## Blue Jays sweep Yankees to grab tight hold of 2nd place

New York's Yankees traveled north of the border to try and take hold of second place in the league, but the Blue Jays held serve and swept the visitors right back to the Bronx 5-4, 6 -0, 4-0. Toronto spotted Kevin Appier and 5-0 lead through 4 innings, only to have NY chip away scoring 4 runs of their own before Jeff Brantley closed the door for his 2 nd save in Gm.1. Andres Galaraga delivered the big blow with a grand slam in the 3rd. Toronto jumped out again in game 2 scoring 6 ER off starter Paul Wilson in only 4 innings, but Allen Watson didn't need that much help. Watson allowed only 2 hits and 2 walks over 7.1 IP before John Wetteland retired the final 5 batters in order. Brady Anderson, Manny Ramirez, and Ken Griffey Jr. each knocked in 2 runs. In the final game Jack McDowell scattered 8 hits in a complete game shutout with 12 strikeouts. Brady Anderson knocked in 2 more runs in game 3 and Dean Palmer (19 rbi) continued his great start. New York has scored only 7 runs in their last 6 games.

## Oakland takes 2 of 3 in LA

LA won their fourth straight taking game 18-6 in a back and forth game that Jeff Shaw fought through the middle innings and Mike Fetters dominated in a 6 out save. Eric Davis (2-3 1 r 3 rbi ) big day for the A's was not enough to earn the win. Jason Isringhausen (6.2 IP 1ER) started game 2 for Oakland in a pitchers duel against Ben McDonald until the 7th when Oakland score 5 runs behind an Eric Davis grand slam, but the Dodgers fought for the home fans scoring 5 of their own in the 9 th falling 1 run short in an 8-7 A's victory. Paul Quantrill (5.2 IP 1 ER) and Gil Heredia (3.1 IP 2H 0ER) dominated game 3 to win the series with a $5-1 \mathrm{gm} 3$ win. Ramon Martinez gave up 5 ER in 2.2 IP against he powerful A's.

## League Standings as of this Morning

|  | W | L | PCT | GB |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Toronto <br> BlueJays <br> Chicago Cubs | 14 | 8 | .667 | - |
| Los Angeles <br> Dodgers | 9 | 6 | .600 | 2.5 |
| San Diego <br> Padres | 12 | 9 | .571 | 2.5 |
| St Louis <br> Cardinals | 11 | 10 | .524 | 3.5 |
| New York <br> Yankees | 9 | 9 | .500 | 4 |
| Seattle | 9 | 9 | .500 | 4 |
| Mariners <br> Oakland A's | 8 | 10 | .567 | .5 |
| Minnesota <br> Twins | 6 | 9 | .400 | 5.5 |
| Kansas City <br> Royals | 8 | 16 | .333 | 8 |
| New York Mets <br> Atlanta Braves | 5 | 13 | .278 | 8 |

## Twins sweep at hot Cubs

The Chicago Cubs have been the talk of baseball jumping out to a 12-3 start and welcomed the struggling Twins, who began 5-10, to the North Side for a 3 game set. The game, and possibly the series, turned in the first inning of game 1 when Barry Larkin got injured and forced to miss the entire series. Larkin's addition the Cubs last season helped them reach the series, and he was sorely missed. Curt Schilling took the hill for the Twins in game 1 and dominated the game throughout. Schilling's complete game victory was aided by Mark McGwire's 4-4 game to raise his average to .346 . Barry Bonds scored 3 runs and Jim Eisenreich continued his amazing start to the season going 3-6 again (.372). Mark Portugal tried to get the Cubs back on their winning ways in game 2 battling the craft southpaw Sterling Hitchcock, but Barry Bonds was the story of this game. Bonds had 2 walks, and 4 singles in his six plate appearances, setting the table for Mark McGwire (HR 4rbi) scoring 3 more runs in a 9-5 victory for the Twins. Hitchock got through 5.2 IP and Bob Wickman dealt the final 3.1 for the save. Mark McGwire was the difference in a game 3 7-6 win for Minnesota, slugging his 11 th homer going 3-4 and knocking in 4 more runs, giving him 11 rbi in the 3 game series.

