



WINNIPEG GOLDEYES DAILY CLIPPINGS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th, 2020

- **Martin Voted Postseason All-Star**—Winnipeg Goldeyes (Steve Schuster), 9/10/20
- **Goldeyes and Milkmen Trade Shutouts in Double Header Split**—Winnipeg Goldeyes (Steve Schuster), 9/9/20
- **September 9th Game 2 Highlights (Video Link)**—Winnipeg Goldeyes (Jason Young), 9/9/20
- **September 9th Game 1 Highlights (Video Link)**—Winnipeg Goldeyes (Jason Young), 9/9/20
- **Milkmen Secure First Place Going Into the Championship Series**—Milwaukee Milkmen (Olivia Maier), 9/9/20
- **Goldeyes Holding Heads High as Tumultuous Season Comes to Merciful End**—Winnipeg Sun (Ted Wyman), 9/9/20
- **Goldeyes Out of Any Hope for American Association Championship Series**—Winnipeg Free Press (Mike Sawatzky), 9/8/20

MARTIN VOTED POSTSEASON ALL-STAR

STEVE SCHUSTER – WINNIPEG GOLDEYES – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th

WINNIPEG, MB – Winnipeg Goldeyes' first baseman **Kyle Martin** has been voted to the American Association Postseason All-Star Team.

[Martin](#) is hitting .296 with 14 home runs and 48 RBI, while starting all of the Goldeyes' 59 games this season. The Greenville, South Carolina native ranks eighth in the American Association in batting average, tied for fifth in home runs, and third in RBI. Martin is also second among qualifying first basemen with a .992 fielding percentage, and leads the position in both total chances (476) and assists (35).

Martin has hit safely in 45 of 59 games, and ran off a career-high 12-game hitting streak from July 15th-26th. The 27-year-old has struck out just 44 times in 255 plate appearances (17 percent), which is the second fewest of any player in the American Association with at least 10 home runs.

Martin originally signed with the Goldeyes last June, and hit .275 with 14 home runs and 67 RBI in 82 contests. Dating back to July of 2019, Martin has 98 RBI in his last 119 games in a Goldeyes' uniform.

Martin was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in the fourth round in 2015 out of the University of South Carolina (Columbia, South Carolina), and reached the Double-A level in 2018.

The Postseason All-Star Team was voted on by field managers, executives, and media members associated with all 12 American Association clubs. Additional season awards will be announced in the coming days.

2020 American Association Postseason All-Star Team

C Chris China, St. Paul Saints

1B Kyle Martin, Winnipeg Goldeyes

2B Edwin Arroyo, Chicago Dogs

3B Damek Tomscha, Sioux Falls Canaries

SS Andrew Ely, Sioux Falls Canaries

OF Adam Brett Walker, Milwaukee Milkmen

OF Logan Landon, Sioux Falls Canaries

OF Mikey Reynolds, St. Paul Saints

DH Drew Ward, Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks

P Mike Devine, St. Paul Saints

RP Peyton Gray, St. Paul Saints

The Goldeyes conclude the 2020 season tonight against the Milwaukee Milkmen at Franklin Field. First pitch is at 6:35 p.m. All the action can be heard locally on 93.7 FM CJNU and worldwide at www.cjnu.ca

For information on Goldeyes' merchandise and 2021 season tickets, visit the Goldeyes' official website at www.goldeyes.com

GOLDEYES AND MILKMEN TRADE SHUTOUTS IN DOUBLE HEADER SPLIT

STEVE SCHUSTER – WINNIPEG GOLDEYES – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th

FRANKLIN, WI – The Winnipeg Goldeyes (28-31) split a double header with the Milwaukee Milkmen at Franklin Field on Wednesday night, losing the opener 3-0 and winning the nightcap 3-0.

The Goldeyes served as the home team in both games.

In game one, the Milkmen scored two runs three batters into the contest. Brett Vertigan led off with a single and scored from first on a double down the left field line from Dylan Tice. Adam Brett Walker followed with a lined drive single to left that scored Tice.

Milwaukee (34-25) loaded the bases in the top of the fifth and took a 3-0 lead when Walker's groundout to third brought home Logan Trowbridge.

Drew Hutchison (2-2) started for the Milkmen and picked up the win, pitching five shutout innings on three hits. Hutchison walked three and struck out 11.

