



# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL WEEKLY NOTES

## THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017

### TOTAL CONTROL

Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw picked up his third victory of the season on Wednesday night in a 4-2 win over the Colorado Rockies at Dodger Stadium. Kershaw tossed 7.0 innings, permitting two runs on five hits with a walk and 10 strikeouts.



The game marked Kershaw's 45th consecutive start in which he walked two or fewer batters. With that, his streak is now tied for the eighth-longest since at least 1913. Carlos Silva holds the record in that span with 99 consecutive starts with no more than two walks for the Philadelphia Phillies and Minnesota Twins from 2003-07.

Cleveland's Josh Tomlin has accomplished the same feat in 35 consecutive starts.

### *Consecutive Starts with Two Walks or Less, Since 1913*

Player, Team	Consecutive Starts with Two Walks or Less	Dates
Carlos Silva, PHI/MIN	99	August 2, 2003 - May 10, 2007
Phil Hughes, MIN	64	April 15, 2014 - May 22, 2016
Brad Radke, MIN	62	April 18, 2003 - September 18, 2004
Carl Hubbell, NYG	61	August 26, 1933 - July 17, 1935
David Wells, SD/BOS	59	August 13, 2004 - April 29, 2007
Bret Saberhagen, NYM	48	October 4, 1992 - May 14, 1995
Michael Pineda, SEA/NYY	46	August 21, 2011 - April 6, 2016
<b>Clayton Kershaw, LAD</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>June 17, 2015 - Present</b>
Zane Smith, MON/PIT	45	July 25, 1990 - September 21, 1991
Christy Mathewson, NYG	45	April 17, 1913 - June 6, 1914

### MLB MARCH/APRIL STRIKEOUTS PER 9.0 INNINGS (2000-2017)

YEAR	K/9.0	YEAR	K/9.0	YEAR	K/9.0
2000	6.52	2006	6.46	2012	7.36
2001	6.87	2007	6.60	2013	7.69
2002	6.49	2008	6.41	2014	7.96
2003	6.55	2009	6.96	2015	7.64
2004	6.34	2010	7.13	2016	8.15
2005	6.35	2011	7.09	2017	8.25

## KEUCHEL IN CY YOUNG FORM

On Wednesday night, Houston Astros left-hander Dallas Keuchel tossed 7.0 innings, permitting a run on eight hits with one walk and seven strikeouts in a 5-1 victory over the Los Angeles Angels at Minute Maid Park. Keuchel, the 2015 American League Cy Young Award winner, improved to 3-0 on the season with a 0.96 ERA.

The 29-year-old has pitched at least 7.0 innings without allowing more than one run in each of his first four starts of the season, becoming just the sixth pitcher to do so in the last 20 years. The others include Matt Harvey of the Mets (2013), Atlanta's Tim Hudson (2007), Houston's Roger Clemens (2005), Rick Reed of the Mets (2000) and Chuck Finley of the Angels (1998).

Overall, this is the 27<sup>th</sup> time since 1913 that a pitcher has started a season with four consecutive starts of at least 7.0 innings pitched and no more than one run allowed, and only four pitchers have started a season with a longer streak.



### ***Consecutive Starts of 7.0 Innings Pitched and One Run or Less to Start a Season***

Player, Team	Season	Consecutive Starts
Fernando Valenzuela, LAD	1981	7
Don Sutton, LAD	1972	6
Al Benton, DET	1945	6
Dizzy Dean, STL	1937	5
Dallas Keuchel, HOU	2017	4
Matt Harvey, NYM	2013	4
Tim Hudson, ATL	2007	4
Roger Clemens, HOU	2005	4
Rick Reed, NYM	2000	4
Chuck Finley, ANA	1998	4
Tim Wakefield, BOS	1995	4
Bill Krueger, MIN	1992	4
Roger Clemens, BOS	1991	4
Mike Krukow, SF	1985	4
Mario Soto, CIN	1985	4
Tommy John, NYY	1979	4
Don Sutton, LAD	1975	4
Tom Seaver, NYM	1973	4
Wilbur Wood, CWS	1972	4
John Buzhardt, CWS	1965	4
Tom Cheney, WSH	1963	4
Joe Dobson, CWS	1952	4
Eddie Lopat, NYY	1951	4
Jesse Petty, BRK	1926	4
Hippo Vaughn, CHI	1919	4
Earl Hamilton, PIT	1918	4
George Mogridge, NYY	1916	4

## SCOTT'S STREAK STILL GOING STRONG

Boston Red Sox reliever Robby Scott has now appeared in 13 career contests (dating back to September) without allowing a run. The streak is the longest of its kind by any pitcher to start his career in a Red Sox uniform. Heath Hembree held the previous mark among pitchers to start their career with any games played for Boston. Hembree started his career with 11 scoreless outings, the first nine of which came while playing for the San Francisco Giants.

