North Carolina APBA Baseball League

REGISTER

An Official Publication of the NCABL - Established 1992

Vol. 5, No. 9 **Knarro, Mt. Holly Duel In The Wild, Wild West** February 25 1997

NL Report - Roadies and Lions stand firm on the road, fold at home.

That home field disadvantage, it's back in the NCABL. Knarro and Mt. Holly faced each other twice this month, 4 times in PA and the other 4 in NJ. The Roadies managed to squeak out game 4 at home while the Lions went down all 4 times in Mt. Holly! Both teams limped through the month, Knarro at 9-11, Mt. Holly at 8-12. Ollie Brown at .362 led the Roadies while Henry Aaron continued his MVP season (.403, 18 RBI) with help from Merv Rettenmund (.345). Knarro holds a 1 ½ game lead with two months to go.

In the NL East, the Mechanicsburg Flash have just about sealed up the division. The Flash (16-4), behind Don Wilson's 5-0, 3 shutout month, picked up 5 ½ games on Louisville (12-11). Of concern for the Flash is the poor perfomance of slugger Willie Stargell (.181). The Redbirds now turn their attention to the wildcard slot, 2 games behind Mt. Holly.

The National League also welcomes new Virginia manager, Phil Preston. Phil gets to face both Louisville and Mt. Holly his first month at home.

AL Report - Winchester blazes with an 18-2 mark; Hopewell, Berwyn pace the East while Ridgewood falters at 5-15.

The Rifles of Winchester led the AL in both hitting and pitching during February, outscoring their opponents by a 102-42 margin. Tom Seaver (5-0) and Vida Blue (4-0) outdid their more publicized teammates Wood and Lolich.

Cooperstown (13-7) picked up 4 games on Snowflake (9-11) in the wildcard race; the Giants are now a game behind the Cards. Berwyn also had a 13-7 month keeping pace with Cooperstown, and are still 4 games back. Joe Torre led the Barons hitting .386.

Besides Berwyn in the East, the big boys this month were the Flying Dutchmen of Hopewell. The Dutchmen had the East's top record at 12-6. Bart Johnson tossed 2 shutouts and led the AL in ERA at 0.38 (8 hits, 1 run in 23.2 IP). Ted Simmons ended the month with a 10 game hitting streak intact.

East leader Ridgewood apparently took the month off. Only Rusty Staub (16 RBI) and Dick Allen (.329) had productive months.

Correction on No Hitters

Last month it was reported that Mike Cuellar almost had the league's 1st no hitter this year, but that was not true! Virginia's Jim Perry no hit the Roadies in October.

Speaking of no hitters, we almost had our 2nd one in Montgomery. Winchester's Vida Blue went 8 1/3 innings of no hit ball until PH Ike Brown laced a double to the gap in right. Blue got the next two batters to finish up with a one hitter.

Another Change in Montgomery

Allan Silverwood found that the retro format was not as enjoyable as he had hoped and has asked to be replaced. So who would be the best candidate to take over the Fire Ants? How about Scott Parks! Scott's schedule will allow him to begin play again in 1972 so we welcome him back! The league will finish out the final two months for the Montgomery franchise. Instructions should be sent to Jesse Elicker.

In This Issue

- NL, AL Reports……..…pg 1
- January Highlights…….pg 2-6
- Rule Proposal Comments……pg 6-8
- New Manager & Other News……..…pg 8
- Standings and Stats…...……..…pg 9-11

January Highlights

From Louisville:

The Redbireds had a break-even homestand in February at 5-5. The bats finally came alive as Louisville hit .272 and averaged almost 5 runs per game. Vets Norm Cash, Tony Oliva, and Caesar Tovar lead the attack with 4 homers and 20 rbi combined. Backup catcher Jerry Grote played most of the homestand spelling regular Dick Dietz and responed with a solid .300 in six starts. Still the birds could do no better than break even for the Home stand. On the hill workhorse Andy Messersmith picked up 2 wins in three starts, but Bert Blyleven lost his only 2 decisions despite a 3.20 ERA.

Division rival Satellite Beach opened the stand with a four game series. Game#1 went to Louisville 5-2 behind Andy Messersmith. Tony Oliva homered and knocked in 3 to lead the attack. Game#2 was a Sat. Beach blowout 9-2, the winner Dick Bosman. "Cito" Gaston had 3 hits a homer and 4 RBI for the Saturns. Game#3, a 8-7 Redbird victory was the best game of the series. Campy's double in the bottom of the 9th drove in Paul Schaal with the game winner. That man "Cito" Gaston again drove in 4 with another homer, but it was not enough to beat the Birds. Game#4 also went to Louisville 6-2 as Mel Stotlemyre pitched a complete game victory besting Skip Lockwood. Gaston homered again, the third game in a row for the Saturns.

Riverview came to town next and took 2 of 3 from Louisville. The "Rats" only got 6 hits in the first game off Bill Parsons and lost 7-3. Norm Cash went 3-3 with a homer and 4 RBI to pace the Birds. Games 2 and 3 went to Riverview by 3-2 and 4-3 scores. Al Kaline's single in the 10th made a loser of Mike Marshall in the second game. Doyle Alexander held the Birds to 5 hits and 2 runs through 7 2/3. Vets Steve Dunning and former Redbird Pat Jarvis held on to get the Rats the win. Game#3 went to Riverview despite another fine job by Andy Messersmith. Again the Rats only got 6 hits, but they got 3 runs in the 4th as Messersmith got suddenly wild (3 walks), a single and a sac fly - and that was enough.

The Minneapolis Loons finished off the homestand, also taking 2 of 3. The Loons took game#1 6-5 getting the winning run in the top of the 9th on a single by the "Killer" Harmon Killebrew, who also homered (surprise) in this game. Loon Ace Tom Burgmeier got the save. The Redbirds took game#2 , 8-3 as they jumped all over Jim Longborg for 5 runs in the 3rd inning. Pete Rose went 3-3 with 3 RBI for Louisville. The final game went to Minneapolis 2-1 a real pitcher's duel between Pat Dobson and Bert Blyleven. Luis Aparicio's Sac Fly in the Loons 2 run 4th was enough for Dobson, who only allowed 3 hits.

