

THE HISTORY OF THE FLY-BY-NIGHT BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Part IV 2014 to the present

2014 The 41st season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (12/3/2014)

January 2014 – Opening day at Strat-O-Matic is February 14th and that our next due date is February 7th. Our “Winter Meetings” would come to a close at 6pm EST and no trades are allowed to be announced from that point until draft day.

Our protected rosters and draft picks owned are also due on the 7th.

News from SOM Game Company:

Jan. 15: First day of Baseball pre-orders.

Jan. 23: First day to pre-order for opening day pickup.

Feb. 12: Last day to place orders for opening day pickup.

Feb. 14: Opening day at SOM Game Co.

Feb. 18: First day of new baseball product shipping and E-Delivery.

I was retiring and would no longer have my Blackberry as of the 2nd of February. So I would check on all trades and use the “sent” time on the email as the official time of the trade and the confirmation of the trade will be the “sent” time on that email.

Change of Team Ownership: Email received from Ralph Billings (#99):

Rob - I feel like such an idiot! Daytona 500 is same day as the draft, so I will be unavailable in any way, shape or form. Team is too good to draft with a list, so I feel the best thing for the F-B-N is you replace me with the next guy on the list - by earlier email comments I think the next guy up has ties with the league anyhow. We have been doing the long Daytona weekend excursion for well over 20 years. Over time we have all moved from our original base in central Florida, and now members of the group come from California, Wisconsin, NY, etc., it is the only chance we all get to see each other now. Our original group sad to say has shrunk over the past couple years for various reasons, and newbies have joined. I can't give it up buddy (kinda of like your long time members feel about the F-B-N). Anyhow, good luck with the league. I will check in with you from time to time. I am truly sorry for the inconvenience I have caused you. - Ralph

Former FBNBA member returns. Tony Childers is back in the fold as he accepted taking over the team. Tony took some time away from Strat so he could spend more time with his young family. With the kids older Tony had the time now for stat.

February 2014 – I give a new email address to the members since I was retiring. I had always used my work email so I could be on top of league matters 24/7. Yup, screw work. ☺

Draft Day location is announced. Comfort Inn, 48 Whitehall Ave., Mystic, CT 06355. I booked the Navigator Room with Dee Bruning. She saved rooms for us at \$75 plus tax. All a member had to do was mention he was a member from the Fantasy Baseball League when he called and he would get the price of \$75.

Bob Figella had the Available Player's list and the Draft Order on our website. Feb 23rd DRAFT DAY 2014! Comfort Inn in Mystic. I'll be there for 9am. The draft will start at 11:00AM EST.

Bill Nieman USJ Opening Day at SOM Report: Surprisingly I beat Don to the lot by15 seconds. Joe was snowed in, up in Colchester, so it was just me and Don from EL. We spent 15 seconds debating whether to change plans and try to hook up with Bob F at the Surf Ave lot.... then remembered Roland and decided to stay with the original 2 car plan. 95 was very good thru CT, Don was movin' and we were in Darien in the same time it takes me to get to surf ave, Stratford. At the NY line the roads got a little crusty and muddy misty filthy.... and Don was low on washer fluid. Didn't see much scenery or road that last 20 miles....but that didn't slow us down as we arrived @9:05...good enough to make us the 2nd group. First guys Don knows,.. they are from Bath Maine and got there at 4:30 am. Nice Guys! While they were waiting they shoveled out the driveway for Hal and Co. Bob and Roland joined us @ 9:30 and Bruce , Brian F and his son joined us just a little later. Roland was decked out as the Grinch who stole Christmas. On the plus side, at least this xmas hat looked like it had its oil changed recently. It was sunny and not too cool or windy and Hal and Co. passed out donuts and coffee. They came out several times, mainly because the tray would run out before they got to the end of the line. Guess who intercepted every donut sortie? By the time they finished deliveries, Roland had a coating of powdered sugar around his nose and mouth and cookie dough filling drooling off his chin....seriously. And in that hat....can't wait to see opening day website pictures. Time went quick with baseball talk, internet interviews and so forth, and with doors now open at noon instead of 1pm, no one left for lunch at the iron horse cafe. At 12, Hal said a few words and by 12:15 we had the cards and heading for the car. By now the NY roads had melted so it was pretty clear sailing all the way home. After snow, rain, and winds yesterday and another snow storm coming on Saturday, this was a pretty sweet little February day. And i came home with my very own valentines present. I'm already thinking of the together time with Karen tomorrow as we alphabetize and sort cards to teams.

Roland's reply - Had only 3 donuts; breakfast and lunch for me. And I looked rather sharp in my Santa chapeau.

Don's reply - Actually, Bill, you drove by me in the lot (I watched you overshoot the lot, as I did, lol) and I drove to where you parked, when I realized you didn't see me, lol! Bill and I are in the "first six there" picture at the strat website- we chatted up Adam Rosen and Marc Wassenberg (who is friends with a lot of guys in my UNL league).I had plenty of washer fluid, the problem was it isn't rated cold enough, it was almost more harm than help, lol, until it warmed up later in the morning...(Also my wiper on Bill's side wasn't working too well, so his view was less than ideal, for sure).

Hotlanta shuts down temporarily because Jim Jalutkewics went on the 14 day DL. Jim had some medical stuff going on and was having surgery. He knew he would be missing the draft so he had Bill Nieman will be doing the draft for him.

We had a Pre-Draft Day dinner at Angie's Restaurant. Eight members made it out this year. In attendance were Frank, Ed, Vic, Glen, Roland, Bill, Joe and myself. Simonutti came in all the way from Wheaton, IL and Handel all the way from John's Creek, GA. By the time I got to Angie's around 6:45pm every one was there but Vic. Actually, I think Vic was there but he was on the restaurant side. I had made a reservation for the bar side because of the stories that I've heard about Roland and Glen! Vic did find us. Before we order the waitress game over and said to Roland, I've heard about you. You like finding back doors to exit without paying. We all started to laugh.

Draft Day February 23, 2014 at the Comfort Inn in Mystic started early. I got there around 8:30ish and Ed, Glen and Roland were having breakfast as they stayed at the Inn. Everyone was there early so we gave Glen his award for winning the regular season. I had already mailed Jim Jalutkewics his World Series award. Roland made his usual speech about the two awards that he'll be giving and of cause Glen made his usual comments that brought down the house. We did start at 11am when Vic took Jose Fernandez at #1 and we finished at 3:21pm when Merk took Jeff Bianchi last at 205. We only took a half hour break at 1ish for lunch. The rest of the day it was all business. For complete results check out our website.

Pitcher hitting cards: We will not be using the Pitcher hitting cards that came with the card set. The reason was that the computer game had individual hitting cards for every pitcher but the card set only had 68 individual cards. To keep the computer game and FTF game the same we decided not to use the cards.

March 2014 – All the Ball Parks were in and Bob Figella got out the League Disk. We were ready to start the 41st season of the Fly-By-Night Baseball Association. It's been a helluva ride.

I had an email from Tom Warfel a former FBNER. "I enjoyed reading about the history of the league during my time in it, with few insignificant exceptions the facts are pretty accurate. Only one worth mentioning was that I actually was a back-up originally although I did get a team before the initial season. This was the only league that I was ever a part of so I never realized things got that bad in the late 70's, as long as I got instructions and was able to play games I was happy. I am pleased to have played a small part in something that has lasted this long. take care and good luck," Tom Warfel (Tallahassee Seminoles

I email Tom back and mentioned that we have lost touch with the past members and that it was nice to hear from him. I also told him we still have one original member, West Jeff Jerk's, Jeff "Merk" Merklin. I also asked if he had taken over Tom Angel's team. Angel was a three time loser with the FBN.

Chiefs Waive Good-Bye to Johan TAXACHUSETTS - On the day before the waiver wire deadline, Johan Santana threw a bullpen session in Fort Myers, Florida. About a dozen MLB teams sent representatives, as did the Chiefs. The results were discouraging. Johan's fastball topped out at 80 mph, and the Chiefs decided to waive its former ace, one year after waiving Chris Carpenter. Santana finishes his Chief career at 85-50. Taxachusetts acquired Santana prior to the 2007 season, after he had won the AL Cy Young Award for Lake Wobegon. The price for the Whippet's ace was steep- Johan and LW #4 for Dan Haren, Coco Crisp, TX #2and 2008 #1. But Johan immediately transformed a good team into a championship team. In 2007, he won his 2nd FBN Cy Young, leading the NL in wins (22) and strikeouts (235) and leading Taxachusetts to its first title. In 2008, he placed 2nd in the Cy Young voting, going 19-9, leading the NL in strikeouts again (283) and finishing 2nd in ERA (3.10). In 2009, Johan struggled with a 4.68 ERA, but still managed an 18-9 record. He would never regain his championship form - 2010: 9-11, 3.42; 2011: 13-10, 5.49; 2012: DNP; 2013: 4-3, 5.60. His last start was June 9, 2013 at John's Creek, where he was a tough-luck loser, pitching 5 innings and allowing only 1 run on 3 hits. His long run of tough luck culminated last Wednesday when the Chiefs finally gave him his release.

Mike Gerack was taking a Leave of Absence. Mike was grateful that he can take the LOA and not lose his team. Bob and Merk checked out AB's and IP'ed. It looked like everyone was ready for opening day! Bob Figella did "How old is your team? Do you have an aging team or is your team full of young up and comers? ...The youngest team, Milford followed by Arsenal and Illinois. The oldest team, Taxachusetts followed by Klee's and California."

March 17th the official Opening Day of 2014. Ed did a great job with his INSIDE THE FBN.

NATIONAL LEAGUE – He started with the NL. He didn't talk about all of the teams. Here is what he said. "Bottom line is a lot of teams are close. I think Norwich, Hazardville, Taxachusetts, Wall Street and US will make the playoffs. You can look at the lineups and rotations and see that no one team is clearly better than the rest. Enjoy the season. Should be a very competitive year."

AMERICAN LEAGUE – "Like the NL, the AL is rather balanced this year. Really, only a few teams like Johns Creek, Lake Wobegon and Yorktown have no shot at the playoffs. I suppose now that Florida is on auto pilot you can exclude them as well....too bad as I would have had them in the mix for the 5th spot. I think the ex-Salem team is the best, but has some flaws. After that you have California, Baton Rouge, Hart Street and Hotlanta with the best chances. But it would not shock me to see a team like Urpaign, Arsenal or Milford squeak in. You know at the end of the year there will be a couple of 100 win teams, but you tell me which of this group looks like a slam dunk elite team? I don't see one. Should really be a fun season. Lots of parity, in my not so humble opinion. Congrats guys....nice job improving your teams....except Glen who sucks! LOL. Have a good season!

April 2014 – Vic Handel wrote an "Outsider" Power Rankings article. He showed Holtanta at 9.72 rating and California at 9.52. In the NL he showed Norwich at 14.87 and Hazardville at 12.07. Check out his entire article on the web.

THE PENANT RACES: In the American League Baton Rouge 13-7 (ranked 3rd by the Insider and 6th by the Outsider) has the early lead over California 10-6 (ranked 2nd by both) followed by Hotlanta 14-10, the 2013 FBNBA World Series Champions, ranked 4th

by the Insider and #1 by the Outsider. In the National League Taxachusetts 16-8, (ranked 3rd by the Insider and 4th by the Outsider) leads Connecticut 11-5, (ranked 10th by both). Maine enjoying their move to the NL is third at 8-4. Maine was ranked 7th by the Insider and 8th by the Outsider. **Team Articles:** Joe sent in **WORD ON THE STREET** at his Barons being 11-9 despite woeful offense.... Pitching was a solid surprise - Scherzer & Sale..D Hale 12 ip 10h 2r 2er 0bb 19K !! unfortunately, those 12 IP are it for the season!!! but he was 2-0. He also said "as MLB gets underway the Barons have 30 players on opening day rosters, 1 retired (Mariano), 3 DL, 3 minors and according to USA Today the 36 under contract produce a payroll of \$186,338,642. The Barons block one 25 man roster \$141,555,742 which would be 7th highest in MLB. "This is the kind of stuff you do when you are retired and you see snow falling heavily as you look out your window!!!" I put in **SCHOOL YARD CHATTER** - "We've been in all but three games this year but we have come out on the short side of most Mgr. Stengel said it's going to be a long season. Dave sent in **DEVIL DOODLES**- Blue Devils began their 28th season in the FBN with a strong start...before faltering on the road losing their first series to Illinois. At 12-8, management is pleased...especially with the pitching...a solid 2.95 ERA. Cliff Lee is off to his best start as a Blue Devil going 3-1 1.48 in 4 starts including a 1 hit shutout of the powerful Barons...Tommy Milone, however, sporting a 1.69 ERA is only 1-2 in 4 starts not getting any run support....Offensively, it's been more of a struggle...just .252...Yadier Molina is leading the team with a... Newly acquired Chris Denorfia has kept up with Molina batting .310 ...On the down side, Matt Dominguez, replacing Chipper Jones at 3B, is off to a rough start batting just .133....

PENANT RACES: In the American League Baton Rouge went from 13-7 to 15-15 to fall from first to 7th.

California also had a hard time going from 10-6 to 15-12 falling from 2nd to 5th. Yorktown took over first place in the AL with Hart Street right on the Admirals right flank in second. In the National League Taxachusetts went 9-3 to improve to 25-11 holding onto first place. Connecticut was in second but fall to 14-13 with a 3-8 record over the last 11 games. The Blue Devils fell to 6th place. Hazardville has taken over second place with a fine 22-14 record. **Team Articles:** Allyn Street - Robinson Cano is leading the team with a .310 average. ...Alfonso Soriano has 5HR, 18R, 19RBI while batting .265....Rookie Oberholtzer is 2-2 with a 1.76ERA... He has 33K's in 46IP and has walked only 11.

May 2014 – PENANT RACES: In the American League Hotlanta went 8-4 to take over first place from Yorktown. Yorktown finished block 2, 7-8 to fall 1 game back to third place. California turned around from a poor start to finish block 2 at 10-5 to tie Hotlanta for first place. Arsenal went 10-5 also to move to 1 ½ games of first place. There are eight teams in the American League at or above .500. In the National League Taxachusetts is holding onto first place for the third straight newsletter. Norwich has moved into second place only 1 game behind the Chiefs with Hazardville in third only 2 games out of first. The NL is as tight as the AL as it also has eight teams at or above .500. **Team Articles:** **SCHOOL YARD:** After Stengel's 4-15 complaint about only 27 HR's in 36 games the 89ERS hit 10 HR's in their next 6 games....Robinson Cano still leading the team hitting .314. Raji Davis is back at .300. Davis also went on a tear stealing 9 bases in 6 games. Davis is now at 24SB....89ERS traded Ryan Roberts and Scott Rice to Taxachusetts for Ryan Flaherty...Rookie Brett Oberholtzer 4-2, 39K and 1.83ERA will be rested until the final block of the season.

TAXACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REPORT - (27-15) H: 13-8 A: 14-7 1R: 8-3 EX: 3-2 SO: 3 TSO: 0

Random stats: Batting in the 1st inning: .322/.419/.601 51 R 12 HR...Batting in the clutch: .311 (50 for 161), 11 HR, 75 RBI

Starting Pitching 16-11, 5.25 ERA, .281 OBA...Relief Pitching 11-4, 14 Saves, 3.05 ERA, .226 OBA

Individual Stars: Miguel Cabrera .318/.431/.623 14 HR 39 RBI...Albert Pujols .320/.346/.648 12 HR 34 RBI

Cesar Ramos 0.72 ERA in 25 IP...Joe Nathan 4-1, 12 SV, 0.84 ERA in 21 IP 31 SO...he started the season with 20 scoreless innings.

Oddities: Anthony Recker .412 (14 for 34) 4 HR 14 RBI...Garrett Richards (pitcher's hitting card No. 1) is 4 for 5...Chris Iannetta (16-7 hit chances) had an 11-game hitting streak. **DEVIL DOODLES** - Blue Devils completed an up and down Block 2 to finish at 22-20....getting swept 3 games by Florida to start the block, then went 8-4 in the middle...ending the block on a very sour note getting

swept on the road at Arsenal...team batting average dropped to .236...offense has just one hitter batting over .300 in Yadier Molina (.313) while having 8 batters hitting under .240...pitching staff has been very good...ERA of 3.52. Cliff Lee is finally off to a good

start going 5-3 2.28 in 10 starts while C.J. Wilson has been solid as usual at 4-2 4.06. Tommy Milone continues to get limited run support going 2-3 in 8 starts despite a fine 2.74 ERA. **WORD ON THE STREET** - through 2 blocks: the Good, the Bad, the Ugly.

Good= Salty continues to shine 333/386/684, 14 dbl, 9 hr, 26 rbi's...Bad= Team BA 246 !! Team OB% 311...Ugly= Swisher 4 for 54 (vs LHP- nearly impossible given he platoons vs LHP and #'s on his card!!!) 074/206/130, 0 Hrs, 3rbi. Pitching - Good= Team era

2.92 !!!Scherzer 2.29, Sale 2.60 Bad= lack of a #5 SP Ugly= Mariano 0-3, 3.97 era, 5bb, 3K's does have 5 sv)

PENANT RACES: In the American League Yorktown went on an "aircraft carrier" attack with a 9-0 record to get back into the "Penthouse" that it had held earlier in the year. Hotlanta had taken over first place from Yorktown the last time we checked in but they became "Iceland" at 4-9 to drop to 6th place. Hart Street went 10-3 to move from 6th to 2nd. California and Arsenal are in 3rd and 4th.

Florida made the biggest move as the Sun went 18-4 to move from 10th to 5th. There are still eight teams in the American League at or above .500. In the National League the US Jarheads "stormed" the beach head at 11-5 to take over first

place from Taxachusetts who fell to second. The Jarheads were in 4th at the last report. It was the first time in three reports that the Chiefs who went 4-5 were not in first. Norwich was 0-0 and "fell" to third 1 game out and Hazardville is in 4th just 1 ½ game out. The

NL has only 6 teams at or above .500 this time as Illinois and Connecticut fell below .500. **Team Articles:** **TAX NOTES** - The Chiefs continue a rough stretch, going 4-9 over the last 13 despite outscoring opponents in those games, 82-81. Miggy has heated up: .341, 17

HR, 44 RBI in 48 games. David Wright is coming off a 4 HR series at Hart St. The pitching (surprise) and defense (no surprise) have been brutal. The road doesn't get any easier. **DEVIL DOODLES** - The Blue Devils are in the midst of their worst stretch of games in franchise history. After reaching 5 games above .500 at 22-17 – the Blue Devils have gone 1-12 in the next four series managing one

win vs. Hart Street and getting swept by Arsenal, Yorktown and Urpaign...Urpaign series was utterly ridiculous as CT batted .120 for the series...Jose Reyes is the poster child for the offensive collapse....was batting .300 after the first 24 games...since then, in the next

28 games Reyes is batting a robust .135...pitching has been pretty solid overall with a team ERA of 3.89 – can't complain too much about that. Cliff Lee has done well with a 2.63 ERA but only a 6-4 record. Tommy Milone has been getting no support going 2-3 despite a 2.79 ERA....back end of the rotation has struggled..John Danks and Ross Ohlendorf combining for a 6.93 ERA and 2-8. **SCHOOL YARD CHATTER** - 89ERS just completed a modest 5 game winning streak...Venable on a four game hitting streak. Cano had the season longest at 11...Lohse is 3-3, 3.67ERA...bullpen Juan Gutierrez 0-0 2.84ERA....

June 2014 - PENANT RACES: In the American League Yorktown had to cool off after going 9-0 last time. The Admirals struggled at 3-8 but held onto first place. Hart Street went 3-3 while California went 3-0 to tie the Hogs for second place. They are 1 game back of Yorktown. Arsenal went 10-12 and Hotlanta went 3-3 as both teams are now tied for 4th place. In the National League the US Jarheads lost their last series 1-2 to drop out of first and into a tie with Wall Street for 4th in a race that separates the top 4 teams by only 2½ games. Taxachusetts 6-4 is still in second but Hazardville 5-4 has tied the Chiefs. So who is in first? Norwich navigated itself to an 11-5 record to take over first in the National League by 1 ½ games. **Team Articles - TAX REPORT** - Chief season preview listed pitching as a strength, and yet the Taxmen are in the basement in the NL in team ERA. Pitching coach Mike Henneman is still waiting for the starting pitchers to perform to their capabilities. So far, it's been a collective disaster. Team ERA for SP is 5.51, and this has really taxed (pun intended) the pen...**DEVIL DOODLES** - After starting Block 3 going 1-9, the Blue Devils rebounded in the second half of the block going 7-2 including a very rare 3 game sweep of Milford to finish Block 3 at 30-31 and remained on the fringe of the wild card chase...Pitching continues to be solid with Cliff Lee leading the way at 7-4 2.60. Tommy Milone 3-3 2.58 and C.J. Wilson 6-4 4.54 have kept CT in most games. The bullpen...closer Koji Uehara has 4 disappointing losses. However, with a 1.74 ERA and 13 saves – he's been decent...**SCHOOL YARD CHATTER** - ...We may actually win 60!" said Casey Stengel...Cano has been "Mr. Consistent" hitting over .300 all year...Kyle Lohse heard all the trade rumors but did not let that effect his pitching winnin all 4 of his starts..Who's Hot: Raji Davis batted .351 rasing his average to .314 for the year...

Guest reporter – It's been an interesting season in the AL. At the start, I thought the Hogs would be a playoff contender, but not a real threat to go deep in post season. However, the landscape has changed as the season has progressed. I thought Louisville would be a force with King Felix and Greinke atop his rotation, but he chose to rebuild the team some to his liking. Trading Werth and Ellsbury to the Hogs put the nail in 2014's coffin) One contender out of the picture. I thought Hotlanta would be tough, but he has chosen to retool as well trading Medlen, Navaro and Gomez (all to yours truly. A second contender out of the picture. I thought Florida would be tough, but now they are on auto pilot.....and we all know that never ends well for teams. Three contenders out of the picture. I didn't see Yorktown being a contender, but he got off to a quick start and made a trade or two. I think the Admirals are starting to slide a little, but will probably hang in the picture for the rest of the year. I may have under-rated them some. I thought Arsenal was an up and coming team and on the bubble. They are hanging in there for a playoff spot. California is the one team I appear to have gotten right.....figured they would be a top contender and figured Frank would be active. He hasn't gone Hog wild (pun intended) but he did make a major acquisition in Clay Buchholz, and I suspect he's not done. The Hogs: Through 42 games the Hogs were just 22-20 and scuffling offensively. Then a couple of trades: Werth, Ellsbury and Romo from LV and Uribe from JC really kick started the team. Since then the Hogs have been 29-10 and go into the mid-season break atop the AL. Since I don't see any juggernaut in the AL this year, I figure it's GO FOR IT time. On the way are Chris Medlen and Jeanmar Gomez, who should strengthen the rotation. The pen is already solid, but I'll be trolling for a shutdown closer type that can push Romo to setup. Also on the way is Dionar Navaro, who crushes LHP so will complement Brian McCann behind the plate. I also have another major offensive acquisition to be announced during July. In my mind, unless someone else in the AL gets busy, it's a two team race in the AL between the Hogs and the Dreamers. However, I've been wrong before so we'll see.....plusupsets can happen in the playoffs. I'm looking forward to the second half of the season to see how the reworked Hogs make out. Expectations are high in the land of Kruk..... Ed

Commissioner's Corner: I'm looking for items for the newsletter by guest reporters. It can be items on your team, comments on the season to anything on your mind. I would like the newsletter to be your newsletter. When I write the history for the League I use team notes and newsletters. If you send out an item by email only, it gets read but doesn't make it to our League History. So, send your email cards and letters to me to be included in the newsletter or send them to Bob Figella to be listed in team notes. Thank you. - Rob **Team Articles - GATOR TALES** - Nearing the half-way point, Norwich is cruising at a 50-27 record. Luck may indeed be a bit of a factor, as the team is 11-4 in one-run games, and 6-0 in extras! The team has been performing as advertised...pitching has been solid, "Big Two" Kershaw and Zimmerman combining for a 21-6 record, and a 1.75 ERA! Greg Holland solid closing the door, with 17 saves and a 0.93 WHIP. The outlook for next year is more like last year's team, with no superstar seasons, but having decent bats at all positions. The pitching is "so far so good", with Johnny Cueto looking like himself, making the rotation a "Big Three" once again... **TAX REPORT** - Chiefs made more of a commitment to defense, and the pitching is starting to come around. Offense is on pace for 900+ runs scored. Three-time MVP Miggy is having his best season - .358/.463/.656.

July 2014 - Perfection was achieved in Hart St. – Baton Rouge's Yu Darvish retired every Hart St. Hogs batter, resulting in a 2 to nothing perfect game victory. It was the first perfect game in FBN history. In the same wee in Illinois, Larry Huck reported that Matt Harvey threw a perfect 27 up 27 out. US Jarheads won 3-0. **Bill Nieman commented on the perfect game.** Holy Cow. Harvey has been pretty special for the Jarheads. Earlier this season Harvey took a perfect game into the 8th inning vs the NE Angels. A one out Murphy double broke it up. More recently Harvey was perfect through 6 innings vs the Kegs in a game the Jarheads would lose 1-0 in 11 innings on a WP. Updated Matt Harvey 11-3, 1.77 Curators at The W Harry Pavilion are awaiting the arrival of the Perfect Scoresheet, where it will be enshrined in The US Jarhead HOF, just above the Dual No Hitters of Jim Nohit-Nohit Bullinger. No hitter at Burlington. Two base on balls prevented the perfection. Bob Mendez said "WOW!!! Burlington's 3rd no hitter in 26yrs.

Iwakuma was awesome!! Buccaneers 2 Prairie Dogs 0.

Leonys Martin hits for the cycle at Maine. Florida Sun Leonys Martin was 4 for 5 as he hit for the cycle at Maine. Martin's cycle was only the third in League History. (Based on the League History.) 1. Connecticut Blue Devil Tim Walach is credited in the League History as the first FBN player to hit for the cycle. Walach did it in 1989 against Taxachusetts. 2. Salem Psychic's had a batter hit for the cycle in 1996 but the players name was not listed in the History.

Team Articles: SCHOOL YARD CHATTER - GM Branch Rickey traded long time 89ER Shane Victorino to Yorktown... Rajai Davis had his 53 stolen base of the season... Robinson Cano's 1500th hit was a double. **DEVIL DOODLES** - After losing 11 of 12 games a couple blocks ago, the Blue Devils have been playing much better recently winning their last 5..This moved Connecticut to 9 games over .500...pitching has carried the team with a 3.53 team ERA.

July is due's month in the FBN and it's for a good reason. It allows us plenty of time to search for new members if someone decides not to return. I received an email from Mike Gerack thanking me for managing his team and giving him the time to regroup. But, at this time Mike felt he did not have the time necessary to do a good job with his team. Mike asked to be put on the backup list. Mike said "Thanks for all the good times." #100 to leave the FBN.

I put out a request to the members that new members are needed. We need to replenish the backup list to keep the league strong. I also put an ad on the SOM website. **Team Articles - BATON ROUGE NOTES** - It's time for the all-star game and a look at the first half of the season for the team from Baton Rouge. The Bullets went into the season expecting/hoping for a playoff spot after a disastrous 2012 (53 wins) and an only slightly better season in 2013 (67 wins). We filled some holes in the draft and got a good start going 12-8. The pitching staff has performed better than last season with an overall team ERA under 4.0 with Yu Darvish leading the way with 11 wins and a 2.65 ERA. The defense has been very good...However, the offense has been very poor with no improvement in team average over last year and a slugging percentage of only .390 compared to .404 last season.... While we are certainly not throwing in the towel, it will take an extended win streak to finish with a playoff berth...**TAX REPORT - MILESTONE**: On July 21st, in the 3rd inning of game 3, Miguel Cabrera hit career HR #400 off Mike Minor. He's the 1st Chief to reach 400 HRs.

August 2014 - We welcomed the newest member to the FBN BBA - Doug Campbell from Nashville, TN. Doug was one of the five replies from the SOM ad. He is a teacher and has been playing strat for many years. He's considering starting a strat club after school. Good way to get the younger kids involved. At the time we didn't know if he would take over the Florida Sun franchise or if we would have a Re-Entry draft. It turned out that no present FBN member decided to release his team so Doug ended up with the Florida roster. The ad also produce a backup member. Larry Vasbinder. Larry is retired. He had been the circulation director for Pittsburg newspaper. He's played strat for over 25 years. **Team Articles - DEVIL DOODLES** - The Blue Devils streak of winning series reached 8 in a row with a sweep of Louisville putting Connecticut 15 games over .500...CT then split a 4 game series vs. the Hogs to end their series winning streak before getting swept on the road at Yorktown to leave the Blue Devils at 62-50 - on the edge of playoff contention...Jose Reyes, the usual catalyst at the top of the lineup, continues to struggle batting just .226 with only 40 runs scored in 95 games...Matt Dominguez, given the full time 3B job this season has been fairly productive with 12 HR's and 50 RBI in 109 games but the .225 batting average must be improved.

Doug names his team the Nashville Assassins. **PENANT RACES**: In the AL Hart Street has a 4 game lead over Yorktown. The Hogs were busy early in the first halve of the season making 7 trades by July 2nd. The Hogs added 11 new faces to the team as they improved in the outfield, catching, firstbase and pitching. They went from a .500 to .639 and first place. They are number six in hitting but number one in team ERA. HS is counting on their pitching to carry them to the post season. Yorktown was playing well from the start of the season but not good enough to get out of 3rd place. They started to make trades in May and really got into it in July and August as they improved in the outfield, thirdbase, and most importantly in pitching adding starting and bullpen help. YA before the pitching trades were 7th in team ERA. With the new pitching additions the Admirals hope to improve on the team ERA. California has also been good all year.CD is number 3 in team hitting and number 2 in team ERA. They did make three trades adding two starters and two starter/reliever's to their mix. Arsenal, Hotlanta and Barton Rouge will fight it out for the last two playoff spots. In the NL the Jarheads and Chiefs have been playing leap-frog all season as one hops over the over for first place. Today it's the Jarheads in first by percentage points. The USJ came into the season with a strong team and they have stuck with it. USJ first in hitting and second in team ERA. The Chiefs also started the season with a very good team but they have made 4 trades adding bullpen depth while also improving their infield and outfield. TX 3rd in hitting but only 9th in team ERA. Wall Street and Norwich have been holding on to 3rd and 4th for most of the season. WS had been making one trade a month until August when they made two. The Barons improved their infield defense at 2nd . 3rd and short. They also added a relief pitcher, an outfielder and a starting pitcher. Talk about insider trading. WS stock is on the raise. The Navigators have made two trades as they are basically sticking with their players from the start of the year. NN 5th in hitting and 7th in ERA. Hazardville and Connecticut will battle it out for the final playoff spot. **Team Articles - SCHOOL YARD REPORT CARD** - GM Branch Rickey was able to move Alfonso Soriano...Soriano was drafted by AS 57th in the 3rd Round of the 2001 Draft...Soriano did very well as an 89ER he will finish his career at #3 in games, #2 runs #2 RBI, #3 AB's, #5 H, #3 D, #6 T, #2 HR, #4 SB and #7 BB... **WHO'S HOT**: AJ Pollock - Last 44 games: .327 18R, 9D, 2T, 2HR, 10RBI and 7SB... **WHO'S COLD**: Robinson Cano - Last 50 games: .203 23R, 10D, 0T, 4HR and 25RBI. **DEVIL DOODLES** - Paul Konerko, who has been moved to a mostly platoon player this season, went on a hot streak that increased his playing time. In a 17 game stretch, Konerko batted .463 (25 for 54) with 5 doubles, a triple, a HR, 13 runs scored and 13 RBI. At one point, he had 8 hits in a row against

Allyn Street...The Blue Devils chances of making the playoffs took a devastating hit when they got swept 4 games at home vs. Illinois. The Prairie Dogs outscored CT 25-7 in the series and out hit them 50-32 – one of the worst 4 game series in Blue Devil history. With 24 games left in the season, CT is 6 games behind Hazardville for the last playoff spot – a very bleak chance of making those games up. Therefore, rumors have it that management is shopping around some veteran players that might help other playoff teams down the stretch.

September 2014 – PENNANT RACES - AL = Hart Street could not continue their hot play of July and early August as they saw their 4 game lead vanish as the Hogs could only go 5-7 to drop from first place to 2nd. The Hogs are now 1 game behind the Dreamers. Yorktown found themselves in even more trouble as they fell to 6-14 during the hot Summer. The Admirals are now in third 8 games behind first place California and 7 back of Hart Street. California enjoyed the heat of the Summer and went on a 17-7 run to move from 3rd place 5 games back of first to sit atop of the American League. Hotlanta moved past Arsenal for 4th place by two games with a 16-8 Summer. Arsenal 13-10 holds a 2 ½ game lead over Barton Rouge but the Gunners have one more loss then the Silver Bullets. Baton Rouge enjoyed a 13-7 Summer. The fight continues to the last 20 games of the season. NL = The Jarheads struggled at 8-8 to fall percentage points out of first. USJ and Norwich are tied at this time. Norwich went 17-7 over the summer and they have the easier remaining schedule. I see Norwich holding onto 2nd because USJ and Wall Street have the same schedule for the final 20 games, they will play each other plus Hazardville. I see the Jarheads holding onto 3rd. I don't see how the Barons will be able to make up the 4 games. Taxachusetts leads both USJ and Norwich by .004 percentage points. The Chiefs have played 4 less games then the other two teams. If the Chiefs should go 2-2 the NL would have three teams tied for first place! Looking at the final block for Taxachusetts they play Norwich and the only other team over .500 that they will see is Connecticut and the Blue Devils just traded away their best starting pitcher and their closer. I'd have to say if they don't win the pennant Joe Carter may be in trouble. The Navigators made the biggest move at 17-7 to move percentage points behind Taxachusetts. The two teams will face each other 4 times over the final 20 games. If one of team can go 3-1 in that series and then beat up the other poor teams, that's the NL Champion. Hazardville with an 11-5 run knotted Connecticut out of the final playoff spot as they built a 6 game lead over the Blue Devils. It's September and the roster's expand. Maybe the team with the better Minor League call ups will pull a Fall uprising! **Team Articles - BATON ROUGE NOTES** - The Bullets are experiencing a hitting renaissance as the team has gone from 4 under .500 to 7 over in the past two rounds...pitching has been pretty solid all year lead by Yu Darvish who is now 16-7 with a 2.87 ERA. He has a chance to win 20 games which hasn't been done by a Bullet since Establen Loaisa won 20 in 2004...Offensively the Bullets have been less than stellar with to date 47 games where the offense scored 2 or fewer runs in 135 games – 35% of the time. We are projected to score less than 700 runs for the season which would be the 5th lowest total in our 26 year history...The overall team batting average has increased from .257 to .265 over that period. We still are 1 ½ games out of the last playoff spot, so the renaissance has to continue. **SCHOOL YARD REPORT CARD** - Robinson Cano hit rock bottom at .275. He has his average up to .288 as he went .434 in his last 46 at bats. He has scored 8 runs, with 5 doubles, 4 homeruns and 9 RBI...Edwin Jackson got pummelled in his first outing for the 89ERS..In his next start at Hazardville he earned a win...**89ERS pulled off a triple** play at Hazardville...**TAX REPORT** - Chief Career Hits - Miguel Cabrera 2002, David Wright 1585, Joe Carter 1403. **DEVIL DOODLES** -After trading away their two best pitchers – Cliff Lee & Koji Uehara, Connecticut ended any slim chance of making the playoffs by losing 7 of their next 8 games to Norwich and Taxachusetts... CT hopes to finish with a winning record for the 25th time out of 28 seasons. Cliff Lee finished his 6 year career with CT going 84-78 4.24 ERA. For most pitchers – not a bad record but considering how many great cards Lee received during those 6 years – the overall results were very disappointing...For Koji Uehara, he pitched 4 years for CT amassing 75 saves with a 2.75 ERA – good solid pitcher...Blue Devil management acquired a promising young lefty starter in Mike Minor who they hope will replace Lee and is 10 years younger. CT also acquired a 1st rd pick in the upcoming draft to hopefully pick up another young player for the future...

A returning friend, Dave Sanborn manager of the Plymouth Bats had moved back to the East Coast and saw our ad on the SOM website. Dave took over the Louisville River Bandits when Tony left the FBN in 1996 due to the birth of his son. Dave was living in Bridgewater, MA at the time. Dave won back to back AL Manager of the Year Awards in 1997 and 1998. Dave moved to LA and because of family and work had to leave the FBN in 2004. Dave is back on the East Coast living in South Jersey. With his son in college and daughter in high school Dave had the time for strat again. Welcome back to the FBN.

PENNANT RACES - AL = Hart Street turn things around in their last two series going 6-2 to move back into first by percentage points over California. Hart Street looks good to win the AL race. The Hog's have 6 less losses then the Dreamers. California went 7-5 over their last three series and has only 2 less losses then Yorktown. The Dreamers must do better in their last 8 games or they could slip to 3rd place. Yortown went 7-1 and that put them in good position to overtake the Dreamers for 2nd place. It will be a challenge since they do not play each other during the final block. The Admirals will need help. Hotlanta also was good going 6-2 and now are 2 games behind Yorktown for 3rd. The Possoms do not play the Admirals this block and they will also need help if they are going to overtake them.

NL = The Jarheads went 4-0 in their first series of the final block and are back in first place by percentage points. Taxachusetts played two series and went 6-2. The Chiefs have 2 more losses then the Jarheads. Norwich also went 6-2 to keep pace with the Chiefs. They are tied at 90-52. Wall Street with an 8-4 run are in 4th, 4 games back of Norwich. With the same number of losses as the Navigators will Wall Street be able to catch or pass them? Hazardville just took 3 of 4 from Wall Street to move just 2 games behind the Barons. The Powderkegs will need help to catch the Barons.

October 2014 - GUEST ITEM: The Klub closed out a miserable season by taking 3 of 4 from the similarly hapless Angels, losing

only to the dominant Steven Strassberg. The Klubbers managed to avoid the tag of "Worst Klub Ever" that still hangs on the 96 game

losing '07 team. The Klub finished at 69-93, H: 39-42, A: 30-51. The Klubbers look like contenders in 2015 with a good lineup that may lack some power but has good on base skills. The rotation and bullpen are solid as well as defense. The Draft looks promising as the team has an extra 2nd rounder but no 3rd round pick. The Klubber's departing first basemen, Lance Berkman and Carlos Pena, were on fire in the Angel series going 7 for 11 and 4 for 7, respectively, each with a home run. Still, it wasn't enough for the team to reach 100 long balls on the year, believed to be a Klubber first. The Klubbers will be looking for a first baseman with 350+ AB's who can hit righties (age and defense not important). Second baseman Aaron Hill is available after a disappointing season in which he slashed .244/.287/.367 in 501 AB's with the Diamondbacks, though providing steady defense. I'm projecting a "3" with a low e-rating. The Klubbers are also interested in draft picks. Bob F., it's time to put up the Draft Day countdown clock. Happy winter folks, Roland

PENNANT RACES: AL - Hart Street continued its hot streak going 8-2 to win the AL Pennant by 8 games over California. The Dreamers went 4-4 but still held off Yorktown for second place. The Admirals at 10-6 couldn't catch California but it was enough to place third just 4 games better than Hotlanta. The Possums finished 6-6. For the final playoff spot it was a battle right down to the end between Arsenal and Baton Rouge. The Gunners went 9-7 while the Silver Bullets finished 4-4 as the Gunners finished one game better to take 5th place. NL - US Jarheads, Taxachachusetts and Norwich were all tied by percentage points for first place in our last report. Norwich with an 11-5 run took the NL Flag. Taxachusetts at 7-5 finished 2 games back tied with US Jarheads who 9-7. Based on the FBN tie breaker (team with the worst home record) the Chiefs finish 2nd and the Jarheads 3rd. Wall Street with a 12-4 run made it interesting as the Barons finished 1 game back of the Chiefs and Jarheads. The Barons need to sweep Allyn Street and Burlington for a tie. The Barons gave it their all going 7-1, their only loss came against the 89ERS.

Final 2014 Standings

AMERICIAN LEAGUE

	Won	Lost	Pct.	GB
1. Hart Street	107	55	.660	-----
2. California	99	63	.611	8
3. Yorktown	95	67	.586	12
4. Hotlanta	91	71	.562	16
5. Arsenal	88	74	.543	19
6. Baton Rouge	87	75	.537	20
7. Florida	80	82	.494	27
8. Urpaign	77	85	.475	30
9. Lake Wobegon	68	94	.420	39
10. Louisville	56	106	.346	51
11. John's Creek	48	114	.296	59
12. Milford	48	114	.296	59

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	Won	Lost	Pct.	GB
1. Norwich	105	57	.648	-----
2. Taxachusetts	103	59	.636	2
3. US Jarheads	103	59	.636	2
4. Wall Street	102	60	.630	3
5. Hazardville	97	67	.599	8
6. Connecticut	85	77	.525	20
7. Burlington	70	92	.432	35
8. Illinois	70	92	.432	35
9. Klee's	69	93	.426	36
10. Maine	66	96	.407	39
11. Allyn Street	63	99	.389	42
12. New England	62	100	.383	43

We had to correct a Playoff Rule for a Starter only card used in relieve. Our rule was not the same as the commuter game rule. We corrected the rule before the playoffs started.

National League Wild Card Series: Hazardville Vs. Wall Street.

GM 1HZ's AJ Price vs. WS's Max Scherzer. Game tied 4-4 after 9 innings. Bottom of the 13th Adrian G leads off for WS - GONE pure Gonzo's walk-off HR gives Barons gm 1 5-4. WP Wilhelmsen L Janssen

GM2 HZ Hudson WS Sale. Moss two HR's and WS leads 4-1 Frustration setting in for HZ as they've smacked Sale around for 9 hits thru 5 inn and left runners in scoring position 3 times. WS leads 5-1 after 7. Top 8, HZ comes back and all of a sudden it's 5-4. WS hangs on for 5-4 win and a 2-0 series lead WP Sale L Hudson Sv Rivera.

Teams move over to The Canyon for GM3

GM3 WS Griffin vs HZ Sanchez. Barons lead 4-0 to the bottom of the 6th. HZ Andrus "split" HR1 or out Home Run What! !!!! makes it 4-2. WS holds on for a 6-2 win and goes up 3gms to zip WP Griffin L Sanchez

GM4 Backs against the wall HZ sends M Buehrle vs WS Scherzer. With 2 out and the bases load Swisher bb for an RBI Scutaro with his -80 clutch and "W" vs LHP strides to the plate - roll 1-4 Scutaro find HR1-9/tp1 gone Grand Slam!!!! Real CHEESE and Barons are up 5-0. WS makes it 6-0. Kegs fight back to trail by only 1 6-5 Pence vs Rivera X pitcher Mo can field his position and Pence is retired WS 6-5. WS wins WC series in a sweep.

As Always Bob was as gracious in defeat as he is in victory the games were exciting and the outcome totally unexpected 3 1 run gms one of them 13inn . Kegs had won 5 of 8 during the reg season, Barons feel fortunate to move on WS caught the "Power rolls" 9 dbl tpl 10 hrs and Kegs failed to get key hits innumerous opportunities losing Beltran was a big hurt in HZ batting order. Matt Holliday is

Barons MVP for series the DH went 8 for 16 2 dbl 2 hr 4 rbi 3bb 5 R Thanks Bob for a great series. Onto the powerhouse that D Decker has built.

American League Wild Card Series: Arsenal vs. Hotlanta.

The Arsenal Gunners and Hotlanta Possums fired up the American League playoffs with an exciting wild card series. The games were played FTF on Dean's laptop at a neutral site, Harp's Irish Pub in Roswell, GA. It was battle of Guinness vs. Stella.

G#1 Miller vs. Miley

Gunners..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 - 2 9 0

Possums..... 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 - 3 8 0

WP: Paxton Save: Kimbrel

LP: Miller

AG HR: Rasmus HP HR: Duda, Jackson

WEB GEMS- Bot 1st: Justin Maxwell robbed Michael Cu

G#2 Alvarez vs. Fister

Gunners..... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 9 0

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 5 0

WP: Alvarez Save: Vincent LP: Fister

AG HR: none HP HR: none

In a great pitcher's duel Alvarez and 5 Gunner relievers combined for a shutout. Gunner pitchers yielded just 5 hits and 1 walk.

Arsenal got the only run they needed in the 3rd.

G#3 Rusin vs. Wood

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 3 0 - 4 6 0

Gunners..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 5 1

WP: Rusin Save: Kimbrel LP: Wood

AG HR: none HP HR: Fieder, Mercer

It was tight game for 7 innings with the scored knotted at 1-1 going into the 8th. The Possums broke the game open in the 8th

scoring 3 runs. With 1 out Mercer hit a solo HR. That was followed by a Beltre single and a RBI double by Gordon. Gordon advanced to 3rd on the throw to the plate on Beltre. He then scored on a SAF by Cuddyer.

G#4 Miley vs. Chatwood

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 2 - 4 8 1

Gunners..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 2 5 1

WP: Kimbrel Save: Jansen LP: Webb

AG HR: Maxwell HP HR: Duda, Cuddyer

Game #4 was an exciting extra inning affair. Arsenal got the scoring started in the bottom of the 1st when Maxwell led off with a HR.

The score stayed 1-0 through 7 innings. The Possums tied the game in the 8th when Cuddyer rapped a 2 out HR. The Possums took the lead in the 10th 2-1. But the Gunners fought back in the bottom of the 10th to tie it at 2. Hotlanta won the game in the 12th. Duda

knocked a 2 run HR for the lead. Arsenal had one more chance in the 12th but could not score.

G#5 Fister vs. Miller

Possums..... 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 6 0

Gunners..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 10 0

WP: Fister Save: Kimbrel LP: Miller

AG HR: Harper HP R: Cuddyer

Hotlanta wins the Wild Card series in another nail biter. All the scoring was in the first two innings. The Possums drew first blood on a 2out HR by Cuddyer in the 1st. Arsenal promptly tied the game in the bottom 1st on a 1 out HR by Harper. Hotlanta scored the winning run in the 2nd when with 2 outs Jackson walked, stole 2nd, and scored on a double by Rollins.

Arsenal could have easily won this series with a few timely hits. Dean had a lot of tough luck. Hotlanta only hit .199 for the series but had team 1.13 ERA. The Possums hit 7 HR's. Arsenal hit .220 with 3 HR's and a team 2.49 ERA. Cuddyer went 6 for 18, .333 with 4 RBI and 2 HR's to lead the Possums. Harper went 7 for 19, .368 with 1 RBI and 1 HR for the Gunners. My thanks to Dean for a great series. - Jim

NAIONAL LEAGUE PLAYOFFS: 3rd place US Jarheads vs 2nd place Taxachusettes Chiefs. Two power laden teams, each with 103 wins, started their series at a packed War Memorial Coliseum.

Game 1 featured FBN ERA Champion (1.42) and Perfect Game artist, Matt Harvey vs 23 game winner Justin Masterson.

The game stayed scoreless until the 4th. Paul Goldschmidt put USJ up 2-0 in the 4th with a HR over The Blue Dwarf. TAX answered in the bottom half when Utley tripled on a 1-3 and Carlos Quentin took Harvey over the CF wall. The Jarheads took the lead 3-2 in the 6th when Denard Span hooked one around the RF foul pole. Harvey started the 8th by beaming Quentin, who had homered earlier.

Some jawing from the dugouts but no one came on the field. Cargo stepped to the plate and turned a Harvey fastball around and sent it over the CF wall giving the Chiefs a 4-3 lead. Joe Nathan sealed the deal in the 9th and The Chiefs take a 1-0 series lead.

R H E

USJ 000 201 000 3 9 0

TAX 000 200 02 4 10 0 WP Benoit(1-0) LP Harvey(0-1) Sv Nathan 1. - Injuries: D Wright +1, C Quinten+1

Game 2 Ciff Lee vs Hiroki Kuroda

Goldschmidt put the Jarheads up 1-0 with a HR in the first. It stayed 1-0 till the 7th. Span's rbi double made it 2-0 Jarheads. USJ started the 8th with 2 singles putting runners at the corners for The Big E. Edwin hit a wicked line drive to shortstop Brendan Ryan who turned it into a **6-5-3 Triple play!** Still 2-0 into the 9th and the Jarheads pad their lead using 4 hits and an error to plate 4 runs for a 6-0 lead. Jarhead relievers add 3.2 innings to finish off the 6-0 shutout and The Jarheads tie the series 1-1.

R H E

USJ 100 000 104 6 13 0

TAX 000 000 000 0 6 1 WP C Lee (1-0) LP Kuroda (0-1)

Game 3 The teams move to Kate Elizabeth Park & W Harry Pavilion. Jake Peavy vs Chad Gaudin

An AJ Ellis SF and Don Kelly's solo HR have USJ up 2-0 after three inn. Gaudin pitched 3.2 innings before he allowed a hit. Then he couldn't get an out. 4 hits, 2bb, and a hbp later, and the Chiefs had a 5-2 lead. Cargo plated another run with a GB rbi for a 6-2 lead in the 5th. Neil Walker's 2 run HR made it 6-4. Cargo's solo HR made it 7-4 in the 8th. The Chief bullpen took over in the 6th and didn't allow another run with Hochavar, Crain, and Parnell setting up Nathan who earned his 2nd save. Chiefs take a 2-1 lead in the series.

R H E

TAX 000 510 010 7 6 2

USJ 011 020 000 4 8 1 WP Peavy(1-0) LP Gaudin(0-1) Sv Nathan(2) HR TAX Cargo 1(2) USJ D Kelly 1 - Injury: Kotaras

Game 4 RA Dickey vs Bret Oberholtzer

Both pitchers were excellent through 5 innings and the game was scoreless. Ryan Roberts had a lead off double in the Chiefs 6th. With 2 outs Ianetta walked bringing up Miguel Cabrera. Mgr Jeff Kent ordered the Cabrera intentional pass for the 5th time in the series and bought in LH reliever Avilan to face Cargo and he fanned him to keep it 0-0. Asdrubal Cabrera led off the bottom of the 8th with a double high off the wall, just missing a HR. Don Kelly followed with a long drive to right that was caught at the wall. Asdrubal took off for 3b and beat the 1-15 or out throw by plenty. With Trout up, Benoit uncorked a WP 1-6 and Cabrera came home with the first run of the game. Cishek, who got 2 outs in the 8th, had a 1,2,3 9th and the Jarheads even the series with a 1-0 win.

R H E

TAX 000 000 000 0 2 0

USJ 000 000 01 1 5 0 WP Cishek LP Benoit Sv none - Injury: D Wright+1

Game 5 Kuroda(0-1) C Lee(1-0)

Top of the first and Miguel Cabrera connects for a long HR and the Chiefs lead 1-0. In the 2nd Seth Smith blasted a 2 run HR and the Jarheads went up 2-1. In the 8th Cishek came in and M Cabrera singled and Soriano doubled to left. Smyly came in and fanned Johnson, then Machi retired Pujols with the tying and lead runs in scoring position. In the 9th Ziegler is in trying for the save. Utey singled. Chris Young then hit a long fly, HR 1-5 that was caught on the track. With 2 out Ianetta hit a liner almost up the middle but Asdrubal flagged it down and USJ wins the game 2-1, and take a 3-2 series lead going back to War Memorial Coliseum.

R H E

TAX 100 000 000 1 6 0 WP C Lee(2-0) LP Kuroda(0-2) Sv Ziegler 1 HR USJ S Smith 1 TAX M Cabrera 1

USJ 020 000 00 2 4 0 Injury: USJ Encarnacion TAX Quentin

Game 6 Back to The Blue Dwarf Harvey(0-1) vs Masterson

In the first Span walked and stole 2b. With 2 out Neil Walker hit a double off the wall and USJ lead 1-0. Soriano's solo HR tied it in the 3rd. Edwin put USJ up 2-1 with a solo blast in the 4th. Leading off the 8th Neil Walker doubled high off the wall. A shaken Parnell then walked the next 2 batters. Nathan came in and fanned the next 2 batters. But Asdrubal stepped to the plate and delivered a Grand Slam HR and the Jarheads led 6-1. The Chiefs scored in the 8th on a 1st and 3rd gb double play to make it 6-2. Harvey was still pitching and retired the first 2 batters in the bottom of the 9th. Ryan Howard then blasted a solo HR, 6-3. Light hitting Elliot Johnson then ripped a double, tiring Harvey. Cishek came on and Chris Young greeted him with a long HR making it 6-5! Soriano stepped to the plate. He was 2 for 3 with a HR already. Cishek went to a full count before fanning Alfonso to save the 6-5 USJ win.

R H E

USJ 100 100 040 6 8 0 WP Harvey (1-1) LP Masterson (0-1) Sv Cishek (2)

TAX 001 000 013 5 9 0 HR USJ Encarnacion 1, A Cabrera 1 GS TAX Soriano 1, Howard 1, C Young 1 Injuries: Pujols, Utey +1

USJ wins the series 4-2 and will face either Norwich or Wall St in the National League Championship Series.

Cliff Lee is the Series MVP, going 2-0 with a 0.69 ERA . Team BA USJ .245 8HR TAX .212 7HR Team ERA USJ 2.89 TAX 3.46

Draft order for 2015: 1. Milford. (worst home record) 2. Johns Creek. 3. Louisville. 4. New England. 5. Allyn Street. 6. Maine. 7. Lake Wobegon. 8. Klee's. 9. Burlington (worst home record). 10. Illinois. 11. Urpaign. 12. Nashville. 13. Connecticut. 14. Baton Rouge. 15. Arsenal. 16. Hotlanta. 17. Yortown. 18. Hazardville 19. California. 20. Wall Street. 21. US Jarheads. 22. Taxachusetts (worst home record gave TX better finish in the standings). 23. Norwich. 24. Hart Street. We had three ties Milford and Johns Creek, Burlington and Illinois and Taxachusetts and US Jarheads. The tie breaker was the team with the worst home record goes first in the odd rounds and the team with the better home record goes first in the even rounds. Since the tie breaker was used to give Taxachusetts the advantage in the standings it drafts after US Jarheads in the odd rounds. Round two without any trades included would look like this today. 25. Johns Creek. 26. Milford. 27. New England. 28. Allyn Street. 29. Maine. 30. Lake Wobegon. 31. Klee's. 32. Illinois. 33. Burlington. 34. Urpaign. 35. Nashville. 36. Connecticut. 37. Baton Rouge. 38. Arsenal. 39. Hotlanta. 40. Yortown. 41. Hazardville. 42. California. 43. Wall Street. 44. Taxachusetts. 45. US Jarheads 46. Norwich. 47. Hart Street. 48. Milford (3rd Round). Louisville had 25 ½ -BP's that was rounded up to 26 and added to his additional draft picks from round two to the end of his draft. LV#2 is #53. I called Tony to explain that he will be on probation for 2015 due to the -BP's. Only 3 ½ was for lateness the rest was for offer use.

