2009 PORTLAND POSSUM

General Manager/Owner: Ray Murphy (16th season, 1252-1350 all-time regular season, 35-28 all-time playoffs. 2006 TBL Champions.)
Game Type: All home games will be played on the *APBA Baseball Blast 5.5* computer game.

NAME	MLB	L/R	BC-BBW	BC-MG	G	PA	SBA	SSN	SPD	ARM	PB/TH	ACQUIRED
Aybar, Erick	LAA	B	SA0	-1/-1	98	375	9	E30	13	32		D-08 (BonA)
Burke, Chris	ARI	R	SA1	0/-3	86	199	5	F35	15	31		D-06 (Bon A)
Gonzalez, Carlos	OAK	L	SA5	-10/+2	85	316	5	F31	15	33		D-09 (1)
Kouzmanoff, Kevin	SD	R	SA0	-4/0	154	668	0	N	8	30		D-07 (BonA)
Millar, Kevin	BAL	R	SA1	0/-2	145	610	1	G14	4	28		T-08 (MIN)
Napoli, Mike	LAA	R	SA1	+1/-2	78	274	10	D27	11	32	2/-4	D-07 (BonA)
Rivera, Juan	LAA	R	SA0	-2/1	89	280	2	F20	6	32		T-08 (RYE)
Shoppach, Kelly	CLE	R	SA2	+3/-3	112	403	0	N	8	32	2/-2	T-08 (MID)
Stewart, Ian	COL	L	SA0	+13/-5	81	304	2	F20	10	33		D-09 (1)
Tulowitzki, Troy	COL	R	SA3	+9/-4	101	421	7	A7	11	38		D-07 (1)
Upton, BJ	TAM	R	SA1	+1/-2	145	640	60	C28	18	37		T-07 (MUN)
Upton, Justin	ARI	R	SA1	+1/-2	108	417	5	A9	17	37		D-08 (1)
Votto, Joey	CIN	L	SA1	-2/-1	151	589	12	E23	9	31		D-08 (1)
Weeks, Rickie	MIL	R	SA2	+3/-3	129	560	24	E31	16	32		T-09 (DAL)
Mathis, Jeff	*LAA*	*R*	*SA3*	*+6/-4*	*94*	*328*	*0*	*E20*	*9*	*32*	*1/-2*	*D-07 (6)*
Pena, Wily Mo	*WAS*	*R*	*SA1*	*+1/-3*	*64*	*206*	*1*	*E14*	*10*	*31*		*T-08 (HUD)*

NAME	MLB	L/R	GRADE	GS	RIP	CTL	HRA	ST. FAT	REL. FAT	WP	HB	BK	MF	ACQUIRED
Balester, Collin	WAS	R	4	15		12	-15	28		3		0	+2	D-09 (BonA)
Cain, Matt	SFG	R	11	34		-15	22	27		2			+1	D-06 (1)
Colon, Bartolo	BOS	R	8	7		24	-12	25		2		0	0	D-98 (BonA)
Martinez, Pedro	*NYM*	*R*	*4*	*20*		*-12*	*-23*	*29*		*1*			*0*	*T-09 (KAN)*
Olson, Garrett	BAL	L	1	31		-26	-11	30		3		0	0	D-08 (3)
Purcey, David	*TOR*	*L*	*7*	*12*		*-31*	*-14*	*28*		*3*		*0*	*+2*	*D-09 (2)*
Richard, Clayton	CHW	L	1	8	8.0	31	13	28	9	1	0		0	D-09 (3)
Wainwright, Adam	*STL*	*R*	*12*	*20*		*23*	*16*	*27*		*2*		*0*	*+3*	*T-07 (GC)*
Affeldt, Jeremy	CIN	L	11		78.3	13	0		7	3		0	0	T-09 (MLR)
Dotel, Octavio	CHW	R	15		67.0	-21	-26		6	3		0	0	W-08
Gallardo, Yovani	*MIL*	*R*	*17*	*4*	*24.0*	*-11*	*-13*	*24*	*8*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*+2*	*D-08 (1)*
Gonzalez, Gio	*OAK*	*L*	*4*	*7*	*6.0*	*-62*	*-44*	*27*	*9*	*2*		*0*	*+3*	*D-09 (2)*
Gonzalez, Mike	ATL	L	13*		33.7	21	-31		6	0		0	+1	T-09 (RIC)
Happ, J.A.	*PHI*	*L*	*12*	*8*	*31.7*	*-15*	*16*	*24*	*12*	*2*		*0*	*0*	*D-09 (2)*
Jackson, Zach	*CLE*	*L*	*3*	*9*	*3.7*	*22*	*-11*	*30*	*11*	*3*		*0*	*0*	*D-09 (5)*
Kennedy, Ian	NYY	R	1	9	3.0	-62	0	27	15	3		0	0	D-09 (3)
Morrow, Brandon	SEA	R	11/30*	5	36.7	-55	-23	29	6	3	0	0	0	D-08 (2)
Nippert, Dustin	TEX	R	5/1*	6	71.7	-31	-13	28	16	1		0		D-09 (6)
Igawa, Kei	*UNC*	*L*												*D-08 (5)*

