



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL WEEKLY NOTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

2018 POSTSEASON OUTLOOK



2018 WILD CARD GAMES (NL GAMES IN GREEN, AL GAMES IN RED)



Series	Date	Network	Air Time (ET)
NL Wild Card Game	Tuesday, October 2	ESPN	TBA
AL Wild Card Game	Wednesday, October 3	TBS	TBA



2018 DIVISION SERIES (NL GAMES IN GREEN, AL GAMES IN RED)



Series	Date	Network	Air Time (ET)
NLDS A Game 1	Thursday, October 4	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
NLDS B Game 1	Thursday, October 4	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
NLDS A Game 2	Friday, October 5	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
NLDS B Game 2	Friday, October 5	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
ALDS A Game 1	Friday, October 5	TBS	TBA
ALDS B Game 1	Friday, October 5	TBS	TBA
ALDS A Game 2	Saturday, October 6	TBS	TBA
ALDS B Game 2	Saturday, October 6	TBS	TBA
NLDS A Game 3	Sunday, October 7	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
NLDS B Game 3	Sunday, October 7	FS1 or MLBN	TBA
NLDS A Game 4	Monday, October 8	FS1	TBA
NLDS B Game 4	Monday, October 8	FS1	TBA
ALDS A Game 3	Monday, October 8	TBS	TBA
ALDS B Game 3	Monday, October 8	TBS	TBA
ALDS A Game 4	Tuesday, October 9	TBS	TBA
ALDS B Game 4	Tuesday, October 9	TBS	TBA
NLDS A Game 5	Wednesday, October 10	FS1	TBA
NLDS B Game 5	Wednesday, October 10	FS1	TBA
ALDS A Game 5	Thursday, October 11	TBS	TBA
ALDS B Game 5	Thursday, October 11	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 ALDS games, while FS1 and MLB Network will combine to air all NLDS games.

Italics above indicate if necessary.



2018 LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(NL GAMES IN GREEN, AL GAMES IN RED)



Series	Date	Network	Air Time (ET)
NLCS Game 1	Friday, October 12	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 2	Saturday, October 13	FOX or FS1	TBA
ALCS Game 1	Saturday, October 13	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 2	Sunday, October 14	TBS	TBA
NLCS Game 3	Monday, October 15	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 4	Tuesday, October 16	FOX or FS1	TBA
ALCS Game 3	Tuesday, October 16	TBS	TBA
NLCS Game 5	Wednesday, October 17	FOX or FS1	TBA
ALCS Game 4	Wednesday, October 17	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 5	Thursday, October 18	TBS	TBA
NLCS Game 6	Friday, October 19	FOX or FS1	TBA
NLCS Game 7	Saturday, October 20	FOX or FS1	TBA
ALCS Game 6	Saturday, October 20	TBS	TBA
ALCS Game 7	Sunday, October 21	TBS	TBA



2018 WORLD SERIES



Game	Date	Site	Network	Air Time (ET)
Game 1	Tuesday, October 23	at Best Record	FOX	TBA
Game 2	Wednesday, October 24	at Best Record	FOX	TBA
Game 3	Friday, October 26	at Lower Record	FOX	TBA
Game 4	Saturday, October 27	at Lower Record	FOX	TBA
Game 5	Sunday, October 28	at Lower Record	FOX	TBA
Game 6	Tuesday, October 30	at Best Record	FOX	TBA
Game 7	Wednesday, October 31	at Best Record	FOX	TBA

Italics above indicate if necessary.

2018 AMERICAN LEAGUE POSTSEASON OUTLOOK

(Through Games of Wednesday, September 5th)

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

AL EAST	W-L	Pct.	GB	AL CENTRAL	W-L	Pct.	GB	AL WEST	W-L	Pct.	GB
BOS	97-44	.688	---	CLE	79-60	.568	---	HOU	87-53	.621	---
NYY	87-53	.621	9.5					OAK	84-57	.596	3.5
								SEA	78-62	.557	9.0

AL WILD CARD RACE

Club	W-L	Pct.	GB*
NYY	87-53	.621	---
OAK	84-57	.596	--- (3.5 behind New York)
SEA	78-62	.557	5.5
TB	75-64	.540	8.0

**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, Kansas City Royals, Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays

Teams Eliminated from Postseason Contention:

Baltimore Orioles, Chicago White Sox, Kansas City Royals, Texas Rangers

Magic Numbers for AL Division Leaders and Wild Card:

East:	Boston Red Sox – 13 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 4; *Actual – 4)
Central:	Cleveland Indians – 8 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 8; *Actual – 8)
West:	Houston Astros – 19 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 14; *Actual – 14)
Wild Card:	New York Yankees – 14 (*Actual – 14)
	Oakland Athletics – 17 (*Actual – 17)

(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 2018 regular season.)

