

Society for American Baseball Research

Records Committee Newsletter ©

Lyle Spatz, Editor

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

Welcome to four new members of the Records Committee

Christopher Wait; 7707 College Town Drive #7; Sacramento, CA 95826; 916-386-9832.

Ed Nixon; 820 E. Cady Road H-304; Everett, WA 98203; 206-347-8984

Father Gabriel Costa; Seton Hall University; South Orange, NJ 07079; 201-783-4738

Lowell Blaisdell; 836 Skylark Drive; Denton, TX 76205; 817-382-8121

Also, changes of address for Bill Arnold; 1250 Galapago, #502; Denver, CO 80204; 303-573-5718
and David Stephan; 11824 Beatrice St.; Culver City, CA 90230-6209; 310-578-9000.

The annual Records Committee meeting will be held at the convention in Pittsburgh on Sunday morning, June 18 at eight thirty AM. In the past I have set the agenda for these meetings. For this one, I would like to leave it open for any records-related subjects that you want to discuss. We seldom get a chance, except through the newsletter, to find out what other committee members are doing. I would like to use the meeting as a chance for each of us to exchange ideas and information. If you have something specific that you would like to present at the meeting, let me know by mail or phone. The scheduled debate on the 1910-1919 protested games will take place later that morning.

I've received a couple of questions that I'm sure some committee member has the answer to.

1. Do Eddie Mathews (113) and Mickey Mantle (123) have the fewest GIDP among all the "big" (say, 450 and above) home run hitters?
2. What was Warren Spahn's lifetime ERA against the Dodgers?

In both the February and April newsletters, I discussed the Boston-Washington game of June 23, 1917, in which Babe Ruth started and got tossed out after walking the first batter. Ernie Shore relieved, the runner was caught stealing, and Shore got the next 26 outs. I said that Shore should be credited with a complete game, when I meant to say he should be credited with nine innings pitched. While several committee members informed me of my misstatement, Joe Wayman wrote to tell me that pitchers who got all the outs in a game in that era were credited with a complete game. Now Joe has sent me a copy of page 350 of the 1951 Sporting News Baseball Guide, which says.

A pitcher who failed to see any action in the game—Cloyd Boyer—was officially recorded as the starting hurler for the St. Louis Cardinals in their 6 to 2 victory at Brooklyn, September 15, 1950. Manager Eddie Dyer listed Boyer as the Redbirds' pitcher on the official lineup cards turned in to Umpire-in-Chief Dusty Boggess just before game time. Boyer, however, injured his right elbow on the last pitch of his pre-game warmup, whereupon Dyer asked permission to switch to George Munger as his hurler. Boggess granted the request under authority of Section 3.07 of the Official Playing Rules. This posed the question of whether Boyer should be included in the box score. League President Ford Frick ruled that Boyer was to be listed as the starting pitcher, although Munger was credited with hurling a complete game.

When Cy Young retired after the 1911 season he held the major-league career record for GAMES FINISHED with 84. Neil Munro has done an excellent job of putting together a chronology of this often overlooked statistic that takes us from Young down to the present leader, Lee Smith. The number next to each pitcher's name is the total he had at the end of the year in which he became the leader.

Cy Young	1909	84	Johnny Murphy	1946	277
Mordecai Brown	1911	87	Roy Face	1961	295
Doc Crandall	1912	102	Hoyt Wilhelm	1965	455
Allen Russell	1925	153	Rollie Fingers	1984	672
Firpo Marberry	1928	177	Lee Smith	1994	713

Here, from Dave Vincent, is a continuation of the roster of first home runs hit at selected major league parks. More to follow in future newsletters.

Arlington Stadium	TEX	04/21/1977	Frank Howard	TEX
The Ballpark	TEX	04/11/1994	Dave Nilsson	MIL
Exhibition Stadium	TOR	04/07/1977	Doug Ault	TOR
SkyDome	TOR	06/05/1989	Fred McGriff	TOR
Griffith Stadium	WAS	05/06/1911	Eddie Collins	PHI
DC Stadium	WAS	04/09/1962	Bob Johnson	WAS
Fulton County Stadium	ATL	04/12/1966	Joe Torre	ATL
South End Grounds	BOS	05/13/1876	George Hall	PHI
Braves Field	BOS	08/23/1915	Doc Johnston	PIT
Capitoline Grounds	BKL	06/15/1876	Jimmy Hallinan	NY
Washington Park I (AA)	BKL	05/05/1884	John Cassidy	BKL
Washington Park II (AA)	BKL	06/03/1889	Jim Burns	KC
Washington Park III	BKL	04/30/1898	Sam Thompson	PHI
Ebbets Field	BKL	04/26/1913	Casey Stengel	BKL
Olympic Park	BUF	05/27/1884	Hardy Richardson	BUF
Olympic Park II (PL)	BUF	04/19/1890	John Rainey	BUF
23rd Street Grounds	CHI	07/06/1876	Jack Reansen	HAR
Congress St. Park	CHI	06/06/1885	George Gore	CHI
Wrigley Field (FL)	CHI	04/23/1914	Art Wilson	CHI
Pendleton Grounds (AA)	CIN	04/25/1891	John Carney	CIN
Crosley Field	CIN	04/21/1912	Jimmy Esmond	CIN
Riverfront Stadium	CIN	06/30/1970	Hank Aaron	ATL
Brotherhood Park (PL)	CLE	05/21/1890	Marcus Baldwin	CHI
Mile High Stadium	COL	04/09/1993	Eric Young	COL
Coors Field	COL	04/26/1995	Rick Brogna	NY
Joe Robbie Stadium	FLA	04/05/1993	Tim Wallach	LA
South Street Park	IND	09/07/1878	Ned Williamson	IND

