



ANAHEIM ANGELS

W-L: 73-63 Place: 2nd

Finley's broken wrist slows stretch run

Initial X-rays were encouraging, showing no ligament or tendon damage in Chuck Finley's left wrist, but a magnetic resonance imaging test and a CAT scan revealed the devastating news Tuesday—Finley has a broken wrist bone and will be lost for the rest of the regular season. Finley's injury came August 19, a day before catcher Todd Greene broke a bone in his right wrist and was declared out for the season. Pitchers Mark Langston and Mark Gubicza have missed most of the season with injuries, and closer Troy Percival sat out five weeks because of injury. Reliever Rich DeLucia has been out since July 19 because of an aneurysm in his shoulder, reliever Mike James sat out most of July because of an elbow injury and center fielder Jim Edmonds missed two weeks this month because of a lower back strain. "It's just another obstacle we have to conquer," shortstop Gary DiSarcina says. "I've been here six years, and this is the most resilient team I've been on. If any team can overcome the loss of Chuck Finley, it's this one."



FINLEY: Sitting with a broken bone.

Back and forth: Tony Phillips took a shot at team owner Walt Disney Co. and the players' association, accusing them of using him as a "pawn" and a "whipping boy" in their feud over whether baseball's drug policy needs to be reformed. Though Phillips, arrested on felony possession of cocaine charges August 10, was cleared by baseball doctors to play under an agreement to undergo random drug testing and outpatient counseling, the team suspended Phillips when he refused to enter a drug treatment center. The suspension was overturned and Phillips returned, but not without Disney and union officials exchanging rhetoric over which took a stronger moral stance against drug use. Phillips wants the bickering to end. "I put myself in this situation," Phillips says. "I'm taking a beating on it, but I caused it myself. It's not the union's or Disney's situation. It's mine." —MIKE DIGIOVANNA

Prospect Watch: JARROD WASHBURN, LHP

Washburn was not expected to be recalled when rosters expanded Monday, but he has positioned himself for a possible run at the rotation in 1998. Washburn was 15-12 with a 4.80 ERA and a Texas League-leading 146 strikeouts for Class AA Midland.

PLAYING HARBALL

Tony Phillips was arrested on felony cocaine possession charges, but Luis Alicea got the bum deal. Because of Phillips' troubles, Alicea lost his job as the starting second baseman. Phillips' arrest forced the team to trade for leadoff batter Rickey Henderson and, upon Phillips' return after his suspension was overturned, the only place for him was at second. So out went Alicea, who had filled in for the injured Randy Velarde, hitting .255 with seven triples, 14 doubles and 32 RBIs.

For more on the ANGELS check out www.sportingnews.com/baseball/teams/angels



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

W-L: 53-83 Place: 4th

Confident Tejada checks in at short

The future arrived last week when shortstop Miguel Tejada, the most heralded prospect in the organization and considered one of the top prospects in baseball, made his major league debut against the Yankees. Tejada was summoned from Class AA Huntsville after shortstop Tony Batista strained a quadriceps muscle and Rafael Bournival couldn't shake a nagging hamstring injury. There was little doubt Tejada would be activated before the season ended. He and outfielder Ben Grieve easily are the best prospects in the system. Tejada, 21, who was batting .276 with 22 home runs and 97 RBIs in 127 games, will have the upper hand in competing for the starting job at shortstop next season. For his part, Tejada, normally soft-spoken, didn't lack confidence upon his arrival. "I'm going to be the A's shortstop for 10 years, maybe more," he said. Those words had to bring a smile to general manager Sandy Alderson's face. Of course, Tejada still must harness his defense, as his 36 errors in the minors this season demonstrate.



CANSECO: Unlikely to return to the A's.

Goodbye to Bash? Jose Canseco's back is aching again and another stint on the disabled list seems imminent. Thus, Canseco's chance of reaching 568 plate appearances this season—which would automatically trigger his \$4.5 million option next season—seems gone. Canseco instead will become a free agent and it's doubtful the club will try to re-sign him. It's also doubtful Canseco still can command a salary over \$2 million. ... Outfielder Brian Leshner, who was told he was auditioning for a spot on next season's roster, broke an 0-for-26 slump with a pair of singles August 26. His chances of sticking around next year are dwindling by the day. ... Eric Ludwick, a 6-5 righthander acquired from St. Louis in the Mark McGwire trade, made his American League debut last Thursday against the Dodgers. He surrendered seven runs (four earned) in 5 1/3 innings.

Prospect Watch: BLAKE STEIN, RHP

Stein, acquired in the McGwire trade, struck out 10 batters (8 IP, 6 H, 4 R) in a no-decision for Class AA Huntsville at Knoxville. After going 16-5 for Class A St. Petersburg in 1996, Stein is 11-9 this season—8-7 with Arkansas and 3-2 with Huntsville.

PLAYING HARBALL

Since being moved from closer to the primary setup role, Billy Taylor has been phenomenal. Just when it seemed Taylor would have little chance of returning to the A's next season, he is making a strong case for himself. The team's bullpen, one of the weakest in baseball, needs help. Even though Taylor is eligible for arbitration, there is a good chance the two sides can reach a contract agreement even before exchanging arbitration figures, much like Buddy Groom and the team did last winter.

