

HEAT

INSIDER

GAME DAY PROGRAM



23 JANUARY - 25 JANUARY 2020

ROUND TEN



VS





alcohol
thinkagain

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COACHES CALL

It is going to be quite a weekend at Perth Harley-Davidson ballpark with a lot on the line. It seems fitting it's Melbourne, with three WA boys retiring this season, two of which gave the Heat their heart and soul for many years, and to now finish their last regular season games on the same field that kick-started their lengthy careers. The other with a storied MLB career...and all Team Australia representatives over the years. We wish Moylo, De San, & Hughesie the best in retirement. Welcome to the 'Back in My Day We Would Have...' club boys!

Our 2019/2020 club has ramped up our energy the past couple of weeks, and although we have played .500 baseball on our two road trips in Adelaide and Geelong, all (4) losses have come on the last pitch of the game. As the saying goes, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger," and our guys have shown the character to respond to these tough losses like champions. There was authentic heartbreak after a couple of those games, and as a manager it is tough to stomach, but I'm also damn proud of the way we competed and processed those moments.

As we enter this final round, our starting pitching continues to perform and is at the top of their game. Dylan Unsworth & John Anderson have been pillars of our staff from the very early rounds, and Tom Bailey & Trevor Frank have given us reliability the past few weeks as well. We'd like to see a little more consistency out of our bullpen, but we still have plenty of faith we have the horses to get the job done.

The playoff picture continues to be very fluid, and frankly, our focus remains on getting 3 of 4 from Melbourne and eliminating the need to play in the one-and-done wildcard game. Inherently, that would hurt our frequent flyer miles, but it would set up our pitching nicely for the semi final scenario.

We have a talented group this year and I think we all believe we can be playing on February 8th with a chance to bring the Shield back to Perth. The road is never easy, and we've had our share of setbacks like any other club. With only (4) games to play, to be (1) game out of 1st Place and (1) game out of 5th place, all at the same time, is a testament to the league. There is genuine parity across the board and the margin for success often comes down to one play, one swing, or one pitch.

As always, we are indebted to our supporters and we'll be humble enough to continue to invest in our process, while reaching for the prize at the top - an ABL Championship.

Brooke Knight
Field Manager



HITTER



Tim Kennelly
Outfielder

PLAYER
SPONSOR



Jess Williams
Infielder

PLAYER
SPONSOR



Robbie Glendinning
Infielder



Jake Turnbull
Catcher/Infielder



Alex Hall
Catcher

PLAYER
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Jordan Qsar
Outfielder

PLAYER
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Niko Hulsizer
Outfielder



Kaleo Johnson
Infielder



Sam Kennelly
Infielder

PLAYER
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Ulrich Bojarski
Outfielder



Roberto Alvarez
Catcher



Jake Bowey
Infielder



Pete Kozma
Infielder

PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
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COACHES



Brooke Knight



Kevin Hooker



Andy Kyle



Tyler Anderson



Blake Butera



Warrick Saupold

PHOTOGRAPHY: JAMES WORSFOLD / SMP IMAGES



PITCHER



Blake Bivens
Right



Jorge Perez
Right



Tom Bailey
Right



Nick Veale
Right



Cameron Lamb
Right

PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
SPONSOR



Josh Rawlinson
Right



Josh Hendrickson
Left



Daniel Schmidt
Left



Dylan Unsworth
Right



Conor Lourey
Right

PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
SPONSOR



PLAYER
SPONSOR



John Anderson
Right



Jonathan de Marte
Right



Mitch Neunborn
Right



Trevor Frank
Right

PLAYER
SPONSOR



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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Could there be a better way to finish the home and away season?
After 36 absorbing games, all eyes will be on Perth Harley-Davidson ballpark this weekend.
This series against the Melbourne Aces will now shape the playoff picture with Saturday's double header pivotal.

The on-field drama will be also be matched by another great weekend inside the stands.

I'd like to welcome our Premier, the honourable Mark McGowan to the ballpark for Friday night's ceremonial first pitch as well as Wildcat Bryce Cotton on Thursday. On Saturday, we also welcome TeamSpencer through Rick and Ruth Steven.

