

Minor Happenings: Fedroff Ignites Kinston Offense

Written by {ga=consigliere}

Friday, August 07 2009 7:00 PM -

Tony checks back in today with Part II of Minor Happenings ... which he did in three installments this week in the hopes of getting caught up on the last couple weeks, which have been incredibly active for the Indians. Part I posted on Thursday and recapped the debuts and provided some insight on all the players the Indians received in trades the last two weeks. Today, Tony talks with Farm Director Ross Atkins and updates us on a slew of news items from the Tribe's minor league affiliates.



"Minor Happenings" covers the important developments and news in the Indians farm system. While most of the information in this report is from my own research and through interviews I have conducted with organizational personnel, some information in this report is collected and summarized from the various news outlets that cover each team.

This is part two of a three part Minor Happenings this week as I get everything up to speed after a one week hiatus from this column and all the trades that went down the past two weeks. If you missed

[Part 1](#)

, it posted on Thursday and recapped the debuts and provided some insight on all the players the Indians received in trades the last two weeks. Part 3 will post tomorrow.

With all the recent trades and young players picked up, I have received a lot of questions on what the Indians Rule 5 status looks like this coming offseason. Here is an [unofficial 2009 Rule 5 eligibles listing](#)

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I put together earlier this week.

Also, Paul and I conducted our weekly radio show Smoke Signals once again [this past Thursday night](#)

We touched a little on the players in the trades, but instead focused on the meat of the reason on why the Indians made the deals:

Economics.

A pretty interesting back and forth discussion we had (or at least I thought) on the financial state of the Indians and the game itself.

By the way, this coming Thursday August 13th

we celebrate our one year birthday of Smoke Signals as it originally debuted on Thursday August 14th

last year!

Thanks for listening!

I have lots of player articles coming out in the next several weeks on players I have talked to in my many visits over really the last month. Because of all the trade activity and my vacation I have not been able to get them all out as planned, but they will all eventually post!

Look for a piece on Clayton Cook and Lonnie Chisenhall this coming week and maybe some more players.

Onto the *Happenings*...

Indians Minor League Player Of The Week (for games from July 30 through August 5)

Tim Fedroff (Outfielder - Kinston)

.545 AVG (12-for-22), 5 R, 3 2B, 0 3B, 1 HR, 6 RBI, 0 BB, 4K

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This past week High-A Kinston outfielder Tim Fedroff finally showed the impact he can have at the top of a lineup when healthy as he hit a blazing .545 for the week while also pounding out four extra base hits and knocking in six runs. He is also in the



midst of a 27-game on-base streak. His on-base streak currently ranks tied for 2nd longest this season in the Carolina League and is the longest current active streak.

During the streak he is hitting .308 (32-for-104) with 16 runs, 8 doubles, 1 homer, 10 RBI, and a .395 on-base percentage.

On the season he is hitting .279 with 4 HR, 27 RBI, and a .761 OPS.

Fedroff is a well-rounded player in that he has above average speed, has good range and an average arm in the outfield, makes good contact and has some pop in his bat to pound the ball gap-to-gap. The key to his success is whether or not he can stay in center field as his bat gets lost at the corners because it is not strong enough to be a big league regular bat there.

If he can stay in center field he could be an offensive-oriented player there with an average arm and good range.

Not surprisingly, with the return of Fedroff to the lineup everyday the play of the team in general has improved. Prior to his hamstring injury first occurring and him leaving the lineup on May 9th, the Kinston lineup was on fire and the team was a few games over .500. He returned to the lineup full time about two weeks ago and Kinston all of a sudden is starting to put things together again offensively.

While he is not 100% yet and will likely play the rest of the season with a nagging hamstring, he is as healthy as he has been since he initially hurt it and is showing why the Indians were willing to pay him over slot with a \$725K signing bonus as a 7th round pick last year.

Honorable Mentions:

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Chuck Lofgren (LHP - Columbus): 0-0, 1 game, 0.00 ERA, 7.0 IP, 4 H, 0 R, 1 BB, 5 K
Carlos Santana (C - Akron): .375 AVG (9-for-24), 3 R, 1 2B, 0 3B, 0 HR, 6 RBI, 6 BB, 6 K
Carlos Rivero (SS - Akron): .391 AVG (9-for-23), 5 R, 2 2B, 1 3B, 3 HR, 9 RBI, 2 BB, 3K
Vidal Nuno (LHP - Mahoning Vy): 2-0, 2 games, 0.82 ERA, 11.0 IP, 4 H, 1 ER, 2 BB, 6 K
Casey Frawley (SS - Mahoning Vy): .375 AVG (9-for-24), 3 R, 0 2B, 1 3B, 1 HR, 5 RBI, 0 BB, 1 K
Roberto Perez (C - AZL Indians): .524 AVG (11-for-21), 4 R, 2 2B, 0 3B, 0 HR, 3 RBI, 1 BB, 3 K

Previous Winners:

07/23 to 07/29: Carlos Santana (C - Akron)
07/16 to 07/22: Nate Recknagel (1B - Lake County)
07/09 to 07/15: Matt McBride (OF - Akron)
07/02 to 07/08: Marty Popham (RHP - Mahoning Valley)
06/25 to 07/01: Andy Marte (3B - Columbus)
06/18 to 06/24: Nick Weglarz (OF - Akron)
06/11 to 06/17: Trey Haley (RHP - (Lake County)
06/04 to 06/10: Michael Brantley (OF - Columbus)
05/28 to 06/03: Donnie Webb (OF - Lake County)
05/21 to 05/27: Jordan Brown (1B/OF - Columbus)
05/14 to 05/20: Paolo Espino (RHP - Kinston)
05/07 to 05/13: Lonnie Chisenhall (3B - Kinston)
04/30 to 05/06: Nick Weglarz (OF - Akron)
04/23 to 04/29: Matt McBride (1B - Kinston)
04/16 to 04/22: Eric Berger (LHP - Kinston)
04/08 to 04/15: Kelvin De La Cruz (LHP - Kinston)

Directors Cuts

Indians Farm Director Ross Atkins was in Kinston this past week and had some comments on some of the new players the Indians received in recent trades who have been assigned there:

On Scott Barnes: "He has really been impressive and he stands out immediately. I know we talk a lot about guys who that

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