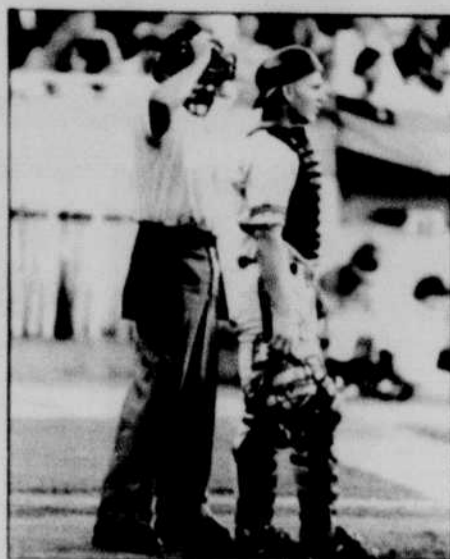


When interviews with the press conclude and warm-ups come to an end, it's time for the home plate umpire to sweep off the plate, the catcher to pull down his mask and the batter to step into the chalked box — then it's time to "Play ball!!!"



Dreams: It's not for the money

Continued from Page 10
tional leagues in Florida.


The instructional leagues are a kind of purgatory for baseball players. Those who are sent there must prove themselves worthy of stepping on the field; otherwise, they're sent packing back to the real world of the 40-hour work week, or perhaps to test their luck in an independent league.

It would seem the competitive level would be high among teammates, but that is not the case.

"You don't need to root against your teammates," said Trippy. "There is no one player that's going to keep you from making it. As long as you're good enough and consistent enough, there's nothing to worry about. You still want to win as a team."

Winning isn't everything in the minor leagues. In the long run, it's nothing. The players don't ride on run-down, overcrowded tour buses, or live off \$800 a month, to bring the hometown a championship. They are not on the diamond to entertain, or break records, or have their number retired on the outfield fence. They play each day to gain experience, and follow in the footsteps of their heroes, trying to live out every young boy's fantasy. Trying to live out the dream of playing major league baseball.






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October 21, 1995 GMAT									
GM1095N1 Eugene									
Sat	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sat	Sun	Sat	Sun
8/26	8/27	9/10	9/17	9/24	10/1	10/7	10/8	10/14	10/15
8:30am	5pm	5pm	5pm	5pm	5pm	8:30am	5pm	8:30am	5pm

October 14, 1995 GRE									
GR1095N1 Eugene									
Sat	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Tue	Sat	Tue	Tue
8/26	8/29	9/5	9/12	9/19	9/26	10/3	10/7	10/10	10/10
8:30am	6pm	6pm	6pm	6pm	6pm	6pm	8:30am	6pm	6pm

October 7, 1995 DAT									
D1095N1 Eugene									
Thu	Sun	Thu	Sun	Thu	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun	Sun
8/17	8/20	8/24	8/27	8/31	9/10	9/17	9/24	10/1	10/1
6pm	5pm	6pm	12pm	5pm	5pm	5pm	5pm	5pm	5pm

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