Team Articles - DEVIL DOODLES - The Connecticut Blue Devils completed their 28th season in the FBN at 85-77 – making it their 25th winning season. The team was solid and competitive most of the year...but not good enough to reach the playoffs in the NL... eventually leading management to trade away their two best pitchers – veterans Cliff Lee & Koji Uehara... Alex Rios was voted Team MVP with an all-around solid year... Yadier Molina led the team in BA at .300... Mitch Moreland led the team in HR's (33) and RBI (92)... On the pitching side, after the departure of Lee and Uehara, the top pitchers remaining were rookie Alex Wood 6-5 3.19 and John Danks 7-9 3.67. Matt Albers was tops in the pen at 8-4 3.10. C.J. Wilson had his worst season as a Blue Devil with a 5.23 ERA but managed a 13-11 record... Looking to the future, the Blue Devils acquired a young lefty Mike Minor that they hope can replace Lee down the road and team up with Alex Wood at the front of the future rotation. The bullpen should be anchored by hard throwing southpaw Jake McGee and righty Drew Storen. A new face for the offense will be Gerardo Parra to give some depth to the OF and the return of Grady Sizemore... **BATON ROUGE NOTES** - The Bullets took another step toward respectability... team win total has increased from 53 to 67 and now to 87 over the past three years... pitching and defense were the highlights... team ERA of 3.795 just beat the 1995 team ERA of 3.797 for the second best ever... Yu Darvish lead the staff with 19 wins and an ERA of 2.78 with 262 strikeouts in 230 innings, the 3rd best season ERA and the most strikeouts by anyone not named Curt Schilling (who had over 300 Ks four times). The staff had a total of 13 shutouts, second only to the 2000 Bullet team's 14 shutouts. The team made fewer errors than any previous Bullet team by far – only 54 miscues leading to only 34 unearned runs... previous low was 68 errors by the 2004 team that won the AL East title... hitting was not good, scoring only 700 runs, well below the team average of about 800 runs per season. Carl Crawford's .310 with 31 stolen bases, DJ LeMahieu's .315 with 45 stolen bases, and Russell Martin's 22 home runs were the only highlights. The team scored 2 or fewer runs in 54 games. The offense should be much improved next year but the pitching will be much worse. Our goal is to continue to improve, pushing the win total into the 90's and into the playoff picture next season.

TAX REPORT - Congratulations, Bill! For those of us who have competed against him face-to-face for over 25 years, we've always known that he was a championship caliber manager. ..he has built a championship caliber team, the Jarheads are a juggernaut. He managed six flawless games and deservedly moves on to the NLCS. This could be the Year of the Jarheads... The season began with the Chiefs having only one player with more than 430 at bats. It looked as if the ballclub's collective age was finally catching up with them... it seemed every day Manager Joe Carter was dealing with injuries or resting players... the Chiefs used 122 different lineups this season, compared with 52 last season. In the postseason, injuries again crippled the Chiefs. Here is a listing, game by game, of players injured in this series: 1. Wright, Quentin. 2. Wright, Quentin. 3. Kottaras. 4. Wright, Quentin. 5. Wright, Quentin. 6. Pujols, Utey. This helps to explain how the Taxmen scored exactly one run total (a Miggy solo HR) in three games against left-handed starting pitchers. The regular season was incredible fun, witnessing the historic seasons of Miguel Cabrera (.383, 60 HR, 155 RBI, 148 R, 231 Hits, 110 BB) and Justin Masterson (23-2). But this marks the close of the Golden Decade of Chiefs Baseball, during which the Taxmen have won more than a thousand FBN games, if you include postseason wins. Thanks to all league members for the competition and the laughs. I'm proud to be associated with such a great group of guys. Can't wait for the 7th round of the draft!

November 2014 - American League Final Four Round: Hotlanta Possums Fister vs. Hart St. Hogs Medlen

Catcher Joe Mauer had 2 base hits as Hart St. beat Hotlanta by a score of 5 to 0. In the bottom of the 6th inning Hart St. went on top for good when they tallied 2 runs on 2 hits. The key at-bat was by Darin Ruf who elicited a roar from the hometown fans when he bombed a two-run dinger. Jim Henderson(1-0) went 1/3 of an inning allowing no runs for the win. Doug Fister(0-1) was tagged with the loss. He pitched 5 and 2/3 innings giving up 9 hits and 1 walk.

Possums.....0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 4 0

Hogs..... 0 0 0 0 2 3 0 - 5 12 0

HOME RUNS- D.Ruf(1st), M.Napoli(1st)

Game 2: Peacock vs. Weaver

Jered Weaver went the distance and Brett Gardner added four ribbies with one swing of the bat as the Hart St. Hogs really laid it on the Hotlanta Possums 15 to 3. Gardner cleared the bases with a Grand Slam homerun in the 2nd inning and stroked a base-hit in the 4th inning. Hart St. bats were very productive in the 1st inning with 8 runs on 5 hits and the 2nd inning which saw them plate 4 runs on 3 hits. Weaver(1-0) got the victory, allowing 3 runs for the game. The loss was charged to Brad Peacock (0-1). He pitched 1/3 of an inning allowing 5 hits and 2 walks.

Possums..... 0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 - 3 6 2

Hogs.....8 4 1 0 0 2 0 - 15 15 0

HOME RUNS- M.Cuddyer(1st), A.Beltre(1st), O.Infante (1st), J.Werth(1st),B.Gardner(1st), J.Uribe(1st)

Game 3: Minor vs. Tepesch

Jacoby Ellsbury had 3 base hits and Mike Minor came through with a solid 6 innings as the Hart St. Hogs beat the Hotlanta Possums by a score of 1 to 0. Minor(1-0) put on a good performance. He gave up just 3 hits and no walks in 6 innings. Minor was helped out by Koji Uehara who got the 1st save. Darren O'Day(0-1) suffered the loss in relief. He gave up 1 run and 1 hit in 1 and 2/3 innings.

Hogs..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 1 8 1
Possums..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 5 0

Game 4: Medlen (0-1) vs Fister (0-0)

Michael Cuddyer ripped 2 homeruns and had 4 RBI and Kenley Jansen had an impressive outing as the Hotlanta Possums topped the Hart St. Hogs by a score of 8 to 5 at Possums Park. It was a good day for Hotlanta thanks to Cuddyer. He clubbed a solo homerun in the 1st inning and belted a three-run homerun the 5th inning. Darren O'Day(1-1) went 1 inning allowing no runs for the victory. Kris Medlen(0-1) was the losing pitcher. Hotlanta scored big getting 7 runs off him in 5 and 2/3 innings.

Hogs..... 0 2 2 0 0 0 0 1 - 5 8 1
Possums..... 1 0 0 0 3 3 1 0 - 8 13 0

Game 5: Gomez vs Dempster

In a two run game the Hotlanta Possums got by the Hart St. Hogs by the score of 9 to 7. Hotlanta had the winning rally in the bottom of the 8th inning plating 3 runs utilizing 4 base hits. After an out was recorded, Austin Jackson began the rally when he tripled. Jimmy Rollins stepped up next and singled. Alex Gordon then drew a walk. Brayan Pena was up next and he lashed a single. Chris Coghlan came to the plate and delivered a single. The win was credited to Craig Kimbrel(1-0) who went 2 and 2/3 innings allowing 2 runs. The loss was charged to Koji Uehara(0-1) in relief.

Hogs..... 0 0 1 0 0 0 6 0 0 - 7 6 0
Possums..... 2 0 0 0 2 0 2 3 - 9 8 1

Game 6: Peacock vs Minor

Brett Gardner had 2 base hits and 2 RBI and Koji Uehara pitched 3 and 1/3 strong innings as Hart St. beat the Hotlanta in 16 innings by the score of 4 to 3. Both teams were tied at 3 runs apiece after nine innings. Finally, Hart St. pulled the game out in the 16th inning. After an out was recorded, Shane Robinson laced a one-base hit. Gardner came to the plate and tripled resulting in a mighty exciting win for Hart St. Scott Kazmir(1-0) picked up the victory, allowing no runs in 2 innings. Chris Rusin(0-1) was given the loss in relief. He pitched 2 and 1/3 innings giving up 2 hits and 1 walk.

Possums..... 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 15 0
Hogs..... 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 4 10 0

Hart Street wins crazy series to move on the ALCS. Final game goes 16 innings and ends on series MVP's Brett Gardner's walk off triple. Jim did a great job managing the Possums and gave the Hogs all they could handle.

American League Final Four Round: Yorktown and California.

Game 1: Ytown 2-8-0 Calif 1-3-0 W-Dunning S-Simon L-Buchholz

Brandon Phillips leads off the game with a base hit, Ian Desmond sacs, and Michael Young gets Ads off to quick small ball 1-0 lead with a base hit to score Phillips. Andrew Cashner walks bases loaded with 2 gone in bottom of first, but worms out of trouble by inducing Marlon Byrd to ground out. Game stays 1-0 til bottom of 6th when Ian Kinsler walks and is brought home by Zobrist's triple. Admirals get a run off Buchholz in top of 9th when Victorino doubles, then Justin doubles him in 1 out later. Dreamers then get 2 on with 2 out against Ads' closer Rosenthal. Alfredo Simon is brought in to face Iglesias. Dreamer Mgr. Simonutti pinch-hits Angel Pagan to counter a good righty relief card. Ads manager Merk intentionally walks Pagan to load the bases and put the winning runs on 2nd and 3rd, hoping that a righty vs. righty matchup with Ian Kinsler will be worth the risk. Kinsler then strokes a "single 1-16, LO".....and pulls a 20 to end the game. Ads go up 1-0.

Game 2: Ytown 4-9-0 Calif 3-7-1 W-Torres S-Rosenthal L-Buchholz

Admirals start game again with a hit, this time another Shane Victorino double. After an infield single by Placido Polanco, Ryan Braun gets the SF. Victorino goes deep in 3rd for 2-0 Ad lead. California finally gets hitting shoes on in bottom of 6th, scoring 3 off of Ivan Nova. But Ads pen again closes the door the rest of the way, Yorktown ties it up with a run in the 7th, in part because of another Victorino double, then goes ahead with 2 out in 8th. Hosmer and Phillips single, then Ryan Rayburn misjudges a shallow fly and it drops out of his glove as he raced in to try to make the play for a 2 base error. Rosenthal then shuts door in 9th. Ads, 2-0.

Game 3: Calif 6-11-0 Ytown 1-5-0 W-Ryu L-Cain

Ben Zobrist goes 3-4 with 3 runs scored and H. Ryu shuts down Yorktown bats as California pulls to 2-1 in series. Dreamers get off to 2-0 lead after 1, but game was still close after 8, with California holding a 3-1 lead. But Dreamers finish it off with 3 in top of 9th.

Game 4: Calif 3-8-0 Ytown 0-7-0 W-Buchholz S-Mujica L-McAllister

Clay Buchholz makes up for his 2 relief botch jobs in games 1 and 2 with a sterling performance as a starter, going 8 SHO innings as Cal tie up series 2-2 with a 3-0 win. Jose Iglesias had 2 knocks for California. Ytown's bullpen finally gives up a run. California, after going up 2-0 and chasing McAllister in the 5th, gets an unearned run off Simon in 6th. So far, visiting team has won all 4 games.

Game 5: Calif 2-8-0 Ytown 9-14-1 W-Cashner L-Estrada

Ads knock around Marco Estrada, scoring 4 in 4th and 4 in 6th to win going away. Michael Young was 4-5 with 3 RBI, and Ian Desmond was 2-3 with a bomb and 4 RBI to lead the Ads charge. Andrew Cashner, soon to be packing for Allyn Street, tosses a CG.

Game 6: Ytown 1-7-0 Calif 4-7-0 W-Milone S-Mujica L-Nova

Shane Victorino hits a leadoff HR for Ads, but Tommy Milone and 2 Dreamer relievers shut the door the rest of the way as California evens series at 3 apiece. California quickly retaliated after Victorino's blast, touching up Ivan Nova for 3 in the bottom of the first. That was all the Dreamers needed. Parra was 2-2 with a sac fly to pace the Dreamer offense.

On to game 7. Ytown 4-9-0 Calif 1-3-2

Yorktown wins the series 4-1 as Ryan Braun uses his last 2 at bats to go deep in the top of the first, then hit a run scoring triple in the 3rd. Cain and 5 Yorktown relievers then slam the door shut on the Dreamer season. Peralta and Desmond also get 2 knocks apiece to pace Admiral victory.

For the series, Yorktown relievers put up these numbers:

IP:16 2/3, H: 10, R: 1, ER: 0, W: 7, K: 10

Fun and tight series and Frank was very gracious in defeat.

On to Hart StreetMerk

Regular Season NL champion NN take on WS in National League Final Four Series.

Gm1 Sale vs Schrezer two stud lefties - scoreless thru 3. 2 on 2out top 4 Norris leads off with a dbl 1-3 or out and gets the 2b. a bb and 2 outs follow and Moss BPHR (1-12) gives Barons 3-0 lead. Following Moss hr, Kershaw would only yields a bb (erased via DP) and a dbl but WS unable to add to its lead. Sale has SO thru 7 but Prado hits 2 run HR for Navs in top of 8 and it's now a 3-2 gm.

Botton 9 - Mariano on for the save - 1 out bb and C Davis with 11.8 pure HRs vs RHP strides to the plate BPHR chance 1-12 for walk off win but NO and Mo preserves the W for WS. WS 3 5 0 NN 2 6 1 W Sale L Kershaw (11K's) Sv Rivera HR WS Moss NN Prado

Gm2 Scherzer vs Samardzija - WS gets 2out back to back HRs from Moss & Longoria in 4th for 3-0 lead. C Davis parks one for Navs in bottom of inn and scores stays 3-1 thru 6. Top 7 2 out 2 on, Navs bring in Siegrist, who has 0 hits vs LHB, to face S Drew who has 10.5 Hit chances vs LHP. Drew rolls 1-9 for a 1-9 HR or dbl and it's gone 3R shot puts barons up 6-1.

Final 6-2 WS 6 8 0 NN 2 3 0 W Scherzer L Samardzija HR WS Moss, Longoria, Drew NN C Davis

Gm3 At the Stockyard Zimmermann vs Griffin - Navs looking to get back into series waste little time getting bb,bb dbl sgl (cs) and a McLouth HR to produce 4 runs in top of 2nd. A Choo lead off HR in 3rd ups score to 5-0. WS closes to 5-2 thanks to a Holliday HR. Drew's HR in 5th closes gap to 5-3. Both teams score a run in 6th - Navs up 6-4. Brantley 2 out sgl in 7th makes it a 1 run gm.

Holliday greets S Casilla with a gm tying HR and after an out Longoria hits another one out - Barons take a 7-6 lead. Rivera on for save attempt - with 2 out C Davis is given an int bb - PR Young steals 2nd & 3rd. Mo to Dozier 1-6 sgl or out out Barons 7-6 WS leads series 3gms to 0. WS 7 10 0 NN 6 11 1 WP Thielbar L Casilla Sv Rivera HR NN McLouth WS Holliday 2 Drew Longoria

Gm4 rematch of gm1 Kershaw vs Sale

Navs trying to avoid a sweep come out swinging using 3bb's and 3H to bat around scoring 4. Barons score 1 in 3rd but Navs pound Sale and Wilhelmson for 3 more in the 5th and another 3 in the 6th Navs win a laugher 12-3.

NN 12 16 0 WS 3 6 0 WP Kershaw L Sale HR NN Dozier2 WS Drew

Gm5 Samardzija vs Scherzer - Navs looking to bring series back to Norwich Barons looking to close it out. After an out a dbl, dbl, sgl**, HR, HR gives Barons 5-0 lead and Samardzija is tired, Barons add run in 2nd via another HR Navs get on the board in 3rd making it 6-1. Any thought of a Navs comeback is dashes when Barons score 3 in 6th and go on to a 10-3 win.

NN 3 5 1 WS 10 10 0 WP Scherzer LP Samardzija HR NN C Davis, Ortiz, WS Brantley, Holliday, Moss, Longoria

For the 1st time in their 16yr FBN history, Barons have made the "Final 4" Don's Navs won the NL regular season title and look to be the class of the NL again next season. In a short span he has built a powerhouse. Congrats on a great season, Don

For the series WS hit 238 328 OB but of the Barons 39H there were 13 sgl 12 dbl & 14 HR !!!! slugging 570 or so Of the 14 HJR's, WS was 2 for 3 on BPHRs the rest were pure there is no "D" for that. Barons will next meet USJ as one of these 2 will advance to the World Series a place neither has ever been.

National League Championship Series - #5 Wall St Barons vs #3 US Jarheads

Gm1 Kate Elizabeth Park - C Sale vs C Lee

Scoreless thru 3 inn. In the 4th Norris sgl and Baker dbl. Longoria missed a 3 run BPHR but the SF made it 1-0. Norris started a 2 out rally in the 6th, when he tripled. AGone then rolled one past Neil Walker for a 2-0 Baron's lead. In the bottom half, Trout sgl and stole 2nd. With 2 out AJ Ellis dbled him home to make it 2-1. Two out in the bottom of the 7th and Longoria made a 2 base error. An Int walk was followed by 2 more unintentional walks and the game was tied 2-2. Goldschmidt hit a 3run run dble and AJ Ellis sgl'd him home for a 6-2 USJ lead. Stauffer, Ziegler and Smyly retire 10 in a row to end the game. The Jarheads win the series opener 6-2.

R H E

WS 000 101 000 2 7 1 WP Stauffer LP Sale SV none
 USJ 000 001 50- 6 5 1 HR none

Gm2 Kate Elizabeth Park - Scherzer vs Villanueva

Drew led off the game with a walk. Brantley reached on Walker's error. AGone missed a BPHR, but Holiday singled in a run to make it 1-0. With 2 out Longoria doubled in a run but Moss was cut down at the plate for the 3rd out, and WS led 2-0. The Jarheads got to Scherzer in the 3rd. After a leadoff walk, 4 straight hits including 3 doubles put the Jarheads up 4-2, Trout's 2 run double was the big hit. The Jarheads added 1 on Kelly's SF and Jonny Gomes PH 2 run single in the 7th made it 7-2 USJ. Brandon Moss hit a 2 run HR in the 8th to make it 7-4. But Cishek closed the 9th and the Jarheads take a 2-0 series lead.

R H E

WS 200 000 020 4 7 1 WP Villanueva LP Scherzer SV Cishek
 USJ 004 001 20- 7 9 1 HR WS Moss

Gm3 Series moves to The Stockyard - M Harvey vs AJ Griffin

In the 2nd AJ Ellis's HR made it 1-0 USJ. Then Drew made an error, Trout singled, and with 2 out Goldschmidt singled in a run for a 2-0 lead. Matt Harvey was spectacular and started the game with 7 hitless innings. Longoria and Brown singled in the 8th but Harvey fanned Drew to end the threat. The Jarheads amazingly left 16 men on base through 9 innings and led only 2-0 going to the bottom of the 9th. Harvey retired the first batter but AGone worked a walk. Longoria followed with a long 2 run HR to tie the game. Harvey regrouped and fanned Moss and Longoria to get to extra innings. In the 11th the Jarheads load the bases with 1 out. Then Cabrera beat out an rbi infield hit. After a force at home, Trout's walk and Goldschmidt HBP plated 2 more runs for a 5-2 USJ lead. Harvey finished off the CG and The Jarheads go up 3-0 in the series.

R H E

USJ 020 000 000 03 5 15 0 WP Harvey LP Griffin SV none
 WS 000 000 002 00 2 4 2 HR USJ Ellis WS Holiday

Gm 4 The Stockyard - C Lee vs C Sale

Scutaro tripled and Holiday singled him home and WS led 1-0 after one. In the 3rd Norris hit a 2 run HR, which was followed by an error, hbp. Brantley singled in a run and a GB plated another and it was 5-0 Barons. Holiday's 3rd hit of the game, an rbi double made it 6-0 after 4 inn. The Jarheads get a run on a DP and two more in the 6th on Encarnacion and DeRosa BTB HRs to make it 6-3. But Sale pitches into the 8th and the Baron BP survives a shaky 9th to preserve the 6-3 win and keep the series alive.

R H E

USJ 000 012 000 3 7 1 WP Sale LP Lee SV Howell
 WS 104 100 00 - 6 8 0 HR WS Norris USJ Encarnacion, DeRosa

Gm 5 The Stockyard - Oberholtzer vs Scherzer

Neil Walker HR in the first for a 1-0 USJ lead. In 2nd Oberholtzer walked the first 2 batters. RBI hits from Moss, AGone and Drew for a 3-1 Baron lead. Baker's solo HR made it 4-1 in the 3rd. Moss sgled in run in the 5th for a 5-1 lead. Scherzer settled in and allowed only one hit over the next 6 innings. A Jarhead rally in the 8th scored 1 on Goldschmidt's sgle, but Encarnacion hit into a DP as the tying run and Scherzer escaped further damage. Jarheads threaten again in the 9th. Doumit HR made it 5-3. Kelly bb and Gomes faced Mariano. Gomes rolled the BPHR but the tying HR turned into the 3rd out and the Barons stay alive in the series, trailing 3-2.

R H E

USJ 100 000 011 3 5 0 WP Scherzer LP Oberholtzer SV Rivera
 WS 031 010 00- 5 8 0 HR USJ Walker, Doumit WS Baker

Gm 6 Series moves back to Kate Elizabeth Park - Griffin vs Villanueva

Drew leads off the game with a HR. After an out AGone HRs and its 2-0 Barons after one. Goldschmidt HR made it 2-1 in the 4th. In the 5th Longoria greeted reliever Machi with a booming 3 run double for a 5-1 Baron's lead. Baron bullpen allowed 1 hit in the last 4.1 innings and the Barons win the game 5-1. The Barons come back from 0-3 to force a 7th game.

R H E

WS 200 030 000 5 10 1 WP Carpenter LP Villanueva SV none
 USJ 000 100 000 1 4 1 HR WS Drew, AGone USJ Goldschmidt

Gm 7 Kate Elizabeth Park - C Sale vs M Harvey

Matt Holiday hit a HR in the 2nd, his 2nd of the series off Harvey and the Barons have a 1-0 lead. With a man on in the 3rd DeRosa hit a high fly but the BPHR was caught and the score stayed 1-0. Sale left in the 7th leading 1-0, allowing only 3 hits. Meanwhile Harvey hadn't allowed a hit since the 3rd inning; and the 7th game went to the bottom of the 9th with the Barons leading 1-0. Wilhelmsen in for the save to face the top of the order. Trout lined out to 3rd. Goldschmidt fly out to lf. Down to their final out the Jarheads send up Pinto to PH. LHP Howell comes in. Pinto hit what looked like a routine fly ball to Sam Fuld lf 1e3 ...and the unbelievable happened..., he dropped the ball for a 2 base error. Rivera came in and Encarnacion was int. walked. AJ Ellis ph for DeRosa and he came through with a single** to tie the game 1-1. Harvey pitched a 1,2,3 10th. In the bottom half, Bloomquist hit a leadoff single. Asdrubal sac him to 2b. Kelly was HBP and Mike Trout came to the plate. Trout came through and ripped a series winning walk off double, to send The US Jarheads to their first World Series appearance, after 27 years in the FBN.

R H E

WS 010 000 000 0 1 4 1 WP Harvey LP Rivera SV none
USJ 000 000 001 1 2 6 0 HR WS Holiday

Series MVP is Matt Harvey. Harvey was 2-0 with 2CG and a 1.28 era. 21 IP 3r 8h 2hr 6bb 21k.
Hon. mention: Mike Trout 9-23 .391 5r 4d 6rbi 10bb

Congratulations to Joe on an excellent season and an incredible playoff run for The Wall St Barons. First sweeping the Kegs in the WC series and then taking out the first place Navigators in 5 games. Then falling behind The Jarheads 0-3 only to battle back to within 1 out of going to The World Series. And with the team he has built i'm sure he'll be banging on the World Series door next year as well. Joe is a great friend of over 30 yrs and my golf mentor for the last 20 so it was a great experience to share such an exciting and memorable championship series with him. Thanks for a great series and your friendship.

ALCS: Hart Street vs. York Town

Game 1

Admirals..... 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 - 2 6 1

Hogs..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 3 x - 4 8 0 S.Romo WIN T.Rosenthal L HOME RUNS- E.Hosmer

Brett Gardner had 2 base hits and 2 RBI at Kruk Dome where the Hart St. Hogs beat the Yorktown Admirals by the score of 4 to 2. Hart St. erupted with the game winning runs in the 8th inning with 3 runs on 2 base hits. After an out was recorded, Joe Mauer initiated the scoring spurt when he slapped a one-base hit. Jayson Werth stepped up next and he drew a walk. Omar Infante then drew a walk to load the bases. Mike Napoli was up next and he hit a deep fly. Gardner came to the plate and lashed a single. Hart St. rapped out 8 hits for the night. The win went to Sergio Romo(1-0) who allowed no runs in 1 and 1/3 innings. Trevor Rosenthal(0-1) ended up with the loss in relief. He pitched 2/3 of an inning giving up 1 hit and 2 walks.

Game 2

Admirals..... 0 0 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 - 4 8 0

Hogs..... 0 0 5 0 0 0 1 0 - 6 11 0 J.Henderson WIN K.Uehara SAVE Z.McAllister LOSS

In a two run game the Hart St. Hogs got by the Yorktown Admirals by the score of 6 to 4. In the bottom of the 3rd inning Hart St. scored 5 runs when they came up with 6 base hits. They would hold up as the winning runs. Koji Uehara was great in relief and recorded his 2nd save. Jim Henderson got credit for the victory, pitching 2 and 1/3 innings and allowing no runs. The losing pitcher was Zach McAllister(0-1). He was knocked around, surrendering 5 runs in 2 innings.

Game 3

Hogs..... 0 0 0 0 0 3 2 0 0 5 10 0

Admirals..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 4 0 J.Weaver WIN I.Nova LOSS HOME RUNS- J.Werth

Jayson Werth went deep and had 3 RBI as the Hart St. Hogs outscored the Yorktown Admirals 5 to 1. Hart St. had 3 runs cross the plate in the top of the 6th inning when they had 3 base hits. The big moment was provided by Werth who quieted the crowd when he smacked a three-run homer. Hart St. had 10 hits for the game and Yorktown had 4. Jered Weaver picked up the victory, allowing 1 run in 7 and 1/3 innings. Ivan Nova(0-1) was tagged with the loss. He allowed 2 runs and 4 hits in 5 and 1/3 innings.

Game 4

Hogs..... 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 3 9 0

Admirals..... 0 0 0 0 0 3 1 0 - 4 11 1 M.Cain WIN T.Rosenthal SAVE T.Watson LOSS

Brandon Phillips had 4 hits as the Yorktown Admirals beat the Hart St. Hogs by a score of 4 to 3. Matt Cain(1-0) earned his pay with a solid performance for Yorktown. He was reached for 7 hits and no walks in 7 innings. Hart St. threatened in the 9th but Yorktown was able to put down the rally. Cain got help from Trevor Rosenthal who was credited with his 1st save. Tony Watson(0-1) was given the loss in relief. Jeff Merklin was in a talkative mood in the clubhouse, 'Great game! If only we could win all of the close ones - wouldn't that be nice! Since that's not going to happen, I think I'll savor this one for a little while.

Game 5

Hogs..... 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 4 0

Admirals..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 3 - 4 11 0 A.Simon S.Romo LOSS HOME RUNS- Y.Escobar, B.Phillips

Brandon Phillips went yard and had 2 RBI at C.W. Nimitz Mem Park as the Yorktown Admirals staged a comeback win over the Hart St. Hogs by the count of 4 to 2. Yorktown scored the decisive runs in a big bottom of the 9th inning with 3 runs on 3 base hits. Ian Desmond led off the inning for Yorktown when he stroked a base-hit. Eric Hosmer was next and he doubled. Phillips then popped a two-run clout over the fence. Hart St. was out-hit by Yorktown, 11 hits to 4. Alfredo Simon(1-0) picked up the victory, allowing no runs in 2 innings. Sergio Romo(1-1) ended up with the loss in relief. 'What a win!', Simon said. 'These are the kind of games that stand out in your mind at the end of a season.'

Game 6

Admirals..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 1 2 1

Hogs..... 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0 - 3 7 0 K.Uehara WIN L.Gregerson SAVE Z.McAllister LOSS HOME RUNS- J.Werth

Jeanmar Gomez had a strong outing and Jacoby Ellsbury had 2 base hits as the Hart St. Hogs bested the Yorktown Admirals 3 to 1 at Kruk Dome. Hart St. came up with 2 runs in the 3rd inning. Yorktown went down quietly in the 9th. Koji Uehara(1-1) got the win allowing no runs in 2 and 2/3 innings. Uehara got help from Luke Gregerson who was credited with his 1st save. Zach McAllister(0-2) absorbed the loss.

Congrats to Merk for a great season. He managed wonderfully in the series. It was a dog fight. Series MVP goes to Jason Werth who hit two key HRs and knocked in 6 runs. Uehara was big too pitching 6 shutout innings with 10 K's, winning game 6 and saving game 2. The Hogs are excited to be going to the World Series for the seventh time in franchise history. The Hogs are 3-3 previously, with their last appearance in 2006. Whatever happens, it's been a great year for the Hogs. The 107 regular season wins marked the 11th time in the 22 year franchise history that the Hogs have won 100 games. I figure Bill and I will play FTF, so I'm looking forward to rolling the dice again (first time this year).....I'll be digging around for my lucky green 20 sided dice. LOL - Ed

2014 World Series US Jarheads vs Hart St. Hogs

Game 1 at The Kruk Dome Cliff Lee vs Mike Minor

Yunel Escobar bought the fans to their feet in the 3rd with a solo HR to put the Hogs up 1-0. The Jarheads tie it in the 4th. DeRosa walked and with 2 out Asdrubal Cabrera singled him to 3rd. The next pitch got passed Mauer for a PB and it was a 1-1 game. It stayed 1-1 into the 8th. Trout reached on an error and stole 2b. With 2 out Bloomquist PH and delivered an rbi sgle and the Jarheads led 2-1. In the bottom of the 8th Machi relieved Lee. Ellsbury singled and Ruf walked. McCann in the game for an injured Mauer then drove one over the RF wall for a 3 run HR and a 4-2 Hogs lead. Uehara came in and with the home crowd roaring he fanned 3 in a row for the save in a 4-2 Hogs win. Hogs go up in series 1-0.

R H E

USJ 000 100 010 2 3 1

HS 001 000 03 x- 4 5 1 WP Gregerson Sv Uehara LP Machi HR HS Escobar, McCann

GM2 Chad Gaudin vs J Weaver

Both starters were excellent. Gaudin went 5 shutout innings allowing 2 hits and Weaver went 5.1 IP allowing 2 hits. Then the bullpen took over. The Hog's Henderson and Watson finished the 7th still allowing no runs. For the Jarheads, Avilan had a perfect 6th and Ziegler a scoreless 7th. 0-0 to the 8th. Goldschmidt singled with 1 out in the 8th. DeRosa PH for N Walker and he delivered a 2 run HR to put the Jarheads up 2-0. Ziegler had a 1,2,3 8th and Cishek came on in the 9th. He K'd Navarro but Gardiner was HBP. Cishek then fanned Werth and got McCann on a GB to close out the 2-0 Jarhead win. Series even 1-1.

R H E

USJ 000 000 020 2 4 2 WP Ziegler Sv Cishek LP Watson

HS 000 000 000 0 2 1 HR USJ DeRosa

Game 3 Series moves to Kate Elizabeth Park - Chris Medlin vs Matt Harvey

Mike Trout got the home crowd fired up early, hitting Medlin's first pitch over the wall for a 1-0 lead. After 2 were out, Uribe booted a GB. Seth Smith followed with an rbi double and the Jarheads led 2-0. With 2 on and 2 out in the 4th, Trout hit a 2run double and Neil Walker had an rbi double and the Jarheads led 5-0. Harvey breezed through 6 innings but Ruf belted a 2 run HR in the 7th to make it 5-2. The Jarheads made it 6-2 in the 7th. Encarnacion doubled and Smith singled him in for his 2nd rbi in the game. Yunel Escoar led off the 8th with a HR to pull the Hogs to within 6-3. Two more singles tired Harvey, but Cishek came in and retired Werth on a 'clutch' out to end that threat. Cishek pitched a scoreless 9th and the Jarheads win 6-3 and take a 2-1 series lead.

R H E

HS 000 000 210 3 8 2

USJ 200 300 10- 6 10 0 WP Harvey Sv Cishek LP Medlin HR USJ Trout HS Ruf, Escobar (2)

Game 4 Minor vs Lee rematch of game 1

The Hogs score in the 2nd on Mike Napoli's solo HR. Minor blanks the Jarheads through 5 on 1 hit. But in the 6th Paul Goldschmidt drove one into the upper deck to tie the game 1-1. Weaver relieved in the 7th but issued a leadoff walk to Ellis. Uehara came in and Cabrera Sac moved Ellis to 2nd. Denard Span then delivered a double to the gap to put the Jarheads up 2-1. Lee allowed 1 run in 7 innings and was replaced by Ziegler to start the 8th. Facing the heart of the order Ziegler rose to the occasion and fanned Werth, Navarro and Napoli. With the score still 2-1 Ziegler came back out for the 9th. He fanned Murphy, his 4th in a row, he got Escobar on a 1-9 split, and got Gardiner on a GB for the 6 out save. USJ wins 2-1 and leads the series 3-1.

R H E

HS 010 000 000 - 1 5 0

USJ 000 001 10 x - 2 3 1 WP Lee Sv Ziegler LP Weaver HR HS: Napoli USJ: Goldschmidt

Game 5 J Gomez vs Villanueva

The Jarheads jump on Gomez early. Walker had an rbi triple and Encarnacion followed with a 2 run bomb to put US up 3-0 in the first. The Hogs come back in the 2nd. 2 singles and a walk load the bases. Escobar hit a SF and Ellsbury singled in another run to make it 3-2. In the 3rd Escobar made an error and Encarnacion made it hurt went he blasted his 2nd, 2 run HR of the game and the Jarheads led 5-2. The Hogs threaten in the 5th. Werth doubled and Mauer singled knocking out Villanueva. The 'goat' of game 1,

Machi, came in to face Ruf , the tying run. Machi got his GB DP to end the threat and keep it 5-2. Jarheads add a run in the 6th on Kelly's rbi double making it 6-2. Kelly's SF made it 7-2 in the 8th. Asdrubal Cabrera followed with a 2 run HR bringing the fans to a frenzy heading to the 9th with a 9-2 lead. Cishek had a scoreless 9th and The US JARHEADS WIN THE WORLD SERIES !

R H E

HS 020 000 000 -2 6 2

USJ 302 001 03x- 9 10 0 WP Machi Sv none LP J Gomez HR USJ: Encarnacion 2, Asdrubal

Team BA USJ .194 6 HR - Hogs .175 5 HR

Team ERA USJ 2.05 - Hogs 3.64

World Series MVP: Cliff Lee 2gs 1-0 1.29era 14ip 2r 8h 3w 14k

Hon. Mention: Brad Ziegler 1-0-1 0.00 4ip 0h 1w 5k

Tip of the hat, to: The Hog's Mike Minor 2gs 0-0 0.71era 12.2ip 3r 1er 4h 1hr 6w 15k

Not much hitting in the series but each game had a big clutch performance.

Gm1 Hogs McCann with an 8th inn. 3 run HR ...4-2 win

Gm2 Jarheads Mark DeRosa 8th inn. PH 2 run HR... 2-0 win (DeRosa 1-4 in Series)

Gm3 Jarheads Mike Trout, leadoff HR and 2 run double... 6-3 win (Trout 3-21 .143)

Gm4 Jarheads Goldschmidt solo HR & Denard Span 7th inn, rbi triple off Uehara... his own card or nothing. 2-1 win (Goldy 2-16 .125) (Span 5-17 .294)

Gm5 Jarheads Edwin with a pair of 2 run HRs and early 5-0 lead....9-2 win. (Edwin 3-17 .176)

Congratulations to Ed for a fantastic season that included a league best 107 wins. For the Jarheads this victory is like UConn winning its first Championship against national powerhouse Duke University. Winning against a 3 time World Series Champion manager feels extra special. Thanks to Ed for traveling down from Mass to play these games FTF. After the first game Ed couldn't seem to get a roll, but was gracious in defeat and didn't blame his dust coated dice at all.

OOOORAH ! US JARHEADS 2014 WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS

US JARHEAD SCUTTLEBUTT:

The 2014 US Jarheads Win the World Series!!! During the regular season the Jarheads relied on a powerful offense and an extremely stingy defense to battle their way to 103 wins. In addition to leading the NL in batting at .269, The Jarheads blasted 203 HRs and only allowed 134. They also had 149 more hits and 134 more walks than their opponents. All together this led to USJ scoring 235 more runs than the opposition. The Jarhead defense was stellar and led the entire FBN with the fewest errors with only 43. An incredible defensive milestone was the performance of SS Asdrubal Cabrera ss2e12. Asdrubal began the season with an astounding streak of 92 errorless games....and he ended the season with only 5 errors total. This offense/defense combination was a prime factor in allowing USJ's back of the rotation starters to avoid a losing record. Guthrie 11-10, 5.30 Edwin Jackson 9-9, 5.91 Kyle Kendrick 11-11, 5.43 US Jarhead pitching was headlined by the All Time Single Season FBN ERA leader and Perfect Game author Matt Harvey 16-4, 1.42. Carlos Villanueva 12-5, 3.81 and Chad Gaudin 6-1, 3.75 made solid rotation contributions as well. The bullpen did an excellent job of keeping the Jarheads close in games and this is reflected in their win totals.

7-3-1 1.88 Avilan

7-2 34 1.55 Cishek

4-2-2 1.40 Machi

5-1-8 2.53 Smyly

9-2-0 1.52 Stauffer

3-4-2 3.08 Ziegler

The Offense was ignited by MVP candidate Mike Trout. Trout led the team with 148 runs, 214 hits, 101 walks, 44 doubles, 4 triples, and was 2nd with 37HRs. Trout was 3rd in rbi with 91 from the leadoff position, trailing Goldschmidt .299 42 117 and "The Big E" .281 34 114. In this Championship Season there were contributions from up and down the lineup and from two pinch hitters that came through time and again. Josphil Pinto .381 5hr 21rbi and Willie Bloomquist .347 23rbi.

A vital cog in turning an excellent season into a Championship year was the late season machinations of Asst GM Harry Nieman. The Asst GM scoured rosters and looked at pitching possibilities and was constantly banging on managements door to get some trade action going. He initiated talks with CT and AS that resulted in the acquisition lefthanders Cliff Lee and Bret Oberholtzer. Oberholtzer was 2-0 in the regular season and took a nohitter into the 8th inning in his first Jarhead start and into the 7th inning in his 2nd start. Cliff Lee wasn't impressive in three late season starts, but once the Playoffs started he was huge, going 3-1, 1.99 and winning the MVP in the NL Divisional round and again was MVP in the World Series.

Playoff Shrapnel: Neil Walker 2b2e8 made only 4 errors in 159 games. In 18 playoff games he made 3 errors. Mike Trout was caught stealing 4 times in 41 attempts...in the playoffs he was CS 3 times in 6 attempts. Matt Harvey allowed 8 HRs in 196 innings. He allowed 8 HRs in 45 playoff innings... but still managed a 4-1, 2.78 record

On Sunday November 2nd. The controversy about voting on issues that have not stood for 2 years made the league officials decided that it was time for the membership to decide on this issue once and for all.

The result of the Special Ballot:

1. B-7 Items that pass or fail a vote must stand for two (2) seasons. Keep the 2 year rule. 21 Repeal the 2 year rule. 3

2. If we keep the 2 year rule, you can still bring up an issue but if it has only been off the rule change ballot for one season then it requires a "supermajority" of 2/3 or more members in the league to pass. With 24 members for an issue to pass that is only 1 year old then it requires 16 members or more to pass. Keep the 2 year requirement and add a supermajorityvote rule. YES _13__ NO _11_

Based on the vote any proposal put up for vote that passed or failed less than two years ago will need a supermajority to pass

Controversy is not new to the FBN. I think it's something that we look for very November!

December 2014 - Voting Ballot: Results

All three officers got voted in 19-0. No write in's for Mickey Mouse. ☺

1. Use the SOM injury chart instead of the FBN injury chart FAILED 10 -11.
2. Regular Season Only, SP Rule Change: Require ALL starting pitchers to have 4 days of rest. EXCEPT: during the final block of the season. ADD a day off after the third series in each block AND a 4 day off period after block 4 (all-star break) PASSED 13- 8.
3. Repeal the closer rule. This will need a supermajority (16 or more votes) to pass. FAILED 9 – 11.
4. Drop the re-entry draft rule for existing teams. PASSED 15 – 3- 2.
5. 2 off days prior to the start of FBN World Series instead of the current 1 off day. PASSED 17 – 4.
6. Change the number of playoff bound teams to six. FAILED 10 – 11.
7. Post Season Starting Pitcher Rule Change: Playoff usage: a pitcher may not be scheduled to start in the playoffs unless he has at least 5 innings available per scheduled game. PASSED 16 – 5.
8. Post Season Starting Pitcher Rule Change: All innings pitched by a Starting Pitcher count toward his series total. (This includes extra innings.) PASSED 16-5.
9. Post Season Position Player Rule Change: Playoff usage: A position player can only be in the starting lineup if he has 130 or AB's on his card. FAILED 10 – 11.

2014 ALL-STAR TEAMS:

American League

National League

DH: Fielder (37)	DH: Santana (10*)	DH: Encarnacion (30*)	DH: Ortiz (19)
CA: McCann (19)	CA: Ramos (11)	CA: Molina, Y. (45)	CA: Saltalacchia (15)
1 ST B: Votto (33)	1 ST B: Craig (22*)	1 ST B: Goldschmidt (38)	1 ST B: Davis, C (37*)
2 ND B: tie between Carpenter and Infante (18)	2 ND B: Cano (50)	2 ND B: Pedroia (15)	
3 RD B: Beltre (20)	3 RD B: Zimmerman (14)	3 RD B: Cabrera, Mg. (41*)	3B: Wright (29)
SS: Desmond (21)	SS: Segura (12)	SS: Hardy (24)	SS: Drew (19)
OF: McCutcheon (40)	OF: Hamilton (15)	OF: Holiday (46*)	OF: Moss (31*)
OF: Crisp (28)	OF: Werth (14)	OF: Trout (45)	OF: Jones, A. (20)
OF: Ellsbury (26)	OF: Stanton (14*)	OF: Choo (37)	OF: Pence (16)
SP: Darvish (40)	SP: Leake (15)	SP: Kershaw (45)	SP: Scherzer (35)
SP: Fernandez, J. (29)	SP: Weaver (14)	SP: Harvey (41)	SP: Sale (31)
SP: Fister (28)	SP: Hernandez, H. (13)	SP: Masterson (35)	SP: Lee (26)
RP: Kimbrel (40)	RP: Jansen (18)	RP: Nathan (43)	RP: Rivera (32)
RP: Rosenthal (26)	RP: Clippard (12)	RP: Cishek (41)	RP: Chapman (22)
RP: Mujica (21)	RP: Robertson (12)	RP: Holland (35)	RP: Papelbon (12)

LEAGUE AWARDS

American League

MVP: McCutcheon (56)
 CY YOUNG: Darvish (21)
 ROOKIE: Fernandez, J. (23)
 MGR: Ed Griffin (18)
 GM: Ed Griffin (21)

National League

MVP: Cabrera, Mg. (74)
 CY YOUNG: Kershaw (27)
 ROOKIE: Tejeram (15)
 MGR: Bill Nieman (40)
 GM: Bill and Harry Nieman (26)

AL All-Stars..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 3 0 - 5 10 0

NL All-Stars..... 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 3 1 - 6 10 0

HOME RUNS- B.Moss-2(2nd)

RBI's- C.Crisp(1st), A.Beltre-3(3rd), B.Hamilton(1st), B.Moss-3(3rd), M.Cabrera(1st), D.Wright(1st)

STOLEN BASES- C.Crisp(1st)

CAUGHT STEALING- B.Hamilton, H.Pence

2-out RBI- B.Moss

All-Star game MVP, Brandon Moss cracked 2 homeruns and had 3 RBI as the National League defeated the American League in 11 innings by a score of 6 to 5 at the ballpark.

The score was tied at 2 after nine. National League came out the victor in the 11th inning. After two outs Moss lofted a solo-blast 'downtown' resulting in a mighty exciting win for National League and the 46,364 home town fans in attendance. Both teams totaled 10 hits on the night.

The winning pitcher was Greg Holland(1-0) who allowed 2 runs in 2 innings. Craig Kimbrel(0-1) was tagged with the loss in relief. He struck out 4 batters in 1 and 2/3 innings despite losing the game.

This puts an end to the 2014 season. Next up for the FBN is 2015 and another year of fun.

2015 Season – Rob Bruno January 23, 2016 The pennant race for each league was decided by June. Baton Rouge started the season at 21-3 and never was out of first place in the American League. It did take Norwich until late May to take over first in the National League and once they got into first they never looked back. Even with first place known by June it was a good year in the FBN. For the final four playoff spots in the American League it was a see-saw fight all year. It was the same in the National League. I'm only going to review some facts from the newsletters for now. You can go on our website to find more details plus there are over 20 Team Articles you can review too. I will get into more depth when it comes to the playoffs.

2015 January – February: Lamanna mailed out the player numbers. Winter Meetings come to a close on the 6th and protected rosters are sent in. Bill Nieman writes about Opening Day at SOM. (See 2/15th newsletter for the article.) Draft Day the 22nd was 8 rounds 189 draft picks and 4 hours and 24 minutes long.

2015 March – April: Tony Childers writes an article and 15 players are picked up on the Waiver Wire. (see 03/1 newsletter) Preseason Trading ended on the 6th and the season opened on the 16th. Outfielder out of position rule was clarified. Guest item by Roland on Klee's run for the Championship (April 1 newsletter). The standings: Baton Rouge running away with the AL with a 21-3 run. They lead Arsenal by 7. In the NL four teams are within 2 1/2 of first place Wall Street. I bring back Basement Bertha. A tongue in cheek story about a "girl" chasing after the worst teams in the FBN. Milford and Burlington "lead" the way so for Bertha's affections.

2015 May – History was made in Taxachusetts as Hiroki Kuroda faced the minimum 27 batters in tossing a 1 hit shutout. The Standings: Baton Rouge ended any suspense with a 35-7 record. The Silver Bullets run the season as the best team in the AL. In the NL New England moved into first place. Basement Bertha news: its Burlington in her arms. Baton Rouge number 1, Hart Street is number 2. New England and Norwich tied for first in the NL. Allyn Street now with Basement Bertha.

2015 June – Milford now in 2nd in the AL and Norwich now alone in 1st in the NL. Collin McHugh went 5.2 innings and Andrew Miller finished up with 2.1 innings as they combined for a no hitter in Baton Rouge. John's Creek now has Bertha's attention. July – Baton Rouge and Norwich increase their leads. Members send in players to be considered for All-Star teams.

2015 August – All-Stars First Team American League: DH – V.Martinez(HT), C - Iannetta(HS), 1b - Rizzo(BR), 2b – Altuve(LV), 3b – Beltre(HT), ss – Tulowitzki(LW), OF – Stanton(AG), J.Upton(YA), Puig(MD), SP – McHugh(BR), F.Hernandez(LV), Keuchel(LW), RP – Kimbrel(HT), Miller(BR) & Doolittle(BR). **All-Stars First Team National League:** DH Encarnacio(US), C – Posey(IL), 1b – Abreau(KK), 2b – Cano(AS), 3b – Cabrera(TX), ss – Reyes(CT), OF – Trout(US), Brantley(WS), Dickerson(BB), SP –Kershaw(NN), Kluber(NE), Colon(KK), RP – Street(WS), Chapman(NE) and Melancon(AS).

2015 September – Baton Rouge and Norwich continue to be the best in the FBN and John's Creek not. October – The playoff bound teams in the AL were Baton Rouge, Milford, Hart Street, Hotlanta and Louisville. In the National League it was Norwich, New England, US Jarheads, Wall Street and Klee's. Let's see how Ed Griffin did in his "Inside the Fly-by-night". AL = Baton Rouge, Hart Street, Milford, Hotlanta and Louisville. 100% on the teams and only his own Hog's messed up the order by beating out Milford for 2nd. In the NL = Norwich, Wall Street, Taxachusetts, New England and Maine. 60% in the NL. As Ed said it was hard to bet against USJ and who would have thought KK would have made the playoffs, besides Roland that is. ☺

2015 FINAL STANDINGS:

American League Won Lost Pct.		National League Won Lost Pct.	
1. Baton Rouge	114 48 .704	1. Norwich	112 50 .691
2. Milford	91 71 .562	2. New England	100 62 .617
3. Hart Street	90 72 .556	3. US Jarheads	93 69 .574
4. Hotlanta	89 73 .549	4. Wall Street	91 71 .562
5. Louisville	84 78 .519	5. Klee's	90 72 .556
6. Arsenal	81 81 .500	6. Hazardville	88 74 .543
7. California	71 91 .438	7. Taxachusetts	83 79 .512
8. Yorktown	68 94 .420	8. Maine	80 82 .494
9. Lake Wobegon	64 98 .395	9. Illinois	73 89 .451
10. Urpaign	62 100 .383	10. Burlington	70 92 .432
11. Nashville	61 101 .377	11. Connecticut	68 94 .420
12. John's Creek	56 106 .346	12. Allyn Street	65 97 .401

2015 November - Fourteen voting proposals were sent by the membership. A proposal would need to be seconded twice to be included on the ballot. Eleven proposals ended up making the ballot. Here are the results: Jeff Merklin and Bob Figella were re-elected as League Presidents. 1a. FBN league officials will issue a Playoff lzp or recruit a volunteer to create a playoff lzp prior playoffs failed 1b. Keep our present method that a league member volunteers to create a playoff lzp prior to the playoffs passed. 2a. For the final block, the active roster expands to 30 players, which can be changed for each series failed 3a. An outfielder in the starting lineup can only start at a position listed on his card. This limits the outfielder-out-of-position rule to substitutions failed. 4a. Repeal the closer rule failed. 5a. Close the loophole on overuse –BP’s. Over usage -BPs are NOT subject to forgiveness. All other -BPs will be subject to 5 points of forgiveness. –BP’s may be appealed to league officers if they were accumulated due to injuries occurring in the last game of the Season failed. 6a. Change our schedule to include more In-League and less Inter-League games. We still play all 24 teams passed. 7a. Effective with the 2018 Season - Draft positions 1 through 5 be based on teams 2 year average record. The mechanics of this are first a preliminary draft order is determined just like we always have. Then spots 1 through 5 are rearranged based on the team’s record from the last 2 seasons; worst 2 year record to best, ties are broken in the same manner as they are now failed. 8a. Post season: Extra Innings: A player out of AB’s can be used for defense or pinch running in extra innings but cannot bat passed. 8b. Keep our present rule that a player out of AB’s cannot play in extra innings failed. 9a. Post Season: Extra Innings: Batter runs out of at bats during regulation. If the batter was in the starting lineup and he runs out of at bats in regulation but he was still in the game available to play defensive during the 9th inning, the batter can continue to remain in the game, bat and play defensive to the games completion failed. 9b. Keep our present rule if a batter runs out of AB’s during the game he must come out of the game failed. For number 10 we only vote yes for one of the items below. If an item did not receive 50% or more of the vote we would take the top two vote getters and re-vote on them. Which we had to do. 10a. Expand rosters to by 3 to 40 players. Maximum of 40 players throughout the year. Players would need to be cut or traded to keep the roster at 40. Yes __3__ 10b. Expand the rosters by 1 to 38. Yes _4__ 10c. Expand the protected pre-draft roster from a maximum of 37 to a maximum of 40. With trades, ie 2 players for one, rosters can increase from 40 to a max of 42 before someone needs to be waived. Yes__6__ 10d. Keep our present rule of 37 for draft day to a maximum of 40 during the rest of the year. Yes__11__ On number 10, since no option received 50% of the vote we later re-voted on the two top options. The vote was to keep our present rule of 37 for draft day to a maximum of 40 during the rest of the year. For number 11 we only vote yes for one of the items below. Again, if an item did not receive 50% or more of the vote we would have to take the top two vote getters and re-vote on them. We didn’t have to this time. Our present rule won by a landslide. 11. Modify the current minimum AB requirement per position to include the DH as a position when submitting AB’s at the beginning of the season. Select the minimum AB requirement: 11a. 500 card AB (based on 5109 card AB team average potential 609 AB shortfall) failed. 11b. 550 card AB (based on 5109 card AB team average potential 159 AB shortfall) failed. 11c. 568 card AB (based on 5109 card AB team average all AB’s are covered) failed 11d. Keep our present rule of 500 AB per position passed. Final vote on our new schedule was for Schedule 1 - The 11 2H/2A series become 10 regular 4 game series (5 home and 5 away) and just one 2-2 series. This keeps an 81/81 home and away split. It does mean that for 5 teams you will visit them one extra series and for 5 teams they will visit you one extra series. We will control that the same way we are doing the 3-2 split with the inter-league games. One year you host the team, the next year they are the host. We can establish the one team that you play 2-2 as permanent and chose an appropriate opponent. FTF guys play FTF guys those 2-2, net play guys play net play guys those 2-2 and PBM guys face each other. Also, the last block was switched to a 5 series block.

