



International League News & Notes

May 21, 2009



BUFFALO BISONS (www.Bisons.com)

EYEING A THIRD CROWN: RHP **Brandon Knight** is making a run at the third International League strikeout crown of his career. Knight is currently tied for 2nd in the IL with his 46 punchouts this season. What's even more impressive is that the 46 K have come in only seven starts and 44.0 innings of work. He's struck out seven or more in five of his starts. On the year, Knight is 2-3 with a 3.89 ERA for the Herd. Knight led the IL in strikeouts in 2000 (138) and 2001 (173) while pitching for Columbus.

THE KID CAN PLAY: Twenty-year old OF **Fernando Martinez** continues to impress in his first season at Triple-A. The Mets' #1 prospect homered for the Herd on Monday and then hit two out in a loss to Pawtucket on Tuesday. Martinez now has an International League-best 22 extra-base hits. His 13 doubles are tied for 2nd to go along with two triples and seven home runs. Martinez leads the Bisons in all three extra-base categories as well as average (.287), runs (20), hits (41) and RBI (23). He's the only Buffalo player to appear in all 37 of the team's games to start the season.

DONE LIKE DESSENS: RHP **Elmer Dessens** has settled in nicely to the Bisons' closer role. The veteran has allowed just two hits and two walks in his last six relief appearances (8.0 IP). On the year, opponents are hitting just .178 against Dessens with only one extra-base hit. Overall, Dessens is 2-1 with a 0.86 ERA in 14 appearances for the Herd (21.0 IP, 1 3H, 14 K). He has earned three of Buffalo's four saves on the year.

CHARLOTTE KNIGHTS (www.CharlotteKnights.com)

ONE-HITTER: On Monday night against Toledo, Knights RHP **Jose Contreras** threatened to throw the first Knights no-hitter since **Tetsu Yofu** on August 1, 2004. Contreras did not allow a hit through the first 7.2 innings as he pitched a complete game shutout allowing just 1 hit and 3 walks. Contreras had 5 strikeouts to go along with 15 ground outs and 7 fly outs. He needed just 100 pitches to get through the game. It was the first Knights one-hitter since June 4, 2008 vs. Pawtucket. In that game four Knights pitchers combined for the one-hitter.

CONTRERAS DOMINATING: In his two starts with the Knights, **Jose Contreras** has put together a 2-0 record and a 0.00 ERA in 15.0 innings. He has not given up a run and has allowed only 4 hits. Opponents are hitting .083 (4-48) and he has a WHIP of 0.80. He has walked 8 batters and has 10 strikeouts. Contreras is next scheduled to start for the Knights on Sunday against Indianapolis.

FOUR STRAIGHT WINS FOR KNIGHTS: A pair of firsts happened for the Knights in the team's 2-0 win over Toledo. The Knights got their first four game sweep of a team in a season, and it was the first time they won four consecutive games. Entering Thursday the Knights have won 6 of their last 8 games and have not given up a run 22.1 innings. It has been pitching, defense, and more pitching that has gotten them wins of late. The Knights have allowed 14 total runs in their last 8 games and the pitching staff has combined for 4 shutouts. The Knights defense has made great plays in the field and has made just one error during the stretch.

MYROW HITTING HOMERS: Knights 1B/DH **Brian Myrow** hit a home run in back-to-back games on Sunday and Monday vs. Toledo. Myrow had a three-run homer on Sunday off Toledo's **Chris Lambert**, and a two-run homer Monday night off the Mud Hens' **Brooks Brown**. Myrow joins **Andy Phillips** and **Michael Restovich** as Knights players to have hit a home run in back-to-back games in 2009. Myrow is 2nd on the Knights in home runs with 6 on the season.

COLUMBUS CLIPPERS (www.ClippersBaseball.com)

WE'LL TAKE IT: Monday night's victory, coupled with two losses by Louisville, gave the Clippers sole possession of 1st place in the IL West, marking the first time that the Clippers have been alone at the top since July 9 of last season when they were 52-40. A win on Tuesday against the Yankees pulled the Clippers to an even 20-20, marking the first time at .500 since being 4-4 after their April 16 win at Toledo. From May 3-8 they went on a season-high six game losing streak to drop to seven games under, but have rebounded to go 9-2 over the last 11 games.

