

(BPI-Waikiki Beach, Hawaii)

Biff Barnes Jr. TML Highlight Reel - April 2024

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Black Sox & WildCats Off To Hot Starts!

The **California Black Sox** came out of the gate with an **18-8** start for their bid to return to the **TML World Series**. They did it with their talented pitching staff in posting a league best 3.11 ERA. They gave up the fewest Hits, Runs and HRs. The **Black Sox** already have a 5-game lead over **Chesapeake** and **Toxic Waste** in the **Pertierra Division**. Elsewhere in the **Atmospheric Conference**, **Madison** leads **Glenmont** by 1 game and Duluth by 2 in the **Robinson**. **Beverly** is back on top in the **Gatto**, 1 game over both **Santa Ana** and **New York**.

Over in the **Oceanic Conference**, the **Kentucky WildCats** also started out **18-8**, posting the 3rd best pitching ERA at 3.28. **Danny Way** trails **Kentucky** by 3 games in the **Ruth Division**. **Marco Island** has a 3-game lead over **Rocky Mountain** in the **Williams**. Likewise, **Albany** has a 3-game lead over both **Mudville** and **'Skayuna** in the **Steinmetz**.

The early batting leader is **Marco Island's Matt Wallner** with a lofty **.391** average! Not far behind is **Albany's "Player of the Month" Matt Olson** at **.377**, along with **Rocky Mountain's Willi Castro** and **Lake Wobegon's Corey Seager**, both at **.365**. **Olson** and **Santa Ana's Shohei Ohtani** are the early HR leaders with 12. There is a 3-way tie for the RBI lead at 30 between **Ohtani**, **Arkansas's Alec Bohm** and **Rocky Mountain's Nolan Arenado**. The early SB leaders are **Kentucky's** duo of **Francisco Lindor** (11 SB, 1 CS) and **Ozzie Albies** (11 SB, 2 CS).

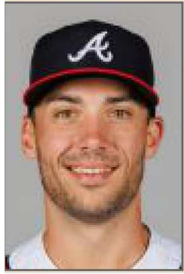
The early ERA leader is **California's "Pitcher of the Month" Wade Miley** at 1.22. **Homestead's Aaron Nola** is the victories leader at 5-1. **Toxic Waste's Spencer Strider** leads in Strikeouts with 55 K. The early Saves leader is **Kentucky's David Bednar** (8/9 in 10 GR, 0.66 ERA).

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

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**** Player of the Month ****



(AV) Matt Olson

.377, 40-106, 8-1-12, 86 TB
20 R, 29 RBI, 17 W, 2 IW
OPS 1.274, 42 RC
4 GW-RBI

Honorable Mention:

Freddie Freeman (AV) .336, 7 HR, 21 R, 16 RBI, 30 RC
Shohei Ohtani (SA) .292, 12 HR, 18 R, 30 RBI, 29 RC
Michael Harris II (RM) .333, 8 HR, 29 R, 18 RBI, 27 RC
Cody Bellinger (RM) .330, 7 HR, 22 R, 28 RBI, 26 RC
Matt Wallner (MG) .391, 4 HR, 25 R, 13 RBI, 25 RC
Geraldo Perdomo (RM) .360, 1 HR, 17 R, 13 RBI, 24 RC
Bryce Harper (MG) .300, 3 HR, 13 R, 16 RBI, 24 RC
Brandon Nimmo (BV) .337, 3 HR, 12 R, 11 RBI, 24 RC



**** Pitcher of the Month ****



(CX) Wade Miley

4-1, 1.22, 5 GS, 5 QS, 1 CG
37.0 IP, 24 H, 10 W, 20 K
.185 OAVG, 0.92 WHIP

Honorable Mention:

Justin Verlander (CX) 3-1, 2.85, 6 QS, 39 K, 0.93 WHIP
Tony Gonsolin (AV) 3-0, 1.60, 5 QS, 32 K, 0.97 WHIP
Spencer Strider (TX) 2-1, 2.18, 5 QS, 55 K, 0.92 WHIP
Miles Mikolas (DW) 3-1, 2.91, 5 QS, 21 K, 0.88 WHIP
Jameson Taillon (BC) 1-1, 1.76, 4 QS, 37 K, 0.72 WHIP
Aaron Nola (HG) 5-1, 3.17, 4 QS, 45 K, 0.99 WHIP
Kyle Bradish (NP) 2-1, 2.06, 4 QS, 40 K, 1.06 WHIP
Sonny Gray (VC) 2-0, 0.78, 3 QS, 19 K, 0.70 WHIP
Shohei Ohtani (SA) 1-1, 1.50, 3 QS, 27 K, 0.71 WHIP
Braxton Garrett (AR) 2-0, 1.67, 3 QS, 23 K, 1.07 WHIP

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



On opening day, **Vanderlyle's Sonny Gray** tossed a nifty **2-hit shutout** on the road at **Murderous!** **Gray** gave up a lead-off single to **Andy Ibanez** to open the bottom of the 1st, which was erased on a 163/GDP. The only other hit he allowed was a lead-off double to **Bo Bichette** in the 5th. **Gray** walked only one and fanned 8 en route to his CG gem.

4/1/2023, VC23-MX23, Oriole Park at Camden Yards

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Vanderlyle	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	7	11	0
Murderous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	2	1

Crybaby Geeks	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
S.Gray (W)	1-0	9	2	0	0	1	8 106/69	0.00

Honorable Mention:

4/12: H.Greene (DT) 6.1 IP, 1 BB, 15 K, Won

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



Albany's J.T. Realmuto was the hero in his team's amazing come-from-behind, extra inning, road victory at **Rocky Mountain!** Down 9-3 heading into the 9th, **Wilmer Flores** socked a 2-run HR, which set the stage for **Realmuto's** game-tying **Grand Slam** to cap a 6-run inning! In the 10th, **Realmuto** followed **Matt Olson's** RBI-double with a 2-run double of his own in what turned out to be a 4-run rally! That gave **Realmuto 7 RBI** in the game! A shell-shocked **Chinook** team went out with a whimper in the 10th ... 1-2-3.

4/10/2023, AV23-RM23, Target Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		R	H	E
Albany	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	6	4	-	13	16	0
Rocky Mtn.	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	-	9	14	1

Avalanche	AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
J.T.Realmuto	c	6	3	3	2	7	0 .326
1:F9; 4: HR ; 6: K ; 8:F8; 9: GS-HR ; 10:2-RBI 2B							

Honorable Mentions:

4/ 8: L.Taveras (SS) 6-7, 2 1R1B, 4 1B, BB, 2 RBI
4/14: A.Bohm (AR) 2-4, GS-HR, 3RHR, 7 RBI

**** Overtime Game of the Month ****

The longest game of the month was a 16-inning marathon on Opening Day between **Homestead** and host **`Skayuna**. In the home half of the 16th, **`Skayuna** used four singles to plate the game-winner, the final hit coming off the bat of **Elehuris Montero** (who had entered the game as a pinch-hitter in the 12th, when he delivered a game-tying RBI-single). After **Homestead** had scored 2 in the 9th to tie the game at 6-6, both teams scratched up a run in the 12th to extend the game. **`Skayuna** had 23 hits in the game!

4/8/2023, HG23-SS23, Busch Stadium

	123	456	789	012	345	6	R	H	E	LOB
Homestead	020	000	102	001	000	0	6	12	0	14
`Skayuna	002	110	100	001	000	1	7	23	0	13

Next up ... May highlights!

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Previous articles: <http://tmlam.org/news/2023-OCT.pdf>