2014 New York Collegiate Baseball League Gameday
Written by Tim Mullhaupt (NYCBL Gameday Intern)
June 9, 2014

NYCBL Standings

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CHAMPS REMAIN UNDEFEATED
EMGE EMERGES, WHIZ WHITMAN, WEEKLY ACOLADES
WALCZAK PROVING VERSATILITY IN DOUBLE-A

The Daily Recap:

Game 1: Cortland 7, Salt Cats 5
SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Paced by the stellar efforts of Zachary Racusin (Essex CC), who reached base in all five of his at bats, scored twice and drove in a run, the Crush withstood a furious four-run Salt Cats’ rally in the bottom of the ninth en route to their second win of the season. Greg Jasek (Clarkson) hurled seven brilliant innings of one-run ball, striking out seven while allowing only five hits and one walk.

Game 2: Salt Cats 2, Cortland 1
SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Blaise Whitman (University of Rhode Island) shut down the Crush with a complete game, allowing only one run on five hits and a walk, while striking out eight. Patrick Ortland (Siena) picked a great time for his first hit of the season, driving in both Syracuse runs with a single down 1-0 in the bottom of the sixth in a seven-inning affair.

Rochester 7, Twins 6
GENEVA, N.Y. – Shane Soria (Glendale CC) sparked the Ridgemen with yet another multi-hit game, scoring twice and driving in a run and Matt Emge (University of Pittsburgh) was masterful off the bench going 2-2 with a two-run shot and a double. Defense was a far greater issue than pitching for Geneva on the night, as they committed five errors with five of the seven runs they allowed being unearned.

Oneonta 9, Junior Chiefs 6
SYRACUSE, N.Y. – The Junior Chiefs’ late surge of five unanswered runs over the final three innings was not enough as the Outlaws improved to 4-0 on the season. Matt Haggerty (Grand Canyon) went 2-5 with two singles, producing what ended up being the difference, scoring once and driving in two in the Outlaws’ second consecutive 9-6 win. Haggerty also tacked on two assists from left field in the win. Gabe Levanti (Northeastern) drove in two on an RBI single in the loss for the Junior Chiefs.

Sherrill 7, Red Wings 1
SHERRILL, N.Y. – Cody Tolbert (Ft. Scott CC) was strong in seven innings, allowing just one run on five hits and four walks while striking out five in his first win of the season. Nicholas Duarte (Siena) went 1-3, driving in the first two runs of the game with a double and one later on a sac fly.

Today’s Schedule - June 9, 2014

Salt Cats at Sherrill 5:00 pm
Gentile (1-0, 0.00) vs. McClure (0-0, 1.80)

Oneonta at Cortland 5:00 pm
Genovese (0-0, 0.00) vs. Parkes (0-0, 0.00)

Genesee at Hornell 7:00 pm
Knowlton (1-0, 5.06) vs. Grey (1-0, 0.00)

Oneonta at Cortland 7:00 pm
Romanowski (0-0, 0.00) vs. Engler (0-0, 0.00)

Wellsville at Olean 7:00 pm
Ward (0-1, 0.00) vs. Lopez (1-0, 0.00)

Rochester at Twins 7:00 pm
Whittle (1-0, 1.28) vs. Shields (0-0, 5.40)
NYCBL Game of the Day:
Wellsville at Olean, 7:00pm

Monday features a prime candidate for a pitcher’s duel when the Nitros travel to Olean with each team looking to take steps towards breaking .500.

The matchup features a pair of starters who’ve each given up two unearned runs in their lone respective starts.

Wellsville’s Brandon Ward (Indiana University SE) lost to the Dodgers back on June 2nd while allowing only one hit in 4.2 innings.

Olean’s Alex Lopez (Texas Wesleyan) dominated over eight innings on the second, allowing just five base runners and striking out eight in the win.

The Nitros average four and a half runs a game whereas the Oilers are just a tick under seven.

NYCBL Alumni Update:
Jamie Walczak, 2B, Hornell ’07

A former standout hitter in the NYCBL with the Dodgers, Walczak has made quite a transition from the days he use to hit for an average north of .300 and reach base in over 40 percent of his plate appearances.

The Mercyhurst product is now a relief pitcher in the Cincinnati Red’s Double-A affiliate, the Pensacola Blue Wahoos. In 2014 Walczak has posted a 1-3 record with 3 saves and a 4.44 ERA in 26.1 innings pitched. In that same stretch he’s struck out 30, allowed 25 hits and walked 12. Now in his sixth minor league season, the righty has a career record of 13-14, 9 saves, and an ERA of 4.68 in 168 games.

Walczak was selected by the Reds in the 15th round draft pick in the 2009 MLB amateur draft.

Hitter of the Day: Matt Emge, C/1B, Rochester Ridgemen

*PH 2/2, 2B, HR, BB, 1 R, 2 RBI, .571 AVG, .600 OBP

Emge provided the Ridgemen with some timely hitting in a nail-biter of a contest with the Twins, Sunday. The pinch hitter connected on a two-run shot in the fourth inning. Emge’s blast capped what was a six-run stanza for the Ridgemen in their one-run victory over the Twins.