Today's Clinching Scenarios (Thursday, September 6th):

None (as of today, the earliest possible Postseason clinch date for any AL team is Saturday, September 8th – Boston).

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 1st:

- *BOS leads NYY, 8-5 (6 games remaining)
- *BOS-HOU tied, 2-2 (3 games remaining)
- *NYY won season series vs. HOU, 5-2
- *HOU won season series vs. OAK, 12-7
- *SEA leads OAK, 9-7 (3 games remaining)
- *HOU-SEA tied, 8-8 (3 games remaining)
- *NYY tied season series vs. OAK, 3-3
- *NYY leads SEA, 3-0 (3 games remaining)
- *TB leads NYY, 8-7 (4 games remaining)
- *TB leads OAK, 3-1 (3 games remaining)
- *TB won season series vs. SEA, 6-1

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: OAK @ NYY

DIVISION SERIES

Games 1, 2 and 5*: OAK/NYY @ BOS

Games 3 and 4*: BOS @ OAK/NYY

Games 1, 2 and 5*: CLE @ HOU

Games 3 and 4*: HOU @ CLE

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Possibility #1 – If the Boston Red Sox advance to the ALCS:

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

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

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

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

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

* - If necessary

2018 NATIONAL LEAGUE POSTSEASON OUTLOOK (Through Games of Wednesday, September 5th)

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

NL EAST	W-L	Pct.	GB	NL CENTRAL	W-L	Pct.	GB	NL WEST	W-L	Pct.	GB
ATL	76-63	.547	---	CHI	82-57	.590	---	COL	77-62	.554	---
PHI	73-66	.525	3.0	MIL	79-62	.560	4.0	LAD	76-64	.543	1.5
WSH	69-71	.493	7.5	STL	78-62	.557	4.5	ARI	75-64	.540	2.0
								SF	68-73	.482	10.0

NL WILD CARD RACE

Club	W-L	Pct.	GB*
MIL	79-62	.560	---
STL	78-62	.557	--- (0.5 behind Milwaukee)
LAD	76-64	.543	2.0
ARI	75-64	.540	2.5
PHI	73-66	.525	4.5
PIT	69-71	.493	9.0
WSH	69-71	.493	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:

Cincinnati Reds, San Diego Padres.

Teams Eliminated from Postseason Contention:

San Diego Padres.

Magic Numbers for NL Division Leaders and Wild Card:

East:	Atlanta Braves – 19 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 21; *Actual – 19)
Central:	Chicago Cubs – 19 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 17; *Actual – 15)
West:	Colorado Rockies – 20 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth – 22; *Actual – 20)
Wild Card:	Milwaukee Brewers – 18 (*Actual – 18; Mathematical – 20)
	St. Louis Cardinals – 19 (*Actual – 19; Mathematical – 21)

(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 2018 regular season.)

Today's Clinching Scenarios (Thursday, September 6th):

None (as of today, the earliest possible Postseason clinch date for any NL team is Friday, September 14th – Chicago).

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 1st:

*CHI won season series vs. PHI, 4-2	*LAD leads COL, 7-6 (6 games remaining)
*ARI won season series vs. PHI, 4-2	*ARI leads COL, 7-5 (7 games remaining)
*PHI won season series vs. LAD, 4-3	*ARI leads LAD, 9-7 (3 games remaining)
*PHI won season series vs. STL, 4-3	*ATL-CHI tied season series, 3-3
*PHI-MIL tied season series, 3-3	*CHI-COL tied season series, 3-3
*STL-ARI tied season series, 3-3	*CHI won season series vs. LAD, 4-3
*LAD won season series vs. MIL, 4-3	*LAD won season series vs. ATL, 5-2
*ATL leads PHI, 7-5 (7 games remaining)	*ARI leads ATL, 2-1 (4 games remaining)
*CHI leads MIL, 10-6 (3 games remaining)	*ARI-CHI tied 2-2 (3 games remaining)
*STL leads CHI, 9-7 (3 games remaining)	*COL won season series vs. ATL, 5-2
*STL-MIL tied 8-8 (3 games remaining)	

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: STL @ MIL

DIVISION SERIES

Games 1, 2 and 5*: MIL/STL @ CHI

Games 3 and 4*: CHI @ MIL/STL

Games 1, 2 and 5*: ATL @ COL

Games 3 and 4*: COL @ ATL

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Possibility #1 – If the Chicago Cubs advance to the NLCS:

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

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

Possibility #2 – If the Milwaukee Brewers or the St. Louis Cardinals, as a Wild Card, advance to the NLCS:

Games 1, 2, 6* and 7*: MIL/STL @ COL/ATL

Games 3, 4 and 5*: COL/ATL @ MIL/STL

* - If necessary

LCS AND WORLD SERIES CREDENTIAL APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE NOW

The media credential application for the 2018 World Series presented by YouTube TV and 2018 League Championship Series is now available on <https://credentials.mlb.com>.

