

Cincinnati Reds Press Clippings April 16, 2018

THIS DAY IN REDS HISTORY

1934-The Reds Board of Directors change Redland Field to Crosley Field in honor of Powel Crosley, Jr., the new team owner

MLB.COM

**Bailey's 7-inning effort unable to halt Reds' slide
Offense held to solo shots by Hamilton, Duvall in 8th straight loss
By Mark Sheldon MLB.com @m_sheldon
Apr. 15th, 2018**

CINCINNATI -- Homer Bailey did something Sunday that no one in the Reds' rotation has accomplished this season, and it was badly needed. Bailey became the first Reds starter in 2018 to complete more than six innings, as he pitched seven, but it was still not enough to stop Cincinnati's maddening losing streak.

That's because the Reds' offense was stifled by the Cardinals' Carlos Martinez before a late comeback effort fell just short in a 3-2 loss, Cincinnati's eighth in a row. That pushed the Reds' record to 2-13, equaling the club's worst start to a season through 15 games in the modern era. They were 2-13 in 1931 and 2-11-2 in 1913. The last team in the Majors to lose 13 of its first 15 games was the 2015 Brewers.

"I think the thing we take away from this one is really how resilient we were almost coming back there," Bailey said. "The bullpen was really locked down in the eighth and ninth. We kept battling back. It's good to see, especially after this kind of start. We have to have a little bit of fire, trying to win some games and come back. I thought we were close there. We had really good defense, which was good to see today too."

Despite the Reds being ranked last in ERA in the Majors, Bailey provided an outing that showed promise with his third quality start in four outings this season. The veteran gave up three runs and four hits with two walks and four strikeouts while throwing 90 pitches. But Martinez countered with seven scoreless innings, two hits, four walks and 11 strikeouts.

In the second inning, Bailey surrendered Harrison Bader's two-run home run and did not give up another hit until Jose Martinez hit a one-out double in the seventh. Before that, Bailey retired 13 of 14 batters with a walk being erased when Bader was caught stealing in the fifth inning.

"Their pitcher was good today," Cardinals manager Mike Matheny said. "That was the best we've seen Homer in a while. He made good pitches all day long and he wasn't giving us much."

Following Martinez's double, Yadier Molina hit a drive over center fielder Billy Hamilton's head that scored another run to make it 3-0. Molina was thrown out trying for a double.

"It's kind of part of the job of a starter. You're going to win or lose a lot of games on just one or two pitches," Bailey said. "The two-run home run, the ball came back a little bit to the middle. I didn't make a whole lot of mistakes today, and they put together some good at-bats there at the end."

Bailey's record moved to 0-3 with a 3.42 ERA, but he wasn't taking any moral victories or appreciation of his personal season after three years marred by elbow injuries.

"My numbers alone don't count. It's what we're doing as a team," Bailey said. "We're just going to have to figure out a way to turn things around."

The Reds' offense showed signs of life over the final two innings. While Amir Garrett and Jared Hughes pitched zeros, the Cardinals' bullpen could not keep the Reds quiet. Tyler Lyons replaced Martinez on the mound and Hamilton pounced with a first-pitch homer into the left-field seats.

Jose Peraza reached on an error to bring the tying run to the plate, but Joey Votto bounced into a 4-6-3 double play. Adam Duvall began the ninth inning against Bud Norris with a homer to left field. Tucker Barnhart bunted for a single and collided with Jose Martinez, and was awarded second base on review because the error throw rolled out of play.

Cincinnati was unable to capitalize as Phillip Ervin and Alex Blandino struck out. Following pinch-hitter Devin Mesoraco being hit by a pitch, Hamilton lined out to left field to end the game.

The Reds were 0-for-9 with runners in scoring position and left eight men on base. Their offense ranks last in the Majors in runs scored with 44, including just 19 runs during the current losing streak. Votto is batting .236 and drew only his third walk of the season Sunday. Meanwhile, Duvall is batting .160 and Hamilton is at .170.

Scott Schebler, Eugenio Suarez and Jesse Winker are all missing because of injuries, but manager Bryan Price still expected his club to be accountable.

"You can't be a couple of injuries away from not being able to be productive," Price said. "The kids that are here are guys that we expected to be there this year, and it's not all on them, it's on the veterans to carry the load and be more productive. We've gotten off to a slow start offensively and that's not the reason. As a group, we're cumulatively struggling. Today was the sign of a well-played ballgame, but the offense just wasn't there today."

