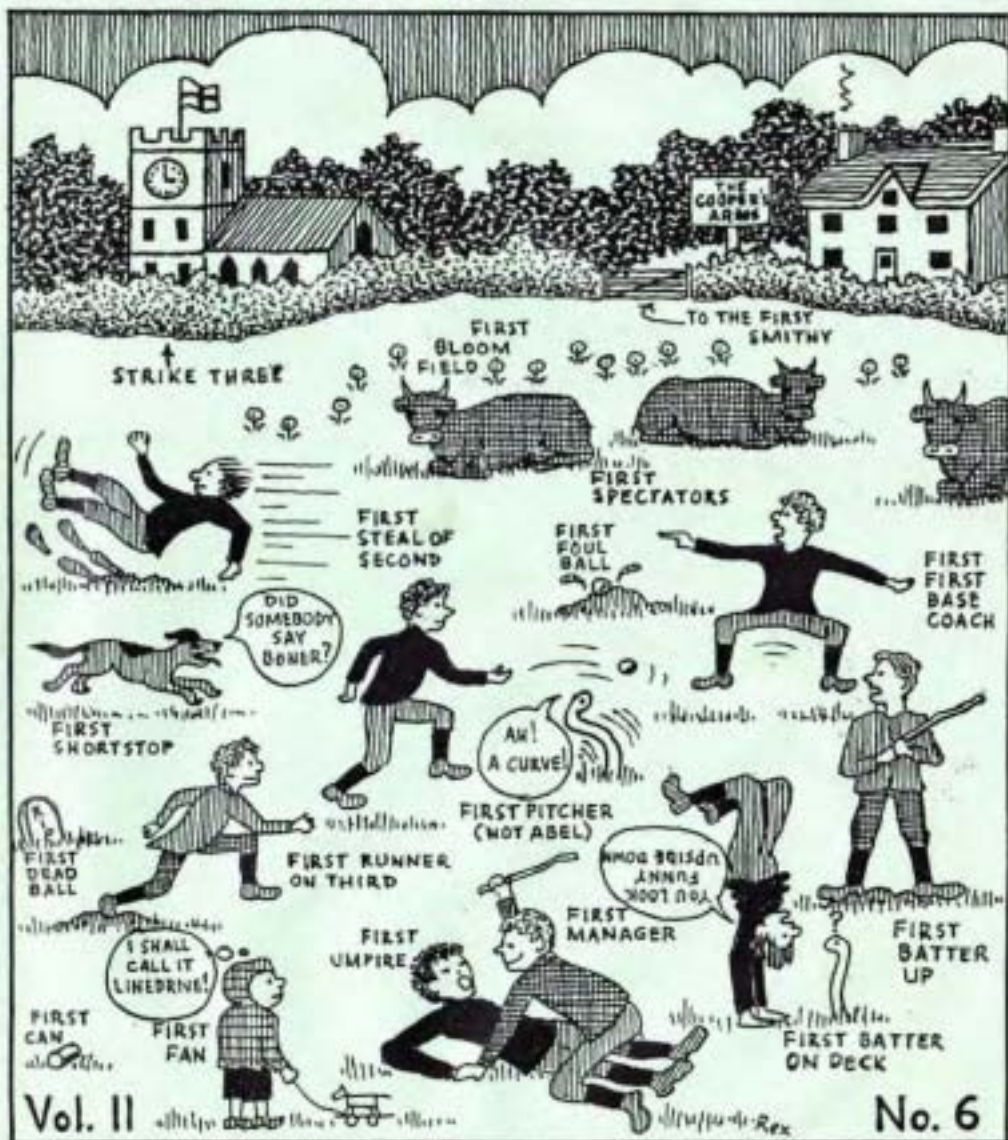


LINEDRIVE!

BASEBALL IN BRITAIN



The Birth of Baseball

LONDON WARRIORSNATIONAL LEAGUETEAM 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 | Pitcher/Rightfield | 8 |
| Stanley Smulders | Rightfield/Leftfield | 15 |
| Brad Thompson | Catcher | 6 |
| Darrin Ward | First Base | 7 |
| Dean Ward | Third Base | 5 |

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A BRITISH BASEBALL FANZINE

BACK TO THE BALLGAME

The original schedule drew up June 27th as a rest week from the league, but instead, Warriors have found themselves without a competitive match for three weeks, which makes today's meeting with the Enfield Spartans a kind of long distance double-header. Meanwhile Enfield have been keeping in shape with important victories over Essex, Birmingham and Cambridge, and will no doubt be keen to avenge the 4-3 reversal of June 20th.