Italics - starts year in minors   Blue: indicates innocuous usage

Minors by month:
- **April:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Gallardo, G. Gonzalez, Happ, Jackson, Martinez, Purcey, Wainwright
- **May:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Gallardo, G. Gonzalez, Happ, Jackson, Colon, Purcey, Wainwright
- **June:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Gallardo, G. Gonzalez, Happ, Jackson, Colon, Purcey, Wainwright
- **July:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Gallardo, G. Gonzalez, Happ, Jackson, Colon, Purcey, Balester
- **Aug:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Gallardo, Nippert, M. Gonzalez, Kennedy, Colon, Purcey, Balester
- **Sept:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Dotel, Nippert, M. Gonzalez, Kennedy, Colon, Balester, Richard
- **Oct:** Mathis, Pena, Igawa, Dotel, Nippert, M. Gonzalez, Kennedy, Martinez, Balester, Richard
- **Nov:** all up (except uncarded Igawa)!

Cuts:
Carded: Backe, Feierabend, Helms, Mujica, Payton, Ring, Quiroz
Uncarded: F. Cabrera, Kim, Lofton, Turnbow, Wise

Waiver Wire:

Pitching Rotation:

Apr (19)

1-4 (5)	@MAR	C	O	L	R	X
6-8 (9)	@KAN	B	C	O	X	
10-12 (13)	@NBO	L	R	B	X	
14-17 (18)	ZIO	C	O	L	R	X
19-23 (24)	WAK	B	C	O	L	R	X

May (21)

1-5	@MUN	B	C	O	M	R
6-9 (10)	@MID	B	C	O	M	X
11-14	DAL	R	B	C	O	
15-18 (19)	NW	M	R	B	C	X
20-23	MLR	O	M	R	B	

Jun (19)

1-4 (5)	KAN	C	O	M	R	X
6-8	NBO	B	C	O		
9-11	MAR	M	R	B		
12-16 (17)	@HUD	C	O	M	R	B	X
18-21	@RIC	C	O	M	R	

Jul (21)

1-5	KNX	W	C	O	M	R
6-9 (10)	GC	W	C	O	M	X
11-14	@LA	R	W	C	O	
15-18	@COL	M	R	W	C	
19-22 (23)	@GOH	O	M	R	W	X

Aug (20)

1-4	@BH	C	O	M	R	
5-8 (9)	@WHT	W	C	O	M	X
10-13	@KNX	W	C	O	M	
14-17	BRO	R	W	C	O	
18-21 (22)	HOU	M	R	W	C	X

Sept (20)

1 (2)	ASG	X	X			
3-5	@MAR	W	C	P		
6-9	@KAN	M	O	W	C	
10-13	@NBO	P	M	O	W	
14-17 (18)	MUN	C	P	M	O	X
19-23	MID	W	C	P	M	O

Oct (22)

