

## A's News Clips, Wednesday, October 21, 2009

### Tuesday's AFL roundup

#### Lambo hits another grand slam in Javelinas' victory

MLB.com

##### **Javelinas 14, Solar Sox 10**

Andrew Lambo collected three hits, including a grand slam, and scored three times as Peoria outslugged Mesa for its fifth consecutive win. The Dodgers prospect went 3-for-5 with a grand slam on Thursday, then amassed four hits and an RBI on Friday. He's batting .478 with nine RBIs in five AFL games. Jonathan Lucroy went 4-for-4 with a solo homer and fellow Brewers Minor Leaguer Zach Braddock struck out three over two innings of scoreless relief for the Javelinas. Red Sox prospect Ryan Kalish was 3-for-4 with two RBIs for Mesa.

##### **Saguaros 11, Desert Dogs 8**

Reds prospect Chris Heisey went 3-for-4 with three RBIs as Peoria scored six times in the top of the ninth inning to end a season-opening six-game losing streak. Heisey has driven in at least one run in five of six AFL games and ranks second in the league with 15 hits. Carlos Rivero (Indians) contributed four hits, two RBIs and scored a run for the Saguaros. Athletics Minor Leaguer Grant Desme hit a three-run homer in the Desert Dogs' eight-run seventh and Brad Emaus (Blue Jays) followed with a two-run shot.

##### **Scorpions 7, Rafters 3**

Rockies shortstop prospect Hector Gomez had two hits and two RBIs out of the ninth spot in the lineup as Scottsdale handed Surprise its third straight loss. Jose Tabata (Pirates) chipped in three hits, including a pair of triples, two RBIs and two runs scored for the Scorpions, who have won two in a row to climb over the .500 mark. Jeff Bianchi (Royals) drove in two runs, while former first-round pick Ike Davis (Mets) doubled twice and scored a run for the Rafters, who opened the season with a four-game winning streak.

#### Heisey powers Saguaros to first win

#### Fellow Reds prospects Cozart, Alonso lead comeback

By Danny Wild / MLB.com

Reds prospect Zack Cozart hit a go-ahead two-run single to highlight a six-run ninth inning Tuesday as the Peoria Saguaros rallied for an 11-8 victory over the Phoenix Desert Dogs.

Cozart's line drive to center field off Sam Demel plated fellow Reds prospects Chris Heisey and Yonder Alonso for an 9-8 edge before Carlos Rivero (Indians) capped the comeback with a two-run double.

Heisey went 3-for-4 with three RBIs and scored the tying run, two innings after after Phoenix scored eight times to take an 8-5 lead.

"It was a definitely an up-and-down game. When they had that rally, I said, 'Here we go again,'" Heisey said. "We had a chance to come back, it was a lot of fun, to be honest."

Heisey has driven in at least one run in five of six AFL games and ranks second in the league with 15 hits. He said he told his teammates in the eighth inning that a comeback was brewing.

"We've been running into some bad luck so far. We knew [Phoenix] had come back multiple times already, I'm thinking, 'We cant catch a break,'" explained Heisey, who is riding a six-game hitting streak. "It was tough to watch.

"I felt for our pitcher. He made some good pitches, gave up a few dribblers. They hit a couple balls hard, but the wind was blowing way out. Balls scrapped over the wall -- it was agonizing."

The Desert Dogs felt some agony themselves in the ninth when Heisey's bases-loaded single plated Jose Vallejo to spark the rally. Brandon Hicks was thrown out at the plate on Alonso's base hit, but Cozart followed with a two-run double for the lead.

"It was a lot of fun," Heisey said. "At some point, we were kinda joking in the outfield during a pitching change. I said, 'We need to break up the sad streak and we have to do it ourselves. It's not going to happen on its own.' So it was awesome anytime you can be part of a comeback like that."

Rivero finished 4-for-4 with two RBIs for Peoria, which opened the season with six straight losses. Astros Minor Leaguer Chia-Jen Lo earned the win, striking out two over the final two frames.

Heisey, who batted .314 with 22 homers and 77 RBIs at two Minor League levels this season, said he's enjoyed playing alongside Alonso and Cozart.

"We get a long really well; all the guys on the team get along," he said. "It's awesome to meet new guys, but it's nice to have those guys that you're great friends with. We've been able to hang out, eat, go out together."

The Messiah College product, batting .522 in Arizona, said he came to the Fall League without any big expectations in terms of production.

"I kinda had a rough second half," admitted Heisey, who hit .347 at Double-A Carolina before batting .278 in 63 games with Triple-A Louisville. "I wanted to come down here and get back on track. So far, I'm feeling pretty good. Been able to have some good at-bats, work on some things, especially my timing.

"I've been getting some pitches to hit, I'm feeling good, timing is good, and that's all it takes to get on a hot streak. Get some balls up in the zone. I'm taking some good swings so far."

Athletics prospect Grant Desme hit a go-ahead three-run homer off Carlton Smith (Indians) in the Desert Dogs' eight-run seventh. Blue Jays farmhand Brad Emaus followed with a two-run shot to right off Dan Meszaros (Astros) to cap the outburst.

Rays right-hander Matt Gorgen (0-1) took the loss after surrendering five runs on five hits and a walk while retiring one batter in the ninth.

## **Vancouver Canadians hire Jason Takefman as new GM**

BY BRUCE CONSTANTINEAU, VANCOUVER SUN

VANCOUVER — Who takes an internship at a minor league baseball club and becomes the team's general manager in just three years?

Jason Takefman, that's who.

The Vancouver Canadians announced Tuesday their 27-year-old director of ticket operations and community relations has been promoted to general manager.

He replaces former Canadians GM Andrew Seymour, who has become vice-president of the independent league Grand Prairie AirHogs in Texas.

Takefman is a Montreal native who graduated with a psychology degree from McGill University before accepting an internship with the Canadians in 2006. He has clearly taken fast-tracking to a new level.

"I really embrace the opportunity," the affable Takefman said in an interview. "We have a great team here and not everything is about one person. We all know each other and our strengths and what it takes to get this team to the next level."

Canadians broadcaster and media relations director Rob Fai and ballpark operations manager JC Fraser will help Takefman by becoming assistant general managers while retaining their current duties.

Takefman becomes the 11th general manager in club history dating back to 1978. Canadians president Andy Dunn said in a statement that Takefman's promotion is a testament to his hard work and dedication.

"Over the past few seasons it has become apparent that Jason was fit for this role and I am certain that he will have great success in his new expanded role," he said.

Takefman's job mainly involves the team's business operations since on-field baseball personnel decisions are made by the parent club — the Oakland A's.

The Canadians set a team single-A baseball attendance record last year by attracting nearly 150,000 fans to 38 home games at Nat Bailey Stadium — about 20,000 more than last year.

Takefman said his psychology degree won't necessarily help him in dealing with business contacts — "I just know what's wrong with me" — but he's educated enough in the business of baseball to know what it takes to succeed in Vancouver.

"We need to keep offering excellent customer service in an affordable family atmosphere every single time you come to the ballpark," he said. "The tough economy plays to our affordability for both families and businesses."