

GREAT LAKES LOONS 2008 MEDIA NOTES

Game #1: Thursday, April 3, 2008

Great Lakes Loons (0-0) vs. Dayton Dragons (0-0)

Dow Diamond (5,200); Midland, MI



vs.



TODAY'S PROBABLE STARTERS

RHP Justin Miller ('07 w/ GCL Ddgrs: 2-1, 3.57) vs. RHP Scott Carroll ('07 w/ Billings: 0-1, 2.93)

UPCOMING GAMES w/ probable starters (all game times are Eastern time)

Fri., April 4	DAYTON	7:05pm	RHP Bryan Morris ('07: DNP) vs. LHP Jamie Arneson ('07 w/ Dayton/GCL Reds: 3-6, 4.78)
Sat., April 5	DAYTON	7:05pm	RHP Kyle Smit ('07 w/ GCL Ddgrs/Loons: 4-5, 4.87) vs. RHP Matt Klinker (2-2, 5.44)
Sun., April 6	DAYTON	3:05pm	RHP Steven Johnson ('07 w/ Loons: 3-6, 4.85) vs. LHP Andrew Bowman ('07 w/ Billings: 1-5, 7.19)

PLAY BALL! Today is the opening day of the 2008 season. It is the first season opener at home for the Great Lakes Loons, after the Loons began last season in South Bend. The Loons, a second-year affiliate of the Dodgers, finished last season 57-82. The Dayton Dragons, a ninth-year affiliate of the Reds, finished last season 78-62 and lost in the first round of the MWL Playoffs. Today's game is the first game of a four-game series and four-game homestand for the Loons. Today's game will feature a post-game fireworks show, powered by Dow Corning. The game will be broadcast live on ESPN 100.9-FM (WLUN, the station's new call letters) with Brad Golder on the call. MCTV will carry the game on a tape delay. Sid Allen and Don Winger will call the action.

LOONS vs. Dragons		
	2008	All-Time
Overall record	0-0	3-7
at Great Lakes	0-0	2-4
at Ft. Wayne	0-0	1-3

BUSTY-BALL (pronounced "Boosty Ball") is the new buzz word for brand of baseball played by teams managed by new Loons' manager Juan Bustabad. "I'd classify myself as very aggressive," Bustabad said in describing his managerial style. "In close situations, you'll see us hit and run, go from first to third base on hits to the outfield, and bunt a lot, anything to win." Bustabad enters his 12th season as a manager in 2008. He has compiled seven division titles, eight winning seasons and a career managerial record 122 games over .500 (483-361, .572 winning percentage). He has never managed a Dodgers affiliate to a losing record. Last season, Bustabad guided the Gulf Coast League Dodgers (Rookie) to a league-best 40-15 record, advancing the GCL Finals. It was his second straight year capturing a GCL division championship, following a 32-22 season in 2006. This will be Bustabad's second season in the Midwest League. He skippered Kane County, then a Marlins' affiliate, in 1998.

WHO ARE THESE GUYS? The opening day roster for the Loons is highlighted by nine players who played for the Loons in 2007 returning to action at Dow Diamond and six players ranking in *Baseball America's* Top 30 prospect list. Pitchers Steven Johnson, Thomas Melgarejo, Miguel Ramirez, Miguel Sanfler and Kyle Smit; catcher Kenley Jansen; infielders Brian Mathews and Preston Mattingly; and outfielder Scott Van Slyke all played for the Loons during the 2007 inaugural season. The six players on the Loons' roster ranked in *Baseball America's* Top 30 prospect list in the Dodgers' organization are: third baseman Pedro Baez (10), pitcher Bryan Morris (12), outfielder Andrew Lambo (14), pitcher Justin Miller (22), second baseman Mattingly (28) and pitcher Geison Aguasviva (30). The team includes players from 13 states and 5 countries. The team's youngest player is Andrew Lambo (19 yrs., 8/11/1988). Parker Dalton (24 yrs., 7/7/1983) is the Loons' senior statesman.

