



Schedule & Info

May/June

					28 EC 6:35	29 EC 6:35	30 MAN 6:35
31 MAN 5:05	1 LAC 6:35	2 LAC 6:35	3 DUL 7:05	4 DUL 7:05	5 ROC 6:35	6 ROC 6:35	
7 GB 5:05	8 GB 6:35	9 OFF	10 BRD 7:05	11 BRD 7:05	12 GB 6:35	13 GB 7:05	
14 WAT 3:05	15 WAT 7:05	16 BC 6:05	17 BC 6:05	18 MAD 6:35	19 MAD 7:05	20 LAC 6:05	
21 LAC 5:05	22 OFF	23 ROC 1:05	24 ROC 7:05	25 BC 6:35	26 BC 6:35	27 WAT 6:35	
28 WAT 5:05	29 MAD 6:35	30 MAD 7:05	All games are Central Daylight Time				

July

			1 EC 6:35	2 EC 6:35	3 MAD 6:35	4 MAD 6:35
5 OFF	6 STC 7:05	7 STC 7:05	8 LAC 7:05	9 LAC 7:05	10 DUL 6:35	11 DUL 6:35
12 STC 5:05	13 STC 6:35	14 BC 6:05	15 BC 6:05	16 LAC 6:35	17 LAC 6:35	18 GB 7:05
19 GB 5:05	20 OFF	21 *ALL STAR	22 OFF	23 MAD 7:05	24 MAD 7:05	25 GB 7:05
26 GB 5:05	27 BRD 6:35	28 BRD 6:35	29 WAT 6:35	30 WAT 6:35	31 EC 6:35	

August

						1 EC 6:35
2 EC 5:05	3 EC 6:35	4 OFF	5 WAT 7:05	6 WAT 7:05	7 MAN 7:05	8 MAN 7:05
9 BC 5:05	10 BC 6:35	11	12	13	14	15
16 Division Playoff Aug. 11-13 Championship Series Aug. 14-16						

Home games shaded

*All-Star game in Thunder Bay, Canada



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(715) 845-5015

Team Email:

ryan@woodchucks.com

Official website:

www.woodchucks.com

Broadcasts:

ESPN Radio AM1230

Front office personnel:

Clark Eckhoff	Owner
Jesse Bolder	Chief Oper. Officer
Ryan Treu	General Manager
Matt Ritzer	Assistant GM

Field staff:

Brandon Steele	Field Manager
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Media:

Bryon Graff	TV9
Dale Ryman	TV7
Matt Thompson	TV12
Tom King	WSAU
Chad Holmes	ESPN Radio WXCO
Chris Schulte	Wausau Daily Herald

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Front Office



Clark Eckhoff
Owner

Eckhoff brings with him vast amount of experience from his previous companies. In all, he spent 16 years in the telephone, cable television, and cellular industries. Clark has an MBA from the University of Wisconsin. He earned his undergraduate degree in Business Administration with a major in Management & Marketing from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. He lives in Wausau with his two daughters Kelly (16), and Ashley (14).

Bolder was named the Chief Operating Officer for the Wisconsin Woodchucks Baseball Club in February 2007. Jesse responsibilities include overseeing all aspects of the team's business operations, including customer service, fan relations, sales, and promotions. Jesse, a graduate from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, had previously worked with the team from 1999 to 2001 before leaving the team for a marketing position with a local firm. He originally joined the Woodchucks as Assistant GM in 1998. Jesse resides in Merrill, Wisconsin with his wife Stacy and two boys Kevin (13), and Drew (7).



Jesse Bolder
Chief Operating Officer



Ryan Treu
General Manager

Treu is in his fifth season with the Woodchucks, his third as General Manager. Ryan and the staff will promote the team in our community during the season, and continue to provide the excellent service fans and corporate clients have come to expect. A Wausau native, Ryan wants to keep the rich history of baseball in the Wausau area alive. Ryan has a degree in Recreation & Sports Management from St. Cloud State University with a concentration in Marketing. Ryan resides in Wausau with his wife Laura.

Ritzer starts his third full season with the Woodchucks, but this will be his seventh season overall with the team. He started with the Woodchucks in 2003 as a marketing intern and was the Director of Ballpark Operations during the summers of 2004-2006. He will work closely with the Owner, Chief Operating Officer, and General Manager to make the Woodchucks organization as strong as ever. Matt has a Master's Degree in Sport Administration and an undergraduate degree in Sport Management from the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse. He is from Reedsburg, Wisconsin.



