blue hill MUDSLIDES


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WAIVER WIRE PICK-UPS: WAIVER WIRE CUTS:

These instructions should be used as a guide only, please use your baseball judgment as the deciding factor in any moves unless explicitly outlined in monthly instructions.

| ANTICIPATE | VES |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| May: | Nicasio \& Wood down, Hughes \& Ohlendoph up |  |  |
| June: | Zito down, Nicasio up |  |  |
| July: | Gee \& Ohlendoph down, Zito \& Wood up |  |  |
| August: | Griffin \& Wood down, Gee \& Ohlendoph up |  |  |
| September: | Ohlendoph down, Griffin up |  |  |
| October: | Zito down, Wood |  |  |
|  | EMERGENCY LINEUPS: |  |  |
|  | vs RHP (Board) | vs Computer | vs LHP (Board) |
|  | 1. Alonso 1B | 1. Alonso 1B | 1. Shuck DH |
|  | 2. Shuck DH | 2. Shuck DH | 2. Freiman 1B |
|  | 3. Nava LF | 3. Nava LF | 3. Nava LF |
|  | 4. Harper RF | 4. Harper RF | 4. Harper RF |
|  | 5. Drew SS | 5. Drew SS | 5. Drew SS |
|  | 6. Beckham 2B | 6. Beckham 2B | 6. Headley 3B |
|  | 7. Headley 3B | 7. Headley 3B | 7. Conger C |
|  | 8. Ellis C | 8. Ellis C | 8. Blanco CF |
|  | 9. Blanco CF | 9. Blanco CF | 9. Johnson 2B |

intend to send out lineups each month. These are to be used only as an emergency.

## 2014 BLUE HILL MUDSLIDES PITCHING ROTATION:

PITCHER KEY: 1-Gee(32), 2-Griffin(32), 3-Nicasio(29), 4-Hughes(29), 5-Zito(20), 6-Wood(11), 7-Ohlendoph(7), 8-Gaudin (2)

| APR | 1-4. COL | 1,2,3,6 | MAY | 1-5. | RYE | 1,2,4,5,7 | JUN | 1-4. | FO | 1,2,3,4 | JUL | 1-5. | at BRO | 2,3,4,5,6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 6-8. at FO | 1,2,3 |  | 6-9. | DAL | 1,2,4,5 |  | 6-8. | WHT | 1,2,3 |  | 6-9. | NBO | 2,3,4,5 |
|  | 10-12. at WHT | 6,1,2 |  | 11-14. | at MUN | 1,2,4,5 |  | 9-11. | at COL | 4,7,1 |  | 11-14. | LV | 6,2,3,4 |
|  | 14-17. at GOH | 3,6,1,2 |  | 15-18 | at MID | 7,1,2,4 |  | 12-16. | at NW | 2,3,4,7,1 |  | 15-18. | KAN | 5,6,2,3 |
|  | 19-23 CAY | 3,6,1,2,5 |  | 20-23. | at HUD | 7,1,2,4 |  | 18-21. | DET | 2,3,4,1 |  | 19-22. | at GC | 4,5,6,2 |
| AUG | 1-4. at ZIO | 1,3,4,5 | SEP | 3-5. | COL | 3,1,2 | OCT | 1-4. | BRO | 2,3,1,4 | NOV | 2-6. | at DAL | 2,3,5,4,1 |
|  | 5-8. at TAY | 7,1,3,4 |  | 6-9. | at FO | 4,5,3,1 |  | 5-9 | GC | 6,2,3,1,4 |  | 7-10. | NW | 2,3,5,4 |
|  | 10-13. at MLR | 5,1,3,4 |  | 10-13. | at WHT | 2,4,5,3 |  | 10-13. | MAR | 6,2,3,1 |  | 11-13. | FO | 1,2,3 |
|  | 14-17. KNX | 7,5,1,3 |  | 14-17. | at RYE | 1,2,4,5 |  | 15-19. | at DET | 4,2,3,1,6 |  | 15-18. | WHT | 5,4,2,3 |
|  | 18-21. POR | 4,8,5,1 |  | 19-23. | GOH | 1,2,4,3,5 |  | 20-23. | at CAY | 4,2,3,1 |  | 19-22. | at COL | 1,5,4,8 |