Scott's streak is now tied for the 13<sup>th</sup>-longest in the Majors dating back to 1913. In 2016, Atlanta's Hunter Cervenka began his career with 15 consecutive scoreless outings, while Baltimore's Donnie Hart put together 18 straight scoreless appearances. Brad Ziegler holds the all-time mark for consecutive scoreless appearances to start his career, pitching in 29 straight for Oakland from May 31-August 12, 2008.



Of the 12 pitchers with longer streaks to begin their careers, only four did so over the span of two seasons: Seattle's Carson Smith (20 from 2014-15); Toronto and Oakland's Vince Horsman (20 from 1991-92); Arizona's Doug Slaten (18 from 2006-07); and San Francisco's Hunter Strickland (14 from 2014-15).

### ***Consecutive Games Without Allowing a Run to Start Career, Since 1913***

<b>Player, Team</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>IP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>BB</b>	<b>SO</b>
Brad Ziegler, OAK	29	May 31 - August 12, 2008	38.0	21	11	17
Matt Smith, NYY/PHI	22	April 14 - September 22, 2006	18.2	7	10	17
Carson Smith, SEA	20	September 1, 2014 - April 30, 2015	18.1	5	6	21
Vince Horsman, TOR/OAK	20	September 5, 1991 - May 23, 1992	18.2	13	9	9
Joe Paterson, ARI	19	April 2 - May 20, 2011	10.0	5	3	10
Donnie Hart, BAL	18	July 17 - September 20, 2016	15.0	11	6	9
Doug Slaten, ARI	18	September 4, 2006 - April 21, 2007	11.2	7	3	9
Caleb Thielbar, MIN	17	May 20 - July 6, 2013	19.2	5	7	17
Joe Smith, NYM	17	April 1 - May 5, 2007	15.1	8	7	18
Hunter Cervenka, ATL	15	April 12 - May 12, 2016	10.1	1	6	13
Hunter Strickland, SF	14	September 1, 2014 - May 31, 2015	14.1	6	0	17
Clay Zavada, ARI	14	May 21 - June 20, 2009	12.2	9	4	13
<b>Robby Scott, BOS</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>September 2, 2016 - Present</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>
Aaron Crow, KC	13	March 31 - May 3, 2011	15.1	8	5	15
Mark Lowe, SEA	13	July 7 - August 14, 2006	17.2	8	7	20
Bret Prinz, ARI	13	April 22 - May 27, 2001	12.1	5	4	8
Tim Davis, SEA	13	April 4 - May 9, 1994	11.0	8	6	5
Victor Cruz, TOR	13	June 24 - July 29, 1978	21.1	9	14	21
Bob McClure, KC	13	August 13, 1975 - April 9, 1976	16.0	5	15	16

## BEDROSIAN RANKING AMONG ELITE RELIEVERS

Angels reliever Cam Bedrosian has compiled a 0.97 ERA over 50 games since the start of the 2016 season. The 25-year-old right-hander is 3-0 with four saves and has posted 59 strikeouts over 46.1 innings pitched during that time, yielding just five earned runs.

The 0.97 ERA since the start of last season ranks second among all Major League pitchers with at least 50 appearances, behind only Baltimore's Zach Britton, who has compiled an impressive 0.61 ERA over 75 appearances. Bedrosian is followed by five All-Stars: Andrew Miller (1.33), Aroldis Chapman (1.42), Wade Davis (1.60), Alex Colome (1.72) and Mark Melancon (1.78).



### *ERA Leaders, 2016-2017 (Minimum: 50 Games Pitched)*

Player, Team	ERA	Games	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Zach Britton, BAL	0.61	75	74.0	48	8	5	21	80
Cam Bedrosian, LAA	0.97	50	46.1	35	7	5	14	59
Andrew Miller, NYY/CLE	1.33	76	81.1	47	13	12	10	131
Aroldis Chapman, NYY/CHI	1.42	65	63.1	35	12	10	19	98
Wade Davis, KC/CHI	1.60	53	50.2	36	9	9	18	54
Alex Colome, TB	1.72	63	62.2	45	12	12	15	75
Mark Melancon, PIT/WSH/SF	1.78	80	76.0	60	18	15	13	71
Dan Otero, CLE	1.87	69	77.0	64	18	16	12	60
Brad Brach, BAL	1.88	78	86.0	58	23	18	28	103
Kenley Jansen, LAD	1.93	77	74.2	40	16	16	11	112

