

Society For American Baseball Research

Baseball Records Committee

Lyle Spatz, Editor

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Not everything that counts is counted; not everything that is counted is worth counting.
—Albert Einstein

THE SABR BASEBALL LIST & RECORD BOOK

Many thanks to all the members of the Baseball Records Committee that contributed to making The SABR Baseball List & Record Book a reality. The material was sent to the publisher on January 20, and our hope is that all SABR members will be receiving a copy sometime in late February. As I've said before, this is in no way an alternative to the wonderfully informative record books and encyclopedias we all depend upon, but rather a complement to them. I trust that everyone in or out of SABR with an interest in baseball records will find it a valuable resource.

HOME RUNS AND RUNS ALLOWED BY YANKEE PITCHERS IN 1927

The 2006 Baseball Encyclopedia correctly shows that the 1927 Yankees allowed 599 runs. However, **Jeff Linkowski** noticed that if you add the runs allowed by each individual pitcher on the Yankee staff that year, the total adds to 605. Jeff, who maintains a 1927 Yankees website and is in the final stages of a book on the '27 Yanks, has identified the source of that six-run discrepancy. The official records, which he has verified and cross-checked against game summaries and and box scores, show that Dutch Ruether permitted 86 runs, not the 88 listed, and that Myles Thomas permitted 54 runs, not the 58 listed.



Dutch Ruether



Myles Thomas

RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER

There was a time when every newsletter, as many as 200, was mailed out as a hard copy. Over the years the committee membership has grown to more than 300, including an additional 1,100 listed as potential members. At the same time, thanks primarily to the efforts of **F. X. Flinn** and **Daniel Levine**, we have greatly increased the ability to send out the newsletter electronically. That has allowed us to reduce the number of hard copies to be mailed to about 50. To save on postage and copying, and to reduce the time I have to spend stuffing envelopes. I would like to reduce that number even more.

Some of you have said you have trouble downloading the newsletter as an attachment. But if you don't already know, each issue is now posted on the SABR website. Therefore, beginning with the April issue, I will be mailing a hard copy only to those committee members with no email access.

FRANK MAHAR AND TOM MAHER

Peter Morris discovered that the print and online encyclopedias have confused the playing record of Frank Mahar and Tom Maher, both of whom played briefly for the 1902 Philadelphia Phillies. Tom joined the Phillies in late April and was then released; Frank joined the team in late August. But their playing records do not appear to be correct based on the research done on them by **Bill Haber** and **Bob McConnell** and passed along to Peter by Bob.

Haber collected box scores and game accounts from four Philadelphia newspapers of Frank Mahar's debut on August 29. Each one indicated that Mahar suffered an injury during warmup, but played the first inning in left field and then was substituted for by Henry Krug. He is listed in the seventh spot in the lineup and is not credited with an at bat in any of the four box scores. Philadelphia scored one run that inning, so it is conceivable that he batted, but the accounts didn't mention it and, as Peter says, they would if he'd made an out with the bases loaded. And, as noted, all four box scores agree that he did not bat.

According to McConnell's notes, Tom Maher, appeared as a pinch hitter for Philadelphia pitcher Cy Vorsees in the sixth inning on April 24 and again in the ninth inning on April 26th, making an out each time.

So it appears that Tom Maher should have a lifetime batting record of 0-2, credit for 2 games played, and a last date of April 26. Frank Mahar should be credited with a game played in left field but no at bats. This is very different from what currently appears on retrosheet and the SABR encyclopedia, where Frank has an at bat, Tom has none and each one only played one game. I believe that what happened is that at one point their records were combined, and when they were disentangled, the playing records were not assigned to the right man.

CATCHERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE MOST PITCHING DEBUTS, 1957-2006

Chuck Rosciam used *Retrosheet* data from 1957-2006 to determine which catchers were setting the target and flashing the signals the most times for pitchers making their first big league appearance. Ausmus, Rodriguez, Lieberthal, Alomar, Kendall, and Zaun were all active in 2006.

