

## 2015 SEASON RECAP

**TIGERS FINISH 17-10 OVERALL** -- The Albion Tigers wrapped up their 70th season on Sunday with a loss at Fort Atkinson in the Southeast Section semi-finals. The Tigers finished the year with a 17-10 overall record, including 12-4 in the Southeast Section and qualifying for the postseason for the tenth time in the last fourteen years. Albion also qualified for the Night League playoffs, sent two players (Kris Agnew and Aaron Laskowski) to the HTL All-Star Game, and continued to solidify their place as a perennial contender in the Southeast Section. Laskowski and Agnew also finished among the section's leading hitters, with Laskowski finishing third at .426 and Agnew just behind him at .415. Newcomer Austin Mades just missed the top ten, finishing at .360 in Southeast play.

**GREGORY NO-HITS DEERFIELD, LEADS TIGERS INTO POST-SEASON** -- Wet field conditions in Deerfield on Saturday moved the Tigers' final regular season game to Albion Park, allowing rookie Lucas Gregory to show his best stuff to the home crowd while thrusting Albion into the Southeast Section Playoffs. The left-hander dealt 5 1/3 innings of no-hit ball against an overmatched Deerfield squad before the game was called following a Deerfield ejection, leaving the team with only eight players and, by HTL rule, unable to finish the contest. But Gregory made certain the outcome wouldn't be in question regardless of how many innings were played, as he fanned 11 of the 17 hitters he faced. Improving to 5-0 on the season, Gregory walked Trey Shaw in the 4th inning to give Deerfield their only baserunner of the day. At one point he fanned nine consecutive Deerfield batters. A patient Albion offense walked 12 times in six innings on Sunday, and another four batters reached base being hit by a pitch, but Tigers' bats were aggressive when they saw something they liked. After scoring one unearned run in the 1st inning, Mike Nanstad led off the 2nd inning with a single and then scored on Lars Olstad's RBI ground-rule double on to Academy Drive in deep leftfield. Kyle Johnson's bases-loaded walk plated Aaron Laskowski, and Jim Eastman's 2-RBI single drove home two more runs. RBIs by Nanstad and Marty Johnson gave the Tigers two more runs, and a 2-RBI liner into left-center by Bryant Schulte gave the Tigers a huge eight-run 2nd inning. Eastman tallied another RBI in the 3rd inning when his second hit of the day drove home Kris Agnew, and Kyle Johnson doubled and scored in the 5th inning to give the Tigers a commanding 11-0 advantage. Sixth inning RBIs by Gregory and Tim Houfe extended the lead further, and Schulte singled again to drive home Gregory. Laskowski's 2-RBI single gave Albion two more for the final 16-0 margin.

**TIGERS BEAT JAYS; IN CONTROL FOR PLAYOFF BERTH** --- Albion's victory over the Evansville Jays on Sunday afternoon at Albion Park improved their season record to 11-4, and they can clinch a Southeast Section playoff bid with a win in their regular season finale. The Tigers will visit Deerfield for a 1:00 PM game on Saturday, August 8th, and an Albion victory would put them in the postseason for the fourth time in the last five years. Lucas Gregory scattered three hits and one run over seven innings to earn the victory on Sunday afternoon in the 7-1 win. The rookie left-hander is now 4-0 for the Tigers with an ERA of 1.80. Mike Nanstad struck out four in two innings of scoreless relief, shutting the door on Evansville and dropping his season ERA to an impressive 0.69. Evan Deegan banded out four hits for the Tigers and collected two RBIs as well. Albion grabbed the lead in the 3rd inning when Jim Eastman singled and advanced on a Lars Olstad sacrifice bunt. Four consecutive doubles by Deegan, Aaron Laskowski, Adam Gregory, and Kris Agnew gave the Tigers an early 3-0 lead. RBI singles by Olstad and Deegan and a sacrifice fly by Gregory doubled the lead in the fourth to 6-0. Agnew's RBI single in the 7th plated Deegan again, while Nanstad and solid Tigers' defense closed the game out for Albion.