Pitcher of the Day: Blaise Whitman, SP, Salt Cats

1-0, 7.0 IP, 1 R, 1 BB, 5 H, 8 K, 1.28 ERA .250 OAVG, .290 OOBP

Following an opening game of a double header against Cortland that saw Syracuse surrender five runs and use three relievers, the Salt Cats needed Whitman (University of Rhode Island) to log some miles. He did just that, going the full 7.0, allowing just one earned run on five hits and one walk while striking out eight. Against a potent Crush lineup that averages about five runs scored a game, Whitman faced 28 batters and allowed just six to reach base via the merit of a hit or walk.

Hitter of the Week: Ben Mauseth, IF, Oneonta Outlaws

8/18, 3 2B, 1 HR, 5 R, 10 RBI, .444 AVG, .500 OBP

At the end of the first week of the 2014 NYCBL season, Mauseth (Grand Canyon University) is third in batting average, tied for second in OBP, first in RBI, and tied for first in home runs all while only playing in just four games, tied for the least amount of games played by a team in the NYCBL. Four also marks the switch-hitter’s current hitting streak as he’s had at least one knock in each of the four games Oneonta has played in, including multi-hit games in three of the four contests. Mauseth came out of the gates swinging hitting a home run and a double in the opener on June fifth, then two runs scored and one driven on the sixth. He followed with three RBI and two doubles performance on the seventh. Mauseth also leads the league in the runs created metric (RC)-an estimate of how many runs a player has generated when taking into account hits, walks, total bases, and at bats-with a total of seven, or just over 20 percent of Oneonta’s run’s this season.

Pitcher of the Week: Zach Uher, SP, Genesee Rapids

2-0, 15.1 IP, 4 R, 4 BB, 18 H, 10 K, 2.35 ERA

1.43 WHIP, .305 OAVG, .354 OOBP, 4.51 ERC

Zach Uher (Baruch College) is certainly going a long way to disprove the notion that today’s pitchers are fragile. In the past week Uher has thrown in three games, making two starts with a relief appearance in between. What sticks out the most about Uher’s respectable stat line is the fact that he’s 2-0, currently the best record in the young NYCBL season. Even more impressive? Those two wins came against teams doing their best California Chrome impression at the top of the Western division in Niagara (4-2) and Rochester (5-2). Component ERA (ERC), a sabermetric that attempts to predict what a pitcher’s ERA will eventually be considers walks allowed and hits allowed instead of the traditional earned runs allowed divided by nine. Currently Uher’s ERC is just a hair under 4.51. For perspective, if he were to have this number in the majors, he’d be just ahead of Boston’s Jake Peavy, and just behind Cleveland’s Justin Masterson, Detroit’s Justin Verlander, and Toronto’s R.A. Dickey.
2014 NYCBL SEASON INFORMATION:

Regular Season Length: June 1st - July 25th

Regular Season Games: 46

Playoff Teams:
Eight – The top four teams in each division advance to the playoffs.

Playoff Format:
Three rounds beginning on July 27th. The first round will feature the #1 seeded team vs. #4 seeded team and the #2 seeded team vs. #3 seeded team in a best or series with the highest seeded team being the home team in game one and game three if necessary. The winners of these series will advance to the play in the Division Championship series best-of-three series. The winners of those two series will play for the NYCBL Championship in a best of three series. The highest seeded team will be the home team in game one and game three if necessary.

The 2014 NYCBL All-Star Game sponsored by the New Era Hat Company will take place Tuesday, July 8th at the Kerr-Pegula Athletic Complex on the campus of Houghton College. First pitch is set for 7p.m.

Past NYCBL Champs:
‘13: Oneonta Outlaws
‘12: Syracuse Junior Chiefs
‘11: Oneonta Outlaws
‘10: Amsterdam Mohawks
‘09: Amsterdam Mohawks
‘08: Brockport Riverbats
‘07: Elmira Pioneers
‘06: Saratoga Phillies
‘05: Hornell Dodgers
‘04: Amsterdam Mohawks
‘03: Amsterdam Mohawks
‘02: Hornell Dodgers
‘01: Rome Indians
‘00: Hornell Dodgers
‘99: Newark Dodgers
‘98: Geneva Knights
‘97: Ithaca Lakers
‘96: Ithaca Lakers
‘95: Hornell Dodgers
‘94: Ithaca Lakers
‘93: Little Falls Diamonds
‘92: Little Falls Diamonds
‘91: Broome Rangers
‘90: Little Falls Diamonds
‘89: N/A
‘88: Schenectady Mohawks
‘87: Cohocton Red Wings
‘86: Cohocton Red Wings
‘85: Broome Rangers
‘84: Broome Rangers
‘83: Broome Rangers
‘82: Cortland Apples
‘81: Broome Rangers
‘80: Broome Rangers
‘79: Syracuse Chiefs
‘78: Syracuse Chiefs

Catch the Official podcast of the NYCBL live Monday mornings at 11am