



Register Login | ENGLISH | ESPAÑOL

MLB.com POWERED BY

Search GO

MLB Sites GO

News Audio & Video Scoreboard Schedule Roster Stats Community Fans Progressive Field Tickets Shop Auction Mobile Fantasy

News

- Athletics News
- Probable Pitchers
- Depth Chart
- Press Pass
- RSS News Feeds

05/01/06 6:06 PM ET

# Broussard, Mench share AL honors

## Indians 1B, Rangers OF named co-Players of the Week

By Ryan Quinn / MLB.com

[print this page](#) [e-mail this page](#)  
[post on facebook](#) [fan comments](#)

One player is battling for a position at first base and the other changed his shoe size.

Ben Broussard and Kevin Mench were named Bank of America co-Players of the Week in the American League for the time frame ending on April 30th.

Broussard, of the Cleveland Indians, has been splitting time at first base with Eduardo Perez. Broussard has started 13 games this season and is batting .415. His biggest output came against the Red Sox and Josh Beckett on April 27.

Broussard went 4-for-5 that day with eight RBIs and two home runs off Beckett. His first came in the first inning with the bases loaded for his fourth-career grand slam. The next came in the third inning to give him his fifth career multi-home run game. The Indians went on to slam the Red Sox, 15-3.

The amazing part is that Broussard didn't start the next game. Even after the crowd of 26,952 in Jacobs Field was chanting "Ben-ny Ben-ny," he was replaced by Perez, who is batting .314.

"All I can do is try my best when I'm in there," Broussard said. "My goal is to make it a difficult decision for them to keep me out of the lineup.

"I'm trying to take the pressure off myself. I don't want to be overly aggressive, but I want to be ready to hit."

Broussard batted .625 (10-for-16), with an American League-leading four home runs, 13 RBIs, and 23 total bases on the week.

Mench, right fielder for the Rangers, hasn't had to worry about fighting for a position, but he was worried about his shoe size earlier in the season.

Mench had been wearing size 12 since the age of 15 and two weeks ago saw a foot specialist who told him to change to a 12 1/2. The tight shoes caused him to miss five games earlier in the season after spraining the second toe of his right foot.

Mench moved back into the lineup as a regular on April 19. He failed to drive in a run in his first 10 games, but he has 22 RBIs since.

A big chunk of those RBIs came from April 21-28, when Mench came a game short of a Major League record by homering in seven consecutive games. Mench didn't homer in his eighth game on Sunday against Cleveland, but still has a 14-game hitting streak as well as at least one RBI in nine of his last 10 games.

"It was fun," Mench said, "but I really didn't care about getting record or not. We're just trying to win ballgames."

The consecutive home run streak of eight was set by Dale Long 50 years ago and was tied by Don



Ben Broussard watches the flight of his first-inning grand slam on Thursday. (Mark Duncan/AP)

### MORE COVERAGE

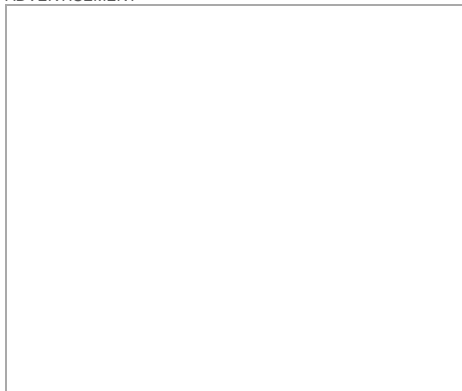
#### Indians Headlines

- Tribe fall to Bucs in ninth-inning walk-off
- Streaming video now part of At Bat app
- Home series means more action for Hafner
- Carmona sees first Minor League action
- Wedge shows no worry over job status
- More Indians Headlines

#### MLB Headlines

- Quentin, Sox encouraged by progress
- Mariano one save away from 500
- Less than a week left in All-Star balloting
- D-backs' Webb hits road to visit specialists
- Weekend: Kouz, McGehee turning heads
- More MLB Headlines

#### ADVERTISEMENT



Watch Interleague Play on MLB.TV June 12 - 28

[LEARN MORE »](#)

[VIEW DEMO »](#)

Blackout and other restrictions apply

Indians tickets through

Where Fans Buy & Sell Tickets

Sell your extra tickets

[Buy/Sell Tickets >](#)

indians.com

Mattingly of the Yankees in 1987 and Ken Griffey Jr. in 1993 when he played for the Mariners.

After the first 10 games Mench was batting .281; he hit .435 during the week to raise his average to .342.

During the week he also had four home runs, 10 RBIs, and a .957 slugging percentage.

Other candidates considered were New York's Johnny Damon (.429, 10 R, 5 SB) and Toronto's Shea Hillenbrand (.579, 2 HR, 7 RBI). New York pitcher Mike Mussina (2-0, 12.0 IP) also received consideration.

*Ryan Quinn is an associate reporter for MLB.com. This story was not subject to the approval of Major League Baseball or its clubs.*

[print this page](#)

[e-mail this page](#)

[RSS feeds](#)

[post on facebook](#)

**MLB.COM COMMENTS**

[Write a Comment!](#)

[Official Info](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Help/Contact Us](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)



© 2001-2009 MLB Advanced Media, L.P. All rights reserved.

The following are trademarks or service marks of Major League Baseball entities and may be used only with permission of Major League Baseball Properties, Inc. or the relevant Major League Baseball entity: Major League, Major League Baseball, MLB, the silhouetted batter logo, World Series, National League, American League, Division Series, League Championship Series, All-Star Game, and the names, nicknames, logos, uniform designs, color combinations, and slogans designating the Major League Baseball clubs and entities, and their respective mascots, events and exhibitions.

Use of the Website signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#) (updated 05.07.2009).