From Ohio:

Louisville 3 at OHIO 3 - Louisville won 3 of first 4 games but Ohio battled back to split the 6-game series. Several outstanding pitching performances: Louisville – 1-hit shutout by Parsons (single in 7th inning was only hit off him) and 2-hit shutout by Messersmith; Ohio – 2-hitter CG by Kirby and 4-hit shutout by Peters. Nettles won an extra-inning game for Ohio with a 2-run HR with 2 outs in 10th and Campaneris won one for Louisville with a 12th inning single. Parsons gave up only 4 hits in his 2nd start of series but lost 2-1 to Buckeyes' ace Kirby.

Hopewell 2 at OHIO 1 - Billings knocks in both runs in a 2-1 win for Ohio as Reed goes 6 innings before turning things over to the bullpen. A 2-hit shutout by Johnson ties the series and Hopewell wins the finale 4-3 in 11 innings, Harrelson with the GWH.

From Mechanicsburg:

Mt. Holly (0) at Mech (3) - A battle of playoff contenders gave witness to the value of good pitching as Gullett, Wise and Dierker led a Flash staff that allowed just 5 runs. Gm 1 featured the longball, with homers coming from Al Oliver, Stargell, Aaron and Reggie Smith. Smith's was a 2 run shot in the 8th to win the game for the Flash. In gm 2 Rick Wise pitched a shutout as the Flash won 6-0 over Lion ace Juan Marichal. Bonds and Wise (he has 6!) each hit solo HRs. Larry Dierker went into the 6th, gave way to Paul Lindblad, and Bob Moose finished up a 6-1 win. Oliver and Pepitone traded solo HRs, but three Lion errors led to runs which decided the game. For the series, the big power show of Aaron vs Stargell never happened as each was held to 1 HR.

Wisconsin (2) at Mech (2) - The Timber Rattlers have annually proven to be the toughest team the Flash play. Fergie Jenkins shutout the Flash in gm 1 by a 4-0 score. Greg Luzinski's PH 3 run double in the 6th blew open a 1-0 pitcher's duel. Bill Gogolewski bested Larry Dierker in gm 2, winning 2-1. Colbert homered for the Rattlers. Gogo lost his shutout in the 9th when Stargell doubled in Smith with 2 out. The Flash come back to win games 3 & 4. Bobby Bonds' 2 run HR in the 8th off closer Jim York gave Don Wilson a 3-2 victory. Pinson, Smith and Colbert hit solo HRs to account for all of the other scoring. In the finale, Don Gullett's single in the 2nd plated the final run in a 2-1 Flash win. Murcer continued his hot streak from last month, as he homered in the 1st.

Ridgewood (0) at Mech (3) - This was a surprise. The big bats of the Redlegs rolled over and only scored 7 runs in the series. Gm 1 put Marty Pattin up against

Rick Wise. Tito Fuentes hit a 3 run HR in the 4th, and the shock of that event may have put the Redlegs into a series long funk. Fosse homered in the 7th and drove in another in the 9th off Bob Miller, but the Flash held on to win 4-3. Tommy John vs Dave Roberts in gm 2. Mechanicsburg jumped to a 6-0 lead after 4, keyed by a pair of RBI singles from Al Oliver and Reggie Smith's 2 run HR. Staub's 3 run HR in the 9th made it respectable, 8-4. Don Wilson won his 17th to complete the sweep, as he shutout the Redlegs 3-0. Bando's 2 run double in the 7th blew open the game. Stan Bahnsen lost his 2nd game in a row.

From Wisconsin:

The Timber Rattlers hung on for a 6-4 month, coming back to sweep Alberta after dropping three of four to Mechanicsburg. Knarro led off the month with the teams swapping 6-3 wins. Santo and Colbert each clubbed 2 run HRs in game 1, while the Roadies used 3 run innings in the 6th and 7th to take game 2. The Rattlers rode the 4 hit pitching of Don Sutton for a 1-0 win in game 3. Cedeno's sac fly plated the only run.

Wisconsin continues to struggle within its division, dropping 3 of 4 against the Flash. Bonds, Oliver and Bando went deep and Don Wilson tossed a 3 hitter for a 7-0 Flash win. Great pitching continues with Don Gullett throwing a 3 hitter in game 2. Bando hit 2 more HRs while Smith added a solo blast. Wise throws another 3 hitter supported by 6 dink hits in a 2-1 Mechanicsburg win. The Rattlers get a small measure of revenge in game 4 as Murcer's 2 run single holds up behind Sutton's complete game for a 3-2 win.

From Knarro:

What is this... 1968 all over again or What??!! Mechanicsburg comes into Knarro and treats the home team very rudely. In game 1, Eddie Brinkman (??!!) HRs to give Dave Roberts the win in a 3-0, 1 hitter. In game 2, Stargell and Reggie Smith homer (Reggie's 2nd...he hit one in game 1 as insurance) to back
Don Wilson's 8k TWO hitter (hey, we're getting better - we got TWO hits!). In game 3, we got 4 hits, but again we get shutout, this time by that marijuana farmer, Don Gullett 6-0. Fuentes' 1b drives in the first non-HR generated run, but later Bando and Bonds homer just out of spite. 3 games, 3 shutouts.
I don't think I've ever had that happen before. And I'm in first place?

Next up after the pathetic showing with the Flash, were our 'cousins' the Cooperstown Cardinals. It's amazing how some teams always seem to do bad against some teams and then do well against others. The Cards fall into the latter category it seems when they play the Knarro ones.

In game 1, despite Bob Watson's 5 for 5 day, the Roadies crushed Coop, 9-6, the score only made close by a 3 run 9th. Five Cooperstown errors, including 2 by starter Gaylord "too much vaseline on the ball?" Perry, led to 6 unearned runs. Game 2 saw Cardinal starter Ray Culp carry a 2-0 shutout into the 7th,
when George Scott walked, Fairly 2b'd and Ollie hit one downtown for a 3-2 Roadie win. Great relief by Nellie Briles and Tug McGraw kept it that way. But, in Game 3, Coop final gave a Stamp(er) of approval to start Joe Coleman who fanned 11, enroute to a 5-0 whitewash to salvage the final game. Two run blasts by Billy Williams (who hit 3 in the series) and Booger Powell backed him sufficiently.

