

“The Scoop”

R-Phils™

Official Digital Newsletter



Meet Michael Taylor
Phillies outfield prospect is honored for tremendous season in A-ball. Page 2



It's true, 2008 was a success

Tony Zonca



You can't unring the bell. In terms of numbers alone, this was the worst Phillies team ever assembled: fewest wins (53), most losses (89) and lowest winning percentage (.373) in team history. Yet, when you add up the individual accomplishments and overall player development, the season has to be viewed as a success, especially on the position-player side.

Read Tony Zonca's complete column on readingphillies.com

★ Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Community steps up to the plate for United Way

Reading, PA -- R-Phils Red defeated R-Phils Blue, 17-12, in a Fantasy Baseball game on September 11 at First Energy Stadium. The score was not however indicative of the real winner – The United Way of Berks County. Final totals have not been calculated but it is expected that over \$60,000 was raised.

Individuals that participated in the special event lived the life of a professional ballplayer for the day and made a significant commitment to the community as proceeds benefited United Way of Berks County. White Star Travel Center was the event's presenting sponsor.

Former Major Leaguers John Kruk, Garry Maddox,



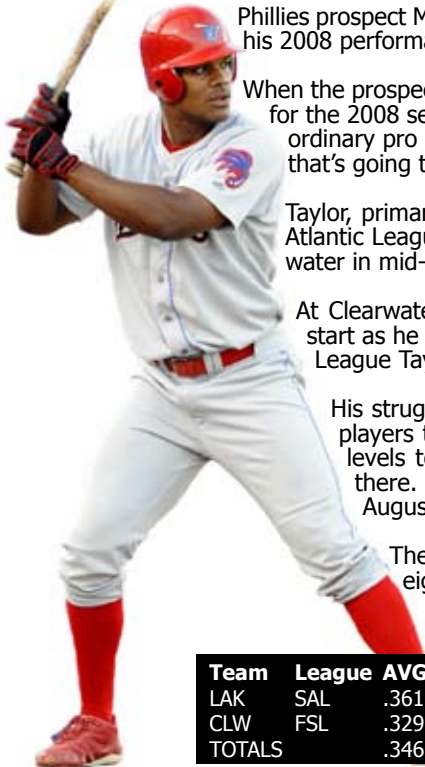
Ricky Bottalico chats with United Way Fantasy Day players including Mike Toledo, foreground. Toledo had an inside-the-park homer in the game.

Greg Gross, Ricky Bottalico and Eric Valent were on hand to serve as guest coaches/players during Fantasy Day. Fantasy Players went through a typical ballplayers' day from team meetings, photo sessions, interviews, to batting practice, then the game followed by the post-game party. Along the way they enjoyed the camaraderie with their teammates and the many stories told by the guest former Major Leaguers. The day will leave the players with memories that will last a lifetime, while also helping United Way. *United Way continues on Page 4*

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Michael Taylor honored for outstanding season in A-ball



Phillies prospect Michael Taylor was named to the 2nd team on the Topps All-Star team for his 2008 performance. Any player that played in the Minors this season was eligible.

When the prospect gurus at Baseball America put together their Top 30 Phillies prospects for the 2008 season Taylor's name was not on the list. In their defense, Taylor had an ordinary pro debut at Williamsport (.227-6-33). There is a zero percent chance that that's going to happen in 2009 after his breakout season.

Taylor, primarily a left fielder, began the season with Low-A Lakewood in the South Atlantic League. He got off to a hot start, sustained it, and was promoted to Clearwater in mid-June.

At Clearwater, the 6-6, 260 pounder out of Stanford, didn't get off to as good a start as he did with the BlueClaws. Through his first 10 games in the Florida State League Taylor hit just .154 and .197 through his first 21 games.

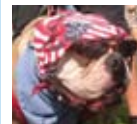
His struggles, perhaps, gave the Phillies brass an idea about his make-up. The players that make the adjustments in the Minor Leagues advance through the levels to the Majors. The players in the Majors that make adjustments stay there. Taylor certainly adjusted to the FSL and hit .347 in July and .376 in August.

The 22-year old also threw out 18 base runners from his post in left field, eight at Lakewood and 10 for Clearwater.

Taylor was the Phillies 5th round pick in 2007.

Team	League	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	BB	SO	SB	CS	OBP	SLG	OPS
LAK	SAL	.361	67	249	40	90	12	3	10	50	138	31	43	10	3	.441	.554	.995
CLW	FSL	.329	65	243	36	80	27	1	9	38	136	19	46	5	6	.380	.560	.939
TOTALS		.346	132	492	76	170	39	4	19	88	274	50	89	15	9	.412	.557	.968

Reading is going to the dogs



The 31st annual Walk for the Animals and Walktoberfest to benefit the Humane Society of Berks County

will be held at FirstEnergy Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 27. Walk Start is at 11:00 AM and Walktoberfest runs from 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

Enjoy entertainment by Frog Holler, The Youngers, Society Beat and Superior Curricula in addition to great food and over 50 exhibitors.

The event takes place rain or shine. Leashed, well-behaved dogs appreciated.

All funds raised from the walk go to the needy animals of Berks and surrounding counties. Visit berkshumane.org for registration forms. Call the Humane Society, 610-921-2348, for full details.

