



SOUTH DIVISION

South Division

Battle Creek Bombers (pages 175-192) The Bombers joined the Northwoods League in 2007, the summer after the Midwest League departed Battle Creek. C. O. Brown Stadium had been home to a Devil Rays' and Yankees' Class A affiliate in recent years. Battle Creek, a city of 52,777 people, is known as "Cereal City" being the home of both Kellogg's and Post Cereals. Early in their existence, the Bombers are still awaiting their first big leaguers and first postseason appearance. Battle Creek is the only NWL city in Michigan.

Eau Claire Express (pages 193-210) Eau Claire, the ninth largest city in Wisconsin at 65,362, welcomed the Express in 2005. Eau Claire (pronounced oh-Klair) made their only postseason appearance with a run to the championship series in 2007. Entering their fifth season, the Express have yet to see an alumnus in the big leagues. However, Jordan Zimmerman was rated as the Washington Nationals' top prospect by "Baseball America" and is on the fast track to the majors.

Green Bay Bullfrogs (pages 211-226) The Bullfrogs leaped into the NWL in 2007 and became the only team in league history to reach the playoffs in their inaugural season. Green Bay, the only Major League city in the NWL (home of the NFL's Packers), is the third largest city in Wisconsin with 103,950 people. In only their third year, the Bullfrogs await their first major leaguer.

La Crosse Loggers (pages 227-242) The Loggers opened their doors in 2003 after building Copeland Park around a simple ball field that was once in its place. La Crosse, home to 51,840 people, lies on the banks of the Mississippi River (Brainerd and St. Cloud are the other NWL cities that can claim this). The Loggers lone playoff appearance came in their second season in 2004. Both Max Scherzer (Diamondbacks) and Danny Ray Herrera (Reds) played in the big leagues in 2008.

Madison Mallards (pages 243-262) Madison, the largest city in the NWL at 226,650, is the second largest city (and capital) in Wisconsin and has been home to the Mallards since 2001. The Muskies and Hatters (Midwest League) and Black Wolf (Northern League) preceded the Mallards to Warner Park the previous two decades. Madison has reached the playoffs in five of the last six years including winning the championship in 2004. Twice they've lost in the championship to Thunder Bay ('05 and '08). Ryan Spilborghs (Rockies) is the only Mallard so far to advance to the majors.

Waterloo Bucks (pages 263-278) The Bucks are the third oldest team in the NWL joining in the league's second season in 1995. San Diego's Class A Midwest League team left town after the 1993 season. The city of Waterloo is home to 65,998 people and it borders Cedar Falls, the home of the University of Northern Iowa, which has a population of 36,940. Waterloo earned seven consecutive postseason berths from 1996-2002 (winning the title in both '96 and '02) but haven't been to the playoffs since. An NWL-high eight Bucks have played in the big leagues including Clint Barmes (Rockies) and Curtis Thigpen (Blue Jays) in 2008.

Wisconsin Woodchucks (pages 279-294) The Woodchucks, located in Wausau (40,360), are one of two NWL teams that have been around since the beginning in 1994. Once known as the "Wausau Woodchucks" the team changed its name prior to the 1999 season when they became the only Wisconsin entry in the league (Manitowoc and Kenosha previously joined them). The Woodchucks have appeared in the postseason four times and won the title in 2001 and 2003. Seven alumni have made the big leagues with Pat Neshek (Twins), Mark Lowe (Mariners), Ben Zobrist (Rays) and Lance Broadway (White Sox) all appearing in 2008.