

# LINEDRIVE!

Fanzine

BRITISH BASEBALL

Edited by Phil Ross



News  
Statistics  
Profiles  
Reports  
Letters

LONDON WARRIORS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

TEAM ROSTER 1992

<u>Name</u>	<u>Usual Fielding Position</u>	<u>Uniform Number</u>
Harry Atwood	Shortstop	12
Alan Bloomfield	Second Base	4
Justin Brown	Third Base	20
Julian Dodwell	Centrefield	19
Ben Geddes	Leftfield	17
Oliver Heidecker	Designated Hitter	14
Vincente Martinez	Relief Pitcher	16
Kevin Murphy	Rightfield	18
Alan Smith	Starting Pitcher	9
Stanley Smulders	Rightfield	15
Brad Thompson	Catcher	6
Darrin Ward	First Base	7
Dean Ward	Third Base	5

A BRITISH BASEBALL FANZINE

COVER STORY

Welcome to issue 2 of *LINEDRIVE !* fanzine, and the first thing that meets the eye is the very impressive limited edition colour cover. A very big vote of thanks to Rex Phillips for the design and artwork, and for his generous donation of a limited number of colour covers.

Hot on the heels of the inaugural issue, *LINEDRIVE !* no. 2 brings you some early season scorelines, together with reports.

REPORTS & SCORES

National League

Sunday April 26th

11213141516171819 R I H E I

Cambridge Knights 1010101021101010 311011

London Warriors 101010111151410X11111171

After a shaky start, Warriors powered their way to victory in the opening match of the new National League season. Despite yielding 10 hits, and seven fielding errors to the Knights, Cambridge could not contain the Warriors' batting, scoring 11 runs off 11 hits.

Whilst Cambridge played some efficient baseball in the field, a lack of offensive fire power, and some slightly below par pitching, meant that once London had slammed home five runs in the bottom of the sixth, the game was as good as over.

Notable achievements of the day were Kevin Murphy's four walks from four plate appearances, Darrin Ward and Alan Bloomfield collecting three RBI's apiece, and from the new players, Justin Brown hitting one RBI from his first at bat.

Alan Smith pitched up to the first batter in inning seven, Vince Martinez closing with barely a hit registering against him.

Reading Bulldogs 8 Croydon Jays 16.

Last season, Bulldogs pitcher Peter Edwards took to walking Jays' Keith Wilesmith, and probably wishes he had done so this year.

Wilesmith belted two homers (one a grand slam), and notched up seven RBI's. Not content with that, he pitched innings four to nine to claim the win, coming in as reliever for opener Jim Hogge.

BBF National League

Sunday April 26th

Essex Arrows 1 Humberide Mets 11.

Quality pitching from the Mets' Brian Thurston left Essex with just one consolation run to show from their opening fixture.

They started brightly, acheiving a double play that was a whisker from being a triple in the very first inning, but from then on it all went wrong, pitcher Simon Bowden surrendering ten hits to the visitors.

Although defensively Arrows played well, with fine displays from Jerry Bowden and new blood, Dave Hucker, there was little they could do to combat their impressive opponents.

Southern League

Sunday April 26th

Croydon Pirates 40 Hounslow Rangers 5

Dave Ward and Eric Petrie celebrated the start of their 12th season in baseball with a handsome pummelling of the Rangers. Petrie collected three hits from four at bats, including a huge triple in the fifth. Other triple hitters for the Pirates were Mike Addley, Dave Lewis and Ross Chell, the latter being a talented young pitcher with a mean breaking ball, a talent he used to good effect collecting five K's from Hounslows last seven batters.

Westcliffe Wildcats 3 Caterham A's 24

A's opened their first ever league campaign with an impressive win over the Wildcats, Mark Dalton being match MVP, scoring five RBI's, three coming in off one big three baser. Gary Cope also flexed the bat to good effect, and Kevin Mac took charge on the mound to keep the Wildcats off the bags.

National League

Sunday May 3rd

Cambridge Knights 9 Croydon Jays 1

Cambridge put in a tidy error free display, and came very close to shutting out the Jays, John Harrington snatching their only run in the ninth. After a promising first inning, little seemed to go right for the Croydon side, and as the innings passed, errors mounted.

Reading Bulldogs 0 Enfield Spartans 16

Bulldogs are finding the step up from the Southern league tough going, and the additional handicap of an injury to mainstay pitcher Peter Edwards, meant that they were to concede 16 runs for the second week in a row.

Southern League

Sunday May 3rd

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R		
Waltham Abbey Crusaders	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	6
Croydon Pirates	1	4	2	2	0	0	0	5	1	3	X	17

After a shaky start from the Pirates, with both sides apparently keen to contest how many wild throws they could squeeze into an inning, the game settled down for innings three to five, with some tidy baseball being played, particularly by Crusaders third baseman, who very nearly instigated the only double play of the match, the batter/runner just beating the play.

