

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL <br> WEEKLY NOTES <br> THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018 

## 2018 POSTSEASON OUTLOOK

## Series

NL Wild Card Game
AL Wild Card Game

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

## Date

Tuesday, October 2
Wednesday, October 3

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

## Date

Thursday, October 4
Thursday, October 4
Friday, October 5
Friday, October 5
Friday, October 5
Friday, October 5
Saturday, October 6
Saturday, October 6
Sunday, October 7
Sunday, October 7
Monday, October 8
Monday, October 8
Monday, October 8
Monday, October 8
Tuesday, October 9
Tuesday, October 9
Wednesday, October 10
Wednesday, October 10
Thursday, October 11
Thursday, October 11

Network
FS1 or MLBN
FS1 or MLBN
FS1 or MLBN
FS1 or MLBN
TBS
TBS
TBS
TBS
FS1 or MLBN
FS1 or MLBN
FS1
FS1
TBS
TBS
TBS
TBS
FS1
FS1
TBS
TBS


Air Time (ET)
TBA
TBA


## Air Time (ET)

TBA
TBA

## TBA

TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

## TBA

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## TBA

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.

## Series

NLCS Game 1
NLCS Game 2
ALCS Game 1
ALCS Game 2
NLCS Game 3
NLCS Game 4
ALCS Game 3
NLCS Game 5
ALCS Game 4
ALCS Game 5
NLCS Game 6
NLCS Game 7
ALCS Game 6
ALCS Game 7

## Date

Friday, October 12
Saturday, October 13
Saturday, October 13
Sunday, October 14
Monday, October 15
Tuesday, October 16
Tuesday, October 16
Wednesday, October 17
Wednesday, October 17
Thursday, October 18
Friday, October 19
Saturday, October 20
Saturday, October 20
Sunday, October 21

Network
FOX or FS1
FOX or FS1
TBS
TBS
FOX or FS1
FOX or FS1
TBS
FOX or FS1
TBS
TBS
FOX or FS1
FOX or FS1
TBS
TBS

Air Time (ET)
TBA
TBA TBA
TBA
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TBA
TBA

2018 WORLD SERIES

Game
Game 1
Game 2
Game 3
Game 4
Game 5
Game 6
Game 7

Date
Tuesday, October 23
Wednesday, October 24
Friday, October 26
Saturday, October 27
Sunday, October 28
Tuesday, October 30
Wednesday, October 31

## Site

at Best Record at Best Record at Lower Record at Lower Record at Lower Record at Best Record at Besr Record

Italics above indicate if necessary.

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 | $\mathbf{1 0 0 - 4 6 . 6 8 5}$ | -- | CLE | $\mathbf{8 2 - 6 4}$ | $\mathbf{. 5 6 2}$ | -- | HOU | $\mathbf{9 2 - 5 4}$ | .630 | --- |
| NYY | $90-56$ | .616 | 10.0 |  |  |  |  | OAK | $89-57$ | .610 |

AL WILD CARD RACE

| Club | W-L | Pct. | GB* |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| NYY | $\mathbf{9 0 - 5 6}$ | .616 | --- |
| OAK | $89-57$ | .610 | $---(1.0$ behind NYY) |
| TB | $80-65$ | .552 | 8.5 |
| SEA | $79-66$ | .545 | 9.5 |

*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, Tampa Bay Rays, Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays

## Teams Eliminated from Postseason Contention:

Baltimore Orioles, Chicago White Sox, Detroit Tigers, Kansas City Royals, Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays

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Magic Numbers for AL Division Leaders and Wild Card:
East: Boston Red Sox-7 (Clinched Postseason Berth)
Central: Cleveland Indians - 3 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth - 3; *Actual - 3)
West: Houston Astros - }14\mathrm{ (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth - 6; *Actual - 6)
Wild Card: New York Yankees - 8 (*Actual - 8)
    Oakland Athletics - 9 (*Actual - 9)
```

(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 $13^{\text {th }}$ ):

No clinching scenarios for today:

- Cleveland can clinch the AL Central on Friday with a win over Detroit tomorrow AND Twins losses to the Royals today AND tomorrow.


## 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 $1^{\text {st. }}$
*BOS leads NYY, 8-5 (6 games remaining)
*HOU won season series vs. BOS, 4-3
*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 won season series vs. SEA, 5-1
*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*:
Games 3 and 4*:
Games 1, 2 and 5*:
Games 3 and 4*:

OAK/NYY @ BOS
BOS @ OAK/NYY
CLE @ HOU
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 $5^{*}: \quad$ 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


## PRIORITY FOR HOME-FIELD ADVANTAGE IN WORLD SERIES

1. BOS
2. HOU
3. NYY
4. OAK
5. CHI
6. MIL
7. ATL (better record than CLE in intraleague games)
8. CLE
9. STL
10. COL

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 | $\mathbf{8 2 - 6 4}$ | $\mathbf{. 5 6 2}$ | -- | CHI | $\mathbf{8 4 - 6 1}$ | $\mathbf{. 5 7 9}$ | -- | COL | $\mathbf{8 0}-65$ | .552 | $--\mathbf{n}$ |
| PHI | $74-71$ | .510 | 7.5 | MIL | $84-63$ | .571 | 1.0 | LAD | $79-67$ | .541 | 1.5 |
| WSH | $74-72$ | .507 | 8.0 | STL | $81-65$ | .555 | 3.5 | ARI | $77-69$ | .527 | 3.5 |

## NL WILD CARD RACE

| Club | W-L | Pct. | GB* |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| MIL | $\mathbf{8 4 - 6 3}$ | .571 | --- |
| STL | $81-65$ | .555 | $---(2.5$ behind MIL) |
| LAD | $79-67$ | .541 | 2.0 |
| ARI | $77-69$ | .527 | 4.0 |
| PHI | $74-71$ | .510 | 6.5 |
| WSH | $74-72$ | .507 | 7.0 |
| PIT | $72-73$ | .497 | 8.5 |

*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, Miami Marlins, San Diego Padres.

## Teams Eliminated from Postseason Contention:

Cincinnati Reds, Miami Marlins, San Diego Padres.