**ALBION FINISHES NL AT 5-4; AWAITS PLAYOFF FATE** -- The Albion Tigers trounced the Lake Mills Grays 10-1 in their final HTL Night League regular season game at Campus Field in Lake Mills on Thursday night. The win closes the Tigers regular season at 5-4 in Night League action, teetering on a Night League playoff berth. The Tigers didn't get the help they needed from other playoff contenders on Thursday night, so they will await the results of Night League games over the next week to see if they earn a playoff bid. Albion attacked in the 1st inning, as Marty Johnson ripped an RBI single to left to score Evan Deegan. Sam Martin and Cameren Wileman each had 2-RBI singles as well in a first inning that gave Albion a 5-0 lead. Wileman was just as effective on the mound as he was at the plate, striking out seven Grays and surrendering only two hits over four innings to collect the win. Fellow southpaw Lucas Gregory took to the mound after Wileman and struck out two more Greys without allowing a run. In a balanced offensive attack, Aaron Laskowski joined Wileman, Martin, and Johnson with two RBIs apiece when he doubled to rightfield in the 6th inning and knocked in Jim Eastman and Gregory.

**TIGERS WIN NL GAME** -- Bryant Schulte threw two-hit ball over six innings, and Albion rode a seven-run fourth on their way to a 8-1 Night League victory over Waterloo on Tuesday night in Albion Park. Kris Agnew drove in two during the rally, which also featured RBIs from Tim Houfe, Josh Eastman, Jim Eastman, and Sam Martin. Martin and Lucas Gregory each had two hits on the night for the Tigers, who also got an RBI from Matt Towns in the sixth to cap the scoring. Schulte struck out three and walked one, allowing only two hits in the sixth before giving way to Cameren Wileman, who threw a scoreless seventh to help the Tigers even their NL record at 4-4.

**TIGERS EDGE MERCHANTS IN BATTLE FOR FIRST PLACE!!!!** -- The Albion bats were red hot on Sunday, as DH Austin Mades was 4x5 and Aaron Laskowski, Josh Eastman, and Kris Agnew each had three hits for the home team. Laskowski and Mades each had three RBIs for Albion, while Eastman also knocked in a pair. Lucas Gregory improved his record to 3-0 on the season by tossing 5+ innings and allowing just one unearned run. After 2 1/3 innings of work by Eastman, Agnew went to the mound to earn his second save of the season by hurling a scoreless 1 2/3 innings to send the Merchants home. Mades' 2-RBI triple, a suicide squeeze by Marty Johnson, and an RBI single by Eastman gave Albion a 4-0 lead in the 2nd inning, and another RBI single by Eastman in the 4th made it 5-0 for the Tigers. Laskowski gave his team a seemingly commanding 8-0 lead in the 5th when his bases-clearing double plated Agnew, Johnson, and Evan Deegan. But a solid Merchants lineup scored five runs in the 6th with the help of three Tigers errors. Albion answered in the bottom half of the frame when Eastman and Kyle Johnson each doubled, and Mades singled to knock in

his third run of the game. Stoughton scored four times in the 8th, but would come up one run short as Agnew closed it out for the Tigers.

**ALBION BEATS COTTAGE GROVE 6-1** -- Marty Johnson had four hits and three RBIs, and veteran right-hander Mike Nanstad tossed five scoreless innings to lead Albion to a 6-1 victory at Fireman's Park in Cottage Grove on Thursday night. The Tigers collected five extra-base-hits in the final three innings to pull away from the Firemen, and Bryant Schulte pitched two innings to pick up his first save of the year. Albion scored a single run in the 3rd inning when Johnson's single plated Cameren Wileman. Sam Martin doubled and eventually scored on a wild pitch in the 5th, and Johnson's 2-out double scored Lars Olstad. Olstad had tripled to deep right-centerfield ahead of Johnson. Meanwhile, Nanstad was cruising on the mound, allowing only two hits and two walks as he fanned seven Cottage Grove batters. Austin Mades singled to lead off the 6th inning, and scored on a pinch-hit RBI triple by Josh Eastman. Martin then plated Eastman with his second hit of the night. Johnson's collected his fourth hit on yet another RBI double that scored Olstad to give Albion the final 6-1 advantage.

