



# NOTES FROM A DISTANCE

2008 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2008 AL CHAMPIONS | 2010 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2011 AL WILD CARD | 2013 AL WILD CARD | 2019 AL WILD CARD

## FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2020

### Day 92 Since Major League Baseball's Suspension of Spring Training

#### TAMPA BAY RAYS REGULAR SEASON HISTORY

YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS	YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS	YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS	YEAR	RECORD	POS.	PCT.	GB/GA	PLAYOFFS
2019	96-66	2nd	.593	7.0	Lost in ALDS	2013	92-71	2nd	.564	5.5	Lost in ALDS	2007	66-96	5th	.407	30.0	--	2001	62-100	5th	.383	34.0	--
2018	90-72	3rd	.556	18.0	--	2012	90-72	3rd	.556	5.0	--	2006	61-101	5th	.377	36.0	--	2000	69-92	5th	.429	18.0	--
2017	80-82	3rd	.494	13.0	--	2011	91-71	2nd	.562	6.0	Lost in ALDS	2005	67-94	5th	.416	28.0	--	1999	69-93	5th	.426	29.0	--
2016	68-94	5th	.420	25.0	--	2010	96-66	1st	.593	1.0	Lost in ALDS	2004	70-91	4th	.435	30.5	--	1998	63-99	5th	.414	51.0	--
2015	80-82	4th	.494	13.0	--	2009	84-78	3rd	.519	19.0	--	2003	63-99	5th	.389	38.0	--						
2014	77-85	4th	.475	19.0	--	2008	97-65	1st	.599	2.0	Lost in WS	2002	55-106	5th	.342	48.0	--						

**ON THE CLOCK**—Last night Major League Baseball completed its 2020 June Draft, with a total of 160 players being selected in the five rounds, two Competitive Balance rounds and one compensation round...the Rays held six picks over the two-day draft and selected four pitchers and two infielders, and four college juniors and two high schoolers...a record seven college players were selected with the first seven picks of this year's draft...the previous record was five college players to begin the draft in 2018 and 1992, which included current Rays hitting coach **Chad Mottola** at No. 5 overall...according to ESPN Stats & Info, only 33 high school players were selected in the first 100 picks, the fewest in MLB Draft history... see below for a single note on each of the six Rays selections, while complete bios for all of these picks are available online at [rayspressbox.com](http://rayspressbox.com).

- + **RH Nick Bitsko** (24th overall): In January, announced his decision to graduate from high school early, making him eligible for this year's draft...at the time of his reclassification, was ranked by *Baseball America* as the No. 1 prospect in their 2021 HS draft rankings.
- + **SS Alike Williams** (37th overall): Ranked as the Best Defensive Infielder among college players in the draft by *Baseball America*.
- + **LH Ian Seymour** (57th overall): Went 3-0 with a 2.21 ERA (20.1-IP, 5-ER) and 40 SO in 4 apps (all starts) during his abbreviated junior season, earning third team All-American honors from the *Collegiate Baseball News*...recorded 14 SO in his final start this season, setting the Virginia Tech record for strikeouts in an ACC game.
- + **RH Hunter Barnhart** (96th overall): Pitched to a 0.64 ERA (11-IP, 1-ER) with 18 SO in 2 starts before the shutdown after quarterbacking St. Joseph's football team a league championship last fall.
- + **SS Tanner Murray** (125th overall): Former walk-on hit over .300 in all three seasons with UC-Davis: .333 as a freshman, .364 as a sophomore and .310 in his pandemic-shortened junior season.
- + **RH Jeff Hakanson** (155th overall): University of Central Florida product was born in Tampa, went to Jesuit HS and attended a 2008 ALDS game and Game 4 of the 2019 ALDS at Tropicana Field.

**DOME SWEET DOME**—Following safety protocols and social distancing, the Rays have held nine workouts at Tropicana Field since the stadium re-opened to players and coaches on May 25...these workouts were initially limited to playing catch, running and light weight work, all on the field...last Friday, pitchers started to throw off the bullpen mounds, while hitters were allowed to take batting practice on Wednesday and today...hitters worked in groups of two and were told not to pick up or touch the balls...the balls were retrieved by staff wearing rubber gloves, then

thrown into a cart and not re-used...all of the workouts at Tropicana Field are voluntary and only open to players on the 40-man roster.

- + Lot 4 of Tropicana Field (1st Ave S and 17th St) continues to be used as a drive-thru mobile pantry for Feeding Tampa Bay's Pinellas clients, every Saturday from 9 a.m.–noon...for more details or updates to the schedule, visit [feedingtampabay.org/mobile-pantries](http://feedingtampabay.org/mobile-pantries).