This online form is the only acceptable application for 2018 LCS and World Series Media Credentials as no other application or request will be processed. Applications must be completed by the Sports Editor or Sports Director and received by Major League Baseball no later than Thursday, October 4th. All applications must include a 1" x 1" hi-resolution photo (JPEG format) and valid e-mail address for each applicant. A coverage grid must also be completed within the application for each applicant to indicate which games they plan to attend. The system will not accept any applications that are missing a photo, e-mail address or a grid for any applicant.

Media members who have used the MLB Club Credentialing system to apply for a jewel event or regular season games in the past have access to the application by signing in with your e-mail address. If you have forgotten your password, you can obtain a new one by clicking the "Reset Password" option on the MLB Credentialing System homepage.

Media outlets that have not previously applied online for MLB credentials must contact the MLB Communications Department at (212) 931-7884 or via e-mail at credentials@mlb.com in order to gain access to the site.

PLEASE NOTE FOR TIEBREAKER GAMES, WILD CARD GAMES AND DIVISION SERIES:

Any media member wishing to cover either the Tiebreaker Games, Wild Card Games and/or the Division Series should contact the contending clubs directly for a separate application or access each club's Tiebreaker, Wild Card Game and Division Series applications at <https://credentials.mlb.com>. These applications should be submitted separately from the LCS and World Series application. Media members must adhere to the deadlines set forth by each individual club for Tiebreaker, Wild Card Game and Division Series credentials.



HI-STORY

In last night's game against the San Francisco Giants at Coors Field, All-Star shortstop Trevor Story of the Colorado Rockies batted a perfect 3-for-3 with three solo home runs to lead Colorado to a 5-3 victory. The outing was the 17th three-homer game in franchise history, and the first since Trevor's All-Star teammate Nolan Arenado last season on July 19th. Additionally, the right-handed-slugger became just the 16th shortstop to accomplish the feat, and the first since All-Star Corey Seager of the Los Angeles Dodgers (June 20, 2017).



On the season, the NL MVP candidate is slashing .298/.354/.566 with 77 runs, 39 doubles, five triples, 31 home runs, 95 RBI and 25 stolen bases over 138 games played. The 25-year-old Story is just the fifth shortstop in Major League history to record at least 30 home runs and 25 stolen bases in a single season, joining Hanley Ramirez, Jimmy Rollins, Alex Rodriguez and Hall of Famer Barry Larkin. AL All-Star and MVP candidate Francisco Lindor is close to joining this prestigious list with 31 round-trippers and 22 stolen bases thus far in 2018. Should he reach the 25-stolen base mark, this would mark the first time in MLB history that two shortstops accomplished the feat in the same season.

Player, Club	Year	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB
Trevor Story, COL	2018	39	5	31	95	25
Hanley Ramirez, FLA	2008	34	4	33	67	35
Jimmy Rollins, PHI	2007	38	20	30	94	41
Alex Rodriguez, SEA	1998	35	5	42	124	46
Barry Larkin, CIN	1996	32	4	33	89	36

BETANCES STILL STREAKING

On Tuesday against the Oakland Athletics, relief pitcher Dellin Betances of the New York Yankees tallied a strikeout in his 37th consecutive appearance dating back to May 29th. Since then, the four-time All-Star has compiled a 3-2 record with two saves, 63 strikeouts, 14 walks, 15 hits and a 1.26 ERA across 35.2 innings pitched. Now with 101 punchouts on the season, the 30-year-old is the first pitcher in MLB history to register at least 100 strikeouts as a reliever in five consecutive seasons.



The streak is currently tied for the third-longest among Major League relievers in a single season since at least 1908. Milwaukee Brewers reliever Corey Knebel holds the MLB record, posting a strikeout in 45 consecutive games during his 2017 All-Star campaign. Earlier this month, Dellin established a new AL record, eclipsing the previous mark of 32 games set by Kansas City's Jeff Montgomery in 1989. The table below depicts relievers who have tallied at least one punchout in 34-or-more outings.

