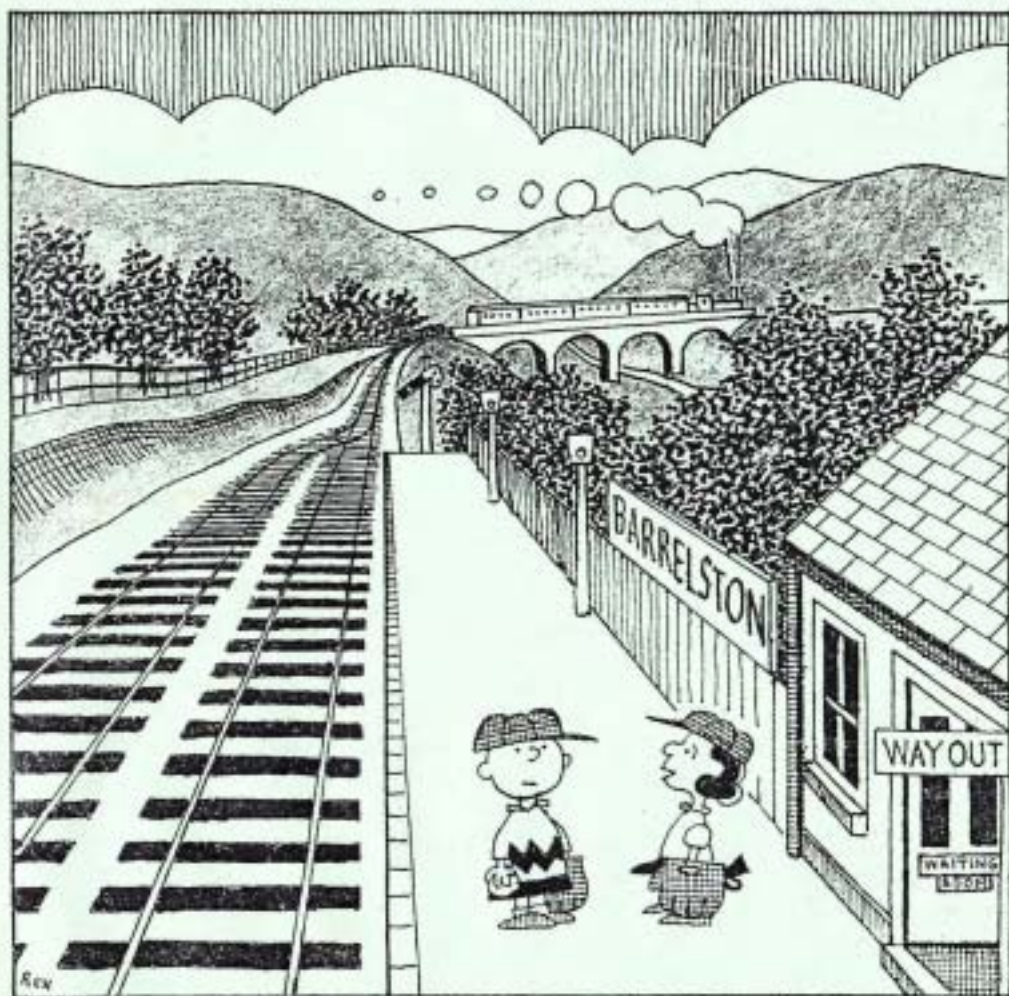


LINEDRIVE!

Vol. III No. 7

BASEBALL IN BRITAIN

1994



You're so sure there's a ballpark here, Charlie Brown. Now FIND IT!

LONDON WARRIORS
NATIONAL LEAGUE
TEAM ROSTER 1994

<u>Name</u>	<u>Usual Fielding Position</u>	<u>Uniform Number</u>
Rupert Armitage	Leftfield/Rightfield	20
Harry Atwood	Second Base/Shortstop	12
Alan Bloomfield	Catcher/Second Base	4
Cody Cain	Pitcher/First Base	19
Kevin Coldiron	Second Base/Pitcher	13
Steve Dumain	Rightfield	2
Oliver Heidecker	Third Base/Second Base	14
Tom Juhase	Centrefield/Rightfield	16
Richard Kemp	Leftfield/Centrefield	17
Kevin Murphy	Leftfield/Centrefield	18
Carlos Rodriguez	Second Base	15
Alan Smith	Pitcher/First Base	8
Brad Thompson	Catcher	6
Dean Ward	Third Base	5

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Alternatively, follow the LONDON WARRIORS through the season and get your *Linedrive !* FREE !!!

