

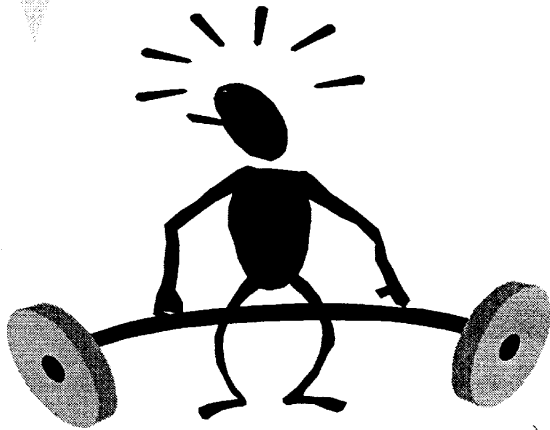
# The Fly-By-Night BA

Volume 25, Issue 9

June 22, 1999

## MUSSELL or BRAINS???

**Y**es the mussel is gone from the team and new manager "the brain" is now at the helm for the rest of the season.



Kidding aside it's been great hearing from so many of you and looking forward to helping out the rest of the season. Don't know if I will be able to do it on a full time basis but sure will be involved for this year. At the end of the year I will get with Rob and between us decide if I will remain as a fill in like this or if I'm able to take on full time responsibilities.

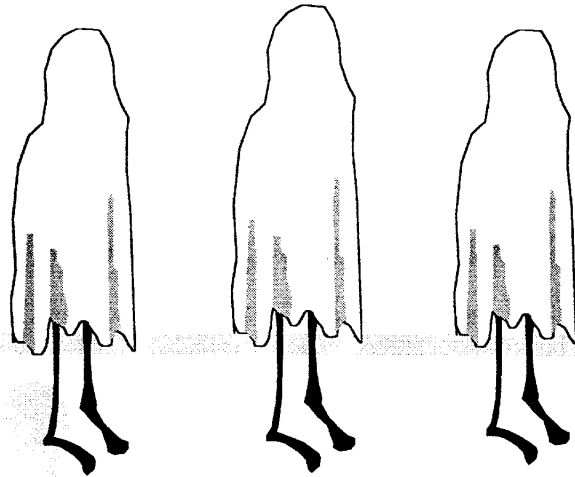
I will be playing computer so if you send your instructions for it that way it would be great otherwise I will do my best to work them into it anyway.

Again thanks for all your support (send your checks in care of "the brain") and talk to ya'll later.

JB

## <sup>Camp Cards</sup> Transactions:

1. Taxachusetts & Phoenix: TX rec'ed Chris Peters, John Cangelosi, Luis Rivera, PR#1&#2. PR rec'ed Luis Gonzales, Frank Castillo TX#1.
2. Yorktown & Louisville: YA rec'ed Quinten McCracken LV#4. LRB rec'ed Brian Edmondson BR#3 PTBN (Jason McDonald end of season).



## The Ghosts of Blue Devil Past, Present and Future but no Scrooge!

### A BLUE DEVIL STORY

While taking a recent pre-game nap, Mgr. Lou Piniella was visited by the Ghosts of Blue Devil Past, Present and Future. Although there were a few nightmares, most of the dream was pleasant and no Scrooge was in sight.....

### GHOST OF BLUE DEVIL PAST

The Connecticut franchise started play in 1987 and amassed a .601 winning percentage (1,169-775) including 5 Divisional Titles, 9 playoff appearances and winning the FBN Championship! 1995

was the best statistical season going 116-46 but 1998 was the peak of the success winning the FBN Championship as a Wild Card team beating three opponents with over 100 victories each.

Before last season, however, the Blue Devils suffered a long line of playoff disappointments including three straight losses in the NLCS from 1993-1995. The mid-1990's teams, which included many All-Star players like Gwynn, Bonds, Clark, Williams, Biggio and Maddux went 428-220 (.661) between 1992-1995 winning 100+ games all 4 years but the big stars couldn't produce in the playoffs with the ultimate failure in 1995 after a 116 win season.