Matt Ritzer
Assistant General Manager

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2008 Coach of the Year



*Brandon Steele
Field Manager*

Steele, the 2008 Northwoods League Coach of the Year, has completed his 5th season at Tusculum College in Greeneville, Tenn. In 2007 the Tusculum Pioneers set a school and conference record for wins with 50, while capturing their third consecutive South Atlantic Conference title. During his time at Tusculum, the Pioneers have compiled an impressive record of 208-84-1, including three South Atlantic Conference titles, two South Atlantic Conference Tournament championship and three NCAA Regional appearances while posting 40 wins or more the past four seasons. During the summers of 2005 and 2006, Steele was the head coach of the Medicine Hat Mavericks of the Western Major Baseball League. In his two seasons with the Mavericks, Steele led the Mavs to the WMBL Championship finals (2005) and semi-finals (2006). Steele was also the assistant field manager of the London Majors of the Intercounty Baseball League (2004). While with London, Steele helped lead the Majors to the IBL league championship finals for the first time in 25 years. Steele also has previous coaching experience with the Novi Expos in Novi, Michigan (2003), Macomb Community College in Warren, Michigan (2003), Roseville High School in Roseville, Michigan (2003), The University of Western Ontario (2000) and London Badgers, both located in London, Ontario (1998-2001). Coach Steele has also worked various baseball camps across North America and has been on the staff of numerous baseball academics and is a member of ABCA.



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Mid-Season All-Stars



Left to Right - Kyle Gumieny (Lamar CC), Bobby Pritchett (Central Arkansas), Jeff Cowan (High Point), Aaron Varnum (Embry-Riddle), and Troy Frazier (Kentucky).

Postseason All-Stars



Jeff Cowan
High Point
Infielder

.299, 3 HR, 28 RBI
54 Runs - 1st NWL
51 Walks - 2nd NWL
.439 On Base % - 2nd NWL



Bobby Pritchett
Central Arkansas
Pitcher

7-2, 2.04 ERA
70.2 IP, 67 K, 22 BB
2.04 ERA - 7th NWL
7 Wins - T-3rd NWL
67 Strikeouts - T-4th NWL

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A Great '08 for the Woodchucks

By: John K. Queram

The 2008 Woodchucks re-wrote the record books and finished the season as one of the most successful teams in franchise history. With former MLB great Jim "Gumby" Gantner returning for a second season, the Woodchucks outlook was bright. And the 'Chucks didn't fail to live up to expectations as they advanced to the Northwoods League Playoffs for the first time since 2003.

The 'Chucks got off to one of the hottest starts in league history as they jumped out to a 17-3 record through the first 20 games. That pristine record included a franchise record tying 10 game winning streak. However, the Woodchucks stumbled down the stretch and finished a half-game behind the Madison Mallards for the first half championship.

Gantner would rally the 'Chucks in the second half, though, as Wisconsin captured the second half South Division title and advanced to the postseason for the first time in five seasons. Unfortunately, it was a short trip for the 'Chucks, who were swept by division rival Madison in the divisional playoffs.

The 'Chucks 41 wins were the second most in the Northwoods League and tied the franchise mark for wins in the regular season, matching the 41 victories of the 2003 squad. Athletic Park proved to be the toughest place for opposing teams to win, as the Woodchucks finished a remarkable 26-8 at home, the most by any Woodchuck team in franchise history and just one shy of the league record for home wins.

Offensively, the Woodchucks were led by a cast that included Jeff Cowan (High Point), Troy Frazier (Kentucky), Matt Gantner (High Point), and Brent Weaver (Oklahoma City University). Cowan proved to be one of the best leadoff utility men in the history of the Northwoods League, finishing the '08 season with a .299 batting average, three homers, 28 RBI, and a .439 on-base percentage (second best in the NWL). Cowan re-wrote the Woodchuck record books as well, setting new single-season franchise records for games played (64), runs scored (54), and walks (51). His highlight season included reaching base safely in 61 out of the 64 games he played as well as appearing at all nine positions during the last regular season game of the year at La Crosse.



Jeff Cowan (High Point) led the Northwoods League with 54 runs scored in 2008.

Photo by Ricky Bassman

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A Great '08 for the Woodchucks (cont.)



