

THE SPECTATOR

2007 Review

July 25, 2007



www.northstarleague.org



EAST

The Diamond Devils, 14-4 ended up with the best overall record in the entire league including going 4-1 against the 'B' teams from the Central division. They also showed the most power belting 8 HRs and 37 doubles. The next highest totals were 4 HR and 27 doubles.

League rank:

Hitting 3rd at .288,

Pitching fifth with 2.60 ERA

Top stats for the Diamond Devils:

Average: Adam Gregg .415

2B's: Lee Gregg 8 *

HR's: Adam Gregg 3

RBI's: Adam Gregg 23 *

Runs: Lee Gregg 16

ERA: Pat McPherson 1.49

Wins: A Gregg & McPherson 4

K's: Adam Gregg 24

(* by name indicates league leader)

CENTRAL



The Saints of St Michael, 13-5 had to win on the last day of the season to claim a share of the Central title and earn the #1 Seed in the playoffs. After a slow start, the Saints ran off nine straight wins to finish the season, catching D-C on the final Sunday of the season by beating them 6-3 .

League rank:

Hitting 2nd at .292,

Pitching fourth with 2.42 ERA

Top stats for the Saints:

Average: Tyler Carlson .508 *

Runs: Tyler Carlson 22 *

3B's: Tyler Carlson 5 *

RBI's: Kyle Krzmarzik 18

ERA: Adam McGrane 1.70

Wins: Adam McGrane 5

K's: Adam McGrane 55 *

(* by name indicates league leader)

WEST



Buffalo, 13-5 shares the West crown with Howard Lake, but earns the #1 Seed because of a better record within the division.

This is the first title in Buffalo since 1991 and the first ever since they returned to the league as the Bulldogs.

League rank:

Hitting 1st at .293,

Pitching sixth with 2.71 ERA

Top stats for the Bulldogs:

Average-Ed Cox .455, Ramon Vega .410

Runs: Derek Bauer 16

2B's: Nate Hill 6

HR's: Ramon Vega 1

RBI's: Nate Hill 15

ERA: Corey Braun 0.77

Wins: Ed Cox 5

K's: Corey Braun 40

From the Bleachers—

Mike Gagnon, Howard Lake has been elected to the Minnesota Hall of Fame for 2007.

Others elected from the North Star League are:

1966 - Perry Ditty, Delano

1981 - Rich Ditty, Delano

1997 - Porky Anderson, Hutchinson

1968 - Valentine Styrbicky, Delano

1983 - Bill Fairbanks, Buffalo

2001 - Vic Arlt, Hutchinson

1972 - Arnold Klaers, Loretto

1989 - Dave Mooney, Hutchinson

2002 - Joe Harmala, D-C

1979 - Paul Fortin, Hamel

1994 - Robert Knowlton, Monticello

2005 - Brian Larson, D-C

Losing streaks are funny. If you lose at the beginning, you are off to a bad start. If you lose in the middle of the season, you are in a slump. If you lose at the end, you're choking.



FINAL

	W	L	G.B.
Maple Plain	14	4	...
Loretto	11	7	3
Mound	5	13	4
Albertville	3	15	11
Rogers	2	16	12

FINAL STATS

Player	AB	R	H	Ave
K Koch Lor	70	16	31	.443
A Gregg MP	65	13	27	.415
P Harrell Md	59	11	23	.390
B Mussgjerd Rog	52	2	20	.385
A Grinde Alb	47	9	18	.383
A Snyder Md	69	11	25	.362
Z DeMars Rog	67	8	23	.343
P Olson Alb	41	7	14	.341
D Brant Alb	53	12	18	.340
P Sycks Md	54	9	18	.333
Br Scanlon Lor	76	21	25	.329
E Schutte Lor	83	15	27	.325
D Kerber Alb	53	6	17	.321
L Gregg MP	75	16	24	.320
J Jarvis Alb	51	6	16	.314
C Nelson Alb	43	12	13	.302

2B Leaders

L Gregg, MP 8

3B Leader

E.Schutte, Lor 4

HR Leaders

A Gregg MP 3

RBI Leaders

A. Gregg MP 23

Pitching Leaders

Player	IP	W-L	K	ERA
P McPherson MP	42	4-1	23	1.49
N Koch Lor	78	4-3	26	3.35
P Sycks Md	46	2-3	14	3.89
B Mussgjerd Rog	35	1-4	34	4.37
R Dutton Alb	51	0-4	26	5.92



The Larks (11-7) used a strong offense to propel them to second in the East. A core group at the top of the order provided impetus for Loretto to be one of 3 teams to score more than 120 runs. They also hosted the longest game in North Star history when it took 20 innings for Buffalo to beat the Larks 4-2. Nick Koch set the record for most innings pitched in a game by pitching the whole 20 innings.