TEN GREEN BOTTLES...

Sadly we have to report that National League has had it's membership reduced by two teams to six. This is particularly sad as the league was considering, at one point, a potential membership of twelve clubs for this season, albeit a little speculatively, as the intentions of the Norwich Wanderers and Eastbourne Aces were not known at that time.

With Bury Saints and Bromley Blue Jays having folded, the league has revised the second part of the season, and Warrior's revised schedule is printed on the inside back cover of this issue. Please note that Warriors hope to play the 12th June game against Lakenheath as part of a double-header on 7th August. Should this be confirmed, then the 9-0 forfeit result will be removed from the published standings, and we will advise you of the correct early start time for the double-header.

Bury Saints were formed quite recently, and made a big impact by finishing as runners up in their first season in the BBF National Premier League South, and finished second in the regular season to the London Warriors last year, with a record of 14-7. Under the leadership of Mike Eraband, they looked set to become an influential part of British Baseball, but with Mike having stood down to allow his son Howard to take charge, Bury suddenly began to fall apart. It is ironic that the only National League game they played this season was a tantalising 2-1 win over the London Warriors at Barnes.

The loss of the Blue Jays is particularly sad, bearing in mind their 45 year existence either as Bromley, Beckenham, Croydon or Dulwich Blue Jays. Certainly from the early 1980's until the early 1990's, Blue Jays were one of the toughest sides to beat, featuring players such as Keith Wilesmith, Harvey Sahker, Joe Rolfs, Norman Laing, John Harrington, Paul Collins and Joe Walker, and although this season was always going to be difficult for the Blue Jays, the emergence of players such as Brett Marty, Matt Gill and John Cunnington seemed to indicate the start of a new Blue Jay dynasty. Let us hope all these players find a new baseball home in Britain.

REPORTS & SCORES

3/1/94

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	
Waltham Forest Angels	4	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	7	WP Matthew Poggi
London Warriors	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	5	LP Alan Smith

Angels visited the Warriors with a bright and breezy determination, and Warriors, having breezed through their practice sessions with almost casual indifference, suddenly found themselves in a real game.

An out, a walk and two singles accounted for the first four Angels batters, and loaded up the bases. A Takao Inamura single batted in two runs, and Oliver Millet batted in two more after the second out. In the home half of the first, with both Harry Atwood and Alan Bloomfield on base, Cody Cain hit a grounder to third. Angels excellent third baseman, Medeo Kamiyama, collected and whipped the ball to Tony Dyett on first for a double play.

Warriors again attempted to reduce the deficit in the second, but Alan Smith's grounder to second resulted in another Angels double-play, Smith and Brad Thompson being the victims.

Takao Inamura collected a third RBI in the third with well struck triple to leftfield, and Tony Dyett's ground out in the fourth batted in Bucky O'Hare, safe on the fielders choice. With the score at 6-0 Angels, Warriors tried to break Matthew Poggi's shut out. Singles for Cody Cain, Kevin Coldiron and Brad Thompson loaded up the bases, but Poggi gained the third to leave all three stranded.

Then, in the top of the fifth, came a moment of total Warriors insanity. A grounder to first by Angel's inexperienced leftfielder, Pavel Kasek, was embellished with three Warrior's fielding errors, to give rise to what may well be a new phenomenon in baseball, the infield home-run. Now trailing by seven runs, Warriors needed a significant hit to help build morale, and a lead off triple by Dean Ward, could be sited as the turning point for the Warriors.

how the hell are we going to engage the interest of the public at large ?

Anyway, the little information we have managed to wean out of the BBF, does give some small consolation to those who cherish the notion that a higher standard of baseball is played in the National League. Of the four remaining clubs through to the semi finals of the BBF Knockout Cup, two are the Birmingham Braves and the Cambridge Monarchs, recent defectors to the clandestine ranks of the BBF, who are joined by Nottingham Hornets and the Hounslow Rangers. Next issue this section of the magazine might well be dedicated to M15, as it appears that Stella Rimmington is more forthcoming than the BBF. Wake up guys, there's a whole world out there !

