

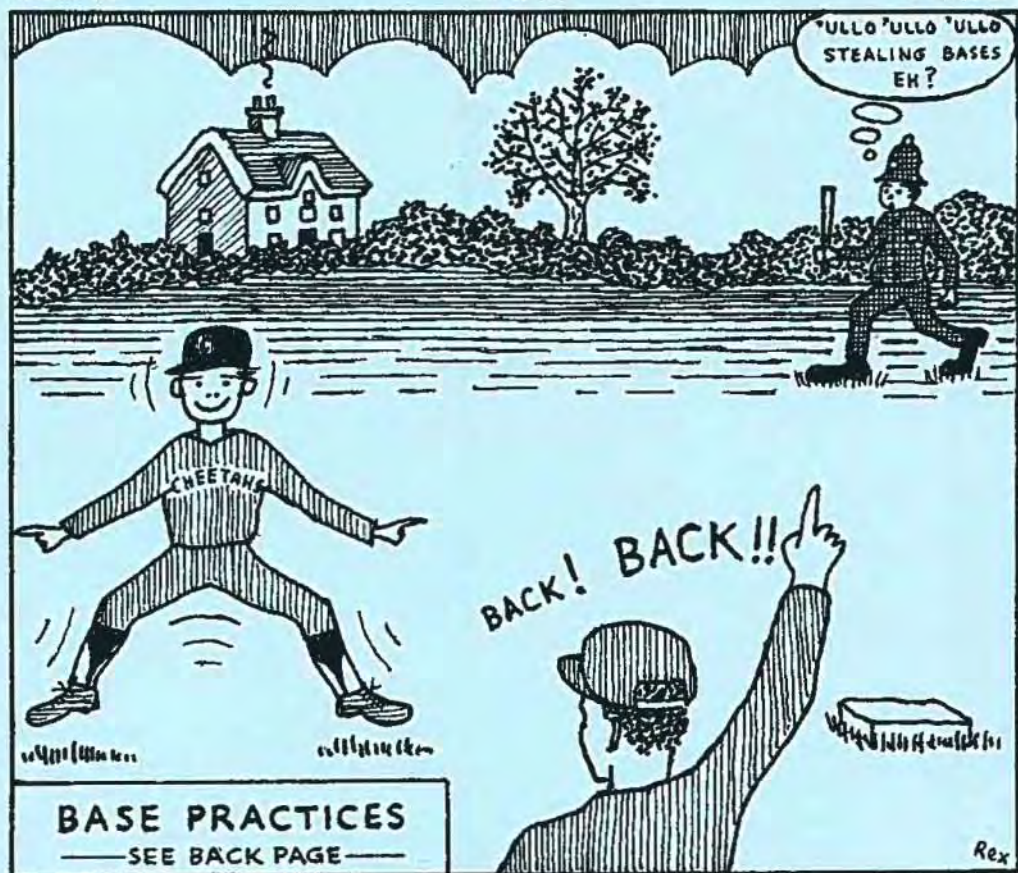
LINEDRIVE!



BASEBALL
Vol. II

1993

IN BRITAIN
No. 3



LONDON WARRIORS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

TEAM ROSTER 1993

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Usual Fielding Position</u> | <u>Uniform Number</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Harry Atwood | Second Base/Shortstop | 12 |
| Alan Bloomfield | Catcher/Second Base | 4 |
| Justin Brown | Shortstop/Pitcher | 20 |
| Cody Cain | Leftfield/Pitcher | 19 |
| Julian Dodwell | Centrefield | 17 |
| Oliver Heidecker | Third Base/Second Base | 14 |
| Vincente Martinez | Pitcher | 16 |
| Steve Marzo | Rightfield | 13 |
| Kevin Murphy | Rightfield/Centrefield | 18 |
| Alan Smith | Starting Pitcher/Rightfield | 8 |
| Stanley Smulders | Rightfield/Leftfield | 15 |
| Brad Thompson | Catcher | 6 |
| Darrin Ward | First Base | 7 |
| Dean Ward | Third Base | 5 |

LINEDRIVE ! VOL II ISSUE 3

A BRITISH BASEBALL FANZINE

EXTRA ! EXTRA !

Read all about it. National League Baseball results. Extra ! Extra !

Yup, that's right ! National League Baseball results are now published in the tuesday editions of the Daily Telegraph and the Independent. It was very gratifying to see our results printed in the same grouping, and with almost the same importance pinned on them as the scores for Toronto Blue Jays, Atlanta Braves, Chicago Cubs and the Boston Red Sox.

