

1966 NL Replay April Update

Team	Wins	Losses	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles Dodgers	14	4	.778	0
Pittsburgh Pirates	9	6	.600	3 1/2
Houston Astros	10	8	.556	4
Atlanta Braves	9	9	.500	5
San Francisco Giants	9	9	.500	5
Cincinnati Reds	7	7	.500	5
Philadelphia Phillies	6	7	.462	5 1/2
New York Mets	5	6	.455	5 1/2
St Louis Cardinals	5	11	.313	8
Chicago Cubs	4	11	.267	8 1/2

Hitting Leaders (as of April 30)

Player	Team	PA	AVG	Player	Team	PA	Slg. Pct
Bailey, Bob	Pit	64	.474	Bailey, Bob	Pit	64	.877
Taylor, Tony	Phi	45	.429	Cepeda, Orlando	SF	35	.743
Cepeda, Orlando	SF	35	.429	Allen, Dick	Phi	55	.660
Alou, Jay	SF	65	.400	Brock, Lou	StL	70	.638
Brock, Lou	StL	70	.391	Mays, Willie	SF	75	.606
McCarver, Tim	StL	49	.375	Hart, Jim	SF	78	.603
Harper, Tommy	Cin	61	.360	Lefebvre, Jim	LA	65	.586
Hunt, Ron	NYM	50	.357	Taylor, Tony	Phi	45	.571
Torre, Joe	Atl	75	.344	McCovey, Willie	SF	72	.561
Allen, Dick	Phi	55	.340	Carty, Rico	Atl	57	.558

Player	Team	PA	OBP
Bailey, Bob	Pit	64	.531
Harper, Tommy	Cin	61	.475
Taylor, Tony	Phi	45	.467
Santo, Ron	Chi	67	.463
Hunt, Ron	NYM	50	.460
Alou, Jay	SF	65	.438
Cepeda, Orlando	SF	35	.429
Torre, Joe	Atl	75	.425
Hickman, Jim	NYM	34	.424
Browne, Byron	Chi	37	.405

Player	Team	Homeruns
Mays, Willie	SF	6
Bateman, John	Hou	5
Javier, Julian	StL	5
Bailey, Bob	Pit	5
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	5
McCovey, Willie	SF	4
Alou, Felipe	Atl	4
Fairly, Ron	LA	4
Ferrara, Al	LA	4
Brock, Lou	StL	4
Lefebvre, Jim	LA	4
Clemente, Roberto	Pit	4
Allen, Dick	Phi	4
Hart, Jim	SF	4

Player	Team	Hits
Brock, Lou	StL	27
Bailey, Bob	Pit	27
Alou, Jay	SF	24
Hart, Jim	SF	23
Jackson, Sonny	Hou	22
Torre, Joe	Atl	22
Alou, Felipe	Atl	21
Johnson, Lou	LA	20
Aspromonte, Bob	Hou	20
Smith, Charley	StL	19
Clemente, Roberto	Pit	19
Lanier, Hal	SF	19

Player	Team	RBIs
Allen, Dick	Phi	17
Bailey, Bob	Pit	16
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	15
Mays, Willie	SF	14
Torre, Joe	Atl	13
Clemente, Roberto	Pit	12
Stargell, Willie	Pit	12
Aaron, Henry	Atl	12
Javier, Julian	StL	12
Bateman, John	Hou	11
Carty, Rico	Atl	11
Smith, Charley	StL	11
McCovey, Willie	SF	11
Thomas, Lee	Atl	11

Player	Team	Runs
Aaron, Henry	Atl	17
Mays, Willie	SF	15
Bailey, Bob	Pit	14
Brock, Lou	StL	13
Mathews, Eddie	Atl	13
Clemente, Roberto	Pit	13
Clendenon, Donn	Pit	12
Thomas, Lee	Atl	12
Javier, Julian	StL	11
Hart, Jim	SF	11
Alou, Felipe	Atl	11
Jackson, Sonny	Hou	11
Parker, Wes	LA	11