To former Heat stars, Luke Hughes, Allan de San Miguel and West Australian Peter Moylan, congratulations on your careers. Luke and Allan, your successes with the Heat will always be treasured.

Finally, best wishes to Brooke Knight, Tim Kennelly and the Perth Heat. You've done us proud this season, and we are excited to see what the next few weeks can deliver.



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MATCH PREVIEW & SERIES REVIEW



After eight straight road games, the Alcohol. Think Again Perth Heat return home to wrap up the regular season against divisional rivals the Melbourne Aces for a huge series that will determine the playoff picture.

The Heat are now tied for the second place in the Southwest division with Melbourne Aces while the divisional leader, the Adelaide Giants are just one win ahead of both. The final weekend can provide many possibilities for this three-horse race.

The starting rotation for Perth Heat has been outstanding for the last two weeks with a combined ERA of 2.02. Dylan Unsworth continues his MVP-class performance with 9 quality starts from 9 outings while veteran duo John Anderson and Trevor Frank are able to provide 6+ innings. Tom Bailey has also been great on the mound, coming back from injury after missing the field for two years. Bailey, was selected into Team of the Week after pitching 6 scoreless innings against Adelaide.

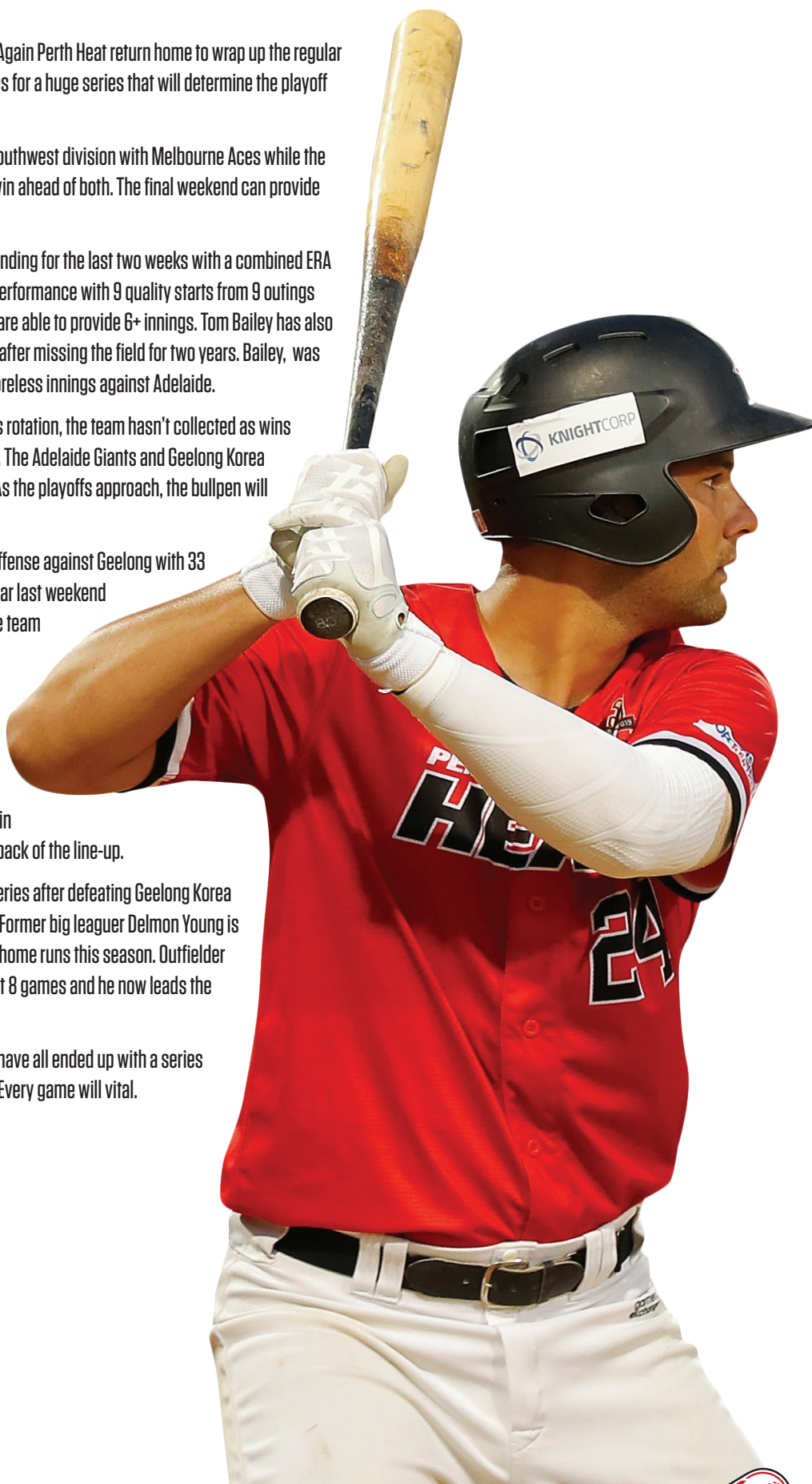
Despite the excellent performances from the Heat's rotation, the team hasn't collected as wins as they would have expected in the last two weeks. The Adelaide Giants and Geelong Korea collectively took 4 walk-off wins against the Heat. As the playoffs approach, the bullpen will be crucial.