After the 1995 disappointment, management completely rebuilt the team with a three year plan to get back to the playoffs. New players like Bernie Williams, Tino Martinez, Raul Mondesi, Edgardo Alfonzo and Edgar Renteria learned to mesh together. In 1997, Connecticut surprised many missing the play-offs by one game as Geronimo Berroa (52HR, 142RBI) and Terry Steinbach (55HR's 139RBI) had career seasons. Then in 1998, right on schedule in the 3rd year of the rebuilding plan, the Blue Devils made the playoffs with a 98-64 record led by rookie 1st rd. pick Matt Morris (18-10 3.76). In the playoffs, Connecticut shocked the Farm. Valley Hawks coming back from a 3-1 deficit to win the NLCS and (see page 3)

"GM Bruno will not bring any new talent to the team this year," said Mgr. Torre

Allyn Street was 6-4 Vs the ALWest just needing a split

with Florida Sun to end with a winning record during a block for the first time this year. The Sun would have nothing to do with that as Florida wins 5-2 & 6-3 to leave the 89ERS at 40-43 (L2). Off injury assignment from Liberty Insurancemen **Shane Mack, Orlando Merced and Ramon Martinez.**

With the team off to a disappointing start Manager Torre is going to shakeup the lineup. "GM Bruno is not going to go out and make a trade to bring any new talent to the team this year so I'll



89ERS on target for 2000???

have to make do with what I have," said Torre.

Leftfielder/DH Shane Mack is back and he will bat cleanup and DH.

McGriff will back fifth, Guillen 6th and Merced 7th and play left. The

89ERS also promoted

utility-man **Greg Norton.** "He was impressive at Liberty. His versatility will give me more options late in the game." Torre said he would go with this line up for the rest of the year and see where it brings the 89ERS, back into the playoffs or a slow ride into the sunset. Ramon Martinez will replace John Thomson in the rotation and face USJarheads, Windham and Hazardville.

**89ER Numbers:** McGriff 1600 GA, 6000 AB, 900BB. Chuck Knoblauch 1300 H. Jose Vizcaino 73 SB to pass Brady Anderson for 10th place on the 89ER All-Time List. Ramon Martinez 300 GS. Paul Quantrill 250 GA. Shane Reynolds 70 Wins to pass Jimmy Key for 4th. Steve Trachsel 54 Wins to pass Jim Deshaies for 6th. Matt Mantei 17 Sv to pass Stu Cilburn and Tom Waddell for 8th. Allyn Street hit its 1800th HR.

# NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

TEAM	WON		LOST		PCT.	GB	HOME			ROAD			STREAK	BA	ERA
	W	L	W	L			W	L	W	L					
<b>* EAST *</b>															
WINCHAM	41	32	0.562	25-14	16-18	3-7	WON 1	.262	4.08						
ALLYN STREET	38	41	0.481	6.0	19-23	19-18	5-5	WON 1	.270	4.51					
TAXACHUSETTS	36	39	0.480	6.0	17-22	19-17	5-5	WON 1	.277	4.03					
WALL STREET	34	37	0.479	6.0	16-16	18-21	3-7	LOST 2	.259	4.77					
HAZARDVILLE	34	39	0.466	7.0	19-18	15-21	3-7	LOST 3	.268	4.89					
US JARHEADS	30	39	0.435	9.0	16-18	14-21	5-5	LOST 2	.238	4.48					

\* WEST \*

FARM VALLEY	50	19	0.725	29-10	21-9	7-3	WON 4	.290	3.41	
JERSEY CITY	48	25	0.658	4.0	28-12	20-13	9-1	WON 9	4.22	
KLUBBERS	42	35	0.545	12.0	28-17	14-18	8-2	WON 8	.268	4.94
SILVER CITY	29	32	0.475	17.0	** G E T T I N G	M A R I E D	** *			
CONNECTICUT	37	42	0.468	18.0	22-18	15-24	5-5	WON 3	.278	4.74
PHOENIX	21	44	0.323	27.0	14-21	7-23	6-4	LOST 1	.228	4.79

