



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

WEEKLY NOTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

2017 POSTSEASON OUTLOOK



2017 WILD CARD GAMES (AL GAMES IN RED, NL GAMES IN GREEN)



Series	Date	Network	Air Time (ET)
AL Wild Card Game	Tuesday, October 3	ESPN	TBA
NL Wild Card Game	Wednesday, October 4	TBS	TBA



2017 DIVISION SERIES (AL GAMES IN RED, NL GAMES IN GREEN)



Series	Date	Network	Air Time (ET)
ALDS A Game 1	Thursday, October 5	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
ALDS B Game 1	Thursday, October 5	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
ALDS A Game 2	Friday, October 6	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
ALDS B Game 2	Friday, October 6	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
NLDS A Game 1	Friday, October 6	TBS	TBA
NLDS B Game 1	Friday, October 6	TBS	TBA
NLDS A Game 2	Saturday, October 7	TBS	TBA
NLDS B Game 2	Saturday, October 7	TBS	TBA
ALDS A Game 3	Sunday, October 8	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
ALDS B Game 3	Sunday, October 8	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
ALDS A Game 4	Monday, October 9	FS1	TBA
ALDS B Game 4	Monday, October 9	FS1	TBA
NLDS A Game 3	Monday, October 9	TBS	TBA
NLDS B Game 3	Monday, October 9	TBS	TBA
NLDS A Game 4	Tuesday, October 10	TBS	TBA
NLDS B Game 4	Tuesday, October 10	TBS	TBA
ALDS A Game 5	Wednesday, October 11	FS1	TBA
ALDS B Game 5	Wednesday, October 11	FS1	TBA
NLDS A Game 5	Thursday, October 12	TBS	TBA
NLDS B Game 5	Thursday, October 12	TBS	TBA

A = Involves club with best record vs. Wild Card Game Winner; B = Non-Wild Card Series

NOTE: One Division Series will feature a Division Winner vs. the winner of the Wild Card Game. The other DS will feature the two remaining Division Winners. The Division Series will follow a 2-2-1 format and the Wild Card Club will not hold home-field advantage regardless of record.

TBS will air all NLDS games, while FS1 and MLB Network will combine to air all ALDS games.

Italics above indicate if necessary.



2017 LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(AL GAMES IN RED, NL GAMES IN GREEN)



Series	Date	Network	Air Time (ET)
ALCS Game 1	Friday, October 13	FOX or FS1	TBA
ALCS Game 2	Saturday, October 14	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 1	Saturday, October 14	TBS	TBA
NLCS Game 2	Sunday, October 15	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 3	Monday, October 16	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 3	Tuesday, October 17	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 4	Tuesday, October 17	FOX or FS1	TBA
ALCS Game 5	Wednesday, October 18	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 4	Wednesday, October 18	TBS	TBA
NLCS Game 5	Thursday, October 19	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 6	Friday, October 20	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 6	Saturday, October 21	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 7	Saturday, October 21	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 7	Sunday, October 22	TBS	TBA



2017 WORLD SERIES



Game	Date	Site	Network	Air Time (ET)
Game 1	Tuesday, October 24	at Better Record	FOX	TBA
Game 2	Wednesday, October 25	at Better Record	FOX	TBA
Game 3	Friday, October 27	at Lower Record	FOX	TBA
Game 4	Saturday, October 28	at Lower Record	FOX	TBA
Game 5	<i>Sunday, October 29</i>	<i>at Lower Record</i>	<i>FOX</i>	<i>TBA</i>
Game 6	<i>Tuesday, October 31</i>	<i>at Better Record</i>	<i>FOX</i>	<i>TBA</i>
Game 7	<i>Wednesday, November 1</i>	<i>at Better Record</i>	<i>FOX</i>	<i>TBA</i>

Italics above indicate if necessary.

2017 AMERICAN LEAGUE POSTSEASON OUTLOOK
(Through Games of Wednesday, September 20th)

Division Races (including teams within 10.0 games of first place)

EAST	W-L	Pct.	GB	CENTRAL	W-L	Pct.	GB	WEST	W-L	Pct.	GB
BOS	88-64	.579	---	CLE	95-57	.625	---	HOU	93-58	.616	---
NYN	85-67	.559	3.0								

CLE = AL Central Champions

HOU = AL West Champions

AL WILD CARD RACE

Club	W-L	Pct.	GB*
NYN	85-67	.559	---
MIN	78-74	.513	--- (7.0 behind NYN)
LAA	76-75	.503	1.5
TEX	75-76	.497	2.5
KC	74-77	.490	3.5
SEA	74-78	.487	4.0
TB	74-78	.487	4.0
BAL	73-80	.477	5.5
TOR	71-81	.467	7.0
OAK	69-83	.454	9.0

*The "games behind" column in the Wild Card standings reflects games behind the second Wild Card team.

