



International League News & Notes

May 28, 2009



BUFFALO BISONS (www.Bisons.com)

OLLIE A-OK: LHP **Oliver Perez** joined the Bisons on a major league rehab assignment this week. The veteran southpaw got the start on Tuesday against Lehigh Valley and surrendered just one run on three hits in 4.1 innings of work. He did walk five, but also struck out five IronPigs' batters. Perez is hoping to come back from patellar tendinitis in his right knee which landed him on the Mets disabled list on May 6 (retroactive to May 3). He was 1-2 with a 9.97 ERA in five starts with New York this year.

F-MART SHOPPING IN THE BIG APPLE: A rash of injuries in New York helped speed up the first big league promotion for twenty-year old OF **Fernando Martinez**. The Mets #1 prospect got the call on Tuesday and drove in his first major league run that night against Washington. Martinez leaves the Bisons as the team leader in virtually every offensive category: average (.291), runs (22), hits (48), doubles (15), home runs (8) and RBI (28). He was the only Bison to appear in all of the team's first 42 games this season.

NEW LIFE FOR NIEVE: RHP **Fernando Nieve** has found a home in the Bisons rotation. The 26-year-old went to camp with the Astros but was claimed off waivers by the Mets on March 15. After beginning the year in Double-A Binghamton, Nieve is 2-0 with a 3.00 ERA in two starts with the Bisons. With a power right arm, Nieve has struck out 11 and allowed just seven hits in his first 12.0 innings with the team. Before joining the Herd, Nieve was 0-1 with a 4.91 ERA in five starts with Binghamton.

CHARLOTTE KNIGHTS (www.CharlotteKnights.com)

BECKHAM JOINS KNIGHTS: Prior to today's game the Knights received infielder **Gordon Beckham** from Double-A Birmingham. Beckham joins the Knights after playing in 38 games for the Barons. Beckham hit .299 (44-147) with 4 home runs, 22 RBI, 17 doubles and 14 walks for Birmingham. While in Double-A, Beckham primarily played shortstop but also played at second base and third base. Beckham was the White Sox 1st round pick (8th overall selection) in the 2008 first year player draft. He entered the 2009 season as the number 1 ranked prospect in the White Sox organization by *Baseball America*. Last season at the University of Georgia he was tied for 1st in the nation in home runs with 28 and finished in the top 10 in the nation in runs (2nd, 97), total bases (2nd, 221), hits (4th, 113) and slugging percentage (5th, .804).

TOP HITTER: After going 2-4 last night, INF **Keith Ginter** now has the highest batting average on the team at .330. Ginter passed teammate **Andy Phillips** who is hitting .321. Ginter spent some time on the DL earlier in the season, which currently is costing him a chance at the IL hitting title. When he went on the DL he was hitting .111 (3-27). Since the DL stint, Ginter is hitting .416 (32-77) with 3 home runs and 10 RBI. Ginter also has a .398 on-base percentage. Ginter's 106 AB in 46 Games equals 2.3 plate appearances per game - the minimum to qualify for the hitting title is 2.7.

CHARLOTTE NATIVE WISE REHABS WITH KNIGHTS: The Charlotte Knights have received outfielder **Dewayne Wise** on major league rehab assignment from the Chicago White Sox. Wise separated his shoulder on April 13 in a game at Detroit. Wise is a Charlotte native and played for the Knights last season. Wise appeared in 55 games for the Knights in 2008 and hit .319 (61-191) with 9 home runs and 23 RBI. Wise began the season with the White Sox where he played in 7 games hitting .238 (5-21) (playing in 6 games in center field and 1 in right field).

COLUMBUS CLIPPERS (www.ClippersBaseball.com)

SCORE EARLY, SCORE OFTEN: The Clippers have scored in the 1st inning in nine of the last 14 games (8-1). On the season, Columbus has put up a total of 35 runs in the 1st (most runs in any inning), going 13-5 in games in which they tally at least one run in the opening frame. For the year, the Clippers average 6.1 runs per game when they score in the 1st inning, compared to 3.8 runs per game when they do not.

INCHING TOWARDS THE RACE: **Andy Marte** is hitting .343 (37-108) after last night's 2-4 game. That would rank 5th in the IL, but Marte is still 9 plate appearances short of qualifying for the batting title. Assuming four plate appearances per game, it will take Marte seven more games to qualify, and assuming five plate appearances per game, it will take him only four more games to qualify. Currently, Columbus has two players in the top 10 with **Jordan Brown** placing 4th at .352 (51-145) and **Michael Aubrey** 10th at .321 (43-134). The last Clipper to lead the IL in hitting was **Fernando Seguinol** during his IL MVP season of 2003 (franchise-best .341).