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

4/7/94

American League - East

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB	L10
New York Yankees	48	31	,608	---	6-4
Baltimore Orioles	46	34	,575	2½	7-3
Boston Red Sox	40	40	,500	8½	4-6
Detroit Tigers	37	43	,483	11½	2-8
Toronto Blue Jays	34	46	,425	14½	3-7

National League - East

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB	L10
Atlanta Braves	50	29	,633	---	5-5
Montreal Expos	49	32	,605	2	6-4
Philadelphia Phil's	41	41	,500	10½	6-4
Florida Marlins	37	45	,451	14½	3-7
New York Mets	36	45	,444	15	3-7

American League - Central

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB	L10
Cleveland Indians	48	30	,615	---	6-4
Chicago White Sox	46	33	,582	2½	8-2
Kansas City Royals	42	39	,519	7½	5-5
Minnesota Twins	40	40	,500	9	2-8
Milwaukee Brewers	38	43	,469	11½	5-5

National League - Central

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB	L10
Cincinnati Reds	48	33	,593	---	6-4
Houston Astros	46	36	,561	2½	6-4
St Louis Cardinals	40	39	,506	7	6-4
Pittsburgh Pirates	38	41	,481	9	5-5
Chicago Cubs	34	46	,425	13½	5-5

American League - West

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB	L10
Texas Rangers	39	42	,481	---	6-4
Oakland Athletics	35	46	,432	4	9-1
Seattle Mariners	35	46	,432	4	4-6
California Angels	34	49	,410	6	3-7

National League - West

	Wn	Lt	Pcnt	GB	L10
Los Angeles Dodgers	43	39	,524	---	7-3
Colorado Rockies	39	45	,464	5	4-6
San Francisco Giants	35	49	,422	8½	5-5
San Diego Padres	33	50	,398	10½	4-6

The Oakland revival continues, now just four games out on the Rangers with a last ten of 9-1, with only a 10-2 loss at Fenway Park on July 2nd to blemish their record. However, they soon recovered, shutting out Boston on July 3rd 10-0, and then ruining the Yankees Independence Day celebrations with a 4-0 shut out.

The White Sox have improved, with an 8-2 last ten, including a 3-1 series at home to the Brewers including shut out victories of 5-0 and 8-0. Meanwhile the Tigers and Twins are in a 2-8 trough including two defeats for the Tigers in a double header at the Texas Rangers.

National League still has the last 10 paradox, in as much as there are a greater number of games behind in National League, but very few teams with a substantial winning or losing streak. If you ignore all the teams with either 6, 5 or 4 wins from the last ten, you are left with only three teams to consider, the Dodgers with 7-3, and the Marlins and the Mets with 3-7. The poor old Mets suffered two consecutive defeats at the hands of the Padres, the team with currently the worst record in the Majors. The second defeat on July 3rd was a 1 hit 7-0 shut out pitched by Benes, who yielded 1 walk, and a double by Proгна, whilst collecting 13K's over the nine innings. Benes also hit a 3 RBI double off Mets pitcher Smith. Not bad for a batting average of .154 !

TOP HIPSTERS

4/7/94

1) Steve Eischen	Yankees 0, Indians 0, Rangers 0, Braves 0, Astros 2H, Dodgers 0	47H
2) Emma Wallace	Orioles 2H, White Sox 2H, Rangers 0, Expos 2, Reds 0, Dodgers 0	43
3) Alan Bloomfield	Yankees 0, Indians 0, Rangers 0, Braves 0, Pirates 9, Dodgers 0	41
4) Harry Alwood	Orioles 2H, White Sox 2H, Rangers 0, Braves 0, Reds 0, Giants 8H	38H
5) Oliver Heidecker	Yankees 0, Indians 0, Mariners 4, Braves 0, Cardinals 7, Giants 8H	38H
=6) Kenny Collins	Orioles 2H, White Sox 2H, Mariners 4, Braves 0, Astros 2H, Giants 8H	30
=6) Kevin Murphy	Yankees 0, Brewers 11H, Rangers 0, Braves 0, Reds 0, Giants 8H	30
8) Alex Malthoudis	Red Sox 8H, Indians 0, Rangers 0, Braves 0, Cardinals 7, Giants 8H	25
9) Bob Lenhardt	Blue J's 14H, White Sox 2H, Mariners 4, Expos 2, Astros 2H, Dodgers 0	24H
10) David Miller	Blue Jays 14H, Indians 0, Mariners 4, Braves 0, Reds 0, Giants 8H	23