```
Magic Numbers for NL Division Leaders and Wild Card:
East: }\quad\mathrm{ Atlanta Braves - 10 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth - 10; *Actual - 10)
Central: Chicago Cubs - 16 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth - 12; *Actual - 11)
West: Colorado Rockies - 15 (Mathematical Magic Number for Postseason Berth - 16; *Actual - 15)
Wild Card: Milwaukee Brewers - 11 (*Actual - 11; Mathematical - 12)
    St. Louis Cardinals - }14\mathrm{ (*Actual - 14; Mathematical - 15)
```

(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 $13^{\text {th }}$ ):

None (as of today, the earliest possible Postseason clinch date for any NL team is Tuesday, September 18th Atlanta, Chicago \& Milwaukee).

## 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 $1^{\text {st. }}$

[^0]*LAD leads COL, 9-7 (3 games remaining)
*ARI leads COL, 8-7 (4 games remaining)
*ARI leads LAD, 9-7 (3 games remaining)
*ATL-CHI tied season series, 3-3
*CHI-COL tied season series, 3-3
*CHI won season series vs. LAD, 4-3
*LAD won season series vs. ATL, 5-2
*ATL won season series vs. ARI, 4-3
*ARI-CHI tied 2-2 (3 games remaining)
*COL won season series vs. ATL, 5-2

## 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:

## DIVISION SERIES

Games 1, 2 and 5*:
Games 3 and 4*:
Games 1, 2 and 5*:
Games 3 and 4*:

MIL/STL @ CHI
STL @ MIL

CHI @ MIL/STL
COL @ ATL
ATL @ COL

## LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Possibility \#1 - If the Chicago Cubs advance to the NLCS:
Games 1, 2, $6^{*}$ and $7^{*}: \quad$ COL/ATL @ CHI
Games 3,4 and $5^{*}: \quad$ 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 @ ATL/COL
Games 3, 4 and 5*: ATL/COL @ MIL/STL

*     - If necessary


## PRIORITY FOR HOME-FIELD ADVANTAGE IN WORLD SERIES

1. BOS
2. HOU
3. NYY
4. OAK
5. CHI
6. MIL
7. ATL (better record than CLE in intraleague games)
8. CLE
9. STL
10. COL

## 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 $4^{\text {th }}$. 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.


## BREGMAN STAYS HOT

In last night's contest against the Detroit Tigers at Comerica Park, All-Star third baseman Alex Bregman tallied his $50^{\text {th }}$ double of the season while plating three to reach the 100RBI mark for the first ime in his career. Following the performance, the LSU product became the first third baseman in MLB history to amass 30 home runs and 50 doubles in a single campaign, and the first player of any position since Albert Pujols in 2012.

On the season, the AL MVP candidate is slashing $.296 / .398 / .556$ with 100 runs scored, 50 doubles, 30 home runs, 100 RBI and 10 stolen bases across 143 games played. Bregman, who was the second overall selection in the 2015 MLB Draft, is just the eighth player in Major League history to reach those totals in a season, joining Matt Holliday, Derrek Lee, Alfonso Soriano, Alex Rodriguez, and Hall of Famers Frank Robinson, Chuck Klein and Lou Gehrig. See the table below for each player's statistics during their historic campaigns.

| Player, Club | Year | R | 2B | HR | RBI | SB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alex Bregman, HOU | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{5 0}$ | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| Matt Holliday, COL | 2007 | 120 | 50 | 36 | 137 | 11 |
| Derrek Lee, CHI | 2005 | 120 | 50 | 46 | 107 | 15 |
| Alfonso Soriano, NYY | 2002 | 128 | 51 | 39 | 102 | 41 |
| Alex Rodriguez, SEA | 1996 | 141 | 54 | 36 | 123 | 15 |
| Frank Robinson, CIN | 1962 | 134 | 51 | 39 | 136 | 18 |
| Chuck Klein, PHI | 1932 | 152 | 50 | 38 | 137 | 20 |
| Lou Gehrig, NYY | 1927 | 149 | 52 | 47 | 173 | 10 |

## BETANCES STILL STREAKING

On Sunday against the Seattle Mariners, relief pitcher Dellin Betances of the New York Yankees tallied a strikeout in his $39^{\text {th }}$ consecutive appearance dating back to May $29^{\text {th }}$. Since then, the four-time All-Star has compiled a 3-3 record with two saves, 68 strikeouts, 16 walks, 16 hits and a 1.43 ERA across 37.2 innings pitched. Now with 106 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 second-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 39-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 |