## LEAGUE LEADERS

AVERAGE (Min, 3.1 PA/G) RUNS BATTED IN RUNS SCORED

Player	Team	Runs Scored	Runs Batted In
1. Griffey	(FV)0.353	1. Gonzalez	(KK)
2. Piazza	(FV)0.344	2. Griffey	(FV)
3. Biggio	(FV)0.340	3. Canseco	(KK)
4. Davis	(JC)0.332	4. Guerrero	(FV)
5. Klesko	(JC)0.328	5. Castilla	(JC)
6. Castilla	(JC)0.320	6. Jones	(FV)
7. Hamilton	(AS)0.319	7. Easley	(JC)
8. Olerud	(HP)0.315	8. Garciparrá	(FV)
9. Williams	(CT)0.314	9. Rolen	(HP)
10. 2 tied at	0.310	10. Rolen	(HP)

### HOME RUNS

1. Castilla	(JC)	32
2. Canseco	(KK)	26
3. Guerrero	(FV)	26
4. Gonzalez	(KK)	24
5. Griffey	(FV)	24
6. Rodriguez	(US)	22
7. Garciparrá	(FV)	22
8. Bagwell	(HP)	20
9. Palmer	(TX)	20
10. Several tied at	19	

### DOUBLES

1. Biggio	(FV)	35
2. Valentin	(HP)	23
3. Easley	(JC)	22
4. Floyd	(WS)	22
5. Finley	(TX)	22
6. Gonzalez	(TX)	22
7. Anderson	(US)	22
8. Rolen	(JC)	22
9. Greer	(KK)	21
10. Several tied at	10	

### TRIPLES

1. DeLuci	(HP)	8
2. Jeter	(SC)	5
3. Clayton	(WW)	5
4. J.Bell	(KK)	5
5. Disarcina	(HP)	5
6. Vina	(CT)	5
7. Vizquel	(JC)	4
8. Rolen	(HP)	4
9. Greer	(KK)	4
10. Kotsay	(JC)	4

### STOLEN BASES

1. Stewart	(SC)	27
2. T. Goodwin	(SC)	24
3. Canseco	(KK)	23
4. Renteria	(CT)	20
5. Knoblauch	(AS)	19
6. Vina	(CT)	16
7. Hunter	(KK)	16
8. O. Nixon	(WS)	15
9. McGrae	(WK)	15
10. Jeter	(SC)	14

### STRIKEOUTS

1. Sorrento	(PR)	83
2. Frymar	(US)	75
3. Canseco	(KK)	75
4. Burnitz	(US)	70
5. Rodriguez	(US)	69
6. Green	(HP)	67
7. Abreu	(HP)	67
8. O. Nixon	(KK)	66
9. Palmer	(TX)	64
10. Young/Bell	(TX)	63

## American League

### 1999 FBN Hitting Leaders

Average	Home Runs	RBI's	Runs	2B
Brosius (PB) - .380	McGwire (YK) - 37	Sosa (CD) - 100	Sosa (CD) - 76	Belle (CD) - 33
DeShields (CD) - .358	Sosa (CD) - 37	Belle (CD) - 90	McGwire (YK) - 76	Martinez (YK) - 32
Walker (FS) - .354	Vaughn (GD) - 33	McGwire (YK) - 88	Vaughn (GD) - 71	Brosium (PB) - 25
Bonds (AG) - .332	Ramirez (LV) - 26	Vaughn (GD) - 78	Belle (CD) - 70	Alomar (FS) - 24
W. Guerrero (MM) .331	Palmeiro (CD) - 24	Palmeiro (CD) - 57	Durham (YK) - 65	Gwynn (SP) - 23

3B	SB	K	BB
Jones (HOT) - 8	Henderson (PB) - 28	Sosa (CD) - 94	McGwire (YK) - 81
Many - 5	Womack (HOT) - 27	McGwire (YK) - 79	Martinez (YK) - 60
	Lofton (BR) - 26	Lankford (FS) - 73	Henderson (PB) - 51
	Durham (YK) - 16	Tatis (LV) - 71	Sheffield (BR) - 47
	DeShields (CD) - 15	Blowers (CS) - 69	Several - 46

### 1999 FBN Pitching Leaders

ERA	Wins	Appearances	Strikeouts
Hamilton (BR) - 2.71	Becher (CD) - 14	Guardado (HOT) - 35	Johnson (YK) - 177
Glavine (SP) - 2.84	Daal (CD) - 11	Veres (YK) - 32	Schilling (BR) - 149
Cordova (YK) - 2.91	Many - 10	Williams (YK) - 30	Brown (SP) - 138
Radke (SP) - 3.14			
Lima (LV) - 3.17			