Cowan's college teammate Gantner returned for a second season and immediately became one of the league's most dangerous hitters. Gantner hit .316, the sixth best average in the Northwoods League. He proved to be a clutch hitter in

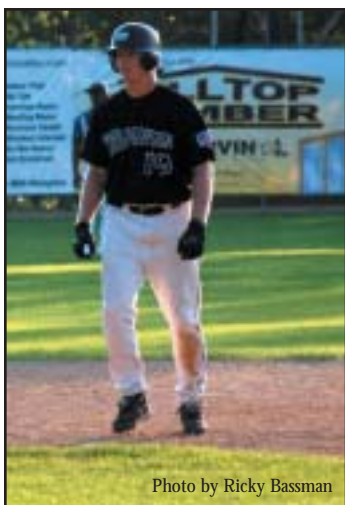


Photo by Ricky Bassman

Matt Gantner (High Point) was sixth in the League with .316 average.

the middle of the 'Chucks order, driving in 33 runs in just 44 games. One of the three Kentucky Wildcats on the 'Chucks roster, Frazier was one of the league's most feared hitters in 2008. Frazier launched nine long balls and drove in 37 while patrolling right field for Wisconsin. One of the 'Chucks best hitters a season ago, Weaver donned the black and gold of the Woodchucks for one last hurrah in 2008, and he didn't disappoint. Weaver ranked among the league leaders in average (.312), home runs (4), and RBI (41).

In addition to one of the league's most potent offenses, the Woodchucks were helped by a solid pitching staff that featured Bobby Pritchett (Central Arkansas), Rob Currie (Tusculum) and Brad Riddle (Oklahoma City University). A true two-way player, Pritchett proved to be the ace of the Woodchucks staff, finishing the season with a 7-2 record and a 2.04 ERA. Pritchett struck out 67 batters and walked just 22 in 70 plus

innings of work. Currie became a dominating reliever after struggling in the starting rotation. After moving to the bullpen, Currie ended with an 8-1 record and a 2.39 ERA with 66 strikeouts in 57.1 innings of work. When the 'Chucks were in a tight spot late in games, they called on Brad Riddle to carry the load. Riddle finished with a very low 1.40 ERA in 38.2 innings of relief work. He won three games and earned five saves for the 'Chucks.

Several 'Chucks earned recognition for their outstanding seasons, including Associate Head Coach Brandon Steele (Tusculum) who was named the Northwoods League Coach of the Year. Bobby Pritchett and Jeff Cowan both earned postseason all-star honors while the 'Chucks sent five players to the mid-season All-Star game in Madison. Troy Frazier, Kyle Gumieny (Lamar CC), Aaron Varnum (Embry-Riddle), Pritchett, and Cowan represented the South Division at Warner Park for the 'Chucks.

Along with the success on the field, the Woodchucks experienced another banner year at the gates. The 'Chucks drew 63,179 fans to Athletic Park in 2008, third most in the Northwoods League.

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Head to Head Records

Year	Record	ALX	AUS	BRD	DUB	EAU	GFK	KEN	MAD	MAN	MNK	MIN	ROC	STC	WAT	DUL	TB	LAC	BC	GB
1994	28-21				5-8			9-3	8-5					6-5						
1995	25-32				9-1			3-9	2-9					5-7	6-6					
1996	26-34				7-3			4-7	6-7					4-8	5-9					
1997	17-46							2-10	6-5					5-7	3-9					
1998	30-33		3-5	3-7			4-6	2-5						3-5	3-9	4-4				
1999	22-42		4-4	3-7			7-3				2-6			2-6	3-9	1-7				
2000	34-29			1-6			6-2				6-4	7-1		5-7	4-4	5-5				
2001	33-31	5-3		5-3					5-7		3-5			7-3	5-5					
2002	32-31	2-6		5-3					9-3		5-3			2-7	4-4	5-5				
2003	41-22	3-0							4-4		2-2			4-4	4-4	7-1	5-3	6-2	6-2	
2004	32-31	3-1							5-3		1-3			2-5	5-3	4-4	2-6	5-3	5-3	
2005	34-34	2-2		0-4		5-3			4-8		3-1			3-5	2-2	6-2	2-2	3-1	4-4	
2006	25-42	1-3		2-2		6-2			4-8		1-3			1-6	1-3	4-4	2-2	2-2	1-7	
2007	36-31	1-3		1-3		3-5			6-2		3-1			X	X	6-2	1-3	2-2	6-2	4-3
2008	41-27	1-3		2-2		6-2			4-4		X			3-1	2-2	7-1	X	2-2	3-5	6-2
Totals	456-486	18-21	7-9	22-37	21-12	20-12	17-11	20-34	41-39	22-26	26-28	7-1	52-76	32-60	68-64	12-16	20-12	25-23	9-6	9-7