Teams Eliminated from the Division Races:

Baltimore Orioles, Chicago White Sox, Detroit Tigers, Kansas City Royals, Los Angeles Angels, Minnesota Twins, Oakland Athletics, Seattle Mariners, Tampa Bay Rays, Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays

Teams Eliminated from Postseason Contention:

Chicago White Sox, Detroit Tigers

Magic Numbers for AL Division Leaders and Wild Card:

East: Boston Red Sox – 8 (Clinched Postseason Berth)

Central: **Cleveland Indians – AL Central Champions**

West: **Houston Astros – AL West Champions**

Wild Card: New York Yankees – 3 (*Actual – 3)
 Minnesota Twins – 10 (*Actual – 10)

(To calculate a mathematical Magic Number, first determine the number of games yet to be played, add one, then subtract the number of games ahead in the loss column of the standings from the closest opponent.

*Actual magic numbers take into consideration the remaining matchups during the 2017 regular season.)

Current Clinching Scenarios

- *The New York Yankees can clinch a Postseason berth **tomorrow – Friday, September 22nd** – if the following occurs:
 - o Indians beat Angels this afternoon (4:07 p.m. ET) **AND** Astros beat Angels tomorrow night (8:10 p.m. ET) **AND** Yankees beat Blue Jays tomorrow night (7:07 p.m. ET).
- *The New York Yankees can clinch home field in the AL Wild Card Game (if Boston wins AL East) **tomorrow – Friday, September 22nd** – if the following occurs:
 - o Tigers beat Twins tonight (7:10 p.m. ET) **AND** tomorrow night (7:10 p.m. ET) **AND** Yankees beat Blue Jays tomorrow night (7:07 p.m. ET)
- The Cleveland Indians can clinch home field in the ALDS as early as Saturday, September 23rd with any combination of Indians wins and Red Sox losses totaling four.
- The Houston Astros can clinch home field in the ALDS as early as Sunday, September 24th with any combination of Astros wins and Red Sox losses totaling six.
- The Boston Red Sox can clinch the AL East as early as Monday, September 25th with any combination of Red Sox wins and Yankees losses totaling eight.
- *The Minnesota Twins can clinch a Postseason berth as early as Tuesday, September 26th with any combination of Twins wins and Angels losses totaling 10.

*Based on current standings & schedule

Season Series Records for Tie-Breakers

Following are several notable season-series records for potential one-game tie-breakers or to determine Postseason seeding (other possibilities will be added as they become necessary); potential one-game tie-breakers, if necessary, would be scheduled for Monday, October 2nd:

- *NYY won season series vs. BOS, 11-8
- *NYY won season series vs. MIN, 4-2
- *BOS won season series vs. CLE, 4-3
- *CLE won season series vs. HOU, 5-1
- *LAA won season series vs. NYY, 4-2
- *MIN won season series vs. LAA, 5-2
- *MIN won season series vs. BAL, 5-2
- *MIN won season series vs. TEX, 4-3
- *MIN won season series vs. KC, 11-8
- *SEA won season series vs. MIN, 4-3
- *TB won season series vs. MIN, 4-2
- *LAA won season series vs. BAL, 4-2
- *TEX won season series vs. LAA, 11-8
- *KC won season series vs. LAA, 6-1
- *LAA leads SEA, 10-6 (3 games left)
- *TB won season series vs. LAA, 4-3
- *BAL won season series vs. TEX, 6-1
- *BAL-KC tied season series, 3-3
- *BAL won season series vs. SEA, 4-2
- *BAL-TB tied, 6-6 (7 games left)
- *TEX won season series vs. KC, 6-1
- *SEA leads TEX, 11-7 (1 game left)
- *TEX won season series vs. TB, 4-2
- *KC won season series vs. SEA, 5-2
- *KC won season series vs. TB, 4-3
- *SEA won season series vs. TB, 5-1

American League Wild Card Game

- Home-field advantage will go to the Wild Card winner who had the higher winning percentage during the regular season.

American League Division Series

- Home-field advantage will go to the two Division winners who had the highest winning percentage during the regular season (Games 1-2 and 5).
- The Wild Card team that wins the Wild Card Game can NEVER have home-field advantage, but CAN play a team from its own division in the Division Series.

American League Championship Series

- The Division Series winner with the higher regular season winning percentage (but NEVER the Wild Card) will have the home-field advantage (Games 1-2 and 6-7).

World Series

- Home-field advantage in the World Series (Games 1-2 and 6-7) will go to the team with the higher regular season winning percentage, regardless of whether team is a Wild Card winner or Division winner.