The struggles have created speculation about Price's job security as he sits on the hot seat in the final year of his contract. Hamilton offered his support.

"It's never the manager's fault. We're the ones playing the game," Hamilton said. "As long as we just keep going every single day and play hard and get some wins, it's going to all right. We all love him. He's great. Everybody is coming here every day and works. Going through this amount of losses is tough."

MOMENTS THAT MATTERED

Hamilton's homer perks up dugout: When Hamilton hit a first-pitch long ball off of Lyons -- his first of the season and his 500th career hit -- the Reds seemed to find renewed energy.

"I felt like everybody was all pumped up," Hamilton said. "We came back in the ninth and had a chance to tie the game up or win the game."

HE SAID IT

"He's that guy who carries that burden as the No. 1 guy to come in and perform on a consistent basis to try and take some of the load and pressure off of the young guys that are trying to stop a losing streak. He gave us a chance to win. He pitched winning baseball in a loss. It was unfortunate we weren't able to take advantage of that type of an effort." -- Price, on Bailey's effort

MITEL REPLAY OF THE DAY

When Barnhart dropped down his bunt single, following Duvall's homer, third baseman Greg Garcia made a bad throw that pulled Martinez into the runner's path. As the two collided, the ball ricocheted in and out of a camera well adjacent to the Reds' dugout. As Barnhart remained at first base and was replaced by Winker as a pinch-runner, the Reds challenged the call. The play on the field was overturned and Barnhart/Winker was awarded second base on the error.

UP NEXT

A three-game series at Milwaukee begins at 7:40 p.m. ET Monday with Luis Castillo getting the ball for the Reds against lefty and Cincinnati-native Brent Suter. Castillo is off to a poor start at 0-2 with a 7.31 ERA in three games and has given up four homers. In two starts vs. the Brewers last season, he was 1-0 with a 1.98 ERA.

Cards, Reds celebrate Jackie Robinson Day
By Mark Sheldon MLB.com @m_sheldon
Apr. 15th, 2018

CINCINNATI -- As Reds and Cardinals players arrived at Great American Ball Park on Sunday, the jerseys with that now hallowed number were hanging at the lockers.

Everyone in Major League Baseball understands the significance of No. 42, and what it means to wear it on Jackie Robinson Day, the 71st anniversary of when he broke baseball's color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.

"I would say it is my favorite day of the year," Reds reliever Jared Hughes said. "Jackie Robinson changed the game. He brought unity to baseball. It's really special to be able to wear No. 42."

As has been tradition each April 15th since 2009, MLB celebrated Jackie Robinson Day with all players and on-field personnel wearing Jackie's iconic Number "42." For 2018, there was additional on-field uniform elements, including a commemorative patch on all team caps and jersey sleeves, socks emblazoned with "42," and a brand new lightweight hooded fleece for batting practice and dugout wear, also featuring the "42" logo.

Cincinnati Reds

✓

@Reds

Today in #Reds history, 2007: Ken Griffey Jr. sought permission from then-Commissioner Bud Selig and Robinson's widow, Rachel, to wear No. 42 on April 15. From that moment, all players were given the green light to continue the tribute. #Jackie42

2:47 PM - Apr 15, 2018

Cardinals right fielder Dexter Fowler had specially designed spikes in Brooklyn Dodgers colors to honor Robinson.

"It's a huge deal especially being African American," Fowler said. "You look at the numbers, they were down and I guess they came up a little bit. It's a step in the right direction. And honoring Jackie today is something I never take lightly. If Jackie didn't do what he did, and it took a special individual to do that, I might not be here playing."

On the field before Sunday's game, the Reds celebrated Jackie Robinson Day in a variety of ways. Journey Steel, a minority/female-owned business, was presented with the 2018 Most Valuable Diverse Business Partner Award.

Eric Kearney, President/CEO of the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky African American Chamber of Commerce, threw a ceremonial first pitch.

At the P&G MLB Cincinnati Reds Youth Academy on Saturday, eight high school and 10 softball teams played games to celebrate Jackie Robinson Day. Chuck Harmon, the Reds' first African-American player, and Reds Hall of Famer Dave Parker were honored during pregame ceremonies. All of the high school players also wore No. 42 jerseys.

St. Louis Cardinals

✓

@Cardinals

FINALLY. It's time for #STLCards baseball!

