


BASEBALL FIRST: A PITCHER HITS FOR THE CYCLE


KNICK'S AVERY PULLS OFF THE FEAT IN DEMOLITION OF KINGS CO.; TWO OTHERS HAVE FOUR HITS

BROOKLYN, N.Y. (July 9, 1879) – Kings County and Knickerbocker played the middle game of their series at Washington Park on Wednesday, and after some early excitement Knick put their hosts to the sword:



AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL LEAGUE
KNICKERBOCKER BASE BALL CLUB AT KINGS COUNTY B.B.C.
GAME ID: 2968 - WEDNESDAY, JULY 9TH, 1879 - GAME LOG

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
Knickerbocker Base Ball Club (33-23)	6	2	1	0	4	1	0	5	3	22	25	3
Kings County B.B.C. (28-28)	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	11	6



Knick began the game with a six-run rally in T1. Veteran 1B Cormack Alexander provided the key hit with a three-run Double, and P William Avery capped the scoring with a one-run two-bagger. They added two more in T2 on a Triple by 3B Albert Stoffers and a Single by Alexander to go ahead 8-0, but Kings Co. came back with five runs on a pair of two-run Doubles and a run-scoring Single in B2.

With the score 8-5 after the end of the second inning, Knick took total control of the proceedings in Brooklyn, scoring fourteen of the game's final fifteen runs before exiting with an utterly dominant 22-6 victory. As for Avery, he followed his Double in T1 with a Single in T6, a Home Run in T8, and a Triple in T9 to become the first Pitcher in the history of the sport, in any league, to [hit for the Cycle](#):

- T1: 1-run Double past 3B off J. Smith
- T3: Sacrifice Bunt to C (1 out)

- T5: Ground Out to 1B (2 out)
- T6: Single to RF off G. Dellenbrant (R)
- T8: 2-RUN HOME RUN to RF off G. Dellenbrant
- T9: 1-run Triple to RF off W. Johannessen (R)
- TOTAL: 4/5 (2B, 3B, HR), 3 R, 4 RBI, CYCLE, 10 TB, SAC BUNT, 82 GMSC
- PITCHING: CG W (14-13, 4.29), 11 HA, 4 ER, 0 BB, 1 K

What made Avery's feat all the more astounding was that his last two hits, and the two most difficult ones needed to complete the Cycle, occurred during the final two innings. His Cycle was also the second in the history of the A.P.B.L., with the other occurring on July 22nd, 1875, when Knickerbocker 3B Werner Verstegen hit for the Cycle against Excelsior.

William Avery is known to be an excellent hitter compared to other Pitchers. In his first full season as a regular he's batting .283 (.704 OPS) with nine Extra-Base Hits (6 2B, 2 3B, 1 HR) and 17 Runs Batted In over 28 appearances. In fact, Avery is good enough both with the bat and in the field that he's also a backup Corner Outfielder in the Knick roster. Avery rates 3.0 stars at P, and 2.0* at LF or RF.

Avery wasn't the only Knick batsman to have an excellent day, as two of his teammates collected four hits in Brooklyn:

- KNI 2B Anthony Mascherino: 4/7 (all 1B), 4 R, 2 RBI
- KNI 3B Albert Stoffers: 4/7 (2B, 2 3B), 4 R, 4 RBI, 9 TB

Mascherino's four-hit game left the seemingly ageless 40-year-old with a .337 Average (.790 OPS), 63 Runs, 33 RBI, and 2.8 WAR through 56 games. Stoffers' four-hit afternoon pushed him over the .400 mark to .401 (.934) with 60 Runs, 26 Extra-Base Hits (23 2B, 3 3B), 46 RBI, and 2.8 WAR. He's one of four batsmen in the A.P.B.L. currently batting over .400, with the other three being Samuel Eastman (PtJ; .407), Joseph Evans (StJ; .402), & William Norman (NIA; .402).

Thanks to Quaker St.'s 7-5 home loss to Gotham, Knick's win at Kings Co. moved them into a first-place tie atop the Metropolitan at 33-23. Kings Co. is tied for fourth place with American at 28-28 (5 GB).