## MLB MARCH/APRIL BATTING AVERAGE (2000-2017)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AVG.</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AVG.</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AVG.</u>
2000	.270	2006	.265	2012	.249
2001	.260	2007	.256	2013	.251
2002	.258	2008	.258	2014	.249
2003	.261	2009	.263	2015	.250
2004	.268	2010	.256	2016	.249
2005	.262	2011	.251	2017	.242

**EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY**  
**(by MLB Official Historian John Thorn)**

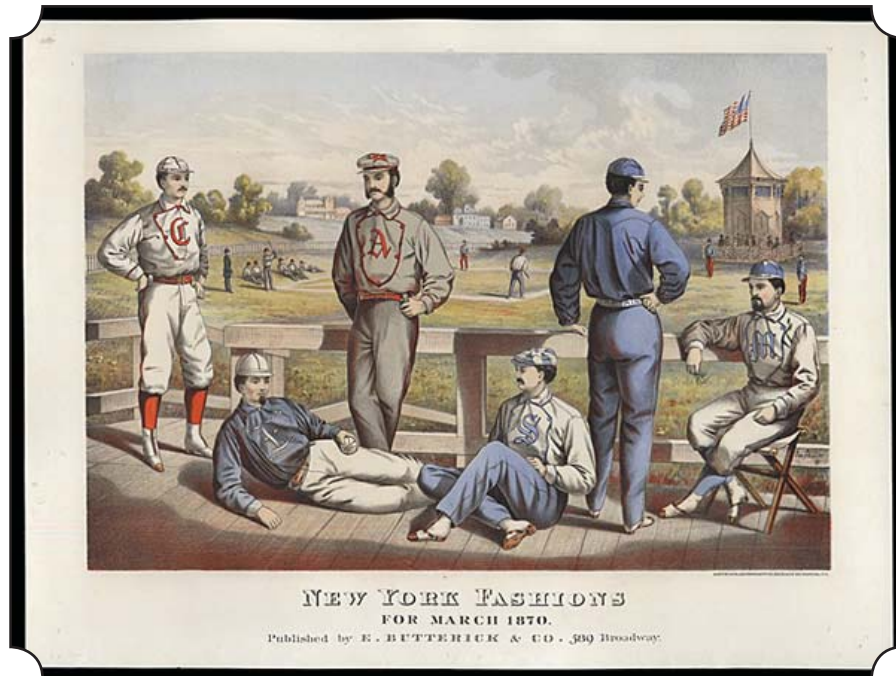


Illustration art will tend to have more graphic pop than fine art, and it will draw the eye to a central object while treating the background detail with scant attention. But I particularly like the “small stuff” that reveals something about the time, the place, and the styles of play.

First, for example, the intent of the artist and the publisher — Ebenezer Butterick, the inventor of graded sewing patterns — is to focus on the fashions; Butterick issued a fashion plate to accompany each “quarterly report” of patterns. But look at the background — a ball game in progress at what is clearly Brooklyn’s Union Grounds, with its distinctive pagoda, erected even before the park’s proprietor, William Cammeyer, thought of playing baseball here. The Union Grounds began life as a skating rink, and this was a changing room (for more on this park, see <http://www.brooklynballparks.com/union.html>). It is a historically important ballpark, as the first enclosed park built to permit paid admissions to a baseball game.

The clubs depicted are, left to right, Cincinnati Red Stockings, undefeated in 1869; Empire of New York; Atlantic of Brooklyn; Star of Brooklyn; unknown; and Mutual of New York. The name of the lithographic publisher (“Hatch & Co., 218 Broadway, Herald Building, N. Y.”) appears in smaller lettering in the lower right corner. The name of the artist, John (“Jno.”) Schuller, appears in small script on the fence to the far right. Fewer than 10 examples of this print are known to survive.

In 1870, professional baseball had begun to take hold, though most such clubs compensated their player through shared gate receipts plus deadhead jobs. The Cincinnati Red Stockings of 1869 may well have been the first all-salaried club, but it was not this distinction that won them fame — instead it was going undefeated for the entire year while touring coast to coast.

