

MONTH OF MAY

HENRY'S COMMENTS



A few things surfaced as I moved the UBA2 from v18 to v19. I'm hoping the act of documenting them here will help others as well as maybe provide some feedback to the OOTP team.

All and all, I'm thrilled with v19, but as in all endeavors, nothing is perfect... but sometimes, it doesn't have to be.

STAR RATINGS

The first things I noticed after the transfer was that all the ballplayers lost Stars – on average about 2 levels.

I had gotten use to the old system as 3-Star players were average, 1-Star were terrible, and 5-Star players were great.

The new system feels this way... 1-Star are average, 3-Star are Great, and 5-Star (if you have any) are Legendary. I've got exactly TWO 5-Star players and FOUR 4½-Star players in a league of 300 ballplayers.


SS Andrew Conner, EXC 

Age 25 | Bats: Right | 5' 8" - 170 lbs


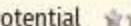
Overall  Potential 

CON 12 POW 5 EYE 6 DEF 13

Year	Tm	Lg	G	AB	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG
1901	EXC	UBA II	16	68	3	9	.324	.378	.632

2B Tony Ruiz, PAS 

Age 28 | Bats: Right | 5' 10" - 175 lbs

Overall  Potential 

Intercostal strain, 1 day

Year	Tm	Lg	G	AB	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG
1901	PAS	UBA II	15	59	2	10	.305	.369	.525

THE STORY

Opening Day

Henry sat back and took a breath. Was it done? Had he thought of everything? Did he forget something important?

He was worried that he might have forgotten one little detail that might rear its ugly head later, and force him to do something he didn't want to do.

But, he reminded himself that this was supposed to be its own world. Things were SUPPOSED to happen out of his control – else there were no surprises. (A memory stabbed at the back of his head).

Today, four games were to open the first season of the UBA2:

Haymakers @ Pastime Club (7:05pm)
Henry's pick = Pastime Club

Bridegrooms @ Excelsiors (7:05pm)
Henry's pick = Bridegrooms

Beaneaters @ Keystones (7:05pm)
Henry's pick = Beaneaters

Pioneers @ Knickerbockers (7:05pm)
Henry's pick = Pioneers

Henry knew picking winners for an individual game in baseball was folly – that's why they played so many games – to water down the multitude of various events that could throw a game one way or another. A homerun, an error, a strikeout. That's what made the game so special...

But Henry was going to do it anyway.

Beer, pretzels, and here we go.... PLAY BALL!

THE STATS

STANDINGS

	W	L	PCT	GB
Haymakers	11	5	.688	-
Excelsiors	10	6	.625	1.0
Keystones	10	6	.625	1.0
Pastime Club	9	7	.563	2.0
Pioneers	9	7	.563	2.0
Beaneaters	8	8	.500	3.0
Knickerbockers	5	11	.313	6.0
Bridegrooms	2	14	.125	9.0

Leaders

BATTING AVG

Jesse Woodman (PAS)	.473
Manny Martinez (BRI)	.403
Ben Trimble (BRI)	.396

HOME RUNS

Andrew Conner (EXC)	3
Nick Burton (HAY)	2
Tony Ruiz (PAS)	2

RBI

Mike Hicks (HAY)	14
Adam Patton (PAS)	14
Quan Chai (PIO)	10

STOLEN BASES

Chris Coles (BRI)	10
Omar Reyes (BEA)	10
Inigo Wallace (BEA)	10

ON-BASE + SLUGGING %

Jesse Woodman (PAS)	1.164
Jordan Montano (EXC)	1.059
Randy Fein (KNI)	1.022

BATTER WAR

Randy Fein (KNI)	1.1
Diego Martinez (BEA)	1.1
Tony Ruiz (PAS)	1.0

HITTING STREAK

Nick Gigliello (KEY) *	15
Ivan Narez (BEA)	10
Sean Montague (EXC) *	9

CL Antonio Deramos, BRI
 Age 30 | Throws: Right | 5' 8" - 175 lbs
 Overall ★★★★★ Potential ★★★★★
 STU 13 MOV 15 CON 19 STA 7

