

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 DEMISE OF THE SPORTING NEWS RECORD BOOK AND GUIDE

A springtime ritual that for most of us dated back to our misspent youth went by the boards when we got the news last winter that there would be no *Sporting News Guide* and no *Sporting News Record and Fact Book* this year. This is terrible news for all baseball fans, but particularly so for folks like us who pay great attention to the individual, team, and league records and accomplishments.

Because of all the rumors concerning their demise, I asked **Steve Gietschier**, the Senior Managing Editor for research at TSN to tell us exactly what happened. Here is Steve's response, which discouraging as it is, ends on a hopeful note.

Early in 2007, American City Business Journals of Charlotte, North Carolina, parent company of *Sporting News*, halted publication of the *Baseball Guide* and the *Complete Baseball Record and Fact Book*. Simultaneously, ACBJ halted work on our other guides and registers and on our "coffee table" books. These decisions were taken for business reasons.

At this point, it appears that the *Guide* and the *Register* (the 2007 edition of which was published before ACBJ made its decision) will not be revived, but the company is considering several proposals to continue the *Record Book*.

Let's hope so. Steve has worked long and hard to make the book more accurate and reader-friendly since taking over as editor a few years ago. It was only going to get better.

JOHN GLAISER AND NORM GLASER

John Burke Glaiser is credited with appearing in nine games for the 1920 Detroit Tigers. But **Bob Hoie** discovered that one of those games was actually pitched by Norm Glaser. For Glaser, it was his only big league appearance, and so he must be added to the roster of those who appeared in at least one major league game. Following is a description of the mix-up taken from **Bill Carle's** January/ February *Biographical Research Committee* newsletter.

John Burke Glaiser started the 1920 season with Detroit and pitched in eight games between April 20 and May 31. He was sold to Portland of the Pacific Coast League on June 4 and pitched for them through September 10. Shortly thereafter he got married and according to local reports "decided to lay off pitching ball for the rest of the season." He was then placed on Portland's voluntary retired list, but was reinstated over the winter and assigned to Omaha.

Norman Matt Glaser was signed by Detroit in 1920 and optioned to Rocky Mount of the Virginia League. On September 11, at the end of the Virginia League season, the Tigers recalled him. Glaser pitched 2 1/3 innings in relief against Washington on September 21. This is the game that has been incorrectly credited to John Burke Glaiser.

THE SABR BASEBALL LIST & RECORD BOOK By now, all SABR members should have received their copy of The SABR Baseball List & Record Book. It's worth repeating that this is not meant as an alternative to the wonderfully informative record books and encyclopedias we all depend upon, but rather as 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.

In the hope that the *Sporting News Record and Fact Book* will indeed return, I shall continue to list updates and corrections to the 2006 edition. Here are three that **Greg Beston** found while inputting data for Retrosheet.

MOST SACRIFICE HITS, INNING (NO SACRIFICE FLIES)

The record for Most sacrifice hits, inning (no sacrifice flies) by a team is three. *The 2006 TSN Record and Fact Book* (p. 42) lists nine such happenings in the American League and seven in the National League. *The 2006 Elias Book of Baseball Records* (p. 100) has a category called Most sacrifice hits, inning which makes no mention of excluding sacrifice flies. This list has seven occurrences in each league. Greg discovered one that appears on neither list. Greg believes that the Chicago White Sox also had three in the top of the 5th inning at Cleveland on May 25, 1930. Here's how the inning started, according to the play-by-play account in the Cleveland Plain Dealer:

- Johnny Riddle singled
- Ted Lyons sacrificed but was safe on catcher Luke Sewell's error.
- Bill Hunnefield sacrificed but was safe on pitcher Jake Miller's error.
- Carl Reynolds singled scoring Riddle and Lyons.
- Art Shires sacrificed.

