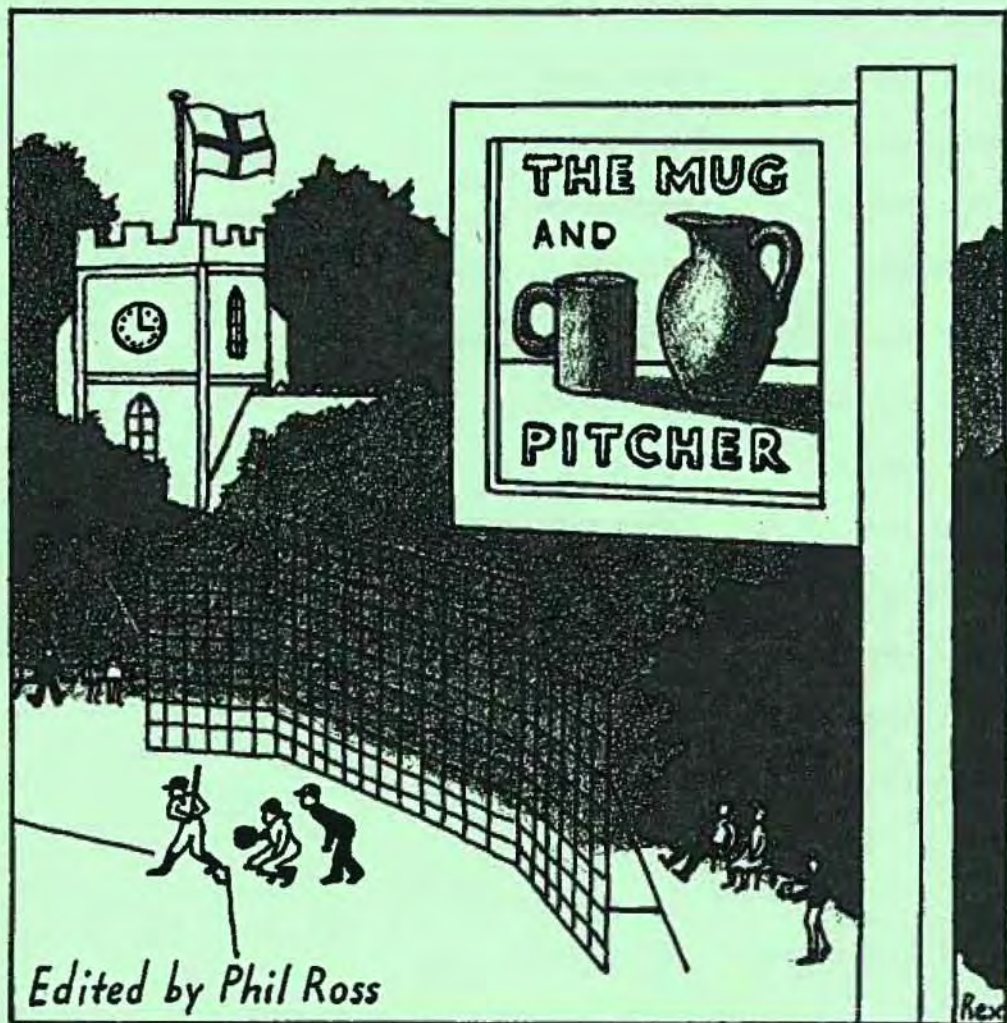


LINEDRIVE!

Fanzine

BASEBALL IN BRITAIN



Edited by Phil Ross

Rex

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	8
Stanley Smulders	Rightfield	15
Brad Thompson	Catcher	6
Darrin Ward	First Base	7
Dean Ward	Third Base	5

A BRITISH BASEBALL FANZINE

COMING ALIVE

Ten weeks into the season and already players and fans alike are building up a stock of memorable moments to discuss, remember and re-tell.

For those of us starved of televised/recorded Major League 'ball, there was the delight of having a complete game between the Cubbies and the Expos transmitted by Channel 4, though I think the UK end of the live transmission rather lacked polish.

