

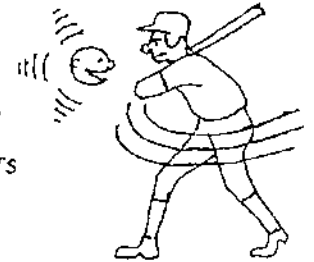


THE UPS

KNUCKLE
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BALL
AND OUTS



of NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL

Volume **II** _____ 1994 _____ Number **7**

We are in for a grandstand finish to our regular season. There may be a great deal of disappointment at the reduction in our numbers, but with everyone left with four or less games to play, it is gratifying to note that only ½ a game covers the top four. Although the Tonbridge Bobcats have been left somewhat adrift, in their two remaining games against Waltham Forest Angels and London Warriors, they have the opportunity to influence the final standings. Remember, they have beaten the Essex Eagles, and lead the London Warriors at Barnes earlier in the season, and every team that plays the Bobcats speaks highly of their enthusiasm, commitment and sportsmanship.

Perhaps the most influential games will be over the two weekends of September 4th and September 11th, when Waltham Forest Angels play the Enfield Spartans at Marsh Lane, and then play at Enfield's King George V diamond the following week. Angels have lead the way all season, whilst Enfield, returning to full strength after a season plagued by injuries, are looking to take the regular season crown.

REPORTS & SCORES

7th August 1994

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R
Essex Eagles	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	2	8	11
Waltham Forest Angels	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3

Winning Pitcher - Vince Warner
Losing Pitcher - Matthew Poggi

The visit of the in form Essex Eagles to the table-topping Waltham Forest Angels looked to be an intriguing prospect for all concerned, but sadly for the Angels, circumstances conspired against them, reducing their squad strength at a critical moment. Lead-off batter and regular shortstop, Mick Moseley, was injured, centrefielder Mark McCrory was unavailable, and regular catcher, Takao Inamura, had returned to his native Japan. Add to this an ankle injury to starting pitcher Matthew Poggi that left him decidedly unsteady on his feet, and you can see that manager Mike Agha's concern was justified.

Both starting pitchers began well, Vince Warner, in fact holding a 1 hit shut out right up to the seventh inning. Poggi, troubled and distracted by his injury, allowed one Vince Warner RBI in the opening third of the game, and despite everything, the much hoped for nailbiter looked to be on the cards.

However, a 2 RBI single for Clive Smith (3b) and 2 RBI triple from Dave Read (ss) pushed the Eagles into a 5-0 lead. Carl Blackburn (c), added a sac bunt in the 5th inning for 6-0 Eagles, and Vince Warner (p) and Ian Colvin (2b) batted another run each in the sixth for 8-0.

A passed ball then gave Warner the chance to steal home for 9-0 Eagles, and the fact of the slaughter, and a one hit shut-out, appeared to be staring Angels in the face. With heads obviously down, the Angels fielding deteriorated, and Carl Blackburn picked up run number ten thanks to a dropped fly ball, a steal of second, a steal of third, and a fielding overthrow advancing him to home plate. The process was almost repeated again for Todd Cockman (rf), except he got on base by being hit by pitch (releiver Tony Dyett on the hill for Angels), and was batted in rather than advancing on an error.

At 11-0, a determined Mike Agha encouraged his team to focus on their abilities in an effort to break Vince Warners' domination, and the breakthrough came with Angel's second hit of the game, Noel Omechi (3b) batting in Medeo Kamiyama (ss). Bucky O'Hare (rf) then

added a further RBI for 11-2 Eagles.

In the eighth, both Glenn Spooner (lf) and Carl Blackburn were walked, and were then allowed to steal three further bases each for 13-2 Eagles. Todd Cockman was about to do the same when he was batted in, along with Clive Smith for 15-2 Eagles, and Matt Jennings (cf) took the score to 16-2, after avoiding a run down between 3rd and home plate. Dave Read, having batted in Jennings, stole 2nd, stole 3rd, and scored courtesy of a passed ball for 17-2, and an RBI for Jeff Holdsworth and a Glenn Spooner sacrifice fly took the scoreline to 19-2.

Clive Smith finished the Eagles scoring with another walk, steal, steal, passed ball combination, and Pavel Masek (lf), added a consolation 3rd run in the bottom of the 9th batting in Oliver Millet.

