

Any column that starts with "I hate the White Sox" is OK in my book, and that is just the start of the vitrol in today's B-List. In addition to his daily detailed recap of yesterdays game, Buff also manages to take a shot at Jim "It can't be all about greed" Thome, and applaud the beaning of the most annoying player in baseball, A.J. Pierzynski.



I hate the White Sox.

Now that it's May and the Indians still play profoundly stupid baseball, I'd like to announce the First Walt Svirsky Commemorative Haiku Contest: send me a three-line poem in 5-7-5 format (that's the number of syllables per line). The topic is "Eric Wedge." For example:

*I prefer to bunt
When Sizemore leads with a hit
It wastes precious outs*

Send as many as you like. The winner will receive whatever I can talk Rich into sending you (I am thinking a bumper sticker).

1) My Favorite Player is Totally Blameless!

Except for the things that were his fault, of course. In retrospect, it wouldn't have made much difference, but pitching to Konerko with runners on 2nd and 3rd and 1 out (with Pierzynski, Crede, and mACKowiACK

following) seemed like false bravado. Sure, he gave up two more singles, but the home run to Konerko set a bad tone.

But the two runs in the third were truly maddening. Butchery followed by more butchery. Thank you, left side of the infield! Your flowers are in the mail. (They may be dead when they arrive. They were when I sent them.)

What can I say? No walks is good. 2 hits an inning is less good. Not exactly "sharp";

2) Inertia Man moves!

Wedge finally saw the light and moved the left fielder out of the two hole: Casey Blake rises to the occasion with 2 hits and a walk. (He can probably even bunt, which Michaels has shown he cannot ...

but having a .340 hitter bunt is like jamming an pencil in your ear: yes, it fits, but it's not the optimal use of either the pencil *or* the ear.)

I understand the logic of having Michaels bat second: it was thought he would post around a .380 OBP, which is great for your #2 hitter. Since he posts about a .004 OBP, it was time for him to move. But the logic of letting Hollandsworth drop into the same slot just because he's the left fielder *du jour* totally escaped me.

Yes, there's something to be said for the other players staying

"comfortable" in their given lineup slots. That something would be, "Hogwash."

3) Travis Hafner may lift weights

It's a possibility.

4) Brian Slocum may have brain cells

It, too, is a possibility. Not a *probability*, but it is *possible*.

Look, I understand the desire to pick Podsednik

off second. He stole thirty-two bases last night. I believe he is still running around the bases as we speak. But there are very few situations calling for throwing the ball into center field. You weren't going to catch Podsednik. You just weren't. There is no reason to pick Jim

Thome off first base.
Jim Thome is not going
anywhere. Jim Thome's
speed is largely
theoretical at this point in
his career. Was he
taking a large lead?
Who the heck cares?
Leave him alone, fer
crine out loud. (On the
off chance that you DO
try, though, you might

consider not throwing a split-finger knuckle slider, or whatever the hell that was.)

5) Ozzie Guillen's Inertia moment

Brandon McCarthy is a hotshot young reliever, and he had a six-run lead. I can dig it. But letting him face Hafner

with the bases juiced when Boone Logan was up (heck, he came in to face Martinez immediately after) seems d-u-m dumb.

By the way, the White Sox wanted a second left-handed to go with

Cotts, so they brought up the Guy No One Heard Of from Way Down Deep. Boone Logan (which sounds like a made-up name in a sports story for fifth-graders, like, "Trouble at the Ball Yard" ;) has

a 2.45 ERA and got 2 outs on 4 pitches last night. We have Scott Sauerbeck. Is it too late to ask for a refund?

6) Too many goddam ducks!
Eleven guys left on base! It seemed

like fifty-three in the last two innings alone. I'm tired of reading about Javier Vazquez' "dominant" performance: the man gave up 6 hits and 3 walks in 6

innings for a WHIP
of 1.50. No earned
runs is good, and 7
Ks is nice, but that's
not
"dominant.&qu
ot; Tim Hudson
was dominant.
Vazquez was

frustrating.

But the vaunted
ChiSox bullpen
gave up 6 hits, 2
walks, and 5 runs
(all earned) in 3
innings. Nice to
see. (Of course,
we see that a *lot*.)

Just not from White Sox.)

By the way, the Sox stranded 14.

The game took 3:44 to play.

That's some pretty bad baseball.

7) The

**triumphant
return is less
triumphant than
I'd hoped
Ferd Cabrera
throws some
mean stuff. He
really does. He**

dominated in
Beefalo during
his

"rehab,&qu
ot; and struck out
two of the three
hitters he faced.
He also gave up

a hit to
Podsednik, who
promptly stole
second and third
and scored when
Sauerbeck came
in and
Sauerbecked. I

would like a
scoreless inning
from this man. (I
would also like
him to consider
holding a runner:
that's not all
Victor's fault,

although it's not good on his part, either.)

8) Jim Thome is retarded

You don't understand why you were

booed? Are you
serious?

Did Johnny
Damon act
surprised last
night?

9) Dee-fense!

Would be
good. Let me
know when
you see some.
Four errors
(and Peralta's
play in the third

wasn't exactly
superb, even if
not technically
an error), a
passed ball,
and six stolen
bases. It was

nice that Lee
picked off
Podsednik (on
the
"wrong&q
uot; side for
the lefty, no

less), and
Guthrie started
a superior
1-2-3
bases-loaded
double play,
but that was

not a good
"concentr
ation
night" by
the boys in
white.

10) My

**Favorite
Player Does
My Favorite
Thing!
HBP: A
Pierzynski (by
C Lee) I love**

that man.