LAST YEAR, the Loons franchise inaugurated to a 57-82 record. The team fared better in the first half (34-36) and had the best first half road record in the Midwest League East. In 68 home dates, the Loons drew 324,564 fans to Dow Diamond — 143,611 in the first half (4,224 average) and 180,953 in the second half (5,322) average — an average of 4,773 fans per game during the season. The Loons out-drew 4 Triple-A franchises, 18 Double-A franchises and every team in Minor League Baseball with a ballpark of equal or lesser size (≤5,200). Last year, there were 30 complete sellouts (over 5,200). The largest crowd ever at Dow Diamond was on July 13, 2007 (5,795).

A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND: O.C. Tanner has partnered with The Dow Chemical Company to reward Loons fans for a tremendously successful inaugural season. One lucky fan attending Dow Diamond for a Loons' game between April 3 and 23 will win a 1-carat diamond courtesy of The Dow Chemical Company and O.C. Tanner. Signups for the contest will be held at Dow Diamond during the Loons' first ten home games. Each game, one name will be drawn. The ten contestants chosen will be selected to participate in the final drawing to determine the winner on Wednesday, April 23. All participants must be at least 18 years of age.

GOING, GOING, GONE! All tickets now have been sold for the 2008 Midwest League All-Star Homerun Derby, powered by Dow Corning, June 16 at Dow Diamond. The All-Star Game, powered by Dow Corning the following day also is sold out. Tickets still remain for ALL regular season games.

HUGE GUESTS: Bill Simonson (aka HUGE) will broadcast The HUGE Show live from Dow Diamond. The HUGE Show is Michigan's premiere sports talks show and is heard weekdays from 3pm-6pm on ESPN 100.9-FM. The Loons organization purchased radio station 100.9-FM and re-branded it ESPN 100.9-FM. Recently, the call letters of the station were changed to WLUN from WYLZ. ESPN 100.9-FM also carries ESPN Radio's flagship weekday programs Mike and Mike in the Morning (6am-10am), The Herd with Colin Cowherd (10am-1pm) and the Mike Tirico Show (1pm-3pm). Also broadcasting live from Dow Diamond today will be all three Tri Cities TV news stations: WNEM, WJRT and WEYI.

HOMESTAND HIGHLIGHTS

Fri., April 4	DAYTON	7:05pm	2008 Loons Magnet Schedule Giveaway, presented by Farm Bureau Insurance
Sat., April 5	DAYTON	7:05pm	Saturday Nights Live concert series featuring the Saginaw HS marching band
Sun., April 6	DAYTON	3:05pm	Family Fun in the SUNday w/ Kids Run the Bases post-game presented by Farm Bureau Insurance



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THE MICHIGAN BASEBALL FOUNDATION is the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that owns Dow Diamond. On March 13, the Loons announced that 25 non-profit organizations representing nine Mid-Michigan counties have been selected to receive the inaugural Michigan Baseball Foundation grants. The amount awarded totaled \$100,500. The total grant donations brings the total amount generated by the Foundation and the Loons in donations to regional charities across Mid-Michigan to over \$350,000 since the start of the Loons' inaugural season. The Michigan Baseball Foundation was formed in 2006 by a group of community leaders led by Bill Stavropoulos. The Foundation's mission is to revitalize and reinvigorate the Mid-Michigan region and promote greater economic and civic prosperity through the Great Lakes Loons baseball club and the operation of Dow Diamond. One of the key components of the Foundation's mission is to give back to the community through grants and other donations. The Michigan Baseball Foundation grant process will become an annual event. Grant applications will be available again in November 2008.