FINISHING WHAT HE STARTED: **Kirk Saarloos'** complete game on Tuesday was his second of the season, making him the first Clipper with two complete games in a season since **Kris Wilson** in 2006. In fact, Saarloos has more complete games this season than the entire group of pitchers that played for Columbus during the Washington Nationals affiliation from 2007-08 (**Mike O'Connor** had the lone complete game during that time, throwing a shutout vs. Norfolk on August 6, 2008).

RARE FEAT: The Clippers won on Tuesday at Scranton/Wilkes-Barre despite not having the leadoff batter reach base in any inning. It was only the second time in 40 games this season that they failed to have at least one leadoff batter reach base, having lost a 7-inning game at Norfolk on May 7. On the season, Columbus has had 116 leadoff batters reach in 334 innings (34.7%). Of those 116 to reach base, 64 have gone on to score (55.2%).

DURHAM BULLS (www.DurhamBulls.com)

THAT'S QUALITY: **Carlos Hernandez's** seven inning scoreless stint Tuesday in a 10-1 home win over Rochester was the longest by a Bulls pitcher this year. It was the team's second straight quality start of the season (six innings or more, three earned runs or less). It was just the sixth quality start for the Bulls in 39 games, three of which came during the last series against Rochester. Durham starters did not allow a run in the last three games of the Rochester series, covering 18.2 innings. Durham allowed a run in the 8th inning on Tuesday, ending a string of more than 18 innings without allowing a run.

ROLE REVERSAL: After four-straight come-from-behind wins, the Bulls have scored first the last three games. Durham is 15-2 when scoring first, 8-1 at home. The Bulls are 9-13 when the opponent scores first, including 8-6 at Durham Bulls Athletic Park.

HOME SWEET HOME: Durham is now 16-7 at the DBAP. It's the best home mark in the International League in terms of wins, but Norfolk has the top percentage at home (.813 13-3). Durham, 8-8 on the road and a season-best nine games above .500, begins an eight-game road trip tonight at Lehigh Valley before playing four games in Rochester.

SCORE FOR MORE: In three games during the last homestand Durham scored at least 10 runs, compared to once in the first 31 games. Durham has yet to score 10 runs in a road game this season. Durham also leads the International League with 42 homers.

GWINNETT BRAVES (www.GwinnettBraves.com)

PAIR OF ACES: For the first time since Opening Day, **Tommy Hanson** and **Kris Medlen** will pitch on the same day – albeit under different circumstances (Medlen relieved Hanson on April 9). Medlen makes his Major League debut Thursday at Turner Field, starting for the Atlanta Braves against the Colorado Rockies. Hanson makes his ninth start of the season Thursday, 31 miles north on Interstate 85 at Gwinnett Stadium as the G-Braves host the Toledo Mud Hens. As teammates, Hanson and Medlen totaled 108 strikeouts while pitching to a 1.48 ERA (85.1 IP, 14 ER) for Gwinnett.

MONTH OF MAY: The Gwinnett Braves are batting 23 points lower in the month of May than they did in April, but are back at .500 thanks to the strength of their pitching staff. The G-Braves boast a 2.09 ERA in May compared to a 3.20 mark in April. Gwinnett pitchers have allowed 38 earned runs in 164 innings pitched in May. Following the recent promotion of **Kris Medlen**, **Charlie Morton** now leads the G-Braves starters with a 3-1 record with a 1.82 ERA (29.2 IP, 6 ER) in May while **Tommy Hanson** is 1-0 with a 1.70 ERA (21.0 IP, 4 ER) in the month.

HIGH HIGHS AND LOW HIGHS: The Gwinnett Braves' 19 runs scored on April 11 still leads the International League for most runs in a game. At the same time, Gwinnett's season-high eight runs allowed on April 25 and May 2 are the lowest high of any team in the League.

INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS (www.IndyIndians.com)

EXTRA MARKS THE SPOT: The Indians have recorded an extra-base hit in all 38 of their games this season and have totaled 112 total extra-base hits with their 62 doubles, 27 home runs and League-leading 14 triples. The Tribe has also now collected an extra-base hit in every game since July 29, 2008 (72 consecutive games) and have tied last year's team-best streak of 38 games (May 22 - June 30). CF **Andrew McCutchen** leads all Tribe members with 17 extra-base hits, including one home run, eight doubles and his IL-leading eight triples.

DOUBLE TROUBLE: In the Tribe's recent four-game homestand against Syracuse (May 16-19), the defense turned at least one double play in each game of the series and has now recorded a double play in 10 consecutive contests. Also during the series, the Indians posted a season-high four double plays on Monday on their way to a total of nine in just four games, which was the largest in any four-game series for the Tribe this season. Though Indianapolis is just tied for 9th in the International League with 33 total double plays, their current streak of 10 straight games with a double play is longest in the IL thus far this season.