**FOR THE PAPAS**—Rays fans can find the perfect gift for dad while saving 25 percent off retail pricing when they purchase a specially curated Father's Day gift set from the Rays Republic Team Store...these packages start as low as \$100 and also include a free Rays Father's Day Yard Sign... details of the packages available are listed below...contact the store at [raysretail@rankandrally.com](mailto:raysretail@rankandrally.com) or 727-342-5731 for more details.

- + **Father's Day Hat & Shirt Combo**—Rays Nike Golf Polo with Burst, Rays Nike Adjustable Hat with Burst, Rays #1 Dad Lapel Pin
- + **Father's Day Jersey Package**—Rays Nike Replica Jersey, Rays Dad Hat by '47 Brand, Rays #1 Dad Pint Glass, Rays Steering Wheel Cover
- + **Father's Day Tailgate Package**—Rays BBQ Grill Tongs, Rays 3 Piece BBQ Set, Rays Wooden Bottle Opener Sign, (2) Rays Yeti 20 oz. Tumblers
- + **Father's Day Golf Package**—Rays Golf Bag, Rays Golf Glove, Rays Golf Towel, Rays Golf Ball and Tee Set, Rays Cooling Gator Face Mask, Rays Nike Golf Polo

**COMFORTS OF HOME**—FOX Sports Sun continues to re-air every Rays victory from last season in succession...tonight at 7 p.m. and midnight, they will air the 6-5 win from July 30 at BOS, highlighted by **Avisail Garcia's** go-ahead, 2-run double in the 6th inning...tomorrow at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight, they will air the 8-5 victory from July 31 at BOS...on Sunday at 12 p.m., 4 p.m. and midnight, they will show the 9-4 win from Aug 1 at BOS, when the Rays completed a 3-game sweep and became the first visiting team with 8 wins at Fenway Park since the 1966 Orioles went 8-1 there.

- + WDAE 95.3 FM and 620 AM is re-airing Rays wins from last season every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m. and every Saturday and Sunday at noon...tonight, tomorrow and Sunday are the 8-3, 3-1 and 4-3 (in 11 innings) wins from May 27-29 vs. TOR.
- + Rays Radio's **Neil Solondz** released a draft preview podcast earlier this week featuring Rays Senior Director, Amateur Scouting **Rob Metzler** and MLB.com's **Jonathan Mayo**...in this week's alumni podcast, Neil spoke with former Rays outfielder **Jonny Gomes**.

#### THIS WEEK IN RAYS HISTORY

JUNE 12, 2010	JUNE 13, 2003	JUNE 14, 2000	JUNE 15, 2005	JUNE 16, 2014	JUNE 17, 2016	JUNE 18, 2013
Carlos Peña homered in a sixth straight game, setting a franchise record...he became the first player to accomplish the feat since Frank Thomas did it with the Athletics from Sep 5-11, 2006...the Rays defeated the Marlins, 6-5, at Tropicana Field.	Rays pitchers Victor Zambrano, Travis Harper, Jesús Colomé and Al Levine combined on a 1-hitter but issued 8 BB in a 7-1 win over the Pirates...Jack Wilson's 5th-inning single was the only hit of the game for the visitors.	The Rays enjoyed the first of two back-to-back walk-off wins, the first time in club history to achieve that...they beat the Angels, 3-2, on Fred McGriff's 3-run homer in the 9th inning off Troy Percival...the following day, they won, 2-1, on Russ Johnson's RBI single in the 9th.	The Rays defeated the Brewers, 5-3, and Hideo Nomo allowed 2 runs in 7 IP for the victory...it gave him 200 wins between Japan and the majors, automatically qualifying him for Japan's Meikyukai Hall of Fame.	Jerry Sands recorded a pinch-hit, game-winning hit for a second straight game, making him the first AL player to record the game-winning RBI as a pinch-hitter in consecutive team games since 1990...his homer in the 8th inning helped the Rays win, 5-4, over Baltimore.	The Rays, partners, fans and MLB raised more than \$300,000 to benefit the Pulse Victims Fund after the mass shooting in Orlando...40,135 fans saw the 5-1 loss to the Giants, the largest regular season crowd at Tropicana Field since April 10, 2006 vs. BAL (40,199).	Wil Myers made his major league debut, batting sixth and playing right field...he became the youngest player to make his major league debut in right field at Fenway Park since BOS Dwight Evans in 1972...the Rays were swept in a double-header, losing 5-1 and 3-1.

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