Pitcher, Club	Games	Streak Dates	W-L	ERA	SO	BB
Corey Knebel, MIL	45	April 3-July 15, 2017	0-2	1.62	79	26
Bruce Sutter, CHI	39	June 1-October 2, 1977	7-2	1.64	87	21
Aroldis Chapman, CIN	37	May 11-August 13, 2014	0-3	1.93	74	13
Dellin Betances, NYY	37	May 29-Present	3-2	1.26	63	14

They Said It, and How!
(by MLB Official Historian John Thorn)

My Favorite Century; More

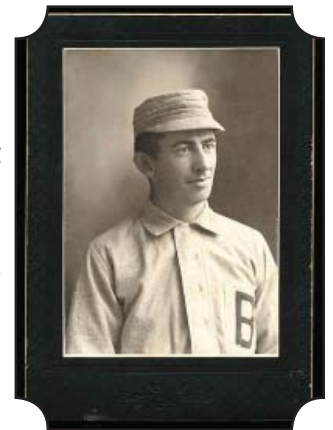
Yesterday on Twitter there arose a discussion of the Washington Nationals' 19-year-old star Juan Soto, who in his lone season had just broken Mel Ott's mark for bases on balls by a teenager. Ott had taken three years to accumulate his esoteric standard. A fellow tweep remarked that Ott and Soto both fell short of a batter's-walk record established by kid pitcher Willie McGill in 1890-1893, who went to his grave not knowing he had established a watermark for generations to come.

I bring this up because it brings home for me a baseball truism, evident in no other sport and possibly no other human activity, in which the past is ever present. Below, some more voices from long ago, echoing across the canyons, and not always sweetly.

WEE WILLIE KEELER (right), explaining the essence of his batting success: "Hit 'em where they ain't."

TIM HURST, to a fellow umpire complaining how thankless is the job: "You can't beat them hours."

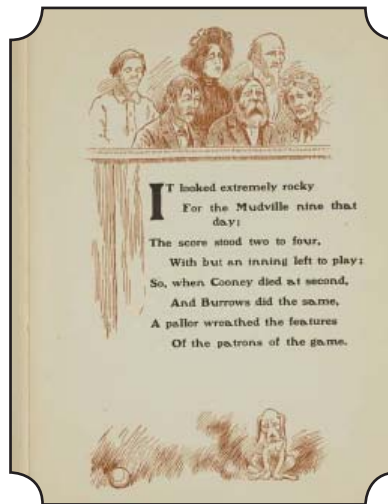
ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA: "Base ball is a quicker and more lively pastime than the great English national game of cricket, which is the chief thing to be said in its favour."



Cricket in 1744

HENRY CHADWICK in 1876: "What Cricket is to an Englishman, Base-Ball has become to an American. . . . On the Cricket-field—and there only—the Peer and the Peasant meet on equal terms; the possession of courage, nerve, judgment, skill, endurance and activity alone giving the palm of superiority. In fact, a more democratic institution does not exist in Europe than this self-same Cricket; and as regards its popularity, the records of the thousands of Commoners, Divines and Lawyers, Legislators and Artisans, and Literateurs as well as Mechanics and Laborers, show how great a hold it has on the people. If this is the characteristic of Cricket in aristocratic and monarchical England, how much more will the same characteristics mark Base-Ball in democratic and republican America."

LEWIS MEACHAM on Chadwick, after the announcement of a new National League in 1876, formed without consulting him: There is nowhere in the world so sad a spectacle as a cynical carping old man who has outgrown his usefulness, and who being left far behind in the progress of events, vainly attempts to hold back the world to his place, and grumbles because his little say-so is not taken as law. This becomes sadder than ever when the useless old man finds himself placed in a position where he should be an authority, but in which he cannot even maintain the appearance of respectable mediocrity. Such a man is Henry Chadwick, of The Clipper, who though not old in years, has had experience enough to have made himself a man of respect had heaven but given him a head. For some years The Clipper was recognized as an authority in base ball, and at last Chadwick made the fatal error of confounding cause and effect, and so came to believe that he made base ball, instead of contenting himself with the truth, that base ball made him. Full of this mania, he proceeded to call himself the "Father of the Game," and to assume much on the strength of the title. But he found an unruly child, and one which disinherited its papa with rapidity and ease...."



From Casey at the Bat, New Amsterdam Book Co., 1900

ERNEST L. THAYER: "Oh! somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright; / The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light. / And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout; / But there is no joy in Mudville—mighty Casey has struck out."

JOHN M. WARD: "There is now no escape for the player. If he attempts to elude the operation of the rule, he becomes at once a professional outlaw, and the hand of every club is against him. He may be willing to play elsewhere for less salary, he may be unable to play, or, for other reasons, may retire for a season or more, but if ever he reappears as a professional ballplayer it must be at the disposition of his former club. Like a fugitive-slave law, the reserve-rule denies him a harbor or a livelihood, and carries him back, bound and shackled, to the club from which he attempted to escape. We have, then, the curious result of a contract which on its face is for seven months being binding for life, and when the player's name is once attached thereto his professional liberty is gone forever."

