



12 SKOKIE INDIANS PHANTOMS

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2003 REGULAR SEASON RECORD AND GAME HIGHLIGHTS

1. DATE Saturday, April 26
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Edgebrook-Sauganash Dodgers
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 14-24 in five innings (1-0)
PITCHERS Wait (2), Saxe (1), Rivet (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: In a see-saw game that ended after five innings, every Phantom scored at least one run. Extra base hits were delivered by J.Steege (three doubles), M.Harvey (double), R.Roveda (two doubles) and M.Rivet (game-ending home run) for the Phantoms. Rivet closed the game with two perfect innings pitched. For the Dodgers, Kearns pitched two fine innings and contributed a triple and three runs scored, while Quinn hit a double and scored two runs. Bunzol also scored three runs.

-- Coach Russ

2. DATE Saturday, May 3
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Cardinals
SCORE 6-12 (1-1)
PITCHERS Kohnken (1), Baskin (4), Wait (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms got off to a slow start at the plate, allowing the Cardinals to build up a lead which we did not overcome. J.Steege led our hitters with two doubles, while M.Harvey, M.Wait, D.Baskin, J.Rickord, R.Roveda, P.Kohnken, and N.Flax also contributed hits.

-- Coach Russ

3. DATE Monday, May 5
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Indians Warriors
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 10-7 (1-2)
PITCHERS Saxe (2), Rivet (3), Kohnken (1), Baskin (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: Again we got off to a slow start at the plate, trailing by 7-0 going into the bottom of the sixth. Suddenly our bats came alive and we brought home five runs, making for an exciting game before finally losing 10-7. M.Wait made some excellent plays in the outfield, but overall our fielding struggled. R.Roveda and N.Flax led our hitting attack with two hits each, while M.Rivet and D.Baskin both stole home in the bottom of the seventh inning. Our pitchers improved their control, giving up only two walks.

-- Coach Russ

4. DATE Friday, May 9
DIAMOND Laramie West
VISITORS Skokie Indians CSMG Elephants
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 12-11 (1-3)
PITCHERS Rivet (3), Roveda (1), Kohnken (1), Baskin (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms scored in most innings, but the CSMG Elephants had a seven-run fourth inning ultimately winning 12 to 11. M.Rivet pitched three scoreless innings, while D.Baskin finished with two strong innings. R.Roveda, Rivet, and B.Matek all contributed multiple hits.

-- Coach Russ

5. DATE Monday, May 12
 DIAMOND Central Park West
 VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
 HOME Skokie Indians Bulldogs
 SCORE 6-9 (1-4)
 PITCHERS D.Baskin (3), N.Flax (1), M.Wait (2),
 M.Rivet (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: Against the Bulldogs, the Phantoms' bats were quiet until the fifth inning and we failed to get any extra base hits. More significantly, our fielding let us down, allowing the Bulldogs five runs in the fourth, and another three in the fifth, as we lost 6 to 9. D.Baskin pitched three strong innings. -- Coach Russ

6. DATE Friday, May 16
 DIAMOND Laramie West
 VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
 HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Phillies
 SCORE 20-12 (2-4)
 PITCHERS M.Rivet (4), D.Baskin (3)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms' bats came alive as they scored in all seven innings. J.Rickord set the tempo for the game with a leadoff triple. He, S.Saxe, and D.Baskin ended the day with four hits each. M.Rivet and Baskin pitched fine games. The late afternoon sun played havoc with both teams on balls hit to right field and second base, accounting for several runs for both teams. The Phantoms showed good team spirit, continually rooting all of our players on. -- Coach Russ

7. DATE Saturday, May 17
 DIAMOND Proesel #1
 VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
 HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Cardinals
 SCORE 12-1 in 6 innings (3-4)
 PITCHERS M.Rivet (4), S.Saxe (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: Again, the Phantom bats were lively with 11 hits in five innings, with the biggest bang of 11 runs in the fourth inning. M.Rivet pitched an overpowering four innings, striking out 12 of 15 batters. More aggressive Phantoms' base running resulted in several runs, but also several double plays. -- Coach Russ

8. DATE Tuesday, May 20
 DIAMOND Prairie View
 VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
 HOME Morton Grove Diamondbacks
 SCORE 17-4 in 5-1/2 innings (4-4)
 PITCHERS M.Rivet (3), P.Kohnken (2), D.Baskin (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms started strong, scoring seven runs in the first inning. After an eight-run fifth inning, the game was ended with the score 17 to 4. M.Rivet, P.Kohnken and N.Flax all had extra base hits for the Phantoms. M.Wait also contributed two hits. Rivet pitched three scoreless innings. -- Coach Russ