Another encouraging factor has been the emergence of a new look Transatlantic Baseball News & Review, the spring issue of which can be obtained from the *LINEDRIVE !* contact address for the cover price of £1.75 (post free).

Its new magazine format, with black and white photographs, not only has a number of interesting articles on the Major League game, but also has an item discussing the future of the game in the UK.

ON BASE WITH MADONNA

Back in 1943, Philip K Wrigley, of chewing gum and Cubbies fame, felt certain that the draft board would shut down men's baseball, and so he set up the All American Girls Professional Baseball League, recruiting dozens of women to keep the game alive. All the players were sent to charm school, and were instructed to wear miniskirts when playing, and were escorted by chaperones when not.

At present, a movie is being made, entitled 'A League Of Their Own', featuring Geena Davis, Madonna, and in the role of the team coach, Tom Hanks.

All this was featured in the Mail On Sunday colour supplement of June 14th, and although it rather laboured the point about how hard it is to get to speak to Madonna, it provided a brief insight into one of the more unusual episodes in the history of this great game. Whilst the prospect of athletic girls sprinting about in mini skirts might get the male vote, I bet the girls hated sliding !

REPORTS & SCORES

Pritchett Construction National League

Sunday 7th June

Game One Extra Innings

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	R
Cambridge Knights	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Croydon Blue Jays	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4

Game Two

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R
Cambridge Knights	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	2
Croydon Blue Jays	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	6

What a game ! In appallingly wet conditions, Knights and Blue Jays produced one of the most enjoyable cliff-hangers seen on a British diamond. The sopping grass made the ball difficult to handle, and Lenny Cappelan's opening RBI, slipping through the fingers of Jim Hogge, the Blue Jays' shortstop, seemed to indicate a free scoring, error full game.

Hogge immediately made amends, scoring both RBI's in the bottom of the first, and two further RBI's from Eric Barden (Knights) and Harvey Sakher (Blue Jays), brought the score to 3-2 Jays.

With game one scheduled to end in inning seven, Cambridge duly pulled back the tying run, and there then followed a tense tactical battle through to the bottom of the 13th, and even the game winning RBI, hit by Joe Rolls for Blue Jays, finished with an attempted tag-out at home, which although declared safe, it was a split second away from being declared out.

During the interval, spectators and players sagely pointed out that so often, the second game is so different in character from the first, and no sooner had the umpire shouted 'play ball', than Blair Sharleville belted the only homer of the day off Jamie Heather's very first pitch..

Blue Jays replied, slowly but steadily, and by the fifth inning were 5-1 ahead, however RBI's from Dave Minnear in the fifth, and Phil

Doncaster and Lenny Cappellan in the sixth put Cambridge back in contention, and Phil Doncaster batted in a further RBI, and stole home on a wild pitch to give Knights the victory in game two.

Pritchett Construction National League Sunday 14th June

Game One

Game Two

1121314151617 R

11121314151617 R

London Warriors 12111015101111101

10101012121213191

Cambridge Knights101012101010121 41

1011110101010121

Warriors quickly stamped their authority on game one, the unfortunate Dave Minnear, pitching for Knights, loading up the bases, and then walking Stan Smulders in the very first inning.

Follow that with a quick fire double play in the bottom of the first, Warriors catcher Brad Thompson taking a Matthew Gilbert rainmaker, then firing the ball to Darrin Ward on 1st base before John Wellman could tag up.

The Knights clawed back to 3-2, with RBI's from Blair Sharleville and Dave Minnear, but Warriors turned on the batting power, with three of their best four sluggers, Brad Thompson, Justin Brown, and Alan Smith, all hitting RBI's to put London 8-2 ahead after inning four.

Further RBI's from Justin Brown and Stan Smulders put the game beyond reach, and although Knights gained late consolations from a Neil Borley RBI, and Dave Minnear walking in, it was all in vain.

Game two saw a much brighter start from Cambridge, when Dave Minnear scooped up Brad Thompson's grounder to third, and rifled a throw to John Wellman on second, who relayed to Neil Borley on first to double play both Thompson and Darrin Ward.