		<u>Last time</u>	<u>Pitcher</u>	
19	Brad Ausmus	8/12/2006	Jason Hirsh	HOU vs SDN
16	Benito Santiago	5/22/2004	Zack Greinke	KCA @ OAK
15	Carlton Fisk	4/10/1993	Rod Bolton	CHA vs NYA
14	Don Slaught	5/18/1996	Shad Williams	CAL @ NYA
13	Bob Boone	8/21/1990	Jim Campbell	KCA vs MIN
12	Gary Carter	6/9/1992	Jonathan Hurst	MON vs NYM
12	Kirt Manwaring	7/21/1998	Mark Brownson	COL @ HOU
12	Joe Oliver	4/6/2001	Christian Parker	NYA vs TOR
11	Lance Parrish	7/29/1995	Giovanni Carrara	TOR vs OAK
11	Joe Girardi	5/22/2002	Mark Prior	CHN vs PIT
11	John Flaherty	4/30/2005	Chien-Ming Wang	NYA vs TOR
11	Ivan Rodriguez	6/15/2006	Jordan Tata	DET @ TEX
10	Rick Cerone	7/10/1988	Steve Curry	BOS @ CHA
10	Jim Sundberg	7/24/1989	Wilson Alvarez	TEX vs TOR
10	Terry Steinbach	8/24/1999	Jason Ryan	MIN vs BOS
9	Jerry Grote	4/14/1975	Randy Tate	NYM @ PHI
9	Darrin Fletcher	8/4/2001	Brandon Lyon	TOR vs BAL
9	Mike Lieberthal	6/1/2006	Brian Sanches	PHI @ LAN
9	Sandy Alomar Jr.	4/9/2006	Takashi Saito	LAN @ PHI
9	Jason Kendall	7/30/2006	Shane Komine	OAK vs TOR
8	Buck Rodgers	8/21/1966	Ramon Lopez	CAL @ WAS
8	Bruce Benedict	4/13/1989	Derek Lilliquist	ATL @SDN
8	Ron Karkovice	9/8/1995	Luis Andujar	CHA @ OAK
8	Tony Pena	8/1/1997	Scott Eyre	CHA @ ANA
8	Todd Hundley	8/6/2002	Steve Smyth	CHN @ SFN
8	Greg Zaun	4/27/2006	Casey Janssen	TOR vs BAL



Brad Ausmus



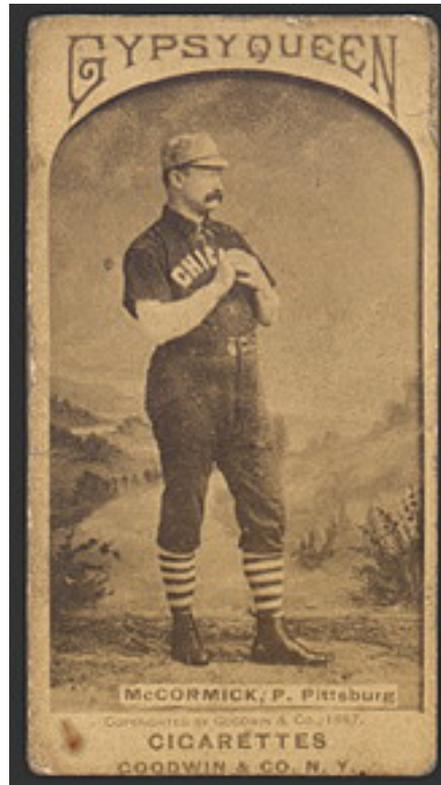
Benito Santiago

JIM MCCORMICK AND BOBBY MITCHELL

The most recent edition of Total Baseball (# 8) and the online encyclopedias show Jim McCormick with four home runs allowed in 1879, and his Cleveland teammate, Bobby Mitchell, with none. But The 2006 ESPN Baseball Encyclopedia has McCormick with three and Mitchell with one.