If the Postseason began *today*, the American League match-ups would be:

WILD CARD GAME

Wild Card Game: MIN @ NYY

DIVISION SERIES

Games 1, 2 and 5*: MIN/NYY @ CLE

Games 3 and 4*: CLE @ MIN/NYY

Games 1, 2 and 5*: BOS @ HOU

Games 3 and 4*: HOU @ BOS

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Possibility #1 – If the Cleveland Indians advance to the ALCS:

Games 1, 2, 6* and 7*: BOS/HOU @ CLE

Games 3, 4 and 5*: CLE @ BOS/HOU

Possibility #2 – If the New York Yankees or Minnesota Twins, as a Wild Card, advance to the ALCS:

Games 1, 2, 6* and 7*: MIN/NYY @ BOS/HOU

Games 3, 4 and 5*: BOS/HOU @ MIN/NYY

* - If necessary

2017 NATIONAL LEAGUE POSTSEASON OUTLOOK
(Through Games of Wednesday, September 20th)

Division Races (including teams within 10.0 games of first place)

EAST	W-L	Pct.	GB	CENTRAL	W-L	Pct.	GB	WEST	W-L	Pct.	GB
WSH	92-59	.609	---	CHI	84-67	.556	---	LAD	96-56	.632	---
				MIL	81-71	.533	3.5	ARI	88-65	.575	8.5
				STL	79-72	.523	5.0				

WSH = NL East Champions

NL WILD CARD RACE

Club	W-L	Pct.	GB*
ARI	88-68	.575	---
COL	82-70	.539	--- (5.5 behind Arizona)
MIL	81-71	.533	1.0
STL	79-72	.523	2.5
MIA	72-80	.474	10.0

*The "games behind" column in the Wild Card standings reflects games behind the second Wild Card team.

Teams Eliminated from the Division Races:

Atlanta Braves, Cincinnati Reds, Colorado Rockies, Miami Marlins, New York Mets, Philadelphia Phillies, Pittsburgh Pirates, San Diego Padres, San Francisco Giants

Teams Eliminated from Postseason Contention:

Atlanta Braves, Cincinnati Reds, New York Mets, Philadelphia Phillies, Pittsburgh Pirates, San Diego Padres, San Francisco Giants

Magic Numbers for NL Division Leaders and Wild Card:

East: **Washington Nationals – NL East Champions**
Central: Chicago Cubs – 8 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 8; *Actual – 8)
West: Los Angeles Dodgers – 2 (Clinched Postseason Berth)
Wild Card: Arizona Diamondbacks – 4 (*Actual – 4)
 Colorado Rockies – 10 (*Actual – 10)

(To calculate a mathematical Magic Number, first determine the number of games yet to be played, add one, then subtract the number of games ahead in the loss column of the standings from the closest opponent.
 *Actual magic numbers take into consideration the remaining matchups during the 2017 regular season.)

Current Clinching Scenarios

- The Los Angeles Dodgers can clinch the NL West **tomorrow – Friday, September 22nd** – if either of the following scenarios occur:
 - Dodgers beat Phillies this afternoon (1:05 p.m. ET) **AND** Dodgers beat Giants tomorrow night (10:10 p.m. ET).
 - Dodgers beat Phillies this afternoon (1:05 p.m. ET) **OR** Dodgers beat Giants tomorrow night (10:10 p.m. ET), **AND** Marlins beat Diamondbacks tomorrow night (9:40 p.m. ET).
- The Washington Nationals can clinch home field advantage in the NLDS **tomorrow – Friday, September 22nd** – if either of the following scenarios occur:
 - Nationals beat Braves tonight (7:35 p.m. ET) **AND** Nationals beat Mets tomorrow night (7:10 p.m. ET), **AND** Brewers beat Cubs tonight (8:10 p.m. ET) **OR** tomorrow night (7:35 p.m. ET).
 - Nationals beat Braves tonight (7:35 p.m. ET) **OR** Nationals beat Mets tomorrow night (7:10 p.m. ET), **AND** Brewers beat Cubs tonight (8:10 p.m. ET) **AND** tomorrow night (7:35 p.m. ET).
- *The Arizona Diamondbacks can clinch a Postseason berth as early as Saturday, September 23rd with any combination of D-backs wins and Brewers losses totaling four.
- *The Arizona Diamondbacks can clinch home field in the NL Wild Card Game as early as Saturday, September 23rd with any combination of D-backs wins and Rockies losses totaling four.
- The Chicago Cubs can clinch the NL Central as early as Sunday, September 24th if the Cubs sweep their four-game series against Milwaukee, from tonight through Sunday.
- The Los Angeles Dodgers can clinch the top seed in the National League as early as Sunday, September 24th with any combination of Dodgers wins and Nationals losses totaling eight.
- *The Colorado Rockies can clinch a Postseason berth as early as Tuesday, September 26th with any combination of Rockies wins and Brewers losses totaling 10.