2015 The Playoffs: The American League Wild Card Series #5 Louisville vs. #4 Hotlanta

Game 1 - The Hotlanta Possums nipped the Louisville River Bandits 4 to 3 at Possums Park in a hard fought contest. The deciding run was scored by Hotlanta in the bottom of the 8th. Victor Martinez hit a bases-empty home run. Two outs later Austin Jackson came to the plate and drew a walk. Louisville tried unsuccessfully to come back in the 9th. The winning pitcher was Darren O’Day(1-0) who allowed no runs in 1 and 1/3 innings. Craig Kimbrel recorded the save, his 1st. Drew Pomeranz (0-1) absorbed the loss in relief.

Game 2 - Zack Greinke racked up an impressive total of 10 strikeouts as the Louisville River Bandits outscored the Hotlanta Possums 1 to 0. Greinke(1-0) came through with a virtuoso performance against the Hotlanta hitters. He was stingy on the mound, allowing just 7 hits and no walks in 9 innings. Louisville won despite being out-hit by Hotlanta 7 hits to 4. Dellin Betances (0-1) took the loss in relief. He surrendered 1 run and 1 hit in 2 innings. The series is tied at 1.

Game 3 - Asdrubal Cabrera blasted a homerun at The Bandit Shack as the Hotlanta Possums beat the Louisville River Bandits by the count of 5 to 2. Hector Rondon (1-0) earned the victory with a fine relief performance. He didn’t allow much, just 1 hit and no walks in 2 innings. Louisville made it exciting in the 9th, but they were unable to push the needed runs across. Craig Kimbrel earned the save, his 2nd. Kyle Lohse (0-1) took the loss. He allowed Hotlanta 5 runs in 4 and 2/3 innings of work. Hotlanta leads the series 2-1.

Game 4 - Brayan Pena had 3 base hits and 2 RBI as the Hotlanta Possums defeated the Louisville River Bandits by the score of 7 to 4 at The Bandit Shack. James Paxton(1-0) pitched well for Hotlanta in their victory. He allowed 2 hits and 2 walks in 5 innings. Hotlanta had 14 hits overall, while Louisville had 7. Paxton got help from Dellin Betances who was credited with his 1st save. Felix Hernandez (0-1) suffered the loss. He was unable to control the Hotlanta offense and allowed 13 hits and 5 walks in 7 and 2/3 innings. Hotlanta now leads the series 3 games to 1.

Game 5 - Hisashi Iwakuma delivered 8 solid innings as the Hotlanta Possums defeated the Louisville River Bandits 1 to 0 at The Bandit Shack to win the Wild Card Series. Louisville pitcher Zack Greinke (1-1) gave up the game’s only run in the 4th inning. Hotlanta finished with just 3 hits in the victory. Iwakuma (1-0) went 8 innings allowing no runs for the win. Iwakuma got help from Hector Rondon who earned his 1st save. Hotlanta moves on to play Baton Rouge in the Final Four Round.

2015 The National League Wild Card Series #5 Klee’s vs. #4 Wall Street

Game 1 - Bartolo Colon surrendered 3 solo HR, but managed to hold off the Wall Street Barons as the Klubbers blew open a tie game

in the 7th. Gonzalez opened the scoring with a blast in the 2nd but the Klubbers, keyed by Dexter Fowler's 2 run triple, broke through with 3 in the 5th inning. The lead was short lived when in the bottom half Harrison jacked one and Brantley brought home the tying run with a double. The wheels came off in the 7th, for Wall Street when Markakis broke the tie with a double, scoring Hardy, pinch hitter Scott Van Slyke snaked a base hit through a drawn in infield and Jose Abreu crushed a 2 run shot. The Barons chipped away with a pair in the bottom half and a single run in the 9th but it wasn't enough. Starlin Castro had 5 hits and 3 RBI including his HR for the Barons. Klee's takes game one 9-5.

Game 2 - Chris Sale was sailing along with a 4 hit shutout and a 1 run lead courtesy of a Moss sac fly when the Klubbers went to work in the 7th tying the game at 1 on a ground out by Hardy. In the 8th Fowler singled, Van Slyke walked and Melky Cabrera sent Fowler to third on a deep fly to right. Jarrod Dyson, who had entered as a pinch runner and scored the tying run in the 7th, laid down a perfect squeeze bunt to bring home the winning run as Klee's won 2-1.. Boyer and Neshek breezed through the 8th and 9th innings to send the series to Jim Bouton Field with a 2-0 advantage for Klee's.

Game 3 - The Klubbers pulled out another come from behind win over the Barons with timely hitting in the late innings winning 3-2. This time Josh Beckett was breezing along with a 2 hitter through 6 innings and a 2 run lead furnished by Matt Holliday's two run double in the 2nd. But the Klubbers began their comeback with a run scoring pinch double by Aramis Ramirez in the 7th and tied the game when Nick Markakis hit a double off the top of the wall scoring Kolten Wong (regular season .191) who had walked and stolen second base. In the bottom of the 9th, Melky Cabrera singled and stole 2nd, then moved to 3rd on a passed ball. After Jose Molina struck out attempting to bunt Melky to 3rd, pinch hitter Munenori Kawasaki drilled a single to right scoring Melky with the sudden death run. A crucial Baron opportunity was wasted in the 5th inning when Jordan Schaeffer was caught stealing and Josh Harrison tripled into the corner but was left stranded by Castro and Brantley. Klee's leads the series 3-0.

Game 4 - In a rematchup of Game 1 starters, Scherzer vs. Colon, there was no comeback story as the rotund right hander, Colon, silenced the Baronial bats allowing only 3 hits in his 7 innings of work as Klee's won 4-0. The Klubbers jumped out to an early lead on a run scoring single by Wong in the 2nd and the astute baserunning of Melky Cabrera in the 3rd. In that inning, Melky singled, stole 2nd and took 3rd on Derek Norris' throwing error, then scored when Scherzer's pitch sailed to the backstop. Markakis' 2 run shot in the 8th just salted away the 4 game sweep, the first post season series win in the Klubbers' 27 year history. Manager Joe Rutka was extremely gracious throughout the series as he missed roll after crucial roll while the Klubbers were able to come through whenever they needed a key hit or baserunner. The Klubbers now face the formidable task of playing the well-rested Norwich Navigators.

2015 National League Final Four Round One Series #3 USJ vs #2 NE (Bruce Fogg travelled to SE CT for a FTF playoff encounter.)
Gm1 Halo Park Kuroda vs Kluber: Jarheads score 2 in the 3rd. Trout with an rbi double and Span singled him home. Angels score on HBP, single and WP in the 6th to cut it to 2-1. Morneau's solo HR tied the game in the 7th and knocked out Kuroda. In the 8th, PHer Ichiro stunned reliever Cliff Lee with a HR for a 3-2 Angel lead. Jarheads left the bases loaded in the 8th and got the tying run to 2nd in the 9th, but couldn't score and the Angels win 3-2 despite being held to just 3 hits.

Gm2 Smyly vs Wainwright: Neil Walker hit a 2 run HR in the first. Rivera cut it to 2-1 with a solo HR in the 2nd. USJ made it 3-1 on Trout's bases loaded walk, and Span's SF made it 4-1 in the 6th. Cody Asche HR in the 8th got it to 5-1. Ziegler, Atchison and Lee don't allow a run in closing out the game. Series tied 1-1.

Gm3 Kate Elizabeth Park Strasberg vs Flande: Freeman's rbi single in the 2nd made it 1-0 NE. Aoki rbi hit made it 2-0 in the 3rd. Jarheads load the bases but only make it 2-1 with a GBDP for a run. Freeman and Ichiro both doubled for a 3-1 NE lead in the 6th. In the bottom half Walker doubled and Pinto hit a HR for a 3-3 tie. It stayed tied till the 9th. Seager singled and was Sac to 2b. With 2 out Rivera singled him in for a 4-3 NE lead. Chapman in for the save in the 9th. Andrew Romine PH a single and stole 2b. Jordy Mercer followed with a game tying rbi single 4-4. Trout drove one deep that just stayed in the park,. Mercer trying to score the winning run was gunned down at the plate, but Trout took 3rd. Denard Span came through with a GW single and the Jarheads 9th inning comeback puts them up 2-1 in the series.

Gm4 Kluber vs Kuroda: Kluber takes a shutout into the 8th inning leading 5-0. Ramirez, Freeman, Seager with rbi hits and Blackmon with a HR lead the NE attack. Trout broke up the shutout with a HR and Goldschmidts solo HR in the 9th made it a 5-2 final and NE ties the series 2-2.

Gm5 Wainwright vs Stauffer: The Angels explode in the 2nd for 7 runs on 6 hits including a 2 run HR by Alexi Ramirez. That was more than enough for Wainwright who went the distance with a 3 hit shutout and the Angels win a laugher 10-0 to go up 3-2, and the series moving back to Halo Park.

Gm6 Smyly vs Strasberg: Neil Walker went 4-4 with 2 HRs and Drew Smyly stymied the Halos allowing 0 runs on 4 hits in 8.1 innings and the Jarheads win 6-0 to force a game 7. Smyly walked 1 and fanned 7 winning his 2nd game of the series.

Gm7 Kuroda vs Kluber: Kuroda retired the first 6 batters. But in the 3rd, 6 straight Angels reached base for a 3-0 lead. Kluber faced the minimum thru 5 innings not allowing a hit, and still leading 3-0. Brignac broke up the no hitter with 1 out double in the 6th and Cody Asche's triple cut the lead to 3-1. With 2 out in the 7th, Neil Walker hit a 2 run HR to tie the game 3-3. Jarheads take the lead in

the 8th. Brignac doubled, with 2 out Goldschmidt doubled him in for a 4-3 lead. In the bottom of the 8th the Angels get men to 1st and 3rd with 2 out. PHer Donovan Solano lined what surely looked like a tying base hit (si.1-16), but Neil Walker made a tremendous catch to keep it 4-3. Jarheads get a leadoff double in the 9th but can't score. Cishek on for the save in the bottom of the 9th. Utley singled. Ramirez singled putting runners on the corners. Aoki singled and the game was tied at 4-4, with 0 outs and the winning run at third base. Cishek out and Machi in. Outfield and infield in. Machi fans Freeman. Outfield and infield still in Morneau hits a comebacker to Machi, who freezes Ramiez and throws to Goldschmidt or 2 outs. Seager worked a walk to load the bases bringing up Reddick. He lined out to 2b and the Jarheads stay alive for extra innings. In the 10th Trout walked and with 1 out Goldy singled. Don Kelly who came in for defense in the 9th now stepped in against Giles. Kelly ripped an rbi double putting the Jarheads up 5-4. Runners on 2nd and 3rd and Fiers came on....and he retired Edwin and Walker. 5-4 USJ going to bottom 10th. Machi who got out of Cishek's 9th inning nightmare, came back out in the 10th. Machi had the sinker working and got 3 straight GB to SSx ...and Romine handled them all cleanly and The US Jarheads win a thrilling game 7 by a 5-4 score.

Series MVP: Co-MVP Neil Walker and Drew Smyly. Drew Smyly 2-0, 0.61 14.2 IP 1R 8H 1 HR 5W 14K Neil Walker 11-26 .423 3D 4HR 6RBI Congratulations to Bruce F on his 100 win season and a very hard fought series. One roll here or there and The Angels could easily be moving on instead of the Jarheads. The World Champion US Jarheads now await the winner of the Klubber- Navigator series.

2015 American League Final Four Round One Series #3 Hart Street Hogs vs. #2 Milford Dogfish.

Game 1 -First baseman Matt Adams had 2 base hits and 2 RBI as the Hart St. Hogs outscored the Milford Dogfish 9 to 5. Hart St. had the winning rally in the top of the 9th inning when they scored 4 runs on 5 hits. The crucial at-bat was provided by Adams who silenced the stadium when he stroked a single which was good for two runs. For the game Hart St. out-hit Milford 14 to 11. Joaquin Benoit(1-0) went 1 inning allowing no runs for the win. Michael Wacha (0-1) took the loss in relief. He allowed 4 runs and 5 hits in 1 inning. Hart Street takes a 1-0 lead in the series.

Game 2 - In an entertaining game at Silver Sands Park the final score was the Milford Dogfish 5, the Hart St. Hogs 2. In the 7th inning Milford scored 4 runs when they had 5 base hits. The key at-bat was by Josh Rutledge who came through for the home fans when he blasted a two-run home run. Milford had 8 hits for the game and Hart St. had 4. Zack Wheeler (1-0) allowed no runs in 1 and 1/3 innings, and picked up the victory. Wheeler got help from Michael Wacha who earned his 1st save. Phil Hughes (0-1) was the loser. He allowed 3 runs and 4 hits in 6 innings. Milford evened the series at 1.

Game 3 - Jason Heyward left the yard and had 3 RBI at Kruk Dome as the Milford Dogfish beat the Hart St. Hogs by the count of 11 to 5. Milford took the lead off Jered Weaver in the first inning scoring 4 runners on 5 hits. The biggest moment was provided by Heyward who deflated the mood of the partisan fans when he lifted one out of the park for a two run home run. Overall Milford outhit Hart St. 15 to 9. The victory was credited to Gerrit Cole(1-0) who went 8 innings, allowing 5 runs. Weaver(0-1) was the loser. He allowed 15 hits and 4 walks in 9 innings. Milford leads the series 2-1.

Game 4 - One run was the difference at Kruk Dome as the Hart St. Hogs defeated the Milford Dogfish in 11 innings 4 to 3. The score was knotted at 3 after nine innings. Hart St. was victorious in the 11th inning. Jayson Werth smashed a bases-empty 'big-fly' making Hart St. victorious to the delight of the the home town crowd. Hart St. finished with 7 hits in the victory. Koji Uehara (1-0) went 1 inning allowing no runs for the win. Carlos Carrasco (0-1) ended up with the loss in relief. He gave up 2 hits and no walks in 2 and 1/3 innings. Hart Street evened the series at 2.

Game 5 - The Milford Dogfish defeated the Hart St. Hogs by a score of 8 to 4 at Kruk Dome to take a 3 games to 2 lead in the series. Milford scored the decisive runs in a big 9th inning when they came up with 4 runs on 3 hits. The key at-bat was by Yasiel Puig who silenced Kruk Dome as he tripled plating two runs. Milford ended up with 10 hits for the game while Hart St. had 6. Oliver Perez(1-0) got credit for the victory, pitching 1 and 1/3 innings and allowing no runs. Tony Watson (0-1) was the loser in relief. He gave up 2 runs and 1 hit in 2/3 of an inning.

Game 6 – At Sands Park, the Milford faithful were treated to an intriguing pitcher's duel. Marcus Stroman (1-0) finally bested his Hart St. counterpart, Jered Weaver (0-2), by the score of 2 to 1. Stroman had a solid outing for Milford. He went 5 and 2/3 innings and surrendered up 4 hits and 1 walk. Despite losing, Hart St. out-hit Milford 8 to 5. Zack Wheeler got the save, his 1st. Weaver was the loser. He allowed 1 run and 2 hits in 4 innings. Summary Milford wins the series, 4-2. Congratulations to Ed for a fine season, and typical masterful job managing. Milford awaits the winner of HT v BR. – Glen
Series MVP: McCutchen, 11 for 24, 5 R, 6 RBI, 1 HR Honorable Mention: Puig: 9 for 26, 5 R, 4 RBI, 1 HR

2015 American League Final Four Round One Series #4 Hotlanta vs. Baton Rouge #1

Game 1 Iwakuma vs Roark - Baton Rouge scored 3 in the bottom of the first with 2 singles, a ground out, and a 2 run homer by Ben Paulsen (ballparker, rolled a 1). After one out in the 4th, Duda walked and Martinez singled sending Duda to 3rd. The Bullets attempted to turn a double play but Coghlan beat the throw and the run scored. Baton Rouge answered in the bottom of the 4th on 3 singles making it 4-1. Hotlanta managed only 2 singles through the final 5 innings against 3 Bullet relievers. Iwakuma settled down allowing no further runs but it was too late. Baton Rouge takes game one 4-1.

Game 2 Fister vs McHugh - Colin McHugh was just untouchable going 8 innings allowing only 2 singles and 4 walks. The Bullet hitters battered Fister for 11 runs on 14 hits including a double, 2 triples, & 4 home runs (2 by Mesoraco). BR 11 HT 0. Baton Rouge leads the series 2-0.

Game 3 - Darvish vs Cobb Hotlanta scored first this time on a Rollins single, a stolen base, and an RBI single by Beltre. Baton Rouge answers with 3 singles and a walk in the 3rd but can only get 1 run home. The Possums took the lead again in the 4th with a walk, a 2 base single, and a successful squeeze play by Doug Fister. An error by Stubbs allowed another run to score. Pena gets in the game in the 6th on a Solarte injury and promptly smacks a home run to narrow the gap 3-2 Hotlanta (1-5). In the BR 7th, Brandon Crawford walks and beats the throw as he makes it home on a double by Gomez who goes to 3rd. He scores on a sac fly by Joyce. Baton Rouge 4, Hotlanta 3. In the 8th, Carl Crawford singles and steals 2nd. LeMahieu singles him home. LeMahieu advances on a wild pitch and scores on a single by Gomez. The Possums try to come back in the bottom of the 9th on a Nieves double, a single by Cabrera, and a double by Gordon putting one run in and men on 2nd and 3rd. The Bullets have used 6 relievers to this point with Scott Doolittle being called in after Farquhar and Fields give up the 3 hits in the 9th. Rollins pops out to LeMahieu for the second out. Beltre vs Doolittle. Woooooof. For the save. Baton Rouge wins 6-4 and leads the series 3 games to none.

Game 4 - Roark vs Paxton - The Bullets again start the scoring in the first inning on a single by Gomez, a wild pitch, and a Martin single. In the 3rd Brandon Crawford knocks one out against Paxton. Crawford doubles in the 5th and Gomez homers (1-11) to give Baton Rouge a 4-0 lead. But Hotlanta comes back in the bottom of the 5th scoring 3 on two walks and Carbrera's long home run (1-11). The Possums continue to put men on base through the 6th, 7th, and 8th innings but no runs. BR – 3 up, 3 down. In the 9th Hotlanta leads off with a Nieves single and a Jackson walk. Cabrera sacrifices them to 2nd and 3rd, 1 out. Tying and winning runs in scoring position. Fields now facing Gordon and Rollins. Doolittle, Miller, Ramos, and Farquhar already used. Gordon. Woooof. Rollins. Woooof. The Bullets squeak one out. Rollins went 0 for 16 in the series.

The Baton Rouge MVPs were Matt Joyce (.556, .600, 1.000, 4 runs, 3 RBI), Brandon Crawford (.500, .571, 1.000, 5 runs, 3 RBI), and Tanner Roark (2 wins, 3.38 ERA). Unlikely hitting heroes. The stars for Hotlanta were Victor Martinez (.333, .625) and Alex Gordon (.286, .500). Jim could not get a roll when he needed it. Lots of walks but not many hits. Congratulations on a fine season, Jim. I won't be so lucky next year. Mike

2015 American League Championship Series #2 Milford vs. #1 Baton Rouge

Game 1 deGrom vs Roark - Neither team could touch the pitcher. Baton Rouge's Carlos Gomez opened the game with a double but was stranded after three strikeouts by deGrom. The Dogfish were only a little better getting 3 singles and a walk but one runner was picked off and another was caught in a double play. The 7th inning proved pivotal for the Bullets. Martin lead off with a single. Rizzo lined out to second and Mesoraco struck out. Solarte got a two-out single with Martin racing to third. Carl Crawford got his pitch and he laced it into deep rightfield for a double (1-2 HR). Martin scored and Solarte was given the green light to go home (at 1-10) and he just beat the throw. Crawford moved to third on the throw. Santana couldn't handle a deGrom pitch and Crawford scored on a pass ball. Five relievers handled the last 3 innings giving up only a one walk. Doolittle got the win. deGrom had 13strike outs. The Bullets win the first game 3-0.

Game 2 Cole vs McHugh - The Bullets started fast with 4 in the 1st on 2 singles, a walk, an error, and a Matt Joyce home run. They put the game away in the 4th with 6 more runs on home runs by Brandon Crawford and Anthony Rizzo. McHugh had a complete game win with 10 strikeouts. Baton Rouge takes a 2-0 lead in the series with a 13-1 win.

Game 3 Darvish vs Stroman - The series moved to Silver Sands Park for game 3. The visiting Baton Rouge team again started fast with a two out single by Martin and a home run by Rizzo. At home the Dogfish started to hit too. Puig opened the game on an error by Gomez. One out later a McCutchen double scored Puig, a single by Grandal and a home run by Anthony Renden gave the Dogfish a 4-2 lead. Baton Rouge had 10 hits but only one an inning scoring just one run thanks to a wild pitch. Milford got all they needed in the first but added two more tallies. Stroman goes 7 innings for the win. There were 7 wild pitches in the game. Milford wins its first 6-3, as the series now stands at 2-1 Baton Rouge.

Game 4 Roark vs Wacha - Milford returned the favor of a blow out game as the Dogfish pound the Bullets in an 8-0 shutout. Brett Lawrie and Jason Heyward hit home runs. Even deGrom contributes from the plate with a pinch hit double as Milford conserves at bats. Pennington and Martin are injured for the next game. Milford has tied up the series 2-2.

Game 5 Rasmus vs deGrom - The Bullets drew first blood on 3 singles and a pass ball good for 2 runs. Milford ties the score on a Grandal double to open the 4th inning, a Rendon double, and Heyward single. Mookie Betts hits a solo homer in the 5th for the Dogfish. In the 6th, Milford gets three consecutive walks to load the bases after one out. Baton Rouge tries to turn the double play but Turner beats the throw and a run scores. Milford takes a 4-2 lead in the game. Tazawa and Carrasco pitch the final three innings giving up only a lone walk. After being down 2 games to none, Milford got hot at home and now has a 3-2 lead in the series. Back to Baton Rouge.

Game 6 Cole vs McHugh - Baton Rouge is facing elimination after the fiasco in Milford but the two Bullet aces are due to start at home. Puig leads off the game with a line out to Rizzo at first base. Polanco is up next and gets an infield single but collides with McHugh who was covering first base. McHugh is down! And out!! He cannot continue!!! One out and the relief staff has to get going. Doolittle comes in and immediately gives up a single to McCutchen – first and third, one out. Baton Rouge playing for the double play, and, this time they get it to get out of the inning. The Bullets get singles in the first and the second but both are followed by caught stealings. Brandon Crawford leads off the third with his third home run of the post season. Baton Rouge takes a 1-0 lead. The 4th, 5th, and 6th innings see a progression of relievers from both teams. Both teams put runners on but neither can get the big hit to

score a run. Brandon Crawford again leads off an inning – the 7th – and he again hits a home run to give the Bullets a 2-0 lead. Joyce follows Crawford with an out but Gomez triples. Martin comes up, and draws a walk. Milford sets up for the double play to get out of the inning. Rizzo is up facing Carrasco, the hero of game 5. HOME RUN!!! His 4th of the post season. The Bullets take a 5-0 lead. Yu Darvish comes in as the 6th Bullet reliever to pitch the final two innings. Baton Rouge has come back to tie the series 3-3 despite losing McHugh after just one out, setting up a winner take all final game 7.

Game 7 Stroman vs Roark - The first 3 innings were dominated by each starter. Each gave up only 1 hit. The Milford 4th was more of the same. Baton Rouge got a leadoff walk for Joyce and Martin sacrificed him to second base. Rizzo came through with a big hit doubling Joyce home for a 1-0 lead. Mesoraco got a single but Rizzo didn't want to challenge Heyward's arm and stopped at third. Solarte got hold of one but Heyward ran it down but it was deep enough for Rizzo to trot home for a 2-0 lead. Martin leads off the 6th with a double. Rizzo grounds out to second, moving Martin to third. Mesoraco comes up. Whiiiiiff. Solarte comes up. Single!! Baton Rouge takes a 3-0 lead. But Milford is not done. Darvish pitched a 3 up 3 down 6th inning. In the 7th, he faced McCutchen. Single! Betts struck out but Rendon walks. First and second, one out. That's it for Darvish. Miller comes in. Grandal grounds out second to first and both runners move up. Two outs. Mayberry pinch hits for Heyward. Walk! Bases loaded. Rutledge hits for Ike Davis. Single – one base. Milford is on the board 1-3. Santiago is up. Another walk! Another run! 2-3. Miller is tired. Justin Turner is up. .340 hitter. Manager Holbrook screws up and leaves Miller in tired. Turner rolls a 4-6 K (4-7 was a tired single). 3-2 Baton Rouge. McCutchen doubles with one out in the 8th. Moves to third on a Betts ground out. But Rendon grounds out to end the inning. In the 9th Polanco singles against Fields and steals second with one out. Rutledge grounds out moving him to third. Santiago is Milford's last hope. It's a long fly to centerfield. Gomez goes back, back, back... And pulls it in for the final out and the win and the AL Championship!!! Bullets WIN 4 games to 3!! The Bullet MVPs for this series were Solarte (9 for 18, 3 runs, 3 RBI), Martin (8 for 19, 6 runs), Rizzo (.308, 3 homers, 8 RBI), and Brandon Crawford (3 homers, 6 RBI). Sean Doolittle won 3 of the 4 games in this series. He and Miller pitched 10 innings giving up 5 hits, 5 walks, with 13 K's and no runs given up. Jason Heyward went 10 for 22 with 4 RBI for the Dogfish. There were 12 wild pitches in this series! What's up with that? This was a really great series. I have dreaded playing Glen all season. His teams are always so hard to beat. This makes up for the 2011 AL Championship loss 3-4 to Glen's team. After winning 3 straight and being ahead 5-2 in the 7th of the 4th game, we folded and he got hot to win the last 4 games. I ran out of relief that time but didn't this time. Congratulations to Glen and all the playoff teams. This will be our 3rd attempt to win the World Series. Hope springs eternal...

2105 National League Final Four Round One Series #5 Klee's vs #1 Norwich Norwich travels to Kleeland (An Elvis Costello song?) to battle it out via cards and dice (Norwich tracking on the tablet).

Game one- Colon vs Cueto - Scoreless after 4, Alcides Escobar makes a 2-base error leading to a run. The Game remains knotted through 7. The Toad leaves, and Norwich is relieved no one was eaten during his 7 scoreless (!?) innings. Brian Dozier greets Jared Hughes with a HR in the 8th to tie it. Cueto leaves after 8, and Santiago Casilla enters, and watches Alcides make ANOTHER 2-base error. Rattled, he gives up the bomb to Nolan Arenado, and Neshak shuts the door for a 3-1 Klubber win!

Game Two- Norwich with Kershaw on the mound takes a 2-0 lead into the 6th. An Aramis Rameris Triple and an Arenado Blast, and before you know it, the inning ends with a 3-2 Klubber lead! Norwich pulls out some clutch pinch-hitting, and it's a 5-3 lead into the 9th. Enter Chris Davis, who performs the single + error move to compliment 4-5 rolls, balks, and wp's, and Kershaw is yanked- Tony Sipp adds a wild pitch, and the game is tied! Kiki Hernandez takes LaTroy Hawkins deep with one out in the 9th to win the game and even the series.

Game Three - The Klubbers take it to Zimmerman in the first, scoring four runs. Norwich can do nothing with Klee pitching, and the game ends 4-1, Hammel the win, Neshak the save. Arenado adds two more hits and RBIs, looking like the early mvp!

Game Four- On the road, Johnny can't hear the crowd, and fires eight solid innings, allowing an unearned run caused by yep, ANOTHER Alcides Escobar error. Norwich scrapped out 3 runs over the game, and Greg Holland saved it for Norwich to even the series yet again. The Toad is solid, but gave up HRs to Bautista and Chris Carter, apparently a blood sugar issue.

Game Five - Cole Hammels was the man, throwing 8 innings, and allowing 2 hits, 2 walks, and no runs while striking out 9. Jeff Samardzja was solid, allowing one run over 6 (hurt by an error on the Shark), but that was enough for a 1-0 Klubber victory! Neshak closed things out in the 9th, Norwich had runners on, but could not get one across. The Klub are only a victory away for a series win!

Game Six The Big Game- Kershaw vs Lackey. Scoreless through 4, 1-1 after another Arenado HR in the 5th, the game is tied through the 10th. Kershaw dodges multiple Klubber bullets, and pitches all 10, allowing 3 hits, 1 walk, and strikes out 13. In the bottom of the 10th, Both teams were tied at 1 run apiece after nine innings. Norwich won the hard fought contest in the 10th inning. After an out was recorded, Eaton drew a walk. Eaton was safe on a stolen base. Brian Dozier then ripped a single. Dozier took second on the throw. David Ortiz followed next and he laced a one-base hit giving Norwich the 2-1 win and sending the home town fans into a frenzy. The series is tied for a Game Seven!

GAME SEVEN - The third meeting of Colon and Cueto, for all the marbles. Klee's breaks out in the first on Cueto with a Markakis HR, and add two more in the second via a Montero HR, as Cueto is having a hard time with the pressure, apparently. It's a good time

for Norwich to breakout the hex Bartolo had on them, and the 'Gators score 6 on the Toad and chase him in the 2nd, Ortiz and Kiki Hernandez with HRs. Nearly the entire Klub pen comes in, with Mad Bum finishing. Jared Burton relieves Cueto in the 7th, and does fine until the 9th. The Klub load the bases, and score a run with a hit off Casilla. Casilla finishes the job, though, and Norwich wins the game and the series via the 9-5 victory. This series could have gone either way- dice were rolling as dice do (as crazy as any netplay game), and Roland ended up just short. Hardy and Arenado (with 7 rbi and a 1.199 OPS!) hit .333 for the Klub, Norwich saw their batting more in terms of timely hitting Adam Eaton had 5 hits and 5 RBI's, and Kiki Hernandez had two game-deciding hits in his 5 abs. Bautista and Ortiz were solid. Cueto and Kershaw were the difference in the series, Cueto dealing a 1.59 era over his three starts, and receives the MVP (narrowly over fan favorite Kiki)! Big Congrats to Roland for a fine season, and for nearly pulling off the KLEEBACLE! The Norwich team is settling in for some rest before facing the powerful Jarhead lineup, with the Norwich starting rotation in complete disarray after going 7 (So you did accomplish something, Roland, blast you ☺) – Best Don D.

2015 National League Championship Series #3 US Jarheads vs. #1 Norwich: The Navigators await the Jarheads storming the beach at Garmin Park- Game One- Samardzja and Guthrie - Jarheads take a 2-0 lead early with a Walker HR, Norwich comes back to be up 4-2 after 4. The game remains scoreless until the 8th, where Jose Bautista gives up the 3-dot 2B, allowing two runs to score, and tying the game. The game was won by US when they scored a run in the top of the 9th inning. After two were out Mike Trout cracked a solo homerun. Denard Span stepped up next and he ripped a one-base hit. Span got a good lead and stole second. Scott Atchison, after tossing a perfect ninth, was credited with his 1st save as USJ won 5-4.

Game two- Zimmerman and Swarzak - Usually I try to write something on my own, but HAL owned this report- Paul Goldschmidt rocketed 2 homeruns and had 3 RBI and Anthony Swarzak tossed a complete game as the US Jarheads ballclub embarrassed the Norwich Navigators by the count of 12 to 1. The Norwich fans didn't appreciate the big day Goldschmidt had. He delivered a solo blast in the 5th inning and clubbed a two-run home run in the 8thinning. US kept the pressure on throughout the contest as they scored in 6 different innings. Swarzak(1-0) was the winner allowing 1 run for the game. Jordan Zimmermann(0-2) took the loss. He allowed 6 homeruns in 9 innings of work as USJ won 12-1. Jarheads burn the beach, and head back to Kate Elizabeth up 2-0!

Game Three Kuroda and Cueto - In a battle of what would have normally been the first game starters, Norwich is again up 4-2 after the top of 5, then the Jarheads storm back to take a 5-4 lead. Norwich ties the game in the 7th with a Joey Bats HR. What Joey give, he takes away: Norwich was unable to climb back into it after US went ahead for good in the bottom of the 7th inning with 2 runs using 4 hits. After an out was recorded, Cody Asche opened up the rally as he doubled. Jordy Mercer followed and he doubled (Bautista Range Play). Mike Trout then ripped a one-base hit. Denard Span followed next and he hit a single. Paul Goldschmidt dug into the batters box next, but he struck out. Both teams totaled 11 hits on the night. Kuroda with the win, Cueto the loss. USJ with the 7-5 win is now a game away from the sweep!

Game Four - Norwich is up against the wall, and on the road. Up on the mound is Clayton Kershaw, who simply said "This is strat, not real life- hop on my back!" That did not look too good, with the Jarheads up 2-1 after 5. Norwich ties the game after 6, then in the 8th, Cody Ashce kicked a ball with 2 outs, scoring Prado from third, Escobar on first. Alcides steals second, and scores on an Eaton double for a 4-2 lead. Kershaw goes the distance, allowing 10 hits while striking out 11 and walking none. Herrera is the hard-luck loser, allowing both unearned runs- the 'Gators are still alive!

Game Five- Samardzja and Villanueva - The Jarheads still have ! the momentum and the home crowd, and take a 1-0 lead in the third, via an Alcides Escobar error with the bases loaded. Norwich answers with a run in the 4th, Chris Davis with the knock. USJ brings in the pen and the kitchen sink, Norwich tells the "Shark" to sink or swim- game is still 1-1 in the bottom of the 8th, when Denard Span spans a HR over the RF wall! Norwich circles the wagons for the 9th... Norwich won the game with a rally in the 9th inning plating 2 runs utilizing 2 base hits. After an out was recorded, Travis Snider keyed the rally when he banged out a single. One out later, Alcides Escobar came to the plate and stroked a one-base hit. Adam Eaton then drew a walk to load the bases. Enrique Hernandez stepped in and he drew a walk. David Ortiz stepped into the box and reached on an error (On Machi). Norwich managed only 6 hits on the night. Samardzija(1-1) allowed 2 runs on the game. The losing pitcher was Scott Atchison(0-1) in relief. He pitched 2/3 of an inning allowing 2 hits and no walks. Machi had the choke, with 2BBs and the error. 'We just kept swinging the bats and didn't give up,' Yan Gomes said. 'If you just keep trying good things can happen!' Momentum has swung, the series moves back to raucous Garmin Park, USJ still holding the 3-2 series lead!

Game Six Cueto and Kuroda - A rematch of G3 starters- All Norwich all the time- Cueto is Masterful, striking out 12, and allowing a solo shot in the 9th (Span again!). The score was 10-1 at that point, as a 3R HR by Chris Davis in the 2nd appeared to rattle Kuroda. He fell apart in the 5th, as seven Navigators crossed the plate, most due to "the death by a thousand cuts", walks, wp's, singles, and the SF. Norwich goes 4-8 with RISP. The series slowed down some of the tension, as both managers set up for the now to be deciding Game Seven!

GAME SEVEN! Zimmerman and Guthrie - Guthrie had survived Games One and Three by being tough with runners on base- in G7, he served up a 2R HR to Choo and an RBI Triple to Alcides Escobar to allow Norwich a 3-0 they would not relinquish. Jordan H178 Zimmerman threw 5 innings of no-hit ball, the first hit being a HR by Trout. He exited the game after a HR by Edwin Encarnion, for a total of 2 hits and 2 run, while walking one and striking out 7. In the bottom of the 7th, Norwich takes a now tight 3-2 game in hand, Machi getting smacked for three hits and then small-ball vs Cishek for two runs, then an Ortiz HR to complete the 4-run inning. The Jarheads do not say die, and push a run across in the 8th via a Span double. With a 7-4 lead, EY Young tears around the bases, and scores on a fielders' choice for the final Norwich run. Santiago Casilla makes up for the G1 loss by holding the fort, and Norwich wins the game 8-3and takes the series!!! Congrats to Bill and the Jarheads, who came a looong way to get here, and were so close to sealing the deal. Bill managed his tail off, but ultimately the pitching did not hold up. The dice (yes it was FTF) swung first to Bill, and then to me; his occasional HR split vs my three single splits, basically. Fielding luck was about the same, with Joey Bats lumbering around equal to miscues by Asche and Machi. I had given up somewhere early in G4, and am simply shocked to be the winner. Norwich

batted .258, 4 HR, .735 OPS. USJ batted .257, 13(!) HRs, OPS USJ .817, buoyed with a .498 TEAM slugging! USJ 4.57 ERA, Norwich 4.65. Norwich PH avg .143, USJ .345. SO, I don't know how the heck I won- MVP (narrowly) goes to Adam Eaton, who had a .960 OPS with solid defense. It was a team victory, with everyone contributing at some point over a VERY tough Jarhead squad. Off to Baton Rouge for the WS! Don D

2015 World Series Norwich vs. Baton Rouge: Lots of pitching expected, with some power and defense up the middle for both teams- here we go!

Game One - Cueto vs Darvish in the land of the Silver Bullets- Both teams do what they do on the mound- Norwich tells Cueto to "win or die trying", and Baton Rouge tells Darvish to "get through the order a few times, the pen will take care of it". NO score through 6, Prado drives in Ortiaz with two outs in the 7th, but the manager does not try to bring C. Davis home on the double vs the arm of Gomez. That will hurt, as Baton Rouge ties the game in the bottom of the inning with a Brandon Crawford SF scoring R. Zimmerman, who had doubled to lead off the inning. Nothing in the 8th, and Cueto leaves. In the 9th, The game was won by Baton Rouge with a run in the 9th inning. Yangervis Solarte lined a single. Two outs later Crawford came to bat and laced a base-knock. Carlos Gomez then reached on an error (by Brian Dozier) making Baton Rouge the victors to the delight of the home town faithful. The winning pitcher was Danny Farquhar(1-0) who allowed 1 run in 3 innings. Santiago Casilla(0-1) absorbed the loss in relief. He pitched 2/3 of an inning and surrendered 2 hits and no walks.

Navigators..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 1 3 1

Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 - 2 6 1

Game Two - Kershaw vs Roark- the 'Gators are already on the bubble... Not much to say here- Kershaw dominates, and Norwich finds some bats... Clayton Kershaw allowed 3 hits while blanking Baton Rouge and Adam Eaton smacked 2 triples and had 2 RBI at Bengal Dome as the Norwich Navigators beat the Baton Rouge Silver Bullets by the count of 9 to 0. Kershaw(1-0) pitched one of his finer games as he simply was too much for the Baton Rouge batters. He surrendered only 3 hits and 1 walk in 9 innings. Kershaw racked up 14 strikeouts. Norwich banged out 14 hits on the night.

Navigators..... 0 3 0 3 0 0 1 0 2 - 9 14 0

Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 1

Game Three - Heading into Norwich for some home cooking (interesting that, we'll note later). McHugh vs the Shark (Samardzja). A Jose Bautista 2R HR in the 6th breaks open a scoreless tie. Carlos Gomez knocks in Brandon Crawford for a run in the 8th, but a key DP on Rizzo ends the rally- Greg Holland for the save. Norwich with a 2 games to 1 lead.

Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 1 7 1

Navigators..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 x - 2 6 0

Game Four - Rasmus vs Cueto - See game one, except the Silver Bullets staff (nearly all of them) shuts out the 'Gators, holding the team to three hits. Oh wait, Cueto shuts out Baton Rouge through 8, and we are tied through 10! A Rizzo 2R HR in the 11th seals the deal, Miller with the win, Fields the save. Series Tied 2-2!

Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 - 2 7 0

Navigators..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 1

Game Five (the Big Game) - Darvish vs J. Zimmerman - Some hitting to be had here- Baton Rouge takes an early lead, through a Carl Crawford shot, but slips behind a flurry of singles and walks, and a Chris Davis 2R HR. The Silver Bullets do not say die, and rally with a HR by Ben Paulsen in the 7th and a 2RBI single by Rizzo and friends to take a 5-4 lead. In the 9th, Fields gives up a 2-out walk to Bustista, and is relieved by Andrew Miller- Travis Snider pokes one the other way to keep things alive, and then Jonny Gomes gets his 3-4, and shockingly the series turns 180- Norwich is the dramatic winner, and leads 3-2 back to Baton Rouge.

Silver Bullets.. 0 2 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 - 5 9 1

Navigators..... 0 0 0 2 2 0 0 0 3 - 7 10 0

Game 6 - Kershaw vs Roark, a repeat of G2... Silver Bullet pitching gets tough, runs get scarce. 1-1 after 3, 2-2 after 6. In the 7th, Prado singles, moved to 2nd by Escobar, and scores on a hit by Eaton. Kershaw guts it out till the 9th. R. Zimmerman and B. Crawford single to put runners on first and third with one out. On the mound, Kershaw runs off the coaches, and says "this is mine to win or lose. Kershaw K's C. Gomez and C. Crawford to win it all!

Navigators..... 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 - 3 8 1

Silver Bullets.. 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 2 7 2

NORWICH WINS THE WORLD SERIES, 4-2 (Over a VERY Tough Silver Bullet unit- Congrats, Mike!) Stat stuff - Ryan Zimmerman, Chone Figgins and Ben Paulsen all did a lot of damage in limited action- Rizzo had 5 rbis. The Pen was tough, Doolittle, Ramos, and Baez were all with 0 era's. Farquhar and A. Miller won games in relief. For Norwich, Yan Gomes tore it up, with .412 avg, and the GWRBI's in G5- that and no overthrows earns him outstanding player for the team. Kershaw wins the MVP, winning 2 games, and having a 1.00 era over 18 innings. And striking out 25! (A lot of rolls for Mike on the 5 and 6 columns, no Bueno vs Clayton). Holland, Burton, and Casilla have 0 era's, Casilla gets a loss though. Cueto was very tough, a 0.56 era in two starts and 16 innings while striking out 15 = 2 no-decisions. Alcides Escobar hit .300 (HOW!?!), but David Ortiz was silent, batting .130 with no extra base hits. Congrats to Mike again for a fantastic series, all the games were heart-pounders except game two. Alcides Escobar led

the regulars for the entire post season, hitting over .300. Bautista leads the team with 5 post-season HRs. All in all, Starting Pitching and up-the-middle defense with just enough pop makes this team an Earl Weaver dream, and a WS Champ! All kinds of shenanigans to follow after the parade! Congrats again to Mike for a fine season, the Champaign is gonna rain! Best, Don D

2015 NORWICH NOTES - 12-4 Navigators Log- (Recaps) Wow! Before I say anything else, congrats to my opponents for a hard-fought post-season! I was down 3-2 vs Roland, and 3-0 vs Bill! No ideas how the dice rolled one way or the other (I usually get to blame HAL, lol). Good starting pitching took me all the way home, and in a hard-fought series with Mike it held true. The bats were not much- I was out-homered 21-17, and an even more embarrassing 19-12 at home (why did I move the fences in, lol)? The 'Gators did get a lot of folks on base, and in the end the timely HRs led to a 3.95 to 3.25 run score advantage during the postseason. The defense was good, but the opposition turned 24 dps to my 15. Norwich batted .239 for the postseason, not great, but the pitching kept Klees and Baton Rouge at the Mendoza line- the real battle was with the Jarheads as far as surviving a superior offense during the gameplay. Timely hitting was the key, as the Jarheads had a .817 OPS and .498 slugging for the series! Another element to the timely hitting was the RBI leader for the postseason- lead-off man Adam Eaton(11). Norwich had a .344 ooba to compete, and pushed just enough runs over. Jordan Zimmerman never wants to see the Jarheads again, giving up 8HRs in 15 innings, lol. Joey Bats with a .971 OPS over the post season was the MVP, and Clayton Kershaw the Outstanding Pitcher, going 4-0 with a 1.99 era over 5 starts. Thanks again to my opponents, I felt that it was a good blend of FTF and netplay, and I'm looking forward to putting an effort to defend the title!

2015 FBN All Star Game (January 23, 2016) 2014 World Series Champion US Jarheads Owner Nieman and 2014 AL Champion Mgr of The Hogs, Ed Griffin recently played the 2015 All Star game. We met up on the phone with USJ GM Harry doing the rolling for both teams. Kershaw for the NL and McHugh for the AL each had 2 scoreless innings. NL Kluber on in the 3rd. Beltre singles, J Upton singled under the glove of ss Reyes and Kluber walked Ianetta to load the bases with no out. Altuve bought home a run with a SF to make it 1-0 AL. Duda PH and Kluber got a GB DP to end the inning. Roark came in for the AL and had a scoreless 3rd. In the top of the 4th Rizzo crushed an upper deck HR for a 2-0 lead, knocking Kluber out. Street came in to finish the inning. King Felix got into trouble allowing 2 hits in the bottom of the 4th, but Andrew Miller relieved and got a DP to end the threat. Street had a scoreless top of the 5th. One out in the bottom of the 5th and Kimbrel came on for the AL. JD Martinez PH and ripped a double off the lf wall! Encarnacion hit a FB to RF that Stanton misplayed for a 2 base error and the NL got on the board trailing 2-1. Alcides Escobar PH and singled putting runners at 1st and 3rd. Trout walked to load the bases and Doolittle came on. He fanned PHer Jose Bautista for the 2nd out. But Paul Goldschmidt ripped a 2 run single and the NL took a 3- 2 lead. The NL padded the lead in the 6th. Miggy Cabrera greeted Betances with a long HR to make it 4-2. After 2 outs Jose Abreu doubled and Alcides Escobar singled for the 2nd time this time driving in a run and it was 5-2. Scherzer pitched a scoreless 6th and 7th inning. Papelbon gave up a lead off double in the 8th to PHer Pena, but then retired 3 in a row. In the 9th Chapman retired Rizzo and Carpenter and Scott Atchison retired Lorenzo Cain for the final out and the NL wins 5-2. R H E
American League.....001 100 000 2 5 2
National League000 032 00- 5 13 0 WP-Street LP- Kimbrel
HR: AL Rizzo NL M Cabrera Co-MVP's Goldschmidt 2-4 D, 2 rbi and A Escobar 3-3, 3 rbi The National League has a 6 game winning streak and now leads the series 19-9.

2015 year in summary, besides playing the games there were 58 trades made in 2015. A total of 137 players and 70 draft picks changed hands. I would say that the FBN enjoys the General Manager part of Strat-O-Matic as much as playing the game.

2016 Season By Rob Bruno (12/29/2016) For complete information go to our website and review the newsletters

January 2016 - The FBN's 43 season!! Not bad for a league called the Fly-By-Night!!! "On draft day we'll play "Let it ride!" At the end of the first 5 rounds I'll draw a name out of the hat. That person will win \$10. But, IF he says "Let it ride!" I'll put \$20 into the pot. If all 5, \$10 winners say "Let it ride!" there will be \$100 in the pot. The five winners will have their names put back into the hat. One will be the lucky winner of \$100. If only 4 winners say "Let it ride!" the 4 will have a chance to win \$80. You get the picture. Eleven trades were announced in January.

February 2016 – Draft location again was at the Comfort Inn at 48 Whitehall Ave., Mystic, CT 06355. Glen Boucher would have the draft on line. A brief recap of Opening Day was done by Glen... It was @#\$\$%^ cold! Bud, Bob F., Ed and Glen made the trip to Glen Head, NY together while Bruce made the pilgrimage arriving separately.

Ed Griffin again wrote his Inside The Fly By Night preseason predictions. National League Playoff teams: Norwich, New England Hazardville, USJarheads and Klees. The NL should fall out similar to last year, except that Wall Street stock is down. Defending champ Norwich continues to be the top dog, but will not be the juggernaut it was last year. The Navigator's pitching while still excellent is not off the hook like last year. The resurgence of Crash Davis makes the offense formidable. They could repeat but the odds are a bit longer. The rest of the likely playoff candidates include the Angles who had a productive offseason and will be in the mix. The rotation lacks the depth to compete with Norwich, but the team is solid across the board. Hazardville has a nice balanced offence and ok rotation, but their pen is a not great. The Jarheads still boast the murderer's row of Trout, Goldschmidt and Encarnacion. Plus the return of Harvey boosts and otherwise forgettable pitching staff. After Bill got the playoffs last year without Harvey, how can I bet against them this year. Rounding out my playoff candidates is the Klub....can they make the playoffs two years running?! Hey, Donald Trump could be president... he world is going crazy...so why not. One of the best starting staffs in the league

should be enough to offset the mediocre pen and offense as well as the knucklehead field management. Maine, Burlington, Taxachusetts and Illinois are all bubble teams. I don't think they have enough to make the playoffs, but a little luck and some trades could alter their path. The Chiefs are the most intriguing. Can you win by hitting hordes of HRs without playing defense or pitching? I doubt it, but will be fun to watch. The Prairie Dogs have a solid team....but as I've said several times in the past....can't win on the road with crappy written instructions....hint hint... The Yaks are the epitome of mediocrity....do everything ok, but not great....they are on the way outside of the bubble. Burlington is solid...love Gray at the top of the rotation... but the pen sucks and will likely be their Achilles heel. As mentioned earlier, Wall Street fell off this year... aside from Sale and Scherzer there is not much to like. Can't hit RHP and the rest of the rotation sucks. Might be time to retool a bit. Both Allyn St and Connecticut should show a little improvement over last year but I think they finish in the same spot... still away from being relevant. The NL is just not as good as it was last year. I see the AL making inroads.

American League Playoff teams: Milford, California, Nashville, Louisville and Arsenal. Milford it back in full prominence. I'm still waiting on the investigation regarding how their snake of a GM manages to end up with 3 top ten picks in the draft every year! Regardless, it's a great young team with a top notch rotation, solid offense and defense. The pen is not great, but should be enough to keep them near the top of the league. The most likely team to beat out the Dogfish would be the Dreamers. Nice offense with lots of on-base and excellent pen (you're welcome Frank). Their rotation is ok, not great. New guy Doug has done a nice job retooling the old Florida Sun franchise. Again, the rotation is just ok... pen is solid not great, but the offense is really good... one of the league's best, and you have to like the 1's at SS, 2B and CF. The River Bandits have an excellent rotation, which should carry them to the post season. I don't like their lack of on-base vs RHP but at least there's some pop there. The Gunners continue their slow ascent to relevance. If only Stanton played all year he would pair up nicely with Harper. As is they should have enough firepower to squeak in as the last playoff team. The Possums are on the bubble. As always they have an awesome pen which will keep them in a lot of games. However their rotation sucks so that should be enough to keep them on the outside looking in. The Whippets are close. Offense is not bad and some good starting pitching. The pen is a weakness. They could push Arsenal. The Dragons and Cracker Jacks are the best of the worst. Both teams are better than last year, but still have a ways to go. Not sure why the Cracker Jacks took two relievers in round one when they aren't contending, but seems I remember Hotlanta doing that some years back and then willing the championship a couple years later... so what do I know. The Dragons just have a lot of ordinary players... need to work on getting some core guys to build around. Yorktown still sucks but has some hope for the future will some decent core players like Upton, Sano and Hosmer. Baton Rouge fell like a rock as their team was decimated by injuries and poor play. They still have a great defense, but not enough pitching to contend. The Hogs are especially sucky and a lock for the 1st pick in the draft next year. While I think the AL is more top heavy than the NL this year, I also think the overall gap in quality is closing. In fact I think the top five teams in the AL are better than the top five in the NL this year. There might be a bit of a power shift coming. We will see. Two trades announced.

March 2016 - Night before the Draft – Don, Dean, Frank, Glen, Roland, Ed and I met at the Engine Room in Mystice to discuss the upcoming draft. On draft day Ed had his Assistant GM Joanne and Bill Nieman had help from his son and Assistant GM. Harry. Roland mentioned his annual awards and gave one out to Ed. I handed out the World Series Plaque to Norwich Mgr. Don Decker. Mike Holbrooks American League Championship plaque had been mailed to him. March – 2016 continued - This year we also gave Jeff “Merk” Merklin a Lifetime Achievement award for our appreciation of what he has done and what he does for the FBN. Before the first pick of the draft was taken we started the game of Let it Ride. Taxachusetts, Maine, Hazardville, USJarheads and Illinois were the teams that were all drawn. There was \$12 left over from paying the bill on Saturday night and Dean donated it to the Let it Ride game. So, there was \$112 in the hat. The lucky winner was Maine. Barry said it was the second time he's won some money from the draft day games. Congrat's! The first pick of the draft at 11am was not a surprise, Carlos Correa. The draft was completed around 3:50 in the afternoon when Hart Street made the last pick of the draft, number 196. I wrote a team article this month. Three trades announced.

April 2016 – By the April 1st newsletter most teams had played about 16 games. In the American League the top five teams were Hotlanta and Arsenal at started 13-3. Then it was California, Lake Wobegon and Baton Rouge. While Nashville started 2-6 and was in last place by percentage points. We had in the top five in the National League Norwich at 16-4. Burlington was in second with Wall Street, Maine next. Plus, Taxachusetts, USJarheads and Allyn Street all tied for 5th. In the hunt for Basement Bertha's affections, Hart Street had wrapped up the Basement Bertha Award by the April 15th newsletter by playing their “best” baseball at a .250 clip. No one was going to “catch” the Hog's. Bill, Merk and I had team articles. Four trades were announced.

May 2016 – First No-hitter of the year! New England Angels pitching staff gave the fans an evening that they'll never forget by tossing a combined no-hitter! The tension started to build around the 6th inning. By the 9th inning the crowd was electrified as the New England mowed down 8 Norwich batters. The victory was credited to Corey Kluber (3-2) who went 5 and 2/3 innings. “This was the 4th no hitter in Angels history, and the 1st by a combination of pitchers”, said Mgr. Bruce Fogg.

Navigators..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 0 1

Angels..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 x - 1 6 0

In the pennant races it was Hotlanta, Arsenal, California, Milford and Nashville. In the NL it was Norwich, USJarheads Allyn Street, Wall Street and Taxachusetts. This month we had more team articles. They came from Dave, Bud and Mike. Two trades announced. June 2016 – Top five in the AL it was Hotlanta, Arsenal, California, Nashville and Milford. In the NL it was Norwich, Allyn Street, USJarheads and Illinois. Plus, Klees and Wall Street tied for 5th. Team articles from Frank and Dave. Four trades announced.