Carmen Zarilli brought his band of bombers into the Roadiedome to try to duplicate his November sweep. Game 1 pitted original Roadie, Juan Marichal on the Hill for the
Lions against original Holly-ite, Mike Cuellar for the Roadies. IT was tied 1-1 into the 8th, when Rico Petrocelli laced a 3 run double to back Juan's 5 hitter and Mt Holly had a 6-1 victory. In game 2, an Earl Williams error kept an inning alive and Hammerin' Hank made Gary Nolan pay with a 3 run "no doubter" to put Holly up 4-2. With 1st and 3rd and one out in the bottom of the 8th, the Lions' Eddie Watt K'd Earl Williams and Dave Kingman to escape with the win. Game 3 went extra innings, as Knarro was continually frustrated by the
slants of Ernie "Grade 6" McAnally (must've thought he was Dave ?). The Roadies put a man on 2nd in each of the last 4 innings with less than 2 outs, but it was Henry Aaron's clutch 10th inning 2b which plated the winning run in the 10th for a 2-1 Mt Holly win, putting them up 3 games to none. Could the Lions sweep? Well they put up 4 in the top of the first led by Horace Clarke's solo shot (when things go bad...), but the Roadies fought back with 4 in the bottom of the 2nd, the key blow an Alley 3b. Unfortunately, by the bottom of the 9th, Kranepool and Rettenmund HRs had helped open a 9-5 gap and things looked grim. In the bottom of the 9th, Moe Drabowsky got wild, walking the 2 leadoff men. Rettenmund then dropped a flyball in CF and Dave Cash doubled to close it to 9-8. After another walk and a double steal (still with no outs) against ace closer Mel Queen, George Scott lined a 1b for a tremendous Roadie comeback to salvage the last game of the series, 10-9. If Knarro fails to win the NL-West, they can point to the 7 of 8 they lost to Mt Holly at home. Where is Virginia when we need them?

From Mt. Holly:

The Mt. Holly homestand - 10 gut wrenching games!

Satellite Beach - Game 1 saw Tom Bradley best Lion ace Juan Marichal 5-1. Chris Cannizaro pole axed a three run homer and Cleon Jones added a homer and two singles in an 11 hit attack. Bradley went the route, fanning 7. Game 2 featured Gary Gentry throwing a 10 inning 1 hitter, winning on Larry Stahl'' homer in the bottom of the 10th off Don McMahon for a 3-1 victory. In game 3, Steve Arlin was routed after 2 innings and the Lions coasted to a 9-2 win. Eddie Leon had 3 hits for SB while Aaron went 3-3 with a double, homer and 4 RBI. Ernie McAnally went the distance.

Knarro - The series opener went 13 innings with Ray Sadecki coming apart to lose by a 5-2 score. Gary Nolan allowed 3 hits in 9 innings, while mound rival Bob Johnson fanned 10 over 8 innings. Williams and Fairly homered for the Roadies while Aaron hit one for the Lions. The Roadies won game 2 behind Jack Billingham, a Yaz homer and a scoreless 9th by Tug McGraw, 2-1. Les Cain went 5 strong innings for the Lions and Petrocelli homered. Mike Cuellar helped his old mates batting averages with a 12 hit CG, but he earned the win 5-1. Fairly and Gibbs each had 2 RBI for Knarro. In the series finale, Gary Gentry allowed 3 runs over 6 innings, and the Roadies completed the sweep 4-1. George Scott hit 2 taters for the Roadies, while Kranepool and Pepitone each had two hits for the Lions. After the sweep manager Zarrelli threatened his team with franks and beans forever! Now there would be a clubhouse with atmosphere!

Snowflake - Lion pitchers save the day as the Lions take 2 of 3. Milt Pappas was dominant in game 1 as the Giants won 8-2. Brock and Clemente each had 3 hits while Mike Epstein hit a 3 run HR. Game 2 was a classic pitchers' duel, won by Bob Johnson 1-0 over Pete Broberg. Larry Stahl's 8th inning single plated the only run of the day. Les Cain was marvelous in game 3. He went 8 2/3 innings for a 2-1 win over Sonny Siebert. Mel Queen got the last out for the save. Petrocelli homered for the Lions.

From Virginia:

Ohio at Virginia - Ohio wins the first two games (Lee May hitting 2 HRs in one of the games and Shaw saving both) but Virginia takes the last four (including shutout by Jim Perry, a grand slam by Willie Mays, 2-run rally in 9th to beat Ohio's closer Shaw).

From Alberta:

Ridgewood - Game 1: Tommy John and Paul Splittorf hook up in something less than a pitchers duel. The game is tied at four going to the eighth thanks in large part to Joe Morgan's two run 2b in the 6th. However, the Fossils eat the Redlegs like an old lunch with a five run 8th, keyed by HR's from McCarver and Robertson. Robertson finishes with four hits, 3 RBI, McCarver with 3 hits, 4 RBI in a 9-4 win. Game 2: Stan Bahnsen and Bob Gibson hook up in this one, and it is the veteran Gibson who prevails, 6-2, with 9 K's. The Fossil offence is lead by Beckert, who has two hits and knocks in three. Gibson allows just five hits in going the distance. Game 3: Redlegs get back into the series behind Dave McNally. McNally not only throws the shutout, but hits a HR in the 4th for the only run he'll need in a 3-0 whitewash. In the 9th, Alberta loads the bases with 1 out, but Carlos May bounces into the DP to end the game. Beckert continues to hit, with four singles. Game 4: Ridgewood earns the split, turning the Fossils into fuel with a 14-0 laugher. Steve Blass is the benefivciary with the five hit shutout. Leading the offence is Roy White, who goes four for five, with two dingers. Alou and Allen have three hits and a HR apiece. Even Hal Lanier chips in three hits in the rout.

Wisconsin - Game 1: Fergie Jenkins and Wade Blasingame hook up in a real duel, as Jenkins allows just two hits, and Blasingame three. Jim Lefebvre hits a solo shot in the third to provide the margin of victory in a 2-1 Fossil win. Game 2: In marked contrast from Game one, this one sees the two squads pound out 29 hits, 17 for the Wolves as they trounce Fossils 11-4. Leading the way is Cedeno with three hits and five RBI, and Bobby Murcer with a 4/4 night. This game was over by the third inning, as Wolves build a 5-1 lead. Game 3: Both teams have eight hits, but Alberta takes four for extra bases, including dingers from Robertson and Lefebvre. The resulting eight runs is more than enough for Bob Gibson, who tosses the goose egg. Alberta wins series, 2-1.