3:44 PM - Apr 15, 2018 · Cincinnati, OH

For the Cardinals, April 15 has additional significance because Sunday marked the 59th anniversary of Hall of Famer Bob Gibson's first Major League game. St. Louis launched a fan engagement campaign called #CompleteGamer to honor the first-ballot Hall of Famer.

Gibson played all 17 seasons of his career with the Cardinals, and although he is the franchise leader with 251 victories -- he actually had more complete games with 255.

A nine-time All-Star, Gibson was also a two-time National League Cy Young Award winner in 1968 and '70, the '68 NL Most Valuable Player, and has nine Gold Gloves and two World Series MVPs in 1964 and '67.

MLB will donate all proceeds from the sale of the game-worn items to the Jackie Robinson Foundation. Its scholarship program provides four years of financial assistance and direct program services annually to 225 students attending 100 colleges and universities across the country.

"I don't know if they really grasp everything he went through. Any time you get a chance to sit down and read up on him, it would be good to do," Fowler said.

The Jackie Robinson Foundation is also building the Jackie Robinson Museum in New York, set to open in 2019, and its Museum Legacy Campaign has raised over \$25 million.

"The guys that paved the way for where we are today, there's nothing we shouldn't do for them," Hughes said. "I feel like Jackie Robinson should not only get a museum, he should have a museum at every field in the country. He is the reason the game continues to grow, because of people like Jackie Robinson who break barriers and make the game better."

Schebler (right elbow) begins rehab at Triple-A

By Mark Sheldon MLB.com @m_sheldon

Apr. 15th, 2018

CINCINNATI -- Reds right fielder Scott Schebler was sent out on a rehab assignment and played with Triple-A Louisville in their game against Lehigh Valley on Sunday.

Schebler went 0-for-3 with three strikeouts.

"Then we'll see what type of reports we get from [manager] Pat Kelly and the training staff, to see if he needs more time there than just one game," Reds manager Bryan Price said.

Schebler has been out since being hit on the right elbow by a pitch on April 1. The ball struck his ulnar nerve, and Schebler lost the feeling in his pinky and ring fingers.

The Reds tried to wait it out to see if Schebler would improve, but put him on the DL last Monday -- retroactive to April 6. That means he is eligible to be activated from the 10-day disabled list on Monday, when the Reds open a three-game series at Milwaukee.

"It doesn't mean he will," Price said. "He'll play at least one [game], maybe more, based on how he feels and the assessments of our medical staff and our coaching staff."

Schebler opened the season 4-for-12 with a home run in his three games before his injury.

Hernandez to throw simulated game

Reliever David Hernandez, who has been out since Spring Training with right shoulder inflammation, had another successful side bullpen session on Saturday. Up next for Hernandez is pitching a simulated game, which is scheduled for Tuesday at Milwaukee. After that, it could be a rehab assignment.

"We'll see how he recovers," Price said. "The issue in spring wasn't even so much when he threw. When he got loose, he was good. It was the day after that was really the problem. In today's day and age, we can't nurse a pitcher through something like that -- pitch and then a mandatory day off the next day. We need our guys to be durable. If he recovers well from his first outing or two, then I'd say he's ready to rejoin us or be close to it."

CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

As Cincinnati Reds struggle, top prospect Nick Senzel remains with Triple-A Louisville

John Fay, jfay@enquirer.com

Published 12:01 p.m. ET April 15, 2018

Here are the stats: Since Eugenio Suarez has been out, Reds third basemen were 1 for 25 with three errors entering Sunday.

Meanwhile, the team's No. 1 prospect, Nick Senzel, a third baseman by trade, remains at Triple-A. Senzel started off well for the Louisville Bats. He had two hits in each of the first two games. He struggled a bit for the next four games, but he had five hits in his last three games entering Sunday.

The date has passed by which the Reds can call up Senzel and retain control of Senzel for another year.

If the Reds were 11-2, there would be no reason to be talking about Senzel. But the Reds entered Sunday 2-11 and last in the National League in runs scored.

It sounds like if it were manager Bryan Price's call, Senzel would be with the Reds.

"We're an organization," Price said. "We're not one person. This is not a situation where one person gets to say: This is what happens. This is a decision that's made by a lot of people for a lot of varying reasons. That's where I stand on it. I think he could help us. There's also the argument that the people who see him and know him better than I do need to feel like he's ready. When that time comes, I would think we'll see him here. Especially with Geno out."