The pitching staff was supported by an explosive offense against Geelong with 33 runs scored in four games. Niko Hulsizer was the star last weekend with 4 home runs and 10 RBI. Hulsizer now leads the team with 9 homers.

Manager Brooke Knight did some changes to the line-up last week, putting Jordan Qsar at the second spot. Qsar got the job done by getting on base 9 times in 15 at bats. Sam Kennelly was also trusted with more playing time. He hit 3 home runs in the last two series, showing some power from the back of the line-up.

Melbourne Aces will try to win their third straight series after defeating Geelong Korea and Adelaide Giants behind their powerful offense: Former big leaguer Delmon Young is the only player in the ABL who has hit more than 10 home runs this season. Outfielder Collin Willis has also been hot with 14 hits in the last 8 games and he now leads the league with .425 batting average.

The last three meetings between these two teams have all ended up with a series split, which shows just how close this matchup is. Every game will be vital.



Tim Kennelly #23



Born and bred a Perth boy, Tim Kennelly comes from a family with 4 of the 5 brothers playing professional baseball and representing Perth Heat. The Kennellys have been the icon of WA baseball.



Tim has also represented Team Australia in four major competitions over the years including two World Baseball Classics and the Premier 12 last November.



Tim's professional career started at the age of 17 when he was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in 2003 and spent 9 seasons in the US making it up to AAA



After playing 10 seasons for the Heat, Tim Kennelly has 6 National Championships and 2 Helms Award under his belt. He also holds the franchise record for the most hits.



During his career, Tim has played pitcher, catcher, outfielder and third baseman. What an all-rounder!



This season has been a meaningful one for Tim with many milestones. He played his 300th game, collected his 350th hit, 50th home run and 200th RBI this season. What a legendary career!

CAREER IN PICTURES

Q&A

TOM BAILEY

Q: Congratulations on your return. How does it feel to be back playing for the Heat after two pretty long years?

A: It feels amazing. It's a big relief to finally be back to that standard of pitching and that level of competition again.

Q: Talk us through that first weekend in Sydney when you got back on the mound and the feelings that were experiencing leading into that game.

A: Probably nervous if to name one. I was extremely excited and I just wanted to get the ball back straight away, no matter what I threw, a ball or a strike. I think nerves got to me in the first inning, but once I went back here in the second inning, I was back in my groove.

Q: When you had the injury, you probably didn't think – at the time - you would be out of the game for two years. Talk us through those two years.

A: No way I would have thought I would be out for two years. It was crazy because it started from general motions like being able to lift my arms up even hip-high, let alone shoulder-high. I still remember the first time I could throw a tennis ball 10 feet. It has been a massive, massive rehab and there's been some resets that happened along the way. I hurt my back trying to lift too heavy in the gym in order to get back last season, and I realized that I was rushing my shoulders instead of doing it right and properly. That extra year has benefited my arms and endurance.

