

PASTIMES





Newsletter of the Southern APBA Baseball Association

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CHARLESTON HAS STRONG TAKEOFF

The Charleston Riverdogs threatened to leave the rest of SABA in their dust as they zoomed to a 17-5 start to the new season during October. This included one-loss series to conference foes Carmel, Riverside, and Red Hook. They featured the league's most potent offense, as they hit .300 as a team with 102 extra base hits, both SABA bests. The Riverdogs were led by the 1-2 punch of Todd Helton (.391, 10 HR, 40 RBI) and Barry Bonds (.321, 13 HR, 28 RBI). Jermaine Dye chipped in hitting .347 with 7 HR and 23 RBI. Young lefthander Mark Buehrle led the moundsmen with a 4-0 record and a 2.41 ERA.

Although it's too early to call it a trend, several bottom-dwelling clubs from last year are off to a good start. Oregon grabbed the early lead in the Carolina Division. Veterans Garret Anderson (.326, 7 HR, 22 RBI), Sammy Sosa (.272, 9 HR, 27 RBI), Eric Chavez (.292, 6 HR, 17 RBI), and Fernando Vina (.344, 18 RBI) sparked the Ducks' attack. Barry Zito went 5-1 with 3 shutouts and a 1.97 ERA and Mike Magnante saved 6 games.

Evanston, which finished last season with the league's worst record, went 13-9 and trails Walled Lake by only one game in the Great Lakes Division. Tim Hudson, Greg Maddux, Livan Hernandez, and Steve Trachsel each won three games. Rookie Albert Pujols paid immediate dividends, hitting .326 with 8 homers and 25 RBI.

In the Cornhusker Division, Dixie took the early lead behind the hitting of shortstop Rich Aurilia (.305, 7 HR, 22 RBI).

SABA STANDINGS

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AMERICAN CONFERENCE CAP				CAPITOL CONFERE	NCE		
GREAT LAKES	W-L	PCT	GB	CONTINENTAL	W-L	PCT	GB
Walled Lake	14-8	.636		Charleston	17-5	.773	
Evanston	13-9	.591	1	Mudville	10-12	.455	7
Zukey Lake	11-11	.500	3	Red Hook	10-12	.455	7
Green Bay	10-12	.455	4	San Diego	9-13	.409	8
CORNHUSKER	W-L	PCT	GB	CAROLINA	W-L	PCT	GB
Dixie	14-8	.636		Oregon	13-9	.591	
Platte Valley	12-10	.545	2	Riverside	11-11	.500	2
Galveston	9-13	.409	5	Carmel	10-12	.455	3
Summit	9-13	.409	5	Cleveland	10-12	.455	3
Greenville	7-15	.318	7	Houghton	9-13	.409	4
PLAYER OF THE MONTH: TODD HELTON, CHARLESTON PITCHER OF THE MONTH: BARRY ZITO, OREGON						0 HR 40 97 ERA 3	0 RBI 3 SHO

OCTOBER MVPs BY TEAM

Team	Player	BA	HR	RBI	Pitcher	W-L	ERA	SHO
DX	Rich Aurilia	.305	7	22	Billy Wagner	3-1	1.00	0
GA	Moises Alou	.349	2	6	Scott Schoeneweis	2-1	2.00	2
GR	Jose Cruz	.260	7	14	Mike Mussina	3-2	3.80	0
PL	Devon White	.290	2	14	C. C. Sabathia	3-1	3.95	0
SU	Ivan Rodriguez	.397	7	14	Randy Johnson	3-1	3.37	1
EV	Albert Pujols	.326	8	25	Greg Maddux	3-1	1.74	2
GB	Juan Pierre	.374	0	12	Kevin Brown	3-2	3.26	1
WA	Bret Boone	.318	11	21	Paul Byrd	2-0	2.46	1
ZU	Ellis Burks	.279	5	16	Jamie Moyer	3-0	1.12	2
CA	Cliff Floyd	.360	7	21	Aaron Sele	4-3	4.58	1
CL	Mike Piazza	.256	9	21	Roy Halladay	2-0	3.00	0
НО	Rafael Palmeiro	.260	8	18	Mike Hampton	2-0	3.54	0
OR	Sammy Sosa	.272	9	27	Barry Zito	5-1	1.97	3
RI	Luis Gonzalez	.265	9	22	Kevin Appier	2-2	4.68	0
CR	Todd Helton	.391	10	40	Mark Buehrle	4-0	2.41	0
MV	Shawn Green	.292	10	26	Elmer Dessens	3-1	2.43	1
RH	Troy Glaus	.262	10	20	Mark Mulder	4-1	1.64	0
SD	John Olerud	.341	3	20	Paul Abbott	2-2	4.50	0