MLB ON-AIR THIS WEEK

(All Times ET)

Thursday, September 6th:	Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals	7:05 p.m.
Friday, September 7th:	Houston Astros at Boston Red Sox	7:10 p.m.
Saturday, September 8th:	Miami Marlins at Pittsburgh Pirates	1:05 p.m.
	Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals	7:05 p.m.
Monday, September 10th:	Washington Nationals at Philadelphia Phillies	7:05 p.m.
	New York Yankees at Minnesota Twins	8:10 p.m.
	Atlanta Braves at San Francisco Giants	10:15 p.m.
Tuesday, September 11th:	Milwaukee Brewers at Chicago Cubs	8:05 p.m.
Wednesday, September 12th:	Pittsburgh Pirates at St. Louis Cardinals	1:15 p.m.
	Oakland Athletics at Baltimore Orioles	7:05 p.m.



Saturday, September 8th: Houston Astros at Boston Red Sox (FS1)

4:05 p.m.

Wednesday, September 12th: Atlanta Braves at San Francisco Giants

3:45 p.m.



Sunday, September 9th: Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals

1:35 p.m.

Sunday, September 9th: Houston Astros at Boston Red Sox
Wednesday, September 12th: Milwaukee Brewers at Chicago Cubs

8:05 p.m.
8:05 p.m.



UPON FURTHER REVIEW

Through 2,097 games played this season (through Wednesday), Major League Baseball has had 1,213 replay reviews, which have taken an average of one minute and twenty-two seconds.

- *1,213 Replay Reviews
- *241 Confirmed (19.9%)
- *380 Stands (31.3%)
- *581 Overturned (47.9%)
- *8 Rules Check (0.7%)
- *3 Record Keeping (0.2%)
- *1:22 Average Time



LINE DRIVES *(Compiled from Club Game Notes)*

140 DOWN: The Boston Red Sox are one of 20 teams since 1900 to win at least 96 of their first 140 games. The Sox' 96 wins were tied for their second-most ever through 140 games (97 in 1912; 96 in 1946). In Yesterday afternoon's thrilling game against the Atlanta Braves, a go-ahead home run by Brandon Phillips propelled Boston to its 97th win of the season. Phillips became the first player in franchise history to club a go-ahead homer in the ninth inning-or-later in his first game with the team.

CATCH & HIT: Miami Marlins All-Star catcher J.T. Realmuto hit his 19th and 20th home runs of the season on Tuesday night, extending his single-season career high. His 17 home runs as a catcher rank second-most by a Marlins backstop in Club history, two behind Charles Johnson's 19 in 1997. His 59 RBI when behind the plate are the fourth-most in a single season in Marlins history, behind Hall of Famer Iván Rodríguez (82 in 2003) and Johnson (69 in 2001 and 63 in 1997).

McKINNEY GET ON BASE AGAIN?: Last night against the Tampa Bay Rays, outfielder Billy McKinney blasted his fourth home run of the season, while extending his on-base streak to 14 games. The streak is the fifth-longest to start a career with the Blue Jays in Club history, trailing Dave Martinez (24), Roy Howell (18), David Segui (15) and Shea Hillenbrand (15).

HOME RUNS: Atlanta Braves backstop Kurt Suzuki hit his 10th home run of the season on Tuesday, driving a 2-2, second-inning pitch from Rick Porcello over the wall in center field. Suzuki reached double-digit home runs for the second consecutive season, and for the fifth time in his career on the same day he was named the Club's nominee for the Roberto Clemente Award.

POWER AND SPEED: With 18 home runs and 25 stolen bases thus far, White Sox infielder Tim Anderson is one of five players in the Majors with at least those totals, joining Boston's Mookie Betts, Pittsburgh's Starling Marte, Cleveland's José Ramírez and Colorado's Trevor Story. Anderson is attempting to become the first White Sox shortstop to record a 20/20 season, and could join Alex Ríos (2010) and Tommie Agee (1966) as the only players in franchise history to post 20 homers and 30 steals in one season.

ALL OR NOTHING: Tuesday night was the seventh time in franchise history that the Cardinals hit at least five home runs in a game without hitting a double or triple (6-1 record). The club also achieved the same feat this season on May 11th at San Diego (5 HR).

HARDWARE: According to the Elias Sports Bureau, the Colorado Rockies are the first team in MLB history to use four different players at any point in the season who had previously won a batting title for that franchise. Charlie Blackmon (2017), DJ LeMahieu (2016), Carlos Gonzalez (2010) and Matt Holliday (2007) have each won batting titles with the Rockies.

