

1978 DETROIT TIGERS

86-76 5th
MGR Ralph Houk (#35)
"The Major"

DP: 311 to 341

Error: 351 to 354

	BA	SB	W/K	HR	T	D	L	R	RNG	Def.		
Jason Thompson #30	.287	0		124	125	142	252	252	SLO	SD	1B151	L L
Lou Whitaker #1	.285	7		111	114	123	246	252	AAR	SD	2B136	L R
Alan Trammell #3	.268	3		111	114	125	251	243	AAR	SD	SS139	R R
Aurelio Rodriguez #4	.265	0		114	115	141	244	243	SLO	SD	3B131	R R
Tim Corcoran #25	.265	3		111	112	125	236	244	AR		OF109(RF)	L L
Ron LeFlore #8	.297	68		114	115	133	255	254	S	T-1	OF155(CF)	R R
Steve Kemp #33	.277	2		116	121	132	245	246	AR	T-1	OF157(LF)	L L
Milt May #12	.250	0	MK	116	-	126	236	236	SLO		C94, PH	L R
"Rusty" Staub #10 Daniel	.273	3	MK	122	-	136	245	245	SLO		DH	L R
Lance Parrish #13	.219	0	MW PK	125	131	143	226	225	AR		C79	R R
Phil Mankowski #2	.275	2		114	-	126	243	246	AR		3B80, PH	L R
John Wockenfuss #14	.283	0		122	-	132	252	251	SLO		OF60(RF/LF), PH	R R
Mickey Stanley #24	.265	0		114	-	135	244	243	AR	LD(OF)	OF34(RF/CF/LF), 1B12	R R
Steve Dillard #7	.223	1	MW	-	113	125	231	226	AR		2B41, PR	R R
Mark Wagner #5	.239	1	MW	-	114	116	236	233	AR		SS35, 2B4	R R
Charlie Spikes #34	.250	0		-	-	122	236	236	AR	LD	OF9(RF)	R R
Dave Stegman #22	.286	0		133	-	224	255	251	AR		OF7(CF/RF)	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					
Jim Slaton #21	4.12	234	134	634	35	34	0	.000	R R			
Milt Wilcox #39	3.76	215	132	614	29	27	0	.000	R R			
Dave Rozema #19	3.14	209	123	644	28	28	0	.000	R R			
Jack Billingham #41	3.88	202	132	644	30	30	0	.000	R R			
Kip Young #37 #44	2.81	106	131	625	14	13	0	.000	R R	Kip Lane		
Steve Baker #31	4.55	63	153	614	15	10	0	.000	R R			
Mark Fidrych #20	2.45	22	125	625	3	3	0	.000	R R	The Bird		
Jack Morris #47	4.33	106	142	631	28	7	0	.000	R R			
Bob Sykes #27	3.94	94	134	614	22	10	2	.000	B L			
John Hiller #18	2.34	92	136	552	51	0	15	.000	R L			
Jim Crawford #28	4.35	39	142	615	20	0	0	.000	L L			
Steve Foucault #29 +	3.13	37	145	631	24	0	4	.000	L R	(last name pronounced FOO-COE)		
Ed Glynn #48	3.07	15	131	612	10	0	0	.000	R L			
Dave Tobik #38	3.75	12	125	546	5	0	0	.000	R R			
Fernando Arroyo #36	8.31	4	111	652	2	0	0	.000	R R			
Sheldon Burnside #42	9.00	4	144	562	2	0	0	.000	R L			

Tiger Claws: Detroit charged out of the gate in April, claiming first place with a 13-5 record and a full three-game lead in the AL East Division. The Tigers were tied for first as late as May 12th, dropped into second for two days, and then moved into the top spot again (tied) after a May 21st doubleheader split with the Red Sox. By the All Star Game, the team had plunged to fifth, 15 ½ games out with an even 42-42 mark. They never challenged for the division flag the rest of the season...Future star Kirk Gibson, a wide receiver and baseball player at Michigan State, was drafted by Detroit with the twelfth overall pick in the '78 amateur draft...The Tigers finished second in the A. L. with a .271 batting average and fifth with 129 home runs. The team's lone All Star, Jason Thompson, led the ball club in homers (26). He was followed by designated hitter "Rusty" Staub with 24 home runs and a team-high 121 runs batted in. Staub appeared in all 162 games. Ron LeFlore was the major league leader in runs scored (126), the league leader in stolen bases, and the team leader (2nd in the A. L.) with 198 base hits. Thompson was second on the Tigers with 96 RBI while Lou Whitaker, 21, was named the A. L. Rookie of the Year. Whitaker's double-play compatriot, Alan Trammell, was the runner-up in Rookie of the Year balloting...The pitching staff's 3.64 ERA ranked them seventh in the league. The staff's biggest winner, Jim Slaton, collected seventeen victories and completed 11 games. Jack Billingham finished with fifteen wins and only eight setbacks. Milt Wilcox (13 wins) topped the staff with 16 complete games and 132 strikeouts. The staff racked up the third-most complete games in the league (60). Adored by the fans and all-around "good guy," Mark "The Bird" Fidrych, was 2-0 in three starts (two complete games) before being lost for the season with a "dead arm" which would finally be correctly diagnosed seven years later as a torn rotator cuff. The injury effectively ended his career after an attempted comeback in the 1980 season. He pitched his last big league game, October 1, 1980, in Toronto, an 11-7 win by the Tigers (Fidrych was the pitcher of record) during which he went five innings and gave up four earned runs.