Chris Wait has discovered a couple of errors in Catfish Hunter's record. Chris found that Hunter's year-by-year listing in Macmillan's, The Baseball Encyclopedia, credits him with no shutouts in ALCS play. Chris points out that Hunter shut out Baltimore 3-0 in the fifth and final game of the 1973 ALCS, which Macmillan does show in the section on League Championships and World Series. The other error that Chris found appears in The Baseball Encyclopedia, Total Baseball and the Neft-Cohen Baseball Encyclopedia. All three list Hunter with 37 games started and 38 games pitched in 1972. Chris says that Hunter made two relief appearances that year and should be credited with 39 games pitched. The first relief appearance was on June 2 in the first game of a doubleheader in Baltimore. He pitched the 7th and 8th innings with no decision in a 5-1 loss. His other relief appearance came on August 11 against the White Sox. Hunter pitched the 18th and 19th innings of a suspended game from the day before and got the win. Macmillan does show him with a 1-0 record in relief. Hunter also started the regularly scheduled game that day, pitching eight innings in a 1-0 loss.

The record for Most shortstops used, extra-inning game appears on page 10 of The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book (1995 edition). The American League record is four: by Detroit vs. New York, July 28, 1957, second game, 15 innings, and by Baltimore vs. New York, September 26, 1958, 12 innings. Joe Dittmar has found another game to add to that list: Texas vs. Seattle, September 25, 1992, 16 innings. The four shortstops that the Rangers used in that game were: Cris Colon, Jeff Huson, Al Newman and Mario Diaz.

Ross Adell noticed that The 1995 TSN Record Book also fails to include the most recent National Leaguer to hit a home run in his first major league at-bat (p. 28). Ross says that although Garey Ingram of the Dodgers made his big league debut on May 15, 1994, his first at bat did not come until May 19. In that game, against Colorado at Chavez Ravine, Ingram, batting for Orel Hershiser, homered against Mike Munoz.

Often in the past, pinch hitters and pinch runners were considered as those who performed that particular function and left the game. If a player pinch-hit or pinch-ran, and then stayed in the game, he would not be listed in the box score as having been a pinch hitter or pinch runner. Lowell Blaisdell rightly claims that these omissions lead to a significant undertotaling of lifetime pinch hitting statistics, and has been attempting to track down missing pinch hitting appearances. Here are three that he found from World Series games in which a player pinch-hit (or pinch-ran), then went into the game, and is not credited in the box score with a pinch hitting appearance.

October 16, 1911--New York Giants vs Philadelphia Athletics Doc Crandall of the Giants pinch-hit for Rube Marquard in the eighth inning and then went in to pitch in the ninth.

October 25, 1911--New York Giants vs Philadelphia Athletics Doc Crandall of the Giants pinch-hit for Red Ames in the seventh inning and then went in to pitch in the eighth.

October 9, 1915--Boston Red Sox vs Philadelphia Phillies Hal Janvrin of Boston pinch-ran for catcher Pinch Thomas in the seventh inning and then went in to play shortstop in the last of the seventh.

Walt Wilson wants to correct three misstatements that he found in Phil Lowry's *Green Cathedrals*.

1. The book says that the smallest crowd ever to see a game at Fenway Park was 409 for a Red Sox game with the Angels on September 29, 1965. However, Walt found a story in the *Chicago Tribune* that says there were only 68 people at the Red Sox game with Cleveland on July 15, 1922.
2. In the famous double no-hitter of May 2, 1917, Jim Thorpe drove in the winning run in the tenth inning with an infield single, not a home run.
3. Gabby Hartnett's home run that beat the Pirates on September 28, 1938 did not clinch the pennant for the Cubs. It put them in first place by half-a-game. They clinched at St. Louis on October 1.

Walt has also come across the following two games and wonders if anyone has knowledge of any other major league game that ended in a higher-scoring tie.