| Dellin Betances, $\mathbf{N Y Y}$ | $\mathbf{3 9}$ | May 29-Present | $\mathbf{3 - 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 4 3}$ | $\mathbf{6 8}$ | $\mathbf{1 6}$ |

## HADER

Yesterday against the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field, All-Star relief ace Josh Hader of the Milwaukee Brewers earned his sixth win of the season after registering each of his outs via strikeout. In his previous appearance on Monday, the 24-year-old struck out all six Cubs batters he faced, posting his $20^{\text {th }}$ hold of the campaign. On the season, Hader is 6-1 with 130 strikeouts and a 2.05 ERA, limiting opposing batters to just 26 walks and 30 hits across 74.2 innings pitched.

Josh's outing yesterday was his fourth in a row in which he notched at least
 three punchouts, and his $26^{\text {th }}$ overall this season. With more than two weeks still remaining in the 2018 season, Hader is tied for fourth for the most three-strikeout performances by a reliever in Major League history. Twotime All-Star Dick Radatz of the Red Sox holds the MLB record, posting 36 such games during his dominant 1964 campaign. The table below displays each player who has logged at least 26 such games and their season stats.

| Pitcher, Club | Year | Games | W-L | ERA | SV | SO | BB |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dick Radatz, BOS | 1964 | 36 | $16-9$ | 2.29 | 29 | 183 | 58 |
| Mark Eichhorn, TOR | 1986 | 28 | $14-6$ | 1.72 | 10 | 166 | 45 |
| Dick Radatz, BOS | 1962 | 27 | $9-6$ | 2.24 | 24 | 144 | 40 |
| Dick Selma, PHI | 1970 | 26 | $8-9$ | 2.75 | 22 | 153 | 59 |
| Brad Lidge, HOU | 2004 | 26 | $6-5$ | 1.90 | 29 | 157 | 30 |
| Josh Hader, MIL | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ | $\mathbf{6 - 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 . 0 5}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 6}$ |

## HISTORY IN SIGHT FOR THE SENIOR CIRCUIT

In last night's contest at Safeco Field, the San Diego Padres defeated the Seattle Mariners 5-4, claiming the 147 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ win for the National League in Inter League games this season. This year's win total represents the highest number of victories for the senior circuit since Inter League play began in 1997, surpassing the 146 wins during the 2013 campaign. The most wins by either league came in 2015 when the American League compiled a 167133 (.557) record in Inter League tilts.

Entering play today with a 147-133 (.525) record against the AL, 2018 is on pace to mark just the fifth time in MLB history that the NL held a higher winning percentage than their AL counterparts. The other seasons include: 1997 (117-97, .547); 2003 (137-115, .544); 1999 (135-116, .538); and 2002 (129-123, .512).


## INTERLEAGUE TRACKER

League
American League
National League

2018 Record<br>133-147<br>147-133

$\underline{\text { Batting Average }}$
$.241(2,269$-for- 9,398$)$
$.252(2,405-$-for- 9,561$)$

ERA
4.17
3.95

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

All through 2018 I have been gathering baseball bouquets, posies that evoke the game's beauty, mystery, and intensity. Many of the most lyrical sentiments have come from writers-those who covered the game for a living or who, as devotees, captured something grander than the hits, runs, and errors of a particular day in the long season. Other remarks, perhaps more memorable and typically more concise, have sprung from the lips of players and managers.

Now, with the September run upon us, and the capture of the flags of paramount interest, we arrive at the end of this year's theme for MLB Weekly Notes. As a promising player only until the pitchers started throwing curves, I have often wondered what it felt like to be a major leaguer.

HANK AARON (right):"I looked for the same pitch my whole career, a breaking ball. All of the time. I never worried about the fastball. They couldn't throw it past me, none of them."

WALTER JOHNSON: "I throw as hard as I can when I think I have to throw as hard as I can."

MICKEY MANTLE: "Sometimes I think if I had the same body and the same natural ability and someone else's brain, who knows how good a player I might have been."

BABE RUTH: "A ballplayer should quit when it starts to feel as if all the baselines run
 uphill."