DYNAMIC DUO: In the month of May, the Clippers have been led offensively by **Jordan Brown** (.378, 5 HR, 18 RBI) and **Andy Marte** (.360, 5 HR, 18 RBI). Both are on the verge of driving in 20 runners for the month, as they each need 2 RBI with five games left in May. The last time the Clippers had a player record 20 RBI in a month was last August when **Leonard Davis** knocked in 21. The last time two Clippers had 20 RBI in the same month was in July of 2006 when **Carlos Pena** (21) and **Mitch Jones** (20) turned the trick.

DURHAM BULLS (www.DurhamBulls.com)

HITTING THEIR STRIDE: Durham scored 13 runs last night in a 13-2 win over Rochester, the most Durham has scored on the road this season. It was the first road game in 2009 where Durham scored at least 10 runs. The Bulls collected 17 hits, a season-high total. The Bulls put up that total without hitting a homer. Durham, which leads the IL with 48 home runs, has not hit one in the series with Rochester. The Bulls are now 9-11 when the team does not homer and 20-6 in games when the team does.

ROAD TRIP: Durham is 5-2 on the eight-game road trip that concludes today in Rochester. The Bulls are 13-10 on the road this season, going 4-4 on each of its two previous road trips. The Bulls are now 12 games over .500 (29-17) overall, tying the team's high-water mark.

PEN NEARLY PERFECT: One reason for the team's success is the bullpen. Durham relievers have allowed just four runs in 24.1 innings on the current road trip. Three came on **David Winfree's** game-winning homer (5-2 Rochester victory) in the 8th inning on Tuesday.

MAY DAY: Durham is winning while showing tremendous resiliency. The Tampa Bay Rays have had five players disabled in the past week, and now the Bulls have lost five players from their roster (all while three more Durham players are injured). In the last week **Reid Brignac**, **Randy Choate**, **Joe Dillon**, **David Price** and **Dale Thayer** were promoted to the majors. Over the last four games **John Jaso**, **Ray Olmedo** and **Chris Richard** have sat out due to injury. Richard was placed on the DL Monday retroactive to the 24th with a hamstring injury. Four new players joined the Bulls this week. **Matt Hall** came from Charlotte (FSL) and **Brandon Chaves** from Montgomery (Southern). RHP **Matt DeSalvo** and INF **Henry Mateo** signed Tuesday from the independent Atlantic League. DeSalvo has played in the majors for Atlanta and the Yankees. He has IL time with Columbus, Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, and Richmond. He most recently was playing for the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs. Mateo was batting .416 in 25 games for Bridgeport.

GWINNETT BRAVES (www.GwinnettBraves.com)

GREAT TURNAROUND: Since their five-game skid from April 21-25, the Gwinnett Braves have won 21 of their last 30 games. During that stretch, the G-Braves have enjoyed two four-game winning streaks and one five-game winning streak. They have not lost more than two in a row, but their recent success hasn't done much for them in the International League South standings. Durham has won 11 of its last 14 games and Norfolk has won 12 of its last 15. With a great majority of their recent wins coming against out-of-division foes, the G-Braves have only managed to gain one game on the division-leading Tides. Teams from the South don't play each other again until the first week of July.

MY, WHAT A MAY: The Gwinnett Braves' starting pitching has been nearly unhittable all season (2.80 ERA, 217.2 IP, 69 ER), but the entire staff has stepped it up in the month of May. In 26 games this month, the G-Braves staff has pitched to a 17-9 record and a 2.29 ERA (224.0 IP, 57 ER). Led by **Tommy Hanson** with 44, the G-Braves have struck out 218 batters in this month alone. That's 8.4 strikeouts per game. Gwinnett still leads the IL in strikeouts with 383, 39 more than any other team. The G-Braves also sit atop the standings with a 2.71 ERA, 35 points lower than the rest of the League.

CANIZARES REHEATING: Gwinnett Braves slugger **Barbaro Canizares** cooled off a bit following his team and season-high 13-game hitting streak that lasted from April 26-May 8, but now he is right back on track. Canizares has hit safely in 12 of his last 14 outings, recording multiple hits in six of them (including the last three). He's batting .365 (19-52) with eight runs and 11 RBI during that span.

INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS (www.IndyIndians.com)

EXTRA MARKS THE SPOT: CF **Andrew McCutchen** slugged both a double and a home run on Wednesday in Gwinnett. Thanks to the top prospect's extra-base hits the Indians have collected an extra-base hit in all 45 games they have played this season. The two hits also raised the Indians season total to 130 extra-base hits, including 83 doubles, 32 home runs and their 15 triples which rank 2nd-best in the International League. The Tribe has also now collected an extra-base hit in every game since July 29, 2008 (79 consecutive games) and continue to pass last year's team best streak of 38 games (May 22 - June 30). With his two hits on Wednesday, McCutchen has now pulled even with 3B **Neil Walker** for the team lead with 20 extra-base hits. McCutchen added his third home run of the season as well as his ninth double to go along with is League-leading eight triples, while Walker has tallied one triple, five home runs and is 7th in the League with 14 doubles.

START ME UP: In the Indians last 11 games (May 16-27), Tribe starting pitchers have allowed just 17 runs in 60.2 innings (2.52 ERA), walked just 17 and struck out 39 on their way to a combined four victories. Indianapolis newcomer **Eric Hacker** has yet to record a decision as a member of the rotation, but has held opponents to only one run while striking out seven in 11.2 innings of work (0.77 ERA). Also leading the way for the Indians' rotation has been RHP **Virgil Vasquez**, who has allowed just two runs in his last 14 innings of work (1.29 ERA) and has won each of his last two starts.

MC"CLUTCH"EN: OF **Andrew McCutchen** is showing why he came into the 2009 season ranked as MLB.com's No. 12 prospect and as the Indianapolis Indians' top prospect. The center fielder went 3-4 with two runs, a double, a two-run home run, two RBI, a stolen base and an outfield assist on Wednesday in Gwinnett. McCutchen has yet to commit an error in 43 games and ranks among the International League's best in runs scored (1st, 37), triples (1st, 8), hits (T-6th, 51), total bases (7th, 85) and stolen bases (T-10th, 10). McCutchen has also dominated left-handers with a .360 average (18-50), 13 runs and five RBI and has turned in an impressive .315 average (41-130) in the Indians' night games this season.

SUPER SALAZAR: Indians' OF **Jeff Salazar** has reached base in 38 of the first 45 games he has played this season, his first season as a member of the Tribe. Salazar has also held two impressive hitting streaks in 2009, an eight-game hitting streak from April 17 to April 26 (12-32, 4 R, 2 RBI) and then an 11-game hitting streak from May 11 to May 22 (15-42, 6 R, 4 RBI). The outfielder has been a pest for opposing teams on the basepaths as he currently ranks 1st on the Indians and tied for 4th in the International League with 13 stolen bases. Salazar has also yet to be caught stealing, which gives him the highest stolen base percentage among the IL's top five base stealers.

LEHIGH VALLEY IRONPIGS (www.IronPigsBaseball.com)

LOST PUNCH: 1B **Andy Tracy** left the team Tuesday for the remainder of the series to be with his wife and the birth of their second child (it's a girl). Without INF **Mike Cervenak** (DL) and OF **John Mayberry** (promotion) the 'Pigs are without the entire 'heart of their lineup.' The three players comprise 19 of LHV's 29 HR (66%), 46 of 129 extra-base hits (36%), and 41 of 143 BB (29%). Without them, the team overall average drops from .247 to .234 and the slugging percentage from .382 to .337. In addition, normal hitters #1 (OF **Rich Thompson**) and #2 (SS **Jason Donald**) also missed Wednesday's game and are expected to miss Thursday, leaving Lehigh Valley without hitters 1-5 in their normal lineup.

TRANSACTIONS: Between Friday and Monday the 'Pigs made 12 transactions. They added LHP **Sergio Escalona** and INF **Miguel Cairo** from Philadelphia, INF **Jorge Velandia** from Williamsport (R), RHP **Tyler Walker** from the DL, LHP **Antonio Bastardo** from Reading, RHP **Steven Register** off waivers from Colorado Springs and LHP **J.C. Romero** on an ML Rehab. They lost OF **John Mayberry** to Philadelphia, RHP **Justin Lehr** to a trade, RHP **Jason Anderson** to Reading, and released RHP **Dave Borkowski** and RHP **Steve Green**.

GETTING DEFENSIVE: LHV leads the IL in fielding percentage (.981) and the 'Pigs have now turned an IL-best 48 double plays. The next closest teams have 45. After starting the first 35 games without an error at SS, INF **Jason Donald** committed his first 2 errors at shortstop Sunday. He started errorless in his first 174 chances. He still leads all IL shortstops in fielding PCT.