*Based on current standings & schedule

Season Series Records for Tie-Breakers

Following are several notable season-series records for potential one-game tie-breakers or to determine Postseason seeding (other possibilities will be added as they become necessary); potential one-game tie-breakers, if necessary, would be scheduled for Monday, October 2nd:

*MIL leads CHI, 8-7 (4 games left)

*CHI leads STL, 11-4 (4 games left)

*ARI won season series vs. COL, 11-8

*COL won season series vs. MIL, 4-3

*STL won season series vs. COL, 4-2

*MIL leads STL, 9-7 (3 games left)

*WSH won season series vs. LAD, 4-2

National League Wild Card Game

- Home-field advantage will go to the Wild Card winner who had the higher winning percentage during the regular season.

National League Division Series

- Home-field advantage will go to the two Division winners who had the highest winning percentage during the regular season (Games 1-2 and 5).
- The Wild Card team that wins the Wild Card Game can NEVER have home-field advantage, but CAN play a team from its own division in the Division Series.

National League Championship Series

- The Division Series winner with the higher regular season winning percentage (but NEVER the Wild Card) will have the home-field advantage (Games 1-2 and 6-7).

World Series

- Home-field advantage in the World Series (Games 1-2 and 6-7) will go to the team with the higher regular season winning percentage, regardless of whether team is a Wild Card winner or Division winner.

If the Postseason began *today*, the National League match-ups would be:

WILD CARD GAME

Wild Card Game: COL @ ARI

DIVISION SERIES

Games 1, 2 and 5*: COL/ARI @ LAD

Games 3 and 4*: LAD @ COL/ARI

Games 1, 2 and 5*: CHI @ WSH

Games 3 and 4*: WSH @ CHI

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Possibility #1 – If the Los Angeles Dodgers advance to the NLCS:

Games 1, 2, 6* and 7*: CHI/WSH @ LAD

Games 3, 4 and 5*: LAD @ CHI/WSH

Possibility #2 – If the Arizona Diamondbacks or the Colorado Rockies, as a Wild Card, advance to the NLCS:

Games 1, 2, 6* and 7*: ARI/COL @ CHI/WSH

Games 3, 4 and 5*: CHI/WSH @ ARI/COL

* - If necessary

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

The Glory Days of New York Baseball, 1947-1957

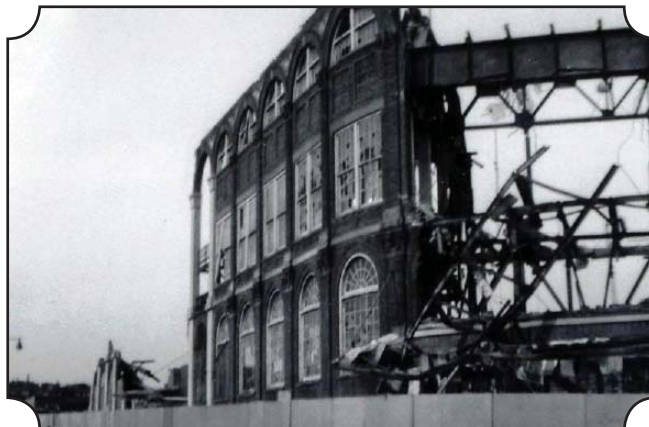


What was it like, to be alive then? When New York City was the capital of baseball, with three of its five boroughs hosting big-league clubs and the World Series seeming to be municipal property? When the city hosted the greatest game, the greatest pennant race, the greatest teams, greatest center fielders? When everything seemed bigger but somehow personal?

What was it like, to be home from the battle or to welcome a loved one's return? To arrive at the golden door after surviving the ravages of war? To witness the welcome, to the nation and its pastime, of those formerly rebuked and scorned?

What was it like? For those of us old enough to remember, it was both glorious and sad and distant ... yet seems only yesterday.

The glory days of baseball in New York have been tinged in sepia, recalled with syrupy nostalgia. Nostalgia as the Greeks understood that word was not sweet but painful: literally the ache of not being able to return home. Neither New York nor baseball, nor any of us who recall the period, can turn back the clock. Maybe this single photo summons up for you the era the way it really was: colorful, raucous, hopeful, thrilling, crushing. Glorious.



MLB ON-AIR THIS WEEK
(All Times ET)

Thursday, September 21st: Cleveland Indians at Los Angeles Angels 4:07 p.m.
 Washington Nationals at Atlanta Braves 7:35 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers 8:10 p.m.

Friday, September 22nd: Cleveland Indians at Seattle Mariners 10:10 p.m.
 Colorado Rockies at San Diego Padres 10:10 p.m.

Saturday, September 23rd: New York Yankees at Toronto Blue Jays 4:07 p.m.
 Boston Red Sox at Cincinnati Reds 4:10 p.m.
 Minnesota Twins at Detroit Tigers 6:10 p.m.
 Kansas City Royals at Chicago White Sox 7:10 p.m.
 Colorado Rockies at San Diego Padres 8:40 p.m.
 San Francisco Giants at Los Angeles Dodgers 9:10 p.m.