Year Tm	Lg	G	W	L	SV	IP	BB	K	ERA
1901 BRI	UBA II	1	0	1	0	1.2	0	2	21.60

2B Randy Fein, KNI
 Age 26 | Bats: Left | 5' 10" - 185 lbs
 Overall ★★★★★ Potential ★★★★★
 CON 12 POW 7 EYE 15 DEF 13

Year Tm	Lg	G	AB	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG
1901 KNI	UBA II	15	52	1	9	.346	.426	.596

3B Diego Martinez, BEA
 Age 28 | Bats: Right | 5' 11" - 205 lbs
 Overall ★★★★★ Potential ★★★★★
 CON 11 POW 12 EYE 14 DEF 12

Year Tm	Lg	G	AB	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG
1901 BEA	UBA II	15	63	0	8	.317	.371	.492

LF Omar Reyes, BEA
 Age 34 | Bats: Right | 5' 11" - 205 lbs
 Overall ★★★★★ Potential ★★★★★
 CON 17 POW 10 EYE 12 DEF 14

Year Tm	Lg	G	AB	HR	RBI	AVG	OBP	SLG
1901 BEA	UBA II	15	60	1	10	.283	.328	.467

At the moment I'm not sure how I feel about the change. Although it may make the best players stand out better, it sometimes feels like I have a lot of minor leaguers.

I think I have to give it time and see if I can get used to 1-Star meaning "average".

SCORES PAGE

Ugh. There certainly aren't many things I simply don't like in this game, but the SCORES PAGE is one of them. In a phrase; "Too Little Information On Such A Big Footprint."

Haymakers @ Pastime Club

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Haymakers (0-1)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	5	10	3
Pastime Club (1-0)	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	6	13	3

Pastime Club Scores Late, Stuns Haymakers, 6-5

W - Weaver (1-0, 4.00 ERA)
 L - Ellis (0-1, 0.00 ERA)

Not to be outdone, the Pastimers scored in the bottom of the ninth inning, after the Haymakers had scored 4 runs in the top of the inning to tie the score. Adam Patton hit the walk-off single, scoring Tony Ruiz from second base.

P.O.T.G. T. Ruiz
 Pastimer 2B Tony Ruiz went 4 of 5 with two Doubles, and scores 2 runs, to win Player of the Game honors.

Bridegrooms @ Excelsiors

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Bridegrooms (0-1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	10	1
Excelsiors (1-0)	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	X	4	8	1

Bridegrooms Lose, 4-1, at Excelsiors Ballpark

W - Kucera (1-0, 1.00 ERA)
 L - Shafer (0-1, 4.50 ERA)

A close game until PH Lucas Ryder opened the bottom of the 7th inning with a triple. LF Chris Reynolds then singled Ryder home, stole 2nd base, and eventually scored on C Josh Dees single to center.

P.O.T.G. J. Kucera
 In the end, the Excelsiors won the game, 4-1, with SP Jeremy Kucera earning player of the game honors. Kucera went the distance, giving up 1 earned run on 10 hits.

Beaneaters @ Keystones

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Beaneaters (1-0)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	2
Keystones (0-1)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	0

Beaneaters Clip Keystones, 2-1

W - Gonzales (1-0, 1.00 ERA)
 L - Chapin (0-1, 2.00 ERA)

The Keystones, unfortunately, were unable to reward the home crowd with an Opening Day win. The Beaneaters got a big at-bat from LF Omar Reyes. Reyes was 3 for 4 with the league's FIRST home run and a triple.

P.O.T.G. T. Chapin
 Tanner Chapin pitched 9 innings, gave up 5 hits, 2 ER, 2 BB, and 7 strikeouts to win Player of the Game.

ERA	WINS	STRIKEOUTS	PITCHER WAR	SAVES
Jose Gonzales (BEA) 0.97	Antonio Castelucci (PAS) 4	Omar Moreno (BRI) 21	Tim Treadway (KEY) 0.8	Jorge Martinez (PIO) 2
Tim Treadway (KEY) 0.97	Jose Castelucci (KEY) 4	Tanner Chapin (KEY) 16	Antonio Merlo (BRI) 0.8	Jose Cepeda (EXC) 1
Alex Hernandez (EXC) 1.07	Jose Gonzales (BEA) 4	Antonio Merlo (BRI) 16	Jose Gonzales (BEA) 0.8	Nick Lieberman (KEY) 1

MAY AWARDS



Woodman Crowned Top UBA II Hitter in May: Pastime Club

3½ STAR, Jesse Woodman battered UBA Reimagined pitchers all May and wound up taking home the Batter of the Month Award.