Peyton Gray struck out the side in the bottom of the seventh to earn his 14th save of the year.

Frank Duncan (5-7) started for the Goldeyes and took a complete game loss, allowing three earned runs on nine hits over seven innings. Duncan walked two and struck out six.

In game two, the Goldeyes took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first. **Kevin Lachance** singled down the right field line leading off and scored on a double into the left field corner by **Wes Darvill**. After Darvill stole third, **Kyle Martin** pulled an RBI single to right-centre.

In the bottom of the second, **Nick Oddo** singled through the right side with two outs and scored from first when Lachance reached on a throwing error charged to Trowbridge at third base.

Evan Grills (2-2) started for the Goldeyes and picked up the win, throwing five shutout innings on two hits. Grills walked one and struck out seven.

Jose Jose pitched a perfect top of the sixth, while **Victor Capellan** recorded a scoreless seventh to earn his 12th save.

Tim Dillard (2-1) started for Milwaukee and took the loss, allowing three runs, two earned, on five hits in three innings. Dillard walked none and struck out six.

The Goldeyes conclude the 2020 season on Thursday night against the Milkmen. **Josh Lucas** (0-0, 2.25) takes on right-hander Angel Ventura (2-3, 5.40). First pitch is at 6:35 p.m. All the action can be heard locally on 93.7 FM CJNU and worldwide at www.cjnu.ca

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VIDEO: SEPTEMBER 9th GAME 2 HIGHLIGHTS

JASON YOUNG – WINNIPEG GOLDEYES – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPwdwHwxPkQ>

VIDEO: SEPTEMBER 9th GAME 1 HIGHLIGHTS

JASON YOUNG – WINNIPEG GOLDEYES – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nld1zx8kGV4>

MILKMEN SECURE FIRST PLACE GOING INTO THE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

OLIVIA MAIER – MILWAUKEE MILKMEN – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th

The doubleheader went underway this afternoon at Franklin Field as the rain kept falling when the first pitch was thrown.

The Milkmen were the visitors on their home turf to reduce travel for the Winnipeg Goldeyes, but a first inning rally was all the "away" team needed. Brett Vertigan singled to left field and Dylan Tice followed with a double to center to bring Vertigan home. The bats continued to stay hot as Adam Brett Walker hit one in the gap of center field and Tice scored. Milwaukee took advantage of Frank Duncan in the first inning for the lead 2-0.

Since Drew Hutchison was brought on board in early August, he has shown his worth to the roster. His last win coming against Chicago on August 27th, pitching five innings and struck out nine.

In the fifth inning Walker came up to the plate with bases loaded and brought Tice home on a fielder's choice to extend the lead 3-0.

Hutchinson shut down the Goldeyes tonight, pitching five complete innings and striking out 11 total batters. Myles Smith and Peyton Gray shut down the Goldeyes over the final two frames with a combined five strikeouts to secure 3-0 win.

With the rain still coming down, the Milkmen and Goldeyes make headway for game two.

Tim Dillard was the starting pitcher for game two, unfortunately the Goldeyes took off in the first inning. Kevin Lachance scored from a Wes Darvill double. Darvill then scored from a single to right field from Kyle Martin. Winnipeg scrapped together a 2-0 lead.

In the second inning an error from third baseman Logan Trowbridge brought Nick Oddo across the plate to extend the Winnipeg lead to 3-0.

Dillard stuck around for three innings before Zach Hartman, Dylan Baker, and A.J. Schugel each threw a scoreless inning apiece.

Evan Grills shut down the Milkmen through five innings and struck out seven. Jose Jose came into finish the game that left the Milkmen shut out, as they fell 3-0 in game two.

Tomorrow at 11:00 am, head to the Milkmen Facebook page for our question and answer session with Milkmen owner Mike Zimmerman, Manager Anthony Barone along with a handful of Milkmen! Tickets are still available for purchase for tomorrow's game at 6:35 p.m. and single game tickets for the playoffs went on sale as well.

GOLDEYES HOLDING HEADS HIGH AS TUMULTUOUS SEASON COMES TO MERCIFUL END

TED WYMAN – WINNIPEG SUN – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th

For an indication of how the last few weeks have gone for the Winnipeg Goldeyes in the craziest of baseball seasons, consider what manager Rick Forney was thinking while having his coffee outside a Milwaukee hotel Tuesday morning, with a misty rain and howling north wind blowing in his face.

