

## 2011 SEASON RECAP

**TIGERS WIN FINAL FOUR GAME** -- The Albion Tigers traveled to DeForest in their season finale and emerged with a 4-2 victory in ten innings, eliminating the Deacons from contention in the Home Talent League's Championship Series and allowing the Tigers to end their historic season on a high note with their 22nd overall victory. The Tigers got on the board early when Aaron Laskowski was hit by a pitch to start the game and eventually scored on a double by Josh Eastman. Eastman moved to third on a groundout by Jesse Appel, and then gave Albion a 2-0 lead when Kyle Johnson reached on an infield single. DeForest tied the game in the third inning, but thanks to outstanding Albion pitching the Deacons wouldn't score again. Mike Nanstad started the game and struck out nine in six innings, while Eastman and Adam Gregory each threw two innings of scoreless relief. Albion made a winner of Gregory in the tenth, when Casey Schmeling reached on an error and Ryan Stace had an infield hit after two were out. Singles by Laskowski and Gregory then plated two runs to provide the final 4-2 margin.

**SECTIONAL CHAMPS!!!** -- For only the 4th time in their 66-year history, the Albion Tigers became sectional champions on Sunday with a 4-3 victory over Stoughton in the Southeast Section championship game. The 2011 team now joins the 1953, 1957, and 1976 squads as the only Albion teams to make such a claim. Moundmen Mike Nanstad and Josh Eastman combined to strike out twelve, with Nanstad throwing six strong to earn the win and Eastman slamming the door on the last three innings. RBIs from Kyle Johnson and Ethan Vaade in the fourth inning put Albion on the board, and a third run was awarded on a balk when Vaade attempted to steal second base with two outs, scoring Johnson. After Stoughton pulled to 3-2, Casey Schmeling scored a huge run in the seventh when he reached on an error, advanced on a sacrifice bunt and wild pitch, and then scored on Adam Gregory's single to right to make it 4-2. Stoughton would threaten in the eighth, but Eastman squelched Stoughton's hopes when he struck out slugger Sean Gerber with the lead run on second base. He then threw a perfect ninth to seal the win.

**NANSTAD 'GENERALS' A PLAYOFF WIN AT FORT** -- The Albion Tigers got a strong six innings from starting pitcher Mike Nanstad, scored some early runs, and played solid defense behind Josh Eastman as he closed the door on a 4-2 playoff victory at Fort Atkinson on Sunday. Ethan Vaade put the Tigers on the board in the second inning when his sacrifice fly plated Jesse Appel. Marty Johnson's RBI groundout in the fourth made it 2-0, and Aaron Laskowski hit the next pitch into centerfield to score Jim Eastman and Ben Everson to push the lead to four. Fort Atkinson touched Nanstad for two runs in the fifth inning, but he rebounded to throw a perfect sixth and left with a 4-2 lead. He then gave way to Josh Eastman, who wriggled out of a jam in the seventh, got a huge 3-6 double play in the eighth, and sent the Generals home with a scoreless ninth.

**TIGERS BEAT MUSKIES FOR 20TH WIN** -- Veteran Mike Nanstad threw five innings and struck out nine to earn the win in his first start of the season, combining with reliever Bryant Schulte to allow only four hits. The Albion bats got started early, with a four-run first inning that included RBIs from Kyle Johnson, Casey Schmeling, and a 2-run double by Adam Gregory. Jesse Appel made it 6-0 with a 2-run double in the second, before Albion put it away with five runs in the third. Trevor Kinnett had a RBI single and Gregory plated his 3rd and 4th RBIs of the day with a single to right. Gregory and Kinnett each had two hits, while Laskowski had three.

**TIGERS BEAT FIREMEN IN ENL PLAYOFFS** -- The Albion Tigers scored early and often on Thursday, and moundman Adam Gregory threw a gem as the Tigers beat Waterloo 11-1 to advance in the Eastern Night League playoffs. Gregory threw seven innings and allowed only one run on five hits, while also using his own bat to drive in two runs for the Tigers. Albion wasted no time in getting started, grabbing a 4-0 lead in the first with RBIs from Kyle Johnson, Gregory, Ryan Stace, and Jamie Shelley. Josh Eastman drove home his dad Jim in the second, and Gregory had another RBI groundout in the 4th to make it 6-0. Mike Nanstad pushed one across in the 5th, and was followed by Casey Schmeling's two-run pinch-hit to left. Johnson's two-run triple one pitch later capped the Albion scoring.

