

2 OUT BOTTOM OF THE 12th

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MLB6

GIANTS CLOSE THE GAP

Hall of Fame

Kevin Reed, Dodgers



Ian Clark, Blue Jays



Kevin Gibson, Mets



Mike Sim, Rangers



Alan Molloy, Giants



Simon Greener, Yankees



Nigel Beck, Pirates



San Francisco cut the Dodgers lead atop the NL West to just 8 games following an excellent 8-1 week. They opened their week with a hard fought series win in Colorado, followed up with an emphatic sweep at home to Cincinnati and ended the week in style with a road sweep in Washington to apply some pressure to the Dodgers. Los Angeles started with victory over the Padres but successive losses at home to the Mets and on the road in Houston left the Dodgers with a below par 4-5 week. San Diego were beaten in their 2nd series at home to Houston and in the road in Philly in their 3rd for a poor 3-6 record for the week. Colorado recovered from their slow start to beat the Braves but a sweep on the road in Cincinnati in their final series left them with a poor 3-6 week.

New York opened well with a fine sweep in Philadelphia, they followed that up with a series win in Los Angeles and ended the week well too with another series win, this time at home to the Pirates for a very good 7-2 week. Atlanta also started well with a great sweep on the road in Washington and despite going down in Colorado in their next series they bounced back with a good home win over the Cubs for a good 6-3 week. Philadelphia were beaten in their 2nd series on the road in Pittsburgh but a home win over the Padres in their final series was the highlight of an otherwise poor 3-6 week. Washington recovered from their opening sweep to win in Chicago but their 2nd sweep of the week this time at home to the Giants meant they ended the week with a very poor 2-7 record.

In the Central Cincinnati opened with a fine sweep over the Pirates, they were swept themselves in San Francisco in their next series but surged back to complete their 2nd sweep of the week at home to the Rockies for a good 6-3 return. Houston started with a home victory over Chicago, followed up with another series win in San Diego before returning home to complete the set with a good series win over the Dodgers to cap a good 6-3 week. Pittsburgh recovered from their opening loss to beat the Phillies but defeat in New York in their final series left them with a poor 3-6 week. Chicago were beaten at home by Washington in their 2nd series and on the road in Atlanta in their 3rd for a poor 3-6 week.

Over in the AL Texas started with a good win on the road in Los Angeles, followed that up with a hard fought series win at home to Minnesota and ended the week well with a great sweep in Boston for a very good 7-2 return. Seattle opened in style with a great sweep in Oakland, doubled their score for the week with another great sweep at home to the Tigers but crashed to a sweep of their own in Toronto in their final series to spoil an otherwise good 6-3 week. Los Angeles recovered from their opening loss to beat the Yankees but defeat in Minnesota in their final series left them with

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Toronto started well with a good series win over the D-Rays, followed up with another good series win in Milwaukee and ended in style with a home sweep over Seattle for a very good 7-2 return for the week. Tampa recovered well from their opening loss to win in Oakland and ended the week even better with a home sweep over the Brewers for a good 6-3 record. New York started the week with a road loss to the Red Sox and with subsequent defeats on the road in Los Angeles and at home to Chicago this poor 3-6 week won't go down as one of their best this year. Boston didn't build on their fine start as they were beaten in Chicago in their 2nd series and swept at home by the Rangers in their 3rd for a poor 3-6 week.

Detroit opened with a good win over the White Sox, a sweep on the road in Seattle put the brakes on a bit in their 2nd series but they showed great character to surge back themselves and sweep the A's to rescue a solid 5-4 return for the week. Chicago recovered from their opening loss to defeat Boston at home and with victory in New York in their final series the White Sox can be well pleased with their solid 5-4 week. Minnesota opened with victory at home over the Brewers, defeat in their 2nd series on the road in Texas rocked them back a little but they fought back well from a game down at home to the Angels to post a solid 5-4 return for the week. The Brewers were beaten by Toronto in their 2nd series

Toronto Tribune

The Blue Jays have been slow out of the blocks during April and May this season. Performances with both the bat and the ball have been average leading to a 29-25 record at the start of June. A couple of injuries to RHP Halliday have meant some juggling of roles with Charlton, Stone and Arnold picking up the slack. 1B Cruz was also released as he wasn't putting in the performances his wages demanded, he subsequently signed elsewhere. With no recognised 1B on the roster the re-signed 2B Orlando Hudson has been filling in adequately.

Two of the younger players, who had great off-seasons have had differing results from the more significant roles they are playing. 3B Hinske leads the team in BAvg and, surprisingly, SlgP whilst SS Relaford, has been playing 2B, is only batting .234. Both have been good in the field with 17 and 14 FS's respectively and only 2 errors each. The club has also signed two young outfielders this season with an eye on the future. This gave the club too many outfielders so Collier will be groomed to become the 1B of the future.

A good start to June (7-2) combined with a bad run for the Yankees (3-6) has meant the Jays now head the AL East. Finances are in good shape, and there is a capacity to reduce current wages further without lowering performance levels, so the management will be on the lookout for players who can improve the team. The manager will be looking for a more consistent (high) level of performance as the Blue Jays for the rest of the season to put the team in a position to, hopefully, achieve more than was

Deadline for Contributions: Saturday 9th July 2005.