MOST SACRIFICE FLIES BY BOTH CLUBS, GAME

Both *The 2006 TSN Record and Fact Book* (p. 42), and *The 2006 Elias Book of Baseball Records* (p. 101) list the American and National League record for Most sacrifices flies by both clubs in a game as 5, happening many times in each league. Greg found a game that he believes had six, which would be a new American League (and major league) record. The game was on September 27, 1930, between the St. Louis Browns and Cleveland Indians, at Cleveland.* The following six sacrifice flies were hit according to the play-by-play in the Cleveland Plain Dealer:

- Ted Gullic, St. Louis, 1st inning
- Eddie Morgan, Cleveland, 1st inning
- Joe Vosmik, Cleveland, 2nd inning
- Rick Ferrell, St. Louis, 4th inning
- Joe Sprinz, Cleveland, 7th inning
- Goose Goslin, St. Louis, 9th inning

*In 1930, sacrifice flies were awarded for any runner advancement

TWO TRIPLES BY A BATTER IN AN INNING

The major league record for Most triples by a batter in an inning is two. *The 2006 TSN Record and Fact Book* (p. 20), and *The 2006 Elias Book of Baseball Records* (p. 19) agree that it has happened twice in the American League. Al Zarilla of the St. Louis Browns had two triples in the fourth inning on July 13, 1946, and Gil Coan of the Washington Senators had two in the sixth inning on April 21, 1951.

However, when Greg was reading the July 14, 1946 *New York Times* article describing the previous day's game where Zarilla accomplished the feat, the *Times* wrote that Zarilla "tied a 24-year-old American League record by swatting two triples. First to perform this feat, on May 8, 1922, was Charlie Jamieson of the Cleveland Indians."

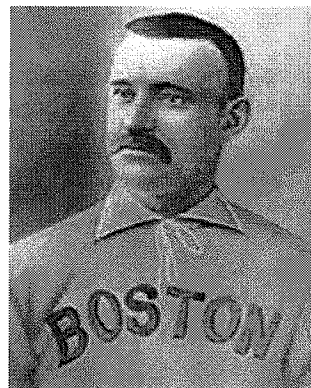
A check with **Dave Smith** of *Retrosheet* confirmed that Jamieson did hit two in that May 8, 1922 game against Philadelphia. But they came in separate innings, the first and the fifth, so evidently the Times had confused most triples in a game with most triples in an inning.



PITCHERS WHO COMPLETED 90 PERCENT OF THEIR STARTS (Minimum of 200 Starts)

John O'Malley supplied this list, one that is highly unlikely ever to add a new member. The years listed are the first and last and are not necessarily continuous.

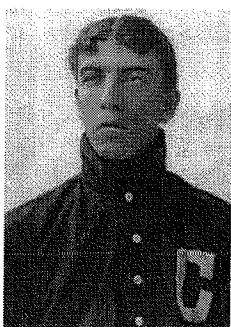
Pitcher	Years	GS	CG	PCT.
Jack Lynch	1881-1890	216	214	99.07
Will White	1877-1886	401	394	98.25
Henry Porter	1884-1889	206	201	97.57
Jack W. Taylor	1898-1907	287	279	97.213
Charley Radbourn	1881-1891	502	488	97.211
Guy Hecker	1882-1890	322	312	96.84
Ed Morris	1884-1890	307	297	96.74
Bob Caruthers	1884-1892	310	298	96.13
Jim McCormick	1878-1887	485	466	96.08
Hardie Henderson	1883-1888	206	197	95.631
Mickey Welch	1880-1892	549	525	95.628
Larry Corcoran	1880-1887	268	256	95.52
Jim Whitney	1881-1890	396	377	95.20
Charlie Getzien	1884-1892	292	277	94.86
Dupee Shaw	1883-1888	207	196	94.69
Kid Nichols	1890-1906	562	532	94.66
Jim Galvin	1879-1892	681	639	93.83
John Healy	1885-1892	222	208	93.69
Tommy Bond	1876-1884	314	294	93.631
John Clarkson	1882-1894	518	485	93.629
Dave Foutz	1884-1894	216	202	93.52
John Ward	1878-1884	262	245	93.51
Toad Ramsey	1885-1890	241	225	93.36
Tim Keefe	1880-1893	594	554	93.27
Scott Stratton	1888-1895	214	199	92.99
Tony Mullane	1881-1894	504	468	92.86
Bill Hutchison	1884-1897	346	321	92.77
Stump Wiedman	1880-1888	269	249	92.57
George Bradley	1876-1884	265	245	92.45
Bert Cunningham	1887-1901	311	287	92.28
Amos Rusie	1889-1901	427	393	92.04
Cy Young	1890-1911	815	749	91.90
Noodles Hahn	1899-1906	231	212	91.77
Red Donahue	1893-1906	340	312	91.76
Bobby Mathews	1876-1887	315	289	91.75
Sadie McMahon	1889-1897	305	279	91.46
Clark Griffith	1891-1914	372	337	90.59
Matt Kilroy	1886-1898	292	264	90.41
Adonis Terry	1884-1897	406	367	90.39
Kid Gleason	1888-1895	266	240	90.23
Addie Joss	1902-1910	260	234	90.00