Perhaps it will encourage a few baseball fans, unaware of the game's existence in Britain, to venture out and try and find the team that made the scorelines that they read in the newspapers.

NLB - BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD

No, don't worry, not a major re-think of the league schedule or structure. No, instead, National League Baseball is in need of a new logo for the league. Something that retains the initials NLB, and indicates that this is a British baseball league.

If you have any ideas you think might be suitable then please forward your sketches and drawings to Tom Sims, NLB Administrator, 12 Chalk Grove, Cambridge CB1 4NT.

REPORTS & SCORES

National League Senior Division

Sunday 2nd May

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | R | H | E | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| <u>Birmingham Brewers</u> | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 6 | |
| <u>Essex Eagles</u> | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 17 | 15 |

Brewers started brightly enough with Yarnold scoring and Plantier hitting a triple in the very first inning, but with Eagles pitcher Vince Warner, refusing to yield hits, it would be another 11 batters before Brewers got on the scoresheet again, when Mora drove in Plantier with a single.

Then came the bottom of the fifth, when a vital 3 RBI triple from Dave Read really opened up the lead for Essex, causing the removal of Martin Dutton from the mound, with Plantier replacing him.

National League Senior Division

Sunday 9th May

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | R | H | E |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Bury Saints | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| London Warriors | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | X | 8 | 11 |

A real pitcher's battle here. By the close of the seventh inning both starters had put a total of 30 K's in the book, although neither was to pitch inning eight.

In a tight game, the only daylight came with a towering home run hit by Justin Brown in the third, batting in Oliver Heidecker, and it was Brown who capitalised on the tiring John Nevelle, batting in Harry Atwood and Alan Bloomfield in the bottom of the seventh.

Julian Dodwell, on his return to the Warrior line-up, then batted in Justin Brown, and then scored himself courtesy of a Cody Cain single.

As if the batting wasn't enough, great fielding in the top of the eighth left Saints floundering. A single to rightfield with men on 2nd and 3rd was quickly recovered by Kevin Murphy. A lightning relay by Cody Cain, now playing 1st base, put the ball with catcher Alan Bloomfield. Saints Kevin Shipe found himself heading for a tag, and turned back to third only to find it occupied by his own rightfielder, Barber, Shipe reluctantly taking the tag out.

Not content with pitching the final innings and four RBI's, Justin Brown added a fifth, his ground-rule double scoring Dean Ward.

National League Senior Division

Sunday 16th May

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | R | H | E |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Essex Eagles | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| London Warriors | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | X | 6 | 8 | 0 |

The first time you see the flight-deck of an airliner, the sight of all those dials, buttons, levers and switches, makes you wonder how anyone can make any sense of it. Having been presented with the scorebook, your intrepid editor approached his task with the same mixture of amazement and fear !

Unfortunately, because of a strong desire to produce a scorebook that could be read and then properly transcribed, I concentrated on individual plays, and rather lost the thread of the game ! However, I would like it known that I didn't credit hits on the basis of whoever spoke to me got one !

Eagles had to face the pitching of Justin Brown, and a post game comment from the Eagles, that they had to shape to hit before Justin started his motion, indicates their feelings on the matter.

For Warriors part, it was not a great hitting display, most runs coming from passed balls or fielding errors. Alan Bloomfield was unlucky to see a well struck linedrive plucked out of the air by the Eagles first baseman, and with Cody Cain pitching the close, Justin Brown also took a great catch on first.

WARRIORS V BIRMINGHAM

Last seasons results ran as follows (Warriors' score first) :-

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| at Birmingham | W 16-6 & W 24-9 (seperate games) |
| at Barnes | L 0-3 & W 4-2 (double-header) |

Devils, as Birmingham were known in '92, grew in confidence throughout last season, and inflicted only the third shut-out on London during that season. Unfortunately this season, the Brewers have been hit by injuries, and it is likely that both their main pitcher, Martin Dutton, and manager, Gary Roberts, will be sidelined. A possible line-up for Brewers today reads as follows :-
 1)Yarnold cf (2)Murphy lf (3)Rose 2b (4)Plantier p (5)Moran c
 (6)Underwood 1b (7)R Shears rf (8)Simons 3b (9)S Shears ss

NATIONAL LEAGUE RESULTS

Senior Division

Week 3 - 9th May 1993

Essex Eagles 12, Croydon Blue Jays 5. Enfield Spartans 7, Birmingham Brewers 6 (10 innings). London Warriors 8, Bury Saints 1. Cambridge Knights 12, Waltham Forest Angels 0.