**MLB ON-AIR THIS WEEK**  
**(All Times ET)**

<b>Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Washington Nationals at Atlanta Braves	7:35 p.m.
	Kansas City Royals at Texas Rangers	8:05 p.m.
	Arizona D-backs at San Diego Padres	9:10 p.m.
	Seattle Mariners at Oakland Athletics	10:05 p.m.
<b>Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>:</b>	Washington Nationals at New York Mets	7:10 p.m.
	Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds	7:10 p.m.
<b>Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>:</b>	Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds	1:10 p.m.
	Miami Marlins at San Diego Padres	8:40 p.m.
	Toronto Blue Jays at Los Angeles Angels	9:07 p.m.
<b>Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>:</b>	Boston Red Sox at Baltimore Orioles	1:35 p.m.
	New York Yankees at Pittsburgh Pirates	1:35 p.m.
<b>Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>:</b>	San Diego Padres at Arizona D-backs	9:40 p.m.
	Los Angeles Dodgers at San Francisco Giants	10:15 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Tampa Bay Rays at Baltimore Orioles	7:05 p.m.
	New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox	7:10 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers	1:40 p.m.
	Kansas City Royals at Chicago White Sox	2:10 p.m.
	San Diego Padres at Arizona D-backs	9:40 p.m.
	Los Angeles Dodgers at San Francisco Giants	10:15 p.m.
<b>Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Seattle Mariners at Detroit Tigers	1:10 p.m.
	Atlanta Braves at New York Mets	1:10 p.m.
	Houston Astros at Cleveland Indians	6:10 p.m.
	New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox	7:10 p.m.



**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Washington Nationals at New York Mets (FS1) 4:05 p.m.

<b>Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>:</b>	Washington Nationals at New York Mets	8:05 p.m.	
	<b>Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>:</b>	Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh Pirates	8:00 p.m.
		<b>Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>:</b>	New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox



**UPON FURTHER REVIEW**

Through 224 games played this season (through Wednesday), Major League Baseball has had 155 replay reviews, which have taken an average of one minute and thirty-six seconds.

- \*155 Replay Reviews
- \*29 Confirmed (18.7%)
- \*53 Stands (34.2%)
- \*69 Overturned (44.5%)
- \*4 Rules Check (2.6%)
- \*1:37 Average Time



## **LINE DRIVES (Compiled from Club Game Notes)**

**BOOM, BOOM MANCINI:** Orioles rookie Trey Mancini slugged seven home runs through his first 12 career games. The seven homers tied the Major League record and passed Curt Blefary for the Orioles record. Blefary had six home runs in his first 12 career games in 1965.

**ONE TWENTY-NINE:** Mookie Betts struck out swinging against Francisco Liriano in the fourth inning on Wednesday night, snapping a streak of 129 regular season plate appearances without a strikeout (last: September 12, 2016 vs. Baltimore). In those 129 plate appearances, Betts faced 57 different pitchers and hit .353 with a .419 on-base percentage (41-for-116 with 13 walks). According to Elias, the last Red Sox player with a streak as long was Denny Doyle (159 in 1975). Elias also notes that it was the longest streak by any player since Juan Pierre (147 in 2004). Betts did not strike out in 29 consecutive games played from September 13, 2016 through April 18, 2017. In that time, 322 players struck out 10+ times, 155 struck out 20+ times, 46 struck out 30+ times, and eight struck out 40+ times.

**ROOKIE STREAKER:** Seattle's Mitch Haniger extended his hitting streak to 13 games with a 3-for-4 day on Wednesday. According to Elias, the last rookie to have a hitting streak that long beginning in his team's first five games of a season was Rocco Baldelli, who had a hit in each of his first 13 games, starting with Tampa Bay's 2003 season opener.

**SEVEN IN FIFTEEN:** Astros outfielder George Springer, who is tied for first in the Majors in home runs, is the third player in Astros history to total seven home runs in the club's first 15 games of a season. He joins Lance Berkman (eight in 2002) and Morgan Ensberg (seven in 2006) in that category.

**LOUIE, LOUIE:** Yankees right-hander Luis Severino struck out 10 and did not walk a batter in Tuesday's loss against the White Sox (8.0 IP, 3H, 4R/3ER, 2 HR). It marked the longest start of his career. He had 11 strikeouts and one walk in his previous start on April 13<sup>th</sup> vs. Tampa Bay, marking his first two career double-digit strikeout games. According to Elias, he is the youngest pitcher in Yankees history to record at least 10 strikeouts and no walks in a game (23 years, 57 days). He is the first Yankees pitcher with at least 10 strikeouts in consecutive games since Masahiro Tanaka on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in 2014. Severino is also just the third Yankees pitcher in club history to record at least 10 strikeouts and no more than one walk in consecutive games, joining Tanaka (4/9/14 and 4/16/14) and David Wells (9/1/98 and 9/7/98). He is tied for second in the Majors in strikeouts, and ranks third in strikeouts per nine innings (12.15) and eighth in strikeout to walk ratio (13.50).

