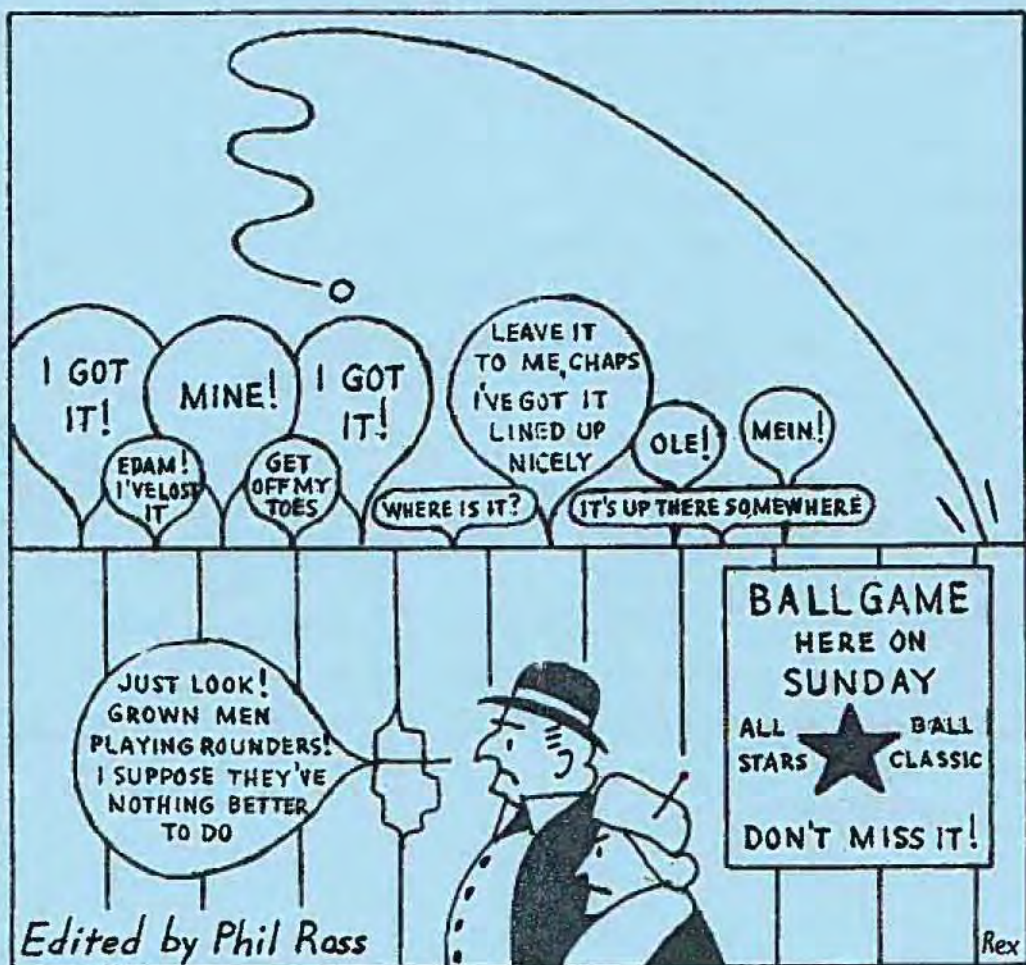


LINEDRIVE!

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
David Omholt	Coach	13
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

ARE WE ALRIGHT FOR THE WEEKEND, SIR ?

Unbelievable amounts of money changes hands at sport memorabilia auctions, and particularly where baseball souvenirs are concerned. A grass-stained Detroit Tigers uniform (circa 1924), fetched £93,000 at a recent New York auction, and actor Charlie Sheen coughed up \$50,000 dollars for a six year old baseball. Admittedly this six year old baseball was the one that eluded Bill Buckner in game six of the 1986 World Series to give the New York Mets victory over the Boston Red Sox.

Tom Seaver's toothpick raised £230, and a piece of Joe DiMaggio's 1939 wedding cake sold for £380. However, for the bargain price of £145, one could have picked up four unopened boxes of Champ brand condoms (circa 1950's), 'picturing Ted Williams at bat'.