BACON BITS: LHV is 1-23 w/ RISP in the last 2 G. In the last 11 G (4-7), the 'Pigs are batting just .134 (13-97) w/ RISP. They were 0-11 Tuesday versus Buffalo and 0-11 Sunday versus Durham... LHV starters have "quality starts" in 8 of the last 10 G -- going 4-2, 3.45 ERA (57.1 IP, 22 ER). In the previous 10 G, LHV starters had just 2 QS -- going 1-6, 8.57 ERA, .351 (49.1, 74 H, 50 R, 47 ER, 12 HR, 211 AB)... The 'Pigs are 1-6 in their last 7 one-run games; but the 2-1 win Tuesday snapped a 6-G skid... Despite the fair start (14-15 in 29 G), LHV is on pace to go 58-86 -- they finished 55-89 in 2008.

LOUISVILLE BATS (www.BatsBaseball.com)

AS MAY WINDS DOWN (10-17): With four games remaining, the Bats are guaranteed their first losing month of May since 2006 when the team went 11-16. It will be the franchise's ninth losing May in its history (since 1982) and its fourth while a Reds affiliate (since 2000) - 2000 (12-18), 2005 (14-15), 2006 (11-16). Only Lehigh Valley (8), Syracuse (8) and Toledo (7) have fewer wins than Louisville this month.

RACKING UP L'S & ND'S: Over the past 12 games (since May 15), Louisville starting pitchers are 2-6 with four no decisions; however, they have nine quality starts and a 3.36 ERA (72.1 IP, 27 ER). During that 12-game stretch, offensively, they are batting .227 (83-365) with 38 runs (3.16 runs/game) and six home runs. The offense has also been one-hit twice in the last three games by Pawtucket pitching. The bullpen on the other hand has given up six home runs and is 1-3 with two saves, two blown saves and a 7.79 ERA (32.1 IP, 28 ER).

A WIN FOR PETTY: Tuesday Night, LHP **Adam Pettyjohn** (1-5, 4.35 ERA) recorded his first win since last season (Aug. 28 vs. Indianapolis). He tied the franchise record with 15 victories (**Ralph Citarella**, 1982) and 28 starts (six others) last season. Pettyjohn has bounced back and forth between the bullpen and starting rotation this season after being a starter for his entire career. As a starter, he is 1-3 with a 5.14 ERA. When pitching in relief, he is 0-2 with a 2.70 ERA.

KELCH IN THE QUEEN CITY: Bats radio broadcaster **Jim Kelch** has been in Cincinnati since Friday, broadcasting Reds games. Kelch is scheduled to be on the air for 27 games this season for the Reds. He returns to Louisville tonight to call the final game of the Pawtucket series alongside **Matt Andrews**.

NORFOLK TIDES (www.NorfolkTides.com)

WIETERS GETS THE CALL: The Baltimore Orioles announced on Tuesday that Tides catcher **Matt Wieters** will be promoted to Baltimore on Friday. Wieters, who entered the season as the top prospect in all of baseball according to *Baseball America*, hit .305 with five home runs and 30 RBI in 39 games for Norfolk. Wieters was enjoying a fantastic month of May, as he had hit .330 with four homers and 25 RBI in 25 games for the Tides this month.

STRIKING PERFORMANCE: In Norfolk's 4-3 victory over Rochester on May 22, **Dave Hernandez** struck out 14 batters (including the first seven of the game), the most by a Norfolk pitcher in a game since **Octavio Dotel** tied the franchise record with 17 punchouts on May 27, 1999. Dotel shares the franchise mark with **Sid Fernandez**, who struck out 17 on May 7, 1984 as well as May 2, 1985. Hernandez combined with **Bob McCrory** and **Jim Miller** to strike out 17 Red Wings batters, matching the Tides franchise record for most punchouts in a game. The 14 strikeouts by Hernandez were the second-most in his career, as he K'd 18 batters for Class-A Frederick on September 2, 2007.

BIRDS FLYING HIGH: Baltimore Orioles affiliates enter play today with the best overall record among major league organizations, as Norfolk (30-15), Bowie (23-20), Frederick (23-23) and Delmarva (24-19) have combined to go 100-77 so far this season, ranking just ahead of the Milwaukee Brewers (98-78) and New York Yankees (97-81). Last season, Baltimore affiliates finished with a 390-437 record, 25th among major league organizations.