ERNIE BANKS: "Let's play two."
TED WILLIAMS: "A kid copies what is good. I remember the first time I saw Lefty O'Doul, and he was as far away as those palms. And I saw the guy come to bat in batting practice. I was looking through a knothole, and I said, 'Geez, does that guy look good!' And it was Lefty O'Doul, one of the greatest hitters ever."

LEFTY O'DOUL (right): "If I had it to do all over I'd be a ballplayer again without pay. Yeah, without pay. I loved it. That's why I never squawked when I didn't get big salaries. I liked to play too much.... I led the National League in batting in 1929 with a .398 average, got 254 hits that season-still the record—and I got a $\$ 500$ raise."

HONUS WAGNER:"There ain't much to being a ballplayer, if you're a ballplayer."
VERNON LAW:"If you don't play to win, why keep score?"


EARL WEAVER: "Bad ballplayers make good managers."
ERIC ROLFE GREENBERG: "To be a pitcher! I thought. A pitcher, standing at the axis of event, or a catcher with the God-view of the play all before him; to be a shortstop, lord of the infield, or a center fielder with unchallenged claim to all the territory one's speed and skill could command; to perform the spontaneous acrobatics of the third baseman or the practiced ballet of the man at second, or to run and throw with the absolute commitment of the outfielder! And to live in a world without grays, where all decisions were final: ball or strike, safe or out, the game won or lost beyond question or appeal."

ROLFE HUMPHRIES: "Time is of the essence. The shadow moves / From the plate to the box, from the box to second base, / From second to the outfield, to the bleachers./Time is of the essence. The crowd and players/ Are the same age always, but the man in the crowd / Is older every season. Come on, play ball!"

## MLB ON-AIR THIS WEEK <br> (All Times ET)

| Thursday, September $13^{\text {th }}$ : | Chicago Cubs at Washington Nationals | 4:05 p.m. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | O | 7:05 p.m. |  |
|  | Los Angeles Dodgers at St. Louis Cardinals | 7:15 p.m. |  |
|  | Seattle Mariners at Los Angeles Angels | 10:07 p.m. |  |
| Friday, September $14^{\text {th }}$ : | Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs | 2:20 p.m. | $0$ |
|  | New York Mets at Boston Red Sox | 7:10 p.m. | $\mathbb{V}$ |
|  | Washington Nationals at Atlanta Braves | 7:35 p.m. |  |
| Saturday, September 15 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : | New York Mets at Boston Red Sox | 4:05 p.m. |  |
| Monday, September 17 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : | St. Louis Cardinals at Atlanta Braves | 7:35 p.m. |  |
| Tuesday, September 18 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : | Colorado Rockies at Los Angeles Dodgers | 10:10 p.m. |  |
| Wednesday, September 19 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : | St. Louis Cardinals at Atlanta Braves | 12:10 p.m. |  |



Saturday, September 15 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Los Angeles Dodgers at St. Louis Cardinals

Washington Nationals at Atlanta Braves

1:05 p.m. 1:05 p.m.
Minnesota Twins at Kansas City Royals (FS1)

Thursday, September 13 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Arizona Diamondbacks at Colorado Rockies 3:10 p.m.


Friday, September 14 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs 2:20 p.m.
St. Louis Cardinals at Atlanta Braves
12:10 p.m.


Sunday, September 16 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Arizona Diamondbacks at Houston Astros
2:10 p.m.

## Sunday, September 16 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Los Angeles Dodgers at St. Louis Cardinals <br> 8:05 p.m. <br> Tuesday, September 18 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : St. Louis Cardinals at Atlanta Braves <br> Wednesday, September 19 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Boston Red Sox at New York Yankees <br> Colorado Rockies at Los Angeles Dodgers <br> 7:35 p.m. <br> 7:05 p.m. <br> 10:10 p.m. <br> 

## UPON FURTHER REVIEW

Through 2,185 games played this season (through Wednesday), Major League Baseball has had 1,265 replay reviews, which have taken an average of one minute and twenty-two seconds.
*1,265 Replay Reviews
*250 Confirmed (19.8\%)