The Reds are a team in desperate need of a spark. Senzel, 22, seems like a guy to provide it. Senzel is No. 7 prospect in all of baseball, according to Baseball America. He played shortstop and third base during spring training. He's played second base and third for Louisville.

"He plays with his hair on fire," Price said. "He plays hard. That's what I know."

THE ATHLETIC

By the numbers: Reds drop eighth straight despite another Bailey quality start

By C. Trent Rosecrans Apr 16, 2018

CINCINNATI – Homer Bailey wasn't having any of the silver linings questions after the Reds' eighth straight loss, a 3-2 defeat to the Cardinals at Great American Ball Park on Sunday.

Bailey had just thrown seven innings and made his third quality start of the season, but it didn't matter.

"We're (expletive) 2-12, I don't think it's really good at all, regardless of my numbers," Bailey said. "My numbers don't count, it's what we're doing as a team that counts. We have to find a way to turn things around."

The Reds are 2-13, but you can forgive Bailey if the losses keep running together. The team has won one game at home, one on the road and been swept in three of its four full series this season.

It's safe to say there are not many bright spots to the start of the Reds' season, but Bailey may be one of them.

Healthy for the first time since 2014, he's 0-3 with a 3.42 era in four starts.

"That's the best we've seen Homer in a while," Cardinals manager Mike Matheny said. "He wasn't giving us much."

Reds manager Bryan Price said this is the best-sustained run he's seen from Bailey since 2014.

"Forget the quality start thing – it was quality stuff," Price said. "Results were good. He's that guy who carries that burden as the No. 1 guy to come in and perform on a consistent basis to try and take some of the load and pressure off of the young guys that are trying to stop a losing streak. He gave us a chance to win. He pitched winning baseball in a loss."

Bailey was a 2-0 loser to the Nationals on Opening Day, struggled in Pittsburgh and then allowed just one run on two hits in six innings last week in Philadelphia. His seven innings on Sunday was his longest outing of the young season.

Still, it was in another losing effort. Bailey took the blame for giving up a two-run home run to Harrison Bader in the second. Without that, he noted, the team wins.

Bailey took offense after Sunday's game at the notion that Price is to blame for the team's horrific start.

"It's completely unfair. Bryan doesn't field the balls, Bryan doesn't have any at-bats, Bryan doesn't throw any pitches," Bailey said. "For anyone to put this solely on Bryan, it would just show their complete ignorance of the game of baseball."

With the Reds back on the road to take on Milwaukee and St. Louis, let's take a look at the numbers for Sunday.

.228: After going 0-for-9 with runners in scoring position, the Reds' average with RISP dropped to .228. That sounds bad until you take into account that it's BETTER than the team's overall average, .224. The team had been hitting much better (.248) heading into Sunday's game with RISP than without (.228).

94 percent: The hit probability of Billy Hamilton's game-ending lineout, according to BaseballSavant.MLB.com. With two on and two outs in the ninth inning, Bader was playing in on Hamilton, who lined a ball right at the St. Louis left fielder to end the game.

500: Career hits for Hamilton, who reached that mark with an eighth-inning home run off the Cardinals' Tyler Lyons. It was the 18th career home run by Hamilton.

5: Straight games Cardinals starter Carlos Martinez has hit a batter. He hit Phillip Ervin in the seventh. Closer Bud Norris later hit Reds pinch-hitter Devin Mesoraco in the ninth.

9: Straight games won by the Cardinals at Great American Ball Park. It's the longest winning streak by the Cardinals in Cincinnati since winning 10 straight at Crosley Field between 1930 and 1931. The Cardinals swept the Reds in three games to open the 1931 season as Cincinnati limped out to a 2-17 start.

2: Strikeouts against right-handed pitchers this year by Joey Votto. Martinez got Votto on a foul tip in the third inning. Votto's previous strikeout against a right-hander came looking against the Cubs' Tyler Chatwood on April 2. Votto has 44 plate appearances against right-handers this season. He has five strikeouts in 16 plate appearances against left-handers this season.

2:36: Time of Sunday's rain delay to start the game at Great American Ball Park. That was only four minutes fewer than the time it took to play the game, two hours and 40 minutes.

DAYTON DAILY NEWS

Reds lose eighth straight, fall to 2-13

Dave Jablonski Staff Writer

6:30 p.m Sunday, April 15, 2018 Sports

CINCINNATI

The decision to wait two hours and 35 minutes to play Sunday paid off in one way for the Cincinnati Reds. They did get to play baseball. The few fans who waited that long in the rain — with no guarantee that the game would be played until an announcement at 3:10 p.m. — did get to see baseball.