**EASTMAN NEARLY UNHITTABLE IN RAIN-SHORTENED VICTORY; TIGERS WIN 7-0** -- Josh Eastman was almost perfect on the Albion Park mound on Sunday afternoon. He cruised through six innings to earn a shortened complete game shutout victory while allowing only one Jefferson Blue Devil baserunner before the game was called due to rain. With solid Tiger defense behind him, Eastman retired the first 17 Blue Devils he faced before Jefferson shortstop Logan Endl singled to rightfield. Albion second-baseman Adam Gregory jumped and reached for the ball off Endl's bat, but it cleared his glove and was retrieved by right-fielder Cameren Wileman for a clean single. But Eastman got Jefferson center-fielder Zach Wellnitz to bounce into a fielder's choice to end the 6th inning before the rain rolled in. Though Jefferson left-fielder Mason Huckabay tripled and scored on a wild pitch in the top of the 7th off Albion reliever Lucas Gregory, that half inning was never completed and the game's final score reverts back to the score at the completion of the 6th inning. The victory improves Albion to 9-0 on the season, just one game ahead of the Stoughton Merchants (8-1) who beat the Fort Atkinson Generals 7-1 in Stoughton on Sunday. Albion jumped out to an early lead when 1st inning singles by Aaron Laskowski, Gregory, Eastman, and Kris Agnew led to two runs. The Tigers moved ahead 5-0 in the 2nd on RBIs by Gregory and Kyle Johnson, and grabbed another run when Laskowski stole home on a double-steal. A Jim Eastman sacrifice fly plated Austin Mades in the 5th, and Tyler Oren scored another run that frame on a Jefferson error to increase the Tiger advantage to the final score of 7-0.

**SCHULTE GOES THE DISTANCE IN ALBION VICTORY** -- On a night when Albion Tiger starter Bryant Schulte and Jefferson Blue Devil starter Logan Endl both went the distance and neither allowed an earned run, the Tigers rallied and took advantage of the last mistake of the night to score two runs in the bottom of the 7th inning to steal a victory. After not scoring any runs all night, the Tigers scored two runs on the last play of the game to grab a win over the Blue Devils. Facing a 1-0 deficit in the bottom of the 7th inning, the Tigers loaded the bases with one out. Seeking his second hit of the night, Marty Johnson rolled a slow groundball towards third base. But as Albion catcher Austin Mades broke from third base towards home, an errant throw allowed him to score easily. Lars Olstad had singled earlier in the inning and was at second base; then he followed Mades home on the error, sliding in ahead of a tag that gave his Tigers a walk-off victory. Schulte barely outdueled Endl with his complete game effort, surrendering only five singles and one walk while striking out nine Blue Devils. Jefferson's unearned run came in the 1st inning when an Albion error allowed Dustin Moldenhauer to reach base and score. The Blue Devils looked like they would score more in the 1st, but Tiger left-fielder Sam Martin made a strong throw home on Max McGowan's single to throw out Tristan Taft on a close play at home. Mades slapped a tag on Taft's leg to keep the Blue Devils to only one run in the 1st, and Schulte shut the Blue Devils down after that.

**TIGERS 9TH INNING SURGE BEATS THE GENERALS** -- The Albion Tigers rallied to overcome a four-run deficit by scoring one run in the top of the 8th inning and four more in the 9th to grab a thrilling 8-7 victory over perennial contender Fort Atkinson Generals at Jones Park on Sunday afternoon. Josh Eastman's 3-run home run over the left-center fence tied the game in the 9th, and Sam Martin streaked home from first base on Kris Agnew's RBI-triple into the leftfield corner to give the Tigers the lead in front of a large Generals crowd celebrating Fort Atkinson's Baseball Fest Weekend. The win keeps Albion perfect at 8-0 on the season, sitting atop the West Division of the Southeast Section. Facing a 7-3 deficit in the 8th inning, Kyle Johnson reached on an error and scored on Tyler Oren's RBI to make it a 7-4 Generals lead. An Aaron Laskowski ground-rule double and an Adam Gregory single put two runners aboard in the 9th for Eastman's longball to tie the game. Pinch-running for Johnson in the 9th, the speedy Martin scored the go-ahead run on Agnew's triple, giving the Tigers a victory on a day when their defense committed six errors. After Eastman tossed 5 1/3 innings, the Tigers turned the ball over to rookie Lucas Gregory, who gave up just one run in 3 2/3 of relief work to pick up his second victory of the season. The Tigers staked Eastman to an early lead when Laskowski's 2-out 2-RBI single in the 2nd scored Austin Mades and Oren. Albion moved ahead 3-0 when Eastman led off the 3rd with a triple and scored on Johnson's double to rightfield. Sloppy Tigers defense and timely Generals hitting led to four runs in the bottom of the 3rd and three more in the 6th, as Fort Atkinson moved ahead 7-3. But Lucas Gregory kept the Generals offense off the board in the 7th, 8th, and 9th innings to secure the victory.