VASQUEZ'S BIG NIGHT: Indians starting pitcher **Virgil Vasquez** not only picked up the win with his best pitching effort of the season on Tuesday against Syracuse, but also reached base safely in all three of his plate appearances. The right-hander walked, singled and reached second on an error that also brought in two runs. Vasquez entered the season with zero career at-bats after spending his previous six seasons with the Detroit Tigers organization (who's affiliates all utilize the designated hitter). The California native has now hit in four consecutive games to improve his average to .400 (4-10) with two runs scored, a walk and an RBI, and now leads all International League pitchers (minimum of five at-bats) in average, walks, runs and RBI. The 26-year-old also allowed only one run on six hits while striking out three in eight innings of work. His eight innings on Tuesday was the longest outing for any Tribe hurler this season and improved his overall record to 3-2.

PATIENCE AT THE PLATE: On Tuesday, Indians 1B **Steve Pearce** drew a walk for the third straight contest and fifth time in the Tribe's previous three games. The right-handed slugger has now reached base in 13 consecutive games, including ten walks and just five strikeouts during that stretch. Pearce also leads the club with 19 walks on the season with Indians INF **Brian Bixler** ranking 2nd with 15 and CF **Andrew McCutchen** ranking 3rd with 14. McCutchen has also struck out just twice in the month of May, and has drawn nine walks during the same stretch. McCutchen now has 14 walks and 11 strikeouts on the season, after finishing last season with 87 strikeouts and a team-best 68 free passes.

LEHIGH VALLEY IRONPIGS (www.IronPigsBaseball.com)

HERE WE GO, ANTONIO: Today the 'Pigs received LHP **Antonio Bastardo** from Double-A Reading. To make room, RHP **Jason Anderson** was assigned to Reading. Bastardo, ranked as the No. 9 Prospect in the system by *Baseball America*, was 2-2, 1.82 in 9 G, 5 GS for the R-Phils (34.2 IP, 21 H, 7 R, 7 ER, 7 BB, 39 K, .178). He began with 4 relief outings (1-0, 1.23, 2 SV) before 5 GS (1-2, 1.98, 27.1 IP, 15 H, 6 R, 6 ER, 6 BB, 31 K, .161). Anderson had allowed just 1 R in his last 8 G (12.0 IP).

SAY IT AIN'T SO, CERVI: After starting in the first 35 G (reaching safely in 33), INF **Mike Cervenak** was placed on the DL May 17 with a right wrist fracture (HBP, **Tommy Hanson** on Saturday night) -- and a time-table for his return is not yet known. The IronPigs are 9-22 (.290) when he has been out of the lineup in all-time. He is batting .326-3-23 this season and reached base safely in 22 consecutive games April 17-May 10.

REHABS: LHP **J.C. Romero** made a rehab appearance with the 'Pigs Tuesday (L, 1.0 IP, 2 H, R, ER, BB, 2 K). According to MLB policy, he has 16 games to prepare for his return from a 50-game suspension for violating MLB's Banned Substance Policy. He was suspended January 6. Other notable rehabs at Coca-Cola Park have included OF **Shane Victorino** (4/26-4/27/08), RHP **Rudy Seanez** (8/11/08), C **Carlos Ruiz** (4/25-5/1), Boston RHP **Daisuke Matsuzaka** (6/16/08) & SS **Julio Lugo** (4/24-4/26/09), and Detroit LHP **Dontrelle Willis** (5/1/09).

BACON BITS: INF **Pablo Ozuna** has hit safely in his last 13 G (19-45, .422-0-4) -- passing **Rich Thompson's** 9-gamer as the '09 LHV-high. Ozuna holds the modern-day Phillies' Triple-A record for hitting streak at 27 G from 7/27-8/24/04 (SWB Red Barons)... OF **John Mayberry** has hit safely in 9 of his last 11 G (12-40, .300-2-6). In his last 26 G, is batting .295-6-21 (28-95, 7 2B, 9 BB)... OF **Rich Thompson** is a perfect 9-9 in SB (100%) this season and is now 34-36 (94%) in his LHV career... INF **Jason Donald** leads all IL shortstops by having not committed an error in his 31 G (161 chances)... RHP **Mike Koplove** hasn't allowed an ER in last 13 G (1-1, 2 SV, 2 H, 16.1 IP, 11 H, 5 R, 8 BB, 18 K)... The 'Pigs snapped their 8-game losing streak Tuesday -- their longest skid since a 9-gamer from 4/16-4/24/08. The longest in team history is 11 (4/3-4/13) -- the first 11 games in IronPigs history... The 'Pigs lost back-to-back one-run games (5/17-18) -- and have lost their last four such games... Despite the fair start (14-15 in 29 G), LHV is on pace to go 57-87... the 'Pigs finished 55-89 in '08.