ALX-Alexandria Beetles, AUS-Austin Southern Minny Stars, BC-Battle Creek Bombers, BRD-Brainard Mighty Gulls (Blue Thunder 2005), DUB-Dubuque Mud Puppies, DUL-Duluth Huskies, EAU-Eau Claire Express, GFK-Grand Forks Channel Cats, GB-Green Bay Bullfrogs, KEN-Kenosha Kroakers, LAC-La Crosse Loggers, MAD-Madison Mallards, MAN-Manitowoc Skunks, MNK-Mankato Mashers (MoonDogs 2002), MIN-Minot Greenheads, ROC-Rochester Honkers, STC-St. Cloud River Bats, TB-Thunder Bay Border Cats, WAT-Waterloo Bucks.



Miscellaneous Records



	Home Record			Road Record			Extra Inning Record			One Run Record			Shutout Record		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
1994	17	8	.680	11	13	.458	0	1	.000	7	7	.500	5	1	.833
1995	16	15	.516	9	17	.346	2	2	.500	8	8	.500	3	1	.750
1996	17	17	.500	9	17	.346	4	3	.571	12	5	.706	2	3	.400
1997	10	22	.313	7	24	.226	1	5	.167	8	13	.381	1	2	.333
1998	15	18	.455	15	15	.500	3	3	.500	13	8	.619	1	7	.125
1999	10	21	.323	12	21	.364	0	3	.000	3	15	.167	4	5	.444
2000	16	15	.516	18	14	.563	1	2	.333	10	12	.455	4	2	.667
2001	17	15	.531	16	16	.500	2	3	.400	5	9	.357	6	7	.462
2002	20	11	.645	12	19	.375	5	2	.714	13	6	.684	4	5	.444
2003	22	9	.710	19	13	.594	3	1	.750	10	10	.500	0	3	.000
2004	19	12	.613	13	19	.406	2	3	.400	9	6	.600	7	4	.636
2005	23	11	.676	11	23	.324	2	3	.400	15	17	.469	6	3	.667
2006	17	16	.519	8	26	.235	1	2	.333	11	12	.478	5	8	.385
2007	20	13	.606	16	18	.471	3	4	.429	13	15	.464	5	2	.714
2008	26	8	.765	15	19	.441	3	7	.300	15	12	.556	5	3	.625
Totals	265	211	.557	175	274	.390	32	44	.421	152	155	.495	58	56	.509

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2008 Final Woodchucks Statistics

W-L Record: 41-27

PLAYER	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	SLG	OBP	E
Barnes, Jeremy,DH	.176	12	34	7	6	1	0	1	3	7	10	3	0	.294	.326	1
#Bubak, Kyle,2B	.243	63	218	26	53	10	1	1	29	33	46	11	5	.312	.353	14
Cowan, Jeff,3B	.299	64	234	54	70	13	0	3	28	51	36	13	7	.393	.439	11
*Dayton, Eric,1B	.250	5	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	.250	.400	1
Frazier, Troy,OF	.282	49	174	39	49	14	3	9	37	28	52	6	1	.552	.382	2
*Fulginiti, Max,OF	.351	16	57	7	20	3	0	0	8	5	10	0	0	.404	.400	1
*Gantner, Matt,OF	.316	44	174	27	55	9	3	1	33	15	35	3	2	.420	.378	3
Jackson, Terrance,OF	.262	37	84	14	22	6	0	1	8	16	15	4	1	.369	.434	1
#Kaskow, Jonathan,1B	.279	34	111	28	31	2	1	3	25	26	17	4	0	.396	.424	6
#Klein, Geoff,C	.255	13	47	7	12	3	0	1	5	10	7	0	0	.383	.379	0
Moy, Regulo,2B	.095	8	21	0	2	1	0	0	1	2	6	1	0	.143	.174	0
Pritchett, Bobby,OF	.254	50	138	15	35	8	0	1	18	7	49	7	2	.333	.297	5
Slater, Chris,OF	.276	45	163	23	45	4	1	0	16	13	31	6	4	.313	.328	1
*Spruill, Dustin,DH	.232	20	56	5	13	0	1	0	1	7	16	0	0	.268	.317	0
Vitale, Carson,C	.205	48	146	14	30	2	0	2	15	19	38	1	0	.260	.305	5
Waddle, Jake,C	.324	15	34	4	11	0	0	0	1	7	8	1	0	.324	.452	1
Wade, Chris,SS	.217	53	189	32	41	3	1	1	22	26	17	15	0	.259	.326	8
Weaver, Brent,1B	.312	57	215	39	67	22	0	4	41	31	39	2	1	.470	.396	4
#Wilson, Kyle,3B	.182	33	110	18	20	9	0	1	9	13	34	6	1	.291	.302	7
All Others	.107		28	3	3	0	0	0	1	1	14	0	0	.107	.194	12
Total-All Batters	.262		2241		587		11		301		484		24		.364	
				362		110		29		319		83		.360		83