Walks	Innings Pitched	Winning % (9 Dec.)	Fireman
Rogers (CD) - 64	Rogers (CD) - 141.0	Belcher (CD) 14-2, .875	Nen (CD) 1-0-30
Johnson (YK) - 60	Johnson (YK) - 137.2	Daal (CD) 11-2, .846	Williams (YK) 2-1-19
Finley (LV) - 59	Schilling (BR) - 132.0	Wells (GD) 10-2, .833	Gordon (BR) 3-3-15
Estes (HOT) - 56	Brown (SP) - 125.2	Finley (LV) 7-2, .778	Jackson (SP) 4-5-16
Wright (CS) - 55	Thompson (HOT) - 124.0	Hamilton (BR) 7-2, .778	Brocail (PB) 2-5-16

(min. 1 IP/game) E.R.A. - Starter		MOST INNINGS PITCHED		RELIEF APPEARANCES	
1. Lester (WS)	2.77	1. Maddux (TX)	128.2	1. Bantlief (CT)	35
2. Hammond (AS)	2.96	2. Erickson (JC)	128.0	2. Wendell (KK)	35
3. Maddux (TX)	3.15	3. Williams (NW)	122.0	3. Franco (KK)	33
4. Hoeyer (JC)	3.42	4. Trachsel (AS)	119.0	4. Rincon (AS)	32
5. Peters (PR)	3.48	5. Reynolds (AS)	117.2	5. Hernandez (NW)	32
6. Belmaco (SC)	3.59	6. Anderson (CT)	114.2	6. Aguilera (KK)	31
7. Reynolds (AS)	3.71	7. Moyer (JC)	111.1	7. Leiter (PR)	31
8. Bottenfield (JC)	3.98	8. Perez (US)	110.0	8. Howry (NW)	30
9. Wood (PR)	4.02	9. Hayes (HP)	109.2	9. Several tied at:	29
10. Woodard (KK)	4.04	10. Woodard (KK)	104.2	10. Several tied at:	29

MOST WINS		MOST STRIKEOUTS		MOST WALKS	
1. Clemens (FV)	12	1. Martinez (FV)	115	1. Guzman (US)	50
2. Erickson (JC)	11	2. Clemens (FV)	111	2. Kille (AS)	49
3. P. Martinez (FV)	10	3. Reynolds (AS)	106	3. Trachsel (AS)	48
4. Woodard (KK)	10	4. Maddux (TX)	102	4. Williams (NW)	48
5. Reynolds (AS)	9	5. Wood (PR)	102	5. Wakerfield (TX)	48
6. Moyer (JC)	9	6. Smoltz (FV)	91	6. Carpenter (JC)	47
7. Several tied at	8	7. Trachsel (AS)	85	7. Wood (PR)	45
8. Several tied at	8	8. Leiter (WS)	84	8. Hayes (HP)	44
9. Several tied at	8	9. Moyer (JC)	79	9. Hentgen (HP)	43
10. Several tied at	8	10. Hentgen (HP)	78	10. Alvarez (PR)	42

FIREMAN AWARD		PTS. W - L - S		WINNING % (min. 8 decisions)	
1. Howry (NW)	35	3-2-18	1. Clemens (FV)	12-1	0.923
2. Hoffman (FV)	27	5-2-13	2. Reynolds (AS)	9-1	0.900
3. Mantel (AS)	27	3-4-16	3. Martinez (FV)	10-2	0.833
4. Christensen (KK)	25	1-1-13	4. Moyer (JC)	9-2	0.818
5. M. Maddux (JC)	25	5-0-10	5. Telmaco (SC)	8-2	0.800
6. Rivera (WS)	24	2-2-13	6. Erickson (JC)	11-3	0.785
7. Yan (CT)	21	1-2-12	7. Leiter (WS)	7-3	0.700
8. Bryd (SC)	18	0-2-11	8. Perez (US)	7-4	0.635
9. Shaw (TX)	18	2-6-14	9. Woodard (KK)	10-6	0.625
10. 3 tied at	13		10. Acevedo (KK)	5-3	0.625

NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWSLETTER NOTES:

**DEVIL DOODLES -** Lost in the poor season so far for the Blue Devils is a great performance from Eddie Tadenbersee. Eddie T. leads the team with a .370 BA but fails slightly short to qualify for the league leaders. With 30 walks he has a .536 on base %! He has knocked in 41 RBI in only 181 AB's on just 67 hits.