Despite the scoreline, and a somewhat dispirited display by the Angels, they can claim defensive play of the game. Eagles Dave Read, currently batting .520, hit a low bouncing grounder over second base. Angels shortstop, Medeo Kamiyama, made a brilliant diving play, gloving the ball and delivering it to first for the out. On his way back to the bench, Read was heard to ask the fans behind the backstop just how that play had been made, as he had seen it, but didn't really believe it !

In the other National League meeting at Deacons Field, Tonbridge, Steve Simmons celebrated his rapid return to baseball with a grand slam homer in the Enfield Spartans 42-2 thumping of the Tonbridge Bobcats.

14th August 1994

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	R	H	E
London Warriors	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	6	11	2
Enfield Spartans	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9	11

Winning Pitcher - Cody Cain
Losing Pitcher - Jamie Anderson

A brief and not to detailed report as your ed was mildly panicking behind the Warriors scorebook, cursing every occasion upon which he entered details in the wrong column !

Of the details known, Ian Lanario pitched 4 full innings plus 3 further batters, conceding 8 hits, 4 walks and 4 K's. Jamie Anderson, Enfields new releif pitcher, had barely landed at the airport before being whisked off to play, held Warriors to 1 hit, collecting 3 K's but yielding 6 walks and an HBP.

For the Warriors, Alan Smith went five innings, 5 K's, 3 walks and 7 hits. Cody Cain pitched 6 innings, 7 K's, 2 walks and only 2 hits.

An exciting battle as always when these two sides meet, and with both Steve Simmons and Simon Lanario back in the Enfield line-up, it was perhaps the strongest team Spartans had been able to field for several weeks, and although Jamie Anderson impressed in his first pitching outing, Warrior's Cody Cain was in impressive form, perhaps keen to avenge the 9th inning defeat he suffered earlier this year.

Sadly, we have to report that the Bobcats could not raise a team to face the Essex Eagles, thus giving Eagles a 9-0 forfeit.

NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS - WEEK 17

14/8/94

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB
Waltham Forest Angels	9	3	.750	--
Essex Eagles	10	4	.714	--
Enfield Spartans	9	4	.692	½
London Warriors	9	4	.692	½
Tonbridge Bobcats	4	10	.286	6

SCHEDULES

Essex Eagles at London Warriors 21/8/94
Waltham Forest Angels at Tonbridge Bobcats
Essex Eagles at Enfield Spartans 28/8/94
London Warriors at Waltham Forest Angels
Enfield Spartans at Waltham Forest Angels 4/9/94
Tonbridge Bobcats at London Warriors
Waltham Forest Angels at London Warriors 11/9/94

BASEBALL SOUTH WEST

RESULTS

Torbay Tigers 10 Teignmouth Rebels 9 6/8/94
Crewkerne Cutters 9 Norton Braves 0 7/8/94
Teignmouth Rebels 31 Plymouth Mariners 6
Wessex Kings 9 Plymouth Pirates 2
Crewkerne Cutters 35 Bristol Buccaneers 24 14/8/94
Teignmouth Rebels 9 Wessex Kings 6
Torbay Tigers 10 Plymouth Mariners 3

STANDINGS - WEEK 18

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB
Torbay Tigers	12	1	.917	--
Teignmouth Rebels	8	2	.800	2½
Plymouth Mariners	8	3	.727	3½
Norton Braves	7	5	.583	5
Wessex Kings	7	7	.500	6
Crewkerne Cutters	4	9	.308	8½
Plymouth Pirates	1	10	.091	10½
Bristol Buccaneers	1	11	.083	11

SCHEDULES

Plymouth Pirates at Crewkerne Cutters 21/8/94
Teignmouth Rebels at Bristol Buccaneers

GAMES TO BE RE-ARRANGED

Norton Braves at Plymouth Pirates
Norton Braves at Teignmouth Rebels
Plymouth Mariners at Bristol Buccaneers
Teignmouth Rebels at Plymouth Mariners
Teignmouth Rebels at Plymouth Pirates
Torbay Tigers at Plymouth Mariners.

Many thanks to Steve Corr - Baseball South West.

MAKING NEWS IN BOSTON, MASS.

An Englishman has returned to Britain after a lengthy stay in Boston, and greatly enjoyed last Sunday's Enfield Spartans and London Warriors game. So much so, in fact, that he wishes to compile an article on the history of baseball in Britain for possible publication in Boston. Please extend your usual warmth and hospitality, and send him any information you think may be of interest. The details are :- John Davis, 55 Warren Road, Chingford, London E4 6QR.