**TIGERS OUTLAST CLINTON TO STAY UNBEATEN** -- Kris Agnew's 2-RBI single with two outs in the top of the 17th inning pushed his Albion Tigers ahead for good in a battle of first-place teams from the two Divisions of the Southeast Section. In what was the longest game in recent Tigers history (the last 30 years) and possibly the longest in franchise history, Agnew drove home Adam Gregory and Josh Eastman to reward the Tiger effort on a steamy Sunday afternoon in Clinton. Hitting #2 and #3 in the lineup, Gregory and Eastman were a combined 1x15 to that point, but both came up clutch in the 17th. They each reached base ahead of Agnew when Gregory doubled down the rightfield line and Eastman legged out an infield single. Agnew's fourth hit of the day drove

both of them home, making a winner out of veteran Mike Nanstad, who retired all six Oriole batters he faced in the 16th and 17th innings. In a strong effort for Albion, Josh Eastman started on the mound and threw eight innings before going on to play nine more innings of flawless defense at second base. Lucas Gregory took the ball in the 9th, and tossed 7+ innings while striking out ten Orioles and allowing only two hits. One of those two hits nearly won the game for the Orioles. After Agnew's bases-loaded walk in the top of the 15th plated Aaron Laskowski to give Albion a 4-3 lead, Lucas Gregory had the Orioles down to their last strike in the bottom half of the frame. But with two outs and Mac Peacock at first, Joe Lange drove a ball to deep left-center that nearly left the park and would have sent the Orioles home a winner. After deflecting off the glove of a leaping Laskowski at the fence, Lange ended up with a double and Peacock scored to send the game to the 16th. The former Section MVP Lange took a tough loss for his Orioles, as the lefty hurled 8 2/3 innings in relief while giving up nine hits and fanning eleven Tigers. Both teams had multiple chances to score late in the game. The Tigers threatened several times, including the 7th and 13th innings when Lars Olstad (2x8) singled to start both frames but was stranded in scoring position. The Tigers left 21 runners on base, but the Orioles also stranded a runner in scoring position in the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th innings. Albion grabbed a lead in the 1st inning when Eastman knocked in Laskowski (4x8, 2 2B). Marty Johnson extended the lead when his suicide squeeze scored Agnew (4x8, 2 2B, 3 RBI) in the 4th inning. Johnson later scored on an error to push the Tigers ahead 3-0. Clinton scored two runs in the sixth on RBIs by Aaron Jones and Zach Jones, and another run in the 8th on an RBI by Lange to even the score at 3-3 to force extra innings and another two hours of play.

**CLUTCH BATS AND EASTMAN'S ARM KEEP TIGERS UNDEFEATED** -- The Albion Tigers and the McFarland Muskies faced off on Tuesday night as the only two undefeated teams in the HTL Southeast Section, playing a game that was rained out on May 24th. Josh Eastman threw all ten innings in the extra-inning win, making sure his squad was the only team that went home still undefeated. In doing so, Albion grabbed first place in the Western Division of the Section improving to 6-0, while the loss drops McFarland to 5-1. Facing a lineup that hadn't been beaten, Eastman yielded only three singles and one walk, and fanned 12 Muskie batters. McFarland scored all three runs in the 6th inning when two hits, Eastman's only walk, and an Albion error sent three runs home. Albion grabbed an early 1-0 lead in the fourth inning when Aaron Laskowski doubled and Eastman drove him home. But facing a 3-1 deficit in the 7th, Austin Mades (2x2) was hit by a pitch to start the inning. Pinch-runner Marty Johnson advanced when Kris Agnew walked, and both runners advanced on Tyler Oren's sacrifice bunt. With the McFarland infield pulled in, Jim Eastman shot a single into leftfield to score Johnson and Agnew and tie the game. Oren and Evan Deegan provided the heroics for Albion in the 10th inning when Oren ripped a leadoff triple to right and Deegan lined an RBI single up the middle to send him home. McFarland never threatened again after their 3-run sixth, as Josh Eastman retired the last 14 hitters he faced.

