

1976 DETROIT TIGERS

74-87 5th

MGR Ralph Houk (#35)
"The Major"

DP: 311 to 336

Error: 351 to 356

	BA	SB	W/K	HR	T	D	L	R	RNG	Def.		
Jason Thompson #30	.218	2		123	124	134	225	225	AR	1B117		L L
Pedro Garcia #3 X	.198	2		113	115	133	223	216	AR	2B77		R R
Tom Veryzer #7	.234	1		111	112	121	234	232	AR	SS97		R R
Aurelio Rodriguez #4	.240	0	MW	114	115	125	241	233	AR	SD 3B128		R R
"Rusty" Staub #10 Dan	.299	3		116	121	135	253	255	AR	OF126(RF), DH		L R
Ron LeFlore #8	.316	58		112	115	132	263	262	S	OF132(CF)		R R
Alex Johnson #33	.268	14	MW	113	114	126	251	243	AAR	LD OF90(LF), DH		R R
Bill Freehan #11	.270	0		115	116	133	245	244	SLO	C61, 1B2		R R
Willie Horton #23	.262	0		122	-	135	245	242	SLO	LD DH		R R
Ben Oglivie #22	.285	9	MW	125	131	143	246	252	AAR	OF64(RF/LF/CF), 1B9		L L
Dan Meyer #25	.252	10		111	114	124	234	241	AR	OF47(LF), 1B19		L R
Chuck Scrivener #9	.221	1		112	113	124	232	225	AR	2B43, SS37, 3B5		R R
Mickey Stanley #24	.257	2		114	115	144	243	241	AR	OF38(CF/LF), 1B17, 3B11, SS3, 2B2		R R
Bruce Kimm #46	.263	4		111	-	126	246	242	AR	C61		R R
John Wockenfuss #45	.222	0		115	122	141	226	226	SLO	LD C59		R R
Gary Sutherland #3 +	.205	0		-	114	131	223	222	AR	2B42		R R
Mark Wagner #5	.261	0		-	116	124	244	242	AR	SS39		R R
Phil Mankowski #2	.271	0	MW	113	116	125	243	245	AR	3B23		L R
Marv Lane #34	.188	0		-	-	115	221	214	AR	OF15(LF/CF)		R R
Jerry Manuel #1	.140	1		-	-	115	161	156	AR	2B47, SS4		B R
Milt May #12	.280	0	MK	-	-	123	245	251	SLO	C6		L R
Pitcher R	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	153	145	SLO			
Pitcher L	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	145	146	SLO			
	ERA	IP	W	K	G	GS	SV					
Dave Roberts #17	4.00	252	125	642	36	36	0	.000	L L			
Mark Fidrych #20	2.34	250	124	633	31	29	0	.000	R R	"The Bird"		
Vern Ruhle #31	3.92	200	131	632	32	32	0	.000	R R			
Ray Bare #21	4.63	134	134	632	30	21	0	.000	R R			
Jim Crawford #28	4.53	109	135	614	32	5	2	.000	L L	"Catfish"		
Bill Laxton #27 LD	4.09	95	146	555	26	3	2	.000	L L			
Dave Lemanczyk #19	5.09	81	136	614	20	10	0	.000	R R			
Joe Coleman #15 +	4.86	67	143	622	12	12	0	.000	R R			
Frank MacCormack #29	5.79	33	166	632	9	8	0	.000	R R			
Ed Glynn #48	6.08	24	164	564	5	4	0	.000	R L			
John Hiller #18	2.38	121	151	536	56	1	13	.000	R L			
Steve Grilli #49	4.64	66	152	621	36	0	3	.000	R R			

The Motor City--the ENTIRE NATION--became enraptured with "The Bird," Mark Fidrych, during the Bicentennial summer of '76 as he pitched his way into the hearts of all baseball and non-baseball fans. A phenom who seemingly appeared out of nowhere, "The Bird" would talk to the baseball on the mound before critical pitches. He pawed at and patched the dirt on the hill with his hands before facing the opposition each inning. His comical, pixie-like actions endeared himself to fans with an "aw shucks" child-like love for the game. Alas, Fidrych won only 29 games in his brief career--19 of those during the magic of '76. He won American League Rookie of the Year and finished second in the Cy Young Award voting, but he is fondly remembered, even today, for this one fairy-tale season. Fidrych pitched to sell-out crowds wherever the Tigers traveled. He had the lowest ERA in the A.L. for starting pitchers and led the majors with 24 complete games. Not the hardest of throwers, he struck out 97 batters for the season...

First baseman Jason Thompson led the Tigers with 17 home runs. "Rusty" Staub knocked in ninety-six and stroked 176 base hits to lead the team. Staub and Ben Oglivie both hit 15 dingers while DH Willie Horton added fourteen. Ron LeFlore scored the most runs (93). During the season, the ball club hit .257 and 101 home runs...Fidrych topped the pitching staff with a 19-9 record and tied Dave Roberts with a team high four shutouts. Reliever John Hiller was the leader with 117 strikeouts and won twelve games out of the 'pen. Roberts finished 16-17 with 18 complete games. The staff ERA ended the year eleventh in the A.L. (3.87)...For the first time since 1959 someone other than the Orioles' Brooks Robinson won a Gold Glove for his play at third base. Aurelio Rodriguez and his patched, beat-up glove captured the honor in '76. He led the league in fielding percentage at the "hot corner" (.978)...After 81 ball games, the Tigers were third in the AL East with a 40-41 record and 11 ½ games out of first. They would get no closer to the top spot the rest of the season.