LOUISVILLE BATS (www.BatsBaseball.com)

SEVEN-GAME SKID: With Tuesday's loss, the Bats losing streak has now reached seven games, its longest such streak since 2001 (6/16-6/22). The last time the team lost eight straight was when the 2000 RiverBats lost a franchise-high 11 games (8/3-8/13). Since becoming a Reds affiliate in 2000, the past nine years' season-high losing streaks are: 2008 (4), 2007 (5), 2006 (6, 2x), 2005 (5, 2x), 2004 (4, 5x), 2003 (6, 2x), 2002 (4, 4x), 2001 (7) and 2000 (11 – franchise record). The Bats were swept by the Tides for their first four-game sweep of the season and their first four-game sweep since they lost four straight on the road vs. Columbus at Cooper Stadium in 2006 (6/30-7/3).

ONE WIN TRIP: The last time the Bats had one win on a road trip of 7 games or more was 5/4-5/11, 2006 when they were 1-6 in a trip that was slated for 8 games (one game postponed in Charlotte). The last time the Bats were 2-6 on a road trip was 5/17-5/24, 2005 (Buffalo & Scranton/Wilkes-Barre). The last time Louisville went 1-7 on an eight-game road trip was 7/24-7/31, 2000 (0-2 Charlotte, 0-2 Norfolk, 1-3 Buffalo).

DREW STUBBS GOES YARD: OF **Drew Stubbs** homered Tuesday for his first of the season after hitting a combined seven between Louisville (2) and Chattanooga (5) last year. Stubbs has hit safely in 19 of his last 24 (4/23-present), compiling a .356 (31-87) average with 10 runs, 12 doubles, 14 stolen bases and 12 RBI during that stretch. In those 24 games, he's raised his average from .179 to its current mark of .306.

ERRORS HAUNTING BATS: The Bats lead the IL in errors with 45 & on the season, having committed at least one error in 26 of 39 games. They are also last in the IL in fielding percentage (.967) & double plays (23), and are T-13th in assists (329).

NORFOLK TIDES (www.NorfolkTides.com)

WINNING WAYS: Norfolk enters play today riding an eight-game winning streak, Norfolk's third winning streak this season of at least four games. Over the first two seasons as an Orioles affiliate, the Tides only registered two winning streaks of four games, as Norfolk won four straight from June 17-20 during the 2007 season and eight straight from July 4-11 a year ago. Earlier this season Norfolk won nine consecutive games from April 15 to April 24, a streak that was just one game shy of the Tides franchise record, a 10-game winning streak set in 1969 - the Tides first in the International League.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME: Norfolk has outscored its opponents 72-38 in 16 games at home this season, and the Tides enter play today with a 13-3 mark at Harbor Park, the best home record in the International League. Norfolk has also won each of its last eight games at home, the second-longest winning streak in Harbor Park history. Norfolk won nine straight home contests from June 21 to July 2 during the 1993 season - the Tides inaugural year at Harbor Park.

ON THE OFFENSIVE: Norfolk enter play today tied with Columbus for the International League lead with a .281 team batting average. The Tides are also 2nd in the IL with 187 runs scored and have struck out the 2nd-fewest number of times in the League (234). Norfolk has won 14 of its last 16 games and has outscored its opponents 77-31 over that stretch.

PAWTUCKET RED SOX (www.PawSox.com)

NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN: The Pawtucket Red Sox and the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees meet tonight for the first time since last September 7 - when Scranton's **Shelley Duncan** drilled a 2-run walk-off HR in the bottom of the 10th-inning to give the Yankees a 2-0 victory and end the PawSox season in Game 4 of the International League semi-final playoff series - as the two rivals open a 4-game holiday weekend series at McCoy Stadium this evening at 7:05. Last September, Scranton/WB defeated the PawSox 3 games to 1 in the playoffs (after the clubs battled to an 8-8 draw during the regular-season series) and the Yankees would then go on to capture their first-ever Governors' Cup Championship. Tonight the 2nd-place PawSox look for a little revenge and the chance to creep closer to the 1st-place Yankees as the teams enter play tonight in virtually the same position they ended the 2008 regular-season in. Last year Scranton/WB won the IL North division by 2½-games over the PawSox. This season the Yankees are again atop the division as they lead the PawSox by 3½-games coming into tonight. A Pawtucket victory tonight, however, would move the Sox as close to the Yanks as they have been since April 13 (-2.0 GB).