**FLIRTING WITH THE NO-NO:** The Marlins lost a combined no-hitter with one out in the ninth inning against Seattle on Tuesday night, just two days after losing a combined no-hitter to the Mets with two outs in the eighth inning on Sunday afternoon. According to Elias, Miami is the fifth team since 1961 to carry no-hit bids at least 7.0 innings twice in a three-game span. The last team to do it was the Dodgers, in consecutive games on May 25-26, 2014. The others were Oakland (consecutive games on July 14-15, 2005); Montreal (over three games from July 26-28, 1991); and the Yankees (over three games from August 25-27, 1963). Both the Dodgers (first game, at Phillies) and Expos (third game, at Angels) completed no-hitters in those spans.

**TRADING BUCKETS FOR STRIKEOUTS:** Amir Garrett, who played basketball for two seasons at St. John's University in 2011-12, recorded 12 strikeouts on Wednesday night against Baltimore, tying Cincinnati's modern franchise record for strikeouts in a game by a left-handed rookie (Dennys Reyes, August 20, 1998 at Pittsburgh). Right-hander Gary Nolan holds the modern club record for strikeouts in a game by a rookie (15, June 7, 1967 vs. San Francisco). The staff's 16 strikeouts on Wednesday fell one shy of the modern single-game club record.

**MULTI-TRIPLE:** Tigers third baseman Nicholas Castellanos picked up the first multi-triple game of his career on Wednesday night. He is the first Tigers player to hit two triples in a game since Austin Jackson on August 5, 2012 vs. Cleveland and the first on the road since Curtis Granderson on August 18, 2008 at Texas. Since 1913, it marks the seventh time a Tigers third baseman had multiple triples in a game, and the first time since Travis Fryman did it on July 26, 1994 vs. Seattle.

**WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES:** Rays right-hander Chris Archer's first four starts of 2017 have been dramatically better than his first four starts of 2016. The Rays are 4-0 in his four starts this season, and were 0-4 a year ago. This is the first time the Rays have won four consecutive starts by Archer since June 2-23, 2015 (five straight). He has received 21 runs of support over his first four starts. Last season over his first four starts, he received a total of two runs of support — and it took nine starts before he received 21 runs.

**BOWMAN ON THE MARK:** Second-year reliever Matt Bowman of the St. Louis Cardinals extended his scoreless innings string to 17.2 innings (18 games) dating back to September 6, 2016 at Pittsburgh (four runs allowed) with 0.1 of an inning on Wednesday, fanning his lone batter faced with two inherited runners on. The right-handed reliever ranks seventh among NL pitchers in active scoreless inning streak leaders in 2017 (7.2 innings pitched). Bowman was also untouched throughout Spring Training, logging 12.0 scoreless frames in his 10 Grapefruit League outings.

**SETTING SALE:** Through his first three starts as a member of the Red Sox, Chris Sale pitched at least 7.0 innings and allowed two runs or fewer in each appearances. In the last 55 years (1962-2016), the only other pitchers to begin their Boston careers with such a streak are Josh Beckett (first three in 2006), Pedro Martinez (four in 1998) and Tim Wakefield (four in 1995). However, Sale is the only pitcher in that group to also allow five hits or fewer in each of his first three games as a Red Sox.



### INTERLEAGUE TRACKER

<u>League</u>	<u>2017 Record</u>	<u>Batting Average</u>	<u>ERA</u>
American League	10-8	.233 (137-for-589)	3.31
National League	8-10	.238 (148-for-623)	3.24

### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

<u>WEEK ENDING</u>	<u>AMERICAN LEAGUE</u>	<u>NATIONAL LEAGUE</u>
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Nomar Mazara, TEX (.417, 2 HR, 9 RBI, 6 R, 2 2B, .750 SLG)	J.T. Realmuto, MIA (.500, 2 HR, 6 RBI, 6 R, 2B, 3B, .909 SLG)
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	James Paxton, SEA (2-0, 0.00 ERA, 15.0 IP, 17 SO, 3 BB, 6 H)	Marcell Ozuna, MIA (.435, 4 HR, 12 RBI, 1 2B, 4 R, 1.000 SLG)