**TIGERS WINNING STREAK CONTINUES** -- Lucas Gregory dealt six innings of scoreless ball against the Lake Mills Grays, scattering four hits and fanning 11 to pick up his first win as an Albion Tiger on Sunday afternoon at Albion Park. The rookie left-hander cruised through five innings, and then pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the 6th before handing it over to the bullpen. Fellow southpaw Bryant Schulte struckout two Grays in the 7th inning, and the game was completed due to the 10-run rule. The Albion bats knocked out 14 hits in the shortened game, and the Tigers took advantage of two untimely errors by Lake Mills to provide more than enough support for Gregory. After the first two Tiger hitters of the second inning were retired, Tyler Oren (3x4) doubled to deep left-center and scored on Jim Eastman's RBI single. Consecutive singles by Evan Deegan and Aaron Laskowski (2x3) drove home Eastman, and both of them scored when Lake Mills left-fielder Evan Yandre couldn't hold on to a towering flyball hit by Adam Gregory. RBI singles by Josh Eastman (2x4) and Kyle Johnson followed and gave Albion a 6-0 lead by the end of the inning. Jim Eastman walked and eventually scored on a wild pitch in the 3rd inning to give Albion a 7-0 advantage. Then the Tigers blew the game open with a five-run 6th inning. Another Lake Mills error and RBI singles by Austin Mades, Oren, and Sam Martin gave the Tigers the margin they needed to end the game early.

**SCHULTE THROWS TWO-HITTER** -- Bryant Schulte frustrated the Marshall hitters all night in a 4-0 Albion victory on Thursday night. The host Firemen could only muster two hits in seven innings against the Tiger southpaw, and Schulte struckout nine without walking a batter. An Albion error allowed a runner to reach base in the first inning and a pair of scattered hits put two others on, but no other Firemen reached base all night against a dialed-in Schulte. The Tigers offense was also quiet early in the game, until Aaron Laskowski's pinch-hit single to centerfield in the sixth inning scored Sam Martin who had walked and stolen second base. Kris Agnew's sacrifice fly to deep leftfield scored Laskowski to give the Tigers a 2-0 lead. Cameren Wileman created his own offense to score another run by walking, advancing on a wild pitch, stealing third, and coming home on a throwing error by the catcher. Kyle Johnson's RBI triple in the seventh inning plated Mike Nanstad after his double to right-center to give Schulte plenty of insurance to wrap up the victory.

**GREGORY BROTHERS & EASTMAN LEAD TIGERS TO BIG WIN** -- The Albion Tigers waited patiently while Adam Gregory completed his collegiate career at UW-Whitewater before joining the Tigers for their 2015 season. But once he did, he wasted no time in making an impact. Gregory went 3x4 with a double, triple, 3 RBI, and 3 runs scored in his season debut, leading Albion to a 13-0 victory over the Cambridge Blues on a sunny afternoon at Albion Park. Josh Eastman dealt five innings of one-hit ball to pick up his second victory of the season, striking out four and walking only one. Albion rookie Lucas Gregory, who plays collegiately at UW-Oshkosh, made his pitching debut for the Tigers on Sunday, fanning five Blues in only two innings of relief work to end the game after seven innings due to the 10-run rule. The Albion bats were aggressive all day, as four Tigers had multiple hits and five Tigers had multiple RBIs. Adam Gregory's RBI single in the first inning plated Aaron Laskowski, and the Tigers moved ahead 2-0 when Kyle Johnson knocked in Gregory. Albion grabbed another run in the second inning when Laskowski's sacrifice fly sent Kris Agnew (2x3) home, and Agnew's RBI single in the 3rd pushed the tally to 4-0. Jim Eastman and Evan Deegan scored on Adam Gregory's

double in the fourth inning, and Josh Eastman and Johnson each drove home another run in that frame. Tyler Oren's 2-RBI drive to deep rightfield plated Johnson and Austin Mades (2x4) to score two more in a 6-run fourth inning. A fifth-inning RBI single by Josh Eastman and consecutive RBI doubles by Mades and Agnew pushed the final three runs across for Albion.