9. DATE Thursday, May 22
 DIAMOND Proesel #1
 VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
 HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Athletics
 SCORE 0-10 in six innings (4-5)
 PITCHERS M.Wait (3), S.Saxe (1), D.Baskin (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms hit the ball hard, but the Athletics fielded flawlessly. M.Wait pitched an excellent three innings, but we gradually gave up too many runs between some fielding errors and too many walks. In a game where we lost by 10 runs, we still got as many hits as the opponents. J.Rickord led our hitting with three hits. -- Coach Russ

10. DATE Tuesday, May 27
 DIAMOND Central Park West
 VISITORS Skokie Youth Blue Jays
 HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
 SCORE 9-4 (4-6)
 PITCHERS D.Baskin (3), M.Wait (1), M.Rivet (3)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: Our hitting was tamed by the fielding and pitching of the Blue Jays, as we only got four hits, one a home run by M.Rivet. Our defense was stronger, and we kept their hit balls mostly in the infield, but the Blue Jays chipped away for a few runs in almost every inning. D.Baskin led our hitters with two hits, one a double, while M.Rivet hit another home run. -- Coach Russ

11. DATE Friday, May 30
 DIAMOND Central Park West
 VISITORS Morton Grove Red Sox
 HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
 SCORE Morton Grove Red Sox forfeited (5-6)
 PITCHERS none (practice game)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Red Sox only had eight players to start, and lost two at the fourth inning, forcing them to forfeit the game. Up until then, the Phantoms were hitting quite well, scoring 14 runs through three innings. Both M.Rivet and R.Roveda hit home runs, and nearly every other Phantom contributed hits. Our pitching and fielding seem to be growing stronger as we move into the latter part of the season. -- Coach Russ

12. DATE Sunday, June 1
 DIAMOND Central Park West
 VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
 HOME Skokie Indians CSMG Elephants
 SCORE 12-1 (6-6)
 PITCHERS M.Rivet (3), P.Kohnken (1), D.Baskin (3)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The game was a tight game through five innings, with the Phantoms leading 2 to 1 on fine pitching performances and good fielding. The Phantoms finally started to hit in the sixth inning, and piled it on in the seventh. Again, most Phantoms contributed hits to our attack. -- Coach Russ

13. DATE Monday, June 2
DIAMOND Laramie West
VISITORS Edgebrook-Sauganash Phillies
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 2-10 (7-6)
PITCHERS Rivet (3), Wait (1), Baskin (3)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: Another tight pitchers' duel through three innings saw the Phantoms score four in the fourth and six in the fifth to break open the game. Again, our pitchers performed excellently, and our defense continues to grow stronger and display extraordinary hustle, featuring some fine plays by J.Rickord at second base and M.Rivet at catcher. The Phantoms are jelling as a team! Our hitting was led with triples by Rickord and D.Baskin, and doubles by N.Flax, M.Wait, and R.Roveda. -- *Coach Russ*

14. DATE Wednesday, June 4
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Skokie Indians Warriors
SCORE 19-2 in five innings (8-6)
PITCHERS Rivet (2), Kohnken (1), Saxe (1), Baskin (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms exploded for 10 runs in the second inning and never looked back. Everyone on the team scored, led by D.Baskin with four hits and four RB'ls. Meanwhile our pitchers kept the Warriors' hitting attack mostly in the infield, where our defense performed well. -- *Coach Russ*

15. DATE Saturday, June 7
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Indians Walton Bulldogs
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 6-10 (9-6)
PITCHERS Rivet (4), Baskin (3)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: the Bulldogs came out fighting, scoring four in the top of the first, but we responded with three in the bottom. After that, our pitching and defense began to stiffen, while our offense continued chipping away. Three runs in the bottom of the sixth gave the Phantoms the breathing room we needed to close out the game, winning 10-6. Our hitters collected three triples, by D.Baskin, J.Steege, and J.Rickord, and three doubles by Rickord, M.Rivet, and J.Strunk. Good work, Phantoms! -- *Coach Russ*

16. DATE Wednesday, June 11
DIAMOND Wildwood
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Dodgers
SCORE 17-7 in six innings (10-6)
PITCHERS Kohnken (2), Saxe (2), Baskin (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms' bats got off to a slow start, and we were scoreless in the first two innings. But thereafter we managed to piece together enough runs to win after six innings. As is often the case, many Phantoms contributed to our success, but a special thanks goes to B.Kucera, a 12 year old who played up to give us nine players for the night. He did a yeoman's job at second base, and also managed a hit for us. -- *Coach Russ*

