

# 2021 FBN WORLD SERIES

**AL #3 Lake Wobegon Whippets vs NL #1 Allyn Street 89ERS**

**Jim Ferguson vs Rob Bruno**

## **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.

Lake Wobegon tallied 3 runs in the 3rd inning when they came up with 3 base hits. Yelich led off with a base on balls. Springer doubled him to 3rd and Dickerson scored them on his double. With one out Solano delivered the third run on his double. That early scoring held up. Both teams' bats went to sleep after the 4th inning with no runs scored after that point.

Kyle Hendricks allowed 2 runs in 6 and 2/3 innings, and picked up the victory. Liam Hendriks recorded the save. The losing pitcher was Trevor Bauer. Despite the loss, Bauer struckout 12 Lake Wobegon batters in 8 and 1/3 innings.

After the Whippets scored a run in the first Cano led off the bottom of the 1st with a homerun.

Whippets.....	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	4	6	0
89ERS.....	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	2	8	3
HOME RUNS-	R.Cano(1st)													

## **Game 2, Keuchel vs. Gausman**

Dallas Keuchel went 6 solid innings at The School Yard where the Lake Wobegon Whippets beat the Allyn St. 89ERS 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.

Keuchel got the win allowing no runs in 6 innings. Liam Hendriks preserved the game for Keuchel, recording The save. Kevin Gausman(0-1) was charged with the loss. While he was the losing pitcher, he still struck out 9 batters in 4 innings.

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

The Series moved to Gary's Shoes Park -

## **Game 3, Mahle vs. Foster**

In a game for the baseball purist, Tyler Mahle and Matt Foster squared off in a tense pitching duel, Allyn St. 89ERS finally emerged victorious over Lake Wobegon Whippets, 3 to 1.

Allyn Street jumped out to the early lead in the first inning plating one baserunner. After an out was recorded, Robinson Cano single-handedly provided a

rally, as he belted a solo home run. Mike Mayers pitched a perfect ninth and was credited with the save.

'I always am most impressed when a pitcher finds a way to win even without his best stuff,' Casey Stengel said after the game. 'Mahle did not have command of his pitches most of the night, but he proved he really knew how to pitch!'

89ERS..... 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 3 6 0  
Whippets..... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 8 0  
HOME RUNS- R.Cano(2nd), E.Rosario(1st), G.Springer(3rd)

#### **Game 4, Alzolay vs. K.Hendricks**

One run was the difference at Gary's Shoes Park as the Allyn Street 89ERS defeated the Lake Wobegon Whippets 3 to 2.

Allyn St. scored the deciding run in the 8th inning. Tim Locastro was hit by a pitch. A balk was called. After an out was recorded, Tyrone Taylor then doubled scoring the run. Allyn Street rapped out 8 hits for the afternoon.

Shawn Armstrong got credit for the victory, pitching 2 innings and allowing no runs. Armstrong got help from Devin Williams who was credited with the save. Jarlin Garcia was the losing pitcher in relief. He gave up 1 hit and no walks in 1 inning.

89ERS..... 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 1 0 - 3 8 2  
Whippets..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 - 2 1 0  
HOME RUNS- A.Dickerson(1st)

The series was tied at 2 each after four games. How close has the series been? Both teams had scored exactly 8 runs. After taking Wednesday off the series continued Thursday night at 8PM EST.

#### **Game 5, Bauer vs. Foster**

Trevor Bauer dominated striking out 13 Lake Wobegon batters as the Allyn Street 89ERS defeated the Lake Wobegon Whippets by a score of 5 to 4 at Gary's Shoes Park.

Bauer gave Allyn Street a solid outing. He went 7 innings allowing 6 hits and 1 walk and allowed 3 gopher balls. Both teams finished the game with 7 hits.

Bauer got help from Shawn Armstrong who earned his 1st save. Austin Gomber took the loss in relief. It was a tough loss for him as he did not allow an earned run in his 1 inning of work.

Bauer 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.'

This game was won in the 8th inning. After an out was recorded Walch singled. Haggerty lifted a fly to centerfield that Springer played into a 2 base error. Walsh had started to go back to first then he saw that Springer had misplayed

Haggerty's flyball. He barely made it to third. LoCastro was up next and he grounded out to second. That should have ended the inning but it did not. McCann then came through with an RBI single giving the 89ERS the lead and eventually the win. McCann had been 0-3 before the single.