STAR-STRUCK: The Great Lakes Loons this off-season extended their partnership with Dow Corning for title sponsorship of the 2008 Midwest League All-Star Game, powered by Dow Corning. The game will be held at Dow Diamond on June 17, 2008. Dow Corning will additionally have title sponsorship of three other key events associated with the game: The All-Star FanFest, powered by Dow Corning; The Hometown Hitter, powered by Dow Corning and The All-Star Home Run Derby, powered by Dow Corning. The 2008 All-Star FanFest, powered by Dow Corning, is a three day event, June 15-17. Admission will be free. The 2008 All-Star Home Run Derby, powered by Dow Corning, will take place at Dow Diamond on Monday, June 16. The competition will feature eight Midwest League All-Star sluggers. In addition, one local high school student-athlete will qualify in the weeks and months leading up to the Derby to compete against the pros. Both the homerun derby and all-star game are sold-out. The all-star game can be seen on My-5 WNEM2. Both the all-star game and home run derby can be heard on ESPN 100.9-FM. The Midwest League All-Star Game was first played in 1964 and has been played every year since 1966. Notable alumni of the MWL All-Star game include Albert Pujols, Johan Santana, Alex Rodriguez, Justin Morneau, Joe Mauer, Dontrelle Willis, Miguel Cabrera, Jake Peavy, Carlos Guillen and Joel Zumaya.

LOONS ON THE TUBE: The Great Lakes Loons' television show, Loons Weekly, returns to the air this Saturday at noon on My-5. The show will air weekly in that time slot. The show is hosted by Brad Golder and TV-5's Scot Johnson. The first show will feature profiles of new Loons manager Juan Bustabad and outfielder Andrew Lambo.

LOONS Roster Breakdown

Teenagers:	2	Older than 22:	7
Top 10 draftees:	8	BA Top 30 Prospects:	6
Dodgers draftees:	15	Undrafted (US draft elig):	3
Foreign-born:	10	US-born:	17
Dominican Republic-born:	6	California-born:	3
Venezuela-born:	1	Texas-born:	3
Mexico-born:	1	Maryland-born:	1
Curacao-born:	1	Georgia-born:	1
Puerto Rico-born:	1	New York-born:	1
		New Jersey-born:	1
		Missouri-born:	1
		Florida-born:	1
		Nevada-born:	1
		Tennessee-born:	1
		Washington-born:	1
		Kansas-born:	1
		Arizona-born:	1

SAY WHAT? PLAYER PRONUNCIATIONS

Geison: HAY-son, Aguasviva: ah-gwahs-VEE-vah
 Garate: GAR-ah-tey
 Thomas: toe-MAHS, Melgarejo: mehl-gah-RAY-hoe
 Daigoro: DIE-gah-roe, Rondon: ron-DOHN
 Sartor: SAR-tur
 Garabedian: gare-uh-BEE-dee-in
 Esteban: est-uh-BON
 Baez: BI-ehz
 Jaime (Ortiz): HI-mee
 Jovanny (Rosario): joe-VAH-nee

Firsts in Loons History

Game: 4/5 @South Bend: Loons 10, Silverhawks 3
Winning Pitcher: Doug Brooks (4/5 @sb)
Save: Jesus Rodriguez (4/6 @sb)
Strikeout: Clayton Kershaw (of Gerrardo Parra, 4/5 @sb)
At-bat: Trayvon Robinson (result: bunt single, 4/5 @sb)
Hit: Trayvon Robinson (4/5 @sb, 1st inning)
Double: Matt Berezay (4/5 @sb, 6th inning)
Triple: Preston Mattingly (4/12a @fw, 6th inning)
Homerun: Eduardo Perez (4/19a PEO, 4th inning)
Grand Slam: Francisco Lizarraga (8/23 vs. WM, 4th inning)
RBI: Preston Mattingly (4/5 @sb, 3rd inning, on a SAC Fly)
Run: Justin Fuller (4/5 @sb, 3rd inning)
Walk: Justin Fuller (4/5, @sb, 3rd inning)
Stolen Base: Trayvon Robinson (4/6 @sb, 1st inning, 2nd base)
Hit Batsman: Michael Rivera (by Ernesto Frieri, 4/10 @fw)
3-hit game: Trayvon Robinson (3-for-4, 4/6 @sb)
4-hit game: Francisco Lizarraga (4-for-5, 4/10 @fw)

The Last Time the Loons...