PITCHER	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	HB	BB	SO	WP	AVG
Allen, Brad	1-3	2.84	6	6	0	0	0	31.2	23	12	10	0	3	16	33	4	.205
*Avison, Noel	1-0	2.37	9	0	0	0	1	19.0	23	12	5	0	2	11	17	1	.299
Briesacher, Ben	0-0	21.00	2	0	0	0	0	3.0	4	7	7	1	0	9	1	1	.333
Currie, Rob	8-1	2.83	19	3	0	0	2	57.1	48	22	18	1	2	25	66	9	.232
Geiger, Dave	2-1	2.63	3	3	0	0	0	13.2	16	7	4	0	0	7	10	3	.314
Gumieny, Kyle	6-0	3.24	9	9	1	0	0	50.0	46	19	18	5	1	14	23	4	.249
Jung, Adam	0-1	7.99	9	2	0	0	1	23.2	43	26	21	0	4	9	14	4	.391
Longoria, Andrew	0-0	3.38	8	0	0	0	0	13.1	7	9	5	1	7	11	8	1	.146
*Lovera, Will	0-0	3.75	6	0	0	0	1	12.0	11	6	5	1	0	6	8	0	.250
McKnight, David	1-0	0.00	2	0	0	0	0	2.0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	.000
Mertins, Kyle	2-3	3.48	9	9	0	0	0	51.2	49	22	20	3	4	15	26	3	.257
Moore, Zak	1-1	4.91	6	4	0	0	0	22.0	26	15	12	1	1	7	18	2	.289
Moreland, Chad	2-0	2.84	3	3	0	0	0	19.0	12	7	6	1	4	7	16	0	.182
Riddle, Brad	3-3	1.40	28	0	0	0	5	38.2	24	8	6	2	3	19	39	3	.179
Tilford, Clint	3-0	2.49	19	2	0	0	0	43.1	38	14	12	2	2	17	42	3	.244
Van Riper, Brandon	0-3	6.64	5	5	0	0	0	20.1	25	23	15	1	3	14	17	1	.291
Varnum, Aaron	0-2	2.70	24	0	0	0	11	26.2	17	9	8	0	5	14	24	7	.189
*Young, Robert	2-3	5.31	9	7	0	0	0	40.2	48	30	24	3	6	17	25	6	.289
All Others	9-6	3.39	29	15	0	0	1	106.1	83	52	40	7	16	47	95	9	.211
Total-All Pitchers	41-27	3.57		68		5		594.1		300		29		267		61	
					1		22		543		236		63		485		.244

* Bats Left for Batters, Throws Left for Pitchers

Switch-Hitter

DID YOU KNOW?

The Woodchucks 26-8 record at home in 2008 was the best in the Northwoods League.

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Team Records



Single-Season Batting Records

Category		Name	School	Year
Average	.393	Josh Smaler	Cal St. Northridge	1994
RBI	55	Josh Persell	USC	1999
Runs Scored	54	Jeff Cowan	High Point	2008
Stolen Bases	42	John Hamilton	Ohlone College	1996
Hits	81	Matt Nohelty	Minnesota	2005
Doubles	25	Jeremy Frietas	Fresno State	1995
Triples	5	Chris Walker	Purdue	1998
Home Runs	12	Guiseppa Chiramonte	Fresno State	1995
	12	Mike Pankratz	San Jacinto	2003
Walks	51	Jeff Cowan	High Point	2008
At Bats	234	Dan Augustine	Michigan	2000
Strikeouts	67	John Hamilton	Ohlone College	1996
Games Played	64	Jeff Cowan	High Point	2008