## Dougers sweep in Atlanta

To best pitching team from last season is starting to find it's footing here in 1996. LA took game 14-2 behind a complete game from Ben McDonald and timely hits from John Jaha and Cliff Floyd. Alex Fernandez through a complete game as the hard luck loser for Atlanta. Ramon Martinez pitched 7.1 innings in game 2 with just 1 hit, and Billy Wagner and Mike Fetters finished it off in a 4-0 Dodgers win. Tom Glavine pitched a complete game in another hard luck performance for the loss. Craig Grebeck led the LA offense going 2-4 with 3 rbi. Game 3 was a 14-6 offensive explosion as LA lit up Pedro Astacio for 9 ER in 4.2 IP. Bobby Bonilla was the hitting superstar going 4-4 and hitting for the cycle with 2 runs and 4 rbi, but he had help. Julio Franco (3-6 2r 2rbi), Juan Gonzalez (HR, 3rbi) and John Jaha (2-5 1r 2 rbi ) joined in on the fun.

## Royals win 2 of 3 vs Braves

The Royal offense destroyed the Braves in this 3 game set. Game 1 was a 13-1 win for Kansas City lighting up Dave Burba and Tim Scott. Tom Pagnozzi was the game 1 star going 5-5 with 2 runs and 7 rbi. League leading hitter Ken Caminiti went 3-4 again in game 1 . Kansas City score 5 more runs in game 2, but the Braves scored 7 behind Ricky Otero, Paul Molitor and Alex Rodriguez scoring 5 and driving in 6 in the 2-3-4 spots of the lineup. The Braves bullpen pitched 7 innings allowing just 2 runs to get the win 7-5 in game 2. Game 3 was a massacre in the fountains of Kansas City as Braves starter Alex Fernandez gave up 8 ER in 2.0 IP to begin the game, and it only got worse from there in a 22-1 Royals victory. Albert Belle set a league record, hitting 4 HR in the game and driving in 11 runs in his 56 day. Belle homered in the 1 st, 2 nd , 4th, and 8th, and added a double to round out his unforgettable day.

## A's win 2 of 3 vs. Cardinals

The A's welcomed the Cardinals to the bay for a weekend series with Pat Hentgen taking on John Smoltz. Mike Matheny led of the bottom of the 9th with a homer to win game one 5-4 off Smoltz and give a well earned win to reliever Mike Maddux. Maddux 3.2 IP with just 1 hit was the difference. A tough 3rd inning did in Cardinals starter Roger Clemens in Oakland's 4 -1 game 2 victory. Mike Matheny led of with a dinger. Edgar Renteria singled to center and Jason Giambi matched him. With runners on first and second, Jeff Bagwell drove a splitter 417 feet to left for a 4-0 lead that was never overcome. Steve Trachsel moved to $4-0$ with the win and Jose Mesa earned his 4th save in the 4-1 game 2 victory. Pedro Martinez has been the Cardinals stopper this season, and game 3 was no exception. Pedro earned win number 4 in a Cardinals 11-3 win that was close until a 5 run 9th from St. Louis blew the game wide open and got a win for the Cards before they left the bay.

## Oakland down south in S.D.

The Oakland A's took on the tough task of going on the road without two of their stars - Eric Davis and Chuck Knoblauch - and the Padres took advantage to with two of three. San Diego took game one 7-2 behind a strong outing from David Cone and Mark Wohlers 5th save. Bernie Williams was on base all 4 trips and homerd, and Steve Finley drove in two in his 3-5 day. Chili Davis went 2 -3 with a double for the visitors. Andy Ashby threw a 2 hitter over 6.1 IP to lead the Padres to a $5-0$ win in game two. Paul Quantrill pitched great for the A's, allowing just 3 hits in 6.1 IP, but Dave Mlicki got roughed up leading to the final score. Pat Hentgen took the bump to try and stop the bleeding for the A's in game three, and did so with a complete game win. Hentgen scattered 8 hits and 3 ER while his teammates beat up Pat Rapp and Dennis Eckersley. Edgar Renteria led the offense at 4-5 to raise his average to .348 this year.