**TIGERS POUND DEMONS IN 2015 HOME OPENER** -- Albion ace Josh Eastman made his season debut for the Tigers at Albion Park on Sunday afternoon, and it didn't take him long to get comfortable on the mound he's had such great success on over the last few seasons. Eastman worked five scoreless innings while yielding only one hit and walking none. The righty fanned nine Deerfield Demons in earning his first win of the summer and improving his Tigers to 3-0. Southpaw Bryant Schulte struck out two more Demons in two scoreless innings to wrap up the contest that was called after the 7th inning due to the 10-run rule. Albion grabbed a run early when Aaron Laskowski (2x4) reached on an infield single and was driven home by Austin Mades. The Demons should have escaped the 2nd inning unscathed, but the Tigers took advantage of a defensive miscue and strung together four consecutive hits with two outs. An Evan Deegan RBI single and consecutive 2-RBI singles by Kyle Johnson and Mades pushed the score to a 6-0 Tiger advantage. Three more Deerfield errors in the 3rd inning led to five Albion runs, highlighted by a Tyler Oren (3x5) 2-RBI single. Cameren Wileman (2x2) added more insurance for the Tigers with a pinch-hit 2-RBI single in the 5th, along with another RBI single in the 6th. After a deep sacrifice fly by Mike Nanstad plated Lucas Gregory, RBI singles by Oren and Tim Houfe put the Demons away for good when the Mercy Rule took effect just before the rain rolled in to Albion.

**AGNEW SHUTS DOWN JAYS, TIGERS IMPROVE TO 2-0** -- The Albion Tigers remained undefeated on the young season with a 9-1 victory over the Evansville Jays at Lake Leota Park on Saturday night. A tight contest for most of the evening, the Tigers' bats came alive late in the game and propelled Albion to the victory and a 2-0 record. Kris Agnew hurled eight innings for Albion, yielding only three hits and striking out 13 Jays. Leading only 2-1 going in to the 7th inning, the Tigers' bats woke up and plated four insurance runs in that frame, and then three more in the 9th. Agnew also contributed offensively, going 3x5 at the plate while driving home a run and scoring two more. After giving up an early run to the Jays, the Tigers evened the score when Sam Martin scored on Aaron Laskowski's RBI triple in the 3rd inning. The contest remained tied until Agnew scored in the 6th inning when Evan Deegan (2x5) reached on an error. Then the Tigers pulled away in the 7th with RBI singles by Agnew and Austin Mades (2x5), and a 2-RBI double to deep left-center by Kyle Johnson. Johnson grabbed another RBI in the 9th inning when he drove home Laskowski (2x3). Albion capped the scoring when Deegan ripped another hit scoring Johnson and Mades.

**VETERANS LEAD TIGERS TO OPENING DAY WIN** -- Mike Nanstad started his 17th season in a Tigers uniform the same way he has started many of the previous sixteen; toeing the rubber as Albion's opening day starter. The veteran and 2009 Section MVP also enjoyed a similar result as he has many times in the past; earning a victory and pushing his Tigers to 1-0 in Southeast Section play. After throwing seven innings, Nanstad watched from the dugout while his Tigers held off a 9th-inning scare by the Waterloo Firemen to secure a 4-2 victory. After giving up a run on consecutive doubles to the first two Waterloo hitters he faced, Nanstad struck out five and yielded no more hits before departing at the end of the 7th inning. Kris Agnew fanned four Firemen in two innings of work to earn a save, including a strikeout to end the game with the tying run at second base. A group of experienced Tigers also led the way offensively. Nanstad, Jim Eastman (2x5), and Agnew (2x4) combined for five of the team's seven hits. With Waterloo leading 1-0 in the second inning, Nanstad doubled to the left-field fence, scoring Agnew and Marty Johnson. And in his 27th season with Albion, Eastman singled and scored what turned out to be the winning run in the 8th inning. Albion grabbed one more insurance run in the 9th when a cramping Sutton DeVoll crawled home (literally) on an RBI single by Aaron Laskowski.