1-4	@RYE	W	C	P	L	
5-9	@MLR	O	W	C	P	L
10-14	RIC	O	W	C	P	L
15-18 (19)	LV	O	W	C	P	X
20-23	HUD	J	O	W	C	

Nov (20)

(1) 2-6	@ZIO	X	P	B	O	R	C
7-10	@WAK	P	B	W	O		
11-13 (14)	KAN	C	P	B	X		
15-18	NBO	R	O	C	P		
19-22 (23)	MAR	B	R	W	C	X	

Cain	34
Olson	31
Richard	22
Wainwright	20
Martinez	20
Balester	15
Purcey	12
CoLon	7

Emergency Lineups: (I *will* send monthly instructions. I may just tell you to use these lineups, but please wait for confirmation.)

vs. LHP
Boards and Computer
2B Weeks
SS Tulowitzki
CF BJ Upton
C Napoli
1B Votto
DH Stewart
3B Kouzmanoff
LF Rivera
RF Burke

v. RHP
Boards and Computer
2B Weeks
RF J. Upton
CF BJ Upton
1B Votto
C Shoppach
3B Kouzmanoff
DH Millar
SS Aybar
LF Gonzalez

Injury Replacement/Depth Chart:

C: Shoppach, Napoli, Mathis
1B: Votto, Millar, Burke
2B: Weeks, Aybar, Stewart, Burke
SS: Tulowitzki, Aybar, Burke
3B: Kouzmanoff, Stewart, Burke
OF: BJ Upton (CF), J. Upton (CF), Rivera, Gonzalez (CF), Burke (CF), Pena

PLAYER BIOS/USAGE INFORMATION: here's a position-by-position look at the Possum:

Catcher: Napoli and Shoppach job-share. Whichever doesn't start can PH in game-winning situations only.
1st base:. Votto virtually all the time.
2nd base: Mostly Weeks, with cameos from Aybar and Stewart.
Shortstop: Tulowitzki and Aybar in a job share. Whoever starts should almost never be subbed out.
3rd base: Mostly Kouzmanoff, with Stewart also available.
Outfield: Rivera/Gonzalez share LF, BJ Upton covers CF, Justin Upton covers RF. Burke and Pena get spot duty.
DH: Lots of Millar, some Stewart.

OFFENSIVE STRATEGY:

Pinch-hitting: in game-winning situations in 9th or later, Napoli or Shoppach can PH for anyone in the bottom 3rd of the order.

Pinch-running: Burke can PR for any non-C in a game-winning situation, and stay in the game at that position.

Steal: Upton and Weeks are our main threats. ***Check H&R first before 7th inning!!***

- Upton can steal anytime, score -2 to +3, 0 or 1 out, when SSN > 27. Limit two attempts per series.
- Weeks can steal after 3rd inning, score -2 to +3, 0 or 1 out, when SSN > 27. Limit one attempt per series.
- Anyone else can steal as tying/lead run in 7th or later, 0 out, SSN 28 or greater. Limit once per player per series

Hit & Run: *Batters:* Aybar, Burke, Kouzmanoff, Millar, Rivera, Votto, Weeks *Runners:* any runner with adjusted SSN over 21 and SBAs remaining. H&R any inning, 0 or 1 out, pitcher CTL -14 or better (no W in BBW).

Sacrifice: Generally only the #9 spot in the lineup will sacrifice. They can sacrifice in the following conditions:

- ANY inning if 1st & 2nd 0 out, score –2 or better.
- 6th or later if 2nd only, 0 out, score –2 or better.
- 6th or later, 1st only, 0 out, and H&R/steal not in order., score –1 to +2
- Don't squeeze!

