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SYRACUSE CHIEFS

TOLEDO MUD HENS

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 22, 2009

LEHIGH VALLEY'S TRACY & TOLEDO'S FRENCH NAMED IL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

The International League announced today that Lehigh Valley first baseman Andy Tracy and Toledo pitcher Lucas French have been named the League's Batter and Pitcher of the Week for the period from June 15-21. Each player is the second member of his club to win an IL weekly award in 2009. Tracy joins two-time winner Justin Lehr (now with Louisville) while French follows outfielder Don Kelly.

ANDY TRACY, Lehigh Valley IronPigs

IL BATTER OF THE WEEK

Over the last seven days first baseman Andy Tracy led the IronPigs to one of the best weeks in the franchise's brief history. Lehigh Valley won all six games in which Tracy played, giving the team its first ever six-win road trip. Tracy hit .381 for the week and led the League with 10 RBI and 9 runs scored. He finished 2nd in the circuit in home runs (3), on-base percentage (.533), slugging percentage (.952), and extra-base hits (6). Friday night in Norfolk Tracy served up one of the best performances in Lehigh Valley history, setting a single-game franchise record with 4 runs scored and tying franchise marks with 2 home runs, 5 RBI, and 9 total bases. Tracy is now 2nd in the International League with 47 RBI and tied for 2nd with 12 home runs. Seven of his long balls this season have given the IronPigs the lead in a game, and five (including two this week) have proven to be game-winners.

35-year-old Andy Tracy is in his 14th season as a professional player. Originally drafted by Montreal in 1996, Tracy's career has included 140 games in the Major Leagues with the Expos (2000-01), Rockies (2004), and the Phillies (2008). Last year Tracy hit .288 for Lehigh Valley in 124 games with 22 home runs and 85 RBI, and was twice named IL Batter of the Week. Tracy is a native of Bowling Green, Ohio.

	<u>G</u>	<u>AVG</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>SLUG</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SB</u>
Week:	6	.381	8	21	9	3	0	3	10	.952	8	1
Season:	60	.242	51	211	37	13	0	12	47	.474	35	5

LUCAS FRENCH, Toledo Mud Hens

IL PITCHER OF THE WEEK

Left-hander Lucas French displayed dominating stuff in two starts last week, but surprisingly has only a 0-1 record to show for it. He far and away led the International League with 16.0 innings pitched (next highest was 13.1) and 18 strikeouts (next highest was 12). Last Monday on the road against Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, French was credited with a complete game despite losing 1-0 to the IL North leaders. He allowed just one run on seven hits and one walk in 8.0 innings and matched his season-high with 8 strikeouts, but his teammates mustered only two hits against three Yankee hurlers. Yesterday afternoon at Rochester, French was even better. Pitching in the second game of a doubleheader, he limited the Red Wings to one run on four hits while issuing no walks and striking out 10, a new season-high. Once again French threw 8.0 strong innings (in a game originally scheduled for 7 frames), but he left with the score tied 1-1 and did not factor in the decision. French is now 4-4 on the year, though his 3.01 ERA and .240 opponent's batting average suggest he has been better than his record indicates.

23-year-old Lucas French is in his first season playing above the Double-A level. Last year with Erie he went 9-11 with a 4.02 ERA in 27 games. This May he made his Major League debut for the Tigers, appearing in two games as a reliever. He did not allow a run in 3.0 innings. French is a native of Salina, Kansas.

	<u>G</u>	<u>GS</u>	<u>CG</u>	<u>SHO</u>	<u>W-L</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>SV</u>
Week:	2	2	1	0	0-1	1.13	16.0	11	2	2	1	18	0
Season:	12	12	1	0	4-4	3.01	74.2	66	30	25	18	64	0