Player	Team	Doubles
Alou, Felipe	Atl	6
Aaron, Henry	Atl	6
Bailey, Bob	Pit	6
Rose, Pete	Cin	6
Lanier, Hal	SF	5
Johnson, Lou	LA	5
Harper, Tommy	Cin	5
Carty, Rico	Atl	5
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	5
Alou, Matty	Pit	5
Haller, Tom	SF	5
Morgan, Joe	Hou	5
Pinson, Vada	Cin	5
Brock, Lou	StL	5

Player	Team	Triples
Jackson, Sonny	Hou	3
Hart, Jim	SF	3
McCarver, Tim	StL	3
Clendenon, Donn	Pit	3
Davis, Willie	LA	2
Alou, Felipe	Atl	2
Morgan, Joe	Hou	2
Clemente, Roberto	Pit	2
McCovey, Willie	SF	2
Williams, Billy	Chi	2

Player	Team	Walks
Morgan, Joe	Hou	13
Santo, Ron	Chi	12
Thomas, Lee	Atl	11
Harper, Tommy	Cin	11
Menke, Denis	Atl	10
Mays, Willie	SF	9
Torre, Joe	Atl	9
Pagliaroni, Jim	Pit	9
McMillan, Roy	NYM	9
Hunt, Ron	NYM	8
Nicholson, Dave	Hou	8
Parker, Wes	LA	8
Williams, Billy	Chi	8

Player	Team	Steals
Brock, Lou	StL	9
Phillips, Adolfo		6
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	5
Alou, Matty	Pit	5
Aaron, Henry	Atl	4
Wills, Maury	LA	4
Davis, Willie	LA	3
Harper, Tommy	Cin	3
Alou, Jay	SF	3
Oliver, Nate	LA	2
McCarver, Tim	StL	2
Clemente, Roberto	Pit	2
Hunt, Ron	NYM	2
Cepeda, Orlando	SF	2
Jackson, Sonny	Hou	2
Maye, Lee	Hou	2
Morgan, Joe	Hou	2
Bailey, Bob	Pit	2

Player	Team	Strikeouts
Brock, Lou	StL	17
Aaron, Henry	Atl	17
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	16
Mathews, Eddie	Atl	15
Clendenon, Donn	Pit	14
Gentile, Jim	Hou	14
Parker, Wes	LA	13
Stargell, Willie	Pit	12
Jackson, Sonny	Hou	12
Rose, Pete	Cin	12
Brandt, Jackie	Phi	12
Staub, Rusty	Hou	12
Altman, George	Chi	12
Hundley, Randy	Chi	12

Player	Team	GDP
Lanier, Hal	SF	9
Johnson, Alex	StL	5
Aaron, Henry	Atl	4
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	4
Alou, Jay	SF	4
Hunt, Ron	NYM	3
Perez, Tony	Cin	3
Kranepool, Ed	NYM	3
Haller, Tom	SF	3
Bailey, Bob	Pit	3
Aspromonte, Bob	Hou	3

Player	Team	At-Bats
Alou, Felipe	Atl	81
Lanier, Hal	SF	75
Aaron, Henry	Atl	75
Jackson, Sonny	Hou	73
Parker, Wes	LA	73
Hart, Jim	SF	73
Wynn, Jimmy	Hou	72
Thomas, Lee	Atl	69
Aspromonte, Bob	Hou	69
Brock, Lou	StL	69
Johnson, Lou	LA	69

Player	Team	PA	Lowest AVG
Gentile, Jim	Hou	53	.070
Johnson, Alex	StL	67	.092
Williams, Billy	Chi	71	.111
Nicholson, Dave	Hou	41	.125
Pagliaroni, Jim	Pit	41	.125
McMillan, Roy	NYM	43	.147
White, Bill	Phi	54	.151
Fairly, Ron	LA	63	.155
Hundley, Randy	Chi	62	.158
Staub, Rusty	Hou	64	.193

Pitching Leaders (as of April 30)