SEVY LIFTING: Following his outing last night against the Oakland Athletics, All-Star Luis Severino has posted his second career 200-strikeout season (also 230 in 2017). Severino is just the third Yankees pitcher to record multiple seasons with at least 200 strikeouts (also: David Cone, 1997-98 and Ron Guidry, 1978-79).

OUR BÁE: Chicago Cubs All-Star infielder Javier Báez reached 30 homers and 100 RBI with a solo home run on Sunday to become just the fifth Cub to record a 30-homer, 100-RBI campaign before or in their age-25 season, joining Hall of Famers Ernie Banks (1955) and Ron Santo (1964, 1965), as well as Kris Bryant (2016) and Anthony Rizzo (2015).

MAH-TOOK HIM DEEP: Detroit Tigers outfielder Mikie Mahtook went 1-for-4 with a solo homer in last night's game. After not homering in his first 33 games (122 PA) this season, Mahtook has hit seven home runs in his last 17 games (71 PA). Over his last 12 games, Mahtook is batting .341/.426/.707 with five home runs and eight RBI.

UNO, DOS, ADIOS!: First baseman Jesús Aguilar of the Milwaukee Brewers has a Major League-best, and franchise-record, 61 RBI in two-strike counts this season, which is tied for fifth-most in a single season since 1988 when such data became available. Both of his most recent RBI on Tuesday night came with two strikes.

EXTRA-BASE MAUER: Six-time All-Star Joe Mauer enters play today with 596 extra-base hits in his career, and needs one to tie Tony Oliva for fourth-most in Twins history (since 1961). Hall of Famers Harmon Killebrew (728) and Kirby Puckett (678), as well as Kent Hrbek (623) rank in the top three, respectively.

A SHOT OF JAMESON: Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Jameson Taillon has allowed three earned runs-or-less in each of his last 18 starts. He is one of just three pitchers in the Majors this season to make at least 18 straight starts while allowing three earned runs-or-less, joining Jacob deGrom of the New York Mets (25) and Tampa Bay's Ryne Stanek (22). The last Bucco hurler to be charged with three earned runs-or-fewer in 18 straight starts in the same season was Jeff Karstens in 2011.

THE WILL TO WIN: On Tuesday night, Tampa Bay Rays pitcher Hunter Wood recorded his first career win, and became the 23rd different Rays pitcher to collect a win this season, extending the club record. The 23 different pitchers represent the highest total in the Majors this season.

POWER SURGE: San Francisco Giants outfielder Gorkys Hernandez hit his 15th home run of the season on Tuesday night, tied with Evan Longoria for the most on the Club. Last season, Hernandez did not record a home run in 348 plate appearances. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, the last MLB player to have 15-or-more round-trippers in a season after hitting 0 with 300-or-more plate appearances in the year before was Phil Bradley, who hit 26 homers in 1985 after not hitting any in 373 PA in 1984.

EXTRA! EXTRA!: Houston Astros All-Star third baseman Alex Bregman has hit 47 doubles and 29 homers this season, both career highs. He is just the third player in Astros history to reach those totals in the same season, joining Lance Berkman (2008, 2001) and Hall of Famer Jeff Bagwell (1996). Additionally, Bregman's 77 extra-base hits this season are the most by an Astro since Berkman logged 79 extra-base hits (46 doubles, 4 triples, 29 homers) in 2008.



INTERLEAGUE TRACKER

<u>League</u>	<u>2018 Record</u>	<u>Batting Average</u>	<u>ERA</u>
American League	131-144	.242 (2,185-for-9,034)	4.20
National League	144-131	.253 (2,323-for-9,196)	3.96