Cooperstown - Game 1: Claude Osteen is too much for the Dino Bones in this one, as he allows just five hits in winning 4-1. Doug Rader keys the offence with a solo dinger. Game 2: Cards string together five of their nine hits in the third inning, building a 3-0 lead. After that, it's just too much grease, as Gaylord goes the distance in a 3-2 four hit win. Fossils can't even make the one run game exciting, as Perry retires the last ten in a row. Game 3: A six run third is about all that a pitcher really needs, and Bill Hands is no exception. Cards romp, 9-0 to sweep the series. Doug Rader does most of the damage, with four hits and four RBI, but the real damage is the absent Alberta offense, shut out for the third time in ten home games this month. Ouch.

Thus completes a respectable (for us) 4-6 month, keeping the Fossils in the race for … for … how many wildcards are there, anyway? Seventeen or eighteen?

From Berwyn:

Important month for the Barons after January's debacle - but when the dust settled, it was disappointing 5-5 wash. Riverview came to town first, and the Barons do seem to have the Rats' number this year (so far). Jim Palmer gave up 3 solo Hrs in Game 1, and the Barons cruised behind Bill Stoneman's 3-hitter, 4-1. Game 2 was a different story, as Mike Hedlund was very wild and very ineffective, giving up 6 runs to the Rats in the 1st 3 innings, including 5 walks. George Stone went the whole way in a 7-4 Rat triumph. But the Barons' pitching got tough in Games 3 & 4 as Dick Drago threw a 2-hitter to win 6-0, and Phil Niekro bettered him by throwing a 1-hitter (1B by Alomar in 8th) to win 7-0. Of course it helped that Niedrom hit Hunt in the 1st, knocking him out of the game, and did the same to F. Robinson in the 2nd.

Next was Satellite Beach. Barons needed a spot start in Game 1, and gave it to Milt Wilcox. He was OK, giving up 3 runs (2 earned) in 6 innings, but with Tom Bradley pitching, the Saturns were able to scratch out a 3-2 win. It was late inning heroics in Game 2, as Tom Egan homered off former Baron Joe Moeller in the bottom of the 9th to secure a 4-3 win. Clutch 3B by Tom McCraw in 8th tightened the game, and prevent Bill Stoneman from coming through with 2 wins in a row. Game 3 saw Mike Hedlund and Steve Arlin match 4-hitters, but one of the hits Arlin gave up was a Reggie Jackson solo HR, enough for a 1-0 Baron win.

So far so good, but the heart-breakers from Montgomery (under new ownership) now came to town to ruin the month. What this series was was the Rocky Fred Scherman Horror Pitcher Show. By the time the Fire Ants left town, Scherman had lost 3 games in a row, two in extra innings. So much for being in the Top 5 in relief ERA. Game 1 was just a back-and-forth game the whole way, decided by 3 Fire Ant runs in the 8th due in large part to a Joe Torre error - Montgomery wins 6-4. Game 2 saw the Fire Ants get out to a 2-0 early lead only to see Tom Egan 2B to tie it in the 7th. Berwyn had the game won in the 11th, loading the bases with 1 out. In came Steve Mingori in desperation for the Fire Ants, and induced a 1-2-5 DP off the bat of Reggie Jackson. Scherman then loses it on a Roy Foster PH single in the 12th. Game 3 was the back-breaker. Bill Stoneman threw another good game (I still wake up with nightmares that my pick ends up 1st in the lottery and I end up basically trading Carlton Fisk for Stoneman), and nursed a 2-1 lead into the 9th. With one out Jim Hickman singled, and manger Landis (who may soon lose his job to his 7-year old son) signaled for Jim Brewer to face Don Mincher. But facing a platoon dis-advantage and one of the best relievers in the league, Mincher 2Bd in the gap to tie the game. It went to the 13th, and Scherman came in again. After two walks and a Roger Metzger error, Bob Bailey came to the plate with 2 out and the bases loaded. Scherman walked him. Mingori got his 2nd save (plus a win) and the Fire Ants had the sweep.

From Ridgewood:

Alberta - A pair of lefties, John and Splitorff square off in the series opener. The Reds take an early 3-1 lead but the Fossils bounce back with runs in the 8th and 9th to tie the game at three all. Another run in the 10th off Stan Williams caps the Alberta comeback as they take the opener 4-3 in extra innings. Bahnsen is slated to oppose Gibson as the Ridgewood hurler is looking to improve his record to a perfect 15-0. But its not in the cards thanks to a persistent Alberta attack led by Buford's two run homer that plates three run in the late innings against Carroll who blows the Red lead. The Reds are in the midst of a rare losing streak as they drop this one 7-5. McNally is cruising along with a 4-2 lead for the Reds when the roof falls in. The Fossils chase McNally with a five run 6th and take a 7-4 lead over the shaken Redlegs. McCarver leads the charge with six runs knocked in while Slaton and Fisher combine to hold off the Reds 8-6. The Fossils take their broom out and beat the Reds into submission in the finale. Short goes all the way on a five hitter to clobber the Reds 12-2 and leave Ridgewood to hold its first closed door meeting of the season.

Mechanicsburg - Stargell opens the game with a slam off Pattin that puts the struggling Redlegs behind 4-0 to the Flash and Wilson. Building on homers by Bonds and Bench the Flash lead grows to 9-1. Wilson goes all the way in a laugher and the Red demise stretches to five straight. Allen hits a two run shot in the 1st and Staub follows up with a three run version in the 5th in his usual abuse of a lefthander, Gullett is the victim this time. John fills the role of stopper for the Reds and stops a five game slide with a 5-1 win. The Reds step back into the line of fire for the series finale with unbeaten Bahnsen looking for number 15 against Wise. But, as is so often the case this month, the Reds of the early part of the season do not show up today and they are drubbed by the departing Flash 7-0 as Bahnsen's perfect record becomes history.

Snowflake - The Reds look good early as Dock Ellis suffers a case of two-run-homeritis care of Staub and Gates Brown. But the Redleg wheels come off in the 7th when the Giants chase McNally with a four run rally and take over the lead at 6-4. Riddleberger and Sanders make that stand up and

the Giants have the opener. The next contest doesn't look all that promising for Ridgewood as Peterson and the Giants take a 4-1 lead into the 8th. But the Reds put a couple on and, on instinct alone, Gates Brown is sent up to hit for Kessinger against the Snowflake southpaw. Gates hits the ball, the book and whatever else is lying around into the seats to tie the game at four all. Then the teams get a real shock when light hitting Jose Pagan follows with a solo shot to put the Reds up 5-4 and send Peterson to the showers. This time the Reds hang on and Carroll closes out with a rare February win for Ridgewood. Pattin and Pappas hook up in a great pitching duel and enter the 8th tied at one. The Giants awaken and score a run but then a big blow comes off Munson's bat when he poles a three run shot to give the visitors a 5-1 advantage with two at bats left for the Reds. That's
all Pappas needs to give him the needed push to the finish line. The Giants leave town winners and the Reds start wondering about March!