PAW PRINTS: PawSox RHP **Clay Buchholz** had his consecutive scoreless inning streak stopped at 24 innings on Tuesday afternoon when he allowed a solo HR to Buffalo's **Fernando Martinez** with 2 outs in the 3rd inning. Buchholz, who still owns the 3rd-best ERA in the League (2-0, 1.60), began his shutout streak back on April 27 and was not scored upon in his first three starts in May until Tuesday when he allowed 3 runs in 4.1 innings during Pawtucket's 4-3 victory over the Bisons (the first time he has given up more than 2 runs in any outing this season)...Fellow RHP **Michael Bowden** currently has an 11.1 scoreless inning streak alive and he has allowed just 1 ER in his last 22 innings over his last three starts. Bowden, who leads the IL with his 0.86 ERA in 7 GS, has held opponents to a .136 batting average which is among the lowest in all of Minor League Baseball...Boston Red Sox infielder **Kevin Youkilis** played two games with the PawSox this week during a brief injury rehab assignment (going 0-6). He returned to the Red Sox line-up on Wednesday and had 3 hits raising his average to a Major League best .404. "Youk" was the sixth Boston Red Sox player to rehab with the PawSox already this season following INF **Julio Lugo** (April 22), OF **Jonathan Van Every** (April 22), OF **Mark Kotsay** (May 2), OF **Rocco Baldelli** (May 4), and RHP **Daisuke Matsuzaka** (May 5).

ROCHESTER RED WINGS (www.RedWingsBaseball.com)

DEAD WOOD: The Red Wings offense has struggled the last seven games batting just .186 (41-221) as a team. Rochester has lost five of those seven games and has scored just 19 runs (2.7 runs per game). This comes right on the heels of a nine-game stretch that saw the Red Wings offense catch fire batting .313 (102-326) as a team.

THE LUCKY NUMBER IS 4: So far this season if the Red Wings offense scores four runs in a game there's a great chance the pitching staff will make it stand. Rochester has a 17-2 record when the Wings score four runs or more in a game. The only losses Rochester has when scoring four runs or more in a game are April 22 (an 8-7 loss at Pawtucket in 11 innings) and April 25 (17-14 loss vs. Scranton/Wilkes-Barre in 13 innings).

MAY...BE A RECORD: The Red Wings hold a 12-8 record so far in May. If Rochester can post a 6-5 record the last 11 games in May they would finish with 18 wins (18-13 record) in May. It would only be the third time (1995: 18-12 and 1997: 19-11) since 1980 when month-to-month records begin that Rochester has finished the month of May with 18 or more wins. Rochester has not had a 20-win May since monthly records start.

SCRANTON/WILKES-BARRE YANKEES (www.SWBYankees.com)

BIZZARE WEEK IN THE IL: The last 10 games for the Yankees have been about as strange as you could possibly imagine. It began with a Scranton/Wilkes-Barre franchise record 45.0-inning stretch without scoring a run. After getting shutout in four straight games (two by Louisville and two by Charlotte), SWB finally broke through and picked up a run Friday against the Knights, the first of back-to-back shutouts against Charlotte to involve the Yankees in six straight shutouts (2-4). After not scoring for 45.0 innings, Scranton/Wilkes-Barre pitchers tossed 27.0 innings of shutout baseball to come within 5.1 innings of another franchise record.

WHERE DID THE OFFENSE GO?: After an 11-5 drubbing of Louisville on May 8, the Yankees had the best record in Minor League Baseball at 23-5 and were the minor's top scoring team with 205 runs for an average of 7.3 runs per game. SWB was atop the International League with a team batting average of .308. In the 11 games that have followed, the Yankees have scored just 14 runs (for an average of 1.3 runs per game), been shutout four times, and have scored less than four runs in 10 of the 11 games. The team's average has dropped 32 points down to .276. While the Yankees hitters have struggled, the pitchers have thrived. Despite losing eight of 11, the SWB staff has dropped its overall ERA from 3.61 to 3.21. Over that span, the Yankees team ERA is just 2.12 and the staff has struck out 72 hitters. Scranton/Wilkes-Barre pitchers have two shutouts during the recent 3-8 slide and have allowed three runs or less in nine of the last 11 games.