LONDON WARRIORS NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1994

Sun 1st May	away to Enfield Spartans	L 9-10
Sun 8th May	HOME TO BURY SAINTS	L 1-2
Sun 15th May	away to Essex Eagles	W 19-1
Sun 29th May	away to Waltham Forest Angels	W 9-6
Sun 5th June	HOME TO BROMLEY BLUE JAYS	W 16-2
Sun 12th June	away to Lakenheath Yankees	W 9-0 F
Sun 19th June	HOME TO TONBRIDGE BOBCATS	W 14-4
Sun 3rd July	HOME TO WALTHAM FOREST ANGELS	L 5-7
Sun 10th July	away to Tonbridge Bobcats	W 28-1
Sun 17th July	HOME TO ENFIELD SPARTANS	
Sun 24th July	away to Lakenheath Yankees	
Sun 31st July	away to Essex Eagles	
Sun 7th August	HOME TO LAKENHEATH YANKEES	
Sun 14th August	away to Enfield Spartans	
Sun 21st August	HOME TO ESSEX EAGLES	
Sun 28th August	away to Waltham Forest Angels	
Sun 4th September	HOME TO TONBRIDGE BOBCATS	
Sun 11th September	rain date	

PLAY-OFFS

Sun 18th September	1st v 4th and 2nd v 3rd
Sun 25th September	FINAL - venue to be decided

All games commence 3 p.m. unless shown otherwise

MYTH MAKERS

THE general manager of the Chattanooga Choo-choos sat in the front office at Puffer Park, brooding. The owner walked in. "Hey, what's gotten to you these days?" enquired the owner. "You know what it is, boss," was the reply. "I bought a farm field in the Old Country when they said it was a ball park, and a narrow gauge country railroad when I thought it was the whole British Railroads. I cost you a million dollars, boss."

"Aw, Desmond," shrugged the owner. "What's a million dollars between friends?" The owner used the general manager's first name only when he was in a good mood. It's not the sort of name he used when a little off colour. The general manager looked up. "The Choo-choos are in a winning streak, I know, boss," he said, "but you gotta fire me. I'm no good." The owner's mood suddenly changed.

"Now look here, Pieface!" he roared. "You gotta snap out of it, see!" The general manager's head drooped. The owner went on, "When you know what I know—" Suddenly his mood softened again.

"Now look here, Desmond," he said, soothingly, "tell me, what's the name of the ball club I bought in the Old Country?" The general manager turned away as though to hide from the memory. "The Barrelston Badgers," he moaned, between sobs, "the ten cent no good Barrelston Badgers, that cost you a million dollars."

"Forget the million dollars, Pieface!" roared the owner. "You just listen to what I say!" The general manager's shoulders heaved.

"O.K. boss," he whimpered.

"Desmond," said the owner, "don't take it so hard. Just answer me one small question. What's Barrelston in plain English?"

"I don't know, boss," came the almost inaudible reply. "I guess I'm no good at foreign languages, either."

"Desmond, listen carefully. Barrelston, in plain English is—wait for it, Desmond—Barrelston, in plain English, is Cooperstown! See what that means?" A gleam came back into the general manager's eye for the first time in months. He jumped to his feet.

"Gee, boss!" he exclaimed, "are you thinking what I'm thinking?"

What question did we raise in issue No. 5? Ah, yes—it was "What became of the Browns?" Well, it seems they became the Baltimore Orioles in 1954

It's nice to see Charlie and Lucy again. They're always welcome, but we are a little concerned that they came all the way to Barrelston without Mr. Schulz's permission.