REPORTS & SCORES PART 1Pritchett Construction National League

Sunday 2nd August

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R			
<u>Cambridge Knights</u>	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	8	
<u>London Warriors</u>	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	7

Cambridge continue to show improved form as they more than held their own against London Warriors at Barnes. Warriors took the initiative with three early RBI's from Justin Brown, Brad Thompson and Kevin Murphy, but Knights pulled level in the top of the third thanks to a Lenny Cappellan ground rule double, a Dave Minnear single, and Blair Sharleville taking home on a wild pitch.

Warriors pulled themselves out of trouble when Darrin Ward and Harry Atwood worked a neat 1st to 2nd to 1st double play to out Eric Barden and Dave Minnear. Justin Brown then belted the only homer of the day to put Warriors back on terms, only for Knights to edge ahead in the top of the fourth.

Sensing difficulties ahead, Warriors changed pitchers in the top of the fifth, hoping the speed of Justin Brown would restrain the

Knights, but Cambridge proved to be just as deadly in defence as London, with a Blair Sharleville/Matthew Gilbert double play shutting Warriors out in the fifth.

RBI's from Alan Bloomfield and Darrin Ward restored a slender lead for the Warriors, but Blair Sharleville cracked another double to tie things up in the very next inning. London again nosed ahead, courtesy of a Dean Ward bunt, safely seeing Julian Dodwell home, and a scoreless eighth inning gave Warriors fans hopes of victory.

However, Lenny Cappellan struck a beautiful double just inside the rightfield foul line, and his two RBI's set up a final innings nailbiter. Sadly for London, the game ended with the bases loaded, leaving relieving pitcher Matthew Gilbert and his Cambridge colleagues to celebrate victory.

Sunday 9th August

CROYDON BLUE JAYS
AT CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS

Croydon Blue Jays	ab	r	h	rbi	Cambridge Knights	ab	r	h	rbi
Wilesmith, p	4	1	1	1	Gilbert, p	5	2	0	1
Laing, lf	2	1	1	1	Bollinger lf,	6	3	3	0
Harrington, cf	5	0	0	1	Cappellan 3b	6	4	6	4
Walker, c	3	0	0	1	Sharleville, ss	6	5	4	4
Heather, 1b	5	2	4	0	Gagne, c	6	1	3	4
Stankovits, 2b	5	0	0	0	Mills, 2b	5	1	0	0
Sahker, rf	5	2	4	1	Borley, 1b	4	3	2	1
Rolls, ss	2	0	0	0	Sims, rf	4	1	0	0
McCloud, 3b	4	2	2	2	Doncaster, cf	5	1	4	3
Marciano, lf	2	0	0	0					
Totals	37	8	12	7	Totals	47	21	22	17

Croydon Blue Jays 0 1 0 0 4 2 1 0 0 - 8

Cambridge Knights 2 0 2 2 0 6 4 5 X - 21

Croydon	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Wilesmith	7	17	16	8	1	4
Heather	1	5	5	5	1	1
Cambridge	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gilbert	9	12	8	5	3	10

E - Wilesmith, Laing 2, Stankovits 2, Rolls, McCloud, Gilbert 2, Cappellan, Sharleville, Gagne, Mills, Doncaster. DP - Croydon 0, Cambridge 1, LOB - Croydon 11, Cambridge 9. 2B - Heather, Cappellan 4, Sharleville. 3B - Sharleville 3, Gagne, Borley. HR - Gagne. SB - Wilesmith 2, Laing, Heather, Sahker, Gilbert 2, Bollinger 2, Sharleville 2, Borley. CS - Wilesmith, Laing, Cappellan, Borley, Doncaster. WP - Wilesmith 3, Gilbert 2. HBP - By Wilesmith (Sims). PB - Cambridge 1.

(Statistics courtesy of Stephen Draper - Croydon Blue Jays).