Baserunning: Generally, go with 28 or more chances, hold 19 or less. Otherwise see Adams Tables. With Church/Ramirez due up next, add 2 to all needed chances. With 7-9 batters up, subtract 3. With two outs, score on 11 chances or more. **Computer game: go when the announcer says the runner is "well around" the base, hold when runner is "rounding" the base. When runner is "around" the base, try to score with 0 out only if (OF Arm - Runner Speed) < 15, 1 out if (OF Arm - Runner Speed) < 25, 2 out if (OF Arm - Runner Speed) < 30.**

DEFENSIVE STRATEGY:

Defensive replacements: Burke at 2B, after POR bats in top 7th, score +1 to +5.

Outfield throws: Throw for lead runner if < 34 chances. Otherwise hold trailing runners. Do not throw for lead runner if he is not tie/lead run, and other runner's chances are 5+ lower**.** In 7th or later and score is +1/-2, always throw for lead runner. Always hold trailing runner if he is tying run (i.e. POR +2). **Computer game: throw for lead runner UNLESS he's "well around" and is non-slow; or trailing runner is tying run.**

Infield In: Three cases:

- Runner on 3rd only: 0 or 1 out, 6th or later, POR +1 to -4.
- Runners on 1st and 3rd: 8th or later, 0 out, POR 0 to –4
- 2nd & 3rd or bases full: only if winning run on 3rd, 9th or later, 0 or 1 out. (1 out, bases full, play deep if batter has 2+ 24s)

Pitch from stretch with runner on 3rd.: Only if game within one run in 8th or later, adj. SSN > 11, and two outs.

Hold runner on 1st: Always with PR hitter up. Otherwise, only if score is +/-3, and adj. SSN > 22.

Intentional walk: 8th or later, Possum -2 to 0, 1st is open, and it makes sense (i.e. enough inferior batters coming up to end inning). If IBB will load bases, pitcher must have +16 control or better.

Steal throws: Always throw on single steal unless effective SSN is 36 or higher. Throw for lowest SSN on multiple steals, except throw for lead runner if tying/winning run in 7th or later regardless of SSN.

MANAGING THE PITCHING STAFF:

Removing Starters: We have two kinds of SP this year: good and bad. Not enough of the former, too much of the latter.

The good:(Cain, Wainwright, Colon): Fatigue rules won't always allow this, but we'd like to see these guys reach the 7th. Pull in the 7th at the first time of trouble if the game is still in doubt. We understand that sometimes (or even often), fatigue will require the hook in the 6th.

*The bad:(everyone except Cain, Wainwright, Colon):*We will need 5 IP per start from these guys if at all possible, look to pull in the 6th as soon as a runner gets on if the game is in doubt. When the game isn't in doubt (which will be a frequent occurrence), let them get pounded out or pitch until they reach fatigue.

Using the Bullpen: There's not much good relief here, but we don't expect to have many leads. On those rare occasions where the bullpen does get asked to protect a lead, use everyone and anyone to try and secure the W. When we're blown out, just spread the work around.

Closer: Morrow. Strictly a 9th-inning option, only in save situations. If he blows it, pull him.

Primary RH setup: Dotel, with some help from Gallardo in certain months. Should work sometime in the 7th/8th when we lead, mix and match with the deeper LH options based on lineup position, etc.

Primary LH setup: for a bad team, we're surprisingly deep in southpaw relief. Two of Affeldt/Gonzalez/Happ will be active each month. The ideal way to use them is probably to bring one in for the starter if we're in the game, then go to Dotel in a RH-heavy section of your lineup, then hand it back to the 2nd lefty before going to Morrow. Basically, mix and match as best you can.

Middle: this is a "bagel bullpen": there is no middle!

Mop: watch the monthly instructions. A flotilla of arms will flow through this role. Two will be active each month for maximum absorbency. Use them up to 2.2 IP/game when the starter gets hammered early, and/or the game is no longer in doubt.

CONCLUSION: That's it from Portland. It's going to be a long year, but get your licks in while you can… we intend to bounce back toward the top of the league in 2010. ***Good luck to all!***