

(BPI-Van Schaick Island, New York)

Biff Barnes Jr. TML Highlight Reel - September 2020

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## Diamonds in the Rough ... err ... Snow?

In the **Oceanic Conference**, the **Danny Way Diamonds** went 19-7 this month and pulled to within 3 games of the **Perth Diamond Cats** (11-15) for the **Conference Wild Card**. The **Albany Avalanche** (16-10) are in the thick of it as well, sandwiched in-between, just 1 game behind **Perth**! **Albany** has a slight schedule advantage heading into the final October series.

The three **Oceanic Division** leaders are just about all set. **Kentucky** has clinched the **Ruth**, with virtual clinches of **Walla Walla** in the **Steinmetz** and **California** in the **Williams**.

Over in the **Atmospheric Conference**, **Chesapeake** (16-10) jumped over **Traffic** (11-15) in the **Gehrig** to lead by 1 game. They play each other in the final series! In the **Gatto**, **Santa Ana** (16-10) moved to .500 and opened up a commanding 6-game lead over fading **Murderous** (10-16). **Vanderlyle** put up a league September best 20-6 and opened up a 5-game lead over **Madison** (15-11) in the **Robinson**, but both are headed to the playoffs.

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The see-saw batting lead is back to **Marco Island's Ketel Marte** at .344, only 2 points ahead of **Perth's Michael Brantley**. **Vanderlyle's Brian Reynolds** has crept into 3<sup>rd</sup> at .339. This is one of the closest batting races in TML History! **Marte** also leads in OBP (.421) and RC (156), while being tied with **Chesapeake's Jorge Soler**, each with 88 EXBH. **Soler** is the HR (54) and RBI leader (133). **Albany's Mike Trout** is 2<sup>nd</sup> in HR (47) and leads in SLG (.663). The SB leader is still **Kentucky's Mookie Betts** (61/80).

The ERA leader is still **Walla Walla's Mike Minor** at 2.12, followed by **Perth's Justin Verlander** at 2.74. **Minor** (20-3) is the first 20-game winner! **Kentucky's Yu Darvish** (17-3) and **Danny Way's Jacob deGrom** (17-9) are next. **Danny Way's Gerrit Cole** is the strikeout leader with 295 Ks. The Saves leader is still **Walla Walla's Hansel Robles** (38/39 in 54 GR; 1.30 ERA).

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

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## **\*\* Player of the Month \*\***



### **(AV) Mike Trout**

.329, 26-79, 3-1-9, 58 TB  
25 R, 17 RBI, 22 W, 9 SB  
OPS 1.215, 33 RC  
1 GW-RBI

#### **Honorable Mentions:**

Freddie Freeman (AV) .353, 10 HR, 21 R, 24 RBI, 32 RC  
Trevor Story (TR) .350, 8 HR, 22 R, 16 RBI, 31 RC  
Brandon Belt (SS) .360, 7 HR, 16 R, 23 RBI, 30 RC  
Austin Meadows (CX) .347, 9 HR, 21 R, 22 RBI, 29 RC  
Anthony Rendon (WW) .351, 8 HR, 20 R, 14 RBI, 28 RC  
Whit Merrifield (MG) .369, 5 HR, 16 R, 23 RBI, 27 RC

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## **\*\* Pitcher of the Month \*\***



### **(VC) Walker Buehler**

6-0, 2.05, 6 GS, 6 QS, 1 CG  
44.0 IP, 30 H, 12 W, 56 K  
**.185 OAVG, 0.95 WHIP**  
1 shutout

#### **Honorable Mentions:**

Miles Mikolas (DW) 6-0, 1.71, 5 QS, 0.78 WHIP  
Mike Minor (WW) 5-0, 1.22, 5 QS, 1.00 WHIP  
Kyle Hendricks (WW) 5-0, 2.95, 5 QS, 1.03 WHIP  
Chi Chi Gonzalez (NP) 2-0, 2.36, 5 QS, 1.21 WHIP  
Tyler Glasnow (VC) 3-0, 0.00, 4 QS, 0.59 WHIP  
Gerrit Cole (DW) 3-1, 2.48, 4 QS, 0.96 WHIP  
Frankie Montas (SA) 3-0, 2.12, 4 QS, 1.00 WHIP  
Clayton Kershaw (AV) 4-1, 2.93, 4 QS, 1.02 WHIP  
Jacob deGrom (DW) 3-1, 1.32, 3 QS, 1.02 WHIP  
Lance Lynn (WW) 3-2, 2.79, 3 QS, 1.24 WHIP