For more on the ATHLETICS check out www.sportingnews.com/baseball/teams/athletics

ANGELS BY THE NUMBERS

	'97 Season to date										Vs. RH		Vs. LH		WEEK 22												
	G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg.	OBP	SLG	SB	CS	BB	SO	E	AB	HR	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	SB				
Erstad	124	495	91	151	13	65	.305	.365	.465	22	7	46	75	11	348	302	6	147	313	7	16	3	5	1	2	10	1
Anderson	130	519	66	154	7	77	.297	.328	.401	9	3	24	54	3	355	296	7	164	299	0	17	2	4	1	3	7	0
Salmon	131	482	76	143	26	106	.297	.399	.512	9	11	60	129	9	363	295	18	119	303	8	18	2	3	1	3	6	1
Holmes	124	475	85	137	13	74	.288	.367	.434	13	5	53	108	25	321	265	6	154	308	7	13	2	2	0	0	2	1
Edmonds	110	418	71	125	21	68	.267	.359	.500	4	6	46	66	5	294	303	17	124	250	4	17	2	3	1	2	7	0
Phillips	120	454	81	128	54	282	.303	.403	.512	9	83	92	7	337	291	6	117	256	1	18	1	5	0	2	9	0	
Greene	60	118	12	33	1	6	.280	.372	.381	0	1	18	9	2	50	220	1	68	324	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Howe	55	125	21	33	10	23	.275	.323	.367	1	0	10	24	3	103	282	10	17	235	0	3	1	1	1	1	4	0
Alicea	108	341	51	67	5	32	.255	.368	.381	16	5	55	53	10	245	255	5	96	229	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Turner	3	4	0	0	0	0	.250	.400	.500	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
DiSarcina	130	460	45	113	3	45	.246	.276	.326	5	6	17	25	12	317	265	3	143	203	0	17	2	2	0	1	2	0
Henderson	16	57	14	14	2	6	.246	.386	.404	8	2	12	13	0	42	214	1	15	333	1	13	2	3	1	2	7	1
Krystoffel	67	194	22	45	3	16	.232	.313	.345	0	3	23	46	3	131	237	1	63	222	2	18	2	5	0	2	6	0
Encarnacion	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEAM	136	4716	711	1292	131	663	.274	.346	.419	102	59	505	780	99	3291	272	94	1425	279	37	162	20	34	6	20	62	4
OPP	136	4682	662	1271	168	631	.271	.346	.438	76	52	509	852	106	2676	274	95	2006	268	73	175	34	49	7	31	83	1

ATHLETICS BY THE NUMBERS

	'97 Season to date										Vs. RH		Vs. LH		WEEK 22												
	G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg.	OBP	SLG	SB	CS	BB	SO	E	AB	HR	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	TB	SB				
Stairs	109	269	53	87	23	64	.323	.413	.643	2	1	41	41	2	212	349	17	57	228	6	18	2	3	1	3	7	1
Magadan	108	212	28	68	4	21	.321	.425	.420	1	0	37	31	5	184	332	4	28	250	0	8	2	8	1	2	11	0
Bournival	75	214	29	62	1	20	.290	.348	.346	2	1	15	19	6	150	307	1	64	250	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
Williams	75	201	30	58	3	22	.289	.395	.388	0	1	34	46	6	133	271	1	68	324	2	8	0	3	0	2	3	0
Gamba	116	421	51	115	16	61	.273	.355	.473	0	0	50	71	4	337	273	10	84	274	6	18	1	4	0	0	5	0
Marme	64	193	18	49	4	12	.254	.316	.352	0	0	15	21	1	166	253	4	27	259	0	12	1	3	1	1	6	0
Bethome	54	183	28	44	6	18	.240	.341	.388	7	1	28	55	6	132	242	4	51	235	2	20	2	1	0	0	1	1
Tejada	4	17	1	4	1	2	.235	.278	.529	0	0	0	2	0	13	231	0	4	250	1	17	1	4	1	2	9	0
Spozzoli	121	441	41	101	10	49	.229	.280	.354	7	3	32	67	5	330	239	6	111	198	4	20	3	5	0	2	5	0
McDonald	52	141	27	32	4	11	.227	.319	.376	5	3	19	37	5	120	242	4	21	143	0	10	2	3	0	2	3	0
Young	55	148	18	32	5	13	.216	.302	.358	1	3	17	47	3	107	252	5	41	122	0	17	2	7	1	1	11	0
Brosius	113	424	54	88	10	36	.208	.264	.325	9	3	31	90	9	321	221	8	103	165	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leshner	25	82	11	15	3	6	.183	.230	.317	1	0	5	25	3	60	117	1	22	364	2	5	2	2	0	0	2	0
TEAM	136	4646	628	1187	173	586	.255	.338	.421	54	27	551	1003	98	1521	258	133	1125	247	40	175	18	43	5	16	63	2
OPP	136	4797	788	1436	159	746	.299	.372	.477	106	40	537	766	81	4095	299	137	702	303	22	181	41	64	3	35	89	11

*ROOKIE *LEFT-HANDED #SWITCH-HITTER LEAGUE LEADERS IN BOLD ALL STATISTICS THROUGH SATURDAY'S GAMES; PROVIDED BY STATS, INC.