Blue Jays crashed to their worst defeat for two years as Cambridge Knights found real hitting form in this third against fourth league clash. It was Cambridge batters three, four and five, Cappellan, Sharleville and Gagne, who caused all the mayhem, collectively going 13 for 18, with four RBI's each, and aside from these three, only Jamie Heather with a double for Croydon, and Neil Borley with a triple for Cambridge, got a look in on the slugging stakes.

Blue Jays briefly held a lead by the middle of the sixth, but three strong innings from Cambridge gave them an unreachable lead, and with Matthew Gilbert pitching two shut-outs to close, Cambridge could celebrate another fine victory.

Pritchett Construction National League Standings 1/8/92

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB
Enfield Spartans	14	1	.933	-
London Warriors	13	2	.867	1
Cambridge Knights	8	7	.533	6
Croydon Blue Jays	8	8	.500	6½
Birmingham Devils	5	9	.357	8½
Essex Eagles	3	13	.188	11½
Reading Bulldogs	2	13	.133	12

With the Warriors away in Germany for the 8th and 9th of August, and with Croydon being awarded a walkover against the Bulldogs, there is a shortage of National League coverage, so there follows a report of a recent vital clash in BBF South Division Two. Hope you enjoy it.

 REPORTS & SCORES PART 2

Southern League Division Two

Sunday 2nd August

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R
Croydon Pirates	2	0	4	0	3	4	6	0	3	22
Caterham Athletics	1	4	4	0	3	1	0	6	2	21

A tense local derby game with neither side wanting to give the edge to their opponents, resulted in Caterham Athletics taking Croydon Pirates the full nine innigs for the first time this season.

A's started strongly, with Pirates trying to keep in contention, until the top of the sixth when a vital four runs, including an Ian Nicholls homer, actually edged them ahead.

A strong inning seven put Croydon the furthest ahead either team was to go all match, and Caterham put themselves back on level terms ith six of their own in the bottom of the eighth.

After conceding three in the ninth, Caterham scored two in reply, only for Pirates pitcher, Ross Chell, to strike out the last batter to give Pirates the narrowest of victories.

Batting credits for Caterham go to Mark Dalton, John Cop and Peter Weakner, each hitting 2 RBI triples. 4 RBI hitters' Anthony Weakner and Mark Dalton went 5 from 6 and 4 from 5 respectively, and Gary Cope kept the Pirates infield busy with five stolen bases.

This result left Croydon Pirates and Gillingham Dodgers sharing the divisional lead on 11-0, with Caterham Athletics third, some 3½ games back on 8-4. Burgess Hill are fourth with a 7-4 record.

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

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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)	W 10-4 & 9-2
Sun 21st June	HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES	W 14-7
Sun 28th June	away to Enfield Spartans	L 0-10
Sun 5th July	away to Reading Bulldogs	W 17-4
Sun 12th July	HOME TO CROYDON BLUE JAYS	W 10-9
Sun 19th July	away to Enfield Spartans	L 6-7
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.

① A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF BASEBALL
Baseball terminology is a cause of confusion to a new fan, and many old ones. So let's try to clear the air. Take the very first action in a game. The pitcher has a ball in his hand. He throws it towards the batter. Suddenly the ball becomes a pitch, only to become a ball again as soon as it passes the batter, unless the pitcher is lucky, when the ball that became a pitch becomes a strike. Even if it becomes a strike it becomes a ball again if it is hit—a fly ball or a ground ball or a foul ball. Or perhaps it may become a line drive or a bunt, when it seems to be no longer a ball or a pitch or a strike, but something else again. So you see how important it is to know just what that object is, flying through the air or rolling on the ground. Whatever the ball may become during a play, when it returns to the pitcher it is a ball again. Then it becomes another strike, or another ball, in which case the pitcher and the batter each have two balls, or two strikes, or one of each. If they have two balls they are not unduly worried, but when the batter has one ball, or the pitcher has three, tension creeps in. When the batter has four balls he is allowed to walk to first base. He is not expected to run

Just as we are getting warmed up, we find we are running out of space. But it may be possible to squeeze another instalment into a back page when the editor is not looking. Watch this space.