July 2016 – July is dues month. We do this so we know in advance if we need to fill a position. Again, all 24 members are turning for another season. In the AL the playoff bound teams had been settle. After Hotlanta, Milford, Nashville, Arsenal and California the 6th place team Lake Wobegon was already 9 games back of a playoff spot. The NL was a different story. After Norwich, Allyn Street, USJarheads, Burlington and Illinois the 9th place team, Hazardville was only 5 games back of a playoff spot. July is also our All-Star team voting month. Team articles from Dave and Merk. Three trades announced.

August 2016 – **American League All-Stars voted by 11 AL Members by position and points.**

Starting Team - DH: N.Cruz HT 55, Ca: N.Hundley NA 33, 1B: J;Votto CD 44, 2B: M.Duffy HT 35, 3B: M.Carpenter AG 39, SS: C.Correa MD 26, OF: B.Harper AG 50, LCain MA 32, M.Betts MD 34. SP: D.Keuchel LW 47, N.Syndergaard JC 46, J.deGrom MD 44. RP: H.Rondon HT 28, L.Gregerson CD 27, E.Scribner BR 25.

Second team: DH: F.Fielder HT 24, Ca: R.Martin BR 24, 1B: A.Risso BR 30, 2B: J.Kipnis CD 33, 3B: A.Beltre HT 30, SS: D.Gregorius UR 21, OF: B.Zobrist CD 21, C.Yelich LW 19, K.Schwarzer 17. SP: H.Iwakuma HT 32 , M.Leake NA 23, W.Miley HT 21. RP: K.Jansen HT 23, B.Cecil AG 21, S.Tolleson NA (17).

National League All-Stars voted by 11 NL Members by position and points.

Starting Team - DH: E.Encarnacion US 37, Ca: B.Posey IL 45, 1B: M.Cabrera TX 45, 2B: D.Gordon MY 53, 3B: J.Donaldson HZ 43, SS: E.Escobar AS 43, OF: M.Trout US 55, AJ.Pollock AS 35, E.Inciate IL 27, SP: C.Kershaw NN 50, J.Arrieta IL 41, M.Scherzer WS 33, M. Bumgarner KK 33, RP: M.Melancon AS 48, B.Ziegler US and W.Davis NN 39.

Second team: DH: A.Rodriguez MY 21, Ca: S.Vogt NE 24, 1B: P.Goldschmidt US 40, 2B: B.Phillips TX 29, 3B: N.Arenado KK 29, SS: J.Reyes CT 23, OF: J.Bautista NN 26, C.Choo NN 21, C.Granderson US 20, SP: J.Quintana MY 23, M.Harvey US 17. RP: A.Chapman NE 33, M.McGee CT 18, J.Familia IL 17.*note – We had an AL member cast votes for some NL players and a NL member casting votes for AL players. Those votes were discarded.

The pennant races – AL – Milford, Nashville, California, Hotlanta and Arsenal. NL – Norwich, Allyn Street, USJarheads, Burlington and Illinois with Hazardville and Klees one game back tied for 6th place. Two trades announced.

Bud and Glen had team articles. Glen’s really was about his job change. Merk was wondering if we may have to add some sort of insider trading rules like the Security Exchange Commission uses. Glen may now possess too much insider information for our league. His Glen’s note to Merk. “Merk, I’m leaving ESPN this upcoming Friday. Was a great 3+ year experience.....An opportunity I could not refuse. MLB Advanced Media in NYC (they made it difficult to say no). Therefore, next time visiting the northeast, plan on touring both ESPN & MLB. During the interview (5+ hours), they brought me into the room where the umps overturn calls, among other cool areas. Great technology platform, and flippin' baseball. One of the perks is a ballpark pass for me and a guest to any park/game.” Wow nice “job”!

September 2016 – The pennant races – AL – Nashville, Milford, California, Hotlanta and Arsenal. NL – Norwich, Allyn Street, USJarheads, Hazardville and Klee’s. Two team articles this month, Dave and me. Eight trades announced.

October 2016 – The pennant races – AL – Nashville, Milford, California, Arsenal and Hotlanta finish 1-5. In the NL it was Norwich, USJarheads, Allyn Street, Hazardville with Burlington and Klee’s finishing in a tie for 5th.

AMERICIAN LEAGUE

	Won	Lost	Pct.
1. Nashville	107	55	.660
2. Milford	106	56	.654
3. California	104	58	.642
4. Arsenal	100	62	.617
5. Hotlanta	97	65	.599
6. Baton Rouge	84	78	.519
7. Lake Wobegon	73	89	.451
8. Louisville	70	92	.432
9. Yorktown	68	94	.420
10. Johns’s Creek	62	100	.383
11. Urpaig	61	101	.377
12. Hart Street	34	128	.210

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	Won	Lost	Pct.
1. Norwich	113	49	.698
2. US Jarheads	91	71	.562
3. Allyn Street	90	72	.556
4. Hazardville	86	76	.531
5. Klee’s*	85	78	.521
6. Burlington*	84	79	.515
7. New England	80	82	.494
8. Illinois	79	83	.488
9. Taxachusetts	70	92	.432
10. Wall Street	69	93	.426
11. Connecticut	68	94	.420
12. Maine	64	98	.395

*In the one game playoff Burlington lead 4-1 to the 9th when Klee’s came roaring back with 5 runs in the top of the 9th and went on to defeat Burlington 6-4 to move into the Wild Card Series with Hazardville. Two team articles, Dave and Bud. Four trades announced.

National League Wild Card Series 2016 Game 1, M.Bumgarner vs D.Price – Klee’s takes a 1 game lead.

KK 0 3 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 4 14 0

HZ 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 5 0 W-Bumgarner S-Harris L-Price

HR-Van Slyke, Teixeira

Game 2, C.Hamels vs R.Ray Manager Figella shows his hand of pitching as many lefties as possible versus Klee’s and it pays off..

Series tied 1-1.

KK 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 0

HZ 0 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 - 3 6 1 W-Ray S-Robertson L-Hamels HR-Jones, Andrus

Game 3, T.Walker vs J.Lackey.

HZ 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 - 3 5 0

KK 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 3 1 W-Robertson L-Rodriguez HR-Fowler, Pence. Hazardville leads the series 2-1.

Game 4, D.Price vs M.Bumgarner. Hazardville takes a 3-1 lead in the series.

HZ 3 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 6 12 1

KK 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 - 2 4 1 W-Price L-Bumgarner HR-Andrus, Jones, Montero

Game 5, C.Martinez vs C.Hamels It’s do or die time for Klee’s and the game starts with the bats hot for both teams. Klubbers 9-6 victory tightens the series to 3-2 Hazardville.

HZ 2 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 - 6 12 4

KK 2 4 0 0 3 0 0 0 x - 9 12 0 W-Hamels L-Martinez HR-Donaldson, Arenado-2, Belt

Game 6 J.Lackey vs R.Ray There have been a bunch of injuries this series, mainly by Klee’s. Klee’s tie the series at 3 games apiece.

KK 2 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 - 4 10 0

HZ 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 7 1 W-Colon S-Harris L-Ray HR-Fowler

Game 7 M.Bumgarner vs D.Price In a rematch of game 1 and 4 starters the Powderkegs win the game 6-5 and the series 4-3.

KK 0 0 1 0 0 4 0 0 0 0 - 5 8 0

HZ 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 4 0 1 - 6 12 0 W-Chafin L-Harris HR-Belt, Gutierrez

Congratulations to Roland on a fine series and a nice season. You came back from down 3-1 and had a 5-0 lead in the 7th inning of game 5. That’s pretty good. It really was a great series. The injuries really hampered you in the series. Up next Hazardville will take on the jugger-naught that is Norwich

Four trades announced.

November 2016 - **American League Wild Card Series Arsenal vs. Hotlanta**

Game #1 Young vs. Miller

Possums..... 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 0 0 - 5 8 1

Gunners..... 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 3 - 6 11 2 WP: Perez LP: Watson SV: none AG HR; Stanton, Carpenter, Harper HP HR: none Arsenal leads series 1-0

Game #2 Iwakuma vs. Ramirez

Possums..... 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 2 7 0

Gunners..... 3 1 0 0 4 2 0 1 - 11 13 1 WP: Worley LP: Iwakuma SV: none AG HR: Carpenter, Harper HP HR: none Arsenal leads series 2-0

Game #3 Pineda vs. Miley

Gunners..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 5 0

Possums..... 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 2 6 0 WP: Kimbrel LP: Pineda SV: Britton HR: none Arsenal leads series 2-1

Game #4, Miller vs.Despaigne

Gunners..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 5 0

Possums..... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 - 3 8 0 WP: O’Day LP: S. Miller SV: Jansen HR: none In another pitcher’s duel Hotlanta beat Arsenal to tie the series at 2-2

Game #5 Perez vs. Young

Gunners..... 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 3 4 1

Possums..... 0 4 0 4 0 0 2 4 - 14 18 1 WP: Betances LP: Perez SV: none AG HR: Harper HP HR: Ruf, Cabrera Hotlanta leads series 3-2.

Game #6 Iwakuma vs. Ramirez

Possums..... 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 4 12 0

Gunners..... 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 8 1 WP: Jansen LP: Worley SV: none AG HR: Carpenter HP GR: none Hotlanta wins the series 4-2.

Summary Congratulations to Dean on a great year and great series.....Also, thanks to Dean for traveling up to Duluth to play FTF. Sorry my team mascot growled at you. I told you she wouldn't bite you. LOL

2016 National League first Final Four Series Hazardville vs. Norwich

Game One- Walker vs Kershaw

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 - 2 8 0

Navigators..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 x - 4 7 1

Game Two- Martinez vs Salazar

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 - 3 7 1

Navigators..... 0 1 1 4 0 0 0 2 x - 8 14 0

Game Three- Samardzja vs Price The Powderkegs looked at their expansive home field, and said "this is what a ballpark is supposed to be like"!

Navigators..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 1 4 0

Powderkegs..... 0 0 1 2 1 0 0 0 - 4 11 0

Game Four- Kershaw vs Ray A battle of lefties

Navigators..... 1 2 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 - 5 10 0

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 7 1

Game Five- Cueto vs Walker With their backs to the wall, Taijuan Walker came up "Aces" vs the Navigators!

Navigators..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 7 0

Powderkegs..... 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 - 4 8 1

Game Six- Price vs Salazar Both pitchers looked good in earlier showings, and the wind was neutral at Garmin Park. Norwich answered back closed out the series with a 9-4.

Powderkegs..... 3 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 4 7 0

Navigators..... 2 0 0 0 0 6 1 0 x - 9 11 1

Bob was class throughout the 6th inning debacle, and the entire series. The games were via netplay, without a single in-game freeze! I thought it would be a tough matchup, and it most certainly was! Norwich awaits the winner of AS and those lovable Jarheads... Best, Don D.

American League first Final Four Series California vs. Milford

Game 1

Dreamers..... 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 4 10 0

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 - 2 5 0 W: Estrada (1-0), S: Uehara (1), L: Greinke (0-1) HR: Susac (1), Conforto (1)

Game 2 - Series: CD leads series 1-0

Dreamers..... 1 1 0 1 0 3 0 0 0 - 6 10 1

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 1 0 W: Liriano (1-0), L: deGrom (0-1) HR: Votto (1), Colabello 2 (2).

Game 3 - Series: CD leads series 2-0

Dogfish..... 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 1 5 - 10 13 0

Dreamers..... 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 - 5 12 1 W: Cole (1-0), L: Milone (0-1) HR: Correa (1), K. Morales (1), Headley (1)

Game 4 - Series: CD leads series 2-1

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 7 0

Dreamers..... 0 1 0 2 5 0 1 0 - 9 10 0 W: Hahn (1-0), L: Greinke (0-2) HR: K. Morales 2 (3), Byrd (1)

Game 5 - Series: CD leads series 3-1

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 - 2 5 0

Dreamers..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 4 0 W: Strickland (1-0), S: Fr. Rodriguez, L: Uehara (0-1)

Game 6 - Series: CD leads series 3-2

Dreamers..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 0 1 0 - 4 8 0

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 1 1 - 5 13 0 W: G. Cole (2-0), L: Soria (0-1) HR: Sano (1), Grandal 2 (2)

Game 7 - Series: series tied, 3-3

Dreamers..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 1 0

Dogfish..... 0 0 5 1 0 0 0 0 - 6 8 2 W: Greinke (1-2), Buchholz (0-1) HR: Sano (2), Bird (1).

Milford wins the Series 4-3. Summary Congratulations to Frank. Great regular season posting 104 wins.

This series could have easily swung in his favor. Games 5 and 6 were nail biters...I got lucky. Thanks, and good luck to the remaining playoff teams! -Glen

2016 National League Second Final Four Series Allyn Street vs. US Jarheads Long time cross river rivals (29 years) meet for the first time in the playoffs.

Gm 1 Warren vs Harvey at Kate Elizabeth Park

The 89ERSwin game 1 7-6 in come from behind fashion. WP Kontos LP Dyson Save: Melancon HR None

Gm 2 Bauer vs Gallardo The Jarheads even the series 1-1 with the 8-4 win. WP Gallardo LP Bauer HR USJ Trout 2 (2) AS Rosario 1

Gm 3 Weaver vs Shoemaker Series moves to The School. USJ wins 5-4 to go up 2-1 in the series. WP Weaver LP Shoemaker Save: Ziegler HR USJ Encarnacion AS Pollock

Gm 4 S Wright vs Elias 89ERS down 8-2 to the 9th and the Jarheads hang on for an 8-6 win and a 3-2 series lead. WP Harvey LP

Warren Save: Ziegler HR USJ Walker, Encarnacion AS Smoak, Pierzynski The Series moves back to Kate Elizabeth Park.

Gm 6 Bauer vs Gallardo 89ers up 4-1 to the bottom of the 7th when the Jarheads came storming back to win 7-4. WP Avilan LP Eickhoff Save: Ziegler HR USJ Encarnacion, Granderson. US Jarheads win the series in 6 games....setting up a rematch of last years

NL Championship Series vs The Norwich Navigators Series MVP Edwin Encarnacion. Edwin hit .455 on 10-22, with 2 Doubles, 3 HR, 5 RBI and 8 Runs scored. USJ ERA 4.83..... BP ERA 5.51 USJ BA .262 AS out hit USJ 60-54, but USJ out HR AS 7-5.

Congratulations to Rob for a great season. The 89ers, were picked for last place in many esteemed journals, but started the season playing winning baseball. Sooner or later it seemed they should fall by the wayside, but Casey and the boys would have none of it as they battled all season for a 3rd place finish with 90 wins.

American League Second Final Four Series Hotlanta vs. Nashville

Game 1 Max Scherzer and Chris (Cy) Young.

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 - 2 6 0

Assassins..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 4 1 WP-Rondon (1-0) LP Lopez (0-1) SV. HR—Cruz, Ruf . Hotlanta leads series 1-0

Game 2 Justin Verlander vs. Miley

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 5 1

Assassins..... 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 3 6 0 WP-Verlander (1-0) LP-Miley (0-1) SV-Tolleson (1) HR-Bryant Hotlanta and Nashville tied at 1.

Game 3 Game three in Hotlanta Mike Leake vs. Iwakuma

Assassins..... 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 0 0 - 3 9 1

Possums..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 6 1 WP-Leake (1-0) LP-Iwakuma (0-1) SV-Tolleson (2) Nashville leads 2-1.

Game 4 Where or where did the offense go?

Assassins..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 4 0

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0 x - 3 5 0 WP-O'Day(1-0) LP-Scherzer(0-1) S-Janzen (1) HR-Tucker Hotlanta and Nashville tied at 2.

Game 5 The bright spot for the Assassins was scoring 2 runs off the Possum pen in the ninth to end the scoreless streak at 21.

Assassins..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 - 2 4 0

Possums..... 1 0 3 2 0 1 0 0 - 7 10 0 WP-C. Young (1-0) LP-Hendricks (0-1) HR-Fielder (1) Hotlanta leads series 3-2

Game 6 Nashville spent the day off in the batting cage taking 250 swings each...

Possums..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 9 0

Assassins..... 1 1 0 1 7 0 1 0 - 11 13 0 WP-Verlander (2-0) LP-Miley (0-2) Homeruns—Cruz (2) Bryant (2) Coughlan (1) Series tied at 3

Game 7 With a series dominated by great pitching, game 7 proved to be the best one of the bunch.

Possums..... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 5 0

Assassins..... 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 x - 2 3 0 WP-Scherzer (1-1) LP-Iwakuma (0-2) S-Tolleson (3) Homeruns—Murphy (1) Bryant (3)

Nashville wins series 4-3.

2016 National League Championship Series – US Jarheads vs. Norwich A rematch of the 2015 NLCS.

Game 1 Harvey vs Kershaw. Norwich wins the opener 6-3.

USJ 3 8 2

NN 6 6 0 WP Kershaw LP Harvey Save: W Davis HR NN C Davis, Ortiz

Game 2 Weaver vs Cueto Norwich wins 6-4 and goes up 2-0 in the Series.

USJ 4 9 1

NN 6 10 0 WP Cueto LP Weaver Save: W Davis 2 HR NN Dozier, Prado The Series moves to Kate Elizabeth Park

Game 3 Samardja vs Gallardo. The Gators win 3-2 and take a 3-0 lead in the series.

NN 3 8 1

USJ 2 9 1 WP Samardja LP Gallardo Save: Manship HR NONE

Game 4 Kershaw vs Wright Jarheads facing elimination win game 4 5-4 to avoid the 4 game sweep

NN 4 7 0

USJ 5 7 0 WP Villanueva LP Kershaw Save: Ziegler HR NN Dozier USJ Trout

Game 5 Cueto vs Harvey. The Jarheads stay alive with a 6-2 win to trail in the series 3-2.

NN 2 7 0

USJ 6 12 1 WP Harvey LP Cueto Save: NONE HR USJ Granderson, N Walker, C Asche

The Series moves back to Garmin Park with Norwich up 3-2.

Game 6 Weaver vs Salazar. With a 9-7 win the Jarheads come back from 0-3 to tie the series and force a game 7.

USJ 9 14 0

NN 7 13 1 WP Jepsen LP Salazar Save: Ziegler HR USJ Goldschmidt, Encarnacion (4), Trout, Smith NN Bautista (3), Dozier

Game 7 Gallardo vs Kershaw. The Jarheads come all the way back from 0-3 to win the National League Pennant and advance to the 2016 FBN World Series for the 2nd time in 3 years.

USJ 9 10 1

NN 4 2 2 WP Gallardo LP Kershaw Save: NONE HR USJ Trout, Asche GS NN Dozier, Moustakas

Series MVP CO-Winners Edwin Encarnacion 11-27 .407 D 4HR 5RBI 8 Runs Cody Asche 9-25 .360 2D 2T 2HR 7RBI

Congratulations to Don on building a great team and amassing an FBN leading 113 wins. And i want to thank him for dusting off his seldom used dice and making the time to be able to play the series FTF. The Jarheads certainly can feel for Don, as this time last year the Gators came back from 0-3 to knock off The Jarheads and continue on their way to The 2015 FBN World Series Championship.

2016 American League Championship Series – Milford vs. Nashville

Game 1 Dogfish..... 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 5 9 0

Assassins..... 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 - 3 8 0 W: Cole (1-0), S: Rodriguez (1), L: Leake (0-1) HR: Sano (1), Correa (1), Puig (1), Kang (1), Cruz (1), Bryant (1)

Game 2: MD Leads 1-0

Dogfish..... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 4 0

Assassins..... 0 2 0 0 2 0 1 0 x - 5 7 0 W: Kazmir (1-0), L: Archer (0-1) HR: Heyward (1), Cruz (2), Cain (1)

Game 3: Series Tied, 1-1

Assassins..... 2 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 - 6 12 1

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 0 W: Scherzer (1-0) , L: Greinke (0-1) HR: Kang (2), Lind (1). Scherzer, when asked about his 11 strikeout performance noted, 'The important thing is that we won, if I get 20 and we lose, what good does it do our team? But, on the other hand, since we won it feels great!'

Game 4: Nashville Leads, 2-1

Assassins.....0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 6 0

Dogfish..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 2 4 1 W: Smith (1-0), Tolleson (0-1) HR: Grandal (1) In an exciting finish the Milford Dogfish pulled out a win at Silver Sands Park.

Game 5: Series Tied, 2-2

Assassins.... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 9 0

Dogfish..... 3 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 - 5 10 1 W: Cole (2-0), L: Leake (0-2) Milford jumped out early.

Game 6: Milford Leads, 3-2

Dogfish..... 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 3 7 0

Assassins.... 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 2 6 0 W: deGrom (1-0), Scherzer (1-1) HR: Bird (1), Grandal (2). Milford won the game with a run in the top of the 9th inning. Grandal cracked a solo homerun. Milford Wins the Series, 4 - 2. Summary Congratulations to Doug, he pulled together a great roster, managed extremely well throughout the season and in this series, which easily could have gone his way. Milford is off to its 7th World Series appearance in franchise history, seeking a 5th championship. On offense, Y. Grandal once again came up big, hitting a game winning HR in the top of the 9th in game 6...his 4th HR of the post season...and I traded this guy????

Gerrit Cole was huge in this series allowing only 2 earned runs in 15 innings, earning his 4th 2016 post season victory. Thanks, Glen

2016 The World Series: National League Champions US Jarheads vs. American League Champions Milford Dogfish. Game 1

Jarheads..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 4 2

Dogfish..... 4 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 5 7 0 W: deGrom (1-0), LP: Harvey: (0-1) HR: C.Asche, J.Heyward, M.Conforto, C.Correa Michael. Bill & Harry Nieman lamented, deGrom was really aggressive today. He kept coming after our hitters. Heck, why not. he kept sitting our guys down one after another - like so many bowling pins!"

Game 2: Milford Leads, 1-0

Jarheads..... 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 4 7 0

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 5 5 2 0 0 - 12 12 0 W: Greinke, L: K. Herrera HR: M.Trout, E.Encarnacion, Y.Puig, G.Bird 2(2) Zack Greinke struck out 12 and Greg Bird launched 2 homeruns and had 5 RBI as the Milford Dogfish go up 2 game to none.

Game 3:

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 3 2 0 0 0 - 5 11 1

Jarheads..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 3 1 W: Cole, L: Gallardo HR: Trout. Gerrit Cole 4-0 in the playoffs had an impressive outing pitching 7 innings and allowing 1 run for the win.

Game 4: Milford Leads, 3-0

Dogfish..... 0 0 1 3 0 3 0 1 2 - 10 13 1

Jarheads..... 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 - 3 9 1 W: Ca. Smith, L: S: Wright HR: E.Encarnacion (2), R.Perez.

Justin Turner had 4 hits and 3 RBI as the Milford Dogfish beat the US Jarheads by a score of 10 to 3. Milford Wins the Series, 4-0. Summary Congratulations to Bill on another great run. Coming into the series Dogfish management was very concerned about the Jarhead offensive attack, and Bill's expert tactical skills, armed with an armada of relief pitchers. As a franchise, this is the 5th championship in 7 World Series appearances. Milford hit .314 in the series, while holding the Jarheads to a .177 team batting average. Milford outscored USJ 43 to 9. Both teams hit 6 homeruns. Milford pitching struckout 49, walking only 5. The 5 walks were key to the Milford victory, minimizing damage from the vaunted Jarhead power. Conversely, Jarhead pitching issued 26 walks, striking out only 21.

Tough call on World Series MVP since we had to shuffle ABs so often in the series. Came down to J. Turner, M. Betts, Y. Puig, G. Cole, J. deGrom, Carson Smith. In a close call, World Series MVP goes to M. Betts. Mookie batted 0.429, while drawing 5 walks.

Thanks to my playoffs opponents for taking time out of their Saturday mornings to play these playoff games. Moreover, thanks to everyone for another enjoyable season! A week, or so ago, Rob congratulated me on a series win, I responded by stating the FBN continues to be a wonderful diversion from the daily grind. Next up, let's draft!!!! Be well, Glen

15 trades announced.

December 2016 – December is voting month. We only had four items on the ballot besides voting for commissioner and league presidents. Here are the results. League Officer's. Commissioner – Rob Bruno, American League President – Jeff Merklin and National League President – Bob Figella.

4a. I vote to conduct a temporary trial of the SOM new Super Advanced injury chart failed 9-15 to keep our present chart.

5a. Change our Super Majority rule to include an exception. Items that pass or fail must stand for two (2) seasons. If an item goes on the ballot under two season it must receive a super majority vote of all the league members (16 or more votes) to pass. Exception: If there is a change to the S-O-M rules or charts than an item can be put back on the ballot with less than a two year waiting period and the item will only need a majority vote to pass. This passed 16-8.

6. A vote to use new roster sizes was not needed since MLB and the MLBPA voted to keep roster sizes at 25/40.

Note on league award voting. Again this year we had members from each league voting for members and players in the other league. Those votes were discarded. In the American League we had two exciting races. The first was for Rookie of the Year as C.Correa nosed out Bryant by just 2 points. The second was for Manager of the Year as Doug beat out Glen by the same margin, 2 points. In the National League Mike Trout missed out by just one first place vote of being a unanimous MVP winner. An as in the American League we had a great race for Manager of the Year. As I nosed out (thank goodness for my Italian nose ☺) Bill by just 2 points.

AMERICAN LEAGUE AWARDS

MVP: N. Cruz, Nashville (84)

CY YOUNG: M. Scherzer, Nashville (86)

ROOKIE: C. Correa, Milford (50)

MGR: Doug Campbell, Nashville (60)

GM: Glenn Boucher, Milford (94)

NATIONAL LEAGUE AWARDS

MVP: M. Trout, US Jarheads (130)

CY YOUNG: C. Kershaw, Norwich (108)

ROOKIE: S.Wright, US Jarheads and W.Harris, Klee's (32)

MGR: Rob Bruno, Allyn Street (62)

GM: Bill & Harry Nieman US Jarheads (60)

Others receiving votes: **AL** - MGR. – Glen (58), Frank(28) and JimJ.(10). GM – Doug(48), Frank(32).

NL - MGR. Bill (60), Don(28), Bob F. and Bob M.(16). GM – Don (48), Rob (32), Bob F.(30), Larry(12), Bud(10) and Dave(6).

TEAMS CHANGING LOCATIONS: Hart Street Hog's moved with Ed to New Hampshire. Vic moved his team to Alpharetta.

2017 First Round: 1.NH. 2.UR. 3.AA. 4.MY. 5.CT*. 6.YA. 7.WS. 8.TX*. 9.LV. 10.LW. 11.IL. 12.NE. 13.BB. 14.BR. 15.KK. 16.HZ. 17.AS. 18.US. 19.HT. 20. CD. 21. MD. 22.NA. 23. NN. 24.NH *Tie breaker team with better away record. **AG would have been 20. But, with 29 –BP's added to each round except 4th which was traded earlier his first draft pick should be around 49.

Bob Figella and I worked on the 2017 team schedules before the holidays and he put them on our website. We had another good year.

Six trades announced. That made it 54 trades in 2016, four less than 2015 but that's 102 in two years. We do like to make trades!

2017 Season. The best of times. The worst of times. by Rob Bruno. For complete information go to our website and review the newsletters and team articles.

The best of times. As we start to prepare for our 2017 season I predicted that it would be a very competitive season. I based it on that last year we had five teams win 100 or more games and that we only three teams lose 100 or more games. Each league had 6 teams with winning records and 6 teams with losing records. 2016 was one of our most competitive seasons and I think 2017 will be just as good.

Bob F. had everything ready for us to draft. 700 protected players so we would draft 188 players. The available list was done and all we had to do was wait for cards and draft day. Speaking of the cards here's a report on opening day.

Opening Day Trip – By Bill Nieman

Got up at 5:30 am to shovel out the town's snowplow attack on my driveway entrance. My normal 65, minute drive from Waterford to Surf Ave commuter lot took an hour and a half. Bob and Roland suffered a similar southward trek and arrived @ 8:15 at the lot @ 1/2 hour later than normal. With Bob at the wheel skillfully dealing with snow traffic, we arrived in stratoland at 10:20, an hour later than usual but it didn't make much difference in line position as everyone else was dealing with the snowy travel conditions.

Sunny and no wind made the temps very bearable for the wait till the 12 noon door opening. Two donut sorties from strato management went smoothly as Roland actually waited his turn and didn't resort to rolling blocks to clear a path to the goodies. Two little kids followed the donut procession handing out napkins and as usually Roland went without, preferring the use of his jacket sleeve.

The doors opened promptly at noon and by 12:15 we were on the road again with our cards, 5 sets into the trunk and Roland's set opened up and in his lap....and as he perused his wishful thinking began. Bob navigated the way back to Surf Ave. flawlessly, sans input from his mentally AWOL "shotgun" rider. With clear roads now, my trip to Waterford was a normal 65 min. and at 3 pm I was walking in the door.

After a short rest and an in and out visit from Rob B, picking up his cards... we got to work. With Harry and Karen enlisted, short work was made of the card set. First The US Jarheads were assembled, then Pitchers and Hitters were separated and alphabetized by 6:30 pm and ready for team placement first thing tomorrow AM.

Draft Day: After stopping at Dunkin Donuts for 75 Munckin's I arrived at the Quality Inn around 8:30am. As I was getting out of my car I was greeted by Glen in the parking lot. He was on his phone with Roland, who was stopping to buy breakfast sandwiches for them. As we were talking Don pulled into the lot and before you could say Fly-By-Night we were in the meeting room rearranged the tables.

Just before the start of the draft I awarded the league plaques to Norwich, Don Decker, US Jarheads, Bill Nieman and to the World Champions Milford Dogfish, Glen Boucher. I had already mailed Doug his Nashville award earlier in the month. Roland then gave out his two awards. The Eddie Ballgame Award (worst first round pick of the 2012 Draft) went to Glen for his selection of Brett Lawrie instead of Mike Trout! The Willie Sutton Award for the best pick of the 2012 Draft regardless of the round went to Mike Holbrook for his selection of D.J. LeMahieu in the 8th round.

The draft started at 11am. Ed had the 1st and 2nd picks. He drafted Michael Fulmer number 1. "I just couldn't draft a hated Yankee with the 1st pick overall", said Ed as he pulled out a Gary Sanchez Bobble Head Doll as he made his second selection. Very creative. I don't know about the on line members but the 12 members at draft central were very surprised that Trevor Story lasted to number 16! The draft continued to about 4pm with Dean drafting Mark Teixeira last at number 189.

12 members were in person and 12 members were on line. Glen ran the on line part of the draft and did a great job. By 9pm Bob Figella had the draft results and the Waiver Wire Available Players list on line. Another successful draft day by the FBNBBA members.

To Shift or not to Shift: Strat came out with the shift rule and we voted not to use it by a 23-1 vote!

INSIDE THE FBN by Ed Griffin:

National League: I'm still not sure how the Jarheads took down Norwich last year to make it to the WS. It was an amazing job by Bill. The Navigators were a juggernaut. Just goes to show you never know what might happen if you can just get to the playoffs. This year's version of the Navigators is starting to show some age. Not as good as last year's version. In fact, I believe that the Powder Kegs should take over the top spot. The Kegs have a deep lineup led in the middle by Josh Donaldson. No weak spots in their lineup with some solid bats on the bench. The rotation is solid, if lacking a top of line stopper. There are couple of guys like Rodon and Walker that would be starting on almost every other team that will likely be sitting in the minors most of the year. Picking up Jones, Schugel and Ryan in the draft finished out the team with a very good bullpen. Excellent defense... will be tough to beat.

Norwich is still excellent, but with a few holes they didn't have last year. The lineup is a bit top heavy led by Big Poppi's swan song. CF is a bit weak and Escobar, while a "1" at SS, can't hit. Lots of guys on the bench that can pinch hit though. Jordon Zimmerman's demise removed some length from the rotation and the pen is mediocre at best.

You can toss the Angels, Jarheads, Klubbers and 89ERS in a bag, shake them up and see where they end up. On paper the Klubbers are the best of the lot... solid lineup, good rotation (MadBum, Hamels, Lackey, Hammel, the ageless Colon) and decent pen. If they didn't historically underachieve I'd say they could contend for the top spot, but I will leave it to Glen to explain this enigma. Bruce once complained I always projected the Angels to come in last place. Last year I predicted they would make the playoffs and they didn't... embarrassingly beat out by the Klubbers! This year I have them 6th, but I'm giving them a chance to beat out the Klub, cause that's the kind of guy I am. Kluber and Strasburg top the rotation and Freeman, Seager, Blackmon are a group of solid and underrated middle of the lineup guys. The Jarheads will likely make the playoffs again based on the great trio of Trout/Goldy and Encarnacion, one good starter in Porcello, a couple of good relievers and a great manager. Based on what he gets out of his team every year I have to say Bill is the best manager in the league. The 89ERS shocked me last year by making the playoffs... fantastic managing job by Rob. They are a better team this year, so I have to put them in the top five. Lineup led by Cano and Martinez is not bad but they don't hit lefties well. Rotation and pen decent... Meloncon has turned into one of the more reliable closers. Who the hell is Jerad Eickhoff?! Illinois could also make a run at a playoff spot, but as I've said in the past... I don't think they can be taken seriously until come up with better road instructions. The Yaks could also make a run at the 5th spot but I think the back end of their rotation will be a problem. The Blue Devils are slightly better than last year but not a contender. Taxachusetts has one of the worst pitching staffs ever, with Burlington not far behind. Wall Street is in total rebuild mode.

American League: After years of the NL being better I think the AL has surpassed the NL in top to bottom quality. This season the AL is a little more top heavy. I would be surprised if the Bullets, Aces, Assassins and Hogs do not end up as the top four teams, not necessarily in that order, but the top four.

So the Alpharetta franchise has never lost less than 100 games in a season, so this is new ground. Finally, all of those losses have translated into a good roster. Votto was a nice pickup. Unfortunately, this will be it for the late Jose Fernandez, but with Thor and Tanaka the rotation should still be fine going forward. Nice one-two punch in the pen with Osuna and Oh. Anyhow, now we get to see if Vic can manage. After last season it appears Doug can, and we know that Mike is a good manager.

Baton Rouge looks to have the upper hand.... filled all of the holes during the draft with guys like Devenski and Bush. He also got some crazy years from guys like LeManhieu and Leon, and of course Rizzo will once again anchor the lineup. The Bullets have a solid starting rotation, an excellent pen led by Miller, and a good lineup. The defense is great with "1"s at SS, 2B and CF. Nashville probably has the league's best rotation (Verlander, Scherzer, Lester and Hendricks... not too shabby), but the lineup is too right handed and the pen is just so-so. Still, that rotation should carry them away. The Hogs are looking to pull another 100 loss to 100 win swing and it should be close. Typical Hog team with solid platoon lineup that has no serious weak spots. They are a little suspect on defense but have a solid rotation led by newly acquired Chris Sale and top draft pick Fulmer and a good pen. And of course the not so secret weapon Gary Sanchez.

If the top four are almost sure things, I'd drop defending champs Milford in as close to a lock for 5th. However, they have a huge hole at 2B (4e24 and 4e41?... yikes) and a crappy pen, so I could see Lake Wobegon for York Town putting a little pressure on them. I'd even give Louisville an outside shot, but I'm skeptical after they underachieved last season. The Whippets have a really good young lineup led by Lindor, Springer and Yelich. However, in spite of drafting Straily they have very little pitching. Yorktown is similar, sans the young starting lineup.... but they can still hit. Drafted Maeda, but after that, again not much pitching. Louisville has some decent starting pitching, but a crap lineup after Altuve and Villar.

After that Arsenal, Hotlanta (still has a good pen) and Urpaign just don't have enough starting pitching. Also, all three can not hit right handed pitching... never a good thing. California is in tank mode and should battle Wall Street for the #1 pick.

Best of times. After 30 years of FBN play Jim J. and his Hotlanta team finally got their first no hitter. A.J. Griffin stymied California in a 1-0 pitcher's duel.

The worst of times. After the first block of the season we got shocking news. While jogging with friends Doug Campbell died of a massive heart attack. Doug was just 50 years old. We could not believe the news. The best comes though. The members got together and donate \$630 to Doug's widow, Joy. Joy sent us a thank you letter stating how thoughtful and how helpful the donation was to her as she would use it to help pay for a bench in the park where Doug usually would run. Doug was the 100th member that left the FBN, and the first member the FBN lost due to death during a season.

Best of times. We gave the team to former member, Dave Sanborn. Dave was excited to be back in the league. He sent out an email and expressed his gratitude. He took over the team starting in block 3.

Another NO-NO for HOTLANTA! Wade Miley threw the second no hitter of the year for Hotlanta. 30 years in the FBN without a no hitter and now Jim has himself two no-no's in half a season.

The worst of times. Before Dave played his second series he disappeared! He did not return any of my emails or return any of my phone calls. To this day I have no idea what happened to him. I took over the team. 101st to leave.

Best of times. Allan Kaufman came highly recommended. I spook with Allan and awarded him the Nashville team. With 43% of the season over we decided I would run the team by Computer Manager and that Allan would take over the team at the end of the season.

Best of times. Mike and his Baton Rouge team gets a no hitter in their last series of the year. The third no hitter of the season. The season continues without any additional surprises or problems. To show how the league and membership have matured, Nashville finished the season in 5th place and made the post season. This was a very good team but with it playing its home and away games by CM only, well I must tip my hat to the membership, nice job.

Final 2017 Standings:

AMERICAN LEAGUE								
place	Team	W	L	pct	gb	home	away	last update
1	Alpharetta Aces	107	55	.660	----	51-30	56-25	Final
2	Baton Rouge Silver Bullets	105	57	.648	2	49-32	56-25	Final
3	New Hampshire Hogs	98	64	.605	9	53-28	45-36	Final
4	Milford Dogfish	94	68	.580	13	53-28	41-40	Final
5	Nashville Assassins	88	74	.543	19	47-34	41-40	Final
6	Lake Wobegon Whippets	83	79	.512	24	39-42	44-37	Final
7	Hotlanta Possums	78	84	.481	29	40-41	38-43	Final
8	Arsenal Gunners	73	89	.451	34	38-43	35-46	Final
9	Urpaign Dragons	71	91	.438	36	36-45	35-46	Final
10	Yorktown Admirals	64	98	.395	43	34-47	30-51	Final
11	Louisville River Bandits	55	107	.340	52	26-55	29-53	Final
12	California Dreamers	50	112	.309	57	28-53	22-59	Final

NATIONAL LEAGUE								
place	Team	W	L	pct	gb	home	away	last update
1	US Jarheads	109	53	.673	----	51-30	58-23	Final
2	Allyn Street 89ERS	105	57	.648	4	54-27	51-30	Final
3	Hazardville Powderkegs	103	59	.636	6	50-31	53-28	Final
4	New England Angels	93	69	.574	16	53-28	40-41	Final
5	Klee's Klubbers	86	76	.531	23	44-37	42-39	Final
6	Connecticut Blue Devils	84	78	.519	25	40-41	44-37	Final
7	Norwich Navigators	78	84	.481	31	40-41	38-43	Final
8	Maine Yaks	78	84	.481	31	44-37	34-47	Final
9	Illinois Prairie Dogs	71	91	.438	38	38-43	33-48	Final
10	Wall Street Barons	64	98	.395	45	31-50	33-48	Final
11	Burlington Buccaneers	57	105	.352	52	28-53	28-49	Final
12	Taxachusetts Chiefs	50	112	.309	59	26-55	24-57	Final

American League Wild Card Series Nashville vs. Milford

Game 1 NA 1-4-0 W- deGrom L – Scherzer
 MD 9-9-0 NA HR – Grichuk MD HR – Conforto, Polanco, Sano

Game 2 NA 7-12-0 W – Hendricks L - Archer
 MD 3- 6-0 MD HR – Puig 2

Game 3 MD 4- 9-2 W – Verlander L - Carrasco
 NA 6-12-0 MD HR – Villar NA HR – Drew

Game 4 MD 2-2-0 W – Scherzer Sv. Blevins L - Kinsler
 NA 3-6-0 NA HR – Kinsler, Franklin

Game 5 MD 2-6-0 W – Lester L - Diekman
 NA 3-9-2

Nashville moves onto the ALF4S against Alpharetta.

National League Wild Card Series Klees vs. New England

Game 1 KK 5-7-0 W – Hamels Sv. Harris L – Kluber
 NE 3-8-0 KK HR – Ortiz 2, Diaz

Game 2 KK 7-5-0 W – Bumgarner L – Strasburg
 NE 1-6-0 KK HR – Hill

Game 3 NE 4-9-0 W – Wainwright Sv. Chapman L – Colon
 KK 2-5-0 NE HR - Freeman, Seager, Fowler

Game 4 NE 5- 6-0 W – Hamels Sv. Logan L - Kluber
 KK 9-12-1

Game 5 NE 3- 9-0 W – Bumgarner L - Tomlin
 KK 10-11-0 KK HR – Ortiz 2 (4), Abreu, NE HR – Ross

Klee’s moves onto the NLF4S against US Jarheads.

American League Final 4 Series New Hampshire vs. Baton Rouge

Game 1
 Hogs..... 0 1 0 - 0 0 0 - 1 0 0 - 2 4 0 C.Sale WIN(1-0) C.Edwards Jr SAVE T.Roark LOSS
 Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 2 1 HOME RUNS- R.Braun

Game 2
 Hogs..... 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 1 - 1 5 0 C.Edwards Jr WIN H.Robles LOSS
 Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 - 0 4 0 HOME RUNS- B.Zobrist

Game 3
 Silver Bullets.. 0 0 0 - 1 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 1 5 0 L.Gregerson WIN H.Robles SAVE M.Estrada LOSS
 Hogs..... 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 3 1

Game 4
 Silver Bullets.. 0 0 1 - 1 2 0 - 0 1 0 - 5 10 0 T.Roark LOSS C.Sale WIN(2-0) R.Dull SAVE
 Hogs..... 1 0 4 - 0 0 1 - 0 4 x -10 13 2 HOME RUNS- B.Guyer, J.Kang, T.Jankowski, K.Vargas

Game 5
 Silver Bullets.. 0 0 1 - 0 0 0 - 1 0 0 - 2 3 1 C.Devenski LOSS S.Lugo WIN C.Edwards Jr SAVE (2)
 Hogs..... 0 2 0 - 0 0 1 - 0 0 x - 3 5 0 HOME RUNS- T.Tulowitzki

Hog’s move on to play in the ALCS.

National League Final 4 Series Klee’s Klubbers vs. US Jarheads

Game 1 C Hamels vs R Porcello

R H E
KK 000 000 200 2 5 0
USJ 000 010 30- 4 6 0 WP Avilan 1-0 LP Hamels 0-1 SV Britton 1. HR: USJ Grandal 1

Game 2 Bumgarner vs S Wright

R H E
KK 052 102 000 10 12 1
USJ 400 010 103 9 10 0 WP Bumgarner 1-0 LP S Wright 0-1 SV Harris 1. HR USJ Encarnacion 1, Trout 1 KK Ross 2
The Series moves to Jim Bouton Field tied 1-1

Game 3 Iwakuma vs B Colon

R H E
USJ 000 111 200 5 14 0
KK 100 000 001 2 9 0 WP Iwakuma 1-0 LP Colon 0-1 SV Britton 2. HR: USJ Trout 1(2)

Game 4 Porcello vs C Hamels

R H E
USJ 000 000 040 4 5 0
KK 000 000 010 1 4 2 WP Porcello 1-0 LP Hamels 0-2 SV Britton 3

Game 5 T Wilson vs Bumgarner Klubbers facing elimination

R H E
USJ 100 000 400 5 8 1
KK 411 200 00- 8 9 1 WP Bumgarner 2-0 LP Wilson 0-1 SV Harris 2. HR: USJ Smith 1.
HR: KK Markakis 1, Abreu 1, Ortiz 1

Back to Kate Elizabeth Park with USJ up 3-2 and The Klub still facing elimination.

Game 6 R Hill vs S Wright

R H E
KK 400 000 001 5 11 1
USJ 000 101 000 2 4 0 WP Hill 1-0 LP Wright 0-2 HR KK Aranado HR: USJ Walker 2

Game 7 C Hamels vs Porcello

R H E
KK 000 200 000 2 5 1 WP Porcello 2-0 LP Hamels 0-3. HR USJ Neil Walker 3,(5), Encarnacion 1,(2)
USJ 200 140 10- 8 11 0 HR KK Ortiz 1(2)

Jarheads move onto the NLCS.

American League Final 4 Series Nashville vs Alpharetta

Game #1 Scherzer vs. Arrieta
Assassins..... 0 0 3 - 0 0 1 - 0 0 0 - 4 4 1
Aces..... 0 2 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 2 5 1
Win:Verlander Loss:Arrieta Save:Salas
NA Homeruns- K.Bryant
AA Homeruns- J.Lamb

Game #2 Hendricks vs. Fernandez
Assassins..... 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 1 0 - 1 8 0
Aces..... 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 3 0
Win:Hendricks Loss:Fernandez

Game #3 Syndergaard vs. Lester
Aces..... 0 0 0 - 1 0 0 - 0 0 0 0 - 1 8 0
Assassins..... 1 0 0 - 0 0 0 - 0 0 0 1 - 2 7 0
Win:Lester Loss:Oh
NA Homeruns- I.Kinsler

Game #4 Arrieta vs. Scherzer

Aces..... 000-000-000 - 040
Assassins..... 311-012-01x - 9131
Win:Scherzer Loss:Arrieta
NA Homeruns- N.Cruz, I.Kinsler, N.Hundley

Nashville moves onto the ALCS.

National League Final 4 Series Hazardville vs. Allyn Street

Game 1

Powderkegs..... 002 000 000 - 260
89ERS..... 102 001 10x - 590
Eickhoff WIN Melancon SAVE Witgreen LOSS HOME RUNS- Gattis, Cano

Game 2

Powderkegs..... 000 004 000 - 490
89ERS..... 001 000 020 - 352
C.Rodon WIN N.Jones SAVE Guerra LOSS HOME RUNS- Soler, A.Jones

Game 3

89ERS..... 000 100 000 - 140
Powderkegs..... 010 001 01x - 3110
Teheran WIN Bauer LOSS HOME RUNS- J.D.Martinez

Game 4

89ERS..... 000 001 000 - 150
Powderkegs..... 113 000 10x - 6130
Aa.Sanchez WIN Eickhoff LOSS HOME RUNS- Donaldson

Game 5

89ERS..... 003 000 000 - 3100
Powderkegs..... 030 600 02x - 11140
Price WIN Sabathia LOSS HOME RUNS- Lucroy, F.Gutierrez

The Hazardville Powderkegs win 4 games to 1 and move to the NLCS versus the US Jarheads.

American League Championship Series Nashville vs New Hampshire

Game #1 Verlander vs. Sale

Assassins..... 203 000 110 - 7120
Hogs..... 000 011 000 - 290
Win: Verlander Loss: Sale NA Homeruns- I.Kinsler, M.Upton Jr NHH Homeruns- B.Zobrist, J.Kang

Game #2 Hendricks vs. Fulmer

Assassins..... 120 000 020 - 5120
Hogs..... 000 032 001 - 680
Win: Rondon Loss: Hendricks NA Homeruns- N.Hundley NHH Homeruns- T.Jankowski, T.Tulowitzki

Game #3 Estrada vs. Lester

Hogs..... 010 044 000 - 9100
Assassins..... 020 000 000 - 272
Win: Estrada Loss: Lester

Game #4 Sale vs. Verlander

Hogs..... 010 000 000 - 150
Assassins..... 120 000 00 - 391
Win: Verlander Loss: Sale NHH Homeruns- J.Kang

Game #5 Lugo vs. Scherzer

Hogs..... 000 000 010 0 - 150
Assassins..... 000 010 000 2 - 360
Win: Putnam Loss: Otero NA Homeruns- M.Zunino

H 196

Game #6 Hendricks vs. Fulmer

Assassins..... 210 010 000 - 4110

Hogs..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 - 3 8 0
Win: Hendricks Loss: Fulmer NHH Homeruns- G.Sanchez

Nashville wins series 4-2 and moves onto the World Series against the winner of the Hazardville, US Jarheads NLCS.

National League Championship Series Hazardville vs US Jarheads

Bob Figella and his Hazardville team travelled down picturesque route 2 and 11 to visit the Jarheads. The foliage looks great. How will the games turn out? Upon arriving Bill and Harry are ready to play ball. Two against one, oh no! Are we ready for this?

Game 1 J.Teheran vs H.Iwakuma

Powderkegs..... 0 1 0 3 2 0 0 0 1 - 7 10 0

Jarheads..... 0 0 0 3 2 1 0 0 2 - 8 9 0

L.Avilan WIN J. Teheran LOSS HOME RUNS- J.Lucroy, P.Goldschmidt, J.Donaldson

Game 2 C.Martinez vs M.Harvey

Powderkegs..... 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 - 4 15 0

Jarheads..... 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 - 3 9 0

C.Martinez WIN N.Jones SAVE S.Wright LOSS HOME RUNS- none

Game 3 R.Porcello vs Aa.Sanchez

Jarheads..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 7 0

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 3 3 0 1 0 x - 7 10 0

Aa.Sanchez WIN Porcello LOSS HOME RUNS- none

Game 4 H.Iwakuma vs D.Price

Jarheads..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 1

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 x - 3 9 0

D.Pricez WIN H.Iwakuma LOSS HOME RUNS- J.Donaldson

Game 5 S.Wright vs J.Teheran

Jarheads..... 1 0 3 1 2 0 0 0 - 7 11 0

Powderkegs..... 4 2 2 1 0 1 0 3 x - 13 15 0

D.Duffy WIN S.Wright LOSS

HOME RUNS- S.Smith, J.Bradley Jr, M.Trout, Y.Grandal, J.Donaldson-2 J.Turner

The Hazardville Powderkegs win the National Championship series 4 games to 1 and move onto the World Series.

2017 WORLD SERIES: NL #3 Hazardville Powderkegs vs AL #5 Nashville Assassins

The Hazardville Powderkegs managed by Bob Figella met the Nashville Assassins managed by Jim Jalutkewicz subbing for the departed Doug Campbell for the 2017 FBN Championship. The series was played via net play.

Game 1 M.Scherzer vs J.Teheran

Assassins..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 3 0

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 x - 3 7 2

Win- J.Teheran (1-0) Loss- M.Scherzer (0-1) HOME RUNS- none

Stud pitchers Max Scherzer and Julio Teheran take the mound and take control. Scherzer blinks first. After a leadoff K in the bottom of the fourth a walk to Josh Donaldson is followed by a Carlos Beltan single and a Jonathan Lucroy rbi groundout. Jackie Bradley Jr follows with a run scoring double. Adam Jones then contributes an rbi single for a 3-0 lead. The Assassins come back in the 5th. With 2 outs Joe Mauer walks, Kris Bryant singles the Nelson Cruz reaches on a Dustin Pedroia error to make the score 3-1. Teheran then settles down and gives up only a harmless single in the 8th for a complete game 3 hitter. Hazardville leads the series 1-0.

Game 2 K.Hendricks vs C.Martinez

Assassins..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 1 5 0

Powderkegs..... 1 0 0 0 3 0 0 1 x - 5 9 0

Win- C.Martinez (1-0) Loss- K.Hendricks (0-1) HOME RUNS- J.Bradley Jr.

More dominating pitching as Kyle Hendricks and Carlos Martinez face each other. In the bottom of the first Pedroia leads off with a walk and moves to second on a wild pitch. Brandon Belt immediately drives him in with a single and a 1-0 Powderkeg lead. Nashville ties the game in the 4th as Stephen Drew doubles then Ian Kinsler singles him in. Hazardville gets it going in the

5th. With nobody out Adam Jones, Hunter Pence, Elvis Andrus and Pedroia hit consecutive singles for 3 runs and a 4-1 lead. Martinez settles into a groove and keeps Nashville off the board the rest of the way. A Jackie Bradley Jr homer in the 8th finishes the scoring, 5-1 Hazardville. Hazardville leads the series 2-0.

Game 3 Aa.Sanchez vs J.Lester

Powderkegs..... 0 0 0 2 0 1 1 0 1 - 5 11 2

Assassins..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 - 3 9 1

Win- Aa.Sanchez (1-0) Loss- J.Lester (0-1) Save- N.Jones (1) HOME RUNS- E.Andrus, R.Grichuk, M.Zunino

The series moves to Nashville and the pitchers start to pitch inside. In the 2nd inning Jon Lester hits Lucroy side-lining him for 1 more game. In the bottom of the inning Randal Grichuk hits a ball park homer for a 1-0 Assassin lead, their first lead of the series. The Powderkegs fight back in the 4th. Belt walks then Donaldson singles. Beltran then clears the bases with a double for a 2-1 Hazardville lead. We move to the 6th when Beltran leads off with a single, J.T. Realmuto doubles him in. Later in the inning Lester drills Adam Jones side-lining him for another game. Not liking the head hunting Elvis Andrus goes yard in the 7th to stretch the lead to 4-1. Aaron Sanchez runs out of steam in the 8th and is pulled after a walk and hit batter. Shawn Kelley comes in but Dustin Pedroia makes his 2nd error of the series on a probable double play ball that loads the bases. Andreton Simmons then draws a walk for a run before Kelley gets Ichiro Suzuki to strike out ending the inning. The 'Kegs add an insurance run in the 9th on 3 straight singles. In the bottom of the 9th Mike Zunino hits a ball park homer to lead things off. Lorenzo Cain K's. In comes Nate Jones to try and close it out. He strikes out Mauer. Kris Bryant then singles. Nelson Cruz reaches on a Josh Donaldson 2 base error. In steps pinch hitter and semi freak Stephen Drew. He is intentionally walked. It's up to Grichuk, ground ball to short, game ver. Hazardville wins 5-3 and leads the series 3-0.

