with Toledo.

NEW FACES: The Detroit Tigers have agreed to terms with two new players. 1B **Fernando Seguinol** started the season with Tabasco of the Mexican League and batted .270 with 5 HR and 24 RBI. RHP **Brian Rogers** pitched with Altoona (Double-A) and Indianapolis (Triple-A) of the Pittsburgh organization combining for 29.1 IP, 3 ER, and 26 K.

POWER SHORTAGE: Despite hitting home runs on a regular basis, the Hens are not scoring enough runs. They scored 9 runs from Friday, June 6 – Monday, June 9, which is the lowest four-game total of this season.