Sunday, September 24th: San Francisco Giants at Los Angeles Dodgers 4:10 p.m.
 Colorado Rockies at San Diego Padres 4:40 p.m.

Monday, September 25th: To be determined
Tuesday, September 26th: To be determined
Wednesday, September 27th: To be determined



Thursday, September 21st: Minnesota Twins at Detroit Tigers (FS1) 7:10 p.m.
Saturday, September 23rd: Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers 1:05 p.m.
 Los Angeles Angels at Houston Astros 1:05 p.m.

Friday, September 22nd: Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers 8:10 p.m.
Sunday, September 24th: Los Angeles Angels at Houston Astros 8:05 p.m.

Wednesday, September 27th: Houston Astros at Texas Rangers 2:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals 7:08 p.m.
 San Diego Padres at Los Angeles Dodgers 10:10 p.m.



Sunday, September 24th: Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers 2:10 p.m.

UPON FURTHER REVIEW

Through 2,277 games played this season (through Wednesday), Major League Baseball has had 1,309 replay reviews, which have taken an average of one minute and twenty-eight seconds.

- *1,289 Replay Reviews
- *296 Confirmed (23.0%)
 - *386 Stands (30.0%)
- *611 Overturned (47.4%)
 - *11 Rules Check (0.9%)
 - *5 Record Keeping (0.4%)
 - *1:28 Average Time



LINE DRIVES (Compiled from Club Game Notes)

PLENTY WITH TWENTY: Baltimore Orioles backstop Wellington Castillo hit his 20th home run of the season on Friday night. Seven O's hitters now have 20-or-more home runs this season. Castillo joins Mark Trumbo, Manny Machado, Jonathan Schoop, Adam Jones, Trey Mancini, and Chris Davis as Orioles with at least 20 home runs this season. The 2017 season marks the second time in Orioles history (since 1954) that the team has had seven players with 20-or-more homers in a season (also 1996). The 2017 Orioles are the sixth Major League team with at least seven players with 20-or-more home runs in a season, and first since the 2010 Toronto Blue Jays.

WINS, WINS AND MORE WINS: The Diamondbacks are one of three teams to feature three pitchers with at least 14 wins (Patrick Corbin, Zack Greinke and Robbie Ray). The Indians (Trevor Bauer, Carlos Carrasco and Corey Kluber) and Nationals (Gio Gonzalez, Max Scherzer and Stephen Strasburg) are the only other teams to accomplish the feat so far this season.

ABOUT TUESEAY NIGHT: The Red Sox defeated the Orioles, 1-0, in 11 innings Tuesday night. Jackie Bradley Jr. robbed Chris Davis of a home run in the fifth inning and scored the winning run on a wild pitch in the 11th. According to Elias, it had been over 100 years since the Red Sox won a 1-0 game with the lone run scoring on a wild pitch. On June 23, 1916, Dick Hoblitzell scored on a wild pitch by Philadelphia A's starter Tom Sheehan in the 7th inning.

CHASING 30 AGAIN: Atlanta Braves first baseman Freddie Freeman has 28 home runs this season after hitting a career-best 34 last season. Freeman is trying to become the first Braves player since Andruw Jones in 2005-06 to hit 30 home runs in consecutive seasons. Jones had a franchise-record 51 in 2005 before hitting 41 in 2006.

32 AND COUNTING: Cubs closer Wade Davis extended his franchise record on Tuesday night as he converted his 32nd consecutive save opportunity to remain perfect in save chances this season. He has surpassed previous record holder Ryan Dempster, who converted 26 straight opportunities from August 2, 2005-May 1, 2006. Davis has locked down 38 straight save chances dating back to last season.

DANCING NANCIES: On Saturday, the Cleveland Indians officially clinched the club's second consecutive AL Central Division title, ninth overall since its formation in 1994. It marked the Club's first back-to-back division crowns since winning five straight from 1995-99. Following the 1994 strike, Cleveland first won the AL Central in 1995, adding the others in '96, '97, '98, '99, '01, '07 & '16. Saturday marked the fifth time for the Indians to clinch the division title at home in Cleveland ('95, '97, '01, '07, '17).

IRON MAN: Since Ivan De Jesus Jr. started at first base on September 2, 2016, Reds first baseman Joey Votto has started each of the Reds' last 181 games and all 152 games in 2017. Royals shortstop Alcides Esobar is the only other Major League player this season start all of his team's games (151) and currently has the longest active streak of starts in his team's games (322). Pete Rose in 1975 was the last Reds player to start every game in a non-strike year (George Foster started all 108 games during the 1981 strike-shortened season). Votto is trying to become only the fourth player in franchise history to start at least 162 games in a season, joining Rose (1965, 163gs in 1974, 1975), Leo Cardenas (163gs in 1964) and Vada Pinson (1963).