"I've been around long enough to know you really have to work hard day in and day out to be able to put up this kind of consistency," the 30-year-old Woodman told reporters. "I put in a lot of work, even on the days I might not take the field, and it's always nice when everything comes together for me like it did this last month."

UBA REIMAGED GAMES													
FINAL													
Excelsiors (10-4)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	W - Sargent (4-4, 2.25 ERA) L - Heater (0-1, 1.51 ERA) P.O.T.G. J. Sargent
Haymakers (11-5)	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	11	7	
HR - None	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	8	11	0	
WATCH REPLAY HIGHLIGHT REEL BOX SCORE GAME LOG													
FINAL													
Bridegrooms (2-14)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	W - Castelucci (0-1, 3.19 ERA) L - Dvalle (0-4, 2.38 ERA) P.O.T.G. J. Castelucci
Keystones (10-4)	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	7	0	
HR - None	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	4	11	2	
WATCH REPLAY HIGHLIGHT REEL BOX SCORE GAME LOG													

Each "score box" is about 50% filled. For a person who screen captures information blocks to document their league, these games results are useless.

In my game results in the center column, I had to snip the inning results from a boxscore, and the pitcher results from the cores page – adding the game review in text inside the "L". Compacting game results is critical in putting together a readable highlight reel.

I don't think I can learn to love the Scores Page layout – hoping to see some future modifications.

Saturday night, June 1 @ Jake's Bar

Henry visited "Jake's" (actually Pete's) regularly. Besides being his favorite watering hole, there were always fans of the UBA2 sitting around, offering opinions, bitching and moaning about everything and anything.

Today, Henry settled into a booth across from the bar, pulled out his notebook and noticed two middle age guys sitting just within earshot at the bar...

Grey Hair; "Did you read about the Pioneers game last night?"

Plaid Shirt; "Heaven's Yes!"

"After Micek's end-of-season injury, Guerra steps in and throws a 3 hit shutout!", stated Plaid Shirt.

Pioneers @ Knickerbockers

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Pioneers (1-0)	4	0	1	1	1	5	2	0	0	14	19	5
Knickerbockers (0-1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1

W - Mills (1-0, 0.00 ERA)

L - Rivera (0-1, 18.00 ERA)

P.O.T.G. A. Mills

Pioneers display Big Guns in 14-0 Shellacking

3 Doubles, 3 Triples, and the UBA2's second homerun combined with 14 Singles to make this game a walk-in-the-park. As if that wasn't enough, Pioneers SP Austin Mills pitched a 2 hit, 2 walk, 3 strikeout masterpiece, gaining the Player of the Game award in the process.

It should also be noted that 14 of 18 batters got at least one hit in this game.

TOP PERFORMERS

Austin Mills	PIO	9.0 IP, 2 H, 0 R, 2 BB, 3 K
Tanner Chapin	KEY	9.0 IP, 5 H, 2 R, 2 BB, 7 K
Nate Dowling	PIO	2-3, HR, 3 RBI
Jose Gonzales	BEA	9.0 IP, 9 H, 1 R, 1 BB, 3 K
Jeremy Kucera	EXC	9.0 IP, 10 H, 1 R, 2 BB, 5 K
Tony Ruiz	PAS	4-5, 2 2B

"What a day", Henry thought. He was right on 3 of his 4 picks, and the Pioneer 14-0 win created a curiosity if that kind of mastery was possible over the 98 game season. If so, we better polish up that Coover Cup early!

The biggest surprise was Pioneer SS Nate Dowling. He was primarily a defensive backup for the team who's Scouting Report reads thus...

"Nate Dowling is a shortstop and 4-year Pioneer veteran before the UBA2. He has excellent instincts with the glove as a shortstop. However, lots of mechanical issues with his swing, despite being able to put the bat on the ball. Projection – bench contributor."

But he got 2 hits in 3 ABs, and smacked that homerun 355 feet. Henry made a note to watch this 27 year old.

TWO WEEKS LATER...