Game 4 D.Price vs M.Scherzer

Powderkegs..... 0 2 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 3 7 1

Assassins..... 0 1 1 1 0 2 1 1 x - 7 11 0

Win- M.Scherzer (1-1) Loss- D.Price (0-1) HOME RUNS- C.Herrmann, N.Cruz, M.Upton

Nashville is desperate and sends out ace Max Scherzer against David Price. Playing without Adam Jones and Jonathan Lucroy the 'Kegs are short handed. Chris Herrmann takes advantage of the playing time by hitting a 2 run ball park homer in the 2nd. Nashville comes right back in the bottom of the inning. Nick Hundley, Melvin Upton, and Simmons hit singles for one run. Moving to the 3rd Nelson Cruz hits an upper decker to tie the score. It looks like the Assassins like lefties as in the 4th Upton goes deep for a 3-2 lead. Into the 6th Cain gets hit by the pitch then Upton and Simmons hit back to back doubles for 2 more runs. Herrmann triples and scores in the 7th but Nashville adds insurance runs in the bottom of the 7th and 8th for the easy 7-3 victory. Hazardville leads the series 3-1.

Game 5 J.Teheran vs J.Verlander

Powderkegs..... 2 0 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 - 6 10 0

Assassins..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 8 0

Win- J.Teheran (2-0) Loss- J.Verlander (0-1) HOME RUNS- B.Belt, J.T.Realmuto

Dustin Pedroia leads off the 1st with a double. Belt walks behind him. Then Justin Verlander decides that he wants to move the Powderkegs off the plate. He drills Josh Donaldson knocking him out of the game. J.T. Realmuto makes him pay though as he singles in 2 for an early lead. Teheran protects his player by hitting Kris Bryant in the bottom of the inning and the benches rumble. Not happy Verlander comes inside again in the bottom of the 2nd injuring Elvis Andrus. Both benches empty but no punches are thrown. Both teams get warnings. Now without their whole left side of the infield what can the 'Kegs do. Alexi Amarista plays short and Jonathan Lucroy volunteers to play 3rd (5e65). Teheran is in a groove though and doesn't allow a hit through 4. In the 5th the 'Kegs stretch the lead when Pedroia walks and Belt goes deep. 4-0 Hazardville. In the bottom of the 6th the Assassins finally get to Teheran. Suzuki singled, Simmons singled, Nick Franklin grounds out then Zunino singled in one tiring Teheran. He stays in and gets Cain to fly out to end the inning. 4-1 Hazardville. Kyle Ryan works a scoreless 7th. In the 8th the 'Kegs add insurance runs. Amarista leads off with a single. After a K, J.T. Realmuto hits a 2 run blast driving Verlander from the game. 6-1 Hazardville. David Robertson and Jones finish it out and the Hazardville Powderkegs win the 2017 FBN World Series.

The Hazardville Powderkegs win 4 games to 1.

This is the Powderkegs third series title but first since 2004. It was a nice series. Games 1, 2 and 3 were tight games and hard fought. This series was all about the starting pitchers. Nashville throws out stud after stud but their pen was weak and Jim didn't really want to use them. My pen was also vulnerable and I wanted to stay with my starters too. Luckily my lineup was deeper than the Assassins. Julio Teheran earned MVP honors by going 2-0 with a 0.60 ERA and only 8 hits with 14 strike outs in 15 innings. Hazardville hit .270 as a team while holding Nashville to only a .217 team average.

Thanks a lot to Jim Jalutkewicz for taking over the Nashville team. The World Series appearance was a fitting way to mark the loss of team owner Doug Campbell. New owner Allan Kaufman inherits a strong team for next year. The Powderkegs will struggle next year as injuries caught up to us but we will savor this victory as long as we can.

December 2017 – We voted to increase pitcher's usage in the post season from 8% to 10%. We also voted to increase rosters to 40 and at bats per position to 550 from 500.

2017 All-Star teams and League Awards.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

DH: Cruz (37), Santana (33)

CATCHER: Perez (28), Ramos (27)

1ST BASE: Votto (42), Rizzo (38) **Note: No other first basemen received a vote!**

2ND BASE: Lemehieu (39), Altuve (22)

3RD BASE: Bryant (29), Beltre (26)

Shortstop: Cabrera (24), Segura (24)

OF'ER: Betts(46), Yelich (40), Duvall(22), Stanton(21), Grichuk(19), Myers(17).

SP'ER: Sale(41), Verlander(33), Tanaka(32), Scherzer(28), Arietta(27), deGrom & Fulmer (19)

***Both deGrom and Fulmer make the team due to their tie scores.**

RP'ER: Jansen(48), Thornberg(39), Miller(35), Oh(27), Dull(26), Dickman & Kimbrel(21)

****Both Dickman and Kimbrel make the team due to their tie scores.**

MVP: Betts (51)

CY YOUNG: Sale (31)

ROOKIE: Fulmer (25)

MGR of the Year: Mike Holbrook (25)

GM of the Year: Vic Handel (23)

NATIONAL LEAGUE:

DH: Encacion (37), Ortiz (32)

CATCHER: Lucroy (38), Grandal (16)

1ST BASE: Mi. Cabrera (44), Freeman (22)

2ND BASE: Murphy (23) , Cano (22)

3RD BASE: Donalson (29), Turner (28)

Shortstop: Andrus (46), C.Seager (15)

OF'ER: Trout(50), Marte(44), Blackman(34), A.Jones(24), Mk.Cabrera(22), Ellsbury(9) SP'ER:

Pocello(48), Kershaw(46), Bumgarner(37), Kluber(35), Hamels(25), Teheran(15), A.Sanchez(12).

***Sanchez added due to AL tie for SP.**

RP'ER: Melancon(48), Chapman(46), E.Diaz(36), Familia(33), N.Jones(20), Brach(20), Herrera(18).

****Herrera added due to the AL tie for RP.**

MVP: Mi. Cabrera (58)

CY YOUNG: Porcello (33)

ROOKIE: E.Diaz (19)

MGR of the Year: Bob Figella (29)

GM of the Year: Rob Bruno (26)

2017 FBN ALLSTAR GAME

Silver Sands Park, Home of the 2016 World Champion Milford Dogfish HR 1-10 Singles 1-8

MGRs Nationals USJ 2016 NL Champs, Bill Nieman

Americans MDF 2016 FBN Champions, Subbing for Glen Boucher, USJ GM Harry Nieman.

With the sun shining and the snow melted off the front yard it feels like baseball weather...sort of.

Rick Porcello vs Chris Sale

Elvis Andrus started The 2017 All Star game with a bang. He sent Sale's first pitch over the wall for a 1-0 NL lead. Two batters later and Miggy's solo HR easily cleared the left field wall to! make 2-0 NL. Harry yanks Sale for Verlander. Edwin singled but a DP ended the inning.

In the bottom half, singles by LeMahieu and Bryant were stranded. But in the 2nd Yelich doubled and moved over on a GB. Salvador Perez singled him home making it 2-1 NL. Adam Duvall then stepped up and hit a moon shot over the CF wall putting the AL up 3-2, Kershaw finishes the 2nd.

Verlander / Scherzer versus Kershaw / Kluber keep it that way till the 5th.

Arrieta pitching for the AL and Daniel Murphy greeted him with a long HR to RF to tie the game 3-3. Melky singled and Andrew Miller entered. LeMahieu's error and Andrus's single loaded the bases with 0 outs. Seung Hwan Oh enters the game. David Ortiz popped up. Miggy stepped in ...and he whiffed. Edwin stepped in and Oh blows strike 3 past him and the AL escapes the inning with the score tied.

The AL threatens in the bottom of the 5th. Rizzo walked, Bumgarner in, Altuve singled. Brach in. Carlos Santana stepped up and smoked a line drive down the first base line. Looked like a sure hit (si 1-18). But Freddie Freeman snagged it with a lot of white showing in his glove. Bryant walked to load the bases.... but Brach gets Betts and the AL leaves them loaded.

Bottom of the 6th and Edwin Diaz pitching for the NL. Yelich walked and Segura singled. Then a WP gets Diaz yanked. Chapman enters. With 2nd and 3rd, Ramos pops up. Stanton steps in. But Chapman Ks him for the 2nd out. Rizzo steps in. He hits one deep to Right, Blackmon goes back, back...and it's outa here, a 3 run HR and the AL goes on top 6-3.

Thornburg and Deikman get through the 6th and 7th allowing only a Melky single to hold the 6-3 AL lead. NL Bullpen continues to struggle in the 7th. Santana and Betts single off Nate Jones. With 1 out Familia enters and strikes out Yelich. But Segura gets an rbi single and Ramos walks. Sanchez comes in and Stanton hits an rbi single for an 8-3 AL lead.

Kimbrel on in the 8th for the AL. Grandal walks and Justin Turner singled Grandal to 3rd to start the inning. DeGrom comes in to pitch. A PB scores Grandal to make it 8-4. A flyout for 1 out and Trout walked. Blackmon stepped in, but DeGrom got the GB DP to end the threat.

8-4 AL going to the 9th. Jansen in to pitch. Cano led off with a long double. But Jansen settled down and retired the next 3 in a row and the AL wins 8-4.

NL 200 010 010 4 10 0 WP Thornburg LP Diaz Sv none
AL 030 003 20- 8 13 1 HR NL Andrus, Miggy, D Murphy AL Duvall, Rizzo

MVP Seung Hwan Oh ! Bases loaded, 0 outs, tie game, retired Papi, Miggy and Edwin.

NL: Andrus 3-5 HR, Melky 2-2

AL: Segura 2-2 rbi, Altuve 2-3

With the win the AL snapped a 7 game losing streak. The NL leads the series 20-10. Thanks to Bill and Harry for playing the All-Star game and completing our year.

2018 Season by Rob Bruno (11/6/2018) More information on website in the newsletters and team articles.

January 2018 - Winter Meetings were going on and trading was hot and heavy in FBN. Eleven trades were made sending 14 players and 21 draft picks to different teams. Bud sent out an email letting us know that Opening Day in Glen Head would be February 16th. Bob Figella put out a list of all available draft players and a complete list of our draft order.

February 2018 – Opening Day at SOM by Bill Nieman.

With a skeleton crew of Bob F, Roland and Bill scheduled for the Glen Head carpool, and a seat available, Jarhead's GM Harry Nieman decided to join in, for his first trip to Strato HQ. Maybe it was Harry's beginners luck, or not, but this trip was the easiest in 20 years.

Went from Waterford to Stratford (61mi) in a light mist, arriving in 56 minutes @ 7:20 for an expected 7:50 meeting with Bob and Roland. Bob had smooth sailing from Enfield and arrived just a few minutes after Harry and I, so we got an early start for HQ. The mist was gone by the NY line and when we arrived in Glenhead @ 9:15 it was a balmy if overcast day. Umbrellas, rain coats, winter jackets and gloves all stayed in the car trunk.

We were the 4th group to arrive, and probably 9,10,11, and 12 in line. The #1 pair came from Texas and arrived at 1:50 AM... seriously! We've gotten #1 in line a couple of times and arrived @ 9AM. Then came a few guys from Vermont then some from Virginia...then The FBN.

Hal and Son arrived shortly and using Grandkids (wearing shorts) as pack mules, started ferrying Dozens of donuts and boxes of Joe into the grey Strato bunker. Roland figured he had time before the donut give away, decided to check out the old front of the building to see if the tape from the Barry Bonds card was still hanging. It was finally gone after all these years.

Then the donuts came out. 50 people in line by now and Roland is 10th in line and acting like Pacman. It took them 3 trips till they could get donuts to those in the teen numbers. After donuts and no coffee Roland says he needs a rest room. Nearest can is Dunkin Donuts @ 300 yards up the road. Dunkin's restroom closed, so another 100 yards to gas station. But then it's back to DD, which is also a Baskin Robins. Don't know what ice cream cone he got but it had everything in it. He polished it off just as we got back in line, just in time for another donut run. This time he snagged some kind of vanilla truffle with cookie dough filling. Then he sounds like Homer Simpson....arrgghh donuts nummanummm.

Around 11 the sun almost broke through and we were interviewed and filmed, then entertained by a pair of cos play dice people. Some Strato cards were passed around and consensus was Trout has the best card....but only 400 ABs. The beautiful weather helped the last hour pass quickly and at 12:00 Roland started his chant..."No Cards No Peace". But he had barely 3 repetitions and Hal was out the door for a short welcome speech and then the line was moving. Bob went to get the car as we picked up the cards and by 12:12 we were on the road home. Bob made great time again on the return trip to Stratford, even without his navigator, as Roland's head was buried in his cards. Harry and I loaded up and made great time coming home to Waterford as well. Fastest trip to and fro, and best weather in our collective memories.

The general consensus was that Harry really didn't get the full Opening Day experience. No traffic problems, no getting lost, no wind burn, no frozen toes or numb fingers. No ice or 6 inches of snow underfoot for 3 hours. However, he did get to see the usual Roland in action.

@ 3:15 Joe and wife Maureen came to Waterford to pick up his cards and then joined by Rob @ 3:20. A pretty quick visit as everyone wants to get to the cards

By 6:15 pm USJ team of Karen, Harry and me, have Pitchers and Batters separated and alpha! betized. Ready for pulling rookie cards and making FBN teams tomorrow AM, while its snowing again.

Feb 25 -Draft Day 2018. After going to Dunkin Donuts for Munkins, I arrived at Draft Central around 8:15am. I think Don Decker was already there, I don't remember, lol. We had 14 people at the draft including our newest member representing Manchester Freedom, Allan Kaufman. Allan offer help to anyone having trouble loading the computer game. Just give him a call. Note: Allan doesn't make it to the end of the season.

League Awards were next. I had mailed Vic Handel his plaque for being the regular season AL Champions on Friday the 16th so only two were handed out before the draft started. First, I awarded Bill & Harry Nieman the regular season NL Championship plaque. Next was the plaque for the 2017 World Series winner Hazardville's Bob Figella. It was Bob's third FBN Championship. Before Bob could accept the plaque Roland stole it. He gave it back stating he just wanted to know how it felt to hold one of the plaques. Poor Roland. ☺

Once he recovered, Roland then gave out his awards for the worst pick and the best pick of the 2013 draft. I forgot you received them. Roland will have to let us know. He never did.

Since everyone was ready we started the draft 10 minutes early at 9:50 am. Glen did not surprise anyone with the first overall pick, he selected from the LA Dodgers, first baseman Cody Bellinger. During the draft 7 trades were made. I'm always amazed on the members that can wheel and deal on draft day. I'm usually to confused to do anything but draft. But, that's me. Eight players and nine draft picks changed hands. Just under 6 hours, that included a 30 minute lunch break, the draft ended at 3:48 pm with Vic Handel drafting at number 248, from the Seattle Mariners, Casey Lawrence.

Waiver Wire and Free Agent Signings: An interesting free agent signing period. The player that had the biggest interest sat around on draft day and did not have his name called. But, during these last three days he had six teams interested in him, Jonathan Holder. He wasn't the only player that had multiple overs. When Matt Holliday could not agree on a contract with Wall Street he decided to opt out of his contract and test free agency, four teams showed interest in him. But, after another meeting with Wall Street, Holliday came away with a new contract and he stayed a Baron. We also had a last minute (really made it by two minutes) free agent signing. Just under the wire Taxachusetts waived Ruben Teheda and signed free agent Justin Nicolino. A total of 11 players waived and 11 free agents signed with new teams. Three more trades were completed before the end of month sending 8 players to new teams.

March 2018 - OPENING DAY for our 45th Season was the 16th. The league sure has seen many changes over the years. From a kids face to face league in 1974 to a countrywide league that includes each facet of the game from the original face to face play to written road instructions to computer manager to Netplay. Where ever our founder, Dave Smith may be I say, thank you to him.

April 2018 – No Hitter at the Stock Yard Wall Street rookie, Dinelson Lamet went 5 innings walking two and striking out five on no hit ball against Allyn Street during a game in Block I. He was followed by Nick Goody who went 2 innings while striking out 3. In the 8th Manager Weaver gave the ball to Brandon Morrow who completed the no hitter retiring all six batters that he faced while striking out two.

In the 9th with one out Cory Seager hit a ball to Starlin Castro at second base (xchart). Castro made a great play to save the no hitter. Allyn Street could only mustard 6 xcharts and 2 ball park singles chances during the game. WS 5 AS 0.

May 2018 – We were having trouble with our old group email address so Bob Figella started a new one for us. Our new address: FBNgroup@emaildodo.com.

AL President change: Jeff Merklin after serving two terms as AL President step down to be able to spend more time with his family. Merk served from 1995 to 2002. He again stepped back into the role in 2014. Ed Griffin was gracious and accepted to step in and take over the AL President's duties. Ed was no newcomer to the job as Ed was AL President from 2003 to 2013.

Manager resigns: After some very nasty emails between Allan and Bob M., Allan decides to leave the FBN. Allan was not happy from day one. He didn't like that we accepted all methods of play. He basically wanted the FBN to be like his other leagues. After some computer problems with the game stats Allan emailed Bob M. telling him this was a great reason, he could use to leave this &^% league. I say, "Don't let the door hit you on the way out." Allan was my fault. He just wasn't a good fit right from the start. The next member I accept will be drilled for sure. We didn't have a backup manager at the time to take over the team so I placed an ad with SOM looking for managers. I said I would run the team by using the Computer Manager until we found the right man. Who knew he was already in our back yard?

Newest member of the FBNBA: On May 18th we welcomed the newest member of the FBNBA to the league, Dante Handel. Yup, Vic's son. Dante graduated for the University of Georgia with a degree in political science. He was an avid strat fan and he had the game already. At the time I said "I think he will make a very good addition to the league." Boy, was I right! [Here is what he emailed me last year.](#)

I have enjoyed baseball and the statistics behind it since I was old enough to read the back of a baseball card. I was very excited to see that there is a league for Strat and I find the ability to "call the shots" in-game to be much for satisfying than fantasy baseball. I would appreciate the chance to be added to the waitlist, and hopefully one day to join the league. On a more somber note, I am sorry to hear about the passing of your friend. I wish you and the league the best of health and luck! Please reach out if you have any questions for me. I appreciate your time.

And I didn't sign him up then! What a turkey. Well, we got him didn't we? That's what counts.

June 2018 - Norwich Owner is taking a leave of absence. Don Decker took a leave of absence from the league because of more traveling for his work and because he did not want to fall behind and hold things up for members he felt it was best to take the LOA. On the bright side of this is Don said he would be retiring in April 2019 and that he would be able to rejoin us for the 2019 season. Don's has been a good member and I was glad he had decided to stay with us.

Do to work constraints Ed couldn't post his "Inside the Fly By Night" until now. Here are his predicted finishes.

In the NL: 1. Taxachusetts 2. New England 3. Hazardville 4. Allyn Street 5. Connecticut 6. Norwich 7. Klee's 8. Illinois 9. Maine 10. Wall Street 11. Burlington 12. US Jarheads.

In the AL: 1. Milford 2. Manchester 3. Lake Wobegon 4. Baton Rouge 5. Hotlanta 6. Alpharetta 7. Arsenal 8. Louisville 9. Urpaign 10. New Hampshire 11. California 12. Yorktown.

New England was the only team that did not make the post season out of the NL teams Ed picked. NE had no luck at all rolling this season if he had any he would have been in the running for the playoffs. Maine was the surprise team in the NL that Ed did not pick. In the AL Ed had all four playoff bound teams and in order! Plus, out of the entire 12 teams he had them almost to exact finish, just one or two spots off. Great job!

July 2018 - History was made in Hotlanta as Zach Davies (9-5) tossed a no-hitter and the Hotlanta Possums defeated the Yorktown Admirals by the score of 1 to 0. Our second no hitter of the season.

August 2018 - 2020 draft picks can now be included in trades. Contending teams started to look towards the second tier teams for trades to get ready for the pennant drive. In nine trades 24 players and 15 draft picks exchanged hands.

September 2018 - Five more trades with 12 players and 11 draft picks included.

October 2018 - Congratulations to the playoff bound teams! Milford champions in the AL and Taxachusetts champions in the NL. The other AL playoff bound teams were Manchester, Baton Rouge, Lake Wobegon and Hotlanta. In the NL the other playoff bound teams were Allyn Street, Hazardville, Wall Street and Maine.

Final 2018 standings.

American League W - L Pct. GB

1. Milford	109	- 53	.673	---
2. Manchester	108	- 54	.667	1
3. Lake Wobegon	97	- 65	.599	12
4. Baton Rouge	96	- 66	.593	13
5. Hotlanta	93	- 69	.574	16
6. Arsenal	80	- 82	.494	29
7. Louisville	71	- 91	.438	38
8. Alpharetta	68	- 94	.420	41
9. Urpaign	65	- 97	.401	44
10. Yorktown	60	-102	.370	49
11. New Hampshire	55	-107	.340	54
12. California	52	-110	.321	57

National League W - L Pct. GB

1. Taxachusetts	105	- 57	.648	---
2. Allyn Street	104	- 58	.642	1
3. Hazardville	99	- 63	.611	6
4. Wall Street*	87	- 75	.537	18
5. Maine	87	- 75	.537	18
6. Connecticut	84	- 78	.519	21
7. Illinois	83	- 79	.512	22
8. New England	82	- 80	.506	23
9. Norwich	79	- 83	.488	26
10. Klee's	76	- 86	.469	29
11. Burlington	61	-101	.377	44
12. US Jarheads	41	-121	.253	64

*Wall Street won the tie breaker.

2019 DRAFT ORDER: (1) US Jarheads (2) California (3) New Hampshire (4) Yorktown (5) Burlington (6) Urpaign (7) Alpharetta (8) Louisville (9) Klee's (10) Norwich (11) Arsenal (12) New England (13) Illinois (14) Connecticut (15) Wall Street* (16) Maine (17) Hotlanta (18) Baton Rouge (19) Lake Wobegon (20) Hazardville (21) Allyn Street (22) Taxachusetts (23) Manchester (24) Milford.

*Wall Street with the better road record breaks the tie with Maine for 15th.

October 2018 continued: Wild Card Series – Round 1

In the Wild Card Series Hotlanta travels to Baton Rouge and Maine travels to Wall Street. Also in the first American League Final Four Series Lake Wobegon travels to Manchester and in the first National League Final Four Series Hazardville travels to Allyn Street.

National League Wild Card Series - Maine vs. Wall Street

Game 1 – Maine 2 Wall Street 0 - Jose Quintana throws a one hit CG shutout as Maine wins 2-0.

Game 2 – Maine 5 Wall Street 3

Game 3 – Maine 6 Wall Street 5

Game 4 – Maine 3 Wall Street 2 .MY 9th – With one out, Ozuna GWHR. **Maine moves on to play Taxachusetts.**

American League Wild Card Series Baton Rouge faced off against Hotlanta.

Game 1 Baton Rouge 2 Hotlanta 1

Game 2 Hotlanta 3 Baton Rouge 1

Game 3 Baton Rouge 3 Hotlanta 1

Game 4 Baton Rouge 1 Hotlanta 0 14 innings.

Game 5 Baton Rouge 6 Hotlanta 3 **Baton Rouge takes the series 4 games to 1.**

Series MVPs are Ervin Santana and Andrew Miller. Santana pitched 12 innings giving up no runs. Miller got 2 wins and a save in 6 innings also not allowing a run.

AL Final 4 Series – Baton Rouge vs. Milford

Game 1 Milford 3 Baton Rouge 1 W-Greinke with 10K

Game 2 Milford 2 Baton Rouge 1

Game 3 Baton Rouge 3 Milford 2 10 innings

Game 4 Baton Rouge 4 Milford 3 10 innings

Game 5 Baton Rouge 2 Milford 0

Game 6 Milford 4 Baton Rouge 0

Game 7 Milford 4 Baton Rouge 2

Milford wins in 7. Series MVP: Z.Greinke 20 IP, 13 H, 4 BB, 23 K

AL Final 4 Series – Lake Wobegon vs. Manchester

Game 1 – Manchester 4 Lake Wobegon 3

Game 2 – Manchester 7 Lake Wobegon 4

Game 3 – Lake Wobegon 6 Manchester 1

Game 4 – Lake Wobegon 10 Manchester 5

Game 5 – Lake Wobegon 4 Manchester 3

Game 6 – Manchester 7 Lake Wobegon 3

Game 7 – Manchester 6 Lake Wobegon 2

Series MVP goes to Mike Zunino, .435, 1 single, 4 doubles, and 5 homeruns! He scored and drove in 7 runs.

NL Final 4 Series - Maine vs. Taxachusetts

Gm 1 – Taxachusetts 1 Maine 0

Gm 2 – Taxachusetts 1 Maine 0 Chiefs win back-to-back 1-0 games.

Gm 3 – Taxachusetts 5 Maine 0

Gm 4 – Taxachusetts 6 Maine 1

The Chiefs advance in four games. The Taxmen face the winner of Allyn Street and Hazardville.

Series MVP - Aaron Judge .273, 3 HR, 6 RBI and 7 walks.

NL Final 4 Series Hazardville vs. Allyn Street

Game 1 Allyn Street 10 Hazardville 7

Game 2 Allyn Street 7 Hazardville 1

Game 3 Allyn Street 2 Hazardville 1 Chacin (11-8 3.79) vs. Severino (20-5 3.07)

Game 4 Hazardville 6 Allyn Street 3

Game 5 Hazardville 6 Allyn Street 5

Game 6 Allyn Street 7 Hazardville 4

Series MVP - Team effort .276, 8HR. SP 4-1, Pen Sv. 2, 3.34 ERA, 7BB 17K.

American League Championship Series Manchester vs. Milford

Game 1 Milford 2 Manchester 1 W: Neshek (1-0), L: B. Parker (0-1) HRs: Zunino (1), Bellinger (1), K. Suzuki (1)

Game 2 Milford 1 Manchester 0 W: deGrom (1-0), S: Neshek (1), L: Scherzer (0-1) HR: Puig (1)

October 2018 Playoffs Continued:

Game 3 Milford 9 Manchester 2 W: Greinke (1-0), L: Petit (0-1) HR: Betts (1), N.Cruz (1)

Game 4 Manchester 5 Milford 2 W: Verlander (1-0), L: Carrasco (0-1) HR: Zunino (2)

Game 5 Milford 7 Manchester 2 W: Swarzak (1-0), L: Scherzer (0-2) HR: Conforto (1), Correa (1), Cain (1)

Milford Wins the series 4-1

Keys to the series:

- Containing the top of Manchester's order: Bryant, Blackmon, & Cruz, 5 for 49.
- The Kurt Suzuki lead off game winning pinch hit HR, Game 1, bottom of the ninth.
- Milford Hitting: 0.229 batting average, 6 HR
- Milford Pitching: 2.05 ERA, 26 H, 4 HR, 14 BB, 45 K
- Manchester Hitting: 0.173 batting average, 26 H, 4 HR
- Manchester Pitching: 4.40 ERA, 36 H, 6 HR, 23 BB, 48 K
- Bregman: 0.375, 3 Doubles, 3 BB, 4 RBI
- Conforto: 0.375, 2 2B, 1 HR, 5 BB, 2 RBI
- J. deGrom: 9 IP, 6 H, 2 BB, 12 K
- Zunino: 0.385, 2 HR, 6 RBI
- Scherzer: 15.67 IP, 13 H, 3 HR, 4 BB, 22 K

Milford moves onto their 8th world series appearance, awaiting the winner of the AS v TX match up.

National League Championship Series Allyn Street vs. Taxachusetts

Game 1 Allyn Street 9 Taxachusetts 2 W-Cashner L-Fulmer
HOME RUNS- J.Martinez(1st), Z.Coza(1st), A.Judge(1st)

Game 2 Taxachusetts 4 Allyn Street 2 W-Edwards Sv. Rosenthal L-Brach
HOME RUNS- J.Martinez(2nd), Z.Coza(2nd), D.Murphy(1st)

Game 3 Lynn Taxachusetts 6 Allyn Street 3 W-O'Day Sv. Rosenthal L-Greene
HOME RUNS- A.Judge(1st), J.Gallo(1st)

Game 4 Taxachusetts 7 Allyn Street 2 W-Montgomery L-Pomeranz.
HOME RUNS- J.Martinez(3rd), J.McCann(1st)

Taxachusetts leads series 3-1

Game 5 Allyn Street 7 Taxachusetts 0 W-Cashner CG L-Fulmer
HOME RUNS- E.Rosario(1st)
Taxachusetts leads series 3-2

Game 6 Allyn Street 7 Taxachusetts 6 10 innings W-Colome L-Rosenthal
HOME RUNS- J.Martinez(4th), P.Valaika-2(2nd), J.Gallo(2nd), C.Iannetta(1st)
Series tied at 3.

Game 7 Bauer Allyn Street 13 Taxachusetts 1 W-Bauer L-Lynn
HOME RUNS- J.Martinez-2(6th), J.Reddick(1st)
Allyn Street comes back down 3-1 to take the NLCS.

MVP - JD Martinez .384, 9R, 6HR, 9RBI and 8BB.

Allyn Street moves onto their fourth World Series appearance and will try to even their WS record at 2-2.

November 2018 - Dante names his team the Atlanta Senators.

Next up the FBN World Series Allyn Street vs. Milford!

2018 World Series Allyn Street (104-58) vs. Milford (109-53)

Game 1 Cashner (11-5 3.43) vs. Greinke (21-9 3.56)

J.D. Martinez rocketed 2 homeruns and had 3 RBI as the Allyn St. 89ERS bested the Milford Dogfish 3 to 1 at Silver Sands Park.

The Milford fans didn't appreciate the big day Martinez had. He cracked a two-run shot in the 1st inning and smashed a solo-shot out of the park in the 4th inning. Both teams' bats went to sleep after the 4th inning with no runs scored after that point.

The victory went to Andrew Cashner(1-0) who went 6 innings, allowing 1 run. Adam Warren earned the save, his 1st. Zack Greinke(3-1) was the loser. He gave up only 3 hits and 1 walk in 7 innings.

'He gutted it out' Casey Stengel said of Cashner. 'I was very impressed by his tenacity.'

89ERS..... 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 3 0

Dogfish..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 5 1 HOME RUNS- J.Martinez-2(2nd)

H 202

GAME 2 Chacin (11-8 3.79) vs. DeGrom (13-11 4.22)

Carlos Correa slammed 2 homeruns and had 5 RBI as the Milford Dogfish bested the Allyn St. 89ERS 9 to 3 at Silver Sands Park.

Correa was spectacular at the plate. He belted a three-run homer in the 1st inning, lifted one out of the park for a two run home run in the 3rd inning, lined a one-base hit in the 5th inning and doubled in the 7th inning. Milford had 11 hits for the afternoon.

The win was credited to Felipe Rivero(1-0) who went 1 inning allowing no runs. Jhoulys Chacin(0-1) was the losing pitcher. Milford knocked him around a bit, as he gave up 6 runs in 5 and 2/3 innings.

'The ball was jumping off my bat' Correa said. 'I didn't do anything differently, it's the same way I always approach the game.'

89ERS..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 - 3 9 0

Dogfish..... 3 0 2 1 0 0 1 2 - 9 11 1

HOME RUNS- J.Votto(1st), J.Martinez(3rd), C.Bellinger(4th), C.Correa-2(2nd), M.Betts(2nd)

Series moves to the School Yard

Game 3 Carrasco (19-8 3.35) vs. Bauer ((18-8 3.27)

Josh Reddick connected with a 'big fly' and had 2 RBI as the Allyn St. 89ERS defeated the Milford Dogfish in 12 innings 5 to 3 at The School Yard.

The game was deadlocked at 3 after nine full innings. Finally, Allyn St. pulled the game out in the 12th inning. After two were out Jose Ramirez initiated the scoring spurt when he laced a one-base hit. Reddick followed and he cleared the fences for a two-run home run making Allyn St. the winners and sending the 41,332 fans home happy. Milford was out-hit by Allyn St., 11 hits to 6.

The winning pitcher was Alex Colome(1-0) who allowed no runs in 3 innings. Anthony Swarzak(0-1) was the loser in relief. He pitched 2 innings allowing 3 hits and 1 walk.

Dogfish..... 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 6 0

89ERS..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 2 - 5 11 1 HOME RUNS- Y.Puig(1st), J.Martinez(3rd), J.Reddick(1st)

Game 4 Greinke (1-0) vs. Pomeranz (16-8 3.28)

At The School Yard, the Allyn St. fans witnessed a great pitcher's duel. Zack Greinke(1-0) finally bested his Allyn St. opposite, Drew Pomeranz(0-1), by the score of 3 to 0.

Greinke gave a fine effort for Milford. He was reached for 4 hits and 2 walks in 6 and 2/3 innings. Milford had just 6 hits for the night.

Chase Whitley was credited with his 1st save. The loss was charged to Pomeranz. He surrendered 5 hits and 2 walks in 6 and 2/3 innings.

Dogfish..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 - 3 6 0

89ERS..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 5 0 HOME RUNS- M.Sano(1st)

Series tied at 2.

2018 World Series Allyn Street vs. Milford continued.

Game 5 deGrom (0-0) vs. Cashner (1-0)

Cody Bellinger connected with a 'big fly' as the Milford Dogfish topped the Allyn St. 89ERS by a score of 2 to 1 at The School Yard.

Tyler Lyons(1-0) got the win with a steady relief outing. He went 1/3 of an inning and surrendered up 1 hit and no walks. Milford banged out 8 hits on the afternoon.

Lyons got help from Ken Giles who earned his 1st save. Andrew Cashner(1-1) was charged with the loss. He pitched 5 and 1/3 innings and surrendered 6 hits and 1 walk.

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 - 2 8 0

89ERS..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 7 0

HOME RUNS- C.Correa(3rd), C.Bellinger(1st)

Milford with the win leads the series 3-2 and the series moves back to Silver Sands Park.

Game 6 Chacin (0-1) vs. Carrasco(0-0)

Jose Ramirez had 4 hits and 5 RBI and Jhoulys Chacin struck out 10 batters at Silver Sands Park as the Allyn St. 89ERS belted the Milford Dogfish by the count of 16 to 3.

Ramirez really lit it up for Allyn St. The Milford fans let him have it for what he did to their boys. He bombed a two-run dinger in the 1st inning, ripped a one-base hit resulting in a run in the 2nd inning, tripled plating two runs in the 6th inning and laced a base-hit in the 8th inning. Allyn St. lit up the scoreboard in the 2nd inning which saw them score 6 runs on 7 hits. Allyn St. managed 21 hits in their victory.

The victory went to Chacin(1-1) who went the distance allowing 3 runs. Carlos Carrasco(0-3) was given the loss. By surrendering 10 runs in 3 and 1/3 innings his ERA jumped from 3.10 to 6.46.

Chacin was asked about his big strikeout performance, 'Well, it's a little odd when you rack up these numbers on the road - instead of cheers and a running tally in the stands, everything gets real still and quiet. Just strange - but it's nice to be able to take the crowd out of the game.'

89ERS..... 2 6 0 3 0 3 0 2 0 - 16 21 1

Dogfish..... 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 6 1 HOME RUNS- C.Seager(1st), J.Ramirez(1st), A.Bregman(1st)

INJURY: Robinson Cano INJURED (for 1 more games) in 4th inning

INJURY: Kurt Suzuki INJURED (for 1 more games) in 7th inning

Game 7 The entire season boils down to one game! Bauer (0-1) vs. Greinke (1-1)

Joey Votto hit a homerun at Silver Sands Park where the Allyn St. 89ERS beat the Milford Dogfish by the score of 5 to 4.

The game was won by Allyn St. when they scored a run in the top of the 8th inning. Votto hit a bases-empty home run. Allyn St. had just 6 hits for the afternoon.

The win was credited to Adam Warren(1-0) who went 2 and 2/3 innings allowing no runs. Warren got help from Alex Colome who earned his 1st save. Felipe Rivero(1-1) absorbed the loss in relief.

89ERS..... 0 0 3 0 0 0 1 1 0 - 5 6 0

Dogfish..... 3 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 4 7 0

HOME RUNS- J.Votto(2nd), J.Martinez(5th), C.Correa(3rd)

Allyn Street wins their second World Series and first since 1995!!!!

World Series MVP – JD Martinez. Another outstanding series. .320, 7R, 8H, 3D, 5HR, 9RBI.

One of the nicest young men that I've had the pleasure to talk with Dante Handel, and a guy who loves baseball and who has enjoyed joining the FBN had a stroke at just 21. When his dad Vic informed me by email I had to re-read the email a number of times because at first I just could not comprehend what I was reading.

Over the next few days I waited on word from Vic on how Dante was doing. Finally, an email came in that Dante had be released from the hospital and was at home.

Vic said Dante would have a long recovery ahead of him. I asked if I could let the members know what had happened

November 2018 continued:

because knowing the members they would like to know and wish Dante best wishes and they did. Roland reached out and sent out his story about his stroke that hit him as a child 50 years ago in 1968. It was very moving and it had plenty of encouragement for a good recovery.

I told Vic to let Dante know that he has a team in the FBN as long as he wants and that we all wish Dante, Vic and their family the best.

Voting Results:

All the officers were re-elected, Ed Griffin American League President, Bob Figella National League President and myself as Commissioner.

League issues:

Rules that were changed.

1. The playoff rule from 5 IP available to 4 IP available in order to start a game. It passed 16-6.
2. Post Season Injury Rule was changed so that an injured player in games 2 or 5 that stayed in the game his injury will carry over to the next game or games. Passed 13-9.
3. We voted 13-9 to use the SOM pitcher individual hitting cards and the 1-8 cards for pitchers that do not receive an individual hitting card. Same usage as in the past. For the 1-8 cards and 110% for the PHC.
4. Maximum rule changes for "Improved baserunning and Allow more baserunning decisions was voted down 14-7 with 1 abstention.

2018 AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

First Team: DH - Nelson Cruz (MF), Ca. Gary Sanchez (NH), 1B – Anthony Rizzo (BR), 2B - Jose Altuve (LV), 3B – Adrian Beltre ((HT), ss – Carlos Correa (MD), OF – George Springer (LW), Tommy Pham (CD), Giancarlo Stanton (AG), SP – Max Scherzer (MF), Justin Verlander (MF), Zack Grienke (MD) & Stephen Strasberg (LW) tied, RP – Kenley Jansen (HT), Craig Kimbrel, (HT), Corey Knebel (AG).

Second Team: DH – Kris Davis (LV), Ca. Mike Zunino (MF), 1B – Tie, Eric Homer (MF) & Justin Smoak (YA), 2B – Jonathan Schoop (LW), 3B Kris Bryant (AL), ss – Jean Segura (AL), OF – Andrew Benintendi (MD), Charlie Blackmon (MF), Christian Yellich (LW), SP Carlos Carrasco (MD), Garrit Cole (MD), RP Andrew Miller (BR), Arodys Vizcaino (CD), Felipe Rivero (MD).

AMERICAN LEAGUE AWARDS:

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: Jonathan Schoop Lake Wobegon

CY YOUNG: Max Scherzer Manchester Freedom

ROOKIE of the YEAR: Trevor Williams Lake Wobegon

MANAGER of the YEAR: Mike Holbrook, Baton Rouge

GENERAL MANAGER of the YEAR: Glen Boucher, Milford Dogfish

2018 NATIONAL LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

First Team: DH – JD Martinez (AS), Ca. Buster Posey (IL), 1B – Joey Votto (AS), 2B – Starlin Castro (WS), 3B Jose Ramirez (AS), ss – Elvis Andrus (HZ), OF – Arron Judge (TX), Mike Trout (US), Marcel Ozuna (MY), SP Carlos Martinez (HZ), Luis Severino (HZ), Corey Kluber(NE), RP Davis Robertson (HZ), Edwin Diaz (MY), Trevor Rosenthal (TX).

Second Team: DH – Ryan Zimmerman (MY), Ca. JT Realmuto (HZ), 1B – Freddie Freeman (NE), 2B - Daniel Murphy (TX), & Robinson Cano (AS), 3B – Nolan Arenardo (KK), ss – Zack Cozart (TX), OF Eddie Rosario (AS), Justin Upton (TX), Josh Reddick (AS), SP Jose Quintana (MY), Trevor Bauer (AS), Chris Sale (IL), RP Mike Miner (CT), Fernando Rodney (WS), Adam Warren (AS).

*Cano had most votes and was added to NL team because of AL team had an extra player due to a tie in voting.

NATIONAL LEAGUE AWARDS:

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: JD Martinez Allyn Street

CY YOUNG: Corey Kubler New England

ROOKIE of the YEAR: Aaron Judge Taxachusetts

MANAGER of the Year: Joe Rutka, Wall Street

GENERAL MANAGER of the Year: Rob Bruno, Allyn Street

Your 2018 FBN All-Start game results!

Managing the American League was Dante Handel while the National League team was managed by Casey Stengel aka me because Glen Boucher was busy with work and Bob Figella was busy with FBN stuff. The game was played at the Canyon, home of the 2017 World Series Champions Hazardville Powderkegs.

All-Star game MVP Jose Ramirez had 2 base hits and 3 RBI as the National League club defeated the American League club by a score of 4 to 3.

The Nationals starting pitcher, Carlos Martinez retired the first batter he faced, Jose Altuve on strikes. Next he got Antony Rizzo to pop out to Buster Posey and he finished the inning by striking out Giancalo Stanton. While the Nationals starter was "nasty" the American starter, Max Scherzer was wild. Scherzer walked Mike Trout. Joey Votto followed with a double. Trout was held up at 3rd by Taxachusetts manager Joe Carter, who was coaching 3rd base for the Nationals. J.D. Martinez was next and he drew a walk to load the bases. Next up was Aaron Judge who had 50 homeruns and 121 walks during the 2018 season. Scherzer lost him on balls and the Nationals took a 1 nothing lead. Scherzer came back and struck out Marcel Ozuna to get the first out of the inning. Jose Raminez followed and laced the first pitch from Scherzer to right center field for a double to give the NL a 3 nothing lead. Raminez had 61 doubles during the regular season.

The score was 4-2 to the 9th when the American League threatened but their rally came up short.

Carlos Martinez went 2 innings striking out 4 and allowing no runs to get the win. Edwin Diaz earned the save. Max Scherzer was the losing pitcher. He pitched 1 inning giving up 2 hits and 3 walks.

AL All-Stars 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 1 - 3 7 0

NL All-Stars 3 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 4 6 0

With the completion of the All-Star game that put the 2018 season to bed. I think we had another fun full time. Now we wait for Januarys LBB and news for SOMW!

2019 The 46st season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (11/13/2019)

January 2019 – The start of our 46th year. The game was changing to keep up with MLB. 2018 in MLB was the beginning of the “Opener”. We will keep up, that’s for sure. The FBNBA has grown and adapted over the first 45 years and it will continue to do so today and in the future.

2019 DRAFT ORDER:

(1) US Jarheads (2) California (3) New Hampshire (4) Yorktown (5) Burlington (6) Urpaign (7) Alpharetta (8) Louisville (9) Klee’s (10) Norwich (11) Arsenal (12) New England (13) Illinois (14) Connecticut (15) Wall Street (16) Maine (17) Hotlanta (18) Baton Rouge (19) Lake Wobegon (20) Hazardville (21) Allyn Street (22) Taxachusetts (23) Atlanta (24) Milford.

Lamanna’s card rating issue was out and his rookie draft would be out by the 28th. Strat announced that opening day would be February 8th. League awards were ordered, paid for and picked up. Daft day room paid for too. Spring must be in the air.

February 2019 - Our next due date would be February 12th when GM’s mail their draft instructions and the phone number that they will be at on draft day to me. Bob Figella had done it again. He had completed the complete draft order. We voted 15-5 to use a Starter 1, known as an Opener. We also decided to limit it to a one year trail and if the membership wanted to we could vote on it again in November. It turned out the membership must have liked the Starter 1 rule because it was not ever mentioned in November.

We voted to reduce the minimum inning usage from 4 innings to 3. The only exception to this rule would be a Starter 1. We needed to clarify the usage of a Starter 1 for the post season. Before a Starter 1 pitcher became a thing in MLB only an * starter in Strat could pitch 3 games in a post season series, games 1, 4 and 7. All other starters could only start in two games of the series. But, now with the Starter 1 rule a Starter 1 could start in FOUR games of a post season series, games 1, 3, 5 and 6 or 7. If a manager wanted to he could go an entire series without using a regular starting pitcher because another Starter 1 could start games 2, 4 and 6 or 7. This was not what we want to happen when we voted to use the Starter 1. So to make it clear on how a Starter one can be used in a post season series we voted on it. It was decided that each Starter 1 would be limited to 2 starts maximum per post season series and must have 1 day of rest between a start and a relief appearance.

Opening Day at Strat-O-Matic by Bill Nieman

Harry and I set out at 6:05 AM from Waterford and arrived at the Surf Ave lot at 7:05... 60 miles in 60 minutes. No traffic and little mist. That new Q Bridge in New Haven is a pretty nice piece of construction. A distinctive look and the traffic really moves. I say its new, could be 10+ years ago.... Anyway we flew to Stratford and had to wait just a few minutes, as Bob and Roland were a little early too, and we rolled at 7:20ish.

The traffic and mist picked up so traffic was slow...but at least steady as we were always moving. Around Stamford Roland's phone pinged... he looked down and said "Its Chrome Dome, I'll put him on speaker". Glen opened with a 30 second soliloquy on Roland's Managerial deficiencies, then Hushed Roland, to further announce that Strato Founder Hal Richmond had obtained a restraining order barring Klee from 1 mile of Strato HQ.

Arrival in Glenhead was @ 9:30 but plenty early to "Show" with a 3rd place in line. First 2 guys arrived 10PM last night. They came down from Maine. They stood at the door for a minute then slept in their car. The 2nd group of 4 or 5 stayed in at nearby hotel and got in line @6AM. So even at 9:30 we were right up front.

We missed the first donut barrage but from this position Roland couldn't miss. He nailed the next 4 donut sorties before they were 10 steps out of the door. You would think he would be a total mess, covered in powdered sugar and dripping with jelly. Normally you would be right. But Roland has a new strategy. First choice in every box was the French crueler, if somehow he was beaten out of it, he went for the glazed. 4 donuts inhaled in 20 min. and not a mark or crumb on the boy. Licked his fingers clean and you could never prove he had even one. Roland had a charmed day, because later when he went for his Baskin Robins on a sugar cone, it was heaped high, with overflowing the sides of the cone. You could see two big chocolate globs that had real potential for his jacket. Roland displayed a fine pirouette to avoid the first and it landed harmlessly on the sidewalk. The second one Roland spotted in time for The Save.

Former FBNER Brian Favareaux joined us and the time passed quickly as we all chatted. Every 15 minutes or so 5 or 6 of the new cards were passed out of the inner sanctum to be passed along the line for inspection. For the 2nd year in a row the weather cooperated. It misted a couple of times, then stopped and the sky lightened with decent temps. There

February 2019 continued:

was blue sky by the time we started home.

Brian tied to egg on Roland to start his chant of No Cards- No Peace at 11:30. Roland obliged, but there were no takers that early. 12 PM and doors didn't open...12:03 and people are getting antsy, Roland went for it.. "No Cards- No Peace", but before anyone could join in, the door opened. Roland and I went inside for the cards and Bob and Harry went to the car. Everything went well and we were pulling out of the parking lot at 12:17. While Roland opened his package and perused the cards, Bob hauled us back to Stratford in good time. Our trip back to Waterford was just over an hour and we were home @2:45.

Had grinders and sodas, then started separating the cards, with Karen joining in. Got them separated into pitchers and hitters and Rob arrived to pick up his cards. Just after Rob left, Joe arrived for his set. After a few minutes chat, Joe left and it was back to the cards. Hitters and Pitchers were both alphabetized by 6PM. Tomorrow will pull out the draft guys and make up the 24 teams. Spring is in the air.

At the end of Bill's report, I wrote "Bill Nieman is a roving reporter for the Fly-By-Night. His normal duties are to run his "Scrum Bag" Parris Island Jarheads into contention for the FBN World Series. 😊" Did I have a crystal ball?

NEW BACKUP MEMBER: Dan Andrews has 22 years of Strat experience with close to 75 seasons played. He is divorced, 58 years old and lives alone in Rochester, Minnesota. He sells toilet paper for Schilling Supply.

Draft day 2019 - When I got to the draft Glen, Ed, Frank, Roland, Bill and Harry were already there. I barely put down the Munchin's and Roland dove into them. I checked my hand and I did have all five fingers. Phew, that was close. 209 players drafted. Thank goodness for Bob Figella's Draft Available list. It sure makes drafting a lot easier. Glen handled the on line draft again. I don't know how he does it. He handles the on line guys and he still drafts well. Great job. We drafted for two members that could not be present, Larry Huck and Dean Morris by written instructions. We did a pretty good job doing it. I heard from Larry and he said he was very pleased by his draft. Dean? Well he went to Sydney, Austria instead of staying home for the draft! Can you believe that? Bob Figella sent out the draft results and the Free Agent/Waiver Wire Available list. 13 players ended up being waived while 13 players found new live.

March 2019 - 2019 INSIDE THE FLY BY NIGHT Written by Ed Griffin

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Projected Finish

- 1 Allyn Street
- 2 US
- 3 New England
- 4 Taxachusets
- 5 Wall Street
- 6 Connecticut
- 7 Hazardville
- 8 Klee's
- 9 Illinois
- 10 Maine
- 11 Burlington
- 12 Norwich

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Projected Finish

- 1 Milford
- 2 New Hampshire
- 3 California
- 4 Lake Wobegon
- 5 Hotlanta
- 6 Louisville
- 7 Yorktown
- 8 Arsenal
- 9 Urpaign
- 10 Baton Rouge
- 11 Alpharetta
- 12 Atlanta

National League Overview:

WOW ... really tough to call this year in the NL. A bunch of OK teams.

The defending champion 89ers are clearly still the team to beat. The offense is good with Votto, Martinez and Ramirez raking. Picking up Iglesias to play SS and Greinke to be the stopper were big moves. But even this team has some flaws ... not great bottom of the order, end of the pen or bottom of the rotation. Still a shoe it to make the playoffs.

After that ... could go all sorts of directions.

March 2019 continued:

I'm figuring that the Jarheads picked up enough pitching in the draft to muddle along. The offense is the story here. Acuna (was a good year to suck), Trout, Goldy etc ... yikes. Will be lots of 10-7 games. I'm figuring on Bill to manage his way to the top.

I wouldn't figure on being ok with jettisoning the likes of Kluber and Freeman, but Bruce has put together a contender in NE. Solid lineup with mostly no name guys, an ok rotation and an excellent pen. No shortage of closers for the Angels with Chapman, Dominguez and Will Smith. Don't fall behind the Angels.

This IS your mama's Chiefs. Not much pitching and 300+ HRs. If you like HR derby you will enjoy your games with Bud this year. Can they HR their way to the playoffs ... with Treinen saving 50 games. Sure ... why not.

Sand Bagger Joe says he's coming in 10th. No way a team with Kluber and Nola comes in 10th. Nuff said ... but combine that with the Barons making the playoffs last year with an inferior roster, what the heck Joe ... make a couple trades and go for it. It's there for the taking. Longoria tanking hurt for sure ... BUT not a bad team.

Everybody else is on the bubble! CT is decent ... don't like all of the LHed SPing ... and not enough on-base vs RHP ... BUT, not a bad team ... keeping Story was smart.

Kegs don't have enough starting pitching or RPing, BUT not a bad team. One of the few teams that can't clobber LHPing. Klubbers will end up in the middle which is where they usually are ... an 81-81 Klubber team is indication that all is well and balanced in the world. Hamels down year, 2/3 Bumgardner and a pansy lineup vs RHP will ensure the FBN equator. Illinois is the dark horse here. Close to the best rotation 1-5 with Corbin, Lopez, Boyd, Manaea and Sale. However, the written road instructions have left the Prairie Dogs road kill on many occasions. I just figure it'll be another disappointing road performance for the Dogs.

Maine and Burlington ... just not feeling it ... BUT not bad teams. I'll go with both being flawed at SS ... how's that. Of the two I like Maine better. Not a bad lineup. Micolos will help the Bucs, but I had to pick someone to come in 10 and 11 so this is my guess.

Ok,so that leaves Norwich, rebuilding BUT not a bad team. Navigators got a bit old so I figure Don will bail on Kershaw which will clearly put them in a bad spot since guys like Zimmerman, Cueto and Samardzija have all crapped the bed. Bottom line ... just about anyone in the NL can make the playoffs. Usually I hit on about 80% of my predictions . not at all confident this year.

American League Overview:

It's the story of three cities. AwesomeTown, GoodTown and CrapAssTown ... you guys that want everyone to be competitive ... LOOK AWAY!

AwesomeTown:

Milford, New Hampshire and California

Glen owns all of the housing in this town ... squatters rights. Others like Frank and I just visit now and then. I still need someone to explain to me how Glen wins a 100 games most years and then has two top 5 picks in the next draft! I claim that happens because Glen is the Pied Piper and rest of us are being let out of our clown car to our slaughter by his virtuoso BS. I allowed him to steal pick 3 from me just this year! I proclaim myself an idiot ... but it's a large club!

Anyhow, enough of my whining. The Dogfish are awesome! Best starting pitching in the league and a monster lineup. This is the team to beat this year. Best starter in deGrom and best position player in Betts, etc., etc.

Any other year, the Hogs might be the best team, but not this year. They are just a step below the Fish. Another total roster gut and now the Hogs have a fantastic top of the rotation with Scherzer and Verlander, a very solid lineup and good pen. Of course once again the team is old, so the Hogs will probably have to retool again in two years.

A couple of bad years, some good drafting and a little luck (Ryu, Bucholz) and the Dreamers are back in serious contention. After Snell the rotation is piecemeal but solid. Good lineup led by rookie Soto and excellent pen with nice closer setup combo Jeffress and Hader..

GoodTown:

Lake Wobegon, Hotlanta, Louisville and Yorktown

So I'm saying Milford, New Hampshire and California are pretty much playoff locks. After that any two of these four will round out the playoff field. The Whippets have a nice core with Lindor and Yelich. The rotation is a little light but not awful ... solid closer and setup guys.

I like the Possums on base with guys like Nimmo and Winker. The rotation gets a little squirrely after Happ, Urena and Paxton ... and the pen is not quite as awesome as in past but Janson, Kimbrel and Betances are still not a group you want

March 2019 continued:

to face when behind after 6.