However, the only winners Sunday — and the only winners all weekend at Great American Ball Park — were the Saint Louis Cardinals, who completed a four-game sweep with a 3-2 victory.

Adam Duvall homered to lead off the ninth to cut the Cardinals' lead to 3-2. Tucker Barnhart then reached on a bunt single and moved to second on an error, but he was stranded there. Billy Hamilton lined out to left to end the game.

"That was a game we could have won," Reds manager Bryan Price said. "We needed to come up with a big hit. Billy smoked that ball."

The Reds (2-13) lost their eighth straight game. They continue to keep pace with the 1931 Reds, the last team to start 2-12 and 2-13. The Reds would have to start 2-18 to pass the 1931 Reds for the worst start in franchise history.

The Reds are one of 41 teams in baseball history to start the season 2-13 or worse. Only seven teams have started 1-14. Only three teams have started 0-15.

David Jablonski



@DavidPJablonski

Photos: Reds lose 3-2 to Cardinals, who complete four-game sweep at GABP <https://www.daytondailynews.com/sports/photos-reds-cardinals-april/BBQpNWlv0kjenh3wt7B5M/> ...

7:03 PM - Apr 15, 2018

Sweep dreams: The Cardinals swept a four-game series in Cincinnati for the first time since July 8-10, 1949. The Cardinals have won eight games in a row against the Reds and nine straight at Great American Ball Park.

Quality effort: Homer Bailey (0-3, 3.42 ERA) delivered his third quality start in as four tries, allowing three earned runs on four hits in seven innings. He walked two batters and struck out four.

"Regardless of my numbers, it's what we're doing as a team," Bailey said. "We're just going to have to figure out a way to turn things around."

Price said this is the best Bailey has pitched since 2014.

"Forget the quality start thing, it's quality stuff," Price said. "Results are good. He's that guy, the guy that carries the burden as the No. 1 guy who comes in and performs on a consistent basis to try to take some of the load and pressure off the young guys that are trying to stop a losing streak. He gave us a chance to win. He pitched winning baseball in a loss."

Strong stuff: Carlos Martinez (2-1, 1.75) started for the Cardinals and threw seven shutout innings. He allowed two hits and walked four. He struck out 11.

Big blow: The Cardinals' Harrison Bader, who had not hit a home run or driven in a run in his first 14 at-bats of the season, hit a two-run home run against Bailey in the second inning.

Milestone hit: Hamilton recorded his 500th career hit. His solo home run got the Reds on the board in the eighth, trimming the Cardinals' lead to 3-1.

Looking ahead: The Reds start a three-game series in Milwaukee and then travel to St. Louis for three games.

Transactions

04/15/18

Chicago Cubs optioned 1B Efran Navarro to Iowa Cubs.

Atlanta Braves recalled RHP Lucas Sims from Gwinnett Stripers.

Tampa Bay Rays sent RHP Ryan Weber outright to Durham Bulls.

Texas Rangers claimed LF Renato Nunez off waivers from Oakland Athletics.

Texas Rangers transferred RHP Tim Lincecum from the 10-day disabled list to the 60-day disabled list. Blister on right middle finger.

New York Yankees sent OF Shane Robinson outright to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders.

New York Yankees optioned RHP Luis Cessa to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders.

Los Angeles Dodgers recalled 2B Breyvic Valera from Oklahoma City Dodgers.

Los Angeles Dodgers placed 2B Logan Forsythe on the 10-day disabled list. Right shoulder inflammation.

Arizona Diamondbacks recalled RHP Silvino Bracho from Reno Aces.

Arizona Diamondbacks placed RHP Taijuan Walker on the 10-day disabled list. Right forearm inflammation

New York Mets optioned Dominic Smith to Las Vegas 51s.

New York Mets reassigned 1B Dominic Smith to the minor leagues.

Minnesota Twins recalled RHP Alan Busenitz from Rochester Red Wings.

Cincinnati Reds sent RF Scott Schebler on a rehab assignment to Louisville Bats.

Kansas City Royals sent C Salvador Perez on a rehab assignment to Northwest Arkansas Naturals.

Baltimore Orioles optioned Donnie Hart to Norfolk Tides.

Baltimore Orioles recalled RHP David Hess from Norfolk Tides.

Atlanta Braves designated RHP Luke Jackson for assignment.