Henry finished up the standings board, and looked a little confused. He has actually spent a fair amount of time reviewing the teams and trying to gain some insight as to which would compete this season... yet 3 of the 4 teams he chose to compete were in the second division. The Pioneers, at 9-7, were only 2 games out – so he felt some relief there.

In 15 games, Woodman hit .473 with no home runs, 9 RBIs and scored 12 runs.



Tim Treadway Named Pitcher of the Month in May: Keystones

2½ STAR, In May, Tim Treadway tore through the UBA Reimagined like a seasoned veteran -- quite impressive for a player only 21 years old.

The young starter posted a 4-0 mark and an ERA of 0.97 to earn the Pitcher of the Month award. In 37 innings he collected 13 strikeouts while limiting the opposition to a .180 average.



Jose Gonzales Named Rookie Hurler in May: Beaneaters

4 STAR, Jose Gonzales might not have fully digested the impact of winning May's UBA Reimagined Rookie of the Month award when he got the news earlier today, but the 24-year-old quickly learned that he was no longer your typical rookie.

Posting a mark of 4-0 won-lost record will do that. In 4 starts he tossed 37 innings with 11 strikeouts and a 0.97 ERA. Opposing teams hit .214 against him during the month. Not bad for a first-year man.

LATEST POWER RANKINGS - May 27

Teams (Total Points, Tendency):

- 1) Excelsiors (146.0, o)
- 2) Haymakers (125.0, o)
- 3) Keystones (108.0, +)
- 4) Beaneaters (94.0, +)
- 5) Pioneers (89.0, -)
- 6) Pastime Club (89.0, +)
- 7) Knickerbockers (53.0, -)
- 8) Bridegrooms (16.0, o)

"And the Bridegrooms lose their 10th straight game."
Added Grey Beard.

"What in the hell is wrong with that team?", asked Plaid Shirt. "16 Games and they sit 2-14 in the cellar - after all that talk about 'the team to beat'. Seems to be pretty easy to do so far."

Grey Beard took a drink and added, "Martinez and Trimble are both hitting .400 but not getting ANY help from the rest of the team... and Martinez looks like he's hurt for a couple of days."

"One has to think that going 2-14 to start the season pretty much finishes them off before it starts." said Plaid Shirt. "If it takes 60 wins to win The Cup", that means they have to record a 58-22 record the rest of the way. Not likely."

"Crap.", responded Grey Beard. "And here I thought this was going to be a good year for the Beaners."

Plaid Shirt changed the subject, "Did you see that Sergio Morales had a kid?"

"Yeah, and he named him "Mark" I hear." answered Grey Beard. "When he grows up and starts playing baseball will probably be the next time the Beaners win The Cup! - and I'll be long gone by that time, the Bums!"

Plaid Shirt (chuckling); "Easy George. I doubt you'll have to wait that long."

"Crap.", responded Grey Beard.

Henry rolled that over in his head. Mark Morales. 'Now pitching for the Pioneers, Mark "Beaner" Morales' Henry laughed to himself - that was a VERY bad nickname.

But the Bridegrooms! He had rated them as the strongest team and they sat at the bottom of the league with only 2 wins. Maybe it was just too early, and they got off to an unlucky start.

Henry took another look at the standings.

If not the Bridegrooms, who? The Excelsiors and Haymakers were playing HOT, and the Pastime Club had the talent, at least on paper. Henry pondered.

He added a star to the Pastime Club. 'What the hell', thought Henry. If we're going to throw wisdom to the wind, we might as well throw caution away with it...

The Haymakers were the Good News for May – an 11-5 record, 6 of their 9 lineup positions batting over .300, and 2 of their 4 starting pitchers compiling 7 wins between them.



JUNE 15 DRAFT POOL

The top players available (in no particular order) seem to be:

1. Scott Gordon, 18 year-old C out of high-school.
2. Adam Manwaring, 19 year-old C out of high-school.
3. Pedro Payes, 19 year-old 2B out of high-school.
4. Adam Gonzalez, 18 year-old CF out of high-school.
5. Steve Morey, 18 year-old CF out of high-school.
6. Kasey Pevehouse, 21 year-old C out of college.
7. John Gann, 18 year-old LHP out of high-school.
8. Josh Littlejohn, 23 year-old SS out of college.
9. Billy Isabell, 22 year-old CF out of college.
10. Pat Galvin, 18 year-old RHP out of high-school.