Player	Team	IP	ERA	Pitcher	Team	K
Dierker, Larry	Hou	27	1.00	Koufax, Sandy	LA	48
Maloney, Jim	Cin	25	1.80	Sutton, Don	LA	32
Marichal, Juan	SF	34	1.85	Bunning, Jim	Phi	31
Koufax, Sandy	LA	43	1.88	Veale, Bob	Pit	28
Blass, Steve	Pit	25	2.16	Marichal, Juan	SF	26
Priddy, Bob	SF	12	2.25	LeMaster, Denny	Atl	25
Latman, Barry	Hou	24	2.25	Drysdale, Don	LA	25
Osteen, Claude	LA	38	2.37	Maloney, Jim	Cin	23
Johnson, Ken	Atl	34	2.38	Osteen, Claude	LA	22
Gibson, Bob	StL	25 2/3	2.45	Cloninger, Tony	Atl	22

Pitcher	Team	Wins
Sutton, Don	LA	4
Bunning, Jim	Phi	4
Marichal, Juan	SF	3
Drysdale, Don	LA	3
Koufax, Sandy	LA	3
Carroll, Clay	Atl	3
Roberts, Robin	Hou	3
Cloninger, Tony	Atl	3
Blass, Steve	Pit	3
Dierker, Larry	Hou	3

Pitcher	Team	Innings
Koufax, Sandy	LA	43
Osteen, Claude	LA	38
Bunning, Jim	Phi	35
Bolin, Bobby	SF	34 1/3
Johnson, Ken	Atl	34
Marichal, Juan	SF	34
Cloninger, Tony	Atl	32 2/3
Jaster, Larry	StL	31
Roberts, Robin	Hou	31
Sutton, Don	LA	30
Veale, Bob	Pit	30

Pitcher	Team	Walks
Cloninger, Tony	Atl	21
Bolin, Bobby	SF	18
LeMaster, Denny	Atl	13
Hamilton, Jack	NYM	12
Culp, Ray	Phi	12
Shaw, Bob	SF	12
Fischer, Denny	Atl	11
Koufax, Sandy	LA	10
Ellis, Sammy	Cin	10
Gibson, Bob	StL	10
Drysdale, Don	LA	10
Maloney, Jim	Cin	10
Washburn, Ray	StL	10

Pitcher	Team	Complete Games
Koufax, Sandy	LA	4
Dierker, Larry	Hou	3
Bunning, Jim	Phi	3
Marichal, Juan	SF	3
Johnson, Ken	Atl	2
Maloney, Jim	Cin	2
Sutton, Don	LA	2
Blass, Steve	Pit	2
Sisk, Tommie	Pit	2
Osteen, Claude	LA	2
Gibson, Bob	StL	2
Roberts, Robin	Hou	2

Pitcher	Team	HRA
Cuellar, Miguel	Hou	8
Herbel, Ron	SF	8
Broglio, Ernie	Chi	7
Raymond, Claude	Hou	7
Shaw, Bob	SF	5
Hands, Bill	Chi	5
Cloninger, Tony	Atl	5
Sutton, Don	LA	5
Bunning, Jim	Phi	5
Sisk, Tommie	Pit	5

Pitcher	Team	Saves
Hoerner, Joe	StL	2
McCool, Billy	Cin	2
Linzy, Frank	SF	2
Face, Roy	Pit	2
Raymond, Claude	Hou	2
Carroll, Clay	Atl	2
Sembrera, Carroll	Hou	1
Regan, Phil	LA	1
Abernathy, Ted	Chi	1
Mikkelson, Pete	Pit	1
Hamilton, Jack	NYM	1
Jenkins, Ferguson		1
Nottebart, Don	Cin	1
Niekro, Phil	Atl	1
Ribant, Dennis	NYM	1
Henry, Bill	SF	1
Craig, Roger	Phi	1
O'Dell, Billy	Atl	1