From Cooperstown:

The Cooperstown Cardinals had a very successful home-stand - 7-3. It happened due to timely hitting and solid pitching both from the starters and bullpen.

KNARRO (1) at COOPERS-TOWN (2) - G1 - A 9-2 thumping by Knarro starts the homestand on a bad note as the Cards commit 3 errors leading to 3 unearned runs. Cuellar goes the distance for the Roadies. G2 - Cards even things with 5-4 win despite 2 homers by Earl Williams. Bob Watson chips in with 2-run HR for Cooperstown. G3 - Two-run blast in the 12th by the Boog Powell gives Cards 3-1 win and series edge. (Series - E. Williams 5/12 with 2 homers and 5 rbi for Knarro)

SNOWFLAKE (1) at COOPERS-TOWN (3) - G1 - 4-0 blanking at the 'hands' of Cardinal, Bill Hands. G2 - Giants' bats awaken for 10-4 blowout. Munson 3-4 and Siebert (win) goes 2-4 with a HR for the Flakes. G3 - Hoerner picks up save in 9th as Cards squeak one out, 6-5. Billy Williams hit a HR and racked up 3 ribbies. G4 - Cards Gaylord Perry gets CG win, 4-3, with Powell's 2-run shot the decisive blow.

RIDGEWOOD (1) at COOPERS-TOWN (2) - G1 - Cards win opener, 4-2, on Hand's 3-run triple (that's right, Bill Hands!). G2 - Redlegs even things up to say the least - 20 hit attack in 14-1 romp. Matty Alou (4-6) and Roy White (3-6) are the anta-gonists. G3 - Cards ring up 3-0 shutout by Osteen (who got injured), Granger, and Hoerner (save). T. Harper and D. Rader hit key homers. (Series - Ridgewood - M. Alou 7/13 and D. Allen 6/13 & Cardinals' Harper 4/10)

From Snowflake:

Cooperstown splits 4 with the Giants in a key series with wildcard implications. Amos Otis' 2-run HR in the 6th negated a 2-run Brock single in the 5th to give Gaylord Perry enough for the CG win, 4-3 in game 1. In game 2 Amos Otis' 2-run HR in the first stakes Cards to early lead. Jay Johnstone had
a pair of rbi singles in the 4th and 6th to tie it. Rod Carew's solo 10th inning HR wins it for Giants. In game 3 Cards turn table on Giants from gm 2 as Roger Repoz belts pinch hit, 2 out, 2-run double in 9th to erase 2-1 deficit. Hoerner saves it this time. The finale features a Dock Ellis 6-hit shutout as he gets all support he needs on Jim Holt's 3-run blast in the 4th to even the series.

Mt. Holly drops 2 of 3. In game 1, Munson (solo) and Harrah (2-run shot) homer in 5th to erase 1-0 deficit and that's all Siebert needs in posting the CG win. Trailing 4-1 in 7th the Giants get a pair of 2-run homers from Epstein and Lis (Pinch hit) to pull out the win in an exciting game 2 for the hometown crowd.
The Giants' hopes for sweep were dashed on Bill Conigliaro's pinch rbi double in
the 9th snapping a 4-4 tie.

Berwyn wins 2 of 3 to close out the month at a .500 mark. Game 1 was another heartbreaker for the home crowd as Berwyn scores 2 uneraned runs in 8th to overcome Brock and Mitterwald homers to take the lead. Munson's pinch rbi
double in the 9th sends it to extra frames where once again the Giants fall on a pinch double by Jose Cruz in the 10th.
The Giants lose another tough one in extra innings. Holding 2-0 lead into 7th Berwyn ties it on an rbi double by Johnson and pinch rbi single by Hopkins then wins it in 11th on another pinch hit rbi single, this time my Bill Voss. Game 3 found the Giants once again needing a win badly. The Giants get shutout ball from old reliable Sonny Siebert. Munson's SF in first is only run Sonny needs but he helps his own cause with an rbi single in the 5th.

Player Use

Continue to keep a close watch on player usage. The following players have used up their plate appearances, steal attempts or innings and should no longer be used in that capacity.

MARTIN, J.C. (WIS) has violated his limit(s) in: Plate App.: had 195 was allowed 141
JAMES, Cleo (OHI) has violated his limit(s) in: Steal Att.: had 9 was allowed 8
GAMBLE, Oscar (OHI) has violated his limit(s) in: Steal Att.: had 8 was allowed 7
JONES, Cleon (S B) has violated his limit(s) in: Steal Att.: had 14 was allowed 11
THOMPSON, Danny (S B) has violated his limit(s) in: Plate App.: had 73 was allowed 67
CRAWFORD, Willie (HOP) has violated his limit(s) in: Steal Att.: had 8 was allowed 7
BURROUGHS, Jeff (MIN) has violated his limit(s) in: Plate App.: had 207 was allowed 204
JORGENSEN, Mike (MIN) has violated his limit(s) in: Plate App.: had 133 was allowed 132
CLARKE, Horace (M H) has violated his limit(s) in: Steal Att.: had 26 was allowed 24
SIMS, Duke (COO) has violated his limit(s) in: Steal Att.: had 2 was allowed 1
BONHAM, Bill (HOP) has violated his limit(s) in: Innings: had 62 was allowed 60
WATT, Eddie (M H) has violated his limit(s) in: Innings: had 45 was allowed 40

More comments on rule proposals for the 1972 season

Comments this month come from John Alexander and Frank Lentine.

From John Alexander -

1. I believe we should try to play our game in a realistic manner. I don't know of any team who had only 7 or 8 pitchers on their roster for any period of time in the early '70s. Ten or 11 pitchers were the norm.
2. If you are lucky enough to get Mike Schmidt, a $175k limit would leave the average team with $15k. I don't believe this will allow you to gather any major talent in the 2nd phase of the draft, but it would still allow you to participate in the fun of the draft. This is supposed to be fun, right?