Mike Remlinger wants back into the starting rotation after performing well in middle relief. He has a 4-0 record and 2.69 ERA to lead the team. He has allowed just 42 hits in 57 innings. However, the logical choice for replacement would be Mike Hampton (2-12) but Connecticut management doesn't want to ruin Hampton's confidence level any more than it is already messed up considering his record. The Blue Devils still feel Hampton will be an important pitcher for the franchise in the future.

**GEILES -** Vinny Castiglia is finally beginning to tear things up with a .320 BA and 32 HR's.

New acquisitions Marty Cordova (.348 BA, .444 OBP and 2 HR's) and Kerry Ligtnerberg (.191P, .11 H, .11 BB, .24 K's, 1.40 ERA) have come through even though we were sad to part with Damon Buford.

With Buford's departure, the last remaining link to the original Bolton Blue Ballers is Castiglia. Although we didn't like losing some of the guys we've parted with this year, our goal has been to get younger while remaining competitive. . . . So far, so good!

Shake Bies: Rattlers finally show some offense in taking 3 of 4 from both Klee and Silver City. But then 3 shut-outs in Gineo-land and reality came racing back. Paul Sorrento may have had the most feeble series in Rattler history going 0 for 16 with 10 K's and a DP. Paul is striking out at a .356 clip while sporting a .169 average. The bright spot is Chris Peters at 5-5 with a 3.48 ERA.

Two more Rattlers bought the big one last week when Jeff King decided he preferred running the family's drug store and walked away from the game. Tony Saunders followed with his Tom Browning impersonation and broke his arm so he could have the rest of the season off to protect his 5.69 ERA.

Boy.....is this fun or what?

**TAXACHUSETTS -** Chief management sent a message to its players by unloading the unproductive and under-achieving Luis Gonzalez, who is hitting .230 with only 28 RBI in 75 games. The Chiefs are hopeful that they've improved their NLE rotation by adding lefty Chris Peters. They also are looking to improve the team OBP vs. RHP by having Cangelosi (49 OB chances) and Hammonds (50) share the lead-off spot and play LF. This will allow Mgr. Carter to bat Derek Bell third where he can be more productive. Bell is batting .310 with a .519 SLG, but only 38 RBI in 310 ABs because he has had to hit out of the lead-off spot almost the entire season.

Other moves - optioned to the AAA Galdarn Frigates: Aldred, Rueter, Belinda, Luis "Bombo" Rivera. Call ups - Santiago, Timlin.

**KLUUBER KLIPS**

Once again, as he did in the early '90's, the dweeb fourth outfielder, Stan Javier, has come to save the day. Immediately after a humiliating four game sweep at the hands of the Boucher Boyz, Javier arrived from Arsenal to correct the Klubber's leadoff woes. Since his arrival, Stan the Man has averaged a run a game as the Klub has whipped together an 8 game winning streak. Admittedly, the Klubbers have not, except for Curt Schilling, seen a quality starting pitcher during the streak, but the stor in the arm was necessary to revive the team's tenuous post-season aspirations.

Of more immediate concern is the play of Jay Bell, who is regarded as the greatest shortstop in Klub history. Bell was moved to second base in order to accommodate the emergent Mark Loreta and to replace the immobile Joey Cora, who makes only the occasional start nowadays. While Bell's defense remains steady his bat is strangely silent. A year after hitting 27 homers with 114 RBI's, Bell remains mired in the .180's with a paltry three home runs as the season approaches the halfway mark. The shut-ins who hang on the local sports talk shows have been screaming for him to be traded, but right now his trade value would seem to be marginal at best. At the end of the season, it seems that the Klub could have some options as his platoon partner, Luis Castillo, has been waiting for his opportunity to play every day.

## Three Year Plan to the PLAYOFFS...

then beat the Caribou St. Hogs four straight games in the World Series after falling behind 2-0!! Years of frustration were washed away with the Blue Devil's First FBN Championship.

