

Fargo-Moorhead Off and Running in the Second Half

After having their streak of five straight half titles snapped by the Calgary Vipers in the first half, the Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks are off and running in the second half. Following back-to-back losses to the Winnipeg Goldeyes to start the half, Fargo-Moorhead has rattled off nine straight victories. However, the RedHawks are still five games from tying their own league record of 14 consecutive wins, set August 17th – September 1st, 2005.

Following an extra-inning loss to the Schaumburg Flyers on July 19th, the Gary SouthShore RailCats dropped out of first place for the first time in 2007. While it only lasted for one day, the South Division First Half Champs quest for a wire-to-wire lead was halted by the Flyers. Since Schaumburg’s one-day stay in sole possession of first place, the RailCats won three straight games, while the Flyers lost three straight.

Northern League Approaches 20 Million Fans

Playing in their 15th season as the longest tenured independent league in baseball, the Northern League will welcome their 20 millionth fan in the upcoming weeks. Entering play on July 24th, the total league attendance since 1993 sat at 19,849,026 fans. The league is on pace to eclipse the 20 million mark some time around August 3rd.

T-Bones Set Franchise Records in Attendance

The Kansas City T-Bones set attendance records at Community America Ballpark during the week of July 16th through 22nd. The club recorded two all-time records (on Wednesday and Thursday) and four season-long records (on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Sunday). The total attendance for the week was 42,014 and helped the club achieve a 2007 average attendance of 6,009. It marked the first time the T-Bones average attendance topped 6,000.

Owner John Ehlert credited the records to the fans and to two outstanding performers in the T-Bones organization. “Melissa Schloss, Director of Ticket Services, and Brandon Smith, Director of Ticket Sales, lead a sales team dedicated to Fun Well Done that incorporates world-class customer service,” stated Ehlert. “When that is coupled with the leadership of the organization starting with Rick Muntean and the outstanding service and operations personnel throughout the stadium, such attendance records are fun. We look forward to serving even more fans throughout the remainder of the season.”

Northern League Alumni – Updates

The Northern League had two more player contracts purchased in recent weeks, the fifth and sixth in 2007. On July 15th, the Oakland A’s acquired rookie infielder Darryl Lawhorn from the Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks. He was assigned to the their single-A affiliate in Stockton (California League). Lawhorn hit a home run in only his third game with the Ports and connected for two more home runs the next day.



On July 22nd, the Toronto Blue Jays purchased the contract Gary SouthShore RailCats relief pitcher Chad Blackwell. Blackwell was set to be assigned to the Blue Jays single-A affiliate in Dunedin (Florida State League). He is making his return to affiliated ball after playing the previous three seasons in the Royals and Pirates organizations. Lawhorn and Blackwell became the 604th and 605th Northern League players to be acquired since 1993.

Alumni Notes: Pitcher Tim Byrdak (Joliet/Gary) began a rehab assignment with the Toledo Mud Hens (International League) on July 18th. He is recovering from left elbow tendonitis for the Detroit Tigers (American League)...George Sherrill (Sioux Falls/Winnipeg) has not allowed a run in relief for the Seattle Mariners (American League) since June 11th. He is 2-0 with a 1.24 ERA in 43 games...Outfielder Brad Correll (T-Bones) was activated from the disabled list on July 11th for the Lancaster JetHawks (California League), since being signed by the Red Sox he has 12 home runs and 34 RBI in 20 games...Outfielder Jon Weber (Fargo) was acquired by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and assigned to their triple-A affiliate in Durham (International League). On July 22nd for the Bulls, he went 3-for-5 with a home run and five RBI...Todd Martin (Gary) is batting .389 with seven home runs and 28 RBI in 30 games for Mahoning Valley (New York-Penn League).

For all the current Northern League alumni updates, [click here](#) for a detailed list.



(through July 22nd)

Second Half Standings

| North Division | W | L | GB | Pct. |
|----------------|---|---|-----|------|
| Fargo-Moorhead | 9 | 2 | --- | .818 |
| Calgary | 7 | 4 | 2.0 | .636 |
| Winnipeg | 4 | 7 | 5.0 | .364 |
| Edmonton | 2 | 9 | 7.0 | .182 |

| South Division | W | L | GB | Pct. |
|----------------|---|---|-----|------|
| Gary | 7 | 4 | --- | .636 |
| Kansas City | 6 | 5 | 1.0 | .545 |
| Schaumburg | 5 | 6 | 2.0 | .455 |
| Joliet | 4 | 7 | 3.0 | .364 |