3. & 4. Bad players often play a lot on bad teams. There may be a correlation there. Why should we be concerned by how many AB "Jackie Hernandez" gets. In real baseball, a player's team often is a major factor on the number of AB or starts that a player will get. The talented players are what matters. Speaking from experience, on a bad team the roster spots that these AB platoons/spot starters eat up really hurt in building a team for the future. We don't have minor leagues to build the future.

5. Why should SB be any different than any other stat? It will also cut down on the use of H&R.
6. I believe each division should have the same number of teams.

From Frank Lentine -

I looked over the rules proposals. I don't have a whole lot to add to what already has been said. My only problem with reducing the steal attempts back to 100% is that it will, in my mind, reduce the amount of hit and run plays you can try. I generate the majority of my steal attempts as a result of a hit and run result. Is there anyway to distinguish a caught stealing on a straight steal as opposed to one from a botched hit and run play? If this proposal passes it would be a blow to managers who like to utilize the hit and run. I think we had a rule in one of the leagues I was in (maybe it was the TCBA) that after a player's limit for steal attempts was reached, he could only attempt a steal as a result of a missed hit and run. I'd prefer this type of amendment to the proposal as opposed to a flat no further steal attempts after the 100% limit is reached. As far as expansion is concerned, I'm happy with 20 teams. With a 30 player roster limit, and strict at bat and ip limits, I think it makes it a lot easier to field a team if there are more players available to choose from. Adding additional teams (beyond 20) might make this a little tougher.

One note - There is no way to differentiate between straight steals and H&R steals (for those who are new to APBA)

Rule proposals for the 1972 season - ***Please vote by email, US mail or telephone by March 25.***

1. Require that teams carry at least 10 pitchers on their active roster.
2. Place a maximum price on rookies at $175K.
3. Players who fall below the offensive marks of batting average, on base and slugging percentage, and meet the defensive criteria (see rule 8.1), change their limit from 400 PA to unlimited PA. These players would then be called "innocuous players."
4. Pitchers with grades 3 or less are limited to 25 starts or 150 IP. Change this to grade 5 or less, 30 starts and 200 IP. These pitchers would then be called "innocuous pitchers."
5. Reduce stolen base attempts from 125% to 100%.

6. Expand to 20 teams for 1972 by adding two franchises, one to each of the Western Divisions. The format of the draft would be as follows:

- **a.** Each existing team would protect 15 players.
- **b.** After two players are lost, one could be pulled back. Existing teams would lose 3 players each.
- **c.** The expansion teams would be given a cash balance equal to the league average at the conclusion of the season, before fines for overuse.
- **d.** Expansion teams would receive 10 lottery tokens for the Phase I lottery.
- **e.** Expansion teams would receive 1 free pick each at the conclusion of Phase I for the 1972 season draft. This pick could not be traded.
- **f.** Expansion teams would receive 1 pick at cost at the conclusion of Phase I for the 1973 season draft. This pick could not be traded.
- **g.** Proposals 3 and 4 above would be adopted with the approval of expansion.

No further expansion would be allowed until at least the 1977 season when the major leagues expanded with Seattle and Toronto.

From Wally Appleton

Wally Appleton's current mailing address:

Walt Appleton
Box 052
APO AP 96558
wappleton@rec.ja.dswa.mil

Wally requests that you send his April instructions to his Winchester (26 Elm Street) address. He will be home on leave April 3.

National League

Eastern Division	W	L	PCT	GB	LAST GMS	HOME	AWAY	1 RUN GMS	EXT INS	$$$
Mechanicsburg	76	40	.655		9-1	37-24	39-16	17-21	6-7	150
Louisville	66	56	.541	13	4-6	31-30	35-26	24-23	6-6	150
Wisconsin	55	61	.474	21	6-4	25-33	30-28	19-20	3-4	130
Ohio	40	77	.342	36 ½	4-6	22-38	18-39	9-31	5-10	194
Satellite Beach	39	83	.320	40	3-7	17-41	22-42	16-29	4-13	200

Western Division	W	L	PCT	GB	LAST GMS	HOME	AWAY	1 RUN GMS	EXT INS	
Knarro	68	51	.571		6-4	34-27	34-24	25-15	8-5	150
Mt. Holly	66	52	.559	1 ½	4-6	31-30	35-22	24-17	12-3	170
Virginia	53	59	.473	11 ½	5-5	23-31	30-28	19-15	3-4	130
Minneapolis	44	75	.370	24	4-6	24-34	20-41	18-22	3-7	230

American League

Eastern Division	W	L	PCT	GB	LAST GMS	HOME	AWAY	1 RUN GMS	EXT INS	$$$
Ridgewood	74	39	.655		3-7	42-19	32-20	16-14	5-3	150
Berwyn	68	54	.557	10 ½	7-3	27-31	41-23	21-14	9-10	150
Hopewell	53	67	.442	24 ½	6-4	27-33	26-34	21-15	5-4	150
Alberta	44	72	.379	31 ½	2-8	21-37	23-35	15-13	6-4	150
Riverview	35	88	.285	44	1-9	10-52	25-36	11-22	4-6	150

Western Division	W	L	PCT	GB	LAST GMS	HOME	AWAY	1 RUN GMS	EXT INS	
Winchester	86	33	.723		9-1	44-14	42-19	28-17	13-4	175
Cooperstown	71	49	.592	15 ½	7-3	34-27	37-22	25-15	4-5	150
Snowflake	71	51	.582	16 ½	3-7	37-24	34-27	19-21	7-7	150
Montgomery	54	56	.491	27 ½	4-6	23-29	31-27	18-21	6-7	150

i - fined $10,000 for late/no instructions

p - fined $10,000 for late/no pfile

Who's Hot

National League

BATTING Avg			HOME RUNS			RBI			WINS		
AARON,Ha	M H	.403	COLBERT,Na	WIS	7	AARON,Ha	M H	18	WILSON,Do	MEC	5-0
BROWN,Ol	KNA	.362	SMITH,Re	MEC	6	MAYS,Wi	VIR	15	GOGOLEWSKI,Bi	WIS	4-1
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	.345	3 tied with		5	3 tied with		14	SUTTON,Do	WIS	4-1
									GULLETT,Do	MEC	4-1
									WISE,Ri	MEC	4-1