"I hope they cancel the game," he said with a chuckle. "I don't want to go stand outside in this. I'm trying to call the league and figure out a way not to play today."

It turns out the game was, in fact, postponed. A doubleheader is planned for Wednesday.

You could forgive Forney and the Goldeyes players if they don't much want to play any of their three remaining games on the American Association schedule.

In first place on Aug. 21, the Fish have since gone 2-13 and on Sunday they were eliminated from playoff contention. Their opponents through to Thursday — the Milwaukee Milkmen (33-24) — will play the Sioux Falls Canaries (31-25) in the American Association final.

"My real feelings are that I'm really disappointed for our players," said Forney, whose team now sits at 27-30.

"They deserved better. They're a great group of guys, good people. They just ran out of gas, man. The whole reality of the situation caught up to everybody, mentally and physically we just ran out of gas. It's really hard to explain."

You might say the season was doomed from the beginning. Because of border restrictions, the Goldeyes had to play their entire 60-game schedule on the road.

On their first road trip, their bus crashed and very nearly hit the ditch. On their second trip their bus blew a tire and the team had to spend five hours on the side of the road.

They had to get weekly COVID-19 tests, wear masks at all times and stay sequestered in their hotels for more than two months. They were listed as the home team for half their games, and had last bats, but they were always in enemy territory.

"When we wrecked the bus on our first road trip, things could have turned out really, really, really, really bad and not one person complained," Forney said.

"When the tire blew out on the bus on the next road trip, not one person complained. They're really good guys, they care about each other. I like each and every one of them.

"The biggest thing is not having a home base, not having a home field," added Forney, whose team normally plays at Shaw Park in downtown Winnipeg. "You're a villain in every ball park you go to. It's hard. It's no coincidence that Milwaukee and Sioux Falls, both of them, had their home base all year and they're in the playoffs."

To Forney's mind, the other teams in the league owe thanks to the Goldeyes for the fact that there even was a season in 2020.

Winnipeg had the best reasons to opt out of the season — closed border, quarantine rules and no fan gatherings allowed in Manitoba — but chose to play to keep their own brand, and the league's, going in tough times.

"If it wasn't for (Goldeyes owner) Sam (Katz), I don't think the league operates this year," Forney said. "We were the sixth team and they needed us. You can't play with five teams. It doesn't work.

"That just tells you the kind of person Sam is and how much he cares about the Goldeyes and how much he cares about the league and how much he cares about baseball."

Katz certainly wasn't about to take any credit, but there's no question he made a significant financial commitment to make things happen. Katz said the organization is hoping to keep losses under seven figures for the season.

"It's very nice of Rick to say that, but that was not my motivation when this whole thing started," Katz said. "My motivation was to keep the Goldeyes season alive, to have our players and our coaches playing. Even though our fans could not see us play at Shaw Park, they could at least listen and watch."

"The bottom line is the American Association did what basically nobody else in minor league baseball was able to do. We started baseball and yes, we only had six teams as opposed to 12, but we got a whole season in. To me it was a positive scenario all around and the COVID protocols set out by the league office also worked well, which was nice to see."

The Goldeyes were winning regularly early in the season, though Forney believes it took some very good fortune to get them to a 25-17 record by Aug. 21. Their pitching fell apart after that and they couldn't get the bats going either.

That futility led to a horrible three-week stretch that will end with players and coaches going their separate ways from Milwaukee on Friday.

"Take away everything about being on the road and take away COVID-19 and the pandemic and we still had more trials and tribulations this year than ever before," Katz said. "2020 will never be forgotten but I congratulate the players for what they had to deal with, which was extremely challenging. Let's just hope 2021 is a very different season and we'll be able to play at home."

Goldeyes future shrouded in uncertainty

There's uncertainty surrounding the Winnipeg Goldeyes regarding the 2021 season because of the COVID-19 pandemic and there are question marks about the team's long-term future because of a contentious lease negotiation with city council.

"It's definitely coming to a head, there's no question," Goldeyes owner Sam Katz said Tuesday.

