

Cook & Son Bats' Blog

Todd, Tim and Kellan Cook love Baseball, the Seattle Mariners and trekking around the country to visit stadiums and watch games. These are their stories.

2008 Roadtrip, Game 2 – Angels at Indians (8/17/08)

On the second day of the 2008 Cook Grandfather-Father-Son Baseball Roadtrip, we left Cincinnati and headed down to Louisville, Kentucky for a tour of the Louisville Slugger factory. It was awesome. But they don't allow cameras in the factory, so I don't have much to share on it. So go check it out for yourself. In addition to the factory, there is an extremely cool Louisville Slugger museum that includes a Babe Ruth bat that has 20+ notches that Ruth carved into it around the Louisville Slugger logo for each homerun Ruth hit with the bat during his record setting 60 homerun 1927 season.



On day three of the roadtrip, we made our way up north to Cleveland, Ohio and...



...Progressive Field a/k/a "The Jake," home of the Cleveland Indians.

We had a game on tap between the Cleveland Indians and the Anaheim Angels of Orange County, California.

We parked a block or two away, walked passed one of the worst corporated named sporting venues of all-time, the Quicken Loans Arena, through a nice little court yard festival area...

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...and we arrived at the Jake.



We headed inside and my dad immediately took a picture of me and Tim and our first view of the field:



There was no BP so we had plenty of time to explore the stadium. We started by heading toward the home plate area...

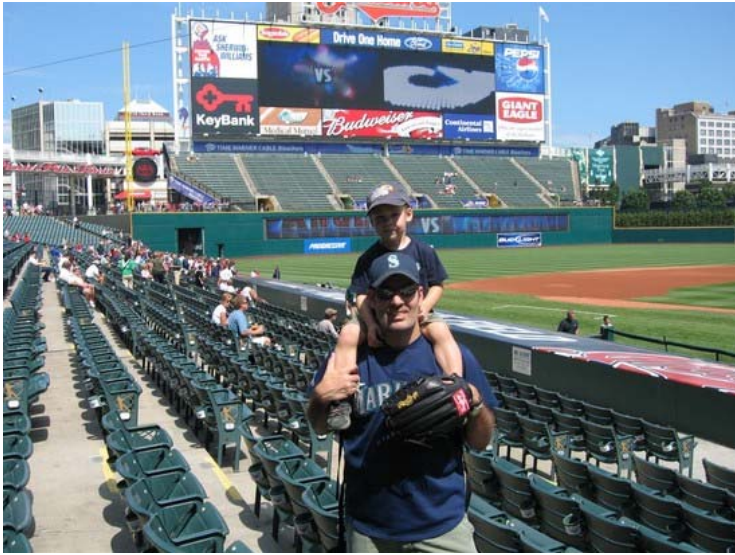
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...then we walked the field level concourse...



...in the concourse toward RF, we saw a big picture of former Mariner and still Seattle resident (as far as I am aware), Omar "Little O" Visquel...

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...the inset picture of his signature is from the wall in Heritage Park, the Indians Hall of Fame.

We walked through the large RF-CF concourse with all of its various concession stands...



...and we made our way out to Heritage Park:



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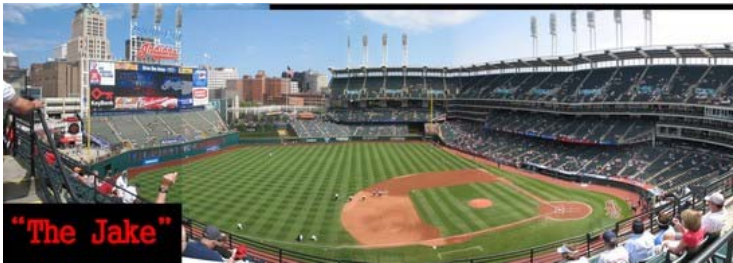
Heritage Park has two levels. In the top left picture, Tim is shown standing in the middle of a big circle which is lined with HOF plaques. Above, I have included pictures of some of the Indians HOF plaques. These are some top-of-the-line HOF'ers: [Bob Feller](#), [Tris Speaker](#), [Cy Young](#), [Larry Doby](#), [Early Wynn](#), [Nap Lajoie](#) and [Earl Averill](#).

You might have heard of these guys.

Well, on second thought, although he is a member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, maybe you don't know Averill. He isn't quite on the same level as the rest included here. He was voted into the National HOF by the veterans committee in 1975, 34 years after his final season. I included Averill because, as his plaque notes, he is the "Earl of Snohomish."

That's Snohomish, Washington. I grew up in Edmonds, Washington, which is in Snohomish County. Like Adam Eaton, Averill went to Snohomish High School, which many, many, many years after Averill graduated would eventually be in the same athletic conference, WesCo Triple-A, as my high school, Edmonds-Woodway High School. More on Snohomish County and my former WesCo Triple-A foes later.

Back to the tour. After Heritage Park, we headed to the upper deck so I could take pictures for this panoramic view:



FYI, Heritage Park is at the intersection of the LCF bleachers and the batters' eye in CF.

Next, it was time for lunch...



...Nachos! A Cook family favorite.