American League

BATTING Avg			HOME RUNS			RBI			WINS		
TORRE,Jo	BER	.386	CRUZ,Jo	BER	5	STAUB,Ru	RID	16	SEAVER,To	WIN	5-0
JACKSON,Re	BER	.355	POWELL,Bo	COO	5	MONTANEZ,Wi	WIN	15	BLUE,Vi	WIN	4-0
BROCK,Lo	SNO	.333	3 tied with		4	3 tied with		14	OSTEEN,Cl	COO	4-1

League Leaders

National League

BATTING Avg		
AARON,Ha	M H	.344
CASH,Da	KNA	.320
ROJAS,Co	OHI	.310
JONES,Cl	S B	.302
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	.299

SLUGGING Pct		
AARON,Ha	M H	.714
STARGELL,Wi	MEC	.580
MAY,Le	OHI	.525
MURCER,Bo	WIS	.482
OLIVA,To	LOU	.477

ON BASE Pct		
AARON,Ha	M H	.405
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	.402
MURCER,Bo	WIS	.381
CASH,Da	KNA	.373
ROSE,Pe	LOU	.367

RUNS		
BONDS,Bo	MEC	77
ROSE,Pe	LOU	75
AARON,Ha	M H	71
SMITH,Re	MEC	69
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	69

HITS		
AARON,Ha	M H	148
TOVAR,Ce	LOU	140
DAVIS,Wi	VIR	136
ROSE,Pe	LOU	134
MURCER,Bo	WIS	125

RBI		
AARON,Ha	M H	107
STARGELL,Wi	MEC	79
OLIVA,To	LOU	71
MURCER,Bo	WIS	68
SMITH,Re	MEC	66

DOUBLES		
BONDS,Bo	MEC	28
CEDENO,Ce	WIS	26
TOVAR,Ce	LOU	25
AARON,Ha	M H	24
MURCER,Bo	WIS	22

TRIPLES		
MILLAN,Fe	VIR	8
DAVIS,Wi	VIR	8
FUENTES,Ti	MEC	6
ALLEY,Ge	KNA	6
DAVALILLO,Vi	KNA	6

HOME RUNS		
AARON,Ha	M H	43
STARGELL,Wi	MEC	36
MAY,Le	OHI	29
OLIVA,To	LOU	24
SMITH,Re	MEC	23

TOTAL WALKS		
MAYS,Wi	VIR	69
KILLEBREW,Ha	MIN	67
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	66
YASTRZEMSKI,C	KNA	63
PETROCELLI,Ri	M H	62

STRIKEOUTS		
STARGELL,Wi	MEC	128
BONDS,Bo	MEC	118
CEDENO,Ce	WIS	117
MAYS,Wi	VIR	114
GASTON,Ci	S B	107

CURRENT HITTING STREAK		
BROWN,Ol	KNA	7
OLIVA,To	LOU	5
DIETZ,Di	LOU	5
BANDO,Sa	MEC	5
MAYS,Wi	VIR	5

STOLEN BASES		
CAMPANERIS,Be	LOU	26
CLARKE,Ho	M H	22
BONDS,Bo	MEC	19
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	13
TOVAR,Ce	LOU	9

STOLEN BASE Pct			
CAMPANERIS,Be	LOU	.929	(28)
CLARKE,Ho	M H	.846	(26)
BONDS,Bo	MEC	.792	(24)
RETTENMUND,Me	M H	.619	(21)