### GHOST OF BLUE DEVIL PRESENT

1999 has been a struggle as inconsistency in both pitching and hitting has led to a sub-.500 record. If not for a 12-4 record in one run games, Connecticut could be in even bigger trouble. Realistically, the team's hope to compete for 2nd place with their archrivals -the G-Men and Klubbers is slipping away. A drop-off from last year's magical season was expected as injuries to Matt Morris and Mike Morgan have limited their available innings. Also, Could Raul Mondesi realistically repeat his incredible MVP year of 1998? Could Tino Martinez hit 50 HR's and 142 RBI again? Time will tell.....

### GHOST OF BLUE DEVIL FUTURE

The future looks bright as the team seems equipped to challenge for a playoff spot for many years. Several players are just entering their prime and potentially good younger players dot the roster. The infield looks solid

with Martinez, Vina, Renteria and Alfonzo while Williams and Mondesi control the OF. A LFER is needed but rookie Geoff Jenkins is expected to step up and possibly the talented but underachieving Ruben Rivera. A younger catcher may be needed as slugger Todd Greene



(Dave Gineo 1995) If I rebuild from scratch.... Blue Devils should win it all in three years!!! Dear Lou, I plan on making a few changes to the team.. you're staying but everyone else is GONE!!!

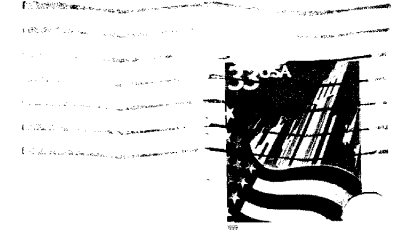
may not be able to catch with his bum should-er. The bullpen has some good young arms in Armando Benitez, Esteban Yan, Felix Heredia and Terry Adams. Other than Mike Morgan, the starting staff is all under 30 with Morris, Mike Hampton, Brian Anderson, Chad Ogea and Bryce Florie. Every team continually looks for pitching and the Blue Devils certainly would like to upgrade either through the draft or trade. More than likely, either Alfonzo or Vina will be traded during the off-season to get help in other areas.

Whether another shot at a FBN Championship is possible - who knows - but Connecticut should remain a stable, competitive club for many years down the road.

Story by Owner Dave Gineo.

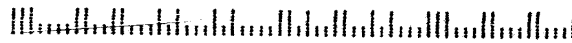
The 24th YEAR OF PLAY BY MAIL IN THE FBN...

Robert M. Bruno  
Commissioner of the FBN BA  
33 Stony Hill Drive  
Mystic, CT 06355



Bob Figella  
HAZARDVILLE POWER KEGS  
2900 Dover CT

06033-Windsor, CT 06095

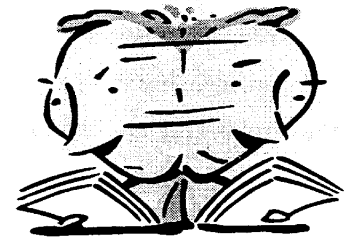


What's inside:

The FRONT PAGE: "Mussel or Brains", Transactions,  
Connecticut Blue Devils see ghosts.  
Page 2&3: CT Blue Devils continued, Allyn Street News.  
Page 4 plus: NL & AL News and Stats.  
The BACK PAGE: Are your Road Instructions clear?

*This reports -BP's: Florida 3, late RI. Arsenal 3, no report.  
YTD -BP's: LW 6, FS 5, AG 4 1/2, PR 3, SC 2, PB 2, HT 2, BR 1.*

What the heck does he want me to do here????



**S**o you think your Road Instructions are crystal clear and everyone else's as clear as mud! I believe that most of us feel this way. What we should do is look at our Road Instructions again and try to make them simpler. I had a call from Mike Holbrook about my reliever pitching in-

structions and I definitely see where it was confusing. This block playing the ALWest by Road Instructions was very interesting. Some managers made there instructions short and to the point. Some did not. I'm just glad I play most of my games face to face. Until Strat makes the computer game so

we can play on line against each other I would suggest that we try to reduce our own RI to make it more enjoyable for the Home Team Manager.  
Respectfully,  
Rob Bruno GM Allyn Street  
89ERS  
PS I've only heard small rumblings about some of the Road