## Mets drop 2 of 3 in Toronto

The Blue Jays have had a great start to 1996 and are at the top of the standings, but New York meant business. The Mets fought to gain a 6-3 lead in game 1 behind Fred McGriff, Brian Jordan, and Jay Buhner. In the bottom of the 7th Bob Tewksbury relieved Jeff Juden in a 2 -on no out jam, but the Jays batters were too much for Tewks. Manny Ramirez singled and Ken Griffey tripled to tie the game at 6 , and after an out Fernando Vina got the game winning single in a 7-6 game 1 win . The Mets left no doubt in game 2 , jumping our 5-2 in three innings and adding on throughout in an 8-3 Mets win. Omar Daal continued his good season with 8 IP to up his record to 3-0, and Devon White went 3-5 with 3 rbi as the cleanup DH hitter to hang a loss on Al Leiter. Toronto won the series on a late game 3 rally for a 5-3 win. Tied 3-3 in the 8th, Manny Ramirez and Ken Griffey Jr. went back to back for 857 feet of winning home runs.

## Culhs take 2 of $\mathbf{3}$ vs Toronto <br> A top of the standings battle took

 place in Wrigley this week. Chad Ogea started against Al Leiter in game 1. Ogea pitched well for the Cubs but needed help from Terry Adams to get through the top of 5th. In the bottom of the inning, a John Mabry 2-run homer opened up a 4-1 lead for the home team that was never overcome in a $5-2$ win for the Cubs in game 1 to tied the standings at 13-6. Game 2 was over early as Chicago scored 8 runs in the second. With 1out and Larkin on second Joe Girardi singled, Tom Goodwin doubled, John Mabry singled for a 3-2 lead. After a Wade Boggs groundout for out \#2, Roberto Alomar singled, Gary Sheffield walked, Dave Nilson singled, and Barry Larkin homered. Game-set -match! Chicago took the lead in Wartime with a game 2 13-5 victory. Toronto likes leading the league though, and showed up for game 3 determined. The Blue Jay 5-3 win in game 3 was led by Kevin Appier's complete game to push his record to 4 -0 on the season with a 2.25 ERA.
## Braves win 2 of 3 vs Padres

The Braves and Padres are close rivals, and when San Diego visited the last place Braves the home side was determined to send the defending champs home with a series loss. Mission Accomplished! Atlanta dominated Padre starter Pat Rapp in a 10-0 game 1 win. Ricky Otero had 4 hits and drove in 3 runs to lead a balanced Braves attack. Johnny Damon, Paul Molitor, Mariano Duncan, Willie McGee, and Mickey Morandini all had multiple hits. San Diego star pitcher Kevin Brown took the hill in game 2 and tossed a shutout as San Diego evened the series with a 2-0 victory. Pedro Astacio pitched valiantly for the Braves; scattering 7 hits over 9 innings, but Brown's dominance was more than the Braves bats could take on this day. The rubber match was a tight-hard fought battle between Alex Fernandez of Atlanta and Tim Belcher of San Diego. Tied at 4 in the 8th inning, Alex Rodrigeuz led off with a 414 foot bomb to left center and a 5-4 win that was closed out by Terry Mathews \& Dan Naulty.

## Cardinals heat Mets 2 of 3

The 9-9 Cardinals returned home to take on the 5-12 Mets. New York jumped out on StL Bobby Jones getting a 4-0 lead but St. Louis fought back to tie the game at 4 in the bottom of the 9th on a 2-out 2-run triple by Jason Kendall. B.J. Surhoff singled in Dante Bichette to win the game 5-4 in 10 innings for St. Louis. A 5-run 6th inning built around a 3 run dinger from Moises Alou gave the Cardinals a 5-1 lead in game 2, but New York fought back in the 8th inning on an RBI double from Lance Johnson that was followed by a Jay Buhner homer that ended John Smoltz day leading 5-4. St. Louis closer Trevor Hoffman entered the game and recorded the final 5 outs to earn his 6th save in a Cardinals 6-4 victory. Jaime Moyer came to the rescue for the Mets in game 3, tossing a complete game 4-hit shutout for the Mets to win 2-0. Moyer outdueled Roger Clemens, who also threw a complete game for his second win.

## Page 3

## Expansion Rumors

There are rumors from sources that currently wish to remain unnamed that the WARTIME-40 Baseball League is looking to expand from 12 to 16 teams. When expansion occurs, there will be two divisions of 8 teams. The season will remain 132 games in length, but it will no longer be a balanced schedule.
Teams will play their divisional counterparts twice as often as they will play teams from the other division. Many playoff setups are still being discussed, and rumor has it that an inability to decide on format is one reason expansion has not been announced or finalized.