Tony has done a good job building talent with the River Bandits. Just not sure they are quite ready for the next level. Patience with guys like Wheeler, Chapman and Suarez paid off. Nice mix of power and some solid SPing. The pen needs a little work.

The Admirals round out the bubble teams. Could definitely make a run at the playoffs. I'm just not keen on the lack of on-base vs RHP and the rotation outside of Buehler. Not bad but I have to see more before I get on board.

CrapAssTown:

Arsenal, Urpaign, Baton Rouge, Alpharetta and Atlanta

Is this an ugly parody of America ... the expansion of the poor and underprivileged?

Dante is the mayor of CrapAssTown! The Senators have nothing this year. This may be one of the worst teams ever. I've had some bad teams and I'd be proud of this one! He's got lots of #1 picks next year including what will likely be 1 and 2 in a theoretically great class so he should be good going forward. This year you can count on about 130 losses.

Alpharetta isn't much better, but at least the Ace's have Thor, Bryant and a couple other decent bats. However, they will likely lose well over 100 games and contend for the 2nd pick in the draft ... owned by Atlanta.

Hard to believe a team with Carpenter, Harper and Stanton could stink ... but you have to have pitching too. Urpaign has more pitching with Clevenger leading the way but the offense is anemic at best.

The Bullets have Rizzo and a lot of has-beens ... the retool in Baton Rouge is full on. So with Atlanta, Alpharetta and Baton Rouge the AL will likely pick 1-5 in the draft and maybe 22-24. So much for balance.

Ed does a hell of a job with his report. The members really look forward to it and we sure appreciate it.

June 2019 – No hitter in Hogville was the report. Ed Griffin's Hog's tossed a combined no-hitter against Don Deckers Norwich team. What was interesting was that rookie Jack Flaherty had pitched 7 perfect innings when in a controversial move he was removed after becoming fatigued. Tony Watson pitched a perfect 8th but then Sean Doolittle walked the second batter of the 9th (Hicks) to spoil the perfect game. It was the Hogs forth no hitter and first since 2006 when Mark Prior started another combined no no. Ed was quoted, "You probably have a better chance of winning the lottery than this happening twice. Roger Clemens and Andy Ashby both pitched complete game no hitters for Ed's Hog's.

July 2019 – Perfection in Hazardville: In game 4 of a split series with Norwich a first happened for Bob Figella and his Hazardville Powderkegs. A PERFECT GAME. Julio Teheran combined with David Robertson for the 3-0 perfecto. Figella said, "We had one other no-hitter in our FBN career but never a perfect game. A funny coincidence. When Jamey Wright had his no-hitter versus Wall Street about 9 years ago neither Joe Rutka nor I realized it was a no-hitter until after the game when we were doing the line score. In last night's game I knew it was a shutout but not a no-hitter let alone a perfect game. I think Don Decker knew since he congratulated me and said something about "it" had happened to him 3 other times. I didn't piece things together until doing the stats tonight. I guess it's best to just go with the flow, said Bob.

August 2019 – Tony Childers and Dave Genio sent in nice write ups about their teams. Here are parts of the articles.

BANDITS BANTER - ... management has made a series of trades to try and bolster the offense and relievers...Bandits hope by adding these bats and arms they can keep a firm hold on the 5th and final playoff spot and hold off the Whippets and Gunners. These trades also will help for the 2020 season as Louisville has had a flux of OF'ers DFA during the season and one yet to make an appearance in 2019.

Looking forward to the challenges ahead as the last couple series will be against the Gunners and Whippets who are hot on the Bandits heels for the 5th and final spot for the playoffs

DEVIL DOODLES - The Blue Devils head back into NL play in 2nd place - one game behind the 89ers. Connecticut had a great chance to tie or take over 1st place in their last series vs. a struggling Baton Rouge team but the Blue Devils laid an egg losing 2 out of 3 at home....the team is 7 games better than they were last year at this time so fans and management are pleased and hopeful to return to the playoffs after a 5 year absence.

The final 44 games should be intense and competitive in the NL with teams vying for playoff position hoping to avoid the Wild Card game.

YORKTOWN'S DRY DOCK NEWS – Jeff Merklin was on a short leave due to illness and his games were played by CM by his opponents. I did a write up on his team. Even with Merk gone his team stayed afloat.

August 2019 continued - Bob Figella who does all the work on the website informed me that our website fee was going to increase from a bargain basement price of \$15.14 to \$175 for the next year. I worked on the budget and felt that we should be in good shape. Below is a reprint of the planned budget for 2020.

<u>State of the Fly-By-Night Baseball Association</u>		<u>Expected Expenses</u>		<u>Profit or Loss</u>	
Balance from 2018	\$58.90	League Awards (4 at the most)	\$90.00	Income	\$478.90
2020 Dues	<u>\$420.00</u>	Website possible cost for new year	\$175.00	Expenses	<u>380.00</u>
Income	\$478.90	Draft day room cost	<u>\$115.00</u>	Balance	98.90*
		Expenses	\$380.00		

September 2019 – Another no hitter! The third this season. In series finale with Atlanta - Blake Snell throws no-hitter for first Dreamers no-hitter since David Wells in 1999. Snell gave up no walks - just hit two of Atlanta players for only Senator baserunners! Frank Simonutti said. 'He didn't get away with any bad pitches because he just didn't throw any bad pitches. What a performance!'

October – 2019 The final 2019 standings.

AMERICAN LEAGUE								
place	Team	W	- L	pct	gb	home	away	last update
1	Milford Dogfish	121	- 41	.747	----	60 - 21	61 - 20	Final
2	New Hampshire Hogs	113	- 49	.698	8	59 - 22	54 - 27	Final
3	California Dreamers	100	- 62	.617	21	51 - 30	49 - 32	Final
4	Yorktown Admirals	99	- 63	.611	22	50 - 31	49 - 32	Final
5	Louisville River Bandits	96	- 66	.593	25	43 - 38	53 - 28	Final
6	Lake Wobegon Whippets	86	- 76	.531	35	39 - 42	47 - 34	Final
7	Arsenal Gunners	78	- 84	.481	43	38 - 43	40 - 41	Final
8	Hotlanta Possums	77	- 85	.475	44	37 - 44	40 - 41	Final
9	Urpaign Dragons	72	- 90	.444	49	36 - 45	36 - 45	Final
10	Baton Rouge Silver Bullets	56	- 106	.346	65	25 - 56	31 - 50	Final
11	Alpharetta Aces	41	- 121	.253	80	24 - 57	17 - 64	Final
12	Atlanta Senators	30	- 132	.185	91	16 - 65	14 - 67	Final
NATIONAL LEAGUE								
place	Team	W	- L	pct	gb	home	away	last update
1	Allyn Street 89ERS	103	- 59	.636	----	55 - 26	48 - 33	Final
2	New England Angels	97	- 65	.599	6	49 - 32	48 - 33	Final
3	Connecticut Blue Devils	95	- 67	.586	8	43 - 38	52 - 29	Final
4	US Jarheads	93	- 69	.574	10	50 - 31	43 - 38	Final
5	Hazardville Powderkegs	88	- 74	.543	15	44 - 37	44 - 37	Final
6	Klee's Klubbers	83	- 79	.512	20	45 - 36	38 - 43	Final
7	Illinois Prairie Dogs	78	- 84	.481	25	37 - 44	41 - 40	Final
8	Taxachusetts Chiefs	75	- 87	.463	28	39 - 42	36 - 45	Final
9	Wall Street Barons	72	- 90	.444	31	36 - 45	36 - 45	Final
10	Burlington Buccaneers	69	- 93	.426	34	40 - 41	29 - 52	Final
11	Maine Yaks	62	- 100	.383	41	33 - 48	29 - 52	Final
12	Norwich Navigators	62	- 100	.383	41	34 - 47	28 - 53	Final

October 2019 continued: Go back to page H210 to see how Ed did on his Pre-Season report.

THE PLAYOFFS AMERICAN LEAGUE

Wild Card Series – Louisville vs. Yorktown

Louisville took game one 5-2. Yorktown came back on even the series at 1, with a 5-4 win. Yorktown with a 5-2 victory took a 2-1 game lead in the series. In game 4, Yorktown with a 9-4 win was now 1 game away from moving on. Yorktown won the ALWCS with a 6-5 game five win.

American League Divisional Series - California vs New Hampshire

California took game one 3-1. New Hampshire even the series with a 6-5 win. New Hampshire 10-2 win to go up 2-1. New Hampshire made it three in a row with a 5-1 win. California forced a game 6 with a 4-0 shutout. New Hampshire won game six 3-2 to take the series.

American League Divisional Series – Yorktown vs Milford

Yorktown took game one 2-1. Milford tied the series with 9-2 win. Milford went up 2-1, with a 5-1 win. Milford took game 4, 8-2. Milford won the series with a 6-5 game win.

2019 ALCS - New Hampshire at Milford

New Hampshire took game one 5-4. Milford came back with 3-1 win. New Hampshire 10-5 winners in game 3 and 4-3 winners in game 4 to go up 3-1. Game 5 was Milford 4-1. In game six New Hampshire won 5-3 to move onto the World Series for the 8th time.

Hi-Lites by Ed Griffin

Congrats to Glen for an amazing season. He had the best team and was only a few timely rolls away from winning. He will be back again next year with another Juggernaut....and the year after that and the year after that.

It was a very tight series aside from game 3. Shi-Soo Choo was big knocking in the winning runs in both games 1 and 4. Xander Bogaerts had a huge grand slam in the deciding game. However, the series MVP goes to Max Scherzer who outdueled Jason deGrom twice.

The Hogs are excited to move on to their 8th World Series appearance. It was extra sweet to take down the Dogfish who the Hogs have lost to twice previously in the World Series. I believe it's the first playoff win ever over the Dogfish. New England and US both have great teams so the Hogs will have to play their best again to have a chance to win. I'm sure the winner will be happy to see the Hogs and not the Dogfish.

THE PLAYOFFS AMERICAN LEAGUE

Wild Card Series – US Jarheads vs. Hazardville

Jarhead won game one 9-1. Jarheads won game two 8-3 to take 2-0 lead. Game 3 was a 4-3 Jarhead win. Jarheads sweep Hazardville with 7-3 win.

National League Divisional Series: Connecticut and New England

New England took game one 7-3. Game two New England 11-5 winners. New England takes 3 game lead with 13-3 win. Connecticut avoided a sweep with 5-4 win. In game five Connecticut won 6-3. New England came back in game 6 with 5-2 win.

National League Divisional Series: US Jarheads vs. Allyn Street

Jarheads take game one 3-0. Another Jarhead win in game 2, 4-3. Jarheads take game 3, 9-6. Jarheads complete their second sweep of the post season with a 3-2 win.

2019 NLCS – US Jarheads vs. New England

Jarheads take game one 4-2. New England comes back with 7-6 win. Jarheads with 4-3 win go up 2-1. New England tied the series again with 8-6 win. Jarheads with 10-2 win go up 3-2. Jarheads advance to the World Series with 9-6 win.

Comments by Bill Nieman

Congratulations to Bruce on a great season with a 2nd place finish and a run to the NLCS. The Angels gave the Jarheads one heck of a fight. Could have been a different outcome had his 20 sider cooperated even a little.

The US Jarheads now head to Parris Island to prepare for the 2019 World Series vs the Hogs.

2019 World Series Jarheads vs Hogs

Game 1 Mikolas vs Scherzer

	R	H	E	
USJ	100	000	021	4 8 1
NH	000	000	000	0 6 1 WP Mikolas 1-0 LP Scherzer 0-1

Game 2 Porcello vs Verlander

	R	H	E	
USJ	113	000	000	5 5 0
NH	000	040	000	4 7 1 WP McHugh 1-0 LP Verlander 0-1 SAVE: Arano 1 HR USJ Trout 2 (2)

Game 3 Lugo vs S Wright

	R	H	E	
NH	020	100	020	5 1 0
USJ	000	000	000	0 5 1 WP Lugo 1-0 LP Wright 0-1 HR Kinsler 1

Game 4 Scherzer vs Mikolas

	R	H	E	
NH	070	111	000	10 11 1
USJ	000	101	010	3 6 1 WP Scherzer 1-1 LP Mikolas 1-1 HR NH Rendon 1 USJ Trout 2 (4)

Game 5 Vertlander 0-1 vs Porcello 0-0

	R	H	E	
NH	000	002	000	2 9 0
USJ	013	010	000	5 7 1 WP Porcello 1-0 LP Verlander 0-2 SAVE: Arano 2 HR USJ Encarnacion 1, Acuna 1
NH	Choo	1		

Game 6 Woodruff vs Flaherty

	R	H	E	
USJ	412	001	000	8 9 1
NH	000	000	201	3 10 1 WP Stanek 1-0 LP Flaherty 0-1 HR Encarnacion 1GS(2), Mullins 1, McNeil 1

Comments from Bill Nieman

The US Jarheads win The World Series 4-2 after losing 121 games last season. Mgr Jeff Kent got his wish and made 2018 seem "Like it Never Even Happened"!

Congratulations to Ed on a Great Season and a superb Playoff Run which included taking out the Mighty Milford Dogfish. The World Series Championship is the 2nd for The US Jarheads. The first Championship in 2014 was also against The Hogs.

Seies MVP: Mike Trout .313 5-16 D, 4HR 8RBI 7R 9BB

Honorable Mention: Victor Arano 2 Saves 5IP 0R 1H 1BB 4K

OoRAH, OoRAH, OoRAH !!! US JARHEADS WORLD CHAMPIONS IN 2019

November 2019 – The month that we put items up for review. If an item gets seconded by two members it gets on the ballot. This year besides voting for our league presidents we only had two other items on the ballot. It should have been three. I'll get into that later. Ed and Bob were voted in again as they do a great job. The members know that. A voting item was to try to create three spots on a reserve roster for uncarded players which would not count against our roster count. Teams would be limited to keeping three uncarded players. It failed by a 10-11-2 vote. So did the item on roster expansion. Instead of 37 with 40 maximum this item would allow 43 as maximum during the season but only 40 going into the draft. Again, it failed by the same vote total.

Ok, what should have been the third item up for vote? We should have been voting to revoke the use on the individual pitchers hitting cards. Why didn't we? Well, taking with Bob (Figella) by email he had said that it took too much extra time for him to load these cards into the roster files. Bob does almost everything for the league. The website, the schedules, the National League leaders. And so much more.

November 2019 continued – So rather than using my head I made an emotional decisions and revoke the use of the individual pitcher hitting cards. I put that out in an email. So this is what was on the ballot.

5.) I disagree on the Commissioners decision to revoke the use of the individual pitcher hitting cards.

I want to overturn the Commissioners decision. Check Here _____

The results was two to overturn. Two abstained. The rest agreed to leave my decision as it was.

From everyone that commented they all agreed that it wasn't worth Bob's time. My reasoning was correct, but my method was wrong. From some of the comments, it should have gone to a league vote. After thinking more about it I agree with the members, I should have put it to league vote. I made a mistake.

2019 AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

FIRST TEAM	SECOND TEAM
DH: Rhys Hoskins (YA) 21	DH: Kris Davis (LV) 20
CATCHER: W. Ramos (LW) 21	CATCHER: F. Cervelli (NH) 16
1 ST BASE: Yulueski Gurriel (BR) 32	1 ST BASE: Max Muncy (MD) 13
2 ND BASE: Jose Altuve (LV) 41	2 ND BASE: Whit Merrifield (HT) 17
3 RD BASE: Anthony Rendon (NH) 36	3 RD BASE: Alex Bregman (MD) 19
Shortstop: Francisco Lindor (LW) 28	Shortstop: Andrelton Simmons (MD) 11
1 ST OF'ER: Christan Yelich (LW) 45	4 TH OF'ER: Michael Brantley (NH) 26
2 ND OF'ER Juan Soto (CD) 38	5 TH OF'ER: Lorenzo Cain (NH) 19
3 RD OF'ER: Mookie Betts (MD) 30	6 TH OF'ER: Bryce Harper (AG) 14
1 ST SP'ER: Blake Snell (CD) 43	4 TH SP'ER: Jacob deGrom (MD) 19
2 ND SP'ER: Max Scherzer (NH) 38	5 TH SP'ER: Jack Flaherty (NH) 19
3 RD SP'ER: Justin Verlander (NH) 36	6 TH SP'ER: Walker Buehler (YA) 17
1 ST RP'ER: Sean Doolittle (NH) 35	4 TH RP'ER: Diego Castillo (CD) 21
2 ND RP'ER: Adam Ottavino (LW) 31	5 TH RP'ER: Kibery Yates (AG) 12
3 RD RP'ER: Josh Hader (LW) 28	6 TH RP'ER: Arodys Vizcaino (YA) 12

AMERICAN LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS:

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: _ Mookie Betts (MD) _____ 63__
CY YOUNG: _ _____ Blake Snell (CD) _____ 34__
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: ____ Juan Soto (CD) _____ 26_
MGR OF THE YEAR: _____ Jeff (Merk) Merklin (YA) 26__
GM OF THE YEAR: _____ Glen Boucher (MD) _____ 20__

Others receiving votes: The points below are not included in the above points unless they would break a tie.

DH: Cruz & Muncy 5, Beltre, Carpenter, Ohtani, Rendon & Stanton 3.

Ca.: S.Perez 8, Floers 5, Alfaro, Narvaez, Sanchez & Suzuki 3.

1b: Hoskins 11, Rizzo 6, Carpenter 5, Yulieski 3.

2b: Albies 11, Kinsler 3.

3b: Suarez 9, Beltre 5.

ss: Gregorius 10, Bogarts & Segura 9.

OF: K.Davis 14*, Stanton 9, Heyward, Hoskins & Pham 3.

SP:Wheeler 12, Clevenger 8, Berrios & Freeman 6, Robertson 5, Cote 3.

RP: Alvarado 11, Jenson 10, Watson 9, Jeffress 6, Fields, Moronta, Smith & Taylor 5, Ferguson, Kimbrell, Osuna & Pressley 3.

Note: K.Davis 34, Hoskins 34 and Stanton 12 total points. Hoskins gets start at DH as he beat out Davis 21 to

20. K.Davis makes 2nd team as backup. Harpeter makes 2nd team with 14 pts. Next highest after K.Davis.

MVP: Yelich 38, Bregman 28, Rendon 17, K.Davis16, Lindor & Snell 6, Hoskins & Scherzer 4, Muncy 3.

CY: Scherzer 27, Blake 5, deGrom 3.

Rookie: Flaherty 16, Buehler 8, J.Castillo 6.

MGR: Griffin 18, Childers 9, Simonutti 8, Nieman 3.

GM: Griffin 15, Childers 14, Simonutti 9, Merklin 6.

2019 NATIONAL LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

FIRST TEAM		SECOND TEAM	
DH:	J.D. Martinez (AS) 44	DH:	E. Encarnacion (USJ) 30
CATCHER:	J.T. Realmuto (HZ) 34	CATCHER:	B. Posey (IL) 27
1 ST BASE:	F. Freeman (CT) 36	1 ST BASE:	J. Abreu (KK) 24
2 ND BASE:	J. Baez (IL) 53	2 ND BASE:	R.Cano (AS) 23
3 RD BASE:	J. Ramierz (AS) 34	3 RD BASE:	N. Arenado (KK) 31
Shortstop:	T. Story (CT) 53	Shortstop:	B. Crawford (USJ) 23
1 ST OF'ER:	M. Trout (USJ) 55	4 TH OF'ER:	D. Peralta (HZ) 32
2 ND OF'ER:	R. Acuna (USJ) 45	5 TH OF'ER:	E. Rosario (AS) 25
3 RD OF'ER:	S. Piscotty (CT) 43	6 TH OF'ER:	A. Almora (NE) 18
1 ST SP'ER:	A. Nola (WS) 55	4 TH SP'ER:	L. Serverino (HZ) 33
2 ND SP'ER:	T. Bauer (AS) 55	5 TH SP'ER:	J. Chacin (AS) 27
3 RD SP'ER:	C. Sale (IL) 37	6 TH SP'ER:	M. Mikolas (USJ) 20
1 ST RP'ER:	D. Robertson (HZ) 48	4 TH RP'ER:	E. Diaz (MY) 32
2 ND RP'ER:	K. Kela (AS) 39	5 TH RP'ER:	S. Cishek (CT) 23
3 RD RP'ER:	J. Treinen (HZ) 33	6 TH RP'ER:	T. Rogers (AS) 16

NATIONAL LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS:

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: Mike Trout (USJ) 110
CY YOUNG: Trevor Bauer (AS) 45
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Ronald Acuna (USJ) 55
MGR OF THE YEAR: Bill Nieman (USJ) 30
GM OF THE YEAR: Harry Nieman (USJ) 34

Others receiving votes: The points below are not included in the above points unless they would break a tie.

DH: Zobrist 9, J.Ramirez 5.

Ca.: Molina 6, Contreaus & Grandal 5.

1b: Goldzmidt 13, Votto 11, Olsen 6, Encarnacion 3.

2b: Gordon 6, Zobrist & LeMahieu 3.

3b: Machado 23.

ss: Turner 9, Perea 3.

OF: Ozuna 14, Puig 12, JD Martinez 8, Grossman, Hanger & Zobrist 3.

SP: Kubler 11, Castillo, Minor & Price 9, Foltzewicz 8, Hendricks & Lester 3.

RP: Hughes 15, Iglesias 12, Moronta 10, Hiruna & W.Smith 8, McHugh 5, Arano 3.

Note: Zobrist ended up with a total of 15 points.

MVP: Story 33, Acuna 26, Machado 18, Baez 17, J.Ramirez 16, JD Martinez 12, Arendo 7, Nola 6, Bauer 4, Zobrist 3.

CY: Nola 43.

Rookie: Mikolas 12, Andujar 9, Kela, McNeil & Wendle 3.

MGR: Bruno 28, Gineo 17, Fogg 15, Figella 3.

GM: Fogg 26, Bruno 14, Boucher & Drapaeu 5, Gineo 3.

THE 2019 ALL-STAR GAME: I checked with Glen and we decided to let HAL play the All-Star game. I would put the lineups in and make pitching changes and I would make pinch hitting chances. HAL would do the rest. With the CoronaVirus knocking out all sports except Strat games, the All-Star game finally got done. The game was played on March 16, 2020

In one of the most exciting finishes the AL, after blowing a 5 run lead, came back to take the All-Star game in 12 innings by the score of 8-6. With the AL up 6-1 I started to try to get everyone into the game. I started to burn though the relievers.

Robinson Cano's two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth tied at 6. The American League won the hard fought contest in the 12th inning. After an out was recorded, Mookie Betts began the American League spurt when he doubled. Lorenzo Cain was next and he cracked a two-run shot. American League took care of National League with no trouble in the bottom of the 12th.

Arodys Vizcaino (1-0) was the winner allowing no runs in 3 innings. Steve Cishek (0-1) was charged with the loss in relief. He allowed 2 runs and 3 hits in 3 innings.

Americans.....	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	-	8	9	0
Nationals.....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	-	6	10	1

2020 The 47th season for the FBNBA. By Rob Bruno (12/3/2020)

As I sit here thinking back on the 2020 season I cannot start this section of the history without explaining how weird year 2020 has been. January 2020 started like any other year. We talked about the holidays and we planned our protected rosters. February saw Bob Figella completing the “Draft Available List”, the draft order was finalized, I checked out the Quality Inn to be sure they had a head count for tables and chairs. Food and drink was ordered for draft day 2020.

Opening Day at Strat was February 7th. Bob Figella, Roland, Bill, Harry, Don and former FNB'er Brian Faveroux all stood in line waiting to pick up the cards. Joe and I picked up our cards at Bill's later that day. Every-thing was normal.

Draft Day 2020 – At Draft Central, Glen, Frank and Don were there before me. The tables were not set up for us. This was the first sign that 2020 was going to be different, but we did not know it at the time. We had 12 members and two GM's at the draft. Besides the first three mentioned, we had Joe, Bill and Harry, Ed and Joanna, Bud, Roland, Bob F., Dave, Bob M. and me. The regular group. Everything went as all other years. League Awards handed out, Roland than handed out his awards and at 11am, Dante made the first two picks of the draft at 11am. The last pick, about 4 ½ hours later was made. Everything was normal.

We start to hear about his Coronavirus19 that is hitting China. Sounds bad. But, our President says it's a hoax not to be concerned.

March and the season starts. I drive to Colchester and played Joe at his home. He and his wife, Maureen welcome me. I take 3 of 4 and feel good about my season. Everything was normal. It did not last as this hoax of a virus has now surged into the US and has hit Connecticut hard. Governor Lemont closes all non-essential business. Only grocery stores, pharmacies and other essential business could be open. The virus hit seniors hard. I did not play another series face to face. I'm not sure if any members did.

Summer came and things got somewhat better. But, as far as I know no one played face to face. The state opened up most businesses and things seem to be improving. But, by the end of the Summer the cases of the Coronavirus started to rise. By November the virus was hitting hard again. The blame was Halloween and college kids going to parties and then going home effecting parents and grandparents. The surge came after Thanksgiving when millions of Americans travelled to visit family. It got so bad that governor's asked people to stay home and not to visit anyone outside their household. Over 260,000 Americans have died from the virus. Over 13 million have be infected. The President and one of his sons have been infected. Most Americans wear a mask to protect others and to protect themselves. But, not DJT.

Three companies have developed a vaccine to combat the virus. Pfizer's will take two doses, three weeks apart to be affective. It should be available for most Americans by Summer 2021. What does this mean for the FBNBA? My forecast for 2021 – Draft day will be online 100%. I don't see any face to face games until these vaccines really take affect and then we may get some games in during September. We'll have to wait and see. At least our newly elected, President-Elect is listening to the professionals, the scientists and the doctors to fight this virus. Finally, this “hoax” virus is being taken seriously!

April 28, 2020 FBN Team Statistics – 1985 to 2019 by Mike Holbrook

Individual and team statistics are available for the Fly-By-Night league from 1985 to the present. Bob has undertaken the herculean project of extending the individual stats from those available on the web to include older results. I recently updated the team stats to include the past two seasons to extend those stats from 2003 through 2019. Inspired by Bob's ambition (and being quarantined at home with time on my hands) I have undertaken the extension of the team stats back to 1985.

The league changed a lot in the late 1980s. There were 16 teams in the league in 1985. In 1986 the league expanded to 20 teams. The league expanded again in 1994 to the current 24 teams. There was a lot of manager turnover in the late 1980s. Year-end statistics were either not required or were not captured for posterity on our website before 1985. Several teams simply folded during the season leaving some of the surviving teams with less than 162 games played. Teams with less than the full complement of games were not included in this work. Some of the individual and team year-end stats were undecipherable due to bad or faded printing. Whatever was readable has been included, so some teams have no entry for some stats.

I counted at total of 60 managers who had a team in the 1985 to 2019, time period. Those with 5 or more seasons are listed below, total of 35, just over half along with their years in the league. 16 of these managers have been in the league at least 25 years – a true testament to the stability of this league. Those listed in bold are current managers – 23 of the 24.

Boucher 25	Ferguson 33	Handel 6	Nieman 33
Brajak 5	Figella 30	Holbrook 32	Rutka 21
Bruno 35	Fogg 29	Huck 19	Sanborn 12
Childers 15	Gager 6	Jalutkewicz 33	Shanks 20
Coffin 6	Gerack 27	Klee 31	Siebler 8
Cope 5	Gineo 31	Kutler 9	Simonutti 24
Decker 12	Gletty 18	Mendez 31	Statile 14
Drapeau 29	Griffin 28	Merklin 34	Walters 6
Favereaux 8	Hamel 22	Morris 26	

Who remembers managers Billings, Cebelak, English, Ewing, Hill, Icenogle, Kostek, Muir, Smith, Vinson or Becky Walters? And who can forget Ed Glass? A.K.A. the Demonseed. In going through his stats, I didn't think anyone would have more complete games than his team did in 1993 with 72. I think his philosophy must have been "If he's getting beat, he deserves a beating." "If he's winning, leave him in, he's winning." However, I found that in 1985 Ken Muir and his Muir's Mud Hens had 117 complete games on the way to a 60-win season. Amazing. Don't know what his philosophy was.

The two stats that we are required to track and diligently manage are at bats and innings pitched. There are stiff penalties assessed for overages. I believe that our managers do make a diligent effort to be complete and accurate in the reporting for these and, really, all the stats that are kept for our teams. One would expect that our yearly team stats should be fairly close to what is seen in MLB since that is what our game is based on. I compared our team at bats and innings pitched to that of MLB below. I used the 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2019 MLB data offset by 0.5 years so it would not fall on top of the FBN data. FBN data are shown in blue and MLB data are in brown. **(See website for charts.)** Of course, the FBN teams may have team batting averages much higher or lower than MLB teams. In the four MLB seasons I choose the batting average varied from 0.236 to 0.294. The FBN team averages varied from 0.213 to 0.313. One might expect that at bats might vary more for the FBN than the MLB. The vast majority of the team yearly results from the MLB and FBN fall in the same area. The scatter in the FBN occurs to both the low and high sides of the norm. FBN teams dominated the pitching stats. I guess the steroid era had its impact. Despite the steroids I thought that the huge increase in the total number of home runs hit in the MLB in the past few years would more than make up for the few guys that were juicing and setting individual records. A plot of FBN home runs over the years shows that team home runs peaked for a few teams in the late 1990s. The most prolific was the 1997 Farmington Valley team with 360 home runs – Salmon 45, Chipper Jones 39, Piazza 70, Griffey 59, Albert don't call me Joey Belle 53, even Kevin Elster hit 25 home runs. However, in the past 3 years all but five FBN teams hit at least 150 home runs – very similar to the 2019 MLB home run total. While home runs have peaked recently, so have strikeouts. Team strikeouts have increased from an average of about 900 in the late 1980s to an average of about 1350 in the past few years – an increase of about 50%. The increase seen in the FBN compares closely with that seen in the MLB.

In my last update I coined the Rich Hamel Zone or RHZ being defined as teams with 115 or more wins in a season. I am going to have to rename that zone. How about the BHZ for the Boucher Hamel Zone. Glen has had many super teams with 115 or more wins and is probably on his way to another big season this year. The 1998 Farmington Valley team won 128 games – the most of any team since 1985. In fact, Glen's team won more than 115 games in 1997, 1998, and 1999. What a great streak. There have been a total of 15 teams that have entered the BHZ in 35 years of FBN baseball. Only 6 teams have entered the zone since 2007.

Managers with 115+ Wins

Hamel 5
 Boucher 4
 Drapeau 1
 Gineo 1
 Griffin 1
 Simonutti 1
 Statile 1
 Walters 1

There have been many remarkable statistics over the years. I will highlight some of them here that I haven't already mentioned but check out the Top 20s included at the end of this note.

Runs scored – 2001 Caribou Street (Griffin) – 1201 This is the most runs scored by 85 runs. Wow!

Hits – 2001 Orlando (Lavoie) – 1851 and 1995 Hazardville (Figella) – 1843 These are the only teams to have more than 1800 hits in a season.

Home runs – 11 teams have hit more than 300 home runs, but only two teams have done it since 2001. 1997 Farmington

Valley (Boucher) leads with 360 homers.

Walks – three teams have had over 800 walks in a season lead by 1999 Yorktown (Merkin) with 862. Mark McGwire and Edgar Martinez led the team with over 300 combined walks.

Stolen bases – Wow! The 1989 Galactic (Walters) stole an amazing 432 bases. From 1989 through 1992 Galactic stole a total of 1321 bases – an average of 330 bases per year. The 1985 Muir’s Mud Hens (Muir) stole 372 bases for the second most SBs in a season.

Batting average – 15 teams have team batting averages over 0.300.

Slugging percentage – Farmington Valley (Boucher) owns the top 4 positions, all over 0.550.

Saves – 1999 California (Simonutti) is the only team with over 80 saves (81).

Shutouts – Two teams had over 20 shutouts, both in the same year – 2015 Norwich (Decker) – 26 and Baton Rouge (Holbrook) – 22.

Strikeouts – Six teams had over 1500 strikeouts in a season, 5 in the past 2 years.

Whip – Four teams had team WHIP less than 1.1.

ERA – Six teams had an ERA of less than 3.00 lead by 1989 Galactic (Walters) with 2.651.

Δ Runs – This is the difference between the runs scored and the runs given up. As one might expect, there is a good correlation between a large positive run differential and the number of wins. Seven teams have a scoring differential of over 400 runs lead by the 1997 Farmington Valley (Boucher) team with a Δ of 491. The 2007 Taxachusetts (Drapeau) team is second with a Δ of 457 runs. Five of the seven teams with 400+ differentials were Boucher teams. The other was the 2009 Salem (Hamel) team with 407. A plot of Δ runs vs wins is shown below. Again, the blue points are FBN results and the brown points are MLB results for the four years researched. The equation of the trend line is shown along with the R2 value. A pretty decent correlation. It is reassuring that if the run differential is 0, then one should have 80.8 wins. As I did in my first analysis of the team statistics, I am going to do a simple analysis of the full set of stats to try to gage which teams were statistically the most dominant for hitting and for pitching for the years 1985 to 2019. The problem comes in defining which statistics to use to gage dominance. I choose 4 hitting and 4 pitching stats. For hitting I choose runs scored, batting average, on base percentage, and slugging percentage. For pitching I choose WHIP, ERA, strikeouts, and complete games. You can argue with my choices but all the data is at the end of this note for you to recalculate to your heart’s desire. The procedure I used is simple – 20 points for #1 in each category, 19 for #2, etc. Add all the points for each team and rank them by total points. I did not use wins or Δ runs since they assumed contributions from both hitting and pitching and both are highly correlated. It would have maybe been better to use WAR but I couldn’t figure out how to do that calculation for these data. So, here are the most dominant FBN teams. In my earlier 2003 to 2019 analysis, the best hitting team was 2007 Taxachusetts (Drapeau). Not so when considering results from 1985 to 2019. The most dominant hitting team was 1997 Farmington Valley (Boucher) – by far. FBN teams from the late 90s were far better hitting teams than the more recent teams. The 2007 Taxachusetts team is Run Differential Δ Runs vs Wins only #14 in the larger analysis. Recent teams fared far better in the pitching department. The most dominant pitching team was 2015 Norwich (Decker) with 2019 New Hampshire (Griffin) as a close second. The top 20 most dominant hitting and pitching teams in the FBN from 1985 through 2019 are shown below.

FBN 1985-2019 Team Hitting Leaders

Rank Year Team Manager Points

1	1997	Farmington	Boucher	72
2	2001	Orlando	Lavoie	57
3	2001	Caribou Street	Griffin	55
4	1999	Farmington	Boucher	52
5	1998	Farmington	Boucher	44
6	2000	Farmington	Boucher	43
7	1997	Florida	Gerack	39
8	1994	North Reading	Griffin	35
9	1995	Hazardville	Figella	34
10	1999	California	Simonutti	33
10	1998	Florida	Gerack	33
12	2000	Connecticut	Gineo	31
12	2001	Lake Wobegon	Ferguson	31
14	2007	Taxachusetts	Drapeau	27
15	2001	Connecticut	Gineo	24
16	1995	Farmington	Boucher	22
17	2004	Louisville	Childers	15
18	2000	Florida	Gerack	13

FBN 1985-2019 Team Pitching Leaders

Rank Year Team Manager Points

1	2015	Norwich	Decker	57
2	2019	New Hampshire	Griffin	54
3	2015	Baton Rouge	Holbrook	45
4	2017	Baton Rouge	Holbrook	43
5	2010	Salem	Hamel	38
6	2019	Milford	Boucher	37
7	2015	New England	Fogg	34
8	1990	Galactic	Walters	28
8	1985	Illinois	Aces Ellis	28
10	2018	Milford	Boucher	24
11	2013	Hotlanta	Jalutkewicz	23
12	2017	Nashville	Campbell	20
12	1989	Galactic	Walters	20
14	2018	Connecticut	Gineo	19
14	2011	Allyn St	Bruno	19
16	1989	US	Jarheads Nieman	18
17	2018	Wall Street	Rutka	17
17	2012	Allyn St	Bruno	17

19 1998 Caribou Street Griffin 11
 20 2000 Caribou Street Griffin 10
 20 2009 Yorktown Merklin 10

19 2019 California Simonutti 16
 19 2015 Hotlanta Jalutkewicz 16
 19 2009 Salem Hamel 16

A total of 22 different managers appear in the list of dominant teams – a testament to the quality of the managers in our league. I hope you found this team statistics analysis interesting and maybe somewhat informative.

FINAL TEAM STANDINGS FOR 2020

AMERICAN LEAGUE									
place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Milford Dogfish	123 - 39	.759	----	58 - 23	.716	65 - 16	.802	Final
2	California Dreamers	107 - 55	.660	16	53 - 28	.654	54 - 27	.667	Final
3	New Hampshire Hogs	101 - 61	.623	22	53 - 28	.654	48 - 33	.593	Final
4	Louisville River Bandits	94 - 68	.580	29	43 - 38	.531	51 - 30	.630	Final
5	Lake Wobegon Whippets	88 - 74	.543	35	45 - 36	.556	43 - 38	.531	Final
6	Hotlanta Possums	87 - 75	.537	36	47 - 34	.580	40 - 41	.494	Final
7	Yorktown Admirals	85 - 77	.525	38	37 - 44	.457	48 - 33	.593	Final
8	Alpharetta Aces	69 - 93	.426	54	36 - 45	.444	33 - 48	.407	Final
9	Urpaign Dragons	65 - 97	.401	58	27 - 54	.333	38 - 43	.469	Final
10	Baton Rouge Silver Bullets	63 - 99	.389	60	31 - 50	.383	32 - 49	.395	Final
11	Arsenal Gunners	56 - 106	.346	67	29 - 52	.358	27 - 54	.333	Final
12	Atlanta Senators	41 - 121	.253	82	22 - 59	.272	19 - 62	.235	Final

NATIONAL LEAGUE									
place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Taxachusetts Chiefs	109 - 53	.673	----	59 - 22	.728	50 - 31	.617	Final
2	Burlington Buccaneers	107 - 55	.660	2	57 - 24	.704	50 - 31	.617	Final
3	US Jarheads	98 - 64	.605	11	52 - 29	.642	46 - 35	.568	Final
4	Connecticut Blue Devils	86 - 76	.531	23	42 - 39	.519	44 - 37	.543	Final
5	Norwich Navigators	82 - 80	.506	27	42 - 39	.519	40 - 41	.494	Final
6	Illinois Prairie Dogs	79 - 83	.488	30	46 - 35	.568	33 - 48	.407	Final
7	Klee's Klubbers	77 - 85	.475	32	38 - 43	.469	39 - 42	.481	Final
8	Allyn Street 89ERS	71 - 91	.438	38	38 - 43	.469	33 - 48	.407	Final
9	Hazardville Powderkegs	65 - 97	.401	44	33 - 48	.407	32 - 49	.395	Final
10	New England Angels	64 - 98	.395	45	35 - 46	.432	29 - 52	.358	Final
11	Maine Yaks	64 - 98	.395	45	36 - 45	.444	28 - 53	.346	Final
12	Wall Street Barons	63 - 99	.389	46	36 - 45	.444	27 - 54	.333	Final

American League Wild Card Series – Lake Wobegon vs. Louisville. Lake Wobegon won the series 4-3. In the 4-3 Series win for Lake Wobegon, Francisco Lindor hit .438 (14 for 32) with a HR and a couple of steals, and Christian Yelich batted .360 with three homers and 4 stolen bases. But the runaway MVP of the series has to be Stephen Strasburg. The Whippets won all three of his starts, where he allowed just 13 hits and 1 walk in 21 innings, striking out 27. Trey Mancini hit .346 (9 for 26) for Louisville including 5 doubles and a homer.

American League Final Four Series 1:

Ed Griffin and his New Hampshire Hogs went to California to play Frank Simoutti and his California Dreamers. As Frank put it “this series played out like the 1960 World Series.” The Dreamers won the series in 7 games. “Hogs had the better of the offense (outscored Dreamers 38-24) but Dreamers managed to win the low scoring games. The series was basically decided by 1-2 split HR draw for Iglesias in Game 6. Dreamers were lucky all season and continued into playoffs.” Co-MVPs - Hyun-Jin Ryu (2-0 1.72) and Josh Hader (4 saves, 5IP, 3H, 7K).

American League Final Four Series 2: Lake Wobegon, vs. Milford. **SUMMARY:** Milford won the series, 4 games to 1. Mitch Moreland was the series MVP, with 4 HRs in 13 ABs, hitting .385, driving in 6. Milford advances to the ALCS to face California.

American League Championship Series. California vs. Milford.

Series Summary: The series could have easily gone either way (see Game 2 & Game 3) with a couple of breaks. I was very fortunate.

Game 2 was the pivot point in the series, ending with a dramatic bottom of the ninth Nick Senzel pinch-hit 3-run HR (a 1-18 HR on Hader's card, rolled a 12).

More drama followed in Game 3! Scoreless after twelve innings, only to have each team score a run in the thirteenth. Both teams had their chances to win it, Milford getting the big hit in the top of the nineteenth.

Series MVP: Carlos Correa earns series MVP with his steady D at SS, and 0.429 average in 21 ABs. Senzel a close second with his huge HR in Game 2.

Milford hit 0.235 for the series, California 0.191. Milford hit 12 HRs, to California's 6.

National League Wild Card Series – Norwich vs. Connecticut. Connecticut won in 7 games.

The first 6 games of the series really weren't all that interesting as most games ended with pretty big winning margins. But Game 7 was a close, exciting finish to the series. Some stats for the series NN hit .282, CT .262. NN 5.80 ERA, CT 7.20. NN out-homered CT 21-14 and outscored them 49-44.

Franmil Reyes and Nelson Cruz both hit 4 HR's for the series but Reyes had the best overall numbers batting .357 with 4 HR'S and 10 RBI, so how did the Blue Devils win? Luck with the split dice. CT hit 6 of 8 ballpark HR's NN only 6 of 14 and for ball park singles CT was 4-4 while NN was 4-20.

National League Final Four Series 1: US Jarheads vs. Burlington. The Jarheads celebrated with a walk off win and a sweep of the series and moved on to the NLCS. Series MVP CO Winners - Mike Trout, 6-16 .375, D, 3HR 6 RBI 4BB. USJ Bullpen 2-0-2 1.13 ERA, 16ip, 9h, 3bb, 11k, 0.75 WHIP.

National League Final Four Series 2: Connecticut vs. Taxachusetts. Taxachusetts won in 6 games. The turning point in the series was in Game 4 when Freese hit into a triple play. After that, all the momentum shifted, and Dave couldn't buy a roll. CT .239 6 HR, 4.50 ERA TX .255 9 HR, 5.26 ERA. The Chiefs did not commit an error in the series. Series MVP goes to Mike Clevinger who was 2-0, 0.75 ERA with 15 strikeouts and only 6 hits allowed in 12 innings.

National League Championship Series: US Jarheads vs. Taxachusetts. The Chiefs won in 6 games.

Series MVP - Lance Lynn, 1-0, 1.29 ERA. He allowed only a Trout 2-run HR over 14 innings, 8 hits, 3 walks, 16 strikeouts.

The Chiefs were 2-1 vs Milford in the regular season and beat the Dogfish in the 2011 World Series when Carlos Santana clutched out what would've been the tying run in Game 6. On to face Goliath. Anybody got a slingshot?

The 2020 Fly-By-Night BA World Series: Taxachusetts vs. Milford.

Game 1: Milford won 9-0. W: deGrom (1-0), Lynn (0-1)

HR: C.Bellinger(1st), A.Bregman(1st), Y.Alvarez(1st), B.Lowe(1st), M.Sano(1st)

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Milford leads the series 1-0

Game 2 Milford won 4-3 after being behind 3-0 after 3 innings. W: G. Cole (1-0), L: Clevinger (0-1), S: M. Walden (1)
HR: M.Semien(1st), D.Lemahieu(1st)

Milford leads the series 2-0

Game 3 Milford won 9-2 W: F. Montas (1-0), G. Gonzalez (0-1)
HR: A.Bregman(2nd), C.Correa(1st), J.Castro(1st)

Milford up 3-0 is one game away from another Championship.

Game 4 Taxachusetts with their backs against the wall hold on for a 4-3 win.
W: L. Lynn (1-0), deGrom (1-1), S: P. Baez (1)
HR: M.Moreland(1st), A.Gordon(1st), D.Lemahieu(2nd)

We go to game 5 with Milford up 3 games to 1.

Game 5 Milford down 5-1 after one inning score 5 in the second and do not look back as they take game 5 10-6, to win the World Series.

Dogfish..... 1 5 0 0 1 3 0 0 0 - 10 12 1

Chiefs..... 5 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 6 10 1

W: M. Walden (1-0), L: G. Gonzalez (0-2)

HR: C.Bellinger(2nd), Y.Alvarez(2nd), M.Muncy(1st), M.Semien(2nd), D.Lemahieu(3rd), Y.Gurriel(1st), B.McCann(1st)

Milford 2020 WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS!!!

Series MVP: - C. Bellinger due to the huge GS HR in Game 5, and exceptional RF defense.

Summary

This is the 6th World Series championship for the Milford (Farmington Valley) franchise in 9 attempts. Was very fortunate to get the rolls this time around when needed.

Key Stats

- MD ERA: 3.07, 40 K

- MD Bullpen: 8.1 innings, 1 ER

- TX ERA: 7.12, 50 K

- TX Bullpen: 24.1 innings, 20 ER

- MD BA: 0.276, 35 R, HR: 12, 30 BB

- TX BA: 0.213, 15 R, HR: 8, 6 BB

- DJ LeMahieu: 3 HR, 8 RBI

- K. Bryant: 20 AB, 0.100, 1 D, 0 HR, 0 RBI, 2 R, 1 BB

- D. Vogelbach: 17 AB, 0.059, 0 HR

- A. Rizzo: 11 AB, 0.182, 0 HR

- M. Barnes: 2.2 IP, 6 H, & R, 7 ER, 3 HR, 5 BB, 4 K

- G. Gonzalez: 2.1 IP, 8 H, 7 R, 7 ER, 3 HR, 5 BB, 4 K

- Cody Bellinger. 22 AB, 0.364, 2 D, 2 HR, 6 RBI, 7 R, 3 BB

- Y. Alvarez: 15 AB, 0.533, 4 D, 2 HR, 4 RBI, 6 R, 6 BB

Another great FBN season. Continues to be such a great hobby. Undoubtedly, the people that make the league what it is!

One other note, all runs scored in this series were legal, and counted. ...no bogus lawsuits required. :-)

Enjoy the off-season everyone. Onto the Draft (whether it's over Zoom & Slack, or not).

Be well all, Glen

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Voting Results:

A. Rob Bruno Commissioner 24-0 .

- B. Ed Griffin American League President. 22-0 (Two NL members forgot that they also should vote for ALP.)
 C. Bob Figella National League President. 24-0

1. **Any rules approved to mitigate the 2020 situation to be one year** fixes only, then previous years rules go back into effect. **Passed Yes _22_ No _1_ ABS 1**
2. **Expand the active roster** for 2021 like MLB did. The last block will still have expanded rosters. **Passed Yes 23_ No_1**
- 2a. The **active roster size for all months except** the last block should be; **2a. 28_5_ 26_19_ (26 Passed)**
3. Limit the “September roster expansion” (our last block) to 28 like MLB. **Failed Yes_8_ No_16_**
- 3a. **Keep the present “September roster expansion”** (our last block) at 40. **Passed Yes_16_ No_7_**
- 3b. If “September roster expansion of the 28-man limit passes **(It failed. 8 for 16 against)**
 - A.) **28-man roster can be adjusted after every game in a series**
 - B.) **28-man roster can be adjusted after every series**
4. **Choose one 4a or 4b.**
- 4a. Use the traditional SOM rating set based on the 60 game season and multiply the actual ab/ip to compensate for the difference. **Traditional set Passed 4a. 12 4b. 10 ABS 2**
- 4b. Use the SOM Imagined set based on a combination of actual 2020 season stats and projections of all players who played in 2020 if issued by SOM.
5. If the 60 game season is used we will need to expand ab/ip by a factor. The factor of 2.7 will be needed to match a regular 162 game full season. But, due to the number of double headers that were limited to 7 innings a factor of 2.8 or 3.0 have been suggested to be used for the 2021 season. We will break this vote into two parts. First vote yes or no to accept the 2.7 factor. If the 2.7 factor does not pass we will either use 2.8 or 3.0. **Please vote on both 5a and 5b.**
- 5a. I vote to use the 2.7 factor. **Failed Yes _7_ No _17_**
- 5b. If the 2.7 factor fails, I vote for the increased factor of, choose one: 2.8, 3.0. **(2.8 11) (3.0_12) 3.0 Passed**
6. Continue to use the “Opener”. **Passed Yes_21_ No _3_**
7. For the 2021 FBN Season expand rosters from 40 to 43 players. This is a 1-year exception due to the pandemic situation. **Passed Yes _19_ No _5_**

2020 AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

FIRST TEAM		SECOND TEAM	
DH:	Arraez(HT)	DH:	Schwarber(AL)
CATCHER:	Sanchez(AT)	CATCHER:	Narvarez(LV)
1 ST BASE:	Alonso(AT)	1 ST BASE:	Mancini(LV)
2 ND BASE:	Albies(CD)	2 ND BASE:	Altuve(LV)
3 RD BASE:	Moncada(HT)	3 RD BASE:	Rendon(NH)
Shortstop:	Lindor(LW)	Shortstop:	Anderson(AL)
1 ST OF'ER:	Yelich(LW)	4 TH OF'ER:	Blackmon(CD)
2 ND OF'ER:	Soto(CD)	5 TH OF'ER:	Springer(LW)
3 RD OF'ER:	Bellinger(MD)	6 TH OF'ER:	Betts(MD)
1 ST SP'ER:	Morton(CD)	4 TH SP'ER:	Ryu(CD)
2 ND SP'ER:	deGrom(MD)	5 TH SP'ER:	Verlander(NH)
3 RD SP'ER:	Cole(MD)	6 TH SP'ER:	Buehler(YA)
1 ST RP'ER:	Hendriks(LW)	4 TH RP'ER:	Neris(YA)
2 ND RP'ER:	Hader(CD)	5 TH RP'ER:	Jansen(HT)
3 RD RP'ER:	Lugo(NH)	6 TH RP'ER:	Rogers(LV)

MVP:#1 _____Yelich(LW)_____

CY YOUNG: _Morton(CD)_____

ROOKIE: ___Alfonzo(AT)_____

MGR: _____Frank Simonutti(CD)_____

GM: _____Glen Boucher(MD)_____

2020 NATIONAL LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

FIRST TEAM

DH: N.Cruz (CT)
CATCHER: Realmuto(HZ)
1ST BASE: Goldsmidt(US)
2ND BASE: LeMahieu(TX)
3RD BASE: Urhsela(BB)
Shortstop: Baez(IL)
1ST OF'ER: Trout(US)
2ND OF'ER: Acuna(US)
3RD OF'ER: McNeil(US)
1ST SP'ER: Lynn(TX)
2ND SP'ER: Gray(BB)
3RD SP'ER: Castillo(BB)
1ST RP'ER: Workman(TX)
2ND RP'ER: Harris(KK)
3RD RP'ER: Yates(BB)

SECOND TEAM

DH: JD.Martinez(AS)
CATCHER: Grandel(US)
1ST BASE: Rizzo(TX)
2ND BASE: K.Marte(KK)
3RD BASE: Bryant(TX)
Shortstop: Story(CT)
4TH OF'ER: F.Reyes(NN)
5TH OF'ER: Soler(AS)
6TH OF'ER: Gallo(TX)
4TH SP'ER: Minor(CT)
5TH SP'ER: Giolito(MY)
6TH SP'ER: Bauer(AS)
4TH RP'ER: Dn.Hudson(MY)
5TH RP'ER: Gallegos(BB)
6TH RP'ER: Kintzler(IL)

MVP: _____Lemahieu(TX)_____

CY YOUNG: Castillo(BB)_____

ROOKIE: ___Mike Yaz_____

MGR: _____Bud Drapeau(TX)_____

GM: _____Bud Drapeau(TX)_____

The 2020 FBN All-Star game was played face to face this year.

AL President Ed Griffin gave Harry Nieman approval to represent the American League. Harry guided the American League to a 8-6 win in the 2019 All-Star game. Representing the National League was the 2019 FBN World Series Championship Manager Jeff Kent (Bill Nieman) of the US Jarheads.

The 2020 FBN All Star Game was played at Kate Elizabeth Park home of the 2019 World Champion US Jarheads. The starting pitchers: AL Charlie Morton 26-5 vs NL Lance Lynn 25-3.

It was 5-2 going to the 9th and The NL called on Kirby Yates to close it out. And he did it in style. Striking out Blackmon, Rendon and Altuve to notch the save.

R H E

AL 101 000 000 2 5 0

NL 000 300 02- 5 9 0 WP Mike Minor, Save Kirby Yates, LP Hyun-jin Ryu

HR AL Juan Soto, NL Kris Bryant, Ketel Marte

The 2020 National League Champion Chiefs figured prominently in the NL victory.

DJ LeMahieu 4 1 3, Kris Bryant PH HR in the 7th and **Anthony Rizzo earns The MVP Award** for his 2 out, PH, 3 run Double to put the NL on top 3-2.

The 2nd place Bucs chipped in as well. Ketel Marte with a 7th inn HR and Kirby Yates striking out the side in the 9th on 9 pitches, to earn the save.

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Well as I said at the being of this section of our history, 2020 has been a weird year, anything but normal. Major League Baseball did a hellava job to get in a 60 game season. Due to the short season Strat decided to put out two sets of cards to

represent 2020. They will be putting out the 60 game season set and a set they are calling Imagine. The Imagine set will be a combination of the 60 game season plus stats based on the players past performances. As reported in the voting results, we voted to use the 60 game season set for our 2021 season. I'm hoping that 2021 will be a better year. I dare not say, can it be any worst!

2021 The 48th season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (12/1/2021)

The 48th season of the FBNBB was one for the books. Would MLB play a full season? Would we cancel our inperson draft? Could Milford win the regular AL for the fourth straight year? Could Taxachusetts win it in the NL for the second year in a row? No one has done that since Norwich won 3 in a row from 2014 to 2016. Taxachusetts did win 2 in 2011 and 2012. They would have had three in a row if the FBN did not go to a 24 team league in 2013. They ended up second only to Milford.