PAWTUCKET RED SOX (www.PawSox.com)

TWO FOR ONE SPECIAL: The Pawtucket Red Sox have thrown a pair of one-hitters to win two of the first three games of their current series in Louisville this week. The PawSox - behind **Clay Buchholz** with a CG 1-hit shutout - beat the Bats, 3-0 on Monday afternoon. Buchholz, who took a perfect game into the 9th inning before allowing a lead-off single to **Danny Richar** (the only Louisville batter to reach base), turned in the first CG by a Sox pitcher this season - 9 IP, 1 H, 0 R, 0 BB, 7 SO. Ironically, the PawSox have had the only two 9-inning perfect games in the last 57 years of International League play as **Bronson Arroyo** turned in a perfect performance on August 10, 2003 vs. Buffalo after **Tomo Ohka** did likewise on June 1, 2000 vs. Charlotte. Furthermore, Buchholz is no stranger to that type of success as on September 1, 2007 at Fenway Park Clay no-hit the Baltimore Orioles 10-0 in just his second major league start - thus becoming only the third pitcher since 1900 to throw a no-hitter in either his first or second major league start. Yesterday afternoon the PawSox got a combined 1-hitter from **Charlie Zink** (7.1 IP), **Jose Vaquedano** (.2 IP) and **Fernando Cabrera** (1 IP) to again blank the Bats, 2-0. A **Michael Griffin** infield single with one out in the 4th inning was the only Louisville hit. The 2-0 triumph marked Pawtucket's League-leading 9th shutout victory already this season as 36% of PawSox victories this season have been earned in shutouts (9 of 25). Five different PawSox pitchers have started games that finished as shutouts - Buchholz (3), **Michael Bowden** (2), **Kris Johnson** (2), **Daisuke Matsuzaka** (1), and Zink (1). The club-record for shutouts in a season is 15 set in 1977. The Sox are well on their way to shattering that long-standing mark.

MAY DAY: The PawSox are 15-11 in the month of May with 4 games remaining this month (1 more victory guarantees a winning month). If the Sox get that one win they will post their franchise-record seventh consecutive winning (full) month dating back to April of last season. May standouts on the mound include: Buchholz (3-0, 0.80 in 5 GS), closer **Fernando Cabrera** (0-0, 0.80 in 8 RA with 7 SV in 7 SV opportunities), Zink (4-1, 2.22 in 5 games), and reliever **Marcus McBeth** (1-0, 2.08 in 9 RA). Offensively, the PawSox are hitting just .225 as a team this month, but catcher **Dusty Brown** leads the way with a .303 average. Defensive whiz 3B **Angel Chavez** leads the club with 11 RBI and is tied for the team lead with 3 HR in May.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS: The PawSox have had great success in the day thus far going 14-4 in daylight affairs (13-3 in afternoon affairs and 1-1 in morning starts). The Sox are 11-16 in night games this season.

ROCHESTER RED WINGS (www.RedWingsBaseball.com)

I WANNA BE LIKE MIKE: Red Wings reliever **Mike Gosling** is tied with Gwinnett RHP **Charlie Morton** for the International League lead with six wins. If Gosling can finish the season with the most wins in the IL he would become the first reliever to lead the IL in wins since 1991, when RHP **Mark Dewey** of Tidewater shared the IL lead with five other pitchers (12 wins). Dewey recorded 12 wins in 48 appearances. RHP **Julio DePaula** is the last reliever to lead Rochester in wins (12) in 2007. DePaula was the first Red Wings reliever to lead the team in wins since 1960 when knuckleball reliever RHP **Bob Tiefenauer** shared the team lead in wins (11) with RHP **Willard Schmidt**.

IT'S NOT A SPRING, IT'S A MARATHON: Going into today's game outfielder **Dustin Martin** has played in 43 of the Red Wings' 44 games this season. Since 1988 only four players (one player has done it twice) have played 135 or more games in a season (**Danny Clyburn** with 137 games in 1997, **Garrett Jones** with 140 games in 2006, **Denard Span** with 139 games in 2007, and **Jason Pridie** and Jones each played in 138 games in 2008).

DEAD WOOD: The Red Wings offense has struggled the last 13 games, batting .196 (85-434) as a team. Rochester has lost nine of those 13 games. Rochester has six or less hits in six of the 13 games.

START ME UP: The Red Wings starting pitchers have just nine wins in the first 44 games of the 2009 season (9-15 record). The starters are on pace to have just 29 wins, which would be the lowest win total by Red Wings starters since 1989 when those stats start. The next lowest total is 35 wins in 2003.