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**\*\* Top Pitching Performance of the Month \*\***



Walla Walla's **Mike Minor** hurled a 2-hit shutout at visiting Mudville. **Minor** served up a lead-off single to **Ender Inciarte** in the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning and a 2-out single to **Harold Ramirez** in the 6<sup>th</sup>. **Minor** walked only 2 and fanned 8 en route to his gem. **Minor** retired the final 9 batters of the game to earn his 20<sup>th</sup> win of the season in style!

9/9/2019, M919-WW19, Wrigley Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	
Mudville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	2	0
Walla Walla	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	x	-	4	6	0

Wombats		IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
<b>M.Minor</b> (W 20-3)		9	2	0	0	2	8	114/74	2.12

**Honorable Mention:**

8/18: T.Glasnow (VC) 8IP, 2H, 0R, 0W, 16K, Won

**\*\* Offensive Performance of the Month \*\***



Rocky Mountain's **Danny Jansen** led his team to a 23-0 blowout of host Lake Wobegone! **Jansen** came to bat in 7 of the 9 innings, reaching base 5 times and tallying 9 RBI in what was his best game of the season! **Jansen** socked a 3-run HR in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and added a **Grand Slam** in the 7<sup>th</sup>. **Lake Wobegone**

reliever **Hector Santiago** pitched like a "**staring rabbit in headlights**" giving up 14 hits, 16 walks and 16 runs in his 7 innings of punishment!

9/2/2019, RM19-LW19, Target Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	
Rocky Mtn.	0	4	3	3	0	4	6	0	3	-	23	18	0
Lake Wobegone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	2	1

Chinooks		AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
<b>D.Jansen</b>	c	5	4	3	2	9	2	.187

2:BB; 3:3-RBI HR; 4:RBI-Go; 5:L6; 6:RBI-BB;  
7:GS-HR; 9:2B

**Honorable Mentions:**

8/22: M.Kepler (VC) 2-4, 2 R, 7 RBI, GS-HR, 3 RBI-HR  
8/22: E.Suarez (MX) 3-5, 2 R, 7 RBI, two 3 RBI-HR, RBI-1B

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**\*\* Overtime Games of the Month \*\***

The longest games of the Month were a pair a 15-inning games between Division Rivals. The first was between **Kentucky** and host **Perth**. **Kentucky** scored the go-ahead run in the top of the 15<sup>th</sup> when defensive replacement **Byron Buxton** legged out a 2-out triple and scored on an RBI-single by **Mookie Betts**. **Kentucky** closer **Ken Giles** set the side down in order to earn the Save. The second 15-inning game was between **Murderous** and **Santa Ana**. **Murderous** took a 5-4 lead in the top of the 15<sup>th</sup> on a solo HR by **Josh Bell**, only to see **Santa Ana** respond with 2 runs to win! **Joey Gallo** led off the home 15<sup>th</sup> for **Santa Ana** and **Mike Yastrzemski** followed with a walk-off 2-run HR. Tough times for the **Crows** of late.

**8/28/2019, KY19-PC19, Fenway Park**

	123	456	789	012	345	R	H	E	LOB
<b>Kentucky</b>	010	100	001	000	001	4	12	0	7
<b>Perth</b>	100	000	020	000	000	3	9	1	12

**9/3/2019, MX19-SA19, Wrigley Field**

	123	456	789	012	345	R	H	E	LOB
<b>Murderous</b>	002	010	100	000	001	5	11	3	9
<b>Santa Ana</b>	210	010	000	000	002	6	13	0	11

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Next up ... end-of-season October highlights!

**Staff Columnist - *Biff Barnes Jr.***

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