January 2021 – Major League Baseball in 2020 did play a full 162 game schedule. Hopefully, things would start getting back to normal. Well, not yet. Covid 19 decided to stick around with different variants. Strat-O-Matic headquarters in Glen Head decided it would be closed to the public, without exception, from 2/19/21 to 3/4/21. Strat would start shipping out orders on the 19th. With our draft scheduled for the 21st, it would mean that we would be drafting without the cards. I think this was the second time in our history that this happened.

With many states limiting the number of people that could gather inside and as Connecticut was one of them, we decided to have an on-line draft only. Glen Boucher conducted three trial runs to help many of the “old timers” who had little or no computer knowledge. Thank you Glen! Glen used Zoom and Slack.

For 2021 we allowed Emergency Draft Instructions to be sent by email. We did this in case we had more than one person not attending the draft. The emails could be shared with Ed and Bob. It turned out this was not needed because all 24 members were on line and the draft went smoothly. In fact, it was one of the fastest and smoothest run drafts in our history. Everyone was prepared and ready when it was their turn to draft. I think one of the biggest things that helped the draft run smoothly was that Bob Figella added a player's LBB number to his available list. By doing so everyone was able to follow along without having to take the time to say the LBB number. I tip my hat to all the guy's.

Blue Grass GM, Mike Holbrook starts to dismantle pieces of the old Baton Rouge team as he traded Yu Darvish, Yimi Garcia, Andrew Miller and Chris Devenski to Atlanta. “Darvish was the last significant trade piece left of the old Baton Rouge Silver Bullets.” Dante hopes this trade will turn around his franchise. “It's been a long 253-loss journey over the last couple of seasons since Ed first appointed me as Mayor of Crapasstown. Here's hoping for our first winning season.”

February 2021 - Glen ran the last Zoom and Slack test on February 14th. Roland did not complain that it was held on Valentine's Night. I guess marriage does that ☺. We reviewed some draft day details including bathroom breaks. Hey, at our present ages, bathroom breaks are very important.

Thanks to Glen for handling another draft, this one completely on line. Slack ran very well. We started at 10am with Dante drafting Robert at number 1. We finished at 4:38pm with Ed drafting at 265, Domingo Stantana. We had expanded our rosters to 43 for 2021 due to the concern of AB's and Innings because of Covid.

Five Draft Day trades saw 5 players and 17 DP's traded. Goes to show that Covid did not slow down our GM's.

March 2021 - Ed Griffin completed his “INSIDE THE FBN” and for FBN teams it's always a must read. This is edition #20 for Ed. Hard to believe 20 years has gone by his he first put on the “Insider” During the first 19 years he's predicted correctly 76% of the time. “I miss about two a year, said Griffin. Usually it's the bubble teams that are tough to judge or It's because I don't follow **my basic rule, don't include Klee's!**” Ed's predictions

NL: 1) Wall Street - 2) Taxachusetts - 3) Allyn Street - 4) Maine - 5) FoggyMountain. He got the five postseason 100%.

Correct order: 1) Allyn Street 2) Wall Street 3) FoggyMountain 4) Taxachusetts 5) Maine

AL: 1) Milford - 2) Lake Wobegon - 3) Louisville - 4) Hotlanta -5) California.

Correct order: 1) Milford 2) Yorktown (predicted 8th) 3) Lake Wobegon 4) Hotlanta 5) California. (Louisville finished 7.)

Nine out of 10! Now you see why we look forward to reading “INSIDE THE FBN”. I use LBB to help me prepare for the draft and I use “INSIDE THE FBN” to help me fix any weak spots on my team. Thank you Ed.

The season got underway. In the AL Blue Grass (formerly Baton Rouge) was in first place and Milford was 1 game back. New Hampshire got settle in at last place. They would be there all season. In the NL Maine was in first place and US Jarheads and Wall Street were tied for second place. Klee's was enjoying the basement with Bertha.

Bud Drapeau noticed that MLB had been monitoring the FBN emails and it apparently agrees with some of the FBN members in terms of bringing back old time baseball. “MLB has lagged behind the FBN on a number of items. We've had

the dh in both leagues years before MLB will finally do it. Plus, we had wild card teams before MLB decided to implement it. That's just two items off the top of my head", said Bud.

April 2021 – The first no-no of 2021 was Louisville's Tony Childers first ever. Shane Bieber no hit Yorktown. The only thing spoiling it from a perfect game was a base on balls. Bieber K'ed 11.

"One of the cool things about getting road results from Larry Huck is that he sends you a baseball card of someone on your team," said Roland. The downside for Roland is that it's been somebody on Klee's whose career is about to end. "Last year I got Nick Markakis. A couple of years earlier it was JJ Hardy. This year's gift is Orlando Arcia." Arcia has recently lost his ss job with the Brewers. Roland asked, "Who's going to be next?"

"Dylan Cease's near no-no vs Allyn Street was probably the season highlight for Norwich" said Don. Cease settled for a 1 hitter as Ty France ph single to lead off the 9th spoiled the no-no. Norwich did win 2-0.

In the AL Milford was 2 games in first and Hotlanta was in second place. New Hampshire had settled in last, already 19 games back. Ed will remain in last all season with Basement Bertha by his side. In the NL Allyn Street was in first and FoggyMountain was in second 1 game back. Klee's was in last place 13 games back.

May 2021 - In the AL Milford was in first with Lake Wobegon now in second 3 games back. In the NL FoggyMountain took over first and Allyn Street was in second 2 games back.

Frank decided to throw in the towel and trade his veteran players. He said the Dreamers were underachieving at 26-31, 15 ½ games behind Milford. He shipped Kenta Maeda, Joey Votto, Charlie Blackmon, Anthony Bemboom, Kevan Smith, Nick Ramirez and CD #7 to Admirals for Rhys Hoskins, Josh Fleming, Tyler Naquin, Stephen Vogt, Matt Kemp, Hector Castellanos, and YA #6.

By mid-May Milford had a 4 ½, game lead over Yorktown in the AL. In the NL, FoggyMountain and Wall Street were tied for first.

Almost perfect! Louisville's Shane Bieber had a perfect game to the 9th against Allyn Street. He gave up a tired single in the 9th. The game went to the 10th at 0-0. Allyn Street ended up the victor, 2-1. Bieber had 15K's.

May ended with Milford 3 games in front of Lake Wobegon and with FoggyMountain 1 ½ games in front of Wall Street. Ed's Hog's were in a 31 game losing streak, which is a FBN record.

June 2021 – The Hog's increasing their losing streak to 33. Ed figured that this record will never be challenged. Bruce Gletty on team leaders, "To show how much of a hodgepodge my staff is, NOBODY has enough IP to qualify for leaders!"

Frank dumps two more vetrans, as he said good bye Jose Iglesias and Hyun-Jin Ryu. I guess he's planning for a decent 2022 first round draft pick.

Bud's Chiefs get shut out for the 3rd straight game. That's a scoreless streak of 33 innings. Hard to believe with the offense.

Mid-June and Milford had a 2 game lead over Lake Wobegon and Yorktown. While FoggyMountain and Taxachusetts were tied for first.

Roland's Klubbers were enjoying a 5 game winning and he embark on as he called it, "an Italian road trip" that did not include Rome, Florence, or Venice. Just "little Italy, the Brunos and the Italian Stallions, the Gineos. We can always count on Roland to write something witty.

Wall Street and Taxachusetts were tied for second as they prepared for their seires. Wall Street took the first two but Taxachusetts came back to win the last two games. That's how this season has been all year, a dog fight.

June ended with Milford 3 games ahead of Yorktown and 8 in front of Lake Wobegon. Wall Street took over first and led FoggyMountain by 2 games and Taxachusetts by 3.

July 2021 – The month opened with Joe Rutka needing to take a leave of absence. Ed Griffin volunteered to manage Wall Street and to play the games by Netplay. Joe thought he would be out all season but he felt better after a month and was able to comeback. This is why we allow a LOA. We're getting older and we don't want a member to lose his team due to illness. We hope for the best and it works.

Yorktown and Lake Wobegon played a series what was called, "a possible playoff preview". Lake Wobegon came back from 4-0 and 4-1 deficits in games 1 and 2 to lead 2 games to none. Merk's AD's hit .305 and had an ERA of 3.20 in the series as they were lucky to earn a split the series.

Milford had built a 7 game lead over Yorktown and a 10 game leadi over Lake Wobegon. Wall Street led Allyn Street by 1 and FoggyMountain by 3.

Bruce Fogg wrote that his Angels had gotten off to a poor start this year offensively. The team BA was only .218.

Fortunately, the pitching staff, especially the Angels BP, was much improved sporting a team ERA of 4.14 thru 59 games. “We are looking forward to this year’s NL playoff chase in a year which promises to see as many as 9 teams competing for the top 5 spots.” It was mid-season and there were seven teams over .500. “This promises to be perhaps the most exciting playoff run in NL FBN history”, said Bruce.

Jim Jalutkewicz and his Hotlanta team went 7-4, recently as the lost a 4 game series to Milford. Hotlanta was not the only team to have trouble with Milford. Tony Childers RiverBandits hit .087 for a series. “We didn’t do anything wrong”, said Tony “We just didn’t do anything right!”

Frank was still not happy with his Dreamers. “Very few highlights as the Dreamers look forward to next season...On the pitching side, well...we have pitchers.”

At the end of July Milford had a 10 ½ game lead over Yorktown and a 14 game lead over Lake Wobegon. Wall Street had built a 3 ½ game lead over Allyn Street and a 5 ½ game lead over FoggyMountain.

August 2021 – Taxachusetts, Miguel Cabrera with 22 HRs made it his 15th season with 20+ HRs. Bud said, it was his 1st since 2017. He now has 554 career HRs, just 6 behind Mike Piazza for 10th on the All-Time FBN list. Cabrera end with 31HR’s, 563 for his career to pass Piazza for 10th All-Time.

Dreamers go on a 15-2 streak to improve to 59-57 and vault themselves into playoff contention in the American League. Frank said, “likely the best single block in Dreamer history. Also likely the worst team to ever have a 14-1 streak.” Frank still has no faith in the Dreamers.

Milford still 10 ½ over Yorktown and 12 over Lake Wobegon. Wall Street’s over Allyn Street reduced to 1 game. But they led Taxachusetts by 5 1/2.

Hazardville’s Zac Gallen closed out August with a brilliant game, no hitting the Prairie Dogs. The second no-hitter this season for the FBN. I’m not sure if the no hitter was the biggest news of the game. Hazardville won 34-0. They scored in every inning except the 5th. So, they came back to score 13, in the 6th!

Taxachusetts and FoggyMountain had a 4 game series where they scored 32 runs and had 77 hits. What happened to the pitching?

Bill Nieman wrote for the web that with 20 games remaining Trout has set a new record, reaching 50 HRs for the first time. With 6 more HRs Trout can set a new USJ single season HR record, surpassing Edwin Encarnacion's 55 HR set in 2017. Trout ended the season with 57 HR’s and a new USJ single season HR record.

August ended with Yorktown reducing Milford’s lead to 7. But, Lake Wobegon had fallen to 14 games back. Allyn Street took over 1st by 1 game over Wall Street when they took 3 of 4 at Wall Street. Taxachusetts remained in 3rd, 5 games back.

September 2021 – Vic’s Alpharetta Aces tried their best but the kept coming up against a full house as Hotlanta took the first three games of the series, 2-1, 9-8 and 2-1 in fifteen innings. All walk off wins! Now that hurts.

Frank is starting to have faith. His Dreamers maybe running on fumes but they look like they could sneak into the last playoff spot in the AL. Remember that they were 27-32 after trading much of our team to Yorktown. They have been 47-36 after the trades!

AL: Milford, Yorktown 7GB, Lake Wobegon 15GB, Hotlanta 21GB, California 28GB & Atlanta 29GB.

NL: Allyn Street, Wall Street 3GB, Taxachusetts 7GB, Hazardville 8GB, FoggyMountain 9GB & Maine 12GB.

After going 7-1 and getting in playoff contention, the Bandits crashed with a thud! They finished the block at 3 -13 all but destroying their playoff hopes.

Bill Nieman and Don Decker veterans, Marines and Navy play each year for “The Armed Forces Cup”. The series was tied 4 games each going into the final series of the year. Jarheads beat the Submariners in game one 5-1, to give them the advantage in the series. The Submariners came back in game two winning a close one, 4-3 to even the series at 5. The Jarheads stormed the beach taking game 3, 8-5. It all came down to game 4. Will the series end in a tie or will the Jarheads earn the Cup? The game 4, pairs had Castellini vs Yukuchi. Don felt for sure “we can beat this guy.” The game was tied at 3 going to the 7th inning when USJ scored 4 runs to put the game away. Jarheads won the Armed Forces Cup in 2021.

No change in the standings. Same 6 teams.

Milford went into Lake Wobegon in a series that could represent an early preview of the post-season. The Whippets were up 2 games to 1 going into the finale. The Dogfish faught back to take game 4 to split the series. Lake Wobegon may have put a crack into the Milford fortress.

Four of the five playoff positions have been settled in the American League. No surprise here as Milford will repeat as AL Champions for the regular season. From inside the FBN in March – “Last season Milford had one of the greatest teams ever and rolled to the championship. Still a very good team and my favorite to come out of the AL. I'd expect some in-season tweaking.” Well, Glen made 9 trades for 9 specific players, I guess he felt it too.

Milford had a solid 10 game lead over Yorktown. But, Merks Admirals are not the same team that started the season. GM Merklin had made 12 in season trades for 30, that's correct, for 30 players. Merk seems to have finely tuned his team for the playoffs. In their last meeting with the Dogfish they took 3 of 4. Can they do the same if they meet in the AL Championships game?

Lake Wobegon has a 7 game lead over Hotlanta and should retain 3rd place. The Possums should be a lock for 4th with an 8 game lead over Atlanta. The Senators, who were tied with Californian for 5th have opened a 2 game lead over the Dreamers for the final playoff spot.

After 150 games, Allyn Street and Wall Street were separated by only 1 game for first place. Both teams must face playoff contenders, FoggyMountain and Connecticut. Allyn Street has Taxachusetts left while Wall Street has Maine. It was not going to be easy for either team but it would be fun.

If anyone thought that the only race left to be settled in the NL was for first place, they would be wrong. From 3rd place Taxachusetts to 7th place Connecticut the teams were separated by only 5 games. Taxachusetts had a 3 game lead over Hazardville and the Powderkegs led 5th place FoggyMountain by 1 game. The Angels had just a 1 game ahead of both Maine and Connecticut for the last playoff spot.

Only 5 teams will make the playoffs. Two of these teams will be sitting on the sidelines come October.

October 2021 – Ed's nightmare season was over. "I'm not going to lie I couldn't be happier that this season is over. I don't like to wish time away as age creeps up on me but I made an exception for this baseball season."

The 2019 Atlanta Senators (30-132) held the record for the worst record in the FBN for just 2 seasons before Ed's Hog's blew it out of the pig sty. The previous record was held by the 1984 Orangeville Wolverines. They finished at 36-126. They had the record for 35 years. The Hog's finished (26-136) and may hold onto the distinction of the worst team in the FBN forever.

Allyn Street held on and won the NL by 3 games over Wall Street. FoggyMountain bolted to 3rd with 97 wins, one more than Taxachusetts and Maine. Maine had finished their road season by sweeping Norwich and Wall Street and taking 3 of 4 from Klees at home. The awesome finish improved Maines standing from 6th place to a playoff team.

Milford (120-42) did win the AL as Yorktown (109-53) finished second 11GB. Jim Fergusen's Whippets completed their regular season at 103-59, good for 3rd place among the AL shark pool. Hotlanta ((94-68) finished in 4th. It was a great race between Atlanta and California for the last playoff spot. It came down to their series against each other and California took 3 of 4 from AT (83-79) to give the Dreamers (84-78) the playoff opportunity.

Dave Gineo wrote for the web "The Blue Devils completed the 2021 campaign with a solid 89-73 record but fell short of a playoff spot in a very competitive NL season. CT made the playoffs last year with just an 86-76 record. Looking back at the past 5 NL seasons, 89 wins would have made the playoffs each year but not this year. But still, the Blue Devils had a winning record for the 30th time in 35 seasons . . . pretty consistent performance for the fans of the franchise. The biggest downfall for the 2021 season was their 1-11 record vs. the 89ERS - that's a tough hole to dig out of."

THE POSTSEASON RESULTS:

AL Wild Card Series – California vs. Hotlanta

Gm 1 - Ian Anderson wiffed 10 and Jesse Winker went yard as Hotlanta beat California 1-0. HT up 1-0.

Gm 2 – Lucas Sims was brilliant in relief and Jesse Winker hit his 2nd HR of the series to give HT the 3-1 win. HT up 2-0.

Gm 3 – California beat Hotlanta 3-1 as A.J. Pollock hit a 2-R HR in the 7th to break up a 1-1 tie. HT up 2-1.

Gm 4 – Hotlanta bounced back with a 7-1 win. After scoring 2 in the 2nd HT was never challenged. HT up 3-1

Gm 5 – California avoids elimination with a walk off 5-3 win. With the game deadlock at 2 after nine innings Hotlanta took the lead in the 10th but California tied it again in the bottom of the inning. With 2 out in the 11th Ozzie Albies cracked a 2-R HR to give the Dreamers the win.

Gm 6 – California down 2-0 to the 7th bounce back for a 6-2 win. A.J.Pollock's Grand Slam in the 7th was the key blow. California forced a game 7.

Gm 7 – Hotlanta would have nothing to do with a lost as they cruised to a 14-2 win. Nick Ahmed had 4 hits and 3 RBI.

Hotlant Possums win the AL Wild Card Series and now move onto the ALF4 series to face Milford.

2021 AL Final Four Series – Yorktown Admirals vs. Lake Wobegon Whippets

Gm 1 – Lake Wobegon scored 3 runs in the first and never looked back as they won game one, 4-1. LW up 1-0.

Gm 2 - Mike Brosseau blasted a homerun and had 2 RBI as Lake Wobegon beat Yorktown 5 to 2. LW up 2-0

Gm 3 – Christian Yelich hit his 5th HR of the series as Lake Wobegon beat Yorktown 3-1. Adam Kolarek slammed the door shut in an excellent relief performance. He did not allow a hit or a walk in his 2 and 2/3 innings. LW up 3-0.

Gm 4 – With 7 runs in the 3rd Lake Wobegon put the game away winning 12-0 at home. Yelich had his 6th HR.

The Lake Wobegon pitching staff allowed just 4 runs in the series, with Starter Kyle Hendricks winning both of his starts, throwing 16 innings and allowing just a lone run on a homerun. Donovan Solano went 8-for-15 with a double, triple, 2 homers, and nine runs batted in. Christian Yelich chipped in with a couple of homeruns and scored 6 times in the series.

In a surprise sweep (at least to me) over Yorktown, Lake Wobegon is headed to the ALCS.

2021 AL Final Four Series – Hotlanta vs. Milford

- Gm 1 - Jedd Gyorko slammed a homerun and Yu Darvish mowed down 10 Hotlanta batters as the Milford Dogfish defeated the Hotlanta Possums in 13 innings 4 to 3 at Silver Sands Park. MD take 1-0 lead.
- Gm 2 – Hotlanta’s Ian Anderson bested his Milford counterpart, Jacob Degrom by the score of 1 to 0. The game's only run was scored in the top of the 5th inning. With 2 out, Kemp lifted a fly to center that was played into an error. Winker then doubled to bring in the only run. HT tied the series.
- Gm 3 - Lucas Sims slammed the door on Milford and Max Kepler went deep and had 2 RBI as the Hotlanta Possums beat the Milford Dogfish by a score of 8 to 5 at Possums Park. HT took a 2-1 lead.
- Gm 4 - Hotlanta took a 3-1 game lead in the series as the beat Milford 4 to 3. Milford had a chance in the 9th but they came up short.
- Gm 5 – Milford had a 2-0 lead after 2 innings but Hotlanta came back to win 4-3 and take the series.

Hotlanta wins their F4S. LW over YA was a surprise but this, HT over MD in 5, no way. I guess that’s why you still need to play the games to find out the real outcome. HT moves onto the ALCS to face Lake Wobegon.

2021 AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES: Hotlanta vs. Lake Wobegon

- Gm 1 – Lake Wobegon held on for 3-2 win as Kyle Hendricks went 6 innings to earn the win.
- Gm 2 – Christian Yelick smashed 2 HR’s as Lake Wobegon won game 2, 3-1. LW leads series 2-0.
- Gm 3 – Hotlanta beat Lake Wobegon 5-1. Kwang Hyun Kim went 7 strong innings for HT. LW up 2-1.
- Gm 4 – Hotlanta evens the series with 3-2 walk off win. With 2 out HT loaded the bases and Nick Solak had the walk off single. Series tied at 2 each.
- Gm 5 - Jonathan Schoop hit a homerun and had 2 RBI as Lake Wobegon topped Hotlanta 10 to 3 to take a 3-2 game lead.
- Gm 6 - In a game at Gary's Shoes Park Lake Wobegon got by Hotlanta by the score of 6 to 3 to win the series and advance to the World Series.

“Despite numerous playoff appearances, the Whippets last appeared in the World Series in 1994. It's been a minute”, said Jim.

2021 NL Wild Card Series - Maine vs. Taxachusetts

- Gm 1 - The Chief offense struck early against Giolitto, and the Yaks could only muster a pair of Will Myers solo shots. TX won 5-2. TX up 1-0.
- Gm 2 - With the Chiefs up 3-1, the Yaks exploded for 9 runs in the 5th inning. MY won 10-5. Tied 1-1.
- Gm 3 - Brad Keller and Sam Selman combined to blank the Chiefs on five singles. Willson Contreras blasted a 2-run homer in the 7th for the game's only runs. MY won 2-0. MY up 2-1.
- Gm 4 - Taxmen jumped all over Gibson for 5 runs in two innings. Yaks answered with 3 homers and 3 doubles to close the gap to 6-5 after 4 innings. Chiefs tacked on a couple of insurance runs and the win. TX won 8-6. Tied 2-2.
- Gm 5 - Yaks scored in 5 of 8 innings while Giolitto dominated the Chief lineup. The only TX runs came on a 9th inning Billy Hamilton homer. MY won 7-2. MY up 3-2.
- Gm 6 - Facing elimination, 40-year old Adam Wainwright delivered, throwing 8 shutout innings and allowing only 3 singles. Miguel Cabrera smacked a pinch-hit, two-out grand slam that put the game away. TX won 8-2.
- Gm 7 - Brad Keller, who blanked the Chiefs in game 3, faced off against Lance Lynn. With the score tied 1-1 in the 3rd, Travis d'Arnaud smacked a 2-run homer. And then with the score 4-2 in 5th, d'Arnaud blasted a 3-run homer. The TaxPen pitched four scoreless innings to close out the game and the series. TX won 7-2.

Series MVP - D.J. LeMahieu .560 (14 for 25) with 10 runs scored. Chief’s move onto NLF4 series against Allyn Street.

2021 NL Final Four Series – FoggyMountain vs. Wall Street

- Gm 1 – With the score tied at 1, the Barons went back on top 2-1 on Clint Frazier's solo shot in the bottom of the 4th. The Angels score 2 in the 6th and went on to win 3-2. FM up 1-0.
- Gm 2 – Barons exploed for a 10-5 win. Clint Frazier his his 2nd HR for Wall Street. Series tied at 1.

- Gm 3 – In a sea-saw battle Barron won 8-7. The score changed five times with the winning run scoring in the 12th inning.
- Gm 4 – Angels score 8 runs in the 3rd and go on to win 8-3. Tied the series at 2 each.
- Gm 5 – Barron repay the Angels by scoring 7 runs in the first as the coasted to a 9-2 win to go up 3 games to 2.
- Gm 6 – Wall Street scored 5 runs in the 4th and held on for a 7-5 win to take the series 4 games to 2 over FoggyMountain.

The Barons out-homered the Angels 14-3 led by 3 each from Voit, Frazier and Hayes.

2021 NLF4 Series: Taxachusetts vs. Allyn Street

- Gm 1 – Chiefs trailing 2-1 in the 3rd inning but a Vogelbach solo homer, and a DJ sac fly gave the Taxmen the lead. TX held on to win the opener 4-2 and take a 1-0 lead in the series.
- Gm 2 - The Chiefs struck first with a Margot 3-run double in the second inning and held on for a 5-3 win. TX up 2-0.
- Gm 3 – Mountcastle homered in the top of the 1st, but the Chiefs answered in the bottom half with 3. With the score tied after 9, TX won it in the 10th. TX won 5-4 and took a 3-0 series lead.
- Gm 4 – 89ERS jumped on the Chiefs for 10 hits and 7 runs, including a pair of Mountcastle homers as they took game 4 7-2 to live another day.
- Gm 5 - After one inning the Chiefs had a 2-1 lead on Brandley 2-R HR but Cano 3-R HR in the 2nd made it 4-2. 89ERS exploded for an 11-5 win to get the series back to the School Yard.
- Gm 6 - 89ERS scored 1 in the first and Chiefs tied in in the 2nd at 1. With the score still 1-1 to the 10th the 89ERS Adam Engel gave the home team a walk off win with an RBI single scoring Jose Ramirez.
- Gm 7 – Adam Engel's 2-R HR in the 2nd started the scoring. Up 4-0 after 7 the 89ERS held on for a 4-2 win.

Series MVP - Adam Engel .500, 5R, 10 hits, 1D, 3HR and 8RBI

After this wild comeback Allyn Street will face Wall Street in the NLCS.

2021 NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES: Wall Street vs. Allyn Street

- Gm 1 - Trevor Bauer racked up an impressive total of 11 strikeouts and Adam Engel had 2 base hits as Allyn Street beat Wall Street by a score of 4 to 2.
 - Gm 2 - James McCann smacked 2 homeruns as Allyn Street topped Wall Street 3-2. Wall St. threatened in the 9th but their rally came up short. AS up 2-0.
 - Gm 3 - At The Stockyard, the Wall St. fans witnessed a great pitcher's duel. Julio Urias beat his Allyn St. opposite, Kevin Gausman by the score of 2 to 0. AS up 2-1
 - Gm 4 - Ty France had 2 base hits as Allyn St. beat Wall St. by a score of 7 to 1 to take a 3-1 series lead.
 - Gm 5 – Wall St. shuts out Allyn Street for the 2nd time. This time 4-0 to stay alive in the series. Dinelson Lamet K'ed 10.
 - Gm 6 - Ryan Mountcastle had a big evening at the plate as he launched a three-run homer in the 8th inning giving Allyn St. a 7-2 win.
- NLCS MVP - Ryan Mountcastle .292, 4R, HR, 5RBI

Allyn Street will be making its 5th trip to the World Series. I lost to Ed Griffin and his Hog's in 1993. In 1995 I beat Bob Figella and his Powderkegs. In 2010 I lost to Rich Hamel and his Psychics. In 2018 I even my record with a win over Glen Boucher and his Dogfish.

2021 WORLD SERIES: Lake Wobegon vs Allyn Street

- Game 1, K. Hendricks vs. T. Bauer - Donovan Solano hit 2 doubles as the Lake Wobegon Whippets outscored the Allyn Street 89ERS 4 to 2 to take a 1-0 lead.
- Game 2, Keuchel vs. Gausman - Dallas Keuchel went 6 solid innings where Lake Wobegon beat the Allyn Street 1 to 0. The game's lone run was scored in the top of the 5th inning. Jonathan Schoop tripled. Francisco Lindor came next and he ripped a one-base hit scoring the run. Allyn Street made it exciting in the 9th, but they were unable to push the needed runs across. LW up 2-0 in the series
- Game 3, Robinson Cano belted a 2-R HR in the 1st and Tyler Mahle out dueled Matt Foster as Allyn St. won 3-1. LW up 2-1 in the series.
- Game 4, One run was the difference at Gary's Shoes Park as the 89ERS defeated the Whippetts 3 to 2 to even the series. Allyn St. scored the deciding run in the 8th inning as Tyrone Taylor had doubled scoring the run. AS tied series.
- Game 5, Bauer vs. Foster - Trevor Bauer dominated striking out 13 Lake Wobegon batters as Allyn Street defeated the Lake Wobegon by a score of 5 to 4. The game was won in the 8th inning. With one out Walch singled. Haggerty lifted a fly to centerfield that Springer played into a 2 base error. LoCastro was up next and he grounded out to

second. That should have ended the inning but because of Springers error, it did not. McCann then came through with an RBI single giving the 89ERS the lead and eventually the win. AS up 3-2.

Game 6, Lake Wobegon had very little trouble at The School Yard downing Allyn Street by the score of 7-2. Lake Wobegon set the tone of the game in the first inning scoring a single run using 2 hits.

Adam Kolarek allowed no runs in 1 and 2/3 innings, and picked up the victory.

In the 5th inning Allyn Street had runners on 1st and 2nd and no outs. The score at the time was only 2-0, Whippets. With Right hander Cisnero on the mound, lhb, Andrew Stevenson was sent up to pinch hit for Haggerty. Stevenson torched it and it looked like that was going to drive in both runners. BUT, Lake Wobegon turned it into a TRIPLE PLAY!

Game 7, Allyn St. scored 4 in the first and held on for a 6-1 win. Devin Williams won the game with a masterful relief performance. He went 2 and 1/3 innings and surrendered up no hits and 1 walk and struckout 4 Lake Wobegon batters.

Series MVP – D. Williams 1-0-1. 7.2IP, 0H, 0R, 0ER, 1BB 10K.

The World Series was played over 2 nights with an off day. It was a fun series. Jim said a key to the series was Allyn Streets win in game 5. I thought after we hit into the triple play in game 6 that we would not be able to bounce back. Scoring 4 runs in the first inning of game 7 took the pressure off.

2021 Voting Results: One member abstained on all issues. Two members did not vote.

Ed Griffin and Bob Figella were elected AL and NL President's. All changes to our injury chart were defeated. We also voted not to make the 43-man roster permanent by a 7-14-1 vote. A rule for an in season waiver wire passed 12-9.

Before the start of Block 8, a 3-day period will be open for teams to do the following: 1) deactivate players and select undrafted players to replace them on the active roster. Teams do not lose the deactivated players off your roster and deactivated players are eligible for the post season. The rest is in the Constitution.

2021 American League All-Stars and League Award Winners

FIRST TEAM

DH: E.Jimenez BG
CATCHER: S.Perez AL
1ST BASE: P.Alonso AT
2ND BASE: B.Lowe NH
3RD BASE: R.Devers AL
Shortstop: F.Tatis AT
1ST OF'ER: J.Soto CD
2ND OF'ER: M.Conforto UR
3RD OF'ER: M.Betts MD
1ST SP'ER: J.deGrom MD
2ND SP'ER: S.Bieber LV
3RD SP'ER: H.Ryu YA
1ST RP'ER: L.Hendriks LW
2ND RP'ER: A.Bass MD
3RD RP'ER: R.Iglesias NH

SECOND TEAM

DH: T.Anderson AL
CATCHER: C.Vazquez LV
1ST BASE: E.Hosmer AL
2ND BASE: O.Albies CD
3RD BASE: A.Rendon YA
Shortstop: C.Seager AL
4TH OF'ER: T.Hernandez AG
5TH OF'ER: G.Springer LW
6TH OF'ER: B.Harper AG
4TH SP'ER: C.Kershaw NH
5TH SP'ER: C.Burnes AT
6TH SP'ER: Z.Davies HT & K.Maeda YA
4TH RP'ER: T.Hatch MD
5TH RP'ER: M.Foster LW
6TH RP'ER: C.Martin HT
Added player M.Givens BG

Due to the tie between Davies and Maeda the NL needed to add a player. The NL players Dolis and Heuer were tied so the AL needed another player. Givens was added to the AL team.

AMERICAN LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS:

MVP: _____ J.Soto CD** CY YOUNG: _____ S.Bieber LV ROOKIE: _____ R.Arozerena BG

MGR: _____ Jim Ferguson LW

GM: _____ Jeff Merklin YA

**Frank said that Juan Soto was the first Dreamer to win MVP in 21 seasons. Dreamer, Sammy Sosa won MVP honors in 1999 and again in 2000.

2021 National League All-Stars and League Award Winners

FIRST TEAM

DH: N.Cruz CT
CATCHER: T.d'Arnauld TX
1ST BASE: F.Freeman CT
2ND BASE: DJ Lemahieu TX
3RD BASE: M. Machado MY
Shortstop: T.Story CT
1ST OF'ER: M. Trout US
2ND OF'ER: M.Brantley TX
3RD OF'ER: M.Yaztrzemski MY
1ST SP'ER: D.Lamet WS
2ND SP'ER: L.Giolito MY
3RD SP'ER: A.Nola WS
1ST RP'ER: T.Scott TX
2ND RP'ER: D.Williams AS
3RD RP'ER: N.Anderson MY

SECOND TEAM

DH: L. Voit WS
CATCHER: Y.Grandal US
1ST BASE: J. Abreu KK
2ND BASE: J. Cronenworth WS
3RD BASE: J. Ramirez AS
Shortstop: T. Turner WS
4TH OF'ER: A. Verdugo HZ
5TH OF'ER: K. Calhoun FM
6TH OF'ER: M. Ozuna MY
4TH SP'ER: T. Bauer AS
5TH SP'ER: B. Woodruff US
6TH SP'ER: K. Gausman AS
4TH RP'ER: M. Mayers AS
5TH RP'ER: R. Rodriquez FM
6TH RP'ER: S. Crichton CT
Added RP'ER'S: C.Heuer FM & R.Dolis HZ

2021 NATIONAL LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS:

MVP:#1 _____M. Trout US CY YOUNG: _D. Lamet WS ROOKIE: ___R. Mountcastle AS

MGR: _____Rob Bruno AS

GM: _____Rob Bruno AS

2021 All-Star Game: The game was played by Bill and Harry Nieman. It has become a father son matchup.

R H E

Nationals... 012 001 042 - 10 12 1
Americans.. 010 000 000 1 5 3 WP Treavor Bauer LP Shane Bieber

RBI NL: T Turner (4), Freeman (2), Grandal (2), Trout, Brantley

AL: E Jimenez

Doubles NL: Brantly, Freeman, Calhoun, Grandal

AL: S Perez (2), Jimenez

Triples NL: Trout, T Turner

HR NL: Freeman

Co-MVPs for the NL:

Freddie Freeman with a HR, Double and 2 rbi and Trea Turner who was 2 for 3 off the bench, with a Triple and 4 rbi.

The AL managed only 5 hits, but Salvador Perez was a lone bright spot, going 3 for 4 with 2 doubles.

ODDITIES:

- (1.) Uraign's Dobnak gave up 16 runs to the Whippets in the 2nd inning of a game.
- (2.) Angel's pitchers Peterson and Weems combined for a 1 hitter but lost the game 2-0 as Hotlanta's Happ, Jeffress, and Martin combined for a 4 hit shutout.
- (3.) Shane Bieber perfect game to the 9th against Allyn Street only to have the team lose it 2-1 in 10 innings.
- (4.) Triple Play in the post-season.

I'm sure there was many more but these are all that I know.

With the final touches to the 2021 season almost done I just want to take this time to thank all the members for another fantastic season. At this writing our inperson draft is still up in the air. I need to check with the hotel on cost and if we would get a refund if we need to cancel. I'm concerned about the rise of the new Covid variant.

I'm starting to worry, are some of the teams in the FBN starting to upset fans. You ask why? Well, in 2021 we had two franchises pull up stakes and move, leaving their old towns without a FBN team. New England Angels moved to Florida. The city of Greenacres built a beautiful new ballpark and the Angels became the FoggyMountain Angels. Baton Rouge moved to Iowa and the SiverBullets became the Blue Grass Blues as they moved into the new Blue Grass Park.

2022 The 49th season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (10/24/2021)

We had to members change their team names. Glen Boucher renamed his team to Bissel Cove to represent his home in Rhode Island. Ed Griffin had moved to Belmont Street so he changed his team team to match the street he lives on. Vic Handel moved to Grayson so he renamed his team to Grayson.

Jan. 2022 – With Covid still prevalent we decided that the draft would be on line only. We felt that the risk outweighed the reward. Glen and Jim F., set up Slack and a Zoom meeting. The draft would be on Slack while the members who were computer savvy also chatted on Zoom. Glen held a trail run on Slack February 16th.

Feb. 2022 – The Slack trail run went well. Draft day: Glen and Jim F., had Slack and Zoom set up early on Sunday morning. Jim F. had his 2021 American League Championship Plaque. blown up and displayed behind him on Zoom. Glen and I decided not to get plaques and we just took the cash.

We started drafting at 10am. No surprise at number one, Glen had Wander Franco inked and hi-lited from the 16th when we had our test run. Don took Alek Manoah, Vic drafted Jonathan India, Illinois got Michael Kopech and Roland selected with the 5th pick Jarred Kelenic. We end the draft with Merk drafting at #189 Ervin Santana. We ended at 2:47pm.

Side note on the draft: Jarred Kelenic had called and begged not to be drafted by Klee's. In 2021 he had 337 at bats, hit 14HR's while hitting .181. He knew from past players drafted by Klee's things would get worst. Kelenic in 2022 only had 163 at bats, hit 7HR and his avaeage dipped to .141. Who will be the poor soul drafted by Klee's in 2023?

Mar. 2022 – Our Bud Drapeau was inducted into the American Bar Association's College of Workers' Compensation Lawyers, his profession's HOF. "I was surprised I was being considered and shocked to be selected, and while I recognize that I'm probably the Harold Baines of the group, it is really cool to receive this honor." Only 12 lawyers from CT are in, and Bud is only the 4th who represents injured workers. Congratulations!

I setup a Minor League with the players that did not start the year on the 26 man rosters. Some active players had to be used to have enough players on a team.

April 2022 – July 2022 – I kept reporting on team results and on the minor league. All was good in the FBN. A nice surprise was that Dean Morris and his wife Michele stopped in at the Groton Senior Center while I was playing Pickleball. It was great to see them. Dean hopes that the 2023 draft will be in person. He plans on attending. Let's hope all goes well.

As always, July was League Fee month. Everyone paid as usual.

Aug 2022 – Sept – 2022 - We held our very first In-Season FA Draft. I voted against this but I must admit, it turned out to be a good idea. Ten teams took part. 26 free agents were picked up to help teams with at bat and innings problems.

The **first no hitter of the year** was pitched by Louisville's Robbie Ray. The River Bandits beat Arsenal 3-0.

In the American League the penant race has been tight between Dante, Vic, Ed and Tony. While in the National League Illinois had built a very comfortable lead. For the race for the number 1 pick of the 2023 draft it was down to two, Glen and Bruce G.

Oct 2022 – Vic's Grayson Grits pulled out a 17-3 run to overtake Dante's Atlanta Senators in the AL. The playoff bound teams were Ed's Belmont Street Boars, Frank's California Dreamers and Tony's Louisville River Bandits. In the NL, Larry's Illinois Prairie Dogs won 11 games over Bill Nieman's US Jarheads. Next was my Allyn Street 89ERS, Joe's Wall Street Barons and Bud's Taxachusett Chiefs.

Final Standings:

AMERICAN LEAGUE									
place	Team	W - L	Pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Grayson Grits	106 - 56	.654	----	55 - 26	.679	51 - 30	.630	final
2	Atlanta Senators	103 - 59	.636	3	54 - 27	.667	49 - 32	.605	final
3	Belmont Street Boars	99 - 63	.611	7	50 - 31	.617	49 - 32	.605	final
4	California Dreamers	98 - 64	.605	8	44 - 37	.543	54 - 27	.667	final
5	Louisville River Bandits	95 - 67	.586	11	50 - 31	.617	45 - 36	.556	final
6	Arsenal Gunners	93 - 69	.574	13	53 - 28	.654	40 - 41	.493	final

7	Hotlanta Possums	92 - 70	.568	14	49 - 32	.605	43 - 38	.531	final
8	Blue Grass Blues	76 - 86	.469	30	44 - 37	.543	32 - 49	.395	final
9	Lake Wobegon Whippets	69 - 93	.426	37	34 - 47	.420	35 - 46	.432	final
10	Yorktown Admirals	49 - 113	.302	57	23 - 58	.284	26 - 55	.321	final
11	Urpaigh Dragons	46 - 116	.284	60	29 - 52	.358	17 - 64	.210	final
12	Bissel Cove Bluefish	46 - 116	.284	60	23 - 58	.284	23 - 58	.284	final

NATIONAL LEAGUE

place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Illinois Prairie Dogs	101 - 61	.623	----	56 - 25	.691	45 - 36	.556	final
2	US Jarheads	90 - 72	.556	11	50 - 31	.617	40 - 41	.494	final
3	Allyn Street 89ERS	89 - 73	.549	12	45 - 36	.556	44 - 37	.543	final
4	Wall Street Barons	88 - 74	.543	13	47 - 34	.580	41 - 40	.506	final
5	Taxachusetts Chiefs	86 - 76	.531	15	45 - 36	.556	41 - 40	.506	final
6	Burlington Buccaneers	80 - 82	.494	21	39 - 42	.481	41 - 40	.506	final
7	FoggyMountain Angels	79 - 83	.488	22	43 - 38	.531	36 - 45	.444	final
8	Norwich Navigators	78 - 84	.481	23	39 - 42	.481	39 - 42	.481	final
9	Hazardville Powderkegs	77 - 85	.475	24	40 - 41	.494	37 - 44	.457	final
10	Connecticut Blue Devils	77 - 85	.475	24	36 - 45	.444	41 - 40	.506	final
11	Klee's Klubbers	66 - 96	.407	35	32 - 49	.395	34 - 47	.420	final
12	Maine Yaks	62 - 100	.383	39	32 - 49	.395	30 - 51	.370	final

2022 NL Wild Card series was the first series played. Taxachusetts against Wall Street.

Chiefs..... 0 0 0 2 1 0 0 1 0 - 4 6 1 W - Wrainwright Sv - L.Garcia L - Nola

Barrons..... 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 5 0

HOME RUNS- X.Bogaerts(1st), M.Semien(1st), S.Brown(1st), H.Renfroe(1st)

Chiefs..... 2 0 0 0 5 0 1 0 0 - 8 15 0 W - Lynn Sv - Staumont L - Urias

Barrons..... 0 0 0 2 0 3 1 0 0 - 6 9 1

HOME RUNS- M.Semien(2nd), J.Bell(1st), P.Alonso(1st)

Barrons..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 4 0 W - Marquez L - Glasnow

Chiefs..... 0 0 0 0 0 3 0 3 - 6 7 0 HR- P.Alonso(2nd), X.Bogaerts(2nd), T.D'Arnaud(1st), M.Margot(1st)

H 234

Barrons..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 2 1 W - Wrainwright L - Matz

Chiefs..... 0 0 0 4 1 0 2 0 - 7 10 1

HOME RUNS- H.Bader(1st)

Summary

Chiefs took the series 4-0. Barons had a rough series rolling, batting only .157.

MVP - Adam Wainwright: 2-0, 1.98, 13.2 ip, 7 h, 1 bb, 15 k

The next series was the 2022 AL Wild Card with Louisville and California.

River Bandits... 0 0 2 1 3 1 0 0 0 - 7 9 0 W - Wheeler L - Snell

Dreamers..... 3 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 4 7 0

H 235

River Bandits... 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 - 3 4 0 W – Neris L – Florp
Dreamers..... 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 - 4 5 0

Dreamers..... 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 - 2 6 1 W – Bieber L - Lauer
River Bandits... 1 0 0 2 0 1 1 1 - 6 6 0

Dreamers..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 1 2 0 W – Streckenrid Sv. – Chafin L – D. Castillo
River Bandits... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 - 3 8 0

Dreamers..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 1 - 3 6 1 W – Wheller Sv. Doval L - Ohtani
River Bandits... 1 0 0 1 0 3 0 0 - 5 4 1

Summary

Neither team hit well in this series Louisville took the series 4 games to 1 all the games were close .

At California: Louisville hit .188 and had an ERA of 3.86
California hit .185 and had an ERA of 4.74

At Louisville: California hit .156 ERA of 4.88
Louisville hit .207 and an ERA of 2.00

2022 NATIONAL LEAGUE FINAL FOUR SERIES Allyn Street vs. US Jarheads:

89ERS..... 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 6 0 W – Woodruff L- Gausman

Jarheads..... 2 0 0 1 0 2 0 0 - 5 10 1

HOME RUNS- J.Segura(1st), J.Ramirez(1st), P.Goldschmidt(1st), R.Acuna(1st)

89ERS..... 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 2 - 4 7 1 W – Green L - Fulmer

Jarheads..... 3 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 x - 5 7 0

HOME RUNS- J.Martinez(1st), P.Goldschmidt(2nd)

Jarheads..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 6 0 W – Mahle L - Kennedy

89ERS..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 2 0 - 4 11 1

HOME RUNS- J.Martinez(2nd)

Jarheads..... 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 3 0 - 6 6 0 W – Morgan L - Gausman

89ERS..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 6 1

HOME RUNS- D.Lemahieu(1st), W.Adames(1st)

Jarheads..... 0 2 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 - 4 14 0 W – Alzolay Sv. J.Barlow L - Woodruff

89ERS..... 1 0 3 0 0 0 0 1 - 5 10 1

HOME RUNS- J.McNeil(1st), R.Acuna(2nd), W.Adames(2nd), J.Walsh(1st)

89ERS..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 - 2 8 3 W – Pressley L – J.Barlow

Jarheads..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 2 - 4 11 1

HOME RUNS- V.Caratini(1st), F.Galvis(1st)

Summary

Jarheads took the series 4-2.

Series Co-MVPs: DJ LeMahieu 9-24 .375, 1D, 1HR, 4rbi, 3bb, SB

Ronald Acuna 7-21 .333, 4D, 2HR, 3rbi, 2bb

2022 AMERICAN LEAGUE FINAL FOUR SERIES Belmont Street vs Atlanta:

Boars..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 - 2 5 0 W – Buehler Sv. Hader L - Kershaw

Senators..... 1 1 0 1 0 2 0 0 x - 5 9 0

HOME RUNS- O.Herrera(1st), F.Tatis Jr(1st), V.Guerrero Jr(1st), K.Tucker(1st)

Boars..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 - 2 6 1 W – Burnes L - McClanahan

Senators..... 4 1 0 0 0 2 1 1 x - 9 13 1 HOME RUNS- F.Tatis Jr(2nd), M.Muncy-2(2nd)

Senators..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 7 0 - 8 1 1 0 W – deGrom L - Pomeranz
Boars..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 0
HOME RUNS- F.Tatis Jr(3rd), V.Guerrero Jr(2nd)

Senators..... 4 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 - 7 1 0 0 W – Buehler Sv. Warren L - Bender
Boars..... 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 4 9 0
HOME RUNS- V.Guerrero Jr(3rd), M.Muncy(3rd), A.Rizzo(1st)

Summary

Atlanta took the series in 4. MVP was Yadier Molina, who hit .571 with 4 doubles driving in 5, along with great defense.

2022 NATIONAL LEAGUE FINAL FOUR SERIES Taxachusetts vs Illinois:

Game 1 stats were not available as Bud and Glen (managing the team for Larry) had game issues. The game was won in 11 innigs by Illinois
Prairie Dogs lead series 1-0

Chiefs..... 0 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 1 - 4 6 0
Prairie Dogs.... 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 8 0
W: Lynn, Sv: L. Garcia, L: A.Desclafani

Prairie Dogs.... 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 3 0
Chiefs..... 6 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 7 9 0
W: G. Marquez, L: Stoman

Game 4

Prairie Dogs.... 0 0 0 1 0 0 2 3 0 - 6 14 0
Chiefs..... 0 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 4 6 0
W: Quantrill, Sv: N. Ramirez, L: T. Scott

Prairie Dogs.... 0 0 1 2 0 6 0 2 0 - 11 12 0
Chiefs..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 0
W: Scherzer, L: A.Senzatela

Chiefs..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 5 20 1
Prairie Dogs.... 0 0 0 3 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 4 12 0
W: L. Garcia, L: H.Strickland

Chiefs..... 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 6 0
Prairie Dogs.... 2 2 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 5 6 1
W: M.Stroman, Sv: N.Ramirez, L: A.Wainwright

2022 The National League Champion Series US Jarheads vs Illinios

GM 1 Scherzer vs Woodruff

Max Scherzer went 8 shutout innings scattering 6 hits. Woodruff matched that effort with 8 shutout innings while fanning 15 batters. Score was 0-0 going to the 9th inning.

Acuna 2 run HR.top of the 9th. Jarheads took opener 2-0.

GM 2 Miley vs Quantrill

Posey ripped a GS HR and Taylor added a 2 run shot. Dogs won 14-7 to tie the seies 1-1.

GM 3 DeSclafini vs Rassmussen

Posey hit a 2 run HR and Garcia hit a 2 run bomb for a 4-0 lead. Dogs win 11-2 to go up 2 games to 1.

GM 4 Stoman vs Mikolas

Posey's HR made it 5-0 and a 6 run 4th inning, highlighted by Suarez's 2 run HR and Dugger with another 2 run triple. P'Dogs cruised behind Stroman for another 11-2 win. P'Dogs go up 3-1 in the series.

GM 5 Scherzer vs Woodruff.

Garcia blasted a 2 run HR to make it 2-0. But USJ tied it 2-2 after 1. Freddy Galvis Homered in the 2nd to put USJ up 3-2. P'Dogs tied it in the 3rd. Lowe followed with a base hit to make it 3-3.

USJ goes back up in the bottom half 5-3 USJ. Galvis struck again in the 3rd with a 2 run HR to push it to 7-3. USJ won.

GM 6 Miley vs Quantrill

Scoreless in the 3rd when Grandal launched one for a 1-0 USJ lead. USJ made it 2-0 in the 6th.

USJ added 8th inning insurance runs making it 5-0.

USJ evens the series 3-3 forcing a game 7.

GM 7 Rasmussen vs DeSclafini

LeMahieu Homered on the first pitch. 1-0, Mullins tripled. After 2 outs Goldy stepped in and blasted a 2 run HR, 3-0 USJ. In the 3rd Justin Turner belted a 2 run HR to make it 5-0 USJ. USJ made it 6-0 in the 5th.

The Jarheads add solo HRs from Acuna in the 7th and Galvis in the 8th to make it 8-1. Sadler and Chavez allow a run in the 9th, but that's all the P'Dogs could muster and USJ wins 8-2, coming from down 3 games to 1 to win the NLCS and earn their 4th trip to the FBN World Series.

Sereis MVP: Brandon Woodruff. 1-0, 1.72, 15.2ip, 9h, 3r, 3er, 1hr, 3bb, 26k.

2022 AMERICAN LEAGUE FINAL FOUR SERIES LOUISVILLE VS GRAYSON:

GAME #1 F.Peralta vs. C.Morton

River Bandits... 1 0 2 1 0 1 0 0 0 - 5 7 1 W – Morton L - Peralta

Grits..... 0 0 5 0 1 6 0 0 - 12 17 1

HOME RUNS- T.Anderson(1st), A.Duvall(1st), K.Schwarber(12th),

WEB GEMS- Bot 1st: Matt Chapman robbed Kyle Schwarber of a base hit.

Top 9th: Aaron Judge robbed Leury Garcia of an extra base hit.

GAME #2 S.Bieber vs. R.Suarez

River Bandits... 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 0 1 - 4 8 1 W – Whitlock L - Suarez

Grits..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 3 2

WEB GEMS- Top 8th: Aaron Judge robbed Christian Vazquez of an extra base hit.

GAME #3 G.Cole vs. Z.Wheeler

Grits..... 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 4 5 0 W – Cole (11K in 8IP) L - Wheeler

River Bandits... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 4 0

GAME #4 T.Bauer vs. F.Montas

Grits..... 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 3 7 0 W – Montas Sv. Doval L - Bauer

River Bandits... 1 2 0 0 0 1 1 0 - 5 7 0

HOME RUNS- A.Judge(2nd), J.Altuve(38th), J.Pederson(15th), M.Chapman(24th)

GAME #5 C.Morton vs. F.Peralta

Grits..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0 1 - 4 5 2 W – Morton Sv. L.Hendriks L - Sale

River Bandits... 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 7 0

HOME RUNS- T.O'Neill(2nd), B.Lowe(2nd), O.Narvaez(8th)

GAME #6 Z.Wheeler vs. R.Suarez

River Bandits... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 0 2 0 W- Antone L - Wheeler

Grits..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 1 8 0

Notable Grits...

NAME	BAVG	GM	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	HB	SH	DP	SB	CS	E
R.Devers	.400	6	15	1	6	2	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	1	0	0	0
NAME	ERA	W	L	PCT	G	GS	CG	SH	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO	
C.Morton	2.65	2	0	1.000	2	2	1	0	0	17.0	13	7	5	3	4	18	

2022 VOTING ISSUE REVIEW: While I was waiting for the playoffs to continue I decided to add information here about our voting issues. This year we will be voting on all three officers and so far only two additional issues. One is not to allow pitchers to be used as a pinch hitter unless the score is + or - 6 runs. Exceptions would be an A or B punter or if the pitcher is in the game for an injured position player. My opinion is that this will not pass. (This failed 4-16)

The next item is an Expansion proposal for the 2024 season. The FBN would expand to 26 teams. 13 in each league. The expansion teams would draft 25 and 26 in the Rookie Draft. Whatever team drafted first in the Expansion Draft would draft 2nd in the Rookie Draft.

Bob Figella did come up with a preliminary schedule for the 13 teams in each league. It turned out we would not need it.

The voting result not to allow pitchers as pinch hitters failed 4-16. Most members use this to save at bats. Why not? That was said by the vote. Now on expansion I felt that this issue would be a very tight vote. It turned out exactly that, 10-10. Expansion failed. Four members did not return a ballot. One had a medical procure, one was traveling the other two members did not say. Maybe they just were on the fence and decided to let the other members decide the issue.