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89ERS..... 0 0 0 0 0 2 2 1 0 - 5 7 1
Whippets..... 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 - 4 7 1
HOME RUNS- G.Springer-2(5th), J.Schoop(2nd)
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Back to the School Yard:

### Game 6, Keuchel vs. Gausman

The Lake Wobegon Whippets had very little trouble at The School Yard downing the Allyn Street 89ERS. The score was 7 to 2. Lake Wobegon set the tone of the game in the first inning scoring a single run using 2 hits. Allyn Street was out-hit by Lake Wobegon, 10 hits to 7.

Adam Kolarek allowed no runs in 1 and 2/3 innings, and picked up the victory. Kevin Gausman absorbed the loss. He pitched 5 innings and surrendered 7 hits and 1 walk.

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. Casey Stengel decided to send Stevenson in to pinch hit for Haggerty. Right hander Cisnero was on the mound. Stevenson touched it that was going to drive in both runners as that ball was going to go to the corner. BUT, no way. What a stop! It was turned into a TRIPLE PLAY!

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Whippets..... 1 1 0 0 0 3 1 0 1 - 7 10 0
89ERS..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 - 2 7 1
HOME RUNS- G.Springer(3rd), J.Schoop(2nd), T.France(1st)
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Has anyone noticed that the home team has not won a game yet in this series? The World Series went down to a 1 game winner take it all.

### Game 7

In a lop-sided win the Allyn St. 89ERS ripped the Lake Wobegon Whippets by a 6 to 1 count.

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. Allyn Street finished with 12 hits while Lake Wobegon ended up with 3.

The loss was charged to Kyle Hendricks. He surrendered 8 hits and no walks in 1 inning.

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Whippets..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1 3 0
89ERS..... 4 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 6 12 0
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How close was this series? One run was the difference. We scored 21 runs while the Whippets scored 20. I thought after Springer cf-2(-2)e2 gave us game 5 that the 89ERS would win the series. But, when Stevenson hit into the triple play I said, "It's over."

Game 7 was the only game that we showed any real offense and that was only 2 innings. Cano led off the first with a single. Ramirez singled. Mountcastle singled in the 1st run. Walsh doubled in a run. LoCastro lined out. Rosario then singled in 2. We sent 9 batters to the plate in the first. In the 2nd Cano, Ramirez and Mountcastle (RBI) all singled again. But with the infield drawn in we could not score again.

This series was fun. After the first four games Jim type (not exactly) "It's 1960 baseball." After game six I went out to my hats and changed my home game 89ERS hat for my away game hat AS. I want to fool the commuter that I was a road team.

Congrats to Jim. He put together a very good team. The World Series went to the team that was the luckiest!

## **A Tale of Two Bullpens**

The story of the 2021 Fly-By-Night World Series can be told by the successes and failures of the antagonists' bullpens. Allyn Street and Lake Wobegon each had formidable arrays of arms at the ready to face each opponents lineup of COVID season stars. Indeed, like the real life 2021 S.F. Giants, the Whippets had 8 relief pitchers who threw over 25 innings and registered sub-3.00 ERAs. Archie Bradley did not even make the playoff roster. Both of the finalist bullpens were fabulous in games 1-4, each allowing just 2 runs (Allyn Street's were unearned!).

Then came Game 5. With the Series tied at 2-2, the Whippets got to Trevor Bauer for 3 runs in the first 5 innings, and held a 3-0 lead. It was a bullpen game, with Foster, Green, and Richards blanking the 89ERS, a crack in the solid Wobegon bullpen was forced open as Allyn St scored 5 runs over 3 innings against four relievers -- taking a 5-4 lead (LW had hit a third solo homerun against Bauer) into the bottom of the 8th. The 89ERS bullpen held firm and pivotal game 5 went to the visitors.

Game 6 flipped the script, with 89ERS starter Gausman in trouble, a string of 4 relievers for the home team failed to stop the drip of runs allowing Lake Wobegon to tie up the series 3-3. The Series finale has likely been covered in Rob's report, but both bullpens shined again with the winning 89ers getting 5 innings of shutout work and the Whippets' pen allowing 1 run over 7 innings. The difference was the bad day for Lake Wobegon 19-game winner Kyle Hendricks, who allowed 5 runs on 8 hits in one horrific inning of work, after turning in solid starts in games 1 and 4.

Rob and I played this series over 2 nights (with an off day!) and it was very fun. If you've played Rob, you know he is deliberate, but he is giving you a tough challenge. Congrats to Rob on this victory, which MORE than avenged the season series 0-2 record the 89ers had against the Whippets this year. It was a fun season for the Whippets, our first appearance in the World Series since 1994 - but definitely NOT my best team since 1994, I just managed to win the short series to get to the Finals.