RTV Guide



Readingphillies.com Television is running a fan poll to see which Reading Replay is the best of the best from 2008. The Top 10 plays shown on

RTV after each game this season are rolled into one video. Watch the 10 highlights and then vote in the poll on the home page at rphils.com Plus, watch a two part feature with R-Phils hitting coach Frank Cacciatore. Cacciatore talks

about the 2008 seasons of top Phillies prospects Greg Golson, Lou Marson, Jason Donald and more. To watch RTV visit the home page at rphils.com.

? POLL ?
Best Reading Replay highlight on RTV in 2008 **VOTE>>**

DID YOU KNOW that Jeremy Slayden (33) and Neil Sellers (31) became the 2nd set of R-Phil teammates to have 30+ doubles in a season. The first time it happened was 2007, Greg Jacobs (39) and Jason Hill (33).

Owens Award winners have Reading ties

Left-hander J.A. Happ and catcher Lou Marson are the winners of the Paul Owens Award for the best pitcher and player, respectively, in the Phillies minor league system for 2008, Steve Noworyta, Director, Minor Leagues, announced.

The two players will receive their awards during a pre-game presentation on Monday, September 22, when the Phillies host the Atlanta Braves at Citizens Bank Park.

Happ, 25, went 8-7 with a 3.60 ERA in 24 games (23 starts) for Triple-A Lehigh Valley. The 2005-2006 R-Phil had 151 strikeouts in 135.0



Lou Marson

innings pitched (10.1 SO/9.0 IP) and held opposing hitters to a .234 average. Four times this season, Happ reached double digits in strikeouts, including a season-high 13, May 9 against Columbus.



J.A. Happ

Happ made two starts for the Phillies in July, going 0-0 with a 3.27 ERA.

Marson, 22, hit .314 with five home runs and 46 RBI in 94 games for Reading. He was the starting catcher for the All-Star Futures Game at Yankee Stadium

and played for Team U.S.A. in the 2008 Summer Olympics, which won the bronze medal. Marson was also named to both the in-season and post-season Eastern League All-Star teams. Behind the plate, he threw out 36.1% (30-83) of potential basestealers.

This year marks the third time in the 23-year history of the award that both players are in the major leagues at the time of the presentation. The other years were 1996 (Scott Rolen and Matt Beech) and 1998 (Marlon Anderson and Carlton Loewer).

Instituted in 1986, the Paul Owens Award honors the best player and pitcher in the Phillies' minor league system.

Trenton wins back-to-back Eastern League titles



Trenton, NJ - The Trenton Thunder scored the go-ahead run in a four-run sixth inning, and went on for a 5-1 win over Akron in the decisive Game #4 of the Eastern League Championship Series on Sunday night from Waterfront Park. Trenton won its second consecutive Eastern League Championship, winning the best-of-five game series 3-1. Trenton Center fielder Austin Jackson was named the Eastern League Playoffs Most Valuable Player.

With the game tied 1-1 in the sixth inning, Trenton plated four runs to take a 5-1 lead. First baseman Chris Malec reached on an error by Akron Shortstop Josh Rodriguez with one out. Left fielder Colin Curtis followed with a single against Akron reliever Reid Santos to put runners at first and second base with one out. San-

tos was replaced by Akron reliever Neil Wagner to face Designated hitter P.J. Pilittere. Pilittere produced an RBI single to score Malec with the go-ahead run to make it 2-1. Trenton took a 3-1 lead on a wild pitch from Wagner, which scored Curtis from third base. The lead increased to 4-1 after the second error of the inning by Rodriguez allowed Pilittere to score. Trenton capped off the scoring on a sacrifice fly RBI by Second baseman Reegie Corona. Trenton took a 1-0 lead in the third inning on a two-out RBI single by Jackson. Jackson finished the post-season with two home runs and seven RBI. Akron tied the game at 1-1 on a solo home run by Designated hitter Matt Whitney in the top of the seventh inning.



Austin Jackson
E.L. Playoff MVP
.250, 2 2B, HR, 5
RBI, 4 BB

Trenton Starting pitcher Jeff Marquez (1-0) earned the win for the Thunder. He scattered five hits and one run over six innings. He struck out five and walked three. Thunder reliever Jason Jones tossed the final three shutout innings to pick up the save. He struck out four and did not walk a batter. Akron Starting pitcher Frank Herrmann (1-1) took the loss for the Aeros. He allowed four hits and two runs (one earned) in 5 1/3 innings. Curtis had two hits and scored a run in the win.

The Southern Division Champion Aeros were managed by Berks County resident Mike Sarbaugh.

Story and photo courtesy of the Trenton Thunder

United Way from Page 1

In addition to the time spent with the guest Major League alumni, the experience for fantasy players included: a personalized R-Phils uniform and other gear, team photos, personalized baseball cards, catered meals, batting and infield practice, All-Star style introductions, photo on the video board during their at-bats during the game, a post-game party, 15 tickets on the "players pass list" for friends and a DVD.

Game Highlights: MVP Awards went to Mike Toledo for the victorious red team and Jeff Lingle, who played through pain to deliver a clutch performance for the blue club. Toledo delivered a three-run inside-the-park homer in the 7th inning. An ankle injury suffered earlier in the game didn't prevent Lingle from hobbling to the plate, like Kirk Gibson, to deliver a big two-run single for the Blue in the 6th inning. Kruk played for both clubs and had a so-so day going 9-for-10 with 5 R, 2 3B, and 4 RBI.

9/11 remembered



John Kruk joins fellow United Way Fantasy Day participants in the observance of a moment of silence before last Thursday's dream game at FirstEnergy Stadium (front page). The game took place on the 7th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks on the United States.