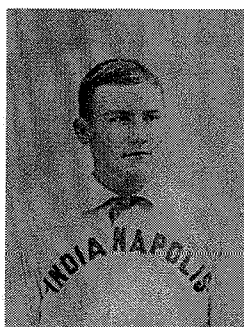
Charley Radbourn



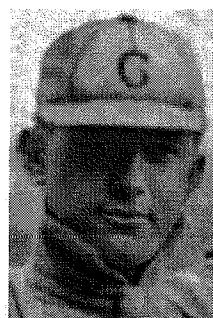
Guy Hecker



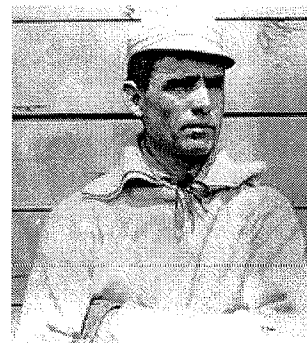
Addie Joss



Amos Rusie



Noodles Hahn



Clark Griffith

CATCHING BOB FELLER AND HAL NEWHOUSER

Walt Wilson's list of battery mates for Hall of Fame pitchers during their starts and shutouts continues with two of the American League's best from the late 1930's to the mid-1950s: righthander Bob Feller and lefthander Hal Newhouser.

CATCHING BOB FELLER

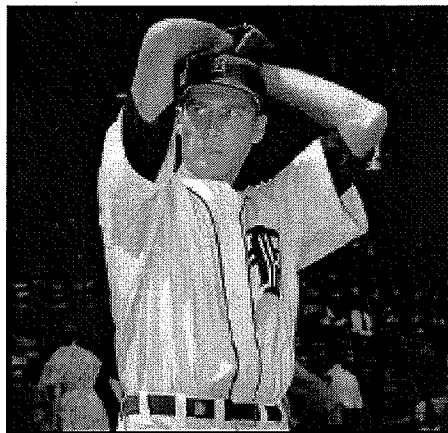
Bob Feller pitched for Cleveland (AL) 1936-41; 1945-56. He made 484 starts and pitched 44 shutouts.

	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Shutouts</u>
Jim Hegan	241	22
Rollie Hemsley	115	13
Frankie Pytlak	32	0
Frankie Hayes	25	5
Gene DeSautels	17	3
Joe Tipton	14	1
Greek George	8	0
Joe Ginsberg	7	0
Hal Naragon	7	0
Birdie Tebbetts	6	0
Ray Murray	4	0
Earl Averill Jr.	2	0
Hank Foiles	2	0
Billy Sullivan Jr.	2	0
Sherm Lollar	1	0
Mike Tresh	1	0
Total	484	44

CATCHING HAL NEWHOUSER

Hal Newhouser pitched for Detroit (AL) 1939-53; and Cleveland (AL) 1954-55. He made 374 starts and pitched 33 shutouts.

	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Shutouts</u>
Paul Richards	97	15
Bob Swift	74	7
Birdie Tebbetts	58	4
Aaron Robinson	42	2
Joe Ginsberg	29	3
Billy Sullivan Jr.	21	1
Hal Wagner	20	0
Dixie Parsons	13	1
Matt Batts	7	0
Hank Riebe	7	0
Al Unser	3	0
Johnny Bucha	2	0
Jim Hegan	1	0
Total	374	33



SABR 37 IN ST. LOUIS

SABR will return to the Adams Mark Hotel in downtown St. Louis, Missouri, July 26 to 29, 2007. The Adams Mark hosted the 1992 convention when SABR was last in St. Louis.

The Records Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, the 27th, at one pm. Please email me with anything you think worthy of inclusion on the agenda.