REPORTS & SCORES

National League Senior Division

Sunday 20th June

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | R | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <u>London Warriors</u> | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| <u>Enfield Spartans</u> | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 |

WP Cody Cain (4-0)

LP Rob Nelson (?-?)

By all accounts a classic showdown between the two play-off finalists of the last two seasons. Very few runs scored off the controlled pitching of both teams, and what hits there were, were well monitored by both sets of fielders, yielding something in the order of two errors for the whole match.

Warriors started brightly, Cody Cain with 1 RBI, and Brad Thompson with 2, to provide a vital cushion. Enfield rallied in the bottom of the second, and only a throw out of leftfield from Thompson, relayed by Harry Atwood at short, to home plate, prevented Spartans from taking the lead.

The bottom of the third was closed by a double play, Atwood relaying to Darrin Ward at first, and London dealt another blow in the top of the fourth, Alan Smith hitting a double, then going on to score, to put Warriors ahead again.

Enfield showed their fielding prowess in the top of the fifth, cutting short the Warrior threat with a double play of their own. The bottom of the fifth saw Cody Cain make two of the outs by

catching line drives, one from his third base slot, and the second on the mound from his second delivery as relief pitcher.

Another double play in the top of the seventh seemed to finish London's chances, only for them to be revived by a Darrin Ward triple. Sadly, however, Darrin was left on base at the close.

The bottom of the eighth was nailbiting for both sides. Enfield loaded up the bases without loss, and things looked grim for Cody Cain, but a heads up double play, home and first, followed by a fly ball caught by Harry Atwood, kept Spartans off the scoreboard, and probably saved the game for Warriors.

The Enfield battery of Rob Nelson and Gary Bedingfield had a superb game, as did the combined force of Vincente Martinez, Cody Cain and Alan Bloomfield for London. For those great plays not included in the above, an apology. With so many good things happening in one game, it was very hard to choose the best.

Report courtesy of Rex Phillips

National League Senior Division

Sunday 11th July 1993

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | R | |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <u>Cambridge Knights</u> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| <u>Enfield Spartans</u> | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | X | 1 |

LP Sergio Espinosa
WP Rob Nelson

A horrible start to the day for Knights Sergio Espinosa. His first eight deliveries were all balls, and two of the first four Enfield runs were bases loaded walks.

Espinosa tried valliantly to find his rhythm, but when he loaded the bases with none out in the third, it was too much, and Steve Gilbert was brought in to releive.

RBI's then followed for Julien Fountain, Oscar Marcellino (sac fly), Ian Lanario and Brad Cruickshank, before Gilbert settled into a tighter groove that allowed just one more run from the Spartans.

In the sixth, a well placed squeeze bunt from Steve Gilbert left Rob Nelson in two minds when fielding the ball. His decision to go for first left Blair Sharleville to score. Sharleville added to the Cambridge tally in the 7th, his infield single scoring Luke Martino.

In the bottom of the seventh, Ian Lanario restored Enfield's eight run lead, his rightfield double scoring Steve Simmons. Ian Lanario then pitched the final two innings, brother Rob having caught throughout.

Cambridge seemed to lack spirit, and with Espinosa's early problems offering a lead to Spartans, the game lost spark early on. However there were some good natured moments, such as the umpires cheery rendition of 'Take Me Out To The Ball Game' at the start of inning seven. They were gently ribbed about the ethics of officials singing 'root root root for the home team !'

NATIONAL LEAGUE RESULTS

Wk 9 20/6/93

Senior Division Cambridge Knights @ Birmingham Brewers, no play, no umpires. Waltham Forest Angels 8 Croydon Blue Jays 7. London Warriors 4 Enfield Spartans 3. Bury Saints 7 Essex Eagles 4.

Rookie Division Lakenheath High 22 Cambridge Monarchs 2. Basildon Mariners 11 London Stormers 9.

Wk 10 27/6/93

Senior Division Cambridge Knights 10 Croydon Blue Jays 7. Enfield Spartans 7 Essex Eagles 4. Birmingham Brewers 32 Waltham Forest Angels 5.

