

# THE 2009 SPECTATOR

Final Issue 2009



What you have to remember is that baseball isn't a week or a month but a season - and a season is a long time.



**2009 NSL League Hitting Leaders**

Batting Average	.473	Chris Volkmann, St Michael
At Bats	89	Andy Snyder, Mound
Hits	33	Andrew Engebretson, Maple Plain, Peter Harrell, Mound & Tyler Maher, Loretto
Runs	31	Andrew Engebretson, Maple Plain
Doubles	10	Andy Snyder, Mound & Ian Keen, Rockford
Triples	4	Andy Gagnon, HL & Kent Koch, Loretto
HRs	8	Andrew Engebretson, Maple Plain
RBI's	27	Andrew Engebretson, Maple Plain
GWRBI	6	Chris Hardie, Monticello

**2009 NSL League Pitching Leaders**

Innings -	67 2/3	Chris Harrell, Mound
Wins	6	Paul Kunz, Maple Plain
	6	Adam Padrnos, Hutchinson
	6	Shane Heber, Howard Lake
K's	57	Eric Pokornowski, Kingston
ERA	1.62	Dan Birkholz, D-C

**Final 2009 Standings**

**WEST STANDINGS**

	W	L	Pct	G.B.
Howard Lake	14	5	.737	...
Buffalo	11	8	.579	3
Monticello	11	8	.579	3
Rockford	7	12	.368	7
Kingston	7	12	.368	7

In the great department store of life, baseball is the toy department."

**CENTRAL STANDINGS**

	W	L	PCT	G.B.
Hutchinson	14	5	.737	...
D-C	11	8	.579	3
St. Michael	11	8	.579	3
Maple Lake	10	9	.526	4
Delano	8	11	.421	6

**EAST STANDINGS**

	W	L	Pct	G.B.
Maple Plain	16	4	.800	...
Loretto	13	7	.650	3
Elk River	7	13	.350	9
Mound	6	14	.300	10
Rogers	6	14	.300	10
Albertville	3	17	.15	13



**CLASS B SEEDINGS**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Plato	7	3	.700	...
Hutchinson	7	3	.700	...
Delano	6	4	.600	1
D-C	5	5	.500	2
Maple Lake	3	7	.300	4
St. Michael	2	8	.200	5

What you have to remember is that baseball isn't a week or a month but a season - and a season is a long time.



# The EAST

## Maple Plain - Batting Ave .296 (2nd) ERA 4.28 (9th)

*Predicted Finish - 2nd, Actual - 1st*



The Diamond devils wound up with the best win-loss percentage in the league, led by an outstanding season from Andrew Engebretson who led the league in HR, RBI, runs scored and tied for most hits.

## Loretto - Batting Ave .308 (1st) ERA 4.76 (11th)

*Predicted Finish - 1st, Actual - 2nd*



Only team with a team average over .300, the Larks had seven hitters above that mark topped by division leader Nathan Maher at .441.

## Elk River - Batting Ave .253 (12th) ERA 6.26 (15th)

*Predicted Finish - 3rd, Actual - 3rd*



The Pioneers ERA dropped to 15th in the league as they looked for new mound performers this year, receiving good performances near the end of the season from Corey Kaminski, Dan Ebner and Nick Solberg.

## Mound - Batting Ave .284 (4th) ERA 5.67 (13th)

*Predicted Finish - 4th, Actual - tie for 4th*



The Mallards hit well, but pitching was near the bottom statistically. Andy Snyder, Pete Harrell, Peter Sycks, Rob Moynough and Chris Harrell ranked high offensively in the league

## Rogers - Batting Ave .244 (14th) ERA 5.91 (14th)

*Predicted Finish - 6th, Actual - Tie for 4th*



The Red Devils increased their win total and claimed their first playoff victory in their third year of existence.

## Albertville - Batting Ave .242 (15th) ERA 6.99 (16th)

*Predicted Finish - 5th, Actual - 6th*



Last in ERA leads to lowest win total. Jeff Jarvis, Dan Brandt and Todd Klaers were productive at the plate for the Villains.

## EAST Stats (Final)

Player	AB	R	H	Ave
N Maher Lor	68	19	30	441
A Engebretson MP	76	31	33	434
P Harrell Md	82	19	33	402
D Brant Alb	59	6	23	390
T Mather Lor	87	16	33	379
Br Scanlon Lor	83	24	31	373
J Vidor Rog	76	11	28	368
B Musgjerd Rog	63	7	23	365
J Jarvis Alb	47	8	17	362
A Snyder Md	89	21	32	360
T Klaers Alb	73	14	26	356
E Schutte Lor	68	19	24	353
J Rusch ER	46	8	16	348
C Harrell Md	74	5	25	338
P Sycks Md	86	9	29	337
A Pratt MP	78	11	26	333
K Koch Lor	88	22	29	330
A Halverson ER	70	10	23	329
E Smith Rog	72	10	23	319
N Triplett Lor	47	18	15	319
R Moynough Md	77	11	24	312
L Gregg MP	62	12	19	306
A Gregg MP	59	23	18	305