PRESLEY PLAYS THE HITS: Detroit Tigers outfielder Alex Presley recorded the second four-hit game of his career on Tuesday night against Oakland (also September 2, 2017 vs. Cleveland). Presley also belted his second home run of the season last night, clubbing a solo shot in the fifth inning. Presley's homer was the 5,693rd hit in the Majors this season, tying the record for most homers in the Major Leagues in a single season.

BROKEN RECORD: Charlie Blackmon recorded his 200th hit of the season on Tuesday night, a two-run double. Blackmon is the eighth player (nine times) in Rockies history to record at least 200 hits, and the first since Matt Holliday in 2007. Blackmon has also recorded 83 extra-base hits from the leadoff spot, also a National League record and the fourth-most in MLB history.

SELECT COMPANY: Houston Astros second baseman Jose Altuve is five hits shy of 200 and two doubles shy of 40. If Altuve finishes the year leading the league in hits, he will become the first player in MLB history to lead the AL or NL outright in hits in four straight years.

THE RECORD WILL FALL: Dodger rookie sensation Cody Bellinger ripped his 38th homer run of the season Saturday and is now tied with Wally Berger (1930) and Hall of Famer Frank Robinson (1956) for the most homers in a season by a National League rookie. The only rookies in history who have hit more homers than Bellinger are Mark McGwire (49, 1987) and Aaron Judge (45, 2017).

GORDO'S BLAST THE RECORD BREAKER: First it was Max Kepler with 5,692, followed shortly by Alex Presley with 5,693 and then Kansas City Royals outfielder Alex Gordon clubbed his eighth home run of the year and the 5,694th in the Majors this season to establish a record for home runs hit in a single year. The eighth inning shot broke the mark of 5,693 established at the turn of the century during the 2000 season.

TRIPLE 9: On Tuesday night, the Miami Marlins came back from a three-run ninth-inning deficit to win for the first time since September 14, 2014 at Philadelphia, when they overcame a 4-1 deficit to win, 5-4, in nine innings. It was just the 13th time in Club history that the squad came back from a three-run ninth-inning hole to win, against 1,220 losses (.011 winning percentage).

HATS OFF FOR HECTOR: Last night, Phillies closer Hector Neris successfully converted his 17th straight save, the longest streak by a Phillies pitcher since Jonathan Papelbon converted 19 straight, September 24, 2014 to July 24, 2015. Neris, who appeared in 79 games last year and made his 70th appearance of the season last night, is the first Phillies pitcher to make 70-or-more appearances in consecutive seasons since Ryan Madson in 2008 (76) and 2009 (79).

A RARITY OF SORTS: Rays second baseman Brad Miller's home run on Tuesday night marked the seventh time since at least 1913 that a team's only hit was a home run by the number nine hitter. It was also the first time this season that Miller's homer(s) accounted for all the Rays runs in a game, after seven such games last season. Since the start of 2016, his eight games with his homer(s) accounting for all of his team's runs are most in the Majors, ahead of Todd Frazier, Albert Pujols, Joey Votto and Ryan Zimmerman (six each).

THEY KEEP MAKING HISTORY: With seven strikeouts in his 7.0 innings of work against the Braves on Tuesday night, Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer crossed the 250-strikeout mark for the season, the fourth consecutive year in which he's surpassed that mark. Scherzer, who leads the NL in strikeouts, became the fourth pitcher in Major League history to compile at least four consecutive seasons with more than 250 strikeouts (per Elias). In the process he joined elite company: Randy Johnson (1997-2002), Ferguson Jenkins (1968-71) and Pedro Martinez (1997-2000), all Hall of Famers.



INTERLEAGUE TRACKER

League	2017 Record	Batting Average	ERA
American League	155-137	.262 (2,615-for-9,982)	4.20
National League	137-155	.249 (2,468-for-9,898)	4.52