## 1996 All Star Ballot Announced

The official All-Star Ballot nominees have been release for the 1996 season. In order to be eligible for the ballot, you have to have played the majority of the starts and innings for your team at the 8 field positions through 18 games or more of this season. The hitter with the most plate appearances who is not in those starting lineups became the nominee for designated hitter. The relief pitcher with the most saves on the team received their closer nominee, and the next two relievers with the most appearances and innings received the reliever slots for each team. Voting for All-Stars will be online, and the link will be provided in the future editions of the Sunday WAR-times.

## All Star Ballot Rules

The final all star team will have 2 players from each field position, including 2 designated hitters. Those 18 field players will be joined by 6 starting pitchers and 6 relief pitchers. Two closers at a minimum must be on the All-Star Team, and a minimum of two non - closer relief pitchers must be on the All Star team as well. These 30 players who receive all star honors will be honored during the All-Star game weekend which occurs during our 3-day break in the regular season. An All-Star voting league will be posted.

Players submitted from initial team play to be eligible for 1996 All Star Ballot

|  | Catcher |  | First Base |  | Second Base |  | Third Base |  | Shortstop |  | Starting Pitcher |  | Starting Pitcher |  | Starting Pitcher |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ATL | Ausmus, Brad | ATL | Molitor, Paul | ATL | Morandini, Mickey | ATL | Jones, Chipper | ATL | Rodriguez, Alex | ATL | Glavine, Tom | ATL | Fernander, Alex | ATL | Astacio, Pedro |
| CUB | Girardi, Joe | CUB | Moris, Hal | CUB | Alomar, Roberto | CUB | Boges, Wade | CUB | Larkin, Bary | CUB | Clark, Mark | CUB | Burkett, John | CUB | Portugal, Mark |
| KC | Pagnozzi, Tom | KC | Martine2, Tino | KC | Young, Eric | KC | Caminiti, Ken | KC | Jeter, Derek | KC | Reynolds, Shane | KC | Mussina, Mike | KC | Drabek, Doug |
| LA | Steinbach, Terry | LA | Jaha, John | LA | Offerman, Jose | LA | Bonilla, Bobby | LA | Guillen, Ozie | LA | McDonald, Ben | la | Maddux, Greg | LA | Martinez, Ramon |
| MIN | Macfarlane, Mike | MIN | McGwire, Mark | MIN | Cordero, Wil | MIN | Zeile, Todd | MIN | Meares, Pat | MIN | Schilling, Curt | MIN | Hill, Ken | MIN | Nagy, Charles |
| NY | Pena, Tony | NYM | McGriff, Fred | NYM | Lansing, Mike | NYM | Brosius, Scott | NYM | Bordick, Mike | NYM | Guzman, Juan | NYM | Moyer, Jamie | NYM | Daal, Omar |
| NW | Rodriguez, Ivan | NY | Jefferson, Reggie | NYY | Mclemore, Mark | NY | Cirillo, Jeff | NY | Frye, Jeff | NY | Nomo, Hideo | NY | Sanders, Scott | NY | Valdes, Ismael |
| OA | Matheny, Mike | OAK | Bagwell, Jeff | OAK | Knoblauch, Chuck | OAK | Gaetti, Gary | OAK | Renteria, Edgar | OAK | Trachsel, Steve | OAK | Hentgen, Pat | OAK | Benes, Andy |
| SD | Wilson, Dan | SD | Clark, Will | SD | Cora, Joey | SD | Alfonzo, Edgardo | SD | Vizquel, Omar | SD | Brown, Kevin | SD | Belcher, Tim | SD | Cone, David |
| SEA | Piazza, Mike | SEA | Snow, J.T. | SEA | Biggio, Craig | SEA | Blowers, Mike | SEA | Smith, Oziie | SEA | Fassero, Jeff | SEA | Johnson, Randy | SEA | Osborne, Donovar |
