



# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, July 1, 2009

## *NATIONALS MINOR LEAGUE REPORT*

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Nationals minor league report is a weekly window into the Nationals farm teams, with updated standings, league leaders, team and individual player stats, and the latest team and player news. Player bios can be found in the Scouting/Player Development section of the Nationals Media Guide (Pages 391-429).

### *This Week's Top Headline*

**AND THE AWARD GOES TO...:** Earlier this week, Syracuse RHP **Garrett Mock** was named Triple-A International League Pitcher of the Week by MILB.com, while Harrisburg LHP **Jack Spradlin** earned MILB.com Pitcher of the Week honors in the Double-A Eastern League.

**Mock** went 2-0 with a 0.60 ERA (1 ER/15.0 IP) in 2 starts to garner the award...he has won 3 straight starts, posting a 0.85 ERA (2 ER/21.0 IP) in those outings...since being optioned to Syracuse on May 21, **Mock** has gone 3-1 with a 2.16 ERA (8 ER/33.1 IP) and 36 strikeouts in 6 starts.

**Spradlin** allowed only 2 hits and fanned 10 in 8.0 scoreless innings (3 appearances) to earn the citation...for the month of June, he went 2-0 with a 0.93 ERA (2 ER/19.1 IP) and is a perfect 3-for-3 in save opportunities in 11 games...overall, the 24-year-old is 4-1 with 3 saves and a 2.22 ERA in 26 appearances...**Spradlin** was selected in the 8th round of the 2005 First-Year Player Draft out of the University of Southern California.

### *Triple-A Syracuse Chiefs*

#### *International League North Division*

*41-35, 2nd Place, 3.0 Games Back*

**JUST DOMINANT:** RHP **J.D. Martin** is 8-2 with a 2.25 ERA in 14 games (13 starts) overall...he has allowed 2 runs or less in 10 of those 13 starting assignments...**Martin** has issued just 7 walks in 76.0 innings of work, an average of 0.82 walks per 9.0 innings...he leads the league with an 8.2 strikeout-to-walk ratio (58 SO/7 BB), and ranks among the International League leaders in WHIP (2nd, 0.89), wins (t-2nd) and ERA (3rd)...**Martin** signed with Washington as a minor-league free agent, November 24, 2008.

**BALLY STAR:** RHP **Collin Balester** is 5-0 with a 1.90 ERA (10 ER/47.1 IP) in his last 8 starts...beginning with his May 17 start, **Balester** has lowered his ERA from 6.35 to 3.76...he has allowed 3 runs or less in 12 of 15 starts overall...**Balester**, 23, made 15 starts at the big league level last season with Washington.

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## *Double-A Harrisburg Senators*

### *Eastern League Southern Division*

*33-42, 5th Place, 20.0 Games Back*

**SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN:** Including a 5-game sweep of Erie (Tigers), the Senators have won a season-high 6 straight games and 8 of their last 10...they went 20-9 (.689) during the month of June.

**THE 'PEN IS MIGHTIER:** Harrisburg's bullpen has allowed just one home run in its last 148.1 innings pitched.

**STRONG-ARM PITCHING:** In a combined 14 games (13 starts) with Harrisburg and Single-A Potomac, **RHP Erik Arnesen** has gone 8-3 with a 3.14 ERA...he is tied with J.D. Martin (Syracuse) for the most wins among Washington minor leaguers, and ranks 2nd with 75 strikeouts, trailing only Potomac's Terrence Engles (84)...Arnesen is 4-2 with a 3.69 ERA (22 ER/53.2 IP), 50 strikeouts and just 10 walks (5.0 SO/BB ratio) in 10 games (9 starts) since joining Harrisburg on May 11...the 25-year-old went 4-1 with a 2.23 ERA (8 ER/32.2 IP) in 6 starting assignments with the P-Nats.