**TIGERS WALK OFF AGAINST JEFFERSON** -- Sunday's matchup of playoff contenders was everything it should be, as the Albion Tigers outlasted the Jefferson Blue Devils in a barn-burner in Albion Park. Ethan Vaade's ninth-inning single to right scored Kyle Johnson and capped a furious four-run rally to give Albion a 10-9 victory and an 11-3 record in Southeast Section play. After falling down 3-0 early, Albion tied it in the third inning on Adam Gregory's long three-run homer, then took the lead when Josh Eastman and Trevor Kinnett had consecutive doubles. Jefferson eventually came back to build a 9-4 lead, but Albion got two back in the seventh when Aaron Laskowski and Gregory both hit safely and scored on RBIs from Kinnett and Johnson to make it 9-6. In the meantime, Mike Nanstad was throwing 2.2 scoreless innings of relief, keeping Albion close and setting the stage for the dramatic ninth. Laskowski and Gregory set the table again, with their third and fourth hits of the day respectively. Kinnett and Johnson drove them in, and Kinnett later scored the tying run on a wild pitch, setting the stage for Vaade's heroics.

**TIGERS MAKE IT A SWEEP; BEAT UTICA 9-3** -- The Albion Tigers got a complete team effort on Sunday in earning a 9-3 win and finishing off a sweep of rival Utica. Eighteen players appeared in the game for Albion and eight Tigers combined to bang out fifteen hits, four of them for extra bases. Matt Buhrow and Mike Nanstad combined to do the moundwork for Albion, allowing only one earned run while striking out seven and walking nobody. Just like Saturday, Albion disrupted the Association early and scored four runs in the first with RBIs from Josh Eastman, Jesse Appel, Trevor Kinnett, and Ethan Vaade. Jim Eastman and Josh Eastman singled in runs in the third and fourth, respectively, and Kinnett drove in a run and scored a run in the sixth. Kyle Johnson's single plated pinch-runner Bryant Schulte in the eighth with the final run for Albion.

**TIGERS FOLLOW EASTMAN TO 11-1 VICTORY** -- The Albion Tigers scored early, often, and every which way on Saturday, but the performance by starting pitcher Josh Eastman was the key as the right-hander threw a complete game and walked nobody in leading his team to a 11-1 win in a key Southeast Section game at rival Utica. Aaron Laskowski led Albion with four hits and three runs, while Adam Gregory, Jesse Appel, and Casey Schmeling also added multiple hits in the onslaught. Laskowski led off the game with an infield single, then stole a base and eventually scored on Appel's RBI groundout. He was at it again in the 3rd, leading off with a double and scoring on Gregory's single to right. The Tigers started to build the lead in the fourth when Ben Everson's squeeze

bunt plated Trevor Kinnett, and then blew it open with three runs in the fifth and sixth innings. Schmeling's 2-run single highlighted the fifth, and Kinnett capped the sixth with a ringing 2-run double to dead center.

**TIGERS CAGE JAYS IN ALBION** -- The Evansville Jays have been a thorn in the paw of the Albion Tigers for the last three years, winning 4 of the last 5 games between the two clubs coming into this weekend. But this time was different as Matt Buhrow took a no-hitter into the seventh inning and the Tigers added some big hits for a 6-1 victory Sunday in Albion Park. Albion tallied single runs in the first and second on an RBI groundout from Josh Eastman and solo homerun by Trevor Kinnett, and held a 2-1 lead until the bottom of the sixth. The Albion four-run outburst started with a bases-loaded walk by Marty Johnson, and Adam Gregory followed with a two-run single to right, his second hit of the day. All-Star outfielder Jesse Appel capped the scoring with a single to drive in Gregory.

**TIGERS CLINCH NIGHT LEAGUE PLAYOFF SPOT** -- The Albion Tigers went down 2-0 early, but struck for eight runs late to beat the Lake Mills Grays 8-3 on Thursday night in Albion Park. Albion now boasts a 6-2 record in the Eastern Night League (including a 4-1 record at home) and has clinched a berth in the ENL playoffs. Adam Gregory continued his stellar ENL play, going 2x3 with an RBI and picking up the win after allowing only one earned run in five innings. He was followed on the mound by rookie Bryant Schulte, who gave up a run but collected his first save. Albion banged out 14 hits, but waited until the fifth to get on the board when RBIs from Gregory, Dan Millar, and Kyle Johnson staked them to a 5-2 lead. The host Tigers tacked on three runs in the sixth, highlighted by Mike Nanstad's RBI double to deep left to score Matt Buhrow.

**EASTMAN LIFTS ALBION TO 7-5 VICTORY** -- After four at-bats on Saturday, Albion's Josh Eastman was frustrated and had two strikeouts to prove it. But in the ninth inning with his team down a run, Eastman finally got the best of Orfordville star pitcher Joe Lange and hit a three-run home run that lifted the Tigers to a 7-5 victory in a crucial Southeast Section matchup of playoff contenders. Matt Buhrow and Mike Nanstad combined to do the moundwork for the Tigers, with Buhrow throwing five scoreless to start. The Orioles staged a five-run rally in the sixth against both men, but Nanstad held them scoreless the rest of the way to pick up his second relief victory of the year. The Tigers jumped out to a 4-0 lead after three innings, with RBIs from Jesse Appel, Jim Eastman, and Trevor Kinnett. The bats were then silent until there was one out in the ninth, when Aaron Laskowski laced his fourth hit of the day into rightfield and Adam Gregory followed with a single to put two on, setting the stage for Josh Eastman's heroics.