Attendance

| | Total | Openings | Avg. |
|----------------|---------|----------|-------|
| Winnipeg | 166,916 | 26 | 6,420 |
| Kansas City | 186,288 | 31 | 6,009 |
| Schaumburg | 122,318 | 27 | 4,530 |
| Joliet | 107,160 | 29 | 3,695 |
| Gary | 106,069 | 30 | 3,536 |
| Fargo-Moorhead | 100,805 | 30 | 3,360 |
| Edmonton | 58,913 | 28 | 2,104 |
| Calgary | 46,710 | 29 | 1,611 |

Team Batting

| | AVG | R | HR | SB |
|----------------|------|-----|----|----|
| Calgary | .316 | 400 | 40 | 63 |
| Kansas City | .298 | 377 | 49 | 58 |
| Fargo-Moorhead | .294 | 355 | 59 | 53 |
| Joliet | .290 | 333 | 65 | 32 |
| Gary | .286 | 309 | 25 | 74 |
| Edmonton | .282 | 343 | 43 | 27 |
| Winnipeg | .281 | 323 | 60 | 78 |
| Schaumburg | .271 | 300 | 43 | 82 |

Team Pitching

| | ERA | ER | BB | SO |
|----------------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Fargo-Moorhead | 4.14 | 236 | 206 | 342 |
| Gary | 4.21 | 249 | 221 | 374 |
| Joliet | 4.74 | 279 | 257 | 394 |
| Winnipeg | 5.06 | 283 | 237 | 389 |
| Calgary | 5.43 | 316 | 210 | 346 |
| Schaumburg | 5.46 | 312 | 215 | 361 |
| Kansas City | 5.87 | 335 | 270 | 353 |
| Edmonton | 6.74 | 377 | 217 | 352 |

Team Fielding

| | % | G | E | TC |
|----------------|------|----|----|-------|
| Fargo-Moorhead | .981 | 58 | 44 | 2,277 |
| Gary | .977 | 59 | 54 | 2,301 |
| Calgary | .976 | 59 | 56 | 2,299 |
| Winnipeg | .973 | 58 | 57 | 2,146 |
| Joliet | .969 | 59 | 70 | 2,274 |
| Edmonton | .964 | 59 | 79 | 2,216 |
| Schaumburg | .960 | 59 | 90 | 2,262 |
| Kansas City | .958 | 59 | 96 | 2,293 |

Power Rankings

| | Rank | Pts | Previously |
|----------------|------|-----|------------|
| Fargo-Moorhead | 1 | 36 | 1 |
| Calgary | 2t | 32 | 2 |
| Gary | 2t | 32 | 3 |
| Joliet | 4 | 23 | 4 |
| Winnipeg | 5 | 22 | 5 |
| Kansas City | 6 | 15 | 6 |
| Edmonton | 7t | 10 | 7 |
| Schaumburg | 7t | 10 | 8 |

Note: Power Rankings compiled by cumulative league rank in win pct, avg, run differential, era, and fldg pct.



Calgary Vipers – The Vipers have the top hitting offense in 2007 with a .316 team batting average through 59 games. The Northern League single season record is .310 established by Winnipeg in 1998...The Vipers are also on pace to break the Runs Scored record of 612 by the 1997 Goldeyes (83 games) and Team Hits record of 1,043 set by the Lincoln Salt Dogs in 2005...Drew Miller and Carlos Duncan have 38 and 34 consecutive game on-base streaks...On the road, three Vipers have active on-base streaks: Miller (28 games), Duncan (22), and Manabu Kuramochi (21).



Edmonton Cracker-Cats – The Cracker-Cats lost eight straight games (last seven games on the road) entering play July 24th, but are still six games away from tying the league record of 14 games set by Gary SouthShore from May 31st – June 14th, 2004...Edmonton has three pitchers mired in four-game losing streaks: Mike Johnson (0-4), Reggie Rivard (1-6), and Mike Henry (1-7)...George Sandel is batting .324 and has collected a hit in 45 of 57 games. He also has more walks (26) than strike outs (19).



Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks – In the ‘Hawks nine-game winning streak, they have outscored their opponent 68-27...On July 15th, the RedHawks signed outfielder Jeremy Peschel, the older brother of F-M lefty Mike Peschel...the RedHawks need to reach 28 wins in the second half for manager Doug Simunic (781-494, .613) to reach 800 career wins in the Northern League... The RedHawks defense is on pace to tie the league fielding percentage (.981) set by Joliet in 2004.