Pitcher	Team	Games
Priddy, Bob	SF	7
Hands, Bill	Chi	6
Koonce, Cal	Chi	6
Cardwell, Don	Pit	5
Hamilton, Jack	NYM	5
Carroll, Clay	Atl	5
Latman, Barry	Hou	5
Briles, Nelson	StL	5
Gibbon, Joe	SF	5
Linzy, Frank	SF	5
Faul, Bill	Chi	5
Koufax, Sandy	LA	5
Woodeshick, Hal	StL	5
Niekro, Phil	Atl	5
McBean, Al	Pit	5
Osteen, Claude	LA	5
Hoerner, Joe	StL	5
Bolin, Bobby	SF	5
Sisk, Tommie	Pit	5

Pitcher	Team	Shutouts
Marichal, Juan	SF	2
Koufax, Sandy	LA	2
Dierker, Larry	Hou	2
Culp, Ray	Phi	1
Latman, Barry	Hou	1
Law, Vern	Pit	1
McGraw, Tug	NYM	1
Maloney, Jim	Cin	1
Osteen, Claude	LA	1
Blass, Steve	Pit	1

Pitcher	Team	IP	Strikeouts per 9 IP
Koufax, Sandy	LA	43	10.0
Sutton, Don	LA	30	9.6
Pappas, Milt	Cin	14	9.0
Hendley, Bob	Chi	14 2/3	8.6
Veale, Bob	Pit	30	8.4
LeMaster, Denny	Atl	27	8.3
Drysdale, Don	LA	27	8.3
Maloney, Jim	Cin	25	8.3
Hamilton, Jack	NYM	15 2/3	8.0
Bunning, Jim	Phi	35	8.0

Pitcher	Team	Hits Allowed
Roberts, Robin	Hou	38
Cardwell, Don	Pit	35
Cloninger, Tony	Atl	33
Ellis, Sammy	Cin	32
Blasingame, Don	Atl	31
Sisk, Tommie	Pit	29
Washburn, Ray	StL	29
Herbel, Ron	SF	28
Osteen, Claude	LA	27
Bolin, Bobby	SF	26
Broglio, Ernie	Chi	26
Koufax, Sandy	LA	26

Pitcher	Team	IP	Walks per 9 IP
Farrell, Turk	Hou	14	0.0
Short, Chris	Phi	18	0.5
Perry, Gaylord	SF	14	0.6
Priddy, Bob	SF	12	0.8
Sutton, Don	LA	30	0.9
Ellsworth, Dick	Chi	18 2/3	1.0
Dierker, Larry	Hou	27	1.0
Roberts, Robin	Hou	31	1.2
Jackson, Al	Chi	13	1.4
Sisk, Tommie	Pit	24	1.5
Bruce, Bob	Hou	12	1.5

Pitcher	Team	IP	Hits/9IP
Dierker, Larry	Hou	27	4.0
Maloney, Jim	Cin	25	4.3
Marichal, Juan	SF	34	4.5
Latman, Barry	Hou	24	4.9
Gibson, Bob	StL	25 2/3	4.9
Drysdale, Don	LA	27	5.0
Koufax, Sandy	LA	43	5.4
LeMaster, Denny	Atl	27	5.7
Bunning, Jim	Phi	35	5.9
Jaster, Larry	StL	31	6.1

Pitcher	Team	Losses
Ellis, Sammy	Cin	4
Veale, Bob	Pit	3
Briles, Nelson	StL	3
Knowles, Darold	Phi	3
Osteen, Claude	LA	3
Hamilton, Jack	NYM	2
Farrell, Turk	Hou	2
Perry, Gaylord	SF	2
Jay, Joey	Cin	2
Woodeshick, Hal	StL	2
Jenkins, Ferguson		2
Jackson, Al	Chi	2
Broglio, Ernie	Chi	2
Johnson, Ken	Atl	2
LeMaster, Denny	Atl	2
Herbel, Ron	SF	2
Giusti, Dave	Hou	2
Hepler, Bill	NYM	2
Washburn, Ray	StL	2
Hoerner, Joe	StL	2
Hands, Bill	Chi	2
Culp, Ray	Phi	2