*396 Stands (31.3\%)
*608 Overturned (48.1\%)
*8 Rules Check (0.6\%)
*3 Record Keeping (0.2\%)
*1:22 Average Time


## LINE DRIVES (Compiled from Club Game Notes)

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF: With his appearance last night, outfielder DJ Stewart became the $14^{\text {th }}$ Oriole to make his Major League debut this season. The 14 debuts match the most in a season in Orioles history (since 1954), set in 1955 (the club's second year in Baltimore). Stewart became the $55^{\text {th }}$ player to appear in a game for the Orioles this season. The 55 players used marks the most in Orioles history, surpassing the 54 players used during the 1955 season.

GOLDSCHMIDT HOVERING AROUND .300: All-Star first baseman Paul Goldschmidt of the Arizona Diamondbacks raised his batting average to .300 for the first time this season on Friday. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Goldschmidt is the first player since at least 1920 to increase his batting average to .300 -orhigher in a season in which it was under .200 at some point after at least 200 plate appearances.

FIRST IMPRESSION: Following last night's win, Boston Red Sox manager Alex Cora became the first MLB manager to guide a team to 100-or-more wins in his first season with the club since Felipe Alou (2003 Giants, 100-61). The last coach to lead a team to at least 100 wins in his first year as an MLB manager was Dusty Baker (1993 Giants, 103-59). The only other manager to guide the Sox to 100-or-more wins in his first season with the club is Jake Stahl (105-47 in 1912).

COMPLETE GAME: All-Star starting pitcher Mike Foltynewicz of the Atlanta Braves threw a six-hitter to lead the Braves to a 4-1 win on Tuesday night, and collected his second complete game of the season. Folty is the first Braves pitcher with multiple complete games in a season since 2015, when Shelby Miller also had two.

POWER OF 10: Shane Bieber became the fifth Indians pitcher to reach the 10-win mark this season, joining Corey Kluber (18), Carlos Carrasco (16), Trevor Bauer (12) and Mike Clevinger (11). Cleveland is the second team in the Majors this season to feature five pitchers with at least 10 wins, joining the Houston Astros. Cleveland has had five pitchers with 10-or-more wins in each of the last three seasons (since 2016), the first such streak in franchise history. This year's Indians are just the fifth team in the Majors with a similar threeseason streak in the last 50 years, joining Tampa Bay (2010-12), Boston (1977-79), Los Angeles-NL (1976-78) and Cincinnati (1973-76).

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS: The Tigers played their $46^{\text {th }}$ one-run game of the season last night, falling to 20-26 in those contests with a 5-4 loss. Detroit's 46 one-run games are the third-most in the American League (Seattle, 55 and Tampa Bay, 53). In addition to the 46 one-run games, the Tigers have also played 28 games that have been decided by two runs.

JUST DÚ IT: Rookie third baseman Miguel Andújar of the New York Yankees went 2-for-4 with a run scored on Tuesday at Minnesota, his third multi-hit effort in his previous four games. The outing was his $48^{\text {th }}$ multihit game, most among MLB rookies. Only six Yankees rookies in the last 100 years have totaled 50 multi-hit games in a season.

DYNAMIC DUO: All-Star rotation-mates Justin Verlander and Gerrit Cole, who rank first and second in the AL in strikeouts, respectively, are the first pair of right-handed pitchers since at least 1900 to each surpass 250 strikeouts in a season for the same club. The 2018 Astros are the sixth club overall to feature two pitchers with at least 250 punchouts.

THE EYES HAVE IT: On Tuesday against the Washington Nationals, first baseman Carlos Santana (97 BB) passed Pete Rose ( 95 BB ) and moved into sole possession of first place on the Phillies' single-season walk list among switch hitters.

IT'S A LONELY CLUB: Colorado Rockies shortstop Trevor Story tallied his $40^{\text {th }}$ double in the first inning on Tuesday to became the first shortstop in Major League history to record at least 40 doubles, 30 home runs and 25 stolen bases in a single season. He is the $16^{\text {th }}$ player all-time ( $19^{\text {th }}$ time) to reach those numbers, and the third Rockies player to do so (Larry Walker, 1997 and Ellis Burks, 1996). Additionally, Story is the second shortstop since 1920 (when RBI became an official statistic) to have a season with 30 home runs, 100 RBI, 25 stolen bases (also Alex Rodriguez, 1998).

