

Ems

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slugger Greg Sain led the NWL in extra-base hits and slugging percentage. Sain also took over the home-run crown with his ninth blast of the season Monday night.

Ems shortstop Jason Bartlett, meanwhile, was second in the league in hitting with a .346 average and was second in on-base percentage.

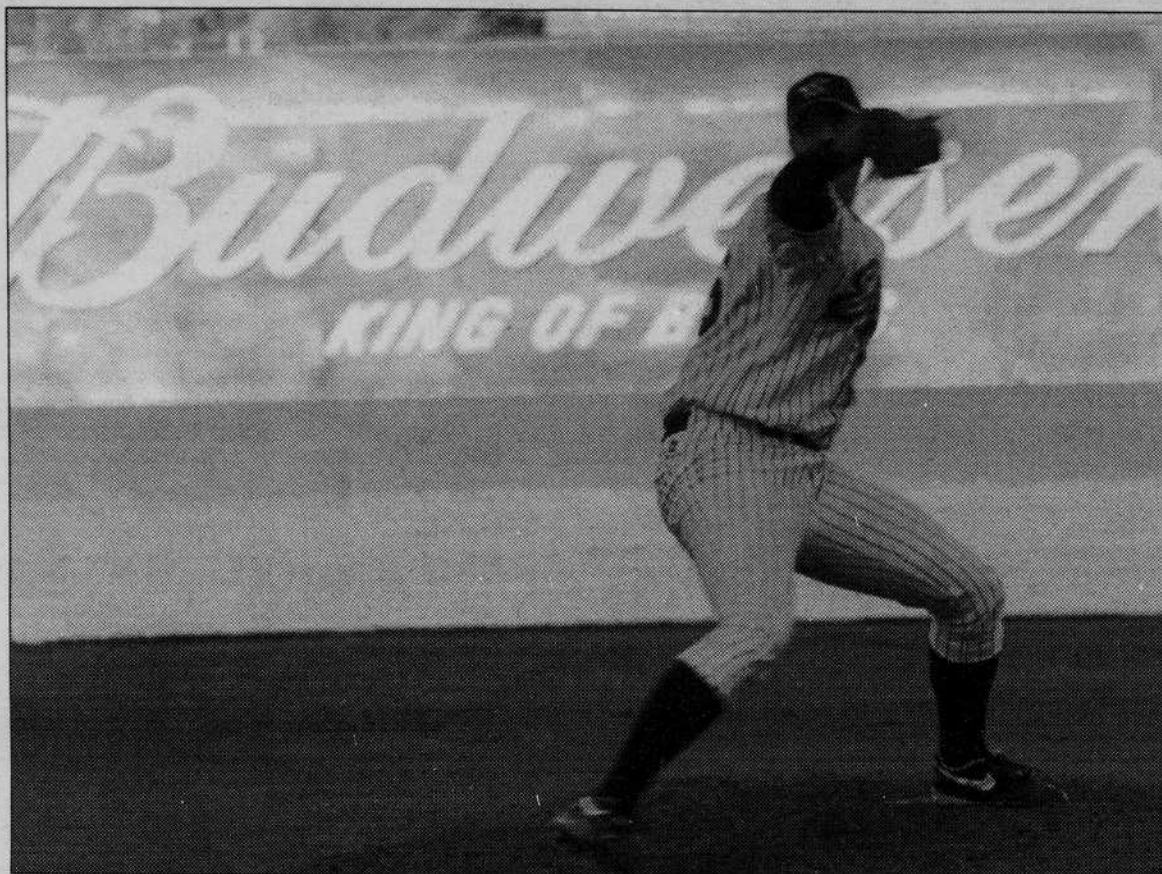
Needless to say, the Ems have had no problems getting on base. However, the Ems have a habit of stranding runners when they get on the basepaths. Eugene stranded five runners in the top half of Monday's doubleheader.

The Ems have also been weak on the mound. Eugene is sixth of eight teams in pitching in the NWL and tops the list in such categories as home runs allowed.

None of the statistics deter the fans, however, as the Ems obviously make an impact as the only professional sports team in Eugene. The Ems are second in the league in attendance and trail only Spokane in that category. In 17 home games the Emeralds average 3,840 fans per game.

In the end, the Ems' record speaks volumes about the team. Eugene was last in the league heading into Monday's games, but trailed Everett by a mere half-game. With series against Everett and Vancouver — the second-place team in the NWL's west division — the Ems have a chance to climb back into the hunt for a division title.

The Ems play Tri-City again tonight at Civic Stadium at 7:05 before taking an off day and then heading to the Tri-Cities for a five-game series.



Jessie Swimeley Emerald

Eugene pitcher Geoff Jones is a typical Ems hurler. He has a low ERA but leads the league in home runs given up.

NWL Batting Leaders (through Sunday)

1. Anderson, Syketo (Boise) .413
2. Bartlett, Jason (Eugene) .346
3. Slavik, Corey (Boise) .336
4. Meyer, Robbie (Salem-Keizer) .336
5. Figueroa, Eduardo (Everett) .336

Home Run Leaders

1. Sain, Greg (Eugene) 9
2. Nichols, Kyle (Yakima) 8
3. Slavik, Corey (Boise) 7
- Johnson, J.J. (Boise) 7
- Allegra, Matt (Vancouver) 7

NWL Standings — West Division

1. Salem-Keizer, 24-16
2. Vancouver, 21-18
3. Everett, 17-22
4. Eugene, 16-22

Hockaday

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Advantage, Oregon. All this means that the Duck men will face one of their toughest scheduling tests of recent memory in 2001-02, while the women will catch a scheduling break in their first season under new coach Bev Smith.

This is exactly how the Pac-10 and CBS higher-ups want things.

"We are delighted to have the opportunity to showcase the return of the Pac-10 Tournament, providing increased national exposure to the conference prior to the start of the NCAA Tournament," CBS Sports' Mike Aresco said.

Right, Mike. You mean the increased national exposure of Stanford, Arizona and UCLA. Only the championship game of the tournament will be broadcast on CBS, while the early rounds will be broadcast on Fox Sports Net.

This will benefit only the big-name programs of the Pac-10, while conferences like the ACC have their entire tournaments broadcast on ESPN and the like.

Of course, the women are also out of luck, in a way. While the men have at least a shot at the national spotlight, the women have no television contract at all, not even a Fox Sports contract.

So, as you head down on that road trip to Los Angeles next March, remember the rattler. Perhaps you won't need to, but remember the bite of that evil conference tournament.

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