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April 1 st	Justin Smoak, TOR (.467/.529/1.00, 2 2B, 2 HR, 8 RBI)	Adam Eaton, WSH (.615, 7 R, 8 H, 2 2B, 2 HR, 5 RBI)
April 8 th	Shohei Ohtani, LAA (3 HR, 7 RBI; 1-0, 0.00 ERA, 12 SO)	Jameson Taillon, PIT (2-0, 1.26 ERA, 14.1 IP, 16 SO)
April 15 th	Justin Verlander, HOU (1-0, 0.60 ERA, 15.0 IP, 20 SO, 2 BB)	Max Scherzer, WSH (2-0, 1.13 ERA, 1 CG SHO, 21 SO)
April 22 nd	Manny Machado, BAL (.500, 7 R, 11 H, 2 2B, 5 HR, 8 RBI) Sean Manaea, OAK (1-0, No-Hitter, 10 SO, 2 BB)	Patrick Corbin, ARI (2-0, 15.0 IP, 2 ER, 19 SO, 2 BB)
April 29 th	Didi Gregorius, NYY (.357/.419/.821, 7 R, 4 HR, 10 RBI)	Joey Votto, CIN (.360, 7 R, 1 2B, 4 HR, 8 RBI, .543 OBP)
May 6 th	Francisco Lindor, CLE (.425, 17 H, 4 HR, 4 2B, 10 RBI, 23 TB)	A.J. Pollock, ARI (.423, 5 R, 4 HR, 1 2B, 1 3B, 8 RBI, 2 SB)
May 13 th	James Paxton, SEA (1-0, No-Hitter, 11 SO, 3 BB, 15.0 IP) Francisco Lindor, CLE (.600/.652/1.400, 8 R, 4 2B, 4 HR)	Scooter Gennett, CIN (.591, 7 R, 2 2B, 4 HR, 10 RBI, 27 TB)
May 20 th	J.D. Martinez, BOS (.346, 7 R, 2 2B, 5 HR, 8 RBI, 26 TB)	Brandon Belt, SF (.444/.500/1.074, 12 H, 5 HR, 11 RBI, 29 TB)
May 27 th	Gleyber Torres, NYY (.368, 5 R, 5 HR, 9 RBI, 1.158 SLG)	Scooter Gennett, CIN (.500, 6 R, 2 2B, 3 HR, 10 RBI, 23 TB)
June 3 rd	Edwin Encarnacion, CLE (.407, 9 R, 5 HR, 13 RBI, 28 TB)	Matt Kemp, LAD (.429, 6 R, 3 HR, 8 RBI, .952 SLG)
June 10 th	Eduardo Escobar, MIN (.462, 9 XBH, 8 RBI, 26 TB, 1.000 SLG)	Paul Goldschmidt, ARI (.640, 10 R, 11 XBH, 11 RBI, 36 TB)
June 17 th	Evan Gattis, HOU (.417, 6 R, 2 2B, 4 HR, 15 RBI, 1.000 SLG)	Marcell Ozuna, STL (.455, 4 HR, 8 RBI, 22 TB, 1.000 SLG)
June 24 th	Nelson Cruz, SEA (.500, 8 R, 3 HR, 8 RBI, 25 TB, 1.042 SLG)	Nolan Arenado, COL (.379, 7 R, 11 H, 5 HR, 13 RBI, 28 TB)
July 1 st	Alex Bregman, HOU (.464, 7 R, 13 H, 5 2B, 5 HR, 10 RBI)	Javier Báez, CHI (.483, 14 H, 10 R, 6 2B, 11 RBI, 26 TB)
July 8 th	Xander Bogaerts, BOS (.400/.600/.933, 6 R, 4 XBH, 10 RBI)	Mark Reynolds, WSH (.625/.684/1.313, 7 R, 3 HR, 12 RBI)
July 15 th	José Ramírez, CLE (.423, 5 HR, , 11 RBI, 29 TB, 1.115 SLG)	Trevor Story, COL (.400, 3 2B, 3 HR, 22 TB, .880 SLG)
July 22 nd	Rougned Odor, TEX (.615, 8 H, 3 SB, 11 TB, .846 SLG)	Matt Carpenter, STL (.529, 8 R, 6 HR, 10 RBI, 1.706 SLG)
July 29 th	Jonathan Schoop, BAL (.379, 11 H, 6 R, 5 HR, 13 RBI, 27 RB)	Christian Yelich, MIL (.517/.548/1.000, 8 R, 7 XBH, 10 RBI)
August 5 th	Rougned Odor, TEX (8 R, 4 HR, 10 RBI, 20 TB, .870 SLG)	Matt Carpenter, STL (.423, 7 R, 2 2B, 4 HR, 7 RBI, 8 BB)
August 13 th	J.D. Martinez, BOS (.464, 7 R, 5 2B, 4 HR, 11 RBI, 30 TB)	Ryan Zimmerman, WSH (.476, 3 2B, 3 HR, 12 RBI, 22 TB)
August 19 th	Nicholas Castellanos, DET (.393, 8 R, 5 XBH, 10 RBI, 20 TB)	Ronald Acuña Jr., ATL (.464/.559/.964, 11 R, 4 HR, 9 RBI)
August 26 th	Kendrys Morales, TOR (.478, 8 R, 7 HR, 12 RBI, 1.391 SLG)	Anthony Rizzo, CHI (.429, 7 R, 3 2B, 3 HR, 6 RBI, 4 BB)
September 2 nd	Gleyber Torres, NYY (.478, 3 HR, 10 RBI, 20 TB, .571 OBP)	Christian Yelich, MIL (.444, 12 H, 4 HR, 14 RBI, 27 TB)