League rank: **Hitting** tied for 8th at .264, **Pitching** eighth with 3.83 ERA

Top stats for the Larks:

Average: Kent Koch .443

ERA: Nick Koch 3.35

RBI's: Kent Koch 17

K's: Nick Koch 26

Runs: Brandon Scanlon 21

Wins: Nick Koch

3B's: Eric Schutte 4

& Mark Ricke 4



The Mallards, (5-13) highlight game was the upset of D-C that ended the Saints nine game win streak. Otherwise the Mallards need a couple of wins late in the season to claim third place in the East. Problems keeping opponents from scoring put to much pressure on the offense and made it tough to win.

League rank: **Hitting** 13th at .236, **Pitching** fifteenth with 6.97 ERA

Top stats for the Mallards:

Average: Pete Harrell .390

ERA: Peter Sycks 3.89

RBI's: Andy Snyder 11

K's: Luke Ludvigson 20

2B's: Andy Snyder 7

Wins: Peter Sycks 2



The Villains, (3-15) repeated their 4th place finish of a year ago, giving up the most runs and the most walks in the league. Albertville's roster included 7 players who hit over .300, but many of them missed a number of games leading to inconsistency.

League rank: **Hitting** 10th at .259, **Pitching** fourteenth with 6.89 ERA

Top stats for the Villains:

Average: Anders Grinde .383

ERA: Paul Schumacher 2.00

RBI's: Jeff Jarvis 13

K's: Ryan Dutton 26

Runs: Dan Brant & Cory Nelson 12

Wins: Paul Schumacher 2



The Red Devils, (2-16) took baby steps in their first season, finishing fifth and learning a lot about the competition in the North Star league. Rogers won 2 games, against division rivals Mound and Albertville and played a lot of teams close for a while, but would succumb to a big inning and lack of clutch hitting to come up short most of the time.

League rank: **Hitting** 14th at .218, **Pitching** eleventh with 6.01 ERA

Top stats for the Red Devils:

Average: Beau Mussgjerd .385

ERA: Beau Mussgjerd 4.37

Hits: Zach DeMars 23

K's: Beau Mussgjerd 34

Runs: Joe Freeman 12

Wins: Mussgjerd & Logan Kingren 1



A setback ain't nothin' but an opportunity for a comeback.



The Orphans (13-5) finished 2006 with a 10 game winning streak and added 6 more wins to begin 2007 to extend the overall streak to 16. Later in the season, another streak, a four game losing streak derailed their hopes for an outright championship, allowing Buffalo to tie for the championship and forcing the Orphan's to be the second seed in the playoffs.

League rank: **Hitting** tied for 8th at .264, **Pitching** second with 2.30 ERA

Top stats for the Orphans:

Average: Ben Borrell .397 ERA: Jake Streich 0.85
 RBI's: Aaron DeMarais 15 K's: Shane Heber 39
 Runs: Ben Borrell 15 Wins: Shane Heber & Jake Streich 4
 2B's: John Stueven 7



The River Bandits, (8-10) were one of the most improved teams of 2007 and should be tough in 2008. Six players hit over .300 as the offense took giant steps forward. The highlight of the season was Jason Lesser's 7 inning perfect game against Rogers.

League rank: **Hitting** 6th at .280, **Pitching** tenth with 4.29 ERA

Top stats for the River Bandits:

Average: Cole Hansen .397 Wins: Lesser & Hansen 3
 RBI's: Ryan Rassatt 15 ERA: Cole Hansen 3.48
 Runs: Cole Hansen 19 K's: Jason Lesser 39
 2B's: Niles Lewin 5



The Polecats, (7-11) lost their first 3 games, 2 in extra innings, but battled back to have a chance to beat out Rockford for third place before losing their last game to St. Michael 6-5.

League rank: **Hitting** 11th at .257, **Pitching** ninth with 4.12 ERA

Top stats for the Polecats:

Average: Chris Hardie .386 Wins: Holker, Alex Stein & Michaelis 2
 RBI's: Scott Iano 11 ERA: Jason Holker 1.13
 Runs: Ryan Michaelis 10 K's: Jason Holker 27
 Hits: Mitch Loegering 21



The Kings (3-15) struggled in the new alignment of the West division losing all 8 games within the division. They received consistent hitting from Billy Aho and Ryan Long, but a team Batting Average of .238 and a team ERA of 6.10 explains why wins were hard to come by this year.

