

(BPI-Phoenix, Arizona)

Biff Barnes Jr. TML Highlight Reel - August 2024

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Wild Race To The Finish!

In the **Oceanic Conference**, the **Ruth Division** leading **Kentucky WildCats** (17-15 in the Summer Stretch) have a solid 10-game lead over **Danny Way** (16-16) and **Steinmetz** leader **Albany Avalanche** (14-18) have a comfortable 11-game lead over **Mudville** (15-17). The **Williams** saw **Marco Island Gators** (18-14) take a 3-game lead over a fading **Rocky Mountain** (14-18). Several teams can yet claim the two Wild Cards!

Over in the **Atmospheric Conference**, the **Pertierra Division** continues to be the strongest. Leader **California Black Sox** (21-11) lost ground to both **Chestertown** (Stretch best **25-7**) and **Toxic Waste** (23-9) and leads by only 4 and 5 games, respectively. **California** and **Toxic Waste** hook up for 16 games in September! The **Beverly Hillbillies** (21-11) lead the **Gatto** by 12 games. **Madison** (19-13) lost a little ground to **Vanderlyle** (21-11) in the **Robinson**, but still leads by 8 games.

The new batting leader is **Chestertown's Luis Arraez** at **.349**, but right behind is **Beverly's Josh Naylor** at **.340**. The new HR leader is **Toxic Waste's "Player of the Stretch" Ronald Acuna** with 38 HR. **Kentucky's Paul Goldschmidt** is still the RBI leader, now with 93. **Albany's Matt Olson** still leads in EXBH (70), OBP (.435), SLG (.630) and RC (127). The SB leader is still **Acuna** (77 SB, 25 CS).

The new ERA leader is **California's Justin Verlander** at 2.24, only 0.01 ahead **Danny Way's Miles Mikolas**. The victories leader is **Madison's Emmett Sheehan** (16-3), followed by **Homestead's Aaron Nola** (15-4) and **California's "Pitcher of the Stretch" Zack Wheeler** (15-4). The new Strikeout leader is **Skayuna's Kevin Gausman** with 198 K. The Saves leader is still **Kentucky's David Bednar** (31/35 SVO in 51 GR, 2.01 ERA).

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

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



(TX) Ronald Acuna

.346, 45-130, 5-0-12, 86 TB
29 R, 27 RBI, 14 W, 29 SB
OPS 1.076, 34 RC
3 GW-RBI

Honorable Mention:

Charlie Blackmon(MG) .376, 5 HR, 19 R, 15 RBI, 29 RC
Kerry Carpenter(MN) .380, 9 HR, 16 R, 19 RBI, 29 RC
Brandon Nimmo(BV) .319, 6 HR, 19 R, 20 RBI, 28 RC
Christian Yelich(TX) .349, 2 HR, 21 R, 11 RBI, 26 RC
Matt Olson(AV) .280, 6 HR, 19 R, 26 RBI, 26 RC



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



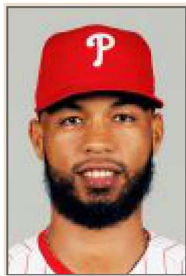
(CX) Zack Wheeler

5-1, 1.68, 7 GS, 7 QS, 0 CG
48.1 IP, 34 H, 12 W, 62 K
.191 OAVG, 0.95 WHIP

Honorable Mention:

Logan Gilbert(MN) 6-0, 2.23, 6 QS, 47 K, 1.10 WHIP
Jordan Montgomry(LW) 2-2, 2.28, 6 QS, 60 K, 1.21 WHIP
Max Fried(SA) 4-1, 2.55, 6 QS, 56 K, 1.06 WHIP
J.P. Sears (DW) 5-0, 2.63, 6 QS, 50 K, 0.90 WHIP
Sonny Gray(VC) 7-0, 2.68, 6 QS, 41 K, 1.23 WHIP
Miles Mikolas(DW) 4-3, 2.44, 6 QS, 35 K, 1.03 WHIP
Justin Verlander(CX) 4-0, 1.42, 5 QS, 28 K, 0.84 WHIP
Marcus Stroman(RM) 2-0, 1.60, 5 QS, 35 K, 0.95 WHIP
Clayton Kershaw(AV) 2-1, 2.00, 5 QS, 29 K, 0.92 WHIP
Zach Eflin(NP) 5-2, 2.49, 5 QS, 47 K, 0.79 WHIP
Pablo Lopez(CH) 4-2, 2.39, 5 QS, 69 K, 0.96 WHIP
Joe Musgrove(CH) 4-0, 2.72, 5 QS, 41 K, 0.77 WHIP

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



Glenmont's **Griffin Canning** hurled the season's first **no-hitter** at visiting **Lake Wobegone!** **Canning** did not walk a batter, but he lost his own Perfect Game by making a fielding error (**E1**) leading off the 6th inning! **Canning** fanned 10 and ended up facing only one over the minimum, while tossing only 102 pitches!

7/14/2023, LW23-GL23, Oriole Park at Camden Yards

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Lake Wobegone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
Glenmont	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	x	-	6	11

Haymakers	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
G.Canning (W 2-1)	9	0	0	0	0	10	102/72	3.91

Honorable Mention:

7/12: M.Keller(NP) CG win, 3 H, 2 R, 1 BB, **17 K**

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



Murderous's **Teoscar Hernandez** led the charge in a road blowout of host **Marco Island!** **Hernandez** was 4/6 with a double and pair of HRs, good for 8 RBI. His 2nd HR was a **Grand Slam** in his team's 8-run 6th inning! Teammate **Bo Bichette** hit a pair of HRs. Both **Bichette** and **Josh Bell** tallied 4 RBI.

7/19/2023, MX23-MG23, Coors Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Murderous	4	4	0	2	2	8	5	0	0	-	25	23
Marco Island	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	-	4	7

Crows	AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
T.Hernandez dh	6	4	4	2	8	0	.283
1:RBI 2B ; 2:3-RBI HR ; 4: E6 ; 6: 1B & GS-HR ; 7:F7							

Honorable Mentions:

7/15: B.Belt(SS) 3-5, 3**RHR**, 2**R2B**, 1**RBB**, 1**R1B**, 7 RBI
 7/20: x.Riley(BV) 4-5, 2 3**RHR**, **HR**, **1B**, 7 RBI

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

The longest game of the Summer Stretch was a **20-inning** marathon between **Madison** and host **Vegas**! The game had remained a scoreless tie into the 20th inning! **Madison** finally broke the ice when **Jon Berti** hit a leadoff HR! However, **Vegas** struck back quickly when **Trey Mancini** led off the bottom of the 20th with a double, advanced to 3rd on a ground out and scored the tying run on **Gleyber Torres's** single. **Joey Meneses** followed by lacing a game-winning double to deep right center! **Madison** had plenty of chances to win the game, as they had 18 LOB.

7/9/2023, MN23-VS23, T-Mobile Park

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	LOB
Madison	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	1	15	0					1	15	0	18
Vegas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-	2	8	1					2	8	1	8

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Next up ... September highlights!

Staff Columnist - *Biff Barnes Jr.*

Previous articles: <http://tmlam.org/news/2024-JUN.pdf>