The starters are getting better but are still going to struggle again this season. I have 9 relievers this year to try and keep the games from getting out of hand. I am going to use rookie starter Jarred Cosart and his Grade 18 as my closer. And Chad Gaudin has 30.67 relief innings to get his +5 and then the balance of 65 innings to use as the setup man. There are over 500 innings in the pen so use the relievers as much as you need to.
The Starters:
Dillon Gee: Another Grade of 8 shows that he is if nothing else consistent. He does have good control and with the 27 fatigue give him every chance to pitch out of trouble. I would let him pitch with a lead as late in the game as the 7 th. In a 2 run game that should be as far as he goes unless pitching a shutout.
A.J. Griffin: A solid Grade 11 with good control makes him the ace of this staff. Give him every chance to pitch out of trouble and try to get 7 innings out of him but remove him if he gets reduced or fatigued. If he gets to the 7 th remove after first base runner. Juan Nicasio: He gives me 29 starts, and that is the good news (for my opponents). He has a 27 fatigue so let him pitch through the 5th if he can make it. After that let the bullpen use their innings.
Phil Hughes: This guy just keeps getting worse! I have to put up with 29 starts of a Grade 3 so pitch him until he is pounded out. If by some miracle he makes it through 5 before that happens quickly go to the bullpen.
Barry Zito: I don't know what I would do without a 1 in the rotation so I had to trade for him. He will get 20 starts and I'm sure they'll be interesting. Try to get 5 innings out of him unless like Hughes he gets pounded out.
Alex Wood: He is limited in his rookie year to only 11 starts and because he only has a fatigue rating of 22 he probably won't pitch as deep into games as I would like. Because of that I will let him pitch through one grade reduction if he hasn't gotten through 5 . But please remove first base runner in the 7th for a better option if the game is within 2 runs either way.
Ross Ohlendoph: He is very similar to Wood in that he has limited starts and a short fatigue. So I will also let him pitch through one grade reduction if he hasn't gotten through 5 . And also please remove first base runner in the 7 th if game is within 2 runs.
Chad Gaudin: He is going to be used mostly in relief this year but he will make 2 starts as a Grade 11. His story is going to sound familiar because he also should pitch through one grade reduction if it's not the 5th. Remove in the 7th first base runner.

## The Bullpen:

Jarred Cosart: A starter by trade he will be my closer and thus not get any increase to his Grade 18 . He will pitch anytime it is a closing situation and can come in the 8th if the tying run is in scoring position
Chad Gaudin: He has moved into the setup role with his Relief Grade of 16 and his 97 innings (although only the first 30 will he get the +5 increase) should get him a lot of action in the 7 th and 8 th innings. I am going to count on him to get the ball to Jarred in close games BH leads and be the closer when Jarred is not available.
Josh Collmenter: He can be used in the 6th to stop a rally or can be the setup man when Gaudin is not available. His primary time to pitch should be the 6th and or 7th. Don't let him pitch more than 2.2 innings per.
Seth Maness: He will be used mostly in the 5th or 6th innings to get the ball to the setup men.
Jose Cisnero: A right-hander to use in tandem with McFarland to bridge the gap between the starters and the setup men.
T.J. McFarland: A lefty to use in tandem with Cisnero to get through the middle innings again to bridge the gap between the starters and the setup men.
John Axford: He will be used in early relief when a starter needs to be rescued. I expect he will be used early in games and depending on the situation pitch until the 5th inning unless pounded out.
Matt Belisle: He is going to be used the same a Axford, come in early to rescue the starter and try to save the bullpen. The 2.2 rule does not apply to Axford or Belisle.
Chia-Jen Lo: He will be inactive until November, he can be used the same as Collmenter then.
Buddy Boshers: Same as Lo
Remove any relief pitcher after a grade reduction unless the lead is greater than 6 runs either way. Never remove a starter with a possible grade increase intact. Below is a reference chart for bullpen usage that should be used as a guide only to help you make a decision.

USE THIS CHART TO DETERMINE RELIEVER USAGE:


Group 1 Belisle, Axford, McFarland
Group 2 Axford, Belisle, McFarland, Cisnero
Group 3 Maness, Cisnero, McFarland
Group 4 Gaudin, Collmenter, Maness
Group 5 Cosart, Gaudin
Monthly instructions will give you specific usage for each series. Please try to limit relievers to $22 / 3$ innings per outing but in extra innings or long relief stints with lower grades, you may exceed that limit.

## When the Mudslides are at Bat:

Philosophy: The top of the order should be able to get on base, the problem will be the 2nd part of the lineup driving them in. I will hit \& run whenever I can to try and get into scoring position although I do not have many stolen base threats. Harper \& Drew are going to need to come through when there are men on base.