Rookie Division

Basildon Mariners @ Cambridge Monarchs - no game.

Senior Division

Week 4 - 16th May 1993

Cambridge Knights 6, Bury Saints 4. Croydon Blue Jays 17, Birmingham Brewers 7. Enfield Spartans 5, Waltham Forest Angels 0. London Warriors 6, Essex Eagles 0.

Rookie Division

London Stormers 12, Tonbridge Bobcats 10.

STANDINGS

Senior Division

Rookie Division

| | W | L | Pcent | GB | | W | L | Pcent | GB |
|--------------------|---|---|-------|----|-------------------|---|---|-------|----|
| London Warriors | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | | London Stormers | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | |
| Enfield Spartans | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | ½ | Tonbridge Bobcats | 1 | 1 | .500 | 1 |
| Essex Eagles | 2 | 1 | .667 | 1½ | Basildon Mariners | 0 | 0 | .000 | 1½ |
| Cambridge Knights | 2 | 2 | .500 | 2 | Cambridge Mon | 0 | 2 | .000 | 2 |
| Croydon Blue Jays | 2 | 2 | .500 | 2 | | | | | |
| Bury Saints | 1 | 3 | .250 | 3 | | | | | |
| Birmingham Brewers | 0 | 3 | .000 | 3½ | | | | | |
| Waltham Fst Angels | 0 | 4 | .000 | 4 | | | | | |

NATIONAL LEAGUE TODAY

23/5/93

Senior Division

Rookie Division

London Warriors @ Birmingham Brewers Tonbridge B @ London Stm
 Essex Eagles @ Cambridge Knights
 Enfield Spartans @ Croydon Blue Jays
 Bury Saints @ Waltham Fst Angels

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LONDON WARRIORS NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1993

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| Sun 25th April | HOME TO CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS | W 7-0 |
| Sun 2nd May | away to Waltham Forest Angels | W 13-1 |
| Sun 9th May | HOME TO BURY SAINTS | W 8-1 |
| Sun 16th May | HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES | W 6-0 |
| Sun 23rd May | away to Birmingham Brewers | |
| Sun 30th May | HOME TO CROYDON BLUE JAYS | |
| Sun 6th June | HOME TO WALTHAM FOREST ANGELS | |
| Sun 13th June | away to Cambridge Knights | |
| Sun 20th June | away to Enfield Spartans | |
| Sun 4th July | away to Bury Saints | |
| Sun 11th July | HOME TO CROYDON BLUE JAYS | |
| Sun 18th July | away to Enfield Spartans | |
| Sun 25th July | away to Birmingham Brewers | |
| Sun 1st August | HOME to CAMBRIDGE KNIGHTS | |
| Sun 8th August | away to Waltham Forest Angels | |
| Sun 15th August | away to Croydon Blue Jays | |
| Sun 22nd August | HOME TO BIRMINGHAM BREWERS | |
| Sun 29th August | HOME TO ENFIELD SPARTANS | |
| Sun 5th September | away to Bury Saints | |
| Sun 12th September | HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES | |
| Sun 19th September | away to Essex Eagles | |
| Sat 25th September | Championship Playoff Game 1 | |
| Sun 26th September | Championship Playoff Games 2 & 3 | |

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

A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF BASEBALL-4

We know some people who take every opportunity of having a dig at the Americans. Mention base stealing in their presence and the response is predictable — "Trust the Americans to introduce dishonesty into the innocent game of rounders." They are entitled to their opinion, however, and we think that runners themselves are to some extent responsible for misapprehension regarding base stealing. The runner's job is to score a run. A game can be won only by scoring runs. But many runners take a perverse delight in merely teasing the opposition by threatening to steal. Surely this is to nobody's advantage, and indeed it is in this that dishonesty may be said to reside. Dishonesty doesn't always pay, and sometimes a runner tries it on once too often, and is thrown out, and it serves him right. It is important for the fielding side to know just where the runners are, and if a runner is doing reels and quadrilles on and around a base, he takes the pitcher's mind off the game, and takes the fielders' minds off the game, and often takes the umpire's, and even his own mind off the game, not to mention the poor fans who are trying desperately to see some sense in the proceedings. If a runner does what his title implies, and runs, he stands (or slides) to gain, and who would begrudge him? Until the EC legislates against base stealing, and the Health and Safety Executive bans sliding as being conducive to injury, honest stealing will remain a part of baseball.

Next time; the rapport between player and umpire.