2003 NSYBA DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

1. DATE Saturday, June 14
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Indians Warriors
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 7-18 in six innings (1-0)
PITCHERS Rivet (2), Saxe (1), Wait (1), Baskin (2)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms started strong, scoring 11 runs in the first inning. The big blow was a home run by D.Baskin. The Warriors came back to score six runs in the third inning, but were unable to build on that. Other Phantoms' extra base hits were contributed by M.Rivet, J.Steege, and R.Roveda, including a game-ending triple to deep center field. -- *Coach Russ*

2. DATE Tuesday, June 17
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Edgebrook-Sauganash Dodgers
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 1-10 (2-0)
PITCHERS Rivet (7)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Dodgers opened the game with a first inning run, but scored no more on solid pitching by M.Rivet. The Phantoms answered the challenge with runs in the first, second, and third innings. The bats were hot. Rivet had multiple hits including RBI's and a home run and J.Rickord had two RBI's. Other members with RBI's were Baskin, Harvey, Strunk, and Roveda. The Phantoms continue to roll through the play-offs. -- *Coach Wait*

3. DATE Saturday, June 21
DIAMOND Wildwood
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Cardinals
SCORE 13-9 (3-0)
PITCHERS Baskin (6), Wait (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms started strong and stayed strong throughout the game. D.Baskin pitched six great innings and M.Wait closed the game. The Phantoms brought their bats, and a combination of solid offense as well as some great plays in the field, led them to their third victory in the play-offs. On to the Championship game! -- *Coach Wait*

3. DATE Friday, June 27
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Edgebrook-Sauganash Cardinals
SCORE 10-9 (4-0)
PITCHERS Baskin (7)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Phantoms won through a complete team effort. D.Baskin pitched a gutsy seven innings. Every member of the Phantoms team hit the ball. The key to the win was solid defense in the outfield and infield. R.Roveda made a spectacular throw to get the batter out going home in the fourth inning. It saved a run and changed the course of the game. The final out was a terrific catch by M.Harvey at second base. The Phantoms earned ten runs on 17 hits. On to the World Series!

-- Coach Wait

2003 NSYBA NATIONAL DIVISION PENNANT WINNERS

2003 NSYBA WORLD SERIES

1. DATE Monday, June 30
DIAMOND Laramie West (under the lights)
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Skokie Youth Blue Jays
SCORE 3-4 in seven full innings (0-1)
PITCHERS Baskin (4), Kohnken (2), Saxe (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: An exciting, close pitcher's duel, with neither team doing much offensively through the first five innings. In the top of the sixth, the Phantoms scored one run on some good baserunning by J.Rickord and a sacrifice by M.Wait to go up 2 to 1. In the bottom of the sixth, the Blue Jays took the lead, scoring two runs on some good baserunning of their own. The Phantoms tied it up 3 to 3 in the top of the seventh on a steal of home by D.Baskin. But the Blue Jays scored in their half to take the first game of this World Series.

-- Coach Russ

2. DATE Tuesday, July 1
DIAMOND Central Park West
VISITORS Skokie Youth Blue Jays
HOME Skokie Indians Phantoms
SCORE 4-6 (1-1)
PITCHERS Baskin (4), Wait (3)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: Another exciting and close game, the Blue Jays held a 3 to 1 lead going into the bottom of the fourth inning, when the Phantoms scored three runs, highlighted by a double off the tennis court fence by D.Baskin. The Phantoms squeezed out two more runs, featuring a double by P.Kohnken, while M.Wait finished by pitching three scoreless innings. The Blue Jays played extremely well in the field, where six of our outs came on the basepaths. S.Saxe, the Phantom catcher, also threw out two Blue Jay runners trying to steal.

-- Coach Russ

3. DATE Wednesday, July 2
DIAMOND Laramie West (under the lights)
VISITORS Skokie Indians Phantoms
HOME Skokie Youth Blue Jays
SCORE 5-13 (1-2)
PITCHERS Wait (2), Baskin (3), Saxe (1)

GAME HIGHLIGHTS: The Blue Jays came out hitting, getting their first five batters on base and scoring five runs in the first inning. Although the Phantoms scratched back for several runs here and there, we could not mount a serious hitting attack, managing only two hits for the game. Our runs scored primarily on excellent baserunning by J.Rickord, D.Baskin, and M.Harvey. The Blue Jays scored five runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to seal their victory. Congratulations to the Blue Jays and to the Phantoms on a well-played series and excellent seasons. It has been a pleasure coaching these fine young men!

-- Coach Russ