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April 9 th	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 th	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)
April 23 rd	Steven Souza Jr., TB (.414, 2 2B, 1 3B, 2 HR, 9 RBI, 5 R, 22 TB)	Bryce Harper, WSH (.550, 3 HR, 7 RBI, 4 2B, 10 R, 1.200 SLG)
April 30 th	Miguel Sanó, MIN (.524, 3 HR, 11 RBI, 4 R, 1 2B, .545 OBP)	Ryan Zimmerman, WSH (.500, 5 HR, 13 RBI, 2 2B, 11 R)
May 7 th	Yonder Alonso, OAK (.409, 5 HR, 10 RBI, 5 R, 1 2B, 25 TB)	Cody Bellinger, LAD (.429, 3 HR, 12 RBI, 8 R, 1 2B, 1 3B)
May 14 th	Mookie Betts, BOS (.375, 8 R, 4 2B, 3 HR, 11 RBI, .917 SLG)	Alex Wood, LAD (2-0, 0.00 ERA, 11.0 IP, 21 SO, 2 BB)
May 21 st	J.D. Martinez, DET (.389, 7 R, 4 HR, 9 RBI, 10 BB, 1.056 SLG)	Jake Lamb, ARI (.412, 7 R, 4 HR, 10 RBI, 1.176 SLG, 20 TB)
May 28 th	José Abreu, CWS (.452, 14 H, 7 R, 3 2B, 2 HR, 5 RBI, 23 TB)	Charlie Blackmon, COL (.400, 3 HR, 12 RBI, 6 R, 1 2B, 1 3B)
June 4 th	George Springer, HOU (.500, 11 R, 5 HR, 9 RBI, 1.033 SLG)	Edinson Volquez, MIA (2-0, 0.60 ERA, 14 SO, 1 no-hitter)
June 11 th	Aaron Judge, NYY (.500/.600/1.000, 10 R, 3 2B, 3 HR, 6 RBI)	Scooter Gennett, CIN (Hit 17 th 4 HR game in MLB history)
June 18 th	José Ramírez, CLE (.516/.545/1.065, 9 R, 8 2B, 3 HR, 33 TB)	Jacob deGrom, NYM (2-0, 0.53 ERA, 17.0 IP, 12 SO, 1 CG)
June 25 th	Corey Kluber, CLE (1-0, 0.00 ERA, 16.0 IP, 24 SO, 2 BB)	Cody Bellinger, LAD (.370/.400/1.037, 7 R, 5 HR, 12 RBI)
July 2 nd	Mookie Betts, BOS (.483, 10 R, 2 2B, 3 HR, 11 RBI, 3 SB)	Joey Votto, CIN (.524/.630/1.095, 6 R, 3 2B, 3 HR, 6 RBI)
July 9 th	Jose Altuve, HOU (.625, 9 R, 2 2B, 2 HR, 10 RBI, .667 OBP)	Clayton Kershaw, LAD (2-0, 1.13 ERA, 24 SO, 2 BB, 16.0 IP)
July 16 th	J.D. Martinez, DET (.455, 2 HR, 7 RBI, 12 TB, 1.091 SLG)	Anthony Rendon, WSH (.636/.714/1.545, 4 R, 3 HR, 9 RBI)
July 23 rd	Jonathan Schoop, BAL (.433, 8 R, 2 2B, 3 HR, 16 RBI, 24 TB)	Nolan Arenado, COL (.458/.480/1.000, 9 R, 4 HR, 13 RBI)
July 30 th	Adrian Beltre, TEX (.478, 5 R, 4 XBH, Recorded 3,000 th hit) James Paxton, SEA (2-0, 0.00 ERA, 18 SO, 0 BB, 13.0 IP)	Manuel Margot, SD (.500, 6 R, 2 2B, 1 3B, 3 HR, 6 RBI, 1 SB)
August 6 th	Tim Beckham, BAL (.583/.600/1.167, 6 R, 6 RBI, 28 TB)	Willson Contreras, CHI (.455, 5 HR, 13 RBI, 26 TB, 1.182 SLG)
August 13 th	Eddie Rosario, MIN (.444, 10 R, 3 2B, 4 HR, 9 RBI, 27 TB)	Giancarlo Stanton, MIA (.333/.379/1.037, 8 R, 6 HR, 11 RBI)
August 20 th	Manny Machado, BAL (.385, 4 HR, 12 RBI, 23 TB, .885 SLG)	Anthony Rizzo, CHI (.429, 12 H, 3 2B, 2 HR, 13 RBI, 21 TB)
August 27 th	Byron Buxton, MIN (.333, 9 R, 5 HR, 10 RBI, 2 SB, 27 TB)	Giancarlo Stanton, MIA (.448/.500/1.069, 8 R, 5 HR, 11 RBI)
September 3 rd	José Ramírez, CLE (.538, 7 R, 14 H, 6 2B, 4 HR, 1.308 SLG)	Jeff Samardzija (1-0, 0.56 ERA, 16.0 IP, 14 SO, 1 CG SHO)
September 10 th	Eric Hosmer, KC (.538, 14 H, 6 R, 5 XBH, 8 RBI, 23 TB)	J.D. Martinez, ARI (.429, 8 R, 7 HR, 34 TB, 1.214 SLG)
September 17 th	Corey Kluber, CLE (2-0, 0.00 ERA, 16.0 IP, 17 SO, 1 CG SHO)	J.D. Martinez, ARI (.435, 8 R, 3 2B, 3 HR, 6 RBI, .957 SLG)