**FIREMEN CAN'T PUT OUT TIGERS** -- The Albion Tigers got solid pitching and a team effort on offense in running their record in the Eastern Night League to 5-2 with a 11-1 thrashing of the Marshall Firemen Thursday night in Albion Park. Seven different players had RBIs, and Josh Eastman and Mike Nanstad combined to strike out 7 in the 5-inning shortened game. The Tigers got two in the first on Trevor Kinnett's RBI groundout and Kyle Johnson's RBI triple to deep right, and tacked on single runs in the second and third on RBIs from Aaron Laskowski and Dan Millar before blowing it open with a seven-run fourth inning. Zach Nelson singled to lead off and eventually scored on Laskowski's squeeze bunt. RBIs from Adam Gregory, Casey Schmeling, and Millar followed. The scoring was capped by Jamie Shelley's two-run double into the left-center gap.

**BUHROW, BATS LEAD TO SECOND STRAIGHT WIN** -- The Albion Tigers collected 15 hits (5 for extra bases) and got a shutout from Matt Buhrow in a 14-0 romp over visiting Lake Mills on Sunday. After a single tally in the first, Albion scored 3 in the third inning, highlighted by Jesse Appel's RBI triple. The Tigers added 3 more in the fifth on consecutive RBI hits from Marty Johnson, Aaron Laskowski, and Adam Gregory, and then blew it open with a six-run sixth that was highlighted by Ben Everson's 2-run single to right. On the day, Gregory led the way with 3 hits and 2 RBIs, while Laskowski, Johnson, Trevor Kinnett, and Josh Eastman each added two hits apiece. In the win, Buhrow had 9 strikeouts and walked only one batter.

**GREGORY AND FRIENDS POUND CAMBRIDGE** -- Though the weather was cloudy and cool Thursday night in Albion Park, Adam Gregory and Aaron Laskowski stayed hot and led the Albion Tigers to a 7-0 Night League win over the Cambridge Blues. Gregory threw six innings of one-hit ball, while Laskowski had two hits, scored two runs, and drove in another. The Tigers went to work in the third, when Dan Millar led off with a walk and was bunted over by Jamie Shelley. Matt Buhrow and Laskowski followed with back-to-back RBI hits, and Josh Eastman added a sacrifice fly later to make it a three-run inning for the Tigers. After a single run in the fourth, Albion was able to put it away in the fifth. Laskowski led off with a triple and scored on Gregory's groundout to second. After two were out, Casey Schmeling and Trevor Kinnett reached on errors and scored on Marty Johnson's double into the right-center gap. Bryant Schulte threw a scoreless seventh to preserve the win.

**TIGERS REBOUND IN DEERFIELD** -- After two straight one-run losses in Southeast Section play, the Albion Tigers bounced back in grand fashion Sunday with a 10-1 win at Deerfield. Matt Buhrow allowed one run over 7 innings to earn his fourth win of the year, and this week got plenty of help as the Tigers banged out 17 hits. The Tigers scored single runs in the first and third innings, but the big blows came in the sixth when Aaron Laskowski, Adam Gregory, Josh Eastman, Kyle Johnson, and Jesse Appel started the inning with consecutive singles and Casey Schmeling later capped the 7-run rally with a 2-run single. Laskowski (4x5), Kinnett (3x3), and Eastman (3x5) led the way for Albion, while Appel went 2x3 with 2 RBIs.

**GREGORY TOO MUCH FOR WATERLOO** -- Albion's Adam Gregory threw five scoreless innings and outscored Waterloo by himself in leading the Albion Tigers to a 10-0 Eastern Night League win against the Waterloo Firemen on Thursday night. Gregory had two hits (including an RBI double) and scored two runs, but was not alone as the Tigers banged out 13 hits and got RBIs from eight different players. Josh Eastman went 3x3 to lead Albion hitters, while Aaron Laskowski hit a 2-run triple in the second and Trevor Kinnett and Jamie Shelley each chipped in an RBI double as well.

**TIGERS WIN NIGHT LEAGUE GAME IN JEFFERSON** -- The Albion Tigers built a four-run lead after four innings on Thursday night, but didn't breathe easy until left-fielder Trevor Kinnett made a play on the warning track to record the final out and allow the Tigers to escape with a 6-5 win in an Eastern Night League game at Jefferson. Josh Eastman and Kyle Johnson each hit solo homers in the first for Albion, and after Eastman and Dan Millar added RBIs in the third and fourth innings Albion was up 5-1. But Jefferson scored four unearned runs to make it a 5-5 game going into the seventh, when Adam Gregory slapped an RBI triple to deep center that scored Aaron Laskowski with the go-ahead run. Gregory was the starting pitcher and allowed only one earned run over the

first four innings, and was relieved on the mound by Eastman, who allowed nothing over three innings but was saved when Kinnett caught a long drive with the winning run on base.