Then it was game time. This was our view from Section 175, Row M, Seats 3-5 at Progressive Field:

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A majority of the scoring occurred in the first inning of this game.

The Angels got on the board first. After singles by future-Mariner Chone Figgins, Erick Aybar and Mark Teixeira, and a fielders choice by "Big Daddy Vladdy" Guererro, the Angels led 2-0.

The top of the Angels order would do most of the damage for the Angels on the day. Figgins was 2-5 with 2 runs scored, Aybar was 2-5 with 1 run, and Teixeira was 2-4 with 1 RBI.



Then the teams switched sides and it was the Indians' turn. The Indians would match the Angels on a 2-run single by future-Mariner Franklin Gutierrez. Gutierrez would eventually go 3-3 on the day.

The crowd was pretty low key...

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...but Tim can always find something to amaze him at the ballpark. I have no clue what has his attention here, but I think its a funny picture.

In the bottom of the third, Ryan Garko hit a single...



...that scored Jamey Carroll for the Indians' first lead of the day. Franklin would follow with another single. I didn't know it yet, but that guy rules.

Soon, it was time for ice cream helmets...



...Tim beat the heat by eating his ice cream sitting on the ground in the shady beneath his seat.

We'd driven to Cleveland in the morning from a camp ground an hour or so west of Columbus, Ohio. Tim hadn't napped so I knew he would crash at some point during this game. That time came in the 4th or 5th inning.

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I took him up to the concourse behind our section to get him out of the sun. He fell asleep sitting on my shoulders and he stayed that way for 3 entire innings.



While Tim was napping, the Indians and Angels scored their final runs of the day. In the top of the fifth, Figgins singled and then scored on a passed ball by Sal Fasano. That tied the score at 3-3.

Fasano would get his redemption by scoring the winning run for the Indians on a sixth inning single by Indians center fielder Grady Sizemore.

Speaking of Sizemore, you know where he grew up? In Everett, Washington. Yep, that's the county seat of Snohomish County. Sizemore graduated from my WesCo rival, [Cascade High School](#).

Aside from rejuvenating Tim for the rest of the day, something else good came out of Tim's nap. In that picture above to the left, do you see the large usher in the green shirt and the dark-haired guy sitting under the "PR" in the "Express" sign? Those two chatted the entire Tim I was standing up there. The seated guy had a son (sitting right in front of me in the picture). So the usher mentioned to him that it was KIDS RUN THE BASES DAY!!! I had no clue. The only advertised promotion was an art kit for kids. Tim had never run the bases at a big league field (for that matter, neither had I), so I was extremely excited. The usher told us where to go toward the end of the game to get in line.

After Tim woke up, we went back to our seats for a little bit. I told my dad about it being Kids Run the Bases Day. We decided to make our way over to the RF corner where the line would form. On our way, an usher took a picture of us...



...and since we were in Cleveland (and it was 2008), Tim wore his hat like C.C. Sabathia.

We missed the uneventful ninth inning because we were in a long line snaking up the switch-back walkway from the field level to the upper deck behind the RF concourse. Notably, Jeremy Sowers got the win for the Indians taking his season record to 2-6. His only other win on the season was the [Mariners-Indians game](#) we had attended in Seattle back on July 19, 2008.

Anyway, the line finally started moving and we snaked our way under the stadium, and passed a sign that read:

ON THE JOB SAFETY BEGINS HERE

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This Department Has Worked 19 Days Without a Lost Time Accident.

ACCIDENTS ARE AVOIDABLE

The "19" was a red digital light that counts up each day from the last accident.

Anyway, eventually, we made our way out of the tunnels and through an entrance at the side of the visitors' bullpen...



...we walked out onto the RF warning track. My dad took our picture against the OF wall (a picture we now try to duplicate at other parks)...



...and I took my Dad's picture with the warning track and OF grass behind him.

And much to my delight, since Tim was only two, I got to run with him...



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...I gotta admit it, I was at least as excited about it as Tim. It was really cool to be running behind Tim around the same bases we would eventually see Ken Griffey, Jr. circle after his 624th homerun.

After circling the bases, we met up with my dad and got a few more picture before we left the field of play.



Between the Angels loss (yeah, the Mariners were already out of it but its always good to see a division rival lose) and running the bases, it was an outstanding second game on the roadtrip.

We capped off the day at the KOA in Streetsboro, Ohio where my dad helped Tim roast the first smore of his young life:



A great day.

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2 Comments

An angel game! I'm so excited! I hope you had a blast! (Well it sure looks like you did but still). I LOVE going to Angels Stadium. It's one of my favorite places in the entire world. The place (any baseball field actually) just makes me feel so much better. I think it's great that you went with your father and son. I'm sure your son appreciates all that you do for him too. Thanks for sharing your games with us. And hey! Seattle looks like the team to beat this up coming season! I gladly welcome the challenge.

<http://mimi.mlblogs.com>

By [angelsgirl012](#) on January 24, 2010 10:35 pm - [Reply](#)

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Hey, I'd love it if the Mariners are, indeed, the team to beat. I'd love it even more if the other teams failed at the "to beat" part of it. Thanks for stopping by!
-Todd

By *cookandsonbats* on February 2, 2010 11:46 pm - Reply

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