

(BPI-Van Schaick Island, New York)

Biff Barnes Jr. TML Highlight Reel - August 2020

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No Black Sox Scandal This Year!

In the **Oceanic Conference**, the **California Black Sox** went 22-10 and open up a commanding 12-game lead over **Rocky Mountain** (19-13 in the Stretch) in the **Williams Division**! The **Black Sox** have 9 players with 17+ HRs, led by **Ronald Acuna's** 33 HRs! Elsewhere in the **Conference**, **Kentucky** (27-5) easily clinched the **Ruth Division** pennant, but 2nd place **Perth** (21-11) has a 6-game lead over **Albany** for the **Wild Card**. **Albany** trails **Steinmetz Division** leader **Walla Walla** (18-14) by 8 games.

Over in the **Atmospheric Conference**, **Madison** (19-13) pulled into a tie for 1st place in the **Robinson Division** with **Vanderlyle** (18-14). One of these two will be the **Wild Card** entrant. In the **Gehrig Division**, **Traffic** (20-12) took a 4-game lead over stalled **Chesapeake** (16-16). In the **Gatto Division**, despite going 12-20 in the Stretch, **Santa Ana** pulled into a tie with **Murderous** (11-21), both playing only .475 ball.

We have a new batting leader in **Perth's Michael Brantley** at .346, followed closely by **Marco Island's "Player of the Stretch" Ketel Marte** at .341. **Marte** also leads in Hits (166), Runs (113), EXBH (85), SLG (.680) and RC (141), while being 2nd in OBP (.414) by 1 point to **Glenmont's Alex Bregman**. The HR leader by 9 HRs over the pack is **Chesapeake's Jorge Soler** (47). **Soler** also leads in RBI (114). The SB leader is still **Kentucky's Mookie Betts** (52/69).

The ERA leader is still **Walla Walla's Mike Minor** at 2.32, followed by **Perth's "Pitcher of the Month" Justin Verlander** at 2.53. Joining **Kentucky's** Ace duo of **Anthony DeSclafani** (15-2) and **Yu Darvish** (15-2) in the victories lead is **Walla Walla's Mike Minor** (15-3). Three other pitchers have 14 wins! **Danny Way's Gerrit Cole** is the strikeout leader with 240 Ks. The Saves leader is still **Walla Walla's Hansel Robles** (27/28 in 41 GR; 1.47 ERA).

Below are some awards and tid-bits from the Summer Stretch in the TML American.

**** Player of the Summer Stretch ****



(MG) Ketel Marte

.391, 52-133, 18-1-9, 99 TB
36 R, 20 RBI, 27 W, 4 SB
OPS 1.241, 51 RC
2 GW-RBI

Honorable Mention:

Jorge Soler(CH) .328, 16 HR, 34 R, 31 RBI, 35 RC
Eduardo Escobar(SS) .346, 10 HR, 23 R, 29 RBI, 34 RC
Nick Castellanos(DW) .350, 6 HR, 24 R, 29 RBI, 34 RC
Andrew Benintendi(AV) .372, 5 HR, 17 R, 17 RBI, 33 RC
Eddie Rosario(LW) .390, 10 HR, 32 R, 22 RBI, 32 RC
Chris Taylor(PC) .350, 5 HR, 31 R, 17 RBI, 32 RC

**** Pitcher of the Summer Stretch ****



(PC) Justin Verlander

5-0, 0.95, 6 GS, 5 QS, 3 CG
47.1 IP, 20 H, 9 W, 66 K
.127 OAVG, 0.61 WHIP
2 shutouts

Honorable Mention:

Patrick Corbin(RM) 4-1, 1.66, 7 QS, 1.01 WHIP
Stephen Strasburg(PC) 5-1, 2.19, 6 QS, 0.91 WHIP
Anibal Sanchez(CX) 4-0, 2.04, 5 QS, 0.88 WHIP
Kevin Gausman(SS) 5-0, 2.66, 5 QS, 1.05 WHIP
Mike Minor(WW) 6-0, 2.51, 5 QS, 1.09 WHIP
Hyun-Jin Ryu(MX) 2-1, 1.71, 4 QS, 0.95 WHIP
Kyle Hendricks(WW) 2-2, 2.88, 4 QS, 1.02 WHIP
Dylan Bundy(AR) 4-2, 2.40, 4 QS, 1.09 WHIP
Marco Gonzalez(KY) 5-0, 2.72, 4 QS, 1.40 WHIP

**** Top Pitching Performance of the Stretch ****



Perth's **Justin Verlander** carried a no-hitter into the 7th against his former team and host **Beverly**. After getting **Willie Calhoun** on an F9, **Keston Hiura** reached on an infield single to 3rd to break up the no-no. **Hiura** was the only baserunner for **Beverly** having been also hit by a pitch in the 1st inning.

Verlander walked none and fanned 9 on the way to his CG 1-hit shutout and 10th win of the season.

7/21/2019, PC19-BV19, Comerica Park

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	
Perth	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	-	5	10	0
Beverly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	1	0

Diamond Cats		IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
J.Verlander (W	10-5)	9	1	0	0	0	9	91/67	2.93

Honorable Mentions:

7/10: S.Matz (LW) 9IP, 1H, 0R, 1W, 5K, Won
 7/13: Z.Gallen (MN) 9IP, 1H, 0R, 3W, 12K, Won
 8/ 4: **J.Verlander** (PC) 9IP, 2H, 0R, 0W, 17K, Won

**** Offensive Performance of the Stretch ****



Vanderlyle's **Carlos Correa** was a key player in keeping his team alive in what turned out to be exciting extra inning win over visiting **Marco Island**. **Correa** greeted **Gator** closer **Josh Hader** with a 2-run HR in what turned out to be a 4-run, game-tying rally. Then, in the bottom of the 15th, **Correa**

connected for a 3-run, walk-off HR (his 3rd HR of the game)! **Correa** ended up with 7 RBI on the day. There was not a dry eye in the stadium!

7/21/2019, MG19-VC19, Dodger Stadium

	123	456	789	012	345	R	H	E
Marco Island	100	030	300	000	000	7	14	2
Vanderlyle	020	010	004	000	003	10	16	0

Crybaby Geeks		AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
C.Correa	ss	7	3	3	3	7	0	.239

2:2-RBI **HR**; 4:P3; 6:**K**; 9:2-RBI **HR**; 10:F9; 13:**K**;
 15:3-RBI **HR**

Honorable Mentions:

7/14: J.Baez (WW) 3-5, 3 R, 7 RBI, GS-HR, 2 RBI-HR, HR

7/14: J.Encarnacion (BB) 3-5, 3 R, 7 RBI, GS-HR, 2 RBI-HR, 1B

**** Overtime Game of the Stretch ****

The longest game of the Stretch was a 20-inning marathon between **Madison** and host **`Skayuna**. In the top of the 20th inning, **Eric Thames** launched a 2-out solo HR to put **Madison** in the lead and turned out to be the game-winner when **Jimmy Cordero** set the **Squires** down in order in the home half. Both teams had scored a run in the 13th to extend the overtime. **David Peralta** was 5/9 (0 Runs) in a losing cause, with 4 of his hits coming in the extra innings.

7/26/2019, MN19-SS19, Busch Stadium

	123	456	789	012	345	678	90	R	H	E	LOB
Madison	020	010	000	000	100	000	01	5	12	1	15
`Skayuna	001	020	000	000	100	000	00	4	18	1	17

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Next up ... September highlights!

Staff Columnist - *Biff Barnes Jr.*

Previous articles: <http://tmlam.org/news/2020-JUN.pdf>