Warriors showed they were equally adept at the double play, when in the bottom of the third, Justin Brown caught Gary Liston's shot, and then zinged the ball to Darrin Ward on first before Phil Doncaster's tag up.

Highlight of the game came in inning six, when the newly married Julian Dodwell celebrated with his 'honeymoon homer', to make the score 5-3.

Further RBI'S from Brad Thompson, Alan Smith and Stan Smulders sealed game two for the Warriors, with further pitching victories going to Alan Smith, game one, and Vincente Martinez, game two.

Pritchett Construction National League

Sunday 21st June

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R
Essex Eagles	1	0	1	0	1	5	0	0	0	7
London Warriors	4	2	0	0	3	2	3	0	X	14

Essex Eagles gave the all conquering Warriors a taste of their own medicine, putting on a mid game surge with five runs in the fifth to put the Warriors 7-6 down.

Warriors had started brightly, with two run homers from Justin Brown in the 1st inning, and Darrin Ward in the second. However, Vince Warner claimed a homer for the Eagles in the top of the 4th, and after that, Warriors really had to work.

A second two run homer from Justin Brown in the sixth, meant that on his next appearance in inning seven, he was intentionally walked, and having gained free passage to first, cheerfully ran home Warriors last two runs, with Darrin Ward, off the bat of Kevin Murphy.

PRITCHETT CONSTRUCTION NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS - WEEK 7

	Wn	Lt	Pcent	GB
Enfield Spartans	8	0	1.000	-
London Warriors	7	0	1.000	½
Croydon Blue Jays	5	5	.500	4
Cambridge Knights	4	4	.500	4
Birmingham Devils	4	5	.444	4½
Reading Bulldogs	1	8	.111	7½
Essex Eagles	1	8	.111	7½

LINEDRIVE ! - P Ross, Flat 2, Thanescroft, Selborne Rd, Croydon, Tel 081 688 2966.

LONDON WARRIORS NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1992

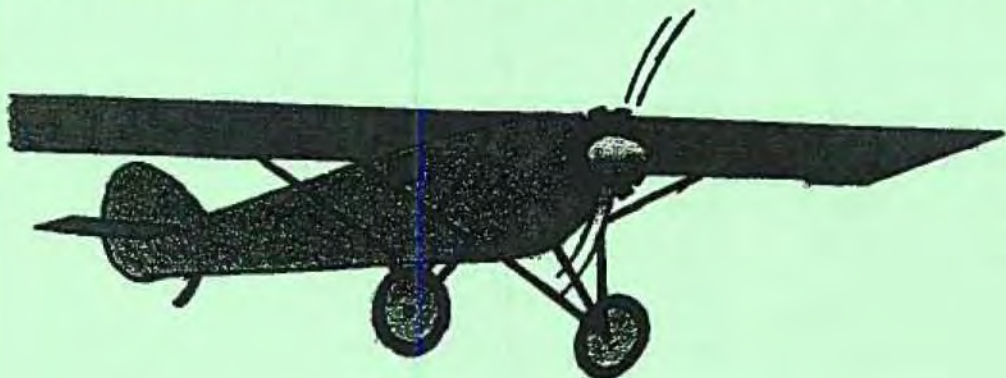
Sun 26th April	HOME TO CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS	W 11-3
Sun 10th May	HOME TO READING BULLDOGS (D)	W 16-4 & 17-0
Sun 17th May	away to Essex Eagles (D)	W 15-1 & 16-1
Sun 24th May	away to Birmingham Devils	W 16-6
Sun 31st May	HOME TO CROYDON BLUE JAYS	W 9-3
Sun 14th June	away to Cambridge Knights (D)	
Sun 21st 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 BLUE 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 Blue 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.

ROUNDSHAW

A BALLPARK UNIQUE IN HISTORY



The Spirit of St. Louis 1927

BLUE JAYS



PIRATES

The transatlantic spirit of 1992