

Break out the brooms. The Indians streak continues, and the team has now won 16 of the last 21 games, all meaningless. But encouraging nonetheless. In today's B-List, Buff pays homage to Pronk, wonders 'bout Honny, and marvels at the fact Victor actually threw a runner out last night. Up next for the Tribe? A weekend set at Texas, with old friend Kevin Millwood on the bump Friday night.



Let me say this: our baserunning on our scoring plays last night was flawless.

1) Pronk smash!

Although the pressure of being the entire Cleveland Offense finally caught up to Travis Hafner in the ninth inning (not really), Hafner did provide the only real sparks for the Indians by hitting two solo shots, one in each of the 3rd and 8th innings. Hafner now has 42 HR and 116 RBI on the season and is arguably the best offensive player in the major leagues.

It was a little bit of a shame that he couldn't set the all-time mark for grand slams in the season, facing Toronto closer B.J. Ryan with the bases loaded and one out. Heck, it was a little bit of a shame that he couldn't fly out or hit a slow roller to second base. But Ryan is really, really good, and Pronk did work him to 3-2 before backwards-K'ing. Hard to believe he didn't swing at least ONCE, though.

2) A matter of perspective

Consider the following outing: 5 2/3 IP, 6 H, 3 BB, 1 K, 2 R, 10:5 GB:FB ratio, 99 pitches. This is pretty much a subpar outing from Jake Westbrook, right? A pretty typical result of what we might expect from Paul Byrd, congratulating him for keeping the ball down for a change? But since it's Jeremy Sowers, in the midst of the mythical "5-0 with a sub-2.00 ERA since July 22" run, the tendency seems to be to do a collective fan-back-patting for Sowers' "continued development." Don't get me wrong: Sowers wasn't "on" and still won with a just-short-of-Quality start. He won without his best stuff and

the six hits were all singles (heck, until the 6th he'd only given up two hits). But it's interesting that we're more likely to credit Sowers than Westbrook for an outing like that.

3) An old-fashioned pitcher's duel!

Hey, both pitchers had no-hitters going through the first inning, and there were no errors or hit batsmen to distract the fielders.