**ALBION BATS SUPPORT BUHROW** -- Matt Buhrow was nearly unhittable and the Albion offense exploded again as the Tigers cruised to a 13-1 win over Cambridge on Sunday. Buhrow struck out 8, allowed no earned runs, and took a no-hitter into the sixth inning to win his third straight start. And he got a lot of help from his friends, as the Tigers scored 8 runs in the first and never looked back. Josh Eastman, Kyle Johnson, Trevor Kinnett, and Jesse Appel each had three hits for Albion, who had 19 hits as a team.

**TIGERS WIN SLUGFEST IN WHITEWATER** -- Things got borderline silly in Whitewater on Sunday as the Albion Tigers and the host Swingers combined for 30 runs over the final six innings of a windswept 19-11 Albion win. The Tigers exploded for an eight-run fourth, propelled by Josh Eastman's leadoff homer and capped by Jesse Appel's grand slam to deep right. After Whitewater fought back to make it 8-6, Albion exploded again for eight runs in the seventh to take a 16-6 lead and ended up hanging on for the win. Eleven players had base hits for the Tigers, who ended up with eight extra-base hits in the game. Marty Johnson and Kyle Johnson each added an RBI triple to the cause. Matt Buhrow pitched five innings and allowed three earned runs to get his second straight win, while Josh Eastman finished up on the mound for Albion.

**GREGORY, LASKOWSKI LEAD TIGERS TO NIGHT WIN** -- Adam Gregory threw five scoreless innings and Aaron Laskowski had four hits (including three doubles) and scored two runs as the Albion Tigers rolled over the Cambridge Blues in an Eastern Night League game 11-0 on Thursday night. Kyle Johnson and Dan Millar also had multiple hits, while Josh Eastman and Trevor Kinnett each provided a scoreless inning on the mound to protect the Albion lead.

**TIGERS FIGHT BACK TO WIN 6-5** -- After sleepwalking through the first three innings Sunday in McFarland, the Albion Tigers found themselves down 4-1 against the defending Southeast Section champion Muskies. But Trevor Kinnett uncorked a two-run homer in the fourth to light a fire, and starting pitcher Matt Buhrow worked seven strong innings to lead the Tigers to a 6-5 win. Ethan Vaade provided four hits and three RBIs for Albion, putting the Tigers on the board in the first, tied the game with an RBI in the fifth, and gave the Tigers the lead with a successful suicide bunt in the seventh. Albion took the lead for good in the eighth inning, when Jim Eastman led off with a walk and ended up coming around to score when Kinnett's sacrifice bunt was mishandled and thrown into left field. Josh Eastman followed Buhrow on the mound with two shutout innings to nail it down for Albion.

**TIGERS GO EXTRAS TO WIN OPENER** -- The Albion Tigers played near flawless baseball on Sunday, but it didn't turn into a win until Casey Schmeling singled home Josh Eastman in the bottom of the 13th inning to give Albion a 3-2 win over Orfordville in both teams' Southeast Section opener. Eastman had led off the inning with a single into center and reached third after a sacrifice bunt by Jesse Appel and a groundout by Ethan Vaade, setting the stage for Schmeling's heroics. After falling down 2-0 in the eighth, the Tigers promptly tied it in the bottom half when Eastman drove in Dan Millar with a blooper to center and Adam Gregory scored on a wild pitch. On the mound, Eastman and Gregory combined to shut the Orioles down for the first 12 innings, each allowing a run and combining to strike out 9. An ailing Mike Nanstad came out of the bullpen to throw a scoreless 13th to earn the win in relief.

**TIGERS OPEN AT HOME WITH TIE AND WIN** -- The Albion Tigers got their 66th season off to a good start on Sunday, opening up Albion Park with a tie and a win in exhibition play against Dodgeville and Sun Prairie. Albion got off to an early lead against Dodgeville, with first-inning RBIs from Ethan Vaade, Casey Schmeling, and Marty Johnson. Josh Eastman started on the mound and struck out 5, while Schmeling threw three scoreless to finish up. In the nightcap, the pitchers again led the way as Mike Nanstad, Adam Gregory, and Ben Everson combined on a one-hit shutout. Nanstad faced the minimum over four innings and Gregory struck out two over two innings, setting the stage for Everson to throw a perfect seventh for the save. Offensively, the Tigers had another fast start in the first, when Josh Eastman doubled with two outs and was followed by RBI singles from Jesse Appel and Schmeling.