BUDWEISER PRESENTS THE AL & NL PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Didi Gregorius, NYY (.327, 24 R, 32 H, 8 2B, 10 HR, 30 RBI)	A.J. Pollock, ARI (.291, 20 R, 8 2B, 9 HR, 24 RBI, 6 SB)
May	Francisco Lindor, CLE (27 R, 44 H, 13 2B, 10 HR, 23 RBI)	Scooter Gennett, CIN (.398, 6 2B, 8 HR, 24 RBI, .720 SLG)
June	Alex Bregman, HOU (24 R, 33 H, 9 2B, 11 HR, 30 RBI)	Paul Goldschmidt, ARI (.364, 25 R, 8 2B, 10 HR, 23 RBI)
July	José Ramírez, CLE (21 R, 8 2B, 8 HR, 25 RBI, 19 BB, 11 SB)	Matt Carpenter, STL (.333, 22 R, 8 2B, 11 HR, 21 RBI, 19 BB)
August	J.D. Martinez, BOS (.373, 24 R, 11 2B, 7 HR, 25 RBI, 14 BB)	Justin Turner, LAD (.402, 39 H, 22 R, 11 2B, 6 HR, 20 RBI)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S PITCHERS OF THE MONTH

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Sean Manaea, OAK (4-2, 1.03 ERA, 37 SO, 1 no-hitter)	Max Scherzer, WSH (5-1, 1.62 ERA, 57 SO, 9 BB, 39.0 IP)
May	Justin Verlander, HOU (3-2, 0.86 ERA, 41.2 IP, 50 SO, 7 BB)	Max Scherzer, WSH (4-0, 2.21 ERA, 40.2 IP, 63 SO, 10 BB)
June	Chris Sale, BOS (3-2, 1.76 ERA, 41.0 IP, 60 SO, 9 BB)	Jon Lester, CHI (5-0, 1.13 ERA, 32.0 IP, 20 SO, 17 H, 10 BB)
July	Chris Sale, BOS (3-0, 0.36 ERA, 25.0 IP, 43 SO, 16 H, 4 BB)	Zack Greinke, ARI (4-0, 1.60 ERA, 33.2 IP, 35 SO, 5 BB)
August	Blake Snell, TB (4-0, 1.04 ERA, 26.0 IP, 34 SO, 11 H)	Cole Hamels, CHI (4-0, 0.69 ERA, 39.0 IP, 38 SO, 11 BB)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S ROOKIES OF THE MONTH

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Shohei Ohtani, LAA (.341, 4 HR, 12 RBI; 2-1, 4.43 ERA)	Christian Villanueva, SD (.321, 15 R, 25 H, 8 HR, 19 RBI)
May	Gleyber Torres, NYY (.317, 13 R, 26 H, 9 HR, 24 RBI)	Austin Meadows, PIT (.409, 9 R, 3 2B, 4 HR, 7 RBI, 3 SB)
June	Miguel Andújar, NYY (10 R, 24 H, 6 2B, 7 HR, 20 RBI)	Juan Soto, WSH (.317, 19 R, 6 2B, 6 HR, 15 RBI, 18 BB)
July	Lourdes Gurriel Jr. (.423, 30 H, 9 R, 4 2B, 4 HR, 14 RBI)	Juan Soto, WSH (.299/.398/.526, 18 R, 5 2B, 5 HR, 15 RBI)
August	Miguel Andújar, NYY (.320, 21 R, 7 2B, 10 HR, 29 RBI)	Ronald Acuña Jr., ATL (.336, 25 R, 7 2B, 11 HR, 21 RBI, 6 SB)

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

MONTH	AMERICAN LEAGUE	NATIONAL LEAGUE
April	Edwin Díaz, SEA (14 G, 11 SV, 0.63 ERA, 27 SO, 2 H)	Josh Hader, MIL (4 SV, 1.00 ERA, 39 SO, 5 BB, 18.0 IP)
May	Blake Treinen, OAK (14 G, 1-0, 10 SV, 0.59 ERA, 19 SO)	Brad Hand, SD (13 G, 11 SV, 0.61 ERA, 22 SO, 6 H)
June	Edwin Díaz, SEA (14 G, 12 SV, 1.88 ERA, 20 SO, 2 BB)	Kyle Barraclough, MIA (12 G, 7 SV, 0.00 ERA, 12 SO, 1 H)
July	Edwin Díaz, SEA (10 G, 9 SV, 0.00 ERA, 19 SO, 2 BB, 2 H)	Felipe Vázquez, PIT (14 G, 8 SV, 2 ER, 22 SO, 3 BB)
August	Edwin Díaz, SEA (11 G, 10 SV, 1.64 ERA, 21 SO, 0 BB)	Héctor Neris, PHI (10 G, 0.00 ERA, 20 SO, 3 H, 2 BB)