STEALIN' WHIT: Recording his American League-leading $34^{\text {th }}$ and $35^{\text {th }}$ stolen bases last night, Royals second baseman Whit Merrifield surpassed his career high from last season and eclipsed his teammate Adalberto Mondesi for the most in the Majors since the All-Star break (18). He's the second Royals infielder with at least 34 stolen bases in consecutive seasons, joining Freddie Patek (51, 53 and 38 from 1976-78). His second steal was of third base, the $23^{\text {rd }}$ steal of third in his career, surpassing Rajai Davis for most in the American League since 2016, including a Major League-leading 13 in 2018.

HEAN MACHINE: Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher Andrew Heaney has set new career highs in wins (nine), starts (27), strikeouts (161) and innings pitched (165.0) this season. He is the first Halo to reach the 160strikeout mark since 2015 (Garrett Richards; 176 \& Hector Santiago; 162) and has four double-digit strikeout games this season. In his last outing on Sunday, he logged a career-high 12 strikeouts, and joined Frank Tanana as the only left-handers in team history to record 12-or-more punchouts with zero walks in a game.

HISTORIC STREAKS: New York Mets All-Star starting pitcher Jacob deGrom has held opponents to three runs-or-less in 26 straight starts, the longest single-season streak in Major League history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. deGrom has hurled 21 straight quality starts, tied for the third-longest single-season streak in Major League history, one behind the record of 22 held by Hall of Famer Bob Gibson (1968) and Chris Carpenter (2005).

SAVING THE DAY: All-Star closer Felipe Vázquez of the Pittsburgh Pirates has converted each of his last 22 save opportunities, representing the longest streak in the National League this season. Felipe is the only left-handed pitcher in franchise history to amass that many saves in a single season, while his 53 saves in a Pirates uniform rank 10 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ in Club history.

CLUB 1,000: With his RBI last night against the San Diego Padres, Seattle Mariners All-Star designated hitter Nelson Cruz became the $11^{\text {th }}$ active player in the Majors to reach the 1,000 -RBI milestone, joining Albert Pujols, Adrián Beltré, Miguel Cabrera, Matt Holliday, Robinson Canó, Adrián González, Victor Martinez, Edwin Encarnacion, Ryan Braun and Chase Utley. Cruz became the sixth player to reach the mark in a Mariners uniform, joining Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr., Edgar Martinez, John Olerud, Bret Boone and Canó.

WINNING SEASONS: The Cardinals need one win to record their $11^{\text {th }}$ consecutive winning season, something they've done just once previously in franchise history (1939-1953).

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL'S PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

| Week Ending | American League | National League |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April $1^{\text {st }}$ | 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 $8^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $15^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $22^{\text {nd }}$ | 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 $29^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $6^{\text {th }}$ | Francisco Lindor, CLE (.425, $17 \mathrm{H}, 4 \mathrm{HR}, 42 \mathrm{~B}, 10 \mathrm{RBI}, 23 \mathrm{~TB}$ ) | A.J. Pollock, ARI (.423, 5 R, 4 HR, 1 2B, 1 3B, 8 RBI, 2 SB) |
| May $13^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $20^{\text {th }}$ | J.D. Martinez, BOS (.346, 7 R, 2 2B, 5 HR, 8 RBI, 26 TB) | Brandon Belt, SF (.444/.500/1.074, $12 \mathrm{H}, 5 \mathrm{HR}, 11 \mathrm{RBI}, 29 \mathrm{~TB}$ ) |
| May $27^{\text {th }}$ | Gleyber Torres, NYY (.368, 5 R, 5 HR, 9 RBI, 1.158 SLG) | Scooter Gennett, CIN (.500, 6 R, 2 2B, 3 HR, $10 \mathrm{RBI}, 23 \mathrm{~TB}$ ) |