League rank: **Hitting** 12th at .238, **Pitching** thirteenth with 6.10 ERA

Top stats for the Kings:

Average: Billy Aho .344 Wins: Chris Picken & Brian Dietz 1
 RBI's: Al Hendrickson 12 ERA: Rob Swendra 5.81
 Runs: Ryan Long 14 K's: Chris Picken 22
 Hits: Billy Aho 22

FINAL			
	W	L	G.B.
Buffalo	13	5	...
Howard Lake	13	5	...
Rockford	8	10	5
Monticello	7	11	6
Kingston	3	15	10

FINAL STATS				
Player	AB	R	H	Ave
E Cox Buf	44	6	20	.455
C Hansen Roc	58	19	23	.397
B Borrell HL	58	15	23	.397
C Hardie Mon	44	8	17	.386
Mi Loegering Mon	56	7	21	.375
N Lewin Roc	62	9	22	.355
D Littlefield Roc	51	9	18	.353
Mt Loegering Mon	57	8	20	.351
B Aho Kin	64	11	22	.344
A DeMarais HL	61	7	20	.328
R Rassatt Roc	52	4	17	.327
T Maher Roc	56	7	18	.321
R Long Kin	60	14	19	.317
J Rassatt Roc	61	9	19	.311
T Antony Buf	72	13	22	.306
D Bauer Buf	79	16	24	.304

2B Leader	3B Leaders
J Stueven HL 7	T Maher Roc 2
	J Stueven HL 2

HR Leaders	RBI Leaders
R Vega Buf 1	R Rassatt Roc 15
M Daus Roc 1	A DeMarais HL 15
B Fontana Roc 1	N Hill Buf 15
J Lesser Roc 1	
K Evenski Kin 1	

Pitching Leaders	IP	W-L	K	ERA
C Braun Buf	35	2-0	40	0.77
J Streich HL	42	4-1	37	0.85
J Holker Mon	40	2-1	27	1.13
C Hansen Roc	44	3-4	29	3.48
C Picken Kin	44	1-5	22	7.57



Baseball, it is said, is only a game. True. And the Grand Canyon is only a hole in Arizona. Not all holes, or games, are created equal.



find more info at www.northstarleague.org

The NORTH STAR
LEAGUE SPECTATOR

CENTRAL



The D-C Saints, (13-5) were the last undefeated team half way through the season, but second half losses brought them back to the pack and St Michael's 6-3 win on the last day of the season left the two teams tied for the Central title.

League rank:

Hitting 5th at .282,

Pitching first with 2.25 ERA

Top stats for the Saints:

Average: John Riewer .405

2B's: Justin McKinley 8 *

Runs: Justin McKinley 17

RBI's: McKinley & Riewer 16

Runs: Justin McKinley 17

ERA: Eric Hanson 1.20

Wins: Eric Hanson 6 *

K's: Eric Hanson 49

(* by name indicates league leader)



The Huskies, (12-5) contended for the title all year, relying on a strong pitching staff to earn a lot of low scoring victories, but came up one game short of sharing the title. They also hit the second most HRs in the league with 4 and the second most doubles with 27.

League rank:

Hitting 7th at .273,

Pitching third with 2.39 ERA

Top stats for the Huskies:

Average: Brooks Albrecht .458

Hits: Brooks Albrecht 33 *

HR's: Tim Thode 4*

RBI's: Tim Thode 19

Runs: Brooks Albrecht 21

2B's: Luke Klitzke & Albrecht 6

ERA: Cory Ryks 0.50 *

Wins: Adam Padrnos 6 *

K's: Adam Padrnos 35

(* by name indicates league leader)



The Lakers, (11-7) wound up with a very strong win - loss record, but couldn't pass the top three. They went 8-2 vs the East and West, but a 3-5 record within their own division determined their final place in the standings.

League rank:

Hitting 4th at .285,

Pitching seventh with 2.84 ERA

Top stats for the Lakers:

Average: Todd Fuller .368

& Nate Johnson .365

RBI's: Marcus Zahn &

Nate Johnson 12

Runs: Cody Decker 13

ERA: Bobby Fobbe 1.88

Wins: Chad Raiche 4

K's: Chad Raiche 27



The A's, (7-11) struggled to mount much of an offense this year, going a good share of the season without having a batter with an average over .300. They ended the season as the only team with an average under .200. In the end, Brent Muckenhirn's led the team with a .313 average.