According to research done by **Wayne McElreav**, three for McCormick and one for Mitchell is correct. Wayne says that if you check the pitching statistics on the SABR site, they show McCormick with 4, but if you click on the 4 to see the log, only three are listed.

Due to Mitchell's total being a zero, you can't click on it. However, if you go to the batting stats of Chicago's John Peters and click on his 1879 HR total, it will show his lone home run that year came off Mitchell in the 5th inning of a game on July 31. The *Chicago Daily Tribune* of August 1 mentions Peters' homer in the fifth inning. It also mentions McCormick playing the outfield before taking over the pitching duties at the start of the sixth inning. Therefore, the home run came off Mitchell, not McCormick, and the correct totals for home runs allowed in 1879 are Jim McCormick (3), and Bobby Mitchell (1).



Jim McCormick

AN ADDITIONAL GAME-PLAYED FOUND FOR GEORGE STONE

Marty Friedrich, who recently completed a book on consecutive game playing streaks, discovered that George Stone of the St. Louis Browns had played in a game in 1905 that was left off of his day-by-day sheet. **Trent McCotter** went through Stone's 1905 sheets and found the source of the error and the statistics for the missing game.

Stone's sheets show that he played only the first game of the Browns September 30 doubleheader at Washington. Actually, Stone played in both games of the doubleheader.

He went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and a stolen base in that second game. He played left field and didn't have any chances offered.



George Stone

Here are some, but not all, of Stones corrected 1905 and career totals.

George Stone, STL AL, 1905: 155G, 635AB, 78R, 189H, 27SB, 155G(OFF-LF)

George Stone, career: 849G, 3,274AB, 428R, 986H, 133SB, 838G(OFF), 814G(LF),

CATCHING JOE MCGINNITY AND CHIEF BENDER

Walt Wilson's list of battery mates for Hall of Fame pitchers during their starts and shutouts continues with two early twentieth-century righthanders: Joe McGinnity and Chief Bender.

CATCHING JOE MCGINNITY

Joe McGinnity pitched for Baltimore (NL) 1899; Brooklyn (NL) 1900; Baltimore (AL) 1901-02; and New York (NL) 1902-08. He made 381 starts and pitched 32 shutouts.

	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Shutouts</u>
Roger Bresnahan	106	4
Frank Bowerman	83	12
John Warner	66	9
Wilbert Robinson	62	2
Duke Farrell	24	1
Aleck Smith	14	1
Deacon McGuire	13	0
Doc Marshall	4	0
Tom Needham	4	1
Pat Crisham	2	1
Boileryard Clarke	1	0
Matty Fitzgerald	1	0
Jim O'Rourke	1	0
Total	381	32

One of McGinnity's shutouts was with more than one catcher.



CATCHING CHIEF BENDER

Chief Bender pitched for Philadelphia (AL) 1903-14; Baltimore (AL) 1915; Philadelphia (NL) 1916-17; and Chicago (AL) 1925. He made 334 starts and pitched 40 shutouts.

	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Shutouts</u>
Ossee Schreckengost	85	9
Ira Thomas	76	10
Mike Powers	50	6
Wally Schang	36	8
Frank Owens	18	0
Jack Lapp	17	0
Bill Killefer	13	4
Paddy Livingston	11	1
Ed Burns	8	0
Syd Smith	8	1
Fred Jacklitsch	5	0
Pat Donahue	3	0
Bert Adams	2	0
Bert Blue	1	0
Ben Egan	1	0
Total	334	40

One of Bender's shutouts was with more than one catcher.



HERE COMES THE SUN

At this time of year, as the sun edges northward from the tropics on its trek to the vernal equinox, it emits strange signals that awaken dormant cells in the rear quadrant of the brain. Imperceptibly, the games of winter, with their claustrophobic arenas and excessive frenzies, begin to pall. Suddenly you crave what rink and court can never provide. Hot sun. Fresh air. Green grass. Red dirt. And that's when you know it for certain. The sports of the grey season are waning. It is time to contemplate... the game.

From a long ago anonymous piece in *Sports Illustrated*