### 2B Leaders

A Snyder Md	10
A Engebretson MP	9

### 3B Leader

K Koch Lor	4
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### HR Leader

Engebretson MP	8
L Gregg MP	5

### RBI Leader

Engebretson MP	27
T Maher Lor	22

### Team Pitching Leaders

Name	IP	W-L	SO	ERA
T Aalid MP	40	5-0	16	2.21
Klingelhofer Alb	57	1-5	32	2.84
N Maher Lor	40	3-2	22	3.98
D Wold Rog	43	1-2	14	4.12
C Harrell Md	67	2-6	44	4.52
C Kaminski ER	37	2-2	21	4.54

## East Division Class C Playoff Schedule

- Game 1: Rogers 5, Mound 2
- Game 2: Albertville 4, Elk River 2
- Game 3: Loretto 3, Albertville 0
- Game 4: Maple Plain 12, Rogers 2
- Game 5: Elk River 4, Rogers 2 (Rogers eliminated)
- Game 6: Mound 10, Albertville 5 (Albertville eliminated)
- Game 7: Maple Plain 3, Loretto 2 (11 Innings)
- Game 8: Elk River 9, Mound 5
- Game 9: Loretto 10, elk River 0
- Game 10: Loretto 9, Maple Plain 0
- Game 11: Loretto 8, Maple Plain 0

**Loretto #1 Seed and Maple Plain #2 Seed in 6C**

## Region 6C Schedule at Arlington - First Games:

- Maple Plain vs Henderson – Thursday 8/6 at 7:30 PM
- Loretto vs Belle Plaine/Winthrop Winner - Saturday 8/8 at 5:00 PM

I would change policy, bring back natural grass and nickel beer. Baseball is the belly-button of our society. Straighten out baseball, and you straighten out the rest of the world.”

# The WEST

*Winners have simply formed  
the habit of doing things  
losers don't like to do*

## Howard Lake - Batting Ave .274 (7th) ERA 2.46 (1st)

*Predicted Finish - 1st, Actual - 1st*



Lowest ERA in the NSL again as Shane Heber won 6 games and Jake Streich 5 to keep the Orphans at the top of the West standings.

## Buffalo - Batting Ave .251 (13th) ERA 3.72 (5th)

*Predicted Finish - 2nd, Actual - Tie for 2nd*



The Bulldogs lowered their ERA, but also hit for lower average with only Jake Duske and Nate Hill hitting over .300. Carter Vogt, Duske and Corey Braun combined for a lot of good innings on the mound.

## Monticello - Batting Ave .277 (6th) ERA 3.27 (3rd)

*Predicted Finish - 4th, Actual - Tie for 2nd*



One of the bigger surprises of the league, the Polecats are near the top in hitting and pitching. Chris Hardie, Greg and Jason Holker all had good seasons on the mound. Hardie, Eric Schreifels and Trent Bestland made the top ten in the West division hitting leaders list.

## Rockford - Batting Ave .253 (11th) ERA 3.54 (4th)

*Predicted Finish - 5th, Actual - Tie for 4th*



The River Bandits had the 4th lowest ERA in the league, relying on four pitchers, Cole Hanson, Jason Lesser, Nate Hochmuth and Ben Fontana. Rockford earned its first Regional appearance in 59 years.

## Kingston - Batting Ave .223 (16th) ERA 5.23 (12th)

*Predicted Finish - 3rd, Actual - Tie for 4th*



Coming in last in hitting in a division with strong pitching kept the Kings at the bottom of the West. Eric Pokornowski anchored the staff with 64 innings, a league leading 57 strikeouts and a 3.48 ERA.

### WEST Stats (Final)

Player	AB	R	H	Ave
I Keen Roc	70	9	27	386
L Gagnon HL	60	17	23	383
N Hill Buf	75	13	27	360
C Hardie Mon	80	18	28	350
R Rassatt Roc	68	4	23	338
J Duske Buf	67	15	22	328
J Stueven HL	77	12	25	325
E Schreifels Mon	71	12	23	324
T Bestland Mon	61	9	19	311
A Hendrickson Kin	58	11	18	310
J Berg HL	66	11	20	303

### 2B Leaders

I Keen Roc 10

### 3B Leader s

A Gagnon HL 4

### HR Leaders

J Duske Buf 3  
J Stueven HL 3  
A West Kin 3

### RBI Leader

C Hardie Mon 23  
J Stueven HL 19

### Team Pitching Leaders

Name	IP	W-L	SO	ERA
S Heber HL	55	6-1	54	1.80
J Holker Mon	62	3-2	50	2.32
C Vogt Buf	51	4-2	23	2.61
J Lesser Roc	61	3-5	38	3.25
Pokornowski Kin	64	3-4	57	3.48