2022 The American League Champion Series Atlanta vs. Grayson (A father and son battle.)

Game 1 W.Buehler vs. C.Morton

Senators..... 1 1 0 0 0 2 2 2 0 0 - 8 9 0 W-R.Tepera L-C.Knebel
 Grits..... 0 1 6 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 - 9 12 1
 HOME RUNS- F.Tatis Jr-2(2nd), M.Betts-2(2nd), F.Schwindel(7th), T.Story(8th),A.Judge-2(20th)

Game 2 C.Burnes vs. G.Cole

Senators..... 1 0 0 0 3 0 1 0 0 - 5 6 0 W-Cole Sv.-T.Antone L-Burnes
 Grits..... 2 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 - 6 10 1
 HOME RUNS- J.Wendle(1st), B.Lowe-3(17th), T.O'Neill(19th)

Game 3 R.Suarez vs. J.deGrom

Grits..... 2 0 0 0 0 2 1 0 0 - 5 9 2 W-Suarez Sv.-D.Leone L-deGrom
 Senators..... 0 1 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 - 4 6 0
 HOME RUNS- B.Lowe(1st), J.Votto(1st), S.Perez(7th), F.Tatis Jr(62nd), M.Muncy(37th)

Game 4 T.Bauer vs. W.Buehler

Grits..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 4 0 0 - 5 10 0 W-Bauer Sv.-R.Tepera L-Buehler
 Senators..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 - 3 5 0
 HOME RUNS- S.Perez-2(9th), V.Guerrero Jr(66th), J.Wendle(15th)

Notable Grits:

NAME	BAVG	GM	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	HB	SH	DP	SB	CS	E
B.Lowe	.636	4	11	5	7	1	0	4	6	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
NAME	ERA	W	L	PCT	G	GS	CG	SH	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO	
T.Bauer	1.50	1	0	1.000	1	1	0	0	0	6.0	3	1	1	0	1	9	

2022 WORLD SERIES (NL) US JARHEADS VS. (AL) GRAYSON GRITS

Game #1: B.Woodruff vs. C.Morton

Jarheads..... 4 0 2 0 1 0 1 0 0 - 8 13 0
 Grits..... 0 5 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 6 9 0
 W-C.McHugh Sv. R.Pressly L-C.Morton
 HOME RUNS- Y.Mercedes(1st), R.Acuna-2(2nd), S.Perez(20th)

Game #2: W.Miley vs. R.Suarez

Jarheads..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 5 0
 Grits..... 6 5 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 12 17
 W-R.Suarez L-W.Miley
 HOME RUNS- Y.Grandal(1st), A.Judge(21st), T.Story-2(10th), Z.Collins(2nd), T.Edman(2nd)
 INJURY: Charlie Culberson INJURED (for 0 more games) in 2nd inning
 INJURY: Joey Votto INJURED (for 0 more games) in 2nd inning
 INJURY: Yasmani Grandal INJURED (for 0 more games) in 3rd inning

Game #3: G.Cole vs. D.Rasmussen

Grits..... 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 2 - 4 12 1
Jarheads..... 6 0 0 1 0 4 0 0 - 11 13 0

W-D.Guerra L-G.Cole

HOME RUNS- F.Schwindel(1st), T.O'Neill(3rd), M.Beaty(10th), M.Trout(12th)

INJURY: Jake Fraley INJURED (for 0 more games) in 8th inning

Game #4: T.Bauer vs. E.Morgan

Grits..... 0 1 0 0 0 2 1 0 0 - 4 7 0
Jarheads..... 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 7 0

W-T.Antone Sv. R.Tepera L-C.Green

HOME RUNS- T.O'Neill(4th), B.Lowe(1st), J.Fraley(17th)

INJURY: Paul Goldschmidt INJURED (for 0 more games) in 6th inning

Game #5: C.Morton vs. B.Woodruff

Grits..... 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 4 2 - 9 8 1
Jarheads..... 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 8 1

W-D.Leone L-Woodruff

HOME RUNS- J.Votto(1st), K.Schwarber(2nd), R.Devers(2nd), T.Story(2nd), P.Dejong(17th)

Game #6: W.Miley vs R.Suarez

Jarheads..... 1 1 0 1 0 0 3 0 3 - 9 9 2
Grits..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 5 1

HOME RUNS- Y.Grandal(2nd), P.Goldschmidt(1st), R.Acuna(3rd), J.Turner(1st), S.Perez(21st)

Game #7:

D.Rasmussen vs. G.Cole

Jarheads..... 0 0 1 0 0 3 0 0 0 - 4 4 0
Grits..... 2 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 - 5 9 2

W-B.Treinen Sv. T.Antone L-C.McHugh

HOME RUNS- J.Fraley(1st), F.Schwindel(8th), K.Schwarber(13th)

INJURY: Ronald Acuna INJURED (for 0 more games) in 4th inning

Vic Handel led his Grits to his first FBN World Series Championship.

Notable Grits:

NAME	BAVG	GM	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	HB	SH	DP	SB	CS	E
L.Cain	.421	7	19	2	8	2	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
NAME	ERA	W	L	PCT	G	GS	CG	SH	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO	
R.Tepera	0.00	0	0	----	5	0	0	0	0	6.0	3	0	0	0	0	8	

2022 - American League All-Stars

FIRST TEAM

D'HITTER: Ohtani AT
CATCHER: Perez GG
1ST BASE: Guerrero AT
2ND BASE: Albies CD
3RD BASE: Devers GG
Shortstop: Tatis AT
1ST OF'ER: Soto CD
2ND OF'ER: Henrandez AG
3RD OF'ER: Judge GG
1ST SP'ER: Wheeler LV
2ND SP'ER: Burnes AT
3RD SP'ER: Morton GG
1ST RP'ER: Kimbel HT
2ND RP'ER: Iglesias BS
3RD RP'ER: Hader AT

SECOND TEAM

D'HITTER: Stanton AG
CATCHER: McGuire HT
1ST BASE: Votto GG
2ND BASE: Lowe GG
3RD BASE: Bryant BS
Shortstop: Anderson LV
4TH OF'ER: Tucker BS
5TH OF'ER: Betts BS
6TH OF'ER: O'Neil GG
4TH SP'ER: Buehler AT
5TH SP'ER: deGrom AT
6TH SP'ER: Alcantara AG
4TH RP'ER: Chapman AG
5TH RP'ER: Hendriks GG
6TH RP'ER: Jansen GG

AL top vote getters: Perez GG with 45 and Wheeler LV also with 45.

NL top vote getter: Posey IL 31

2022 - National League All-Stars

FIRST TEAM

D'HITTER: Cruz CT
CATCHER: Posey IL
1ST BASE: Goldschmidt US
2ND BASE: Simien TX
3RD BASE: Machado MY
Shortstop: Adames AS
1ST OF'ER: Mullins US
2ND OF'ER: Brantley TX
3RD OF'ER: Renfroe WS
1ST SP'ER: Scherzer IL
2ND SP'ER: Woodruff US
3RD SP'ER: deScalifini IL
1ST RP'ER: Barnes IL
2ND RP'ER: R.Rodriguez FM
3RD RP'ER: E.Diaz MY

SECOND TEAM

D'HITTER: Castellano BB
CATCHER: Grandal US
1ST BASE: Alfonso WS
2ND BASE: Frazier NN
3RD BASE: Riley NN
Shortstop: Crawford MY
4TH OF'ER: Hanniger IL
5TH OF'ER: Acuna US
6TH OF'ER: Marte BB
4RD SP'ER: Musgrove BB
5TH SP'ER: Gausman AS
6TH SP'ER: Urias WS
4TH RP'ER: C.Green US
5TH RP'ER: Kitteridge WS
6TH RP'ER: Holmes CT

AMERICAN LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS:

MVP: Fernando Tatis Jr. Atlanta Senators
CY YOUNG: Zack Wheeler Louisville River Bandits
ROY: Jonathan India Atlanta Senators
MGR: Dante Handel Atlanta Senators
GM: Vic Handel Grayson Grits

NATIONAL LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS:

MVP: Marcus Semien Taxachusetts Chiefs
CY YOUNG: Max Scherzer Illinois Prairie Dogs
ROY: Adolis Gacia Allyn Street 89ERS
MGR: Bill & Harry Nieman US Jarheads
GM: Joe Rutka Wall Street Barons

2022 All-Star Game:

This year was the 25th FBN All-Star Game. The first FBN All-Star game was played in 1975. It was actually a 5 game series won by the Nationals in four games. It took 13 years, 1988 before another All-Star game was played. Since 1988 an All-Star game had been play every year until 2013. In 2013, the FBN was one league of all 24 teams. That situation last one season. In 2014 the FBN went back to two leagues but without divisions and the All-Star game came back onto the scene.

This year the All-Star game was managed by the 2021 American League Champions, Lake Wobegons Jim Ferguson. In the National League dugout was the 2021 World Series Champions, Allyn Street manager, Casey Stengel. The game was played at the 2021 FBN Champions Allyn Street 89ERS School Yard.

American League. 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 1 5 0
National League. 0 0 2 0 1 0 0 0 - 3 6 0
W-C.Holmes Sv.-R.Rodriques L-A.Alcantara
HOME RUNS- V.Guerrero Jr(1st), B.Posey(1st)

All-Star MVP - Buster Posey blasted a homerun and had all 3 RBI as he was named the game's Most Valuable Player.

As the members were waiting for Strat to put out the defensive ratings Bud put out an article about the Draft Guru. It was a hoot. Here is just a small snip.

"Your Holiness, I need FBN draft counsel."

"Of course."

"How do I know who to draft?"

"Whom. Whom to draft."

"How do I know whom to draft?"

"It is not whom, but where."

"Well, I can't get the 1st overall pick. Boucher always has it."

"You must always pick in the shadow of Klee."

And then he blocked me.

Bud went to the FBN website to find the meaning of "in the shadow of Klee," and he searched all FBN drafts from 1990 to 2022. He tracked every pick made immediately after the Roland's first pick of the draft, as long as it was made in the first two rounds. What he found he said "was truly transcendental." The Dalai Lama did not disappoint.

Bud said on its face, the Klubber draft history seemed average at worst, and it's certainly better than his Chief draft history. What Bud found was that there was a long list of All-Star players selected with the next pick immediately following the Rolands 1st pick in the draft.

Did Roland let this go without a rebuttal? Hell no. More fun came from Roland. "It's true, I've had a few swings and misses with my first-round picks, after all that's why we have the annual Eddie Ballgame Award, but let me provide some context and maybe an explanation (excuse) or two or ten." Roland went back over each draft and made his point for each pick, good or bad. He also came up with a few good jabs at Bud.

You got to love these guys in the FBN. They're a very good band of characters!

December - 2022 With our 50th season coming up, Vic was wondering when was the first game played in the FBN. Bob Figella checked the League History II and found that the first FBN game was played on February 26, 1974. Bob said "Isn't it ironic that our 50th draft is February 26, 2023!"

2023 The 50th season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (11/28/2023)

The start of our 50th season. What would our founder say if he could only see his dream turn 50 years old? I thank Dave and all the early members for keeping the FBN alive during those infancy days and during those terrible teenage years. Thanks guys!

It was a year that saw Ed Griffin's team take the lead from the start and carry it all year through the playoffs and finishing it by winning the World Series. In the NL it saw Bill Nieman's team edge out Don Decker's team by one game during the last block to win an exciting regular season championship. Don did get back at Bill by knotting him off in the NLCS.

How about 10 trades involving 11 players for a January start. As of today, there has been 178 players traded and another 37 cuts, that's over 200 players changing uniforms. I tried counting the number of DP's traded and got confused. The members of this league enjoy playing the game and I must say they also enjoy making deals. I'm not sure which one they enjoy the most. It's very close.

Since Covid we had been drafting online only but in 2023 we brought back a draft central. The ftf draft was back! We had trouble with the Quality Inn after I booked and paid for the room. I got a call from the desk clerk that rented me the room telling me that the room would not be available and he was not suppose to have rented it. I was lucky and found a better location, the Hampton by Hilton. We had the meeting room all day and the price was the same as the old place. What help making this location better was that there was a number of places to eat, McDonalds, Burger King, DD, pizza places and other restaurants all within a mile of the hotel. Sometimes things just work out right.

Opening day at Strat saw Roland, Bob F., Bill and Don all making the trip. Full details on the website. See March 1 Newsletter. As usual Bill picked up the cards for Joe and me.

On the first ftf draft day in two years we had 13 members that attended. Frank Simonutti came in from Illinois, Dean Morris from Georgia, Ed Griffin from New Hampshire, Glen Boucher, Dave Gineo, Bob Figgella, Roland Klee, Bud Drapeau, Joe Rutka, Bill and Harry Nieman, Don Decker and I.

Guess who had the #1 pick, that's right, Glen. That was hard to guess, now was it. He drafted Julio Rodriguez at #1 but he was not finished. How about Gunnar Henderson #3, Corbin Carrol #5, Gabriel Moreno #13, Trista Casas #16, Hunter Brown #22 and Nolan Garmen #23! Wow! But Glen did let others draft in the first round. I do think he did it reluctantly. The draft ended with Dante Handel drafting Hunter Strickland. On the Waiver Wire 16 teams drafted 27 players.

INSIDE THE FLY BY NIGHT by Ed Griffin. In March Ed sent in his predictions. I for one look forward to this. Why? Because he's usually so damn correct. In the AL he predicted Bissel Cove, Belmont Street, Grayson, Louisville and Blue Grass. He picked Lake Wobegon 10th. I also think he picked Bissel Cove over his team only to be nice. In the NL he had Norwich, US Jarheads, Allyn Street, Connecticut and Taxachusetts. Wall Street was picked he picked as 8th.

MERICAN LEAGUE									
place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Belmont Street Boars	115 - 47	.710	----	59 - 22	.728	56 - 25	.691	final
2	Bissel Cove Bluefish	104 - 58	.642	11	58 - 23	.716	46 - 35	.568	final
3	Grayson Grits	100 - 62	.617	15	52 - 29	.642	48 - 33	.593	final
4	Blue Grass Blues	82 - 80	.506	33	44 - 37	.543	38 - 43	.469	final
5	Lake Wobegon Whippets	80 - 82	.494	35	38 - 43	.469	42 - 39	.519	final
6	Hotlanta Possums	79 - 83	.488	36	31 - 50	.383	48 - 33	.593	final
7	California Dreamers	76 - 86	.469	39	41 - 40	.506	35 - 46	.432	final
8	Urpaigh Dragons	75 - 87	.463	40	38 - 43	.469	37 - 44	.457	final
9	Louisville River Bandits	72 - 90	.444	43	37 - 44	.457	35 - 46	.432	final
10	Arsenal Gunners	67 - 95	.414	48	37 - 44	.457	30 - 51	.370	final
11	Yorktown Admirals	61 - 101	.377	54	37 - 44	.457	24 - 57	.296	final
12	Atlanta Senators	46 - 116	.284	69	26 - 55	.321	20 - 61	.247	final

NATIONAL LEAGUE

place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	US Jarheads	96 - 66	.593	----	49 - 32	.605	47 - 34	.580	final
2	Norwich Navigators	95 - 67	.586	1	50 - 31	.617	45 - 36	.556	final
3	Allyn Street 89ERS	93 - 69	.574	3	44 - 37	.543	49 - 32	.605	final
4	Connecticut Blue Devils	85 - 77	.525	11	41 - 40	.506	44 - 37	.543	final
5	Wall Street Barons**	85 - 78	.521	11 1/2	40 - 42	.488	45 - 36	.556	final
6	Hazardville Powderkegs**	84 - 79	.515	12 1/2	46 - 35	.568	38 - 44	.463	final
7	Taxachusetts Chiefs	81 - 81	.500	15	34 - 47	.420	47 - 34	.580	final
8	Illinois Prairie Dogs	80 - 82	.494	16	44 - 37	.543	36 - 45	.444	final
9	Burlington Buccaneers	77 - 85	.475	19	40 - 41	.494	37 - 44	.457	final
10	FoggyMountain Angels	76 - 86	.469	20	41 - 40	.506	35 - 46	.432	final
11	Maine Yaks	74 - 88	.457	22	40 - 41	.494	34 - 47	.420	final
12	Klee's Klubbers	62 - 100	.383	34	29 - 52	.358	33 - 48	.407	final

** Wall Street defeated Hazardville in 1 game playoff

When the regular season end the league lost a member due to health reasons. Barry Shank had to call it a career after playing in the FBN for 25 years. Barry took over a team during the 1999 season. He played the 2023 season in pain but he continued to play the game he enjoyed right up to the end of the season. Barry was always a gentleman and he'll be missed. I believe Barry was the 102nd member that has left the FBN.

I contacted the first backup member on our list, Scott Hamel. If I remember correctly Scott is in another league with Ed and Glen. I asked Scot if he was still interested in joining the league. Scott had been waiting for an opportunity to join us since December 2019. Scott was happy to join us. Scott renamed the team Zanti Misfits and started to tweak the team to his style. He traded away Manny Machdo for and Ace in Zach Wheeler and he got 3b coverage with Brian Anderson. In his second trade he picked up a closer in AJ Minter and another starting pitcher in Tony Gonslin. It looks like Scott is fitting in perfectly. Scott is retired and lives in Georgia.

Three No hitters:

Taxachusetts no-hit Louisville at Louisville. 3-9-0 to 1-0-2. W-Hader Sv. Diaz L-Okert

Atlanta no-hit Belmont Street 1-5-0 to 0-0-0. W-Hader L-Herget HR-In 8th by V.Guerrero

US Jarheads no-hit Louisville W-Mikolas L- Whitlock. HR C.Mullins & DJ Lemahieu

The playoffs. For full details please go to our website. flybynight-som.com

Wild Card Series

AL #4 Blue Grass Blues vs AL #5 Lake Wobegon Whippets. In a battle of evenly-matched American League teams, the Lake Wobegon Whippets prevailed in six games against the Blue Grass Blues. Both teams, sporting a number of strengths and weaknesses, utilized their entire 26-player rosters in attempts to get the advantage or counter their opponent's moves.

NL #4 Connecticut Blue Devils vs NL #5 Wall Street Barons. The Wall Street Barons faced off against the Blue Devils, both teams had 85 wins and split the season series 6-6, can't get much closer than that. Connecticut won in 5 games. Wall Street struggled offensively as Pete Alonso batted only .056 (1 for 18). Blue Devils didn't have one big star but got contributions from many players as 5 players had at least 3 RBI. Freeman batted .333, while Seager and Drury had 2 HR's each.

AL Round 1 Series

AL #1 Belmont Street Boars vs AL #5 Lake Wobegon Whippets. Crazy series highlighted by the Boar's game 1 and game 2 starters getting injured early in the game. It looked bleak after 3 games but then the bats came alive ...and Kershaw, Verlander and Gonsolin did their thing. The Boars had a ton of chances to score in game six and kept hitting into DPs. Was a relief when Gimenez ended it. (Bob Figella managed the Whippets as Jim Ferguson was travelling in France.)

AL #2 Bissel Cove Bluefish vs AL #3 Grayson Grits. Bissel Cove took the series in 4 games. Vic positioned his club for another deep playoff run, but caught a case of cold dice. Series MVP: William Contreras, 4 HRs, 0.375 AVG, 6 RBI, 5 R. The Bluefish move onto the ALCS facing off against the Boars, owners of the FBN's best record.

NL Round 1 Series

NL #1 US Jarheads vs NL #4 Connecticut Blue Devils. US Jarheads took the series in 4 games. SERIES MVP AWARD goes to Paul Goldschmidt. .474 6r 9h 2d 3hr 11rbi. The Jarheads move on to the NL Championship Series for the 8th time in the last 10 years and await either the 'Gators or 89ERS.

NL #2 Norwich Navigators vs NL #3 Allyn Street 89ERS. Norwich won in 5 games. Congratulations to Don. The Navigators showed up and did a great job. Buxton was a pain all series. He hit .375, 4R, D, 3HR and 6RBI. The two military forces, Navigators and Jarheads will meet in the NL Championship series.

AL Championship Series

AL #1 Belmont Street vs #2 Bissel Cove Bluefish. Good series. Belmont Street won in 5 games. direction. Strength of the team has been pitching all year and they showed up big time in the last two games. Congrats to Glen for another great year. ALCS MVP goes to Taylor Ward who went 9 for 19 with 3 HRs and 7 RBI. Boars advance to the 9th WS in franchise history

NL Championship Series

NL #1 US Jarheads vs #2 Norwich Navigators. The Marines vs the Navy. With the series tied at 2 each Norwich won the next 2 games to take the series.

2023 FBN World Series

The AL Champion, AL #1 Belmont Street vs the NL Champion, NL #2 Norwich Navigators. Very hard-fought series. Four very close games. Series won by Belmont Street in 6 games. **The Belmont Street Boars are FBN Champions!!** This was Ed's fourth championship in nine trips and first one since 2006. "I would say top to bottom this was my best team. There is much joy in pig land tonight, said Ed!

November was voting time and this year along with voting for Presidents we had 4 issues on the ballott. Needless to say, Bob F. and Ed continued as Presidents as they received 100% of the votes. On the issues, we did adopt by a vote of 17-5-2, the "2023 and Beyond MLB rules" What a runner was put on 2nd base to start extra innings. Also passing by a close margin of 12-10-2, was putting a seasonal cap of 50 at bats on a team's pitching staff. An issue to make it a requirement to draft real MLB parks failed 4-19-1. Also failing by 11-12-1, was the issue on eliminating all at bats for pitchers.



2023 All-Stars

BENCH

D'HITTER: Y. Alvarez (BS)

D'HITTER: Ohtani (CD)

CATCHER: Rutchman (UR)

CATCHER: Kirk (BS)

1ST BASE: V.Guerrero (GG)

1ST BASE: C.Walker (HT)

2ND BASE: Altuve (LV)

2ND BASE: Gimenez (BS)

3RD BASE: Bregman (GG)

3RD BASE: Y.Diaz (BC)

Shortstop: Correa (BS)	Shortstop: Bichette (BG)
1 ST OF'ER: Judge (GG)	4 TH OF'ER: Tucker (BC)
2 ND OF'ER: Rodruguez (BC)	5 TH OF'ER: Ward (BS)
3 RD OF'ER: Soto (CD)	6 TH OF'ER: Betts (BS)
1 ST SP'ER: Verlander (BS)	4 TH SP'ER: Ohtani (CD)
2 ND SP'ER: Alcantara (AG)	5 TH SP'ER: Gonsolin (BS)
3 RD SP'ER: Cole (GG)	6 TH SP'ER: Cortes (UR)
1 ST RP'ER: Clase (BS)	4 TH RP'ER: Doval (LV)
2 ND RP'ER: Duran (LW)	5 TH RP'ER: Chafin (LV)
3 RD RP'ER: Bednar (UR)	6 TH RP'ER: Herget (BS)

MVP: #1 - __Judge (GG) _____

CY YOUNG: __Verlander (BS) _____

ROOKIE __Rutchman (UR) _____

MGR: __Ed Griffin (BS) _____

GM: __Vic Handel (GG) & Ed Griffin (BS) _____



2023 All-Stars

BENCH

D'HITTER: Lowe (IL)	D'HITTER: Mountcastle (AS)
CATCHER: Murphy (NN)	CATCHER: Realmuto (HZ)
1 ST BASE: Freeman (CT)	1 ST BASE: Alonso (WS)
2 ND BASE: McNeil (US)	2 ND BASE: Semien (TX)
3 RD BASE: Arenado (KK)	3 RD BASE: Riley (NN)
Shortstop: Bogerts (TX)	Shortstop: Turner (WS)
1 ST OF'ER: M.Trout (US)	4 TH OF'ER: Benitendi (BB)
2 ND OF'ER: A. Garcia (AS)	5 TH OF'ER: Kwan (NN)
3 RD OF'ER: Nimmo (FM)	6 TH OF'ER: Canha (CT)
1 ST SP'ER: Kelly (CT)	4 TH SP'ER: Woodruff (US)
2 ND SP'ER: Gallen (HZ)	5 TH SP'ER: Manoah (NN)
3 RD SP'ER: Nola (WS)	6 TH SP'ER: Castillo (BB)
1 ST RP'ER: A. Diaz (TX)	4 TH RP'ER: Phillips (CT)
2 ND RP'ER: Romano (FM)	5 TH RP'ER: A. Diaz (TX)
3 RD RP'ER: E. Diaz (MY)	6 TH RP'ER: Pressly (US)

MVP: #1 __Mike Trout (USJ) _____

CY YOUNG: __Gallen (HZ) _____

ROOKIE: __Kwan (NN) _____

MGR: __Bill & Harry Nieman (US) _____

GM: __Rob Bruno (AS) _____

The 2023 All-Star Game

123 456 789 R H E

NL 010 000 140 6 7 0

AL 000 110 000 2 6 0

WP Phillips LP Bednar

2B Bogaerts NL, Trout NL

HR N. Lowe NL, Bregman AL, Soto AL, Freeman NL

Tri-MVPs for the NL - Mike Trout, Evan Phillips, Freddie Freeman.

2024 The 51st season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (11/14/2024)

It was a year that saw good things, four teams winning over 100 games and a year that saw bad things, five teams losing over 100 games. In the American League we saw Glen Boucher's Bissel Cove Bluefish win 114 games while Dante Handel's Atlanta Senators lost 120. In the National League Dave Gineo's Connecticut Blue Devils won 106 games and Bruce Fogg's FoggyMountain Angels lose 109.

For the second year in a row, we lost a long-term member. Bruce Fogg decided he had enough of Netplay. He loved FTF games and he loves playing in Strat Tournaments but he did not like all the flaws in Netplay. So, after over 35 years in the FBN Bruce decided to call it a night. The only bump in the road that we had in 2024 was losing Bruce.

I went on the back-up list and sent an email out to the first 6 members. I received a reply right away from back-up member number 6 that he was interested in taking over the team. I had to wait to hear from the first five back-up members. After not hearing a word from the first five back-up members I contacted #6 and said "welcome back." Rich Hamel of the Salem Psychics returned to finish out the season as the FM manager. Rich made the phrase "Make me an Offer" very popular. To show that he had not lost a step, right after getting the team Rich traded four of his top players for four replacements and five #1 2025 Draft Picks! In total Rich traded away 18 players in 10 trades. Besides the 5 #1s he picked up in his first trade he later traded for another #1 and three #2s, two 3's a #4 two #5s. He did trade away a #1 a #2 and a #5. WOW. With Rich rejoining the league everything worked out well.

This year would be the first that we would use the "2023 and Beyond MLB Rules". We used the automatic runner in extra innings and I believed it helped in keeping at bats and inning usage at a decent level. We also put a limit on the number of at bats that a team could use with pitchers at 50. That also worked out well.

Draft Day 2024 was Sunday February 25th. We held the draft at the Hampton Inn in Groton for the second year. We had 12 members on-line and 12 in person. Ed Griffin received the World Series Plaque for the 4th time since joining the league. Dante Handel started the draft by picking his own number out of the hat (he was actually on line). We got \$20. He next picked the first three players of the draft, Elly de La Cruz, Eury Perez and Francisco Alvarez. Nice start for Dante.

Finals Standings.

AMERICAN LEAGUE									
place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Bissel Cove Bluefish	114 - 48	.704	----	58 - 23	.716	56 - 25	.691	final
2	Yorktown Admirals	111 - 51	.685	3	54 - 27	.667	57 - 24	.704	final
3	Blue Grass Blues	109 - 53	.673	5	57 - 24	.704	52 - 29	.642	final
4	California Dreamers	99 - 63	.611	15	49 - 32	.605	50 - 31	.617	final
5	Lake Wobegon Whippets	84 - 78	.519	30	44 - 37	.543	40 - 41	.494	final
6	Belmont Street Boars	82 - 80	.506	32	42 - 39	.519	40 - 41	.494	final
7	Hotlanta Possums	79 - 83	.488	35	40 - 41	.494	39 - 42	.481	final
8	Urpaigh Dragons	78 - 84	.481	36	45 - 36	.556	33 - 48	.407	final
9	Louisville River Bandits	64 - 98	.395	50	30 - 51	.370	34 - 47	.420	final
10	Arsenal Gunners	59 - 103	.364	55	33 - 48	.407	26 - 55	.321	final
11	Grayson Grits	50 - 112	.309	64	30 - 51	.370	20 - 61	.247	final
12	Atlanta Senators	42 - 120	.259	72	19 - 62	.235	23 - 58	.284	final

NATIONAL LEAGUE

place	Team	W - L	pct	gb	home	home pct	away	away pct	last update
1	Connecticut Blue Devils	106 - 56	.654	----	54 - 27	.667	52 - 29	.642	final
2	Klee's Klubbers	96 - 66	.593	10	49 - 32	.605	47 - 34	.580	final
3	Taxachusetts Chiefs	94 - 68	.580	12	47 - 34	.580	47 - 34	.580	final
4	Norwich Navigators	92 - 70	.568	14	50 - 31	.617	42 - 39	.519	final
5	Zanti Misfits	91 - 71	.562	15	49 - 32	.605	42 - 39	.519	final
6	Burlington Buccaneers	81 - 81	.500	25	40 - 41	.494	41 - 40	.506	final
7	Illinois Prairie Dogs	78 - 84	.481	28	37 - 44	.457	41 - 40	.506	final
8	Hazardville Powderkegs	77 - 85	.475	29	37 - 44	.457	40 - 41	.494	final
9	US Jarheads	71 - 91	.438	35	33 - 48	.407	38 - 43	.469	final
10	Wall Street Barons	71 - 91	.438	35	35 - 46	.432	36 - 45	.444	final
11	Allyn Street 89ERS	62 - 100	.383	44	31 - 50	.383	31 - 50	.383	final
12	FoggyMountain Angels	53 - 109	.327	53	31 - 50	.383	22 - 59	.272	final

AL WILD CARD SERIES:

California had homefield advantage for the Wild Card Series over Lake Wobegon. The Dreamers took the series in 5 games. Shohei Ohtani was the MVP of the series as he hit .300 with 3 HR and 6 RBI and went 2-0 with 2.08 ERA.

NL WILD CARD SERIES:

Norwich and Zanti both had a 600+ winning % at home during the regular season. It sure looked like Norwich would win this series in 7 games. But that did not happen as the home team lost every game in the series. Zanti won the series in 7 games.

AL FINAL FOUR SERIES:

California defeated Bissel Cove in five games. The Dreamers held the Bluefish to 4 runs and 10 hits over last 3 games. Series MVPs - Max Muncy (.364-3-8) and Shohei Ohtani (2.77-2-0, allowing 1 hit and striking out 11 in game 5. Also hit .222 with 4 runs scored.

Blue Grass defeated Yorktown in 6 games. The star hitter was Yanier Diaz who got 10 hits in 24 at bats with 3 doubles, 3 home runs, 9 RBI, and 4 runs scored. The star pitcher was Kyle Bradish who started two games pitching 9.1 innings giving up no runs on only 4 hits and 3 walks.

NL FINAL FOUR SERIES:

This was played ftf and took 6 hours. Taxachusetts ended up beating Klee's in six games. MVP Lance Lynn 2CG including a shutout.

Connecticut defeated Zanti in 6 games. The Blue Devils held the Misfits to a .157 average and only allowed them 13 runs in the 6 games while striking out 75 batters.

The Blue Devil bullpen allowed just 2 runs on 11 hits in 17 innings and deserve to be the MVP of the series. CT offense batted .266 scoring 24 runs in the series. CT overcomes a poor performance from Freddie Freeman who batted just .192 for the series. But Seager and Witt Jr both bat .308 with 4 RBI each.

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:

Blue Grass defeated California in 6 games. The series MVP was again Yanier Diaz. He hit .278 with 1 homer and lead the team with 6 RBI. Shawn Armstrong was the pitching MVP winning 1 game and giving up only 3 hits and 3 walks and no runs in 5 innings.

In a twist when it's better to be lucky then good. California had a terrible time getting his runner's home. In six games the Dreamers left 57 runners on base compared to only 32 for the Blues. They hit .295 with a 3.12 ERA. The Blues hit .217 with a 4.25 ERA. Go figure.

NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES:

Connecticut ended up sweeping Taxachusetts 4 games to none. Taxachusetts offense struggled scoring just 7 runs with only 20 hits over the 4 games. CT bullpen could be named the MVP as they pitched 12 innings allowing just 1 run on 4 hits with 9 K's but the award went to Bobby Witt Jr as he hit .389 with 4 runs, 3 RBI, a Triple and 2 run HR.

2024 World Series: - Blue Grass Blues vs Connecticut Blue Devils

Game 1 - Garrett Cole vs Logan Webb

The first 2 innings were scoreless. In the 3rd Estrada lead off with a single and stolen base. Freeman then singled him home for the first run of the game. In the 5th Connecticut lead off with single, single, out, 2 run single, and a Freeman home run – 5-0 Blue Devils. The Blues to this point managed only 2 singles and a walk.

In the 6th inning the Blues got a 2 out walk, single, and a 2 run double by Diaz to make the score 5-2 Connecticut. In the bottom of the 8th the Blues got three singles and a E2 to score 2 runs making the score 5-4 Connecticut. Phillips came in in the 9th to get the save. Cole got the win going 5 2/3 giving up 5 hits and 2 walks. Webb got the loss going 7 giving up 13 hits and 5 walks.

Blue Devils..0 0 1 0 4 0 0 0 0 - 5 13 1

Blues..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0 - 4 8 0

Game 2 - Merrill Kelly vs Kyle Bradish

No scoring until the bottom of the 4th inning when Diaz hits his second home run of the series – a solo shot making it 1-0 Blues. In the 6th the Blue Devils get a walk, single, single, walk, out, single, double play to score 2 runs. In the bottom of the 6th the Blues got a hit by pitch, out, out, single, single, single scoring 2 taking the lead 3-2. In the top of the 9th Rojas leads off with a double and Estrada immediately singles him home to tie the score at 3-3. We go to extra innings. No score in the 10th, the 11th, or the 12th. Connecticut fails to score in the top of the 13th. The Blues go single, single, stolen base, walk to load the bases with no outs.

Jung promptly hits a sac fly to win the game for Blue Grass – 4-3 in 13 innings. The Series is tied 1 game to 1 game. We move to Connecticut.

Blue Devils..0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 - 3 10 0

Blues..... 0 0 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 - 4 12 0

Game 3 - Shawn Armstrong vs Dennis Rasmussen

The Blue Devils get to Armstrong in the 2nd inning with a walk to Candelario, a single by Naylor, a sacrifice by Erstada, and 2 run double by Taveras. Connecticut scores two more in the 5th inning. Taveras leads off with a single, McCarty got on with a fielder's choice, Freeman doubles in 1 run and Witt doubles in Freeman. 4-0 Connecticut. The Blues get on the board in the 6th. Jung leads off with a single, Lopez singles, Arozarena goes out, Friedl strikes out, Diaz singles scoring one, and Ford singles scoring one more. Now 4-2 Connecticut. In the 8th Friedl singles and Diaz walks with 1 out. Ford then gives the Blues the lead with a 3 run homer – 5-4.

The Blue Devils manage only a single in the bottom of the 8th. In the 9th the Blues get a 1 out HBP, a walk, and a 3 run homer by Diaz taking an 8-4 lead that would be the final score. The Blues are up now 2 games to 1.

Blues..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 3 3 - 8 11 0

Blue Devils..0 2 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 - 4 7 1

Game 4 - Logan Webb vs Garrett Cole

Freeman starts the scoring for the Blue Devils with a solo home run in the first inning. McCormick answers with a solo home run in the top of the 2nd. The Blues score in the 4th inning on a single, stolen base, single and Diaz hits into a double play scoring a run. Connecticut comes right back in the bottom of the inning on a Canha single and a Fermin home run – 4-2 Blue Devils. The bull pens got real tough not allowing any more scoring. Cole gets his second win with a Phillips save while Webb gets his second loss. The Series is again tied – 2-2.

Blues..... 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 - 2 4 0

Blue Devils..1 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 x - 3 7 0

Game 5 - Justin Verlander vs Zach Eflin

Lots of scoring in this game. The Blue Devils jump out with 2 in the bottom of the first. The Blues get one back on a solo homer by Diaz in the second. The Blues get 3 more in the 3rd – single, stolen base, E9, double, walk, out, out.

Connecticut gets one back in the bottom of the inning on walk, single, walk, SF. The score is now 4-3 Blues. Connecticut ties the score in the 6th on a HBP, stolen base and a Freeman double. The Blues score 2 in the 7th on walk, single, single, wild pitch. The Blues ice the game in the 8th. After 3 singles and a walk scored a run Diaz comes up with the bases juiced and hits another of his home runs making the score 11-2. The Blue Devils get 2 in the bottom of the 9th making the final 11-4. The Blues are one win from their first World Series win 3 games to 2.

Blues..... 0 1 3 0 0 2 5 0 - 11 13 1

Blue Devils..2 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 2 - 6 13 1

Game 6 Merrill Kelly vs Kyle Bradish

Very little hitting in this game – great pitching on both sides. Connecticut scored a run in the 3rd on a walk, stolen base, wild pitch and a sac fly. In the 7th the Blue Devils got a solo homer from Gary Sanchez to make it 2-0 Connecticut. Kelly and Kershaw were masterful through 7 innings giving up only 3 hits and 5 walks. Stewart came in to pitch in the 8th inning and gave up a HBP and a walk. Phillips came in to face Diaz. Diaz hit his 5th home run of the series to give Blue Grass a 3-2 lead going into the 9th. Fairbanks held the lead for a save and giving the Blue Grass Blues their first World Series title ever.

Blue Devils..0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 - 2 5 0

Blues..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 x - 3 4 0

From Mike Holbrook - Many kudos to Dave and his Blue Devils, Frank and his Dreamers, Merk and his Admirals and Glen and his Bluefish (who I was fortunate enough to not have to play in the postseason). All exceptional teams. This was the fourth try for a Series title in 34(?) years in the league. So glad to finally be able to say I got one.

There is no question as to who the MVP of the Series was – Yanier Diaz. He was 11 for 24 (.458 average), hit 5 home runs, and knocked in 17 runs. Honorable mention goes to TJ Friedl who hit .391 with .500 on base and scored 6 runs (batting in front of Diaz). The pitching MVP goes to Kyle Bradish. He pitched 10 innings giving up just his first postseason run on 5 hits and 3 walks.

The postseason performance of Yanier Diaz bears a comparison to the best of all time results. In 18 games he was at bat 66 times and got 26 hits (.394 avg), 5 doubles, 9 home runs (.879 SP), and 32 RBI. Maybe not the absolute best, but very notable for sure.

2024 American League All-Star Team

D'Hitter	S. Ohtani – CD (40)	D'Hitter	B. Rooker – YA (20)
Catcher	Yainer Diaz – BG (30)	Catcher	W. Smith – BS (13)
1 ST Base	S. Steer – YA (26)	1 ST Base	V. Guerrero Jr. - AT (21)
2 nd Base	O. Albies – CD (37)	2 nd Base	M. Betts – LW (20)
3 rd Base	R. Devers – BC (30)	3 rd Base	J. Jung – BG (23)
Shortstop	F. Lindor – LW (33)	Shortstop	B. Bichette – BG (22)
1 st OF'er	J. Soto – CD (50)	4 th OF'er	L. Robert – AT (20)
2 nd OF'er	K. Tucker – BC (35)	5 th OF'er	K. Schwarber – GG (14)
3 rd OF'er	C. Carroll – BC (29)	6 th OF'er	F. Tatis Jr. – AT (14)
1 st SP'er	S. Strider – LW (43)	4 th SP'er	K. Bradish BG – (33)
2 nd SP'er	C. Burnes – BS (39)	5 th SP'er	L. Gilbert – BC (28)
3 rd SP'er	L. Webb – BG (36)	6 th SP'er	J. Verlander – BG (22)

1 st RP'er	G. Kimbel – HT (41)	4 th RP'er	K. Finnegan – BS (26)
2 nd RP'er	J. Hader – YA (39)	5 th RP'er	D. Bednar – BC (21)
3 rd RP'er	J. Duran – LW (31)	6 th RP'er	S. Armstrong – BG (18)

MVP	S. Ohtani – CD (75)	Runner Up	K. Tucker – BC (45)
CY YOUNG	C. Burnes – BS (23)	Runner Up	L. Webb – LW (14)
ROOKIE	E. Tover – LV (24)	Runner Up	Y. Diaz – BG (18)
MGR	Mike Holbrook - BG (40)		
GM	Glen Boucher – BC – (21)		

2024 National League All-Star Team

D'Hitter	M. Ozuna – TX (50)	D'Hitter	C. Seager – CT (33)
Catcher	W. Contreras – KK (30)	Catcher	M. Garver – BB (21)
1 ST Base	F. Freeman – CT (53)	1 ST Base	M. Olson – NN (32)
2 nd Base	K. Marte – BB (34)	2 nd Base	T. Estrada – CT (30)
3 rd Base	A. Riley – NN (48)	3 rd Base	J. Ramirez - AS (19)
Shortstop	B. Witt Jr. – CT (50)	Shortstop	JP Crawford – ZM (8)
1 st OF'er	R. Acuna – US (50)	4 th OF'er	L. Gurriel – IL (22)
2 nd OF'er	C. Bellinger – TX (50)	5 th OF'er	L. Thomas – NN (16)
3 rd OF'er	M. Harris – ZM (34)	6 th OF'er	M. Duban – KK (15)
1 st SP'er	G. Kirby – BB (50)	4 th SP'er	Z. Wheeler – ZM (21)
2 nd SP'er	C. Bassitt – KK (46)	5 th SP'er	G. Cole - CT (14)
3 rd SP'er	Z. Gallen – HZ (39)	6 th SP'er	L. Lynn – TX (14)
1 st RP'er	E. Phillips – CT (48)	4 th RP'er	T. Scott – TX (20)
2 nd RP'er	A. Diaz – TX (38)	5 th RP'er	H. Harvey – BB (18)
3 rd RP'er	E. Swanson – KK (29)	6 th RP'er	D. Williams – AS (18)

MVP	R. Acuna – US (68)	Runner Up	F. Freeman – CT (54)
CY YOUNG	C. Bassitt – KK (26)	Runner Up	G. Kirby – BB (13)
Co-Rookies	L. Campusano - US (21)	Co-Rookies	M. McLain – ZM (21)
MGR	D. Gineo – CT (28)		
GM	D. Gineo – CT (38)		

Voting Results:

This year we had nine items on the ballot. Five items passed. We voted to limit the In-Season FA draft to a maximum of 4 players per team by a huge vote of 22-2. We also voted to change the post-season 18-6, Netplay injury chart 18-6 and that all post-season series would continue to be the best of 7, 14-8-2. The biggest change was going to three divisions in each league and allowing a sixth play-off team. That passed 12-10-2.

We voted down adding reserve players to replace injured players during a series by 10-14. We voted not to mirror MLB in the number of games in a playoff series 8-14-2. Expanding the rosters to 43 from 40 was turned down by a 5-19 vote.

2024 All-Star Game

The game was played by Bill and Harry Nieman with cards and dice. Harry managed the AL again while Bill managed the NL. Going into the series the "OI" man led the father son matches 5-2.

	R	H	E	
NL	111	110	000	5 11 0
AL	302	001	21x-	9 11 1

WP Bradish LP Williams Sv None

Doubles: NL - Ozuna, Gurriel, Seager, JP Crawford - - - AL - Ohtani, Tucker

This is the "Readers Digest version of the year. Go to our website for full details. Bob Figella does a great job on the web.

2025 The 52nd season for the FBNBB. By Rob Bruno (12/07/2025)

The year started quietly. I rented the Hampton Inn again for draft day. Bud renamed his team National Bohemians. I think everyone still called them Taxachusetts when thinking of them. Teams continued to make trades preparing for the draft.

OPENING DAY AT STRAT: Bill, Don Bob and Roland went to Long Island for Opening Day.

DRAFT DAY 2025: We had 13 members in attendance. Awards were hand out and three members won \$20 each.

During the draft four members won \$20 each.

**For full details on Opening Day at Strat and Draft day check out on the website, Newsletter Feb. 26.

Ed made his Inside the FBN preseason predictions. He got 4 out of 6 correct in the AL and was 6 for 6 in the NL. See the website for full details.

Joe Rutka took a leave of absence. At the time he was not sure if it would be for a short term or the entire season. He said whatever it was for 2025 that he planned on returning. Thank goodness it was not for health reasons. Kenny Yanefski stepped in and managed the team.

Joe did pay his dues for 2026 and he did plan to return. But, after missing the entire 2025 season he emailed me and said he loved draft day and being with the guys but did not look forward to making trades and scheduling games. He decided to step down and let Kenny take over the team full time. Joe stayed on the league link. He said that would let him follow what was happening in the league and it would make him feel still part of it. We wished Joe the best.

On March 23rd Scott Hamel's Zanti Misfits, no hit Bob Mendez Burlington Buccaneers 5-0 for the first no-hitter of the season. We had three additional no-nos. Ed's Belmont Street Boars no-hit Wall Street 1-0. Roland's Klee's Klubbers no-hit Don's Norwich Navigators 1-0. The final no-no for 2025 was in the ALWCS. Ed's Boars no-hit Jim Ferguson's Lake Wobegon Whippets 1-0. In this game the only run came in the first inning on K. Marte HR. That must have been on hell of a game to be involved in.

By April in the American League Glen had control of the East, Ed was in control of the Central and Frank was in control of the West. The only thing left was the Wild Card Race. That last right down to the wire.

The National League was different. The East and West would change leadership continuously during the season. Only the Central was decided early. Zanti was the best with no one else close.

By July my Allyn Street 89ERS took over the East. Bud's National Bohemians were in a fight with Bob Figella's Hazardville Powderkegs in the West. Zanti had locked in the Central along time ago.

By September I only had a 3-game lead over Don's Navigators while Bud's lead was down to 2 games over the Powderkegs.

I ended up winning the East by 4 over Don. Bud won the West as Bob faded and Dave Gineo's Connecticut Blue Devils took over 2nd place.

The Wild Card teams in the AL were Belmont, Lake Wobegon and Louisville. In the NL it was Zanti, Connecticut and Hazardville.

ALWCS Urpaign defeats Louisville 4-2. Belmont Street defeats Lake Wobegon in 4.

NLWCS Norwich beat Connecticut 4 games to 1. Hazardville beat Zanti 4 games to 2.

ALDS California beat Urpaign 4 games to 1. Belmont Street beat Bissel Cove in six games.

NLDS Allyn Street beat Norwich in 5 games. National beat Hazardville in 5 games.

ALCS Belmont Street beat California in five games.

NLCS National beat Allyn Street in seven games.

FBNWS Ed Griffin's Belmont Street Boars defeat the Bud Drapeau's National Bohemians 4 games to none to win the franchise's fifth championship.

***For full details of all the playoff series go to the league website.

November and voting time. We voted on the commissioner every other year so this year we were voting for league presidents along with any issue that was seconded twice. We had 14 items on the ballot. I'm only going to go over a few of them here. You can check the newsletter on the website for full details.

The first item would need a super majority vote to pass since we just voted the item in last year. The present league alimint of 2 leagues, 6 divisions and 6 playoff teams just did not go as planned. Members wanted a new format and took the chance to change it and they were correct. It passed 18-6.

The members now had to vote on what format they wanted for 2026. Two formats passed so we went to a special vote to choose one or the other. We went to the two leagues with two divisions in each league.

We also voted to remove the 1325 and 550 innings and at bat requirements. The feeling among the members was "we are all adults". No need for policing.

All-Star voting and League Awards were none by November 12th. Mike Holbrook and Dave Gineo, World Series opponents of 2024 would play the game this year. Details below.

Ed Griffin won American League Manager of the Year and Glen Boucher won GM of the Year. In the National League I won the Manager of the Year and Bud Drapeau won the GM of the Year.

When Scott Hamel joined the FBN he had replaced Bruce Fogg during the season. He was put into the National League. Scott asked if an opening came in the American League could move since his friends. Ed and Glen were in the AL. Scott emailed me and reminded me of his request. I told him I would ask members of the AL if anyone would be willing to move to the NL. Tony Childers replied and said he would be willing to change leagues. Jeff Merklin was next, stating he would move to the NL so Scott could move to the AL. This is one reason that the FBN is a helleva league. Members think of what is best for all rather than what is best just for themselves. So here is what the two leagues were going to look like as of November 16th.

AMERICAN LEAGUE TEAMS

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Bissel Cove | 1. Arsenal |
| 2. Blue Grass | 2. Atlanta |
| 3. Lake Wobegon | 3. California |
| 4. Nashua* | 4. Grayson |
| 5. Urpaign | 5. Hotlanta |
| 6. Yorktown | 6. Zanti |

NATIONAL LEAGUE TEAMS

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Allyn Street | 1. Connecticut |
| 2. Burlington | 2. Hazardville |
| 3. Louisville | 3. Illinois |
| 4. Norwich | 4. Klee's |
| 5. US Jarheads | 5. Taxachusetts** |
| 6. Wall Street | 6. Southboro |

I thought everything was in place for the end of the 2025 campaign and for the start of the 2026. But I was wrong. Sadly after 25 years in the league Joe Rutka decided to resign. Joe had taken over the Junkyard Dawgs when Jack Brajak resigned back in May of 1998.

Joe headed the Wall Street Barrons for 26 years. The Barrons record for those 26 seasons, 1999 to 2024, was 2,122 and 2,090. A winning percentage of over .500. The Barrons made the playoffs 12 times. Joe won Manager of the Year in 2006 & 2018. He won General Manager of the Year in 2022.

Joining the FBN was Kenny Yanefski who had played most of the Wall Street schedule this year. I just put Kenny in the same slot as Wall Street and sent out the alignment to the members. What I did not know was that Kenny and Rich Hamel lived close to each other. Rich emailed me and asked if Kenny's team, Manatee County could be in the same division as Rich. We could do that, no problem. After talking with Bob Figella, we decided on this setup.

AMERICAN LEAGUE TEAMS

NORTH	SOUTH
1. Bissel Cove	1. Arsenal
2. Blue Grass	2. Atlanta
3. Lake Wobegon	3. California
4. Nashua*	4. Grayson
5. Urpaign	5. Hotlanta
6. Yorktown	6. Zanti

NATIONAL LEAGUE TEAMS

EAST	WEST
1. Allyn Street	1. Connecticut
2. Burlington	2. Hazardville
3. Illinois	3. Klee's
4. Louisville	4. Manatee County
5. Norwich	5. Southboro
6. US Jarheads	6. Taxachusetts**

*Ed renamed his team. He said it's for the last time..... time will only tell! LOL

**Look who's back! Bud said he was so confused this year when he renamed his team from Taxachusetts Chiefs to National Bohemians. He said he kept wanting to call them the Chiefs. So, it's back to Taxachusetts! 😊

ALL-STAR GAME RESULTS: By Dave Gineo

The 2025 FBN All-Star game was hosted at Blue Diamond Stadium, home of the 2024 Champion Blue Grass Blues as the AL All-Stars were managed by Mike Holbrook. The NL All-Stars were managed by the CT Blue Devil's Dave Gineo the 2024 season runner-up.

Starting pitchers were Chris Sale for the NL and Logan Gilbert for the AL.

Strong pitching dominated for almost all of the game. The NL threatened in the 1st inning with 2 outs - Freddie Freeman was hit by a pitch and Marcell Ozuna followed with a single but Eugenio Suarez flied out to end the threat. The NL would not get another hit until the 8th inning!!!! Uggh! At one point, 14 straight NL hitters were put down. Meanwhile, the AL didn't fare much better. AL batters were no hit for the first 4 innings. In the 5th with one out, Will Smith and Alex Bregman ripped back-to-back singles off Tarik Skubal but Gunnar Henderson then struck out. Skubal then walked Fernando Tatis Jr to load the bases with 2 outs. He then walked Juan Soto to force in a run and give the AL a 1-0 lead. Kirby Yates came in and retired Aaron Judge on a flyout.

Nothing much until the 8th inning when the NL gets it's 2nd hit - a single by Wilson Contreras off Emmanuel Clase but Otto Lopez grounds out to end the inning. The AL comes up against Edwin Uceta who quickly gets 2 outs. Brent Rooker pinch hits and blasts a solo HR to increase the AL led to 2-0 which certainly seems insurmountable at this point.

Top of the 9th - Ryan Helsley comes in for the save for the AL. However, he is promptly met with leadoff back-to-back singles by Mason Wynn and Freddie Freeman. Helsley then hits Jorge Soler to load the bases with no outs. Manny Machado follows with an RBI single cutting the lead to 2-1. Cody Bellinger then strikes out for the first out. But Helsley then walks Jurickson Profar to force in the tying run 2-2. Wilson Contreras follows with a deep fly to LF for a go-ahead sac fly - NL takes the 3-2 lead. Jake McCarthy then singles to load the bases with 2 outs. Tanner Houck comes in to face Otto Lopez who rips a 2 run double in the gap and NL now leads 5-2. Winn flies out to end the inning but a big 5 run rally for the NL.

AL now looks to respond against Raisel Iglesias in the bottom of the 9th. Shohei Ohtani draws a leadoff walk and Mookie Betts pinch hits a double and the AL is in business. Runners on 2nd & 3rd no outs. Bregman hits a sac fly to score a run to make it 5-3. Francisco Lindor pinch hits and grounds out moving Betts to 3rd. Yordan Alvarez pinch hits as the tying run but Iglesias strikes him out to end the game and NL hold on for a comeback 5-3 win.

It's hard to pick one individual for the MVP as nobody had a multi-hit game and only one player had more than 1 RBI so Otto Lopez was selected as the MVP for his 2 run double in the 9th which turned out to be the game winning runs. Aaron Judge had a tough game for the AL going 0 for 4 with 3 strikeouts and Ryan Helsley took the loss getting charged with all 5 runs.

Overall, it was a tough game for the hitters. Mike noted that it seemed like 70%-80% of the dice rolls were on the pitcher's cards so the hitters didn't have much of a chance. I don't think he was too far off in his estimate.

National..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 5 - 5 7 0

American..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 - 3 5 0

W- Edwin Uceta. Sv.- Raisel Iglesias L - Ryan Helsley

Have fun in the offseason everyone - Happy Holidays!

Dave

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