| June 3 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ | 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 $10^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $17^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $24^{\text {th }}$ | 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, $13 \mathrm{RBI}, 28 \mathrm{~TB}$ ) |
| July $1^{\text {st }}$ | Alex Bregman, HOU (.464, 7 R, $13 \mathrm{H}, 5$ 2B, 5 HR, 10 RBI) | Javier Báez, CHI (.483, $14 \mathrm{H}, 10 \mathrm{R}, 6$ 2B, 11 RBI, 26 TB) |
| July $8^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $15^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $22^{\text {nd }}$ | 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 $29^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $5^{\text {th }}$ | Rougned Odor, TEX (8R, $4 \mathrm{HR}, 10 \mathrm{RBI}, 20 \mathrm{~TB}, .870 \mathrm{SLG}$ ) | Matt Carpenter, STL (.423, 7 R, 2 2B, 4 HR, 7 RBI, 8 BB) |
| August $13^{\text {th }}$ | J.D. Martinez, BOS (.464, 7 R, 5 2B, 4 HR, 11 RBI, 30 TB ) | Ryan Zimmerman, WSH (.476, 3 2B, 3 HR, $12 \mathrm{RBI}, 22 \mathrm{~TB}$ ) |
| August 19 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ | 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 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ | 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 $2^{\text {nd }}$ | Gleyber Torres, NYY (.478, 3 HR, 10 RBI, 20 TB, . 571 OBP) | Christian Yelich, MIL (.444, $12 \mathrm{H}, 4$ HR, $14 \mathrm{RBI}, 27 \mathrm{~TB}$ ) |
| September $9^{\text {th }}$ | Shohei Ohtani, LAA (.474, 8 R, 4 HR, 10 RBI, 2 SB, 24 TB) | Bryce Harper, WSH (.438, 6 R, 4 XBH, 7 RBI, . 655 OBP) |

## BUDWEISER PRESENTS THE AL \& NL PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

| Month | American League | National League |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| April | Didi Gregorius, NYY (.327, $24 \mathrm{R}, 32 \mathrm{H}, 82 \mathrm{~B}, 10 \mathrm{HR}, 30 \mathrm{RBI}$ ) | 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 ( $24 \mathrm{R}, 33 \mathrm{H}, 9$ 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, $25 \mathrm{RBI}, 19 \mathrm{BB}, 11 \mathrm{SB}$ ) | Matt Carpenter, STL (.333, 22 R, 8 2B, 11 HR, 21 RBI, 19 BB ) |
| August | J.D. Martinez, BOS (.373, $24 \mathrm{R}, 11$ 2B, $7 \mathrm{HR}, 25 \mathrm{RBI}, 14 \mathrm{BB}$ ) | 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, $41.2 \mathrm{IP}, 50 \mathrm{SO}, 7 \mathrm{BB})$ | 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, $17 \mathrm{H}, 10 \mathrm{BB}$ ) |
| 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, $35 \mathrm{SO}, 5 \mathrm{BB}$ ) |
| August | Blake Snell, TB (4-0, 1.04 ERA, 26.0 IP, $34 \mathrm{SO}, 11 \mathrm{H}$ ) | 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, $12 \mathrm{RBI} ; 2-1,4.43 \mathrm{ERA})$ | Christian Villanueva, SD (.321, $15 \mathrm{R}, 25 \mathrm{H}, 8 \mathrm{HR}, 19 \mathrm{RBI})$ |
| May | Gleyber Torres, NYY (.317, $13 \mathrm{R}, 26 \mathrm{H}, 9 \mathrm{HR}, 24 \mathrm{RBI})$ | Austin Meadows, PIT (.409, 9R, $32 \mathrm{~B}, 4 \mathrm{HR}, 7 \mathrm{RBI}, 3 \mathrm{SB})$ |
| June | Miguel Andújar, NYY (10 R, $24 \mathrm{H}, 62 \mathrm{~B}, 7 \mathrm{HR}, 20 \mathrm{RBI})$ | Juan Soto, WSH (.317, $19 \mathrm{R}, 62 \mathrm{~B}, 6 \mathrm{HR}, 15 \mathrm{RBI}, 18 \mathrm{BB})$ |
| July | Lourdes Gurriel Jr. (.423, $30 \mathrm{H}, 9 \mathrm{R}, 42 \mathrm{~B}, 4 \mathrm{HR}, 14 \mathrm{RBI})$ | Juan Soto, WSH (.299/.398/.526, 18 R, $52 \mathrm{~B}, 5 \mathrm{HR}, 15 \mathrm{RBI})$ |
| August | Miguel Andújar, NYY (.320, $21 \mathrm{R}, 72 \mathrm{~B}, 10 \mathrm{HR}, 29 \mathrm{RBI})$ | Ronald Acuña Jr., ATL (.336, $25 \mathrm{R}, 72 \mathrm{~B}, 11 \mathrm{HR}, 21 \mathrm{RBI}, 6 \mathrm{SB})$ |

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


[^0]:    *CHI won season series vs. $\mathrm{PHI}, 4-2$
    *ARI won season series vs. PHI, 4-2
    *PHI won season series vs. LAD, 4-3
    *PHI won season series vs. STL, 4-3
    *PHI-MIL tied season series, 3-3
    *STL-ARI tied season series, 3-3
    *LAD won season series vs. MIL, 4-3
    *ATL leads PHI, 7-5 (7 games remaining)
    *CHI won season series vs. MIL, 11-8
    *STL leads CHI, 9-7 (3 games remaining)
    *STL-MIL tied 8-8 (3 games remaining)