Single-Season Pitching Records

Category		Name	School	Year
ERA	0.74	Tom Oldham	Creighton	2001
Wins	9	Adam Rowe	Mount Vernon Nazarene	2003
	9	Steve Grasley	Creighton	2003
Games	36	Matt Trausch	Michigan State	2006
Strikeouts	100	Jay Buente	Purdue	2005
Walks	61	Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	1997
Saves	19	Steve Grasley	Creighton	2002
	19	Rick Cavaiani	UW-Milwaukee	2004
Games Started	15	Matt Jeckell	De Anza CC	1995
Losses	10	Craig Brookes	Michigan State	2006
	10	Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	1998
Innings	95	Jay Buente	Purdue	2005
Hits	101	David Wells	Belmont College	1999
Runs Allowed	88	Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	1997
Earned Runs	76	Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	1997

DID YOU KNOW?

Tom Oldham's 0.74 ERA in 2001 is the lowest single-season ERA in Northwoods League history.

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Team Records

Career Batting Records

Category	Name	School	Year
Average	.287 Matt Gantner	High Point	07,08
RBI	80 Drew Saylor	Kent State	03,04,05
Runs Scored	82 Cesar Martinez	Pierce College	94,95
Stolen Bases	42 John Hamilton	Ohlone College	1996
Hits	148 Drew Saylor	Kent State	03,04,05
Doubles	34 Drew Saylor	Kent State	03,04,05
Triples	5 Chris Walker	Purdue	1998
Home Runs	14 Matt Gecan	Bradley	99,00,01
	14 Marcello Garofalo	Ohio State	98,99
Walks	76 Cesar Martinez	Pierce College	94,95
At Bats	531 Drew Saylor	Kent State	03,04,05
Strikeouts	98 Jon Winter	Southern Illinois	96,98
Games Played	146 Drew Saylor	Kent State	03,04,05

Career Pitching Records

Category	Name	School	Years
ERA	2.03 Steve Grasley	Creighton	01,02,03
Wins	17 Adam Rowe	Mount Vernon Naz.	02,03
Games	51 Tim McNab	Florida Atlantic	00,01
Strikeouts	177 Jay Buente	Purdue	04,05
Walks	103 Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	97,98
Saves	28 Tim McNab	Florida Atlantic	00,01
Games Started	26 Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	97,98
Losses	18 Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	97,98
Innings	180 Jay Buente	Purdue	04,05
Hits	166 Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	97,98
Runs Allowed	133 Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	97,98
Earned Runs	118 Steve Sankey	Northern Illinois	97,98

Top Five Woodchucks Attendances

July 12, 2002	Mankato	4,413
June 3, 2006	Alexandria	4,193
July 27, 2000	St. Cloud	4,132
June 4, 2004	Thunder Bay	3,906
June 19, 2003	Waterloo	3,875



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The Home of the Woodchucks

Athletic Park



Stadium Facts:

Stadium Name: Athletic Park

Year Built: 1936

1st NWL Game Played at Stadium: June 1994

Seating Capacity: 3,850

Ballpark Dimensions: 316 L, 340 LC, 360 C, 340 RC, 316 R

Ticket Info / Prices: General Admission Adult \$6, General Admission Child/Senior \$5, Reserved Season \$149

Parking: There is no parking lot adjacent to the ballpark, so you'll need to claim a spot on the street. Street parking is free.

Directions: WI-29 E becomes WI-52 E. Right onto Bridge Street (exit 193). Left onto Second Street. Right onto E. Wausau Ave. Athletic Park is surrounded by a stone-wall structure and will be on your left.



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The Home of the Woodchucks

Athletic Park, the home of the Wisconsin Woodchucks, is in a residential setting just north of downtown Wausau. The entire park is surrounded by a stone-wall structure which is considered a historical landmark. Athletic Park was built in 1936 with this stone-wall structure being constructed just a few years later. Behind home plate one can find grandstand seating which is covered by a wooden structure built in the 1950's. A vast majority of the ballpark's seating is found on the first and third base lines where metal bleachers are located behind the home and visitor dugouts.