Usage: There will be platoons at First, Second and Catcher then the rest of the lineup will pretty much stay the same. A couple of the outfielders will be unavailable certain months to curb their usage.

Pinch Hitters: Since there isn't much on the bench these are the bats that will most likely be available to choose from each month. Here are some suggestions on who to use in what situation:
Nate Frieman/Yonder Alonso: They will be a lefty/righty platoon so whoever is on the bench can hit Gordon Beckham: He will be available to hit against RHP when a lefty has started the game Hank Conger: When available he can be used to hit against righties or lefties.
Christian Yelich: When available he can be used to strictly PH against RHP
Pinch Run: When we are in the 7th tied/trailing be 3 or up 1, consider pinch running. Candidates to run for are: Alonso, Conger, Ellis, Frieman, Moore and Miller. Also any non "F" in the 8th winning or tying run. Please use in this order: Johnson, Yelich, Florimon, Blanco, Shuck, Beckham and Drew.

Hit and Run: Always H\&R when Alonso, Beckham, Blanco, Ellis and Shuck area at Bat and any of these guys are on first base: Blanco, Florimon, Harper, Headley, Shuck, Johnson and Yelich.

Stealing: If the H\&R is not an option, after 6th inning steal 2nd with SSN 26+, steal 3rd with SSN 24+, steal home with SSN 15+.

Sacrifice: Only late in one run game with runner on 1st or 2 nd with no outs when the $H \& R$ is not in order and no SBA can be made. Sacrifice with Beckham, Blanco and Johnson.

Base running: Please send runner with 28+ chances and never with less than 18 chances. Otherwise use your best judgment. COMPUTER: Always send runner who is "well around."

## When the Mudslides are on Defense:

Defensive Guidelines: The defense can be strong up the middle with the right combinations, but overall not a big strength. The outfield is getting younger and hopefully on its way to getting better. Here is a breakdown of the defense by position to give you some idea of what I am looking for.

## Defense by Position:

Catcher: A.J. Ellis had a great defensive season but unfortunately his offense slipped. But his +6 arm will at least keep people from running all over me again. Hank Conger is still a WIP and will catch start around 50 games. Corky Miller will play 17 games in April and then say goodbye. Lou Marson is taking the year off.
1B: Yonder Alonso and Nate Freiman will platoon at first this year. The defense will be a little sketchy when Freiman is in the field. Tyler Moore will be available at times to fill in.
2B: Gordon Beckham and Elliot Johnson will platoon at second. Beckham's defense has slipped so there will be games that Johnson will replace him for defense.
3B: Chase Headley had a big drop in offensive production but will still be at the hot corner for 141 starts. I have Johnson and Alonso available to start the remainder of games.
SS: Stephen Drew is finally healthy enough to resume his starting duties and his power has started to come back so he is the choice here. When he isn't starting Pedro Florimon will, which will be a huge drop in offense but a defensive improvement.
Outfield: The future hopefully is finally here with Bryce Harper and Christian Yelich. Harper will start 118 games in RF and the rookie Yelich will see 62 starts. Daniel Nava will be near the top of my lineup and playing LF for 134 games. Gregor Blanco will be in CF most of the year and batting at the bottom of the lineup. J.B. Shuck will see a lot of playing time but mostly at DH, but he will see some time in the outfield. Tyler Moore may play occasionally and Yonder Alonso is another scary possibility out there. Not the best defensive outfield.
Overall Defense: Defense continues to be a problem with the few bright spots Blanco, Ellis \& Florimon.

Ellis will at least keep the base stealers at bay but Conger not so much. Florimon will be available most days for defensive SS-9 and Johnson will be available to fill several defensive needs.

Other: IBB - If 7th inning or later, score $0 /-2$ and 1 st base is open with 1 or 2 out and a big power hitter up with no real shift advantage.

INFIELD - Play IN 8th inning or later with 0 or 1 out for lead run with runner on 3rd and 1B open and IBB doesn't apply. Play IN 9th inning or later with 1 out with tying lead or lead run on 3rd and 1B is open. The infield defense should play for the double play in most other situations.

HOLD RUNNER - Board: Hold any runner with adjusted SSN 20+. Always hold PL batter. Always pitch from the stretch. Computer: Always hold runners.

OUTFIELD THROWS - Throw for the lead runner with adjusted advance number of 34 or less unless winning run in 9th+ inning. Otherwise hold the trail runner from advancing.

Please use these instructions as a guideline, you should use your best judgment if something comes up that is not covered here.