Had a walk-off win: 7/31/07 vs. CLI (9-8, 10th inn. Win)
 Had a walk-off HR: Carlos Santana, 7/31/07 vs. CLI (9-8, 10th inn. Win)
 Had a walk-off loss: 8/9/07 @Peoria (5-4 loss)
 Surrendered a walk-off HR: TBD
 Hit a Grand Slam: 8/29/07 vs. SB (Matt Berezay, off Evan Scribner, 4th inn.)
 Surrendered a Grand Slam: 6/5/07 @sb (Brad Miller off Miguel Sanfler, 7th inn.)
 Had an Inside-the-Park HR: TBD
 Surrendered an Inside-the-Park HR: TBD
 Had a 3-HR Game (Indiv.): TBD
 Surrendered a 3-HR Game (Indiv.): TBD
 Hit Back-to-Back HRs: 8/7/07 @peoria, 1st inning (Perez & Bell, on back-to-back pitches)
 Surrendered Back-to-Back HRs: TBD
 Had a 5-Hit Game (Indiv.): TBD
 Surrendered a 5-Hit Game (Indiv.): TBD
 Had a player hit for the cycle: TBD
 Surrendered a cycle: TBD
 Pitched a Complete Game: Josh Wall, 6/28/07a, @fw (7 innings)
 Pitched a 9-inning Complete Game: TBD
 Pitched a Complete Game Shutout: TBD
 Pitched a No-Hitter: TBD
 Got No-Hit: TBD
 Pitched a One-Hitter: 6/28/07a, @fw, Josh Wall (7 innings)
 Were One-Hit: 6/28/07a, @fw, Stevie Delabar & RJ Rodriguez (7 innings)
 Turned a Triple Play: TBD
 Had a Triple Play Turned Against Them: 4/19 vs. PEO (Lansford-Camp-Lewis)
 Stole Home: 5/14/07 vs. WM, back end of a double steal, (Francisco Lizarraga)
 Had an opponent steal home: 5/24/07 @bur, straight steal (Joe Dickerson)
 Had position player pitch for Loons: 7/24/07 @bel (Peterson and Gonzalez)
 Had position player pitch vs. Loons: TBD

Firsts in Dow Diamond History

Game: 4/13 vs. Lansing Lugnuts... Lansing 6, Great Lakes 2
Winning Pitcher: AJ Wideman **Loons Winning Pitcher:** Francisco Felix (4/21)
Save: Paul Phillips (4/14) **Loons Save:** Miguel Sanfler (4/21)
Strikeout: Steven Johnson (of Scott Campbell, 1st inning, 4/13)
At-bat: Chris Gutierrez (fly out to center) **Loons AB:** Trayvon Robinson (struck out)
Hit: Travis Snider (1B, 2nd inn., 4/13) **Loons H:** Bridger Hunt (2B, 3rd inn., 4/13)
Double: Josh Bell (2nd inn., 4/13) **Loons 2B:** Hunt
Triple: Travis Snider (7th inn., 4/13) **Loons 3B:** Hunt (3B, 4th inn., 5/6/07)
Homerun: Eduardo Perez (4/19a PEO, 4th inning)
Grand Slam: Francisco Lizarraga (8/23 vs. WM, 4th inning)
RBI: Josh Bell (2nd inn., 4/13) **Loons RBI:** Matt Berezay (6th inn., 4/13)
Run: Travis Snider (2nd inn., 4/13) **Loons R:** Trayvon Robinson (6th inn., 4/13)
Walk: Yuber Rodriguez (2nd inn., 4/13) **Loons BB:** Francisco Lizarraga (6th, 4/13)
Stolen Base: Sean Shoffit (of 2B, 2nd, 4/13) **Loons SB:** T. Robinson (of 2B, 1st, 4/22)
Hit Batsman: Justin Fuller (by Chris Reddout, 7th inn., 4/14)
3-hit game: Travis Snider (4-for-5, 4/13) **Loons 3HG:** David Sutherland (3-for-5, 4/22)
4-hit game: Snider (4/13) **Loons 4HG:** Adolfo Gonzalez (4-for-4, 5/7)