Q: Is there anything that has supported you through those two years?

A: Firstly and foremostly my family. Everyone who has gone through a rehab knows that it takes a toll on your body, but the mental aspect is brutal. Having my family, friends and everyone from the Heat around helped me get back on track. Additionally, the West Australian Institute of Sport have been great, offering free physiotherapy, free sports psychology and free strength training. They have supported me big time.

Q: How does your family feel to see you back on the field?

A: My mum was crying and dad was through-the-roof excited. I was actually critical about my outing in Sydney, but my mum, dad and strength coach were just happy to see me come back from a shoulder surgery and back injury, and be able to pitch at that level again. That game against Adelaide is something to be extremely proud of. Words can not describe how happy my family and friends are.

Q: Where is your body at right now? Do you still have some improvements in the next few weeks?

A: Yes, I think the main thing right now is the velocity. I'm still pitching at 85-90 miles per hour. I think before the surgery I was pitching 87-91 miles an hour, so I'm not far off from where I was before. I think my focus now is getting guys out in whatever way I can.

Q: Is there any target you'd like to get in the next few weeks as we approach the playoffs?

A: I just want to do whatever I can to help us win. Take it game by game, inning by inning, pitch by pitch. Obviously, my end goal is to be back on the Team Australian roster. In order to do so, I have to perform well for the Heat. But whatever the role Brooke and the coaching staff give me, I'm all happy to do that and win us a championship.

Q: Does it help you anyway to have someone like Dylan Unsworth on the team who is performing at such a high level?

A: It's awesome to have a guy like him on your team. Although we are all fighting for a spot on the roster and rotation, I'd rather have someone who is dominating like Dylan that pushes me to get better. Dylan is actually a really similar pitcher to me with his style and velocity of pitching. It's great to see someone like him dominating at this level and it pushes me to be better.



2019/20



TOP 10 MOMENTS

BY MAX LU



1.



Dylan Unsworth 10K complete game

The Heat opened the season with a stellar performance from Dylan Unsworth against Auckland as he struck out 10 batters through 7 innings to complete the game. The South African pitcher collected his first win in the ABL which has followed by a season of dominance on the mound that makes Unsworth a Helms Award contender.

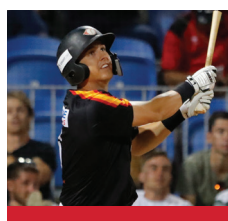
2.



Roberto Alvarez fuels walk-off win

The first game at the redeveloped Perth Harley-Davidson ballpark was an extra-inning thriller. Both Perth Heat and Canberra Cavalry were unable to score after 9 innings until Roberto Alvarez came up in clutch in the tenth. His ground ball drove in Robbie Glendinning to win Heat's first home game of 2019/20 in style.

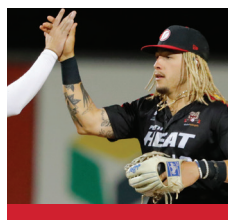
3.



Robbie Glendinning's ninth-inning grand slam

With the game tied 3-3 and bases loaded in the ninth inning, Robbie Glendinning stepped into the box against former big leaguer Peter Moylan from the Melbourne Aces. He sent a long ball out of the Melbourne Ballpark and delivered the winning four runs for the Heat. "It was off Peter Moylan which made it much better," Glendinning said.

4.

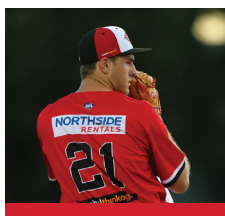


Hulsizer shows Hulk power against Geelong

Niko Hulsizer dominated Game 1 of the fourth round to help the Heat defeat Geelong Korea. Hulsizer drove in 5 runs with 4 hits including a 2-run home run that changed the momentum of the game. His monster performance was the key to Heat's comeback win and immediately made him a fan favorite.



5.



Hendrickson throws 5-inning No-Hitter

Phillies prospect Josh Hendrickson was almost unhittable when he stepped onto the mound against Geelong Korea. The Perth local boy struck out 10 batters without giving up a hit, and he did it through just 5 innings! Hendrickson's first ABL win was one to remember.