### West Division Class C Playoff Schedule—2009

- Game 1: Kingston 9, Buffalo 2
- Game 2: Rockford 5, Monticello 4
- Game 3: Rockford 8, Kingston 7 (11 Innings)
- Game 4: Buffalo 3, Monticello 1 (Monticello eliminated)
- Game 5: Howard Lake 8, Rockford 1
- Game 6: Kingston 7, Buffalo 4 (Buffalo eliminated)
- Game 7: Rockford 9, Kingston 8
- Game 8: Howard Lake 12, Rockford 2

**Howard Lake #1 Seed and Rockford #2 Seed in 11 C**

### Region 11C Schedule at Howard Lake - First Games:

- Howard Lake vs Watkins - Friday 8/7 at 7:30
- Rockford vs Kimball - Saturday 8/8 at 2:00





CENTRAL Stats (Final)

Player	AB	R	H	Ave
C Volkman StM	55	22	26	473
C Raiche ML	71	26	31	437
N Volkman StM	61	15	25	410
B Marsnik ML	71	19	29	408
K Krzmarzick StM	75	14	30	400
B Danielson Del	38	7	15	395
B Opsahl DC	52	9	20	385
M Peterson Del	84	12	30	357
J Juergensen Hut	75	11	25	333
T Thode Hut	66	6	22	333
J Althoff Del	46	8	15	326
B Mueleners Hut	59	18	19	322
B Kneefe StM	69	20	22	319
D Birkholz DC	68	10	21	309
G Brown ML	65	17	20	308
C Flick DC	59	10	18	305
L Peterson DC	43	11	13	302

2B Leaders

T Thode Hut	7
B Marsnik ML	6

3B Leader

12 tied at 1

HR Leaders

C Raiche ML	4
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RBI Leaders

K Krzmarzick StM	22
B Marsnik ML	22

Team Pitching Leaders

Name	IP	W-L	SO	ERA
D Birkholz DC	44	3-1	46	1.62
C Rycks Hut	55	5-2	53	1.80
B Muckenhirn Del	43	3-1	30	2.68
J Schmidt ML	42	4-1	29	3.00
A McGrane StM	63	5-3	42	3.27

**Winning is a habit.  
Unfortunately, so is losing."**



Hutchinson - *Batting Ave .263 (9th) ERA 2.96 (2nd)*



*Predicted Finish - 3rd, Actual - 1st*  
The Huskies relied on Adam Padrnos, Corey Ryks and Kevin Kuhl to pitch 90% of the time, The result was the 2nd best ERA in the league and a division championship.

Dassel-Cokato - *Batting Ave .259 (10th) ERA 3.89 (6th)*



*Predicted Finish - 2nd, Actual - 2nd*  
The Saints were led on offense by a couple of veterans, Brent Opsahl and Dan Birkholz. Birkholz also finished the season with the lowest individual ERA and had plenty of mound help from Jordan Danielson and Eric Hanson.

St Michael - *Batting Ave .294 (3rd) ERA 4.47 (10th)*



*Predicted Finish - 1st, Actual - 3rd*  
The Saints dropped from 2nd to 10th in team ERA to help explain their trouble beating the other B teams in the league. The bats were very active with league leader Chris Volkman hitting .473 and Kyle Krzmarzick and Nick Volkman also hitting .400 or better.

Maple Lake - *Batting Ave .281 (5th) ERA 3.92 (7th)*



*Predicted Finish - 4th, Actual - 4th*  
The Lakers lost a number of players from last year but their stats were almost exactly the same. Chad Raiche and Bert Marsnik each hit .400 and Jeremy Schmidt went 4-1 on the mound with a 3.00 ERA.

Delano - *Batting Ave .266 (8th) ERA 3.99 (8th)*



*Predicted Finish - 5th, Actual - 5th*  
The A's improved from last in hitting to the middle of the pack and kept pitching well earning the #3 Seed in the section by handing Plato two of their three losses in the seeding race.

Class 'B'

Section 8 B Playoff Schedule

All games in Hutchinson

- Game 1: Maple Lake vs D-C - Wednesday 8/5 at 7:30
- Game 2: St. Michael vs Delano - Thursday 8/6 at 7:30
- Game 3: Winner G1 vs Plato - Saturday 8/8 at 4:00
- Game 4: Winner G2 vs Hutchinson - Saturday 8/8 at 6:30
- Game 5: Loser G1 vs Loser G2 - Sunday 8/9 at 2:00
- Game 6: Low Seed of G3 & G4 Losers vs Winner G5 - Thu 8/13 at 7:30
- Game 7: Winner G3 vs Winner G4 - Friday 8/14 at 7:30

Winner Qualifies for State

- Game 8: High Seed of G3 & G4 Losers vs Winner G6 - Sat 8/15 at 4:00
- Game 9: Losers G7 vs Winner G8 - Saturday 8/15 at 6:30

Winner Qualifies for State

- Game 10: Winner G9 vs Winner G7 - Saturday 8/16 at 2:00
- Game 11: Repeat Game 6 if Necessary - Sunday 8/16 at 4:30.

Winner is #1 Seed at State, Loser is #2 Seed at State

Many baseball fans look upon an umpire as a sort of necessary evil to the luxury of baseball, like the odor that follows an automobile."