Reserved groups are seated in three areas inside the ballpark. In the leftfield corner there is the TV-9 SportsDeck which seats between 150-200 fans each and every night. The Miller Lite Leftfield Loft was erected in spring 2008 and was placed directly above the back section of the SportsDeck. This Leftfield Loft, a concrete and steel structure, seats 45 people on a nightly basis and provides arguably the best view of the game. Fans also have the opportunity to be interactive throughout the game from this new reserved section. The Loft has an old-time scoreboard that needs to be changed manually after each inning. It also has the Keller K-Zone where fans put up a "K" for every strikeout thrown by a Wisconsin Woodchuck pitcher. Down the rightfield line fans can find the Ministry Health Care Gantner Garden. This unique reserved area consists of beautiful landscaping, bench seating, a small private deck, and on-field seating. Prior to the 2008 season, the Woodchucks constructed a new fence that shortened the right field corner by about 15 feet. Fans are allowed to sit inside this fenced-in area and have a one-of-a-kind view of the ballgame.

The stadium also has four luxury suites and two VIP field level boxes. Each of the four luxury suites entertains eight fans on a nightly basis. These fans enjoy an all-you-care-to-eat-and-drink package, air-conditioning inside the enclosed suite, and cable television (in case the Milwaukee Brewers are on.) The VIP field level boxes provide fans with an up-close-and-personal view of the game. These boxes are only 20 feet away from the action so fans have the enjoyment of hearing any "disagreements" between a coach and umpire.

Athletic Park has three main concession stands that are open to the general public. One of these stands is sponsored by Leinenkugel's beer. The Leinie's Lodge is an exceptional hangout for adults to enjoy the ballpark's atmosphere. Four different Leinie's flavors are on tap at this location along with Miller Lite. The Leinie's Lodge looks like a log cabin structure from the outside and provides a great summer-time environment.

Athletic Park is highly unique to the Central Wisconsin area, and the teams who have played here have provided great family fun entertainment for many, many decades.

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Fans flocked to see their Woodchucks

By: Matt Blanchette, Wausau Daily Herald



Mike Cook made the drive from Plover to Wausau 11 times this summer to watch the Wisconsin Woodchucks play, despite rising gas costs.

Even with the extra expense, Cook said, "You can take your family out for not that much money and a good time."

Cook usually brings his wife, son and daughter to the games, and he's not alone.

The Woodchucks wrapped up their regular season home schedule Thursday night in front of 3,167 fans, well above their 1,800 average.

Even still, the 1,800 average is third in the entire Northwoods League, trailing only La Crosse and Madison, which each boast far larger stadiums.

Sentiments like Cook's are music to Wisconsin owner Clark Eckhoff's ears.

"I look at the economy and everyone is really feeling the pressure with four-dollar gas prices and grocery costs going through the roof. I'll be honest with you; from our point of view, the last seven or eight weeks have just been phenomenal out here," he said.

Aside from the value, Cook said he appreciated the chance to get up close and personal with the players.

"Even though it's not a minor league or a major league team, these guys are going to someday be in the big leagues, and it's fun to come out and root for them," Cook said.



Adding to the excitement is an accessibility to the players that just is not seen at any other level.

"The biggest thing is for the kids. They get to get that close to the person. They are the stars and for us it's great to see that they do a little bit extra," Cook said.

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City Officials

Jim Tipple, *Mayor*

City of Wausau



"Greetings from the City of Wausau!!

On behalf of the City of Wausau, I extend a warm welcome to the Wisconsin Woodchucks Baseball organization. Wausau is a great city located in the center of the state of Wisconsin. This location allows us the opportunity to be the hub of activity for surrounding communities. We are proud to host the Woodchucks at Wausau's very own Athletic Park facility, a facility that provides family entertainment for our residents and fans around the state.

The Woodchucks affiliation with the Northwoods League has provided thrilling competitive collegiate summer baseball. Each team is loaded with talented all-star caliber student athletes who keep the entertainment and sport enthusiasm going!

Our city motto is 'Welcome Home to Wausau', and we are glad the Wisconsin Woodchucks have made Wausau their home!!"

Bill Duncanson,

Director Wausau & Marathon County

Park, Recreation and Forestry Department
City of Wausau

"The success story of the Wisconsin Woodchucks is one of combining a hustling, hard playing team, a management philosophy that emphasizes fun, affordable family entertainment, a classic intimate ballpark that the City of Wausau is committed to, and a community that relishes the opportunity to sing about 'their' home team during the seventh inning stretch under the lights on a warm summer evening...The staff of the Park, Recreation and Forestry Department looks forward to the opportunity to continue to help provide and improve this great hometown baseball experience!"



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