DOING HIS PART: **Todd Linden** has been a model of consistency for the Yankees in 2009, having hit safely in 31 of the Yankees 39 games. The switch hitting outfielder has 13 multi-hit and 10 multi-RBI games for the Yankees and has the IL's longest hitting streak in 2009 at 19 games. Linden leads the IL with 14 doubles, is tied for the IL lead with 33 RBI, is 2nd in hits (52) and runs scored (28), and is tied for 2nd in extra-base hits (21).

STEW'S ON: **Chris Stewart** led International League catchers in 2008 by throwing out 41.3% of would-be base stealers, and he is picking up where he left off in 2009. The Yankees backstop is once again the best in the League at throwing out the enemy, gunning down 11 of 24 would-be base stealers for a 45.8% success rate. At the beginning of May, Stewart was at 50% but had only had six stolen bases attempted against him. In the month of May he has thrown out eight of 18 (44.4%) including four of five against Charlotte and one of one against Columbus during the Yankees most recent home stand.

SYRACUSE CHIEFS (www.SyracuseChiefs.com)

KENSING JOINS CHIEFS: 26-year-old right-handed pitcher **Logan Kensing** will join the Chiefs today after starting the season with the Florida Marlins. He was claimed on waivers by the Nationals three weeks ago and designated for assignment last week. He has spent the past five years with the Marlins organization, appearing in 48 games last season in Florida.

YEPEZ MOVES UP: The Chiefs lost three players to Washington this week including outfielder **Justin Maxwell**. Replacing Maxwell on the roster will be 28-year-old infielder **Marcos Yezpez** who spent all of 2008 at Double-A Harrisburg. The Venezuelan native was at the Nationals extended spring camp after an injury late in spring training.

REVOLVING DOOR KEEPS MOVING: For the second time this season right-hander **Jason Bergmann** was recalled to Washington on Wednesday after compiling a 1.14 ERA in 10 games with the Chiefs. The Chiefs are expected to receive fellow righty **Garrett Mock** to replace Bergmann.

STAMMEN MAKES DEBUT: The Chiefs best starter, righty **Craig Stammen**, was called to Washington and will make his Major League debut on Thursday against the Pirates at Nationals Park. Stammen will replace **Daniel Cabrera** in the Nats rotation.

TOLEDO MUD HENS (www.MudHens.com)

SHUTOUT STREAK: Toledo pitchers, before the bottom of the 3rd in Saturday's game with Charlotte, had not allowed a run for 36 straight innings dating back to the 3rd inning of last Tuesday night's (May 12) game in a 2-1 loss to Pawtucket. In addition, Toledo had back-to-back-to-back shutouts for the first time since they moved to Fifth Third Field in 2002. The most recent back-to-back shutouts by Toledo had been July 31 and August 1, 2008 (8-0 vs. IND; 3-0 at IND).

CONTRERAS GEM: **Jose Contreras** had a no-hitter into the 8th inning Monday night before 3B **Danny Worth** hit a 2-out double to end the possibility. The last no-hitter against the Mud Hens came quite a while ago. The feat was done by **Mickey Mahler** on June 1, 1977 in Richmond. Prior to Contreras, the last one-hitter against Toledo was June 9, 2006 when **Tim Kester**, **Winston Abreu** and **Julio Manon** of Ottawa combined for it.

BONDERMAN TO MAKE REHAB START: RHP **Jeremy Bonderman** will make the jump to Triple-A Toledo (from Single-A West Michigan) and start tonight at Gwinnett. Bonderman suffered from a strained shoulder muscle in Spring Training and is making progress in his recovery. In his start with the Whitecaps, he lasted seven innings and threw 94 pitches. He gave up four hits, two runs, walked one and struck out four.

WILKIN RAMIREZ PROMOTION: The Detroit Tigers recalled OF **Wilkin Ramirez** on May 19 after placing **Magglio Ordonez** on the bereavement list for personal reasons. Ramirez hit .316 with 5 HR and 13 RBI and was the co-IL leader in SB with 14 before his call. In his final three games before leaving for Detroit, Ramirez went 7-11 (.636) with 3 HR, 4 RBI and 4 runs. He has been consistent, hitting .313 in April and .320 in May.