Rookie Division Tonbridge Bobcats 23 Basildon Mariners 19. Tonbridge Bobcats 20 Basildon Mariners 5 (double header).

Wk 11 4/7/93

Senior Division Enfield Spartans 8 Birmingham Brewers 5. London Warriors @ Bury Saints, no play, Bury could not raise team. Waltham Forest Angels 21 Cambridge Knights 8. Essex Eagles 21 Croydon Blue Jays 11.

Rookie Division Results to come in *Linedrive ! 7*

Wk 12 11/7/93

Senior Division Enfield Spartans 10 Cambridge Knights 2.
Essex Eagles 14 Waltham Forest Angels 11. Birmingham Brewers @
Bury Saints, no play, no transport for Brewers. Croydon Blue Jays @
London Warriors, Blue Jays could not raise team.

Rookie Division London Stormers 19 Basildon Mariners 10.
Tonbridge Bobcats 27 Cambridge Monarchs 10.

STANDINGSSenior DivisionRookie Division

| | W | L | Pcnt | GB | | W | L | Pcnt | GB |
|--------------------|---|---|------|----|---|---|---|------|----|
| London Warriors | 8 | 1 | .889 | | London Stormers | 6 | 1 | .857 | |
| Enfield Spartans | 8 | 3 | .727 | 1 | Tonbridge Bobcats | 6 | 3 | .667 | 1 |
| Essex Eagles | 7 | 4 | .636 | 2 | Lakenheath High | 2 | 1 | .667 | 2 |
| Bury Saints | 4 | 4 | .500 | 3½ | Basildon Mariners | 1 | 5 | .167 | 4½ |
| Cambridge Knights | 5 | 5 | .500 | 3½ | Cambridge Monarchs | 1 | 6 | .143 | 5 |
| Croydon Blue Jays | 3 | 7 | .300 | 5½ | <i>London/Lakenheath result unknown</i> | | | | |
| Waltham Fst Angels | 2 | 8 | .200 | 6½ | | | | | |
| Birmingham Brewers | 1 | 6 | .143 | 6 | | | | | |

NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE

18/7/93

Senior DivisionRookie Division

Cambridge Knights @ Birmingham Brewers Lakenheath @ Cambridge M
London Warriors @ Enfield Spartans Basildon M @ London Strm
Croydon Blue Jays @ Waltham Fst Angels

Cambridge/Birmingham is a double header. Essex Eagles cannot raise a team and will play Bury Saints in a double header on August 29th.

Senior DivisionRookie Division

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

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by Rex Phillips. Tel 081 654 6605

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 | W 12-6 |
| Sun 30th May | away to Croydon Blue Jays | W 13-3 |
| Sun 6th June | HOME TO WALTHAM FOREST ANGELS | W 17-2 |
| Sun 13th June | away to Cambridge Knights | L 3-5 |
| Sun 20th June | away to Enfield Spartans | W 4-3 |
| 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 | HOME 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 | |
| To be arranged | away to Bury Saints (postponed from 4th July) | |

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

AS THE VILLAGE CLOCK STRUCK THREE

It happened in a farm field at Barrelston. When the boys were not running to escape the farmer's dogs they were running around the field inventing games. In one game they would hit a stone with a stick and run. Every game involved running because they were boys, and just couldn't stop running. Eventually they found it more exciting if there was a prescribed distance to run before the stone was retrieved, with a risk of being hit by the stone if they ran too slowly. Two cow dabs, a challenging distance apart, were adopted as markers. This game flourished in Barrelston, and soon an improvised ball replaced the stone, when the knocks received by the boys drew disapproval from the villagers. As Barrelston boys grew up they took the game with them all over Britain, and it underwent refinement until it became, as cricket, our national summer game. But meanwhile, at Barrelston, successive generations of boys developed the basic game further in the farm field. One boy of keen perception spotted four cow dabs forming the angles of a square, each side of which measured almost exactly the challenging distance that had been adopted in the two dab game. With typical imprecision of terminology the game that involved transition of a square became known as rounders. The two dab game had become so well established in Britain that rounders didn't catch on, except as an occasional amusement. But then, one day, a Barrelston boy took the four dab game to America, and the momentous outcome of that is vividly apparent. To see baseball in Britain today is like welcoming home an old friend who has made good on his travels abroad.