Gary SouthShore RailCats – Pitcher Willie Glen pitched a perfect game into the eighth inning on July 22nd, it was broken up by a two-out base hit by Joliet’s Dennis Blackmon. Glen retired 27 of 28 batters in the game, striking out 11...The RailCats are in the midst of playing 19 of 25 games at home. The ‘Cats have the second-best home mark (20-10, .667)...The only road games remaining for Gary in 2007 are against South Division rivals: Joliet (44 miles), Schaumburg (60 miles), and Kansas City (538 miles).



Joliet JackHammers – Joliet (246-281, .467) maintains a 2.5 game lead on Gary (244-284, .462) in the franchises all-time standings. Both teams entered the Northern League in 2002...Juan Diaz (.602) and Derek Nicholson (.574) rank second and third in the league in slugging percentage...The ‘Hammers lead the league with 65 home runs...Joliet has nearly identical home (13-16, .448) and road records (13-17, .433)...The JackHammers are 0-30 this year when they do not have the lead after eight innings.



Kansas City T-Bones – Calvin Pickering had his 29-game consecutive on-base streak snapped in Schaumburg on July 13th and Rob Watson had his 24-game streak snapped the following game by the Flyers. Watson still has an active 31-game consecutive on-base streak at home...catcher Patrick Arlis leads the league in throwing out would-be base stealers (6 of 15, .400). As a team, the T-Bones have thrown out 25 of 79 (.316), second-best in the league...K.C. is batting .331 with runners in scoring position and two outs.




Schaumburg Flyers –James Morrison and Brandon Villafuerte have both appeared in more than half of the Flyers games (31 appearances/59 games)...Sandy Almonte (.769) and Demetrius Heath (.710) rank second and fourth in the league in stolen base efficiency...The Flyers are nearly unbeatable when they get a lead late in the game: record with a lead after five innings (19-2), after six innings (19-1), after seven innings (21-1), and after eight innings (23-1)...Schaumburg is batting 45 points lower versus lefties (.282 vs RHP / .237 vs. LHP).



Winnipeg Goldeyes – The Goldeyes are four wins from winning their franchise’s 700th victory (696-506, .579)...The Goldeyes opened up the second half with seven of their first 11 games versus Fargo-Moorhead, the division rivals only square-off three more times in ’07 (in Winnipeg August 7th-9th)...The league has 25 players with a batting average over .300, Brent Matheny (.303) is the only Goldeye...Besides Matheny, there are five Goldeyes with an average of .291 or higher...Fehlandt Lentini leads the league in stolen bases (26) and stolen base percentage (.867).

League Leaders - through July 22nd

| | |
|---|---|
|  | AVG Darryl BRINKLEY .414 |
|---|---|

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|------|
| 2 Carlos Duncan | CAL | .368 |
| 3 Juan Diaz | JOL | .357 |
| 4 Rob Watson | KC | .351 |
| 5 Joe Mathis | FM | .335 |

| | |
|--|---|
| HR Juan DIAZ 15 |  |
|--|---|


| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|----|
| 2 Jason Colson | CAL | 13 |
| 3t several players tied | | 11 |

| | |
|---|--|
|  | RBI Jason COLSON 62 |
|---|--|


| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|----|
| 2t Darryl Brinkley | CAL | 58 |
| 2t Calvin Pickering | KC | 58 |
| 4 Carlos Duncan | CAL | 51 |
| 5t several players tied | | 48 |

| | |
|--|---|
| WINS Josh HABEL 9 |  |
|--|---|

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| 2t Chris Schutt | CAL | 8 |
| 2t Willie Glen | GAR | 8 |
| 2t Nate Sevier | JOL | 8 |
| 5t several players tied | | 7 |

| | |
|---|--|
|  | ERA Josh HABEL 3.41 |
|---|--|

| | | |
|----------------|-----|------|
| 2 Evan Greusel | CAL | 3.58 |
| 3 Willie Glen | GAR | 3.88 |
| 4 Dane Renkert | FM | 3.88 |
| 5 Dan Grybash | SCH | 3.89 |

| | |
|--|---|
| STRIKEOUTS Willie GLEN 97 |  |
|--|---|

| | | |
|------------------|-----|----|
| 2 Scott Richmond | EDM | 71 |
| 3 Benjamin Moore | WIN | 64 |
| 4 Dane Renkert | F-M | 63 |
| 5 Joel Posey | WIN | 57 |