League rank:

Hitting 15th at .196,

Pitching eleventh with 2.60 ERA

Top stats for the A's:

Average: Brent Muckenhirn .313

Hits: Brent Muckenhirn 20

RBI's: Jon Wilson 9

Runs: Adam Jaunich 11

ERA: Jeff Janzen 1.92

Wins: Todd Roth 4

K's: Jeff Janzen 36



FINAL

	W	L	G.B.
ST. MICHAEL	13	5	—
DASSEL-COKATO	13	5	—
HUTCHINSON	12	6	1
MAPLE LAKE	11	7	2
DELANO	7	11	6

FINAL STATS

Player	AB	R	H	Ave
T Carlson StM	63	22	32	.508
B Albrecht Hut	72	21	33	.458
J Riewer DC	42	10	17	.405
P Burkstrand DC	43	10	17	.395
N Johnson ML	74	9	27	.365
J Juergensen Hut	66	8	24	.364
B Opsahl DC	67	10	24	.358
M Zahn ML	62	9	22	.355
K Krzmarzick StM	72	14	25	.347
E Katzenmeyer Hut	61	12	21	.344
L Klitzke Hut	59	8	20	.339
C Decker ML	61	13	20	.328
J McKinley DC	57	17	18	.316
B Muckenhirn Del	64	8	20	.313
M Marquardt DC	50	7	15	.300

2B Leaders

J McKinley DC 8

3B Leaders

T Carlson StM 5

HR Leaders

T Thode Hut 4

RBI Leaders

T Thode Hut 19

Pitching Leaders	IP	W-L	K	ERA
C Rycks Hut	36	2-2	24	0.50
E Hanson DC	52	6-1	49	1.20
A McGrane StM	58	5-2	55	1.70
J Janzen Del	51	2-1	36	1.92
C Raiche ML	47	4-2	27	2.85

The secret to managing is to keep the guys who hate you away from the guys who are undecided.

North Star League Playoffs

East Division



Wednesday, July 18
 #4 Albertville 13 #5 Rogers 3
 Friday, July 20
 @ #2 Loretto 10 #3 Mound 4
 Saturday, July 21
 @ #1 Maple Plain 9 Albertville 2
 Sunday, July 22
 @ Mound 8 Albertville 2
 @ Maple Plain 6 Loretto 2
 Friday, July 27
 @ Loretto 7 Mound 1
 Saturday, July 28
 @ Maple Plain 6, Loretto 3

Regional Match-ups at Eden Valley

Loretto vs. Kimball on Friday 8/3 8:30 PM
 Maple Plain vs. Luxemburg on Sat. 8/4 3:30 PM

North Star League Playoffs

West Division

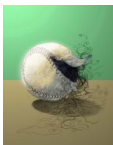


Wednesday, July 18
 #4 Monticello 9 #5 Kingston 4
 Friday, July 20
 @ #1 Buffalo 3 #4 Monticello 2
 @ #2 Howard Lake 13 #3 Rockford 3
 Sunday, July 22
 Monticello 10 @ Rockford 3
 @ Buffalo 3 Howard Lake 2
 Friday, July 27
 @ Howard Lake 4, Monticello 3 (12 innings)
 Saturday, July 28
 @ Buffalo 6, Howard Lake 4

Regional Match-ups at Eden Valley

Buffalo vs. Watkins on Friday 8/3 6:00 PM
 Howard Lake vs. St Augusta on Sat. 8/4 1:00 PM

Baseball is a fun game. It beats working for a living. ~Phil Linz



Class B Regional Playoffs

All Games in Dassel

Round 1 -

Game 1 - Wednesday, August 1
 #6 Hamel @ #3 Hutchinson
 Game 2 - Thursday, August 2
 #5 Delano @ #4 Maple Lake
 Saturday, August 4
 Game 3 - Winner of Game 1 vs Winner of Game 2
 (Winner of Game 3 is #3 seed for the 2nd Round)
 Game 4 - Loser of Game 1 vs Loser of Game 2
 Sunday, August 5
 Game 5 - Winner of Game 4 vs Loser of Game 3
 (Winner of Game 5 is #4 seed for the 2nd Round)

Round 2 -

Game 1 - Tuesday, August 7 - 7:30 PM
 #3 Seed (Winner of Round 1) vs. St. Michael
 Game 2 - Wednesday, August 8 - 7:30 PM
 #4 Seed (2nd place from Round 1) vs. D-C
 Game 3 - Friday, August 10 - 7:30 PM
 Winner of Game 1 vs Winner of Game 2
 Game 4 - Saturday, August 11 - 4:00 PM
 Loser of Game 1 vs Loser of Game 2
 Game 5 - Saturday, August 11 - 6:30 PM
 Winner of Game 4 vs Loser of Game 3
 Game 6 - Sunday, August 12 - 2:00 PM
 Winner of Game 5 vs Winner of Game 3
 Rematch Sunday 8/12 4:00 PM if necessary
Winner of Game 7 is #1 Seed at state.
Loser of Game 7 is #2 Seed at State.