Pitcher	Team	Games Started
Koufax, Sandy	LA	5
Bolin, Bobby	SF	5
Osteen, Claude	LA	5
Veale, Bob	Pit	4
Shaw, Bob	SF	4
Drysdale, Don	LA	4
Cloninger, Tony	Atl	4
Sutton, Don	LA	4
LeMaster, Denny	Atl	4
Jaster, Larry	StL	4
Marichal, Juan	SF	4
Johnson, Ken	Atl	4
Bunning, Jim	Phi	4
Ellis, Sammy	Cin	4
Roberts, Robin	Hou	4

Player	Team	IP	Highest ERA
Ellis, Sammy	Cin	18	13.50
Blasingame	Atl	17 1/3	10.90
Broglio, Ernie	Chi	17 1/3	10.38
Hands, Bill	Chi	16	9.00
Washburn, Ray	StL	17	7.41
Herbel, Ron	SF	21	7.29
Selma, Dick	NYM	15	7.20
Hamilton, Jack	NYM	15 2/3	6.89
Faul, Bill	Chi	15 2/3	6.89
Koonce, Cal	Chi	12	6.75

Team by Team highlights for April

Los Angeles Dodgers

14-4

By mid-April, LA took first place, and have never looked back. As highlighted by Sandy Koufax' 1-0 no-hitter on the last day of the month, the 14-4 Dodgers did it with their pitching not hitting. They have a 2.35 team ERA, way ahead of second place Houston's 3.13. Koufax (3-0) is getting the headlines with a league leading 48 strikeouts but Don Sutton has proved to be a most valuable member of the rotation going 4-0 with 32 Ks (second in the NL). Don Drysdale (3-0, 2.67) and Claude Osteen (a hard luck 1-3 with a 2.37 ERA) are more than capable in the back of the rotation.

Offensively, LA has done pretty well, too. Maury Wills finally came out of his slump and is batting above the Mendoza line at .233 with 4 stolen bases. Part-timer Al Ferrara proves you don't need to be in the lineup every day to make a difference. He's 11 for 21 with four homers. Ron Fairly and Jim Lefebvre both contributed four dingers for the month of April.

Interesting note: The Dodgers have used only 20 players so far this season including pitchers. It seems that they have stuck with a pretty consistent lineup. Contrast that with the last place Cubs who have used 31 players (granted they had a two-player trade). Coincidence?

Los Angeles April MVP (Tie)

Sandy Koufax 5 GS, 43 IP, 3-1, 1.88 ERA, 48 K, 10 BB

Don Sutton 4 GS, 30 IP, 4-0, 2.70 ERA, 32 K, 3 BB

Pittsburgh Pirates

9-6

The Pirates are a hard hitting team with enough pitching to carry them. Roberto Clemente (4 HR, .292), Willie Stargell (.280, 12 rbis) and Donn Clendenon (.321, 12 runs) got off to hot starts but when they tailed off it was all Bob Bailey. Batting sixth in the lineup, Bailey hit for average, power and got on base. For the month of April, he leads the NL in batting average (.474), slugging (.877) and OBP (.531) and comes in second in rbis (16), homeruns (5) and hits (27).

Steve Blass has been a pleasant surprise in the rotation for the Pirates. He's 3-1 with a 2.16 ERA. On the other hand, Bob Veale has had some hard luck going 0-3 yet striking out 28 batters in 30 innings with a 4.20 ERA.

Pittsburgh April MVP

Bob Bailey .474, 5 HR, 16 rbis, 14 runs, 6 2B

Houston Astros

10-8

Like the Dodgers, Houston gets the job done with their arms. First and foremost, it's Larry Dierker (B) who currently claims the ERA lead with a neat 1.00 mark. Not only that, he's only allowed 12 hits and 3 walks in 27 innings. He's got a 3-0 record for his work. Veteran Robin Roberts (DZ) is doing a surprisingly great job with a 2.90 ERA and a 3-0 ERA and just 4 walks in 31 innings.