LONGEST HITTING STREAK		
ETCHEBARREN,A	S B	18
DAVIS,Wi	VIR	16
MURCER,Bo	WIS	15
ALOU,Fe	S B	13
CASH,Da	KNA	13

ERA		
WILSON,Do	MEC	1.55
JENKINS,Fe	WIS	1.65
GULLETT,Do	MEC	1.88
NOLAN,Ga	KNA	1.89
PARSONS,Bi	LOU	1.93

WINS		
WILSON,Do	MEC	19-5
JENKINS,Fe	WIS	16-9
MARICHAL,Ju	M H	15-8
MESSERSMITH,A	LOU	15-9
CUELLAR,Mi	KNA	15-11

STRIKEOUTS		
JENKINS,Fe	WIS	220
SUTTON,Do	WIS	177
KIRBY,Cl	OHI	159
DOBSON,Pa	MIN	159
BRADLEY,To	S B	155

ERA Relief		
COX,Ca	MIN	1.17
BRILES,Ne	KNA	1.57
BURGMEIER,To	MIN	1.70
SEVERINSEN,Al	LOU	1.85
GIUSTI,Da	LOU	1.94

SAVES		
BURGMEIER,To	MIN	22
CULVER,Ge	VIR	18
McGRAW,Tu	KNA	17
SHAW,Do	OHI	16
MILLER,Bo	MEC	16

SHUTOUTS		
WILSON,Do	MEC	7
CUELLAR,Mi	KNA	7
JENKINS,Fe	WIS	5
WISE,Ri	MEC	5
GULLETT,Do	MEC	5

League Leaders

American League

BATTING Avg		
ALLEN,Di	RID	.365
SANGUILLEN,Ma	MON	.356
TORRE,Jo	BER	.342
BECKERT,Gl	ALB	.333
STAUB,Ru	RID	.333

SLUGGING Pct		
ALLEN,Di	RID	.571
STAUB,Ru	RID	.541
TORRE,Jo	BER	.537
MORGAN,Jo	RID	.491
SANGUILLEN,Ma	MON	.482

ON BASE Pct		
ALLEN,Di	RID	.441
STAUB,Ru	RID	.399
TORRE,Jo	BER	.394
SANGUILLEN,Ma	MON	.388
BROCK,Lo	SNO	.384

RUNS		
BROCK,Lo	SNO	91
WHITE,Ro	RID	89
BUFORD,Do	ALB	80
ALLEN,Di	RID	77
STAUB,Ru	RID	76

HITS		
BROCK,Lo	SNO	167
TORRE,Jo	BER	165
BECKERT,Gl	ALB	153
STAUB,Ru	RID	150
ALLEN,Di	RID	149

RBI		
STAUB,Ru	RID	85
CARDENAS,Le	SNO	72
ALLEN,Di	RID	71
JOHNSON,De	BER	70
MORGAN,Jo	RID	67

DOUBLES		
BROCK,Lo	SNO	37
SIMMONS,Te	HOP	29
JOHNSON,De	BER	28
FREEHAN,Bi	WIN	28
PARKER,We	WIN	27

TRIPLES		
WHITE,Ro	RID	10
METZGER,Ro	BER	10
MORGAN,Jo	RID	9
BROCK,Lo	SNO	9
PATEK,Fr	WIN	8

HOME RUNS		
JOHNSON,De	BER	25
JACKSON,Re	BER	22
PEREZ,To	RIV	21
STAUB,Ru	RID	21
MORGAN,Jo	RID	21

TOTAL WALKS		
BUFORD,Do	ALB	63
HENDERSON,Ke	WIN	60
BRIGGS,Jo	HOP	58
MORGAN,Jo	RID	57
JACKSON,Re	BER	56

STRIKEOUTS		
JOHNSON,De	BER	137
JACKSON,Re	BER	131
ROBERTSON,Bo	ALB	106
RADER,Do	COO	94
BROCK,Lo	SNO	92

CURRENT HITTING STREAK		
SIMMONS,Te	HOP	10
MAY,Mi	COO	8
ALLEN,Di	RID	7
HENDERSON,Ke	WIN	7
ALOMAR,Sa	RIV	6

STOLEN BASES		
BROCK,Lo	SNO	25
OTIS,Am	COO	23
HARPER,To	COO	22
ALOMAR,Sa	RIV	21
MORGAN,Jo	RID	21

STOLEN BASE Pct			
HARPER,To	COO	.957	(23)
BUFORD,Do	ALB	.864	(22)
MORGAN,Jo	RID	.840	(25)
HARRELSON,Bu	HOP	.833	(18)
CARDENAL,Jo	MON	.786	(14)

LONGEST HITTING STREAK		
STAUB,Ru	RID	18
OTIS,Am	COO	15
CLEMENTE,Ro	SNO	14
HEBNER,Ri	RID	13
WHITE,Ro	RID	12

ERA		
WOOD,Wi	WIN	1.80
SEAVER,To	WIN	1.86
PERRY,Ga	COO	2.24
NIEKRO,Ph	BER	2.26
LOLICH,Mi	WIN	2.28

WINS		
LOLICH,Mi	WIN	24-4
WOOD,Wi	WIN	21-3
OSTEEN,Cl	COO	18-10
SIEBERT,So	SNO	17-5
NIEKRO,Ph	BER	16-5

STRIKEOUTS		
SEAVER,To	WIN	233
LOLICH,Mi	WIN	222
WOOD,Wi	WIN	207
BLUE,Vi	WIN	198
PALMER,Ji	RIV	168

ERA Relief		
LaROCHE,Da	WIN	0.87
LINZY,Fr	BER	1.29
CARROLL,Cl	RID	1.62
BREWER,Ji	BER	1.76
GRANGER,Wa	COO	1.79

SAVES		
HOERNER,Jo	COO	23
JOHNSON,Ba	HOP	19
BREWER,Ji	BER	17
SANDERS,Ke	SNO	14
CARROLL,Cl	RID	11

SHUTOUTS		
WOOD,Wi	WIN	7
NIEKRO,Ph	BER	5
McNALLY,Da	RID	4
DRAGO,Di	BER	4
SEGUI,Di	HOP	4

The following is from an article in the February 14,1997 issue of Sports Collectors Digest by Robert Grayson.

ORIOLES 'KINGS OF THE HILL' REUNITED

Major League Baseball teams today count themselves exceedingly lucky if they have one steady hurler who regularly wins 20 games a season for them. In 1971, the Baltimore Orioles four pitchers who notched 20 or more wins - Dave McNally (21), Mike Cuellar, Pat Dobson (20) and Jim Palmer (20). The foursome tossed 70 complete games and combined for 586 strikeouts and 12 shutouts during their awesome 1971 season. The only blemish on that nearly flawless season was the Orioles surprise loss to the Pittsburgh Pirates in the '71 World Series.

Notwithstanding their World Series loss, the Orioles stand alone in modern baseball history as a team of four 20-game winners. The American League can boast of one other mound staff that accomplished the same feat- the 1920 Chicago White Sox. The last team in the National League to feature four 20-game winners was the 1923 Cincinnati Reds.

During his 11-year career, Dobson played on a number of good teams, including the 1968 World Champion Tigers. But, in his view the best pitching staff he ever played on was the 1971 Orioles with its four man rotation. Though he pitched a lot of innings that year (282), as did most of the staff, nobody felt any strain from the work.

Dobson didn't feel the World Series loss put a damper on the stunning accomplishments of the Orioles extraordinary pitching staff. "These things happen in a short series," he said. Basically, we just didn't have the hitting like we had all season. There were a few games we should have won that we lost and things didn't go our way for seven games. It could have happened any time during the season, but it happened in the World Series. It was really too bad. But it shouldn't take anything away from the season we had and the team we had."

Hall of Famer Jim Palmer looks back on the 1971 Orioles pitching staff as a model of consistency and strength. The Orioles' pitching coach, George Bamberger, "taught us to finish what we started and we did ," said the three-time Cy Young winner. Palmer remembers the '71 Orioles mound corps as a diverse group of pitchers, each with his own style, "But we were all very durable. We pitched a lot of innings. We couldn't have ended up with that many wins if we weren't."

Commenting on his fellow 20-plus game winners, Palmer calls Cuellar the best pitcher in baseball between 1969 and 1973. "When he came to the Orioles, a lot of people thought he was just a screwball pitcher. But he could throw very hard," said Palmer. He remembers Dobson as "the master of changing speeds. He used to give Earl Weaver a thrill because you never knew what he was going to throw. He could always throw the unexpected. Earl loved that." And McNally, Palmer said , was the "toughest competitor" he ever played with. "He was a very smart pitcher, very tenacious." said Palmer.

Palmer recalled the media began writing about the four 20-game-winners possibility in September. "If you just won 19 games, that would have been a great season. But now, with a lot of the hype about winning 20, nobody wanted to be the guy who didn't do it. So there was something of a pressure about winning that 20th game.

"It was a great pitching staff. We all pulled each other. But we all wanted to pitch better than the others. I think that is why we all had such a great season. We were really all in it together." stated Palmer. He remembers the superlative defense and hot hitting. "And, of course, we didn't give up a lot of runs." he said. "I think the 1971 Orioles were one of the best teams in baseball ever. But the one thing against us is the way we played in the World Series. As a result, that team will never receive the recognition it deserves. But I think it could be right up there with the great A's, Reds and Yankees teams. But to be considered great, you have to win the World Series. And we didn't do that."