BUDWEISER PRESENTS THE AL & NL PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Mike Trout, LAA (.364, 7 HR, 18 RBI, 9 2B, 2 3B, 18 R, 5 SB)	Ryan Zimmerman, WSH (.420, 11 HR, 29 RBI, 8 2B, 22 R)
May	Carlos Correa, HOU (.386, 24 R, 8 2B, 7 HR, 26 RBI)	Charlie Blackmon, COL (.359, 24 R, 6 2B, 5 3B, 6 HR, 29 RBI)
June	Aaron Judge, NYY (.324, 30 R, 5 2B, 10 HR, 25 RBI, 2 SB)	Andrew McCutchen, PIT (.411, 22 R, 5 2B, 6 HR, 23 RBI)
July	Jose Altuve, HOU (.485/.523/.727, 22 R, 48 H, 21 RBI)	Nolan Arenado, COL (.389, 18 R, 6 2B, 1 3B, 8 HR, 30 RBI)
August	Manny Machado, BAL (.341, 23 R, 6 2B, 12 HR, 35 RBI)	Giancarlo Stanton, MIA (.349, 28 R, 6 2B, 18 HR, 37 RBI)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S PITCHERS OF THE MONTH

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Dallas Keuchel, HOU (5-0, 1.21 ERA, 44.2 IP, 36 SO)	Ivan Nova, PIT (3-2, 1.50 ERA, 36.0 IP, 22 SO, 1 BB, 1 SHO)
May	Lance McCullers Jr., HOU (4-0, 0.99 ERA, 37 SO, 36.1 IP)	Alex Wood, LAD (5-0, 1.27 ERA, 41 SO, 7 BB, 28.1 IP)
June	Corey Kluber, CLE (4-0, 1.26 ERA, 64 SO, 43.0 IP, 1 SHO)	Max Scherzer, WSH (3-2, 0.99 ERA, 51 SO, 6 BB, 36.1 IP)
July	James Paxton, SEA (6-0, 1.37 ERA, 46 SO, 6 BB, 39.1 IP)	Rich Hill, LAD (4-0, 1.45 ERA, 40 SO, 5 BB, 19 H, 31.0 IP)
August	Corey Kluber, CLE (5-1, 1.96 ERA, 54 SO, 6 BB, 46.0 IP)	Jake Arrieta, CHI (4-1, 1.21 ERA, 37 SO, 27 H, 37.1 IP)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S ROOKIES OF THE MONTH

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Aaron Judge, NYY (.303, 10 HR, 20 RBI, 2 2B, 1 3B, 23 R)	Antonio Senzatela, COL (3-1, 2.81 ERA, 32.0 IP, 18 SO)
May	Aaron Judge, NYY (.347, 17 R, 5 2B, 7 HR, 17 RBI, 3 SB)	Cody Bellinger, LAD (22 R, 5 2B, 9 HR, 27 RBI, .556 SLG)
June	Aaron Judge, NYY (.324, 30 R, 5 2B, 10 HR, 25 RBI, 2 SB)	Cody Bellinger, LAD (22 R, 9 2B, 13 HR, 27 RBI, .743 SLG)
July	Yuli Gurriel, HOU (.304, 15 R, 9 2B, 5 HR, 20 RBI, 2 SB)	Paul DeJong, STL (.298, 14 R, 8 2B, 8 HR, 16 RBI, .638 SLG)
August	Andrew Benintendi, BOS (.333, 18 R, 5 2B, 6 HR, 19 RBI)	Rhys Hoskins, PHI (.304, 19 R, 24 H, 11 HR, 12 BB, 25 RBI)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S RELIEVERS OF THE MONTH PRESENTED BY THE HARTFORD

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Cody Allen, CLE (0-0, 6 SV, 0.90 ERA, 10.0 IP, 20 SO, 1 BB)	Greg Holland, COL (0-0, 11 SV, 1.50 ERA, 12.0 IP, 13 SO)
May	Craig Kimbrel, BOS (12.2 IP, 7 SV, 0.00 ERA, 25 SO, 1 BB)	Greg Holland, COL (9 G, 8 SV, 1.17 ERA, 15 SO, 1 BB)
June	Roberto Osuna, TOR (11.1 IP, 8 SV, 0.79 ERA, 19 SO, 1 BB)	Kenley Jansen, LAD (2-0, 0.00 ERA, 10 SV, 18 SO, 1 BB)
July	Edwin Díaz, SEA (13 G, 8 SV, 1.98 ERA, 21 SO, 13.2 IP)	Brad Hand, SD (11 G, 1-0, 4, SV, 0.00 ERA, 19 SO, 2 BB)
August	Alex Colomé, TB (12 G, 10 SV, 0.75 ERA, 13 SO, 1 BB)	Corey Knebel, MIL (15 G, 13 SV, 0.00 ERA, 21 SO, 9 H)