Batting .207 as a team, hitting hasn't been the Astros' big strength. However, Jim "Toy Cannon" Wynn has come on in late April. He's tied for second with 5 homers and has 15 rbis. Number 2 hitter Sonny Jackson is hitting .301 and leads the team with 11 runs and 22 hits. It took a week or so for Houston management to figure out that Joe Morgan belonged in the leadoff role. It's paid off as he leads the NL in walks with 13.

I honestly don't expect Houston to keep this up. Robin Roberts can't keep pitching like an A. Even Dierker, will eventually have his moments.

Houston April MVP

Larry Dierker 3 GS, 27 IP, 3-0, 1.00 ERA, 14 K, 3 BB

Atlanta Braves

9-9

I had hopes of seeing Hank Aaron hitting a crazy amount of homers but he had an "okay" April. He's just batting .240 for the month with 3 homers. Yet, at the same time, he leads the NL in runs with 17 and has collected 12 rbis. The Hammer can probably thank catcher Joe Torre for those runs scored. Torre is batting .344 with 13 ribbies. Carty flirted with .400 for most of the month until a slump towards the end of the month brought him down to .308.

Ken Johnson has been a hard luck starter for Atlanta. He's been in the top ten in ERA for most of the month and finished with a 2.38 ERA yet has a 1-2 record. On the other hand, Tony Cloninger has been a workhorse collecting innings (32 2/3) and walks (21, tops in the league). He's 3-1 so far. Reliever Clay Carroll (one of two A*s in the pen) is a rare reliever with 3 wins.

Atlanta April MVP

Joe Torre .344, 13 rbis

San Francisco Giants

9-9

Up and down the lineup, the Giants have the best hitting in the league. As a team, they lead in hitting (.288), runs scored (87) and homers (24). Bopper Willie Mays currently leads the league in homers with 6 followed closely by teammates Willie McCovey and Jimmie Ray Hart who both have 4. Jay Alou (.400) and Orlando Cepeda (.429) are contributing to the Giant hit parade. Don't get too comfortable with Baby Bull, San Francisco. You'll be trading him to the Cardinals soon.

The Giants have Juan Marichal, of course and he's performing as he should. He's got a nifty 1.85 ERA with a 3-1 record and two shutouts. Other than that though, the Giant pitching staff is a little thin. Gaylord Perry has struggled 7.29 ERA in two starts and Bobby Bolin has just one win despite a 3.93 ERA.

San Francisco April MVP

Willie Mays .273, 6 HR, 14 rbis, 15 runs, .606 SLG

Cincinnati Reds

7-7

The Reds are an interesting team to replay. They have some big stars in their early years. They're still a good hitting team with solid pitching and I always over estimate them. As it turned out, in real life, they didn't have a winning record.

Tommy Harper is hitting .360 for the month and is the only hitter with 10 or more runs. His 3 steals are the only ones on the team. No Red is in double digits in rbis. The top Reds hitters in that category are Rose and Deron Johnson with 8.

Jim Maloney is top dog from the rotation. In three starts, he's gone 2-0 with a 1.80 ERA. Fellow starter Sammy Ellis might want to pick it up though. He's lost all four of his starts giving up 28 runs in 18 innings pitched. His 13.50 ERA is the highest in the league among qualifiers.

Cincinnati April MVP

Jim Maloney 3 GS, 25 IP, 2-0, 1.80 ERA, 23 K

Philadelphia Phillies

6-7

The Phils haven't lived up to their real life fourth place finish... yet. Richie Allen has done all he can to bolster the offense by batting .340 with 4 homers and a league leading 17 rbis. He also paces the team in runs with 10. Scrappy infielder Tony Taylor is second in the NL in hitting with a .429 average as well.