## *Single-A Potomac Nationals*

### *Carolina League Northern Division*

*First Half: 37-30, 2nd Place, 3.0 Games Back*

*Second Half: 3-3, T-First Place, --*

**MY OH MEYERS:** **RHP Brad Meyers** has fired 15.0 scoreless innings in his last 2 starts...in his most recent start, Monday at Winston-Salem (White Sox), Meyers hurled 7.0 shutout innings to earn his 5th win of the season...the 23-year-old leads Carolina League starting pitchers with a 1.53 ERA, and ranks among league leaders with 82.1 innings pitched (4th) and 60 strikeouts (10th)...Meyers has allowed no more than one earned run in 11 of his 14 appearances (13 starts) overall...he was selected in the 5th round of the '07 Draft out of Loyola Marymount University (CA).

**UH-OH, HERE COMES MARRERO!:** Including his 2 home run, 5 RBI effort on Sunday at Winston Salem, **1B Chris Marrero** has clubbed 3 home runs in his last 3 games after hitting just one homer in his previous 28 games (106 AB)...he is hitting .322 (20-for-62) with 4 homers and 11 RBI in his last 16 games...Marrero has reached base via hit, walk or HBP in 58 of 70 games this season...the 20-year-old is 3rd in the Carolina League with 76 hits, is tied for 6th with 10 home runs and 44 RBI...Marrero entered the season rated by *Baseball America* as the No. 3 prospect -the top hitter- in Washington's system...he was the Nationals' top selection (15th overall) in the 2006 First-Year Player Draft.

## *Single-A Hagerstown Suns*

### *South Atlantic League Northern Division*

*First Half: 31-36, T-6th Place, 10.5 Games Back*

*Second Half: 1-5, 8th Place, 3.5 Games Back*

**DEREK NORRIS FACTS:** **C Derek Norris** leads all catchers in professional baseball with 14 home runs and 53 RBI...the 20-year-old ranks among the Single-A South Atlantic League leaders in nearly every offensive category, including home runs (2nd), RBI (2nd), OBP (3rd, .405), walks (4th, 39), total bases (4th, 139), OPS (4th, .948), runs (t-5th, 47), slugging (6th, .543) and doubles (8th, 18)...Norris has posted a team-best 23 multi-hit games...the Kansas native has thrown out 36% (30-for-84) of would-be basestealers...per *Baseball America*, he entered the season rated as the No. 6 prospect and top overall catching prospect in Washington's system.

## *Short-Season Single-A Vermont Lake Monsters*

### *New York-Penn League Stedler Division*

*5-6, 4th Place, 1.0 Game Back*

**GOOD WOOD:** OF J.P. Ramirez has hit safely in 10 of 11 games to begin the season...Ramirez, 19, is batting at a .304 (14-for-46) clip with 3 doubles, 7 RBI and 3 steals...he is 6-for-13 (.462) with RISP...Ramirez was selected by Washington in the 15th round of the 2008 First-Year Player Draft.

**JACK IN THE BOX:** LHP Jack McGeary has allowed one run in 10.1 innings pitched (0.87 ERA) in 2 starts with the Lake Monsters...opposing batters are just 7-for-37 (.189 BAA) against him...McGeary, was selected by the Nationals in the 6th round of the 2007 First-Year Player Draft...he entered the season rated as the No. 5 prospect in the Washington chain according to be *BaseballAmerica*.

**STRIKEOUT MACHINE:** In his first 2 starts, RHP Juan Jaime owns a 1.13 ERA and has struck out 15 in 8.0 innings of work...the 21 year-old Jaime was signed as a non-drafted free agent, December 7, 2004.

## *Gulf Coast League Nationals*

### *Gulf Coast League East Division*

*3-2, 3rd Place, 1.0 Game Back*

**HOOD'S LOOKING GOOD:** OF Destin Hood, Washington's 2nd-round selection in the 2008 Draft, is hitting .389 with one double, one homer and 7 RBI in the first 5 games of the season...his 7 RBI rank 2nd in the league.