However, a return to poor fielding form in the bottom of the sixth allowed Pirates to break away, and with the talented young Ross Chell taking the mound for the closing innings, Crusaders were left trailing far behind, as Chell allowed only three hits off the last twenty batters.

Guildford Mavericks 7 Caterham A's 16.

A's trailed early on to the Mavericks, but a bases loaded three base hit from Peter Weakner in the bottom of the fifth signalled a revival, and when Rick Clayton repeated the feat later in the game,

Mavericks were sent reeling.

Kevin Mac's pitching strengthened as the game continued, notching up 13 K's and surrendering only two runs from the last five innings.

NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS - WEEK 2

	Wn	Lt	Pcent	GB
Enfield Spartans	2	0	1.000	-
Birmingham Devils	1	0	1.000	½
London Warriors	1	0	1.000	½
Cambridge Knights	1	1	.500	1
Croydon Jays	1	1	.500	1
Essex Eagles	0	2	.000	2
Reading Bulldogs	0	2	.000	2

IDENTITY CRISIS ?

Not only do we have the confusing situation of two National Leagues, but to add to it, a number of name changes have been thrust upon us, as the Major League teams from the States exert the powers of copyright. So, Birmingham Braves are now the Devils, Cambridge Royals-the Knights, London Athletics-the Warriors, Reading Royals-the Bulldogs, and Newham Blue Jays, having returned to Croydon, are now the Croydon Jays.

Pity really, as British fans could have shown their loyalty by buying suitable Major League products. I think Major League marketing just struck out !

GOT THE UMP ?

Caterham A's would like to hear from anyone who could act as home umpire. Please contact Dave Flynn - tel 0883-347058.

All contributions to *LINEDRIVE !* are most welcome and should be addressed to :-

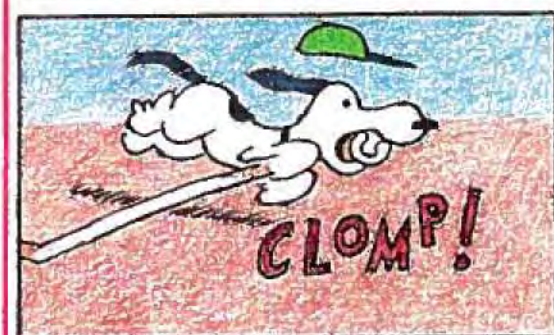
PHIL ROSS, FLAT 2 'THANESCROFT', SELBORNE ROAD, CROYDON, CRO 5JQ

LONDON WARRIORS NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1992

Sun 26th April	HOME TO CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS	W 11-3
Sun 10th May	HOME TO READING BULLDOGS (D)	W 16-4 & 17-0
Sun 17th May	away to Essex Eagles (D)	W 15-1 & 16-1
Sun 24th May	away to Birmingham Devils	
Sun 31st May	HOME TO CROYDON JAYS	
Sun 14th June	away to Cambridge Knights (D)	
Sun 21st June	HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES	
Sun 28th June	away to Enfield Spartans	
Sun 5th July	away to Reading Bulldogs	
Sun 12th July	HOME TO CROYDON JAYS	
Sun 19th July	away to Enfield Spartans	
Sun 26th July	away to Birmingham Devils	
Sun 2nd August	HOME to CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS	
Sun 16th August	away to Croydon Jays (D)	
Sun 23rd August	HOME TO BIRMINGHAM DEVILS (D)	
Sun 30th August	HOME TO ENFIELD SPARTANS (D)	
Sun 6th September	away to Reading Bulldogs	
Sun 13th September	HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES	
Sat 19th September	Semi Final Playoffs Game 1	
Sun 20th September	Semi Final Playoffs Games 2 & 3	
Sat 26th September	Final Playoff Game 1	
Sun 27th September	Final Playoff Games 2 & 3	
Sun 4th October	National League Champs v Buddies League Champs	

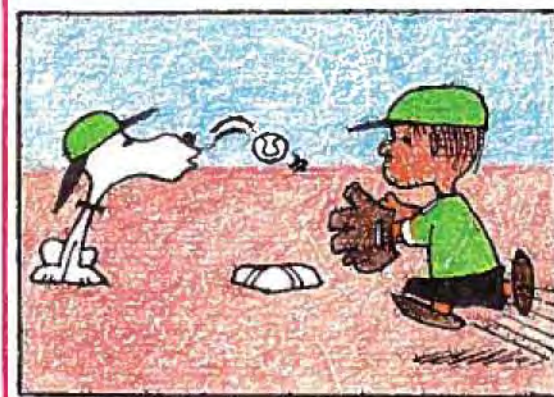
*D=Double header-2 seven innings games. Game one starts 1:00 pm*

*All other nine inning games start 3:00 pm.*



## DOUBLE PLAY

after  
Charles M. Schulz



Adapted from "Who do you think you are, Charlie Brown?" Coronet Books 1972