May 2, 1886--Philadelphia at Brooklyn (American Association)

Brooklyn	4	2	3	1	4	0	0	5-19	23	11
Athletics	0	0	0	9	3	2	0	5-19	22	11

September 30, 1894--Cleveland at Cincinnati

Cincinnati	4	0	8	0	0	4	0	0	0-16	17	7
Cleveland	1	0	0	0	0	2	11	1	1-16	17	8

At the start of the 1995 season, here is Dave Vincent's list from the Tattersall/McConnell Home Run Log of the leading visiting and home-team home run hitters at the current major league parks.

	<u>Visitors</u>		<u>Home</u>		<u>Total</u>	
Anaheim Stadium	Reggie Jackson	18	Brian Downing	113	Brian Downing	114
The Ballpark	Ken Griffey	5	Jose Canseco	17	Jose Canseco	17
Fulton County Stadium	(1)	32	Dale Murphy	205	Dale Murphy	205
Oriole Park	Dean Palmer	7	Chris Hoiles	35	Chris Hoiles	35
Fenway Park	Babe Ruth	42	Ted Williams	248	Ted Williams	248
Wrigley Field	Willie Mays	54	Ernie Banks	290	Ernie Banks	290
Comiskey Park II	Cecil Fielder	11	Frank Thomas	82	Frank Thomas	82
Riverfront Stadium	Mike Schmidt	29	Johnny Bench	139	Johnny Bench	139
Jacobs Field	Juan Gonzalez	4	Albert Belle	21	Albert Belle	21
Tiger Stadium	Babe Ruth	60	Al Kaline	226	Al Kaline	226
Astrodome	Tony Perez	19	Jim Wynn	93	Jim Wynn	97
Kauffman Stadium	Don Baylor	17	George Brett	136	George Brett	136
Dodger Stadium	George Foster	23	Ron Cey	121	Ron Cey	123
Joe Robbie Stadium	(2)	4	Gary Sheffield	19	Gary Sheffield	20
County Stadium	Frank Robinson	35	Eddie Mathews	211	Eddie Mathews	211
HHH Metrodome	Eddie Murray	16	Kent Hrbek	156	Kent Hrbek	156
Olympic Stadium	Mike Schmidt	26	Gary Carter	98	Gary Carter	106
Yankee Stadium	Goose Goslin	32	Mickey Mantle	266	Mickey Mantle	266
Shea Stadium	(3)	26	Darryl Strawberry	123	Darryl Strawberry	126
Oakland-Alameda	Carlton Fisk	18	Reggie Jackson	133	Reggie Jackson	146
Veterans Stadium	Gary Carter	26	Mike Schmidt	265	Mike Schmidt	265
Three Rivers Stadium	Mike Schmidt	25	Willie Stargell	147	Willie Stargell	147
Jack Murphy Stadium	(4)	24	Nate Colbert	72	Nate Colbert	73
Candlestick Park	(5)	25	Willie McCovey	231	Willie McCovey	236
Kingdome	Brian Downing	19	Alvin Davis	101	Alvin Davis	101*
Busch Stadium II	Mike Schmidt	27	Ted Simmons	81	Ted Simmons	81
SkyDome	Jose Canseco	11	Joe Carter	83	Joe Carter	84
<u>Final totals for</u>						
Mile High Stadium	Dave Justice	6	Andres Galarraga	29	Andres Galarraga	29

* Ken Griffey Jr. had 89 in the Kingdome through the 1994 season.

- (1) Johnny Bench and Willie McCovey
- (2) Dave Justice, Darren Daulton and Tom Pagnozzi
- (3) Willie Stargell and Mike Schmidt
- (4) Johnny Bench and Dale Murphy
- (5) Willie Stargell and Dale Murphy

Seymour Siwoff has, in the 1995 edition of Elias's The Book of Baseball Records (p. 140), corrected the National League record for Most Games Won Home, Consecutive vs. One Club. The record is 32 by Baltimore against Louisville. According to Jim Smith, on August 21, 1893 George Hemming of Louisville beat Sadie McMahan of Baltimore, 12-9. The next time the two teams played in Baltimore was on June 7, 1894 and the Orioles, behind Bert Inks, beat the Colonels and Hemming 7-4. The Orioles won the five remaining games in Baltimore in 1894, and all six in 1895, 1896 and 1897. They played seven times in Baltimore in 1898 and the Orioles won all of those and then the first meeting in Baltimore in 1899. The next day, July 12, 1899, Louisville ended the streak at 32 as Bert Cunningham beat Jerry Nops 13-3.

Following are the batters and pitchers with the most career home runs through the 1994 season without a grand slam.

<u>Batters</u>		<u>Pitchers</u>	
Glenn Davis	190	Jim Palmer	303
Ron Kittle	176	Harvey Haddix	240
Claudell Washington	164	Jimmie Key	201
Willie Kirkland	148	Mike Krukow	196
Hector Lopez	136	Mike Boddicker	188