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

FIRST SLUMP OF THE SEASON: **Todd Linden** began the season for the Yankees by getting hits in two of his first three games. He then went hitless in two straight before beginning the IL's longest hitting streak of the season and running it up to 19 games in a row before having it stopped May 5 at Indianapolis. A prolonged slump for Linden was going hitless in back-to-back games, which prior to the team's current road trip had only happened that one time (April 12-13). Linden went 16 straight at-bats (three + games) without getting a hit before a 7th inning single on Wednesday night at Syracuse in the first game of a doubleheader. Later in Game 2 he picked up his first RBI since the opening game of the Yankees current road trip (May 21). The switch hitter's average has dropped from .339 to .315 over his last four games.

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE: After beginning the season 4-0 with five saves, the SWB bullpen finally had a spot of trouble, losing its first game of the season on April 21 to Buffalo. The Yankees pen then picked up wins in 9 of its next 10 decisions to raise its collective mark to 13-2 with nine saves following **Jason Stephens** picking up a win in relief at Louisville on May 8. Since that win the pen has struggled, losing its last four decisions, and has just one save to its credit since May 15. The numbers will be tabulated into the starter's data but if you count the loss on Monday night by **J.B. Cox** (12 games but just one start), the bullpen pitchers are 0-5 in the Yankees last 16 games.

JACKSON KEEPS HITTING: **Austin Jackson** seems to have the Triple-A thing relatively figured out. In 40 games in 2009, the Yankees top prospect according to *Baseball America* has hit safely in 33 of them and has had four different hitting streaks of six games or more. Jackson picked up his first four-hit game at the Triple-A level this past Sunday in Pawtucket and has a total of 16 multi-hit games, which is good for the team lead. Jackson is currently riding a 10-game hitting streak in which he is hitting .421 (16-38) with a triple, four doubles, six RBI and five runs scored. His average has increased from .342 to .361, good for 3rd in the IL.

OWNING THE NORTH: Since retaking the lead in the IL North last season from Pawtucket on August 4, Scranton/Wilkes-Barre has spent the last 80 game days atop the IL's North Division. The lead has been as narrow as one half game (four days in August of 2008) and the beginning of the 2009 season was a deadlock through the first three games of the year until SWB regained the outright division lead. The biggest lead the Yankees have had has since recapturing the division lead last August has been 6.0 games, following a May 4, 2009 win at Indianapolis.

SYRACUSE CHIEFS (www.SyracuseChiefs.com)

BACK-TO-BACK TIMES FIVE: An interesting statistic popped up this week when a Chiefs pitcher gave up back-to-back home runs for the fifth time this season. Recently released **Gary Glover** had it happen twice against Rochester and Indianapolis, while current Nationals pitcher **Jordan Zimmermann** (Rochester), **Jesus Colome** (Norfolk), and current Chiefs pitcher **Marco Estrada** (Louisville) have also contributed to this record accomplishment.

MIKE MACDOUGAL'S TIME IS UP: Chiefs right-handed pitcher **Mike MacDougal** has left the Chiefs and will either become a free agent or join the Washington Nationals in the next 48 hours. MacDougal made eight appearances for the Chiefs this season, but had an out in his contract before the end of the month.

PATTERSON TURNS IT ON: Veteran outfielder **Corey Patterson** was off to a terrible start, batting only .123 with seven hits through May 8. During the past two-plus weeks he has batted .360, going 18 for his last 50 to raise his average to a season high .234.

TOLEDO MUD HENS (www.MudHens.com)

DEAD WOOD: During the Hens' ten-game losing streak that ended on Wednesday, Toledo hit .197 (63-320) and scored only 26 runs (2.6 runs per game). They still are, however, in the middle of a twelve-game road losing streak.

ENDED STREAK: After a tough defensive play, OF **Jason Tyner** was charged with an error Tuesday night. The miscue marks his first in 181 games played in the field. His last error came May 3, 2007 at Tampa Bay.

STAR STUDDERED NIGHT: While a Fifth Third Field promotion hosted Poison's Brett Michaels on Tuesday evening, Mud Hens fans were also treated to OF **Marcus Thames** and RHP **Jeremy Bonderman** the same day. Both are with Toledo on MLB rehab.

THE ROOKIES: The Hens had two of their major contributors make their major league debuts in the past two weeks and are now back with Toledo. LHP **Lucas French** and OF **Wilkin Ramirez** played well in their brief stays. French pitched three scoreless innings and Ramirez hit a home run in his one game in the bigs.