

# 1968 DETROIT TIGERS

103-59 1st  
MGR Mayo Smith (#10)

DP: 311 to 333

Error: 351 to 354

	BA	SB	W/K	HR	T	D	L	R	RNG	Def.		
Norm Cash #25	.263	1		131	132	144	242	243	AR	1B117		L L
Dick McAuliffe #3	.249	8		116	124	141	235	236	AR	2B148, SS5		L R
Ray Oyler #1	.135	0	PK	111	112	122	156	155	AR	SS111		R R
Don Wert #8	.200	0		115	-	125	222	221	AR	3B150, SS2		R R
Jim Northrup #5	.264	4		122	125	144	243	243	AR	OF151( <u>RF</u> /CF/LF)		L R
Mickey Stanley #24	.259	4		114	116	126	242	242	AR	SD(OF) OF130(CF), 1B15, SS9, 2B1		R R
Willie Horton #23	.285	0	PK	133	134	146	254	251	AR	OF139(LF)		R R
Bill Freehan #11	.263	0		124	125	143	246	242	AR	SD-C C138, 1B21, OF1(RF)		R R
Al Kaline "Mr. Tiger" #6	.287	6		121	122	135	252	252	AR	OF74( <u>RF</u> /LF), 1B22		R R
Tom Matchick #2	.203	0		113	115	125	221	222	AR	SS59, 2B13, 1B6		L R
Dick Tracewski #44	.156	3		114	115	122	166	163	AR	SS51, 3B16, 2B14		R R
Jim Price "Smokey" #12	.174	0		115	-	126	214	211	SLO	C42		R R
Gates Brown #26	.370	0	MK	132	141	165	322	322	AR	LD PH, OF17(LF), 1B1		L R
Eddie Mathews #7	.212	0		126	-	-	223	224	SLO	PH, 1B6, 3B6		L R
Wayne Comer #27	.125	0	MW	115	124	-	153	153	AR	OF27(LF), C1		R R
Dave Campbell #33	.125	0	PK	153	-	-	153	153	AR	2B5		R R
Denny McLain	.162	0	MW PK	-	112	114	165	165	SLO	P41		R R
Earl Wilson	.227	0	MW PK	135	141	-	231	231	SLO	P34		R R
Mickey Lolich	.114	0	PK	-	-	123	145	151	SLO	P39		B L
Joe Sparma	.133	0	MW PK	-	-	114	161	154	SLO	P34		R R
Pat Dobson	.143	0		-	-	-	164	156	SLO	P47		R 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					
Denny McLain #17	1.96	336	123	551	41	41	0	.162	R R			
Earl Wilson #16	2.85	224	132	561	34	33	0	.227	R R			
Mickey Lolich #29	3.19	220	132	544	39	32	1	.114	B L			
Joe Sparma #21	3.70	182	141	614	34	31	0	.133	R R			
John Hiller #18	2.39	128	141	612	39	12	2	.081	R L			
Pat Dobson #22	2.66	125	136	556	47	10	7	.143	R R			
Daryl Patterson #43	2.12	68	136	562	38	1	7	.000	L R			
Fred Lasher #15	3.33	49	143	565	34	0	5	.111	R R			
Jon Warden #39 LD	3.62	37	141	565	28	0	3	.000	B L	"Warbler"		
Don McMahon #47 X	2.02	36	132	536	20	0	1	.000	R R			
John Wyatt #37 *	2.37	30	135	552	22	0	2	.000	R R			
Dennis Ribant #14 +	2.22	24	141	643	14	0	1	.200	R R			
Les Cain #38	3.00	24	163	622	8	4	0	.143	L L			

After coming so close to winning the American League pennant in '67, the Tigers came out of the starting gate in '68, 9-1, to open the season. At the end of April, they were 12-4 and by May 10<sup>th</sup>, they had moved into first place for the rest of the year. The Tigers struck fear in their opponents not only because they hit a bushel of homers (185, first in the A. L.) but they developed the habit of finding a way to win games with late-inning comebacks and some with home runs at very critical times. Willie Horton gave the Senators' Frank Howard a run for his money for the home run title, but at season's end, Horton led the Tigers with 36 dingers and 85 RBI. Bill Freehan and Norm Cash both hit 25 home runs; the former had 84 RBI the latter sixty-three. Jim Northrup hit 21 homers and led the team with 90 RBI and 153 hits. Second baseman Dick McAuliffe compiled a "triple double": 24 doubles, 10 triples, and 16 home runs. He led the ball club with 95 runs scored. For the season, Detroit hit .235...In "The Year of the Pitcher," Denny McLain became the first 30-game winner on the mound since 1934. For his 31-6 W/L record, ERA under 2.00, 28 complete games, 280 strikeouts, and six shutouts, he was named the American League's MVP and won the Cy Young Award. Mickey Lolich was 17-9, had 10 complete games and 197 K's. Earl Wilson won thirteen and Joe Sparma ten to round out the rotation. Wilson, a good hitter well known for his power, slugged seven home runs and knocked in seventeen. The staff's ERA of 2.71 was third in the A. L.; their 59 complete games led the league...In the World Series, the Tigers faced the St. Louis Cardinals who quickly took a three games to one advantage. In Game Five, Detroit almost immediately went down by three runs but came back to win, 5-3. It was Lolich's second win of the Series and second complete game. On two days rest, McLain won Game Six then Lolich did the same to start Game Seven at Busch Stadium. The Cards' Bob Gibson and Lolich both pitched a scoreless game through six innings until the last of the seventh. Jim Northrup tripled on a fly ball which sailed over the head of Curt Flood after the latter took a step toward home then had to race back to try to catch the ball. The extra base hit drove in Norm Cash for a 1-0 lead. Detroit would win the game, 4-1, with Lolich pitching his THIRD complete game for his third win of the Series. He was named the '68 Fall Classic's Most Valuable Player.