6.



One night, four homers

The Heat put on a home run show in the first game of the blockbuster series against Adelaide Giants. Ulrich Bojarski and Jess Williams went back-to-back in the third inning before Pete Kozma's 3-run shot broke the game wide open. Jordan Qsar hit another deep ball over the fence to secure a 7-2 win.

7.



Liam Hendriks returns to Perth

Local boy Liam Hendriks returned home to meet the fans and throw the ceremonial first pitch for the Heat after a magnificent season with the Oakland A's. The Christmas crowd were delighted to see the major league All-Star who started his career with the Heat.

8.



Tim Kennelly's 300th game

After 9 amazing years with Perth Heat, Tim Kennelly played his 300th ABL game on December 29 away to the Sydney Blue Sox. A week later, the captain's legendary career was celebrated with a ceremony at home on a night he collected another award as the all-time hits and runs leader of the Australian Baseball League.

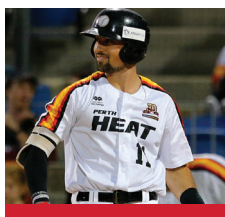
9.



Daniel Schmidt collects 300th strikeout

Another Heat veteran Daniel Schmidt also reached an incredible milestone this summer. In Game 3 of the away series against Adelaide, Schmidt collected his 300th career strikeout. "It's taken me ten plus years to get there. Milestones are hard to come by and I'm stoked to finally get the 300th." Schmidt said.

10.



Crazy 9-run first inning

The best inning of the season came against the four-time defending champion Brisbane Bandits and Australian representative pitcher Tim Atherton. In a monster opening, the Heat piled up 8 hits in the first inning to score 9 runs including three home runs from Jordan Qsar, Niko Hulsizer and Tim Kennelly.



OUR OPPONENTS

MELBOURNE ACES

The **Melbourne Aces** have one of the most explosive offenses in the ABL with powerful hitters like Delmon Young and Luke Hughes, and they are trying to reach the championship series for the first time in 3 years behind this offense.

35-year-old veteran Delmon Young was drafted first overall by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 2003. After playing 10 seasons with 5 teams in the major league, Young explored a new career down under with the Melbourne Aces and became one of the most dangerous home run hitters in the ABL.

Many familiar faces appear on the Aces roster: Luke Hughes has played 17 years of baseball and over 250 games in Perth, helping his hometown team win 6 Claxton Shield titles; Veteran catcher Allan de San Miguel has also been the mainstay of the Heat line-up during that championship run.

The Aces roster has undergone big changes due to injury and affiliation call-back, but the new players have immediately made an impact: Royals prospect D.J. Burt fills up the lead-off spot with 12 hits in his first 8 games while Norwegian pitcher Lars Liguori has collected three wins in three outings. With playoffs getting closer, the Aces would love to see these new players keep delivering.



TEAM LIST

Catcher	
11	Allan de San Miguel
13	Chris Burke
Infielder	
2	Jarryd Dale
3	Mitchell Ellis
4	D.J. Burt
5	Nate Samson
7	Zak Skinner
15	Keenan Spencer
16	Luke Hughes

17	Jared Cruz
27	Ryan Dale
Outfielder	
12	Colin Willis
22	Quincy Latimore
23	Shane Robinson
55	Delmon Young
Pitcher	
9	Scott Shuman
10	Patrick Ladet
14	Cody Mincey

18	Lars Liguori
21	Josh Tols
32	Darin Downs
33	Logan Sawyer
35	Scott Mitchinson
39	Liam O'Sullivan
40	Jon Kennedy
47	Peter Moylan
52	Dushan Ruzic



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SCORECARDS

THURSDAY 23 JANUARY 2020 - 7PM

GAME ONE

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Melbourne												
Perth												

FRIDAY 24 JANUARY 2020 - 7PM

GAME TWO

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Melbourne												
Perth												

SATURDAY 25 JANUARY 2020 - 4PM

GAME THREE

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Melbourne												
Perth												

SATURDAY 25 JANUARY 2020 - 7PM

GAME FOUR

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	RUNS	HITS	ERRORS
Melbourne												
Perth												



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