An Executive Policy Committee meeting is slated for Sept. 21 and then a proposed lease agreement will go to full city council on Sept. 30.

Currently the Goldeyes are paying \$1 a year for their lease. With a new lease, they'll pay \$75,000, \$85,000 and \$95,000 in subsequent years. The current 25-year lease on Shaw Park, near the Forks, expires in 2023.

A proposal for a new 15-year lease agreement was shot down in a split committee vote in July.

"We'll see what happens with EPC and council and that will be up to them to decide if they want to have the Goldeyes in Winnipeg," Katz said. "It'll be in their hands, not in mine. It's been going on for five years so it's time a decision was made one way or the other."

As for the Goldeyes playing in 2021, that remains a huge question mark.

Because no one knows where things will stand with the pandemic by next May, perhaps all Katz can do is cross his fingers and hope the Goldeyes will be able to play their games at Shaw Park, with fans in attendance.

"I think we might have to do a little bit more than that," he said.

"I think for anybody who is religious, we've got to go to church, we've got to go to synagogue, we have to pray an awful lot."

The Goldeyes have had no real revenue since September of 2019 and it will be another eight months before they even have a chance to get some coming in.

"Our situation is dictated by what's going on in all of Canada," Katz said. "If those borders aren't open, we aren't going anywhere. It's unique and it's the price you pay for being the only Canadian team in the league."

GOLDEYES OUT OF ANY HOPE FOR AMERICAN ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

MIKE SAWATZKY – WINNIPEG FREE PRESS – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th

A season that began with so much promise is ending in disappointment for the Winnipeg Goldeyes.

The Goldeyes were leading the American Association in mid-August but went into a devastating tailspin, losing a franchise record 11 consecutive games to fall behind in the race for a playoff berth.

On Sunday, the hometown St. Paul Saints (28-29) beat Winnipeg (27-30) 7-3 at CHS Field.

The Fish loss to the Saints combined with Sioux Falls' 11-9 win over the Chicago Dogs eliminated Winnipeg from contention.

The league's only Canadian-based squad is playing its entire 60-game schedule on the road, owing to border and travel restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fish hitting coach Kash Beauchamp said Winnipeg's feast or famine season was best illustrated by the circumstances around seven consecutive wins over Fargo-Moorhead in July followed by a seven straight losses to the Redhawks -- part of the record 11-game skid -- in August.

"They didn't have their best roster on the field at the time and we did," said Beauchamp via telephone Monday. "So, we were able to pretty much have our way with them while they were down and we were at our best. And then what happened when Fargo took us to the cleaners the next time we played them, right in the middle of the losing streak, we were not at our best.

"We were starting to get banged up a little bit. We had two hitters that were playing hurt and two others that had missed a few games and when you are not at full strength and you play another team that is, there's a chance you're going to get whitewashed and that's exactly what happened."

Winnipeg, which has lost 13 of its last 16 games, was idle Monday but will close out the regular season with a three-game series beginning Tuesday in Milwaukee.

The first-place Milkmen are slated to face the second-place Canaries in a best-of-seven American Association championship series beginning Sept. 12. On Sunday, the Saints got a two-run homer from John Silviano in the second inning, a solo blast from Chuck Taylor in the third and a three-run shot from Chris China in the fifth en route to a 7-0 lead.

In the seventh, RBI singles by John Nester and Jonathan Moroney cut the lead to 7-2. Winnipeg added another run in the ninth when Jordan George came home on a Moroney ground out.

St. Paul's starter Mike Devine (4-3) got the victory, allowing two earned runs on five hits while striking out 13.

Mitch Lambson (4-4) was saddled with the loss, surrendering all seven runs. He also struck out seven.

"I will say this, throughout everything, none of these guys have quit," added Beauchamp. "So many teams would shut it down and quit and given up and not played hard. I have seen zero signs of that. They've battled, they've never given up on games even though we were getting our brains kicked in."

Beauchamp had high praise for Fish manager Rick Forney, who continued to work while mourning the death of his eldest son, David, in February.

"He should be the manager of the year in the league," said Beauchamp. "I don't care what our record is. I don't care about anything but what Rick has done this year as far as building this team and managing this club, in my opinion he should be the unanimous manager of the year selection>pecially based on losing David. I don't know how he's done it and done it so stoically."