Jim Bunning is the big star among the pitchers. He's 4-0 with a 3.09 ERA with 31 Ks

Philadelphia April MVP (tie)

Richie Allen .340, 4 HR, 17 rbis, .660 SLG

Jim Bunning 4 GS, 35 IP, 3.09, 4-0, 31 K, 9 BB

New York Mets

5-6

Between you and me, the New York Mets are my hope that the Cubs won't finish in last place. So far though, they have held their own. Their stats are bit off though because they have missed so many games. I'm assuming it's due to the bad weather in New York in 1966. Ed Kranepool (.325, 2 HR, 7 rbis) and Ron Hunt (.357, 9 runs, 8 walks) lead the crew.

Starter "Fat Jack" Fisher is the only 2 game winner on the staff with a 4.50 ERA.

New York April MVP

Ed Kranepool .325, 2 HR, 7 rbi, .550 SLG

St. Louis Cardinals

5-11

The Cardinals is one team I just can't figure out. They have Lou Brock and Tim McCarver both batted over .400 until the last series of the month. Brock also leads in stolen bases with 9 and is tied for sixth in homers with four. Thirdbaseman Charley Smith is batting .322 with 11 rbis. If that wasn't enough, I've been lucky with the dice with Julian Javier was tied for the lead in homers with five until the last day of the month.

And of course one day out of four, Bob Gibson comes trotting out to the mound. So far, he's 2-1 in three starts with a 2.45 ERA. Larry Jaster has done fine from the mound as well with a 2.61 mark but just has a 1-1 record to show for it.

With all those fun stats, you would think the Cardinals would be higher than ninth place. If there was any finger pointing to be done, that finger would point right at the bullpen. Joe Hoerner (5.79 ERA) and Hal Woodeshick (5.19) are a combined 0-4. It also doesn't help that till this point, the Cardinals have been wedded to firstbaseman George Kernek and his slugging percentage of .240. That will soon change. No doubt, with the upcoming acquisition of Orlando Cepeda, St. Louis is ready to make a move.

St. Louis April MVP

Lou Brock .391, 13 runs, 4 HR 9 SB

Chicago Cubs

4-11

I stated at the beginning of this replay that I wanted to see if the Cubs could avoid losing 100 games. They lost 103 in real life. Looking at their team, I didn't think they were that bad but so far they haven't shown me they can do any better. At this point, they on track to lose 119 games. Let's start with the highlights, though.

Ernie Banks has 3 dingers so far but Ron Santo has been the driving force of what little offense there is (.225 team batting average, 2nd lowest). Santo (.333) leads the league in OBP with a .463 mark and is second in walks with 12. He paces the Cubs with 10 rbis while hitting only one homer. Don Kessinger has been a nice surprise hitting .311 and scoring 7 runs. Adolfo Phillips hit the ground running after getting traded from Philadelphia. Overall, he's hitting .364 with six steals.

It's about time for Billy Williams to get things going. Through April, he's hitting .111, third worst among qualifiers.

Pitching has been a sore spot with the Northsiders. With a sky-high 6.11 ERA, they are last in the NL. Bill "Froggy" Hands (9.00 ERA in 16 IP), Ernie Broglio (10.38 ERA in 17 1/3 IP) and reliever Cal Koonce (6.75 ERA in 12 IP) aren't helping matters any. Neither are Holtzman (9.31) or Bill Faul (6.89).

Dick Ellsworth is the bright spot on the Cubs' pitching staff. He's a DZ who is pitching like an A. He has a 2.89 ERA and has only allowed two walks in 18 2/3 innings. How many wins does he have? Zero.

Wrigley fans are already questioning the big trade that sent a pitcher who was doing fairly well (Al Jackson with a 3.46 ERA) and a hot hitting veteran Harvey Kuenn to Philadelphia. All for some nobody spot starter named "Ferguson" Jenkins.

Chicago April MVP

Ron Santo .333, .463 OBP, 12 BB

NL Player of the Month

Bob Bailey, Pittsburgh Pirates

.474, 5 HR, 16 rbis, 14 runs

NL Pitcher of the Month

Sandy Koufax, Los Angeles Dodgers

5 GS, 43 IP, 4-0, 1.88, 2 Sho, 48 K