| STL | Kendall, Jason | STL | Surhoff, B.J. | STL | Veras, Quilvio | STL | Castilla, Vinny | STL | Weiss, Walt | STL | Smoltz, John | STL | Martinez, Pedro | STL | Clemens, Roger |
| TOR | Servais, Scott | TOR | Galarraga, Andres | TOR | Vina, Fernando | TOR | Palmer, Dean | TOR | Castro, Uuan | TOR | Leiter, Al | TOR | Appier, Kevin | TOR | Leiter, Mark |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Leffield |  | Center Field |  | Right Field |  | Designated Hitter |  |  |  | Closer |  | Relief Pitcher |  | Relief Pitcher |
| ATL | Otero, Ricky | ATL | Damon, Johnny | ATL | McGee, Willie | ATL | Duncan, Mariano |  |  | ATL | Naulty, Dan | ATL | Haynes, Jimmy | ATL | Mathews, Terry |
| CUB | Sheffield, Gary | CUB | Goodwin, Tom | CUB | Mabry, John | CUB | Nilsson, Dave |  |  | CUB | Nen, Robb | CUB | Mathews, T.J. | CUB | Rojas, Mel |
| KC | Greenwell, Mike | KC | Burks, Ellis | KC | Nieves, Melvin | KC | Belle, Albert |  |  | KC | Bottalico, Ricky | KC | Springer, Russ | KC | Hernande, Xavier |
| LA | Gonzalez, Juan | LA | Lofton, Kenny | LA | Floyd, Cliff | LA | Franco, Julio |  |  | LA | Fetters, Mike | LA | Shaw, Jeff | LA | McVichael, Greg |
| MIN | Bonds, Bary | MIN | Hamilton, Daryl | MIN | Eisenreich, Jim | MIN | Fielder, Cecil |  |  | MIN | Cook, Dennis | MIN | Wickman, Bob | MIN | Ayala, Bobby |
| NYM | Jordan, Brian | NYM | White, Devon | NYM | Buhner, Jay | NYM | Johnson, lance |  |  | NYM | Radinsky, Scott | NYM | Juden, Jeff | NYM | Blair, Willie |
| NYY | Greer, Rusty | NY | Mchae, Brian | NY | Grissom, Marquis | NY | Anthony, Eric |  |  | NY | Rivera, Mariano | NY | Bochtler, Doug | NY | Magnante, Mike |
| OAK | Salmon, Tim | OAK | Davis, Eric | OAK | Dye, Jermaine | OAK | Giambi, Jason |  |  | OAK | Mesa, Jose | OAK | Maddux, Mike | OAK | Mlicki, Dave |
| SD | Gonzalez, Luis | SD | Finley, Steve | SD | Williams, Bernie | SD | Gwynn, Tony |  |  | SD | Wohlers, Mark | SD | Charlton, Norm | SD | Powell, day |
| SEA | Sanders, Regrie | SEA | Edmonds, Jim | SEA | Walker, Lary | SEA | Thomas, Frank |  |  | SEA | Percival, Troy | SEA | Park, Chan Ho | SEA | Peree, Yorkis |
| STL | Bichette, Dante | STL | Lankford, Ray | STL | Alou, Moises | STL | Rodiguez, Henry |  |  | STL | Hoffman, Trevor | STL | Borland, Toby | STL | Wendell, Turk |
| TOR | Anderson, Brady | TOR | Griffey Jr, Ken |  | Ramirez, Manny |  | Beerga, Carlos |  |  | TOR | Brantley, Jeff | TOR | Wetteland, John |  | Guardado, Eddie |

League Leaders as of This Morning

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| Gars Sutifed | CaC | 15 | Hideo Nomo | NY | 215 |
| 9. 3PajesTod |  | 14 | Keningoun | 80 | 217 |
|  |  |  | Q. Randy Vinson | SEA | 220 |

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| Petioluatioz | SL | 37.2 |
| 4. Al Leter | Tor | 37.0 |
| 5. Rager Clemerls | SL | 332 |
| 6. Keinhpier | Tor | 33.0 |
| TomGaine | All | 351 |
| 8. Patherity | Oak | 34.1 |
| 9. Kentill | INN | 332 |
| 10 Nakk Lliter | Tor | 322 |

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| laxill\|covel | Tor | 129 |
| Vaman Alara | Cric 0 | 0.36 |
| Ramon Matiriez | LAD 0 | 0.40 |
| Doug Daratek | KC | 1.4 |
| Stereflery | KC | 1.58 |
| 9. Hideo Nomo | NYY 0 | 1.61 |
| 10 CutSutiling | INV | 104 |

