

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

From The Chairman: Welcome to two new members: David Stephan, 1248 South La Jolla Ave., Los Angeles, CA, 213-655-5556 and Bill Gilbert, 5113 Glen Haven Drive, Baytown, TX, 713-424-1168. David has done a great deal of research into compiling and verifying batting streaks of 20 or more games. Bill has written for several baseball publications, and is now working for Tal Smith on arbitration hearings.

Please make the following updates to your rosters. Disregard the phone number for Rick Johnson given in the last newsletter, Rick's number is correct as shown in the committee roster, 310-493-0449. Abbey Garber is now living at 18820 Fortson Ave., Dallas, TX, 214-867-5881.

Many thanks to those of you who sent me corrections for the White Paper. I've put them all into a simple narrative format, describing the errors and showing the effects of the corrections. The manuscript is now in the hands of SABR Publications Director, Mark Alvarez, who is attempting to have it printed, and distributed to every SABR member sometime this winter.

I wrote in the last newsletter of a fear that we are being "brainwashed" by the owners and the television people into thinking and talking, not about a League Championship Series, and a World Series, but instead about an entity called the "post-season". The purpose for this, I believe, is to pave the way for the eventual institution of another round of playoffs. Many of you responded with your own examples of references to meaningless, media created "post-season" records.

I am, however, bothered by the fact that while everyone who wrote to me opposed another round of playoffs (even more so if it involved a "wild-card" team) many of you seemed resigned to its inevitability. Now I grant you that we have all many times said to ourselves, "the owners couldn't possibly do something so stupid", only to see them do it. But perhaps the time has come to stop meekly accepting every insult to our baseball intelligence. Although just being fans would be enough reason for us to oppose this destruction of the most exciting thing in sport, the pennant race; we in SABR have an additional obligation to resist any attempt to dilute the integrity of the historical record. So much of baseball's memorable moments and legendary games have to do with a down-to-the-wire pennant race. Would the home runs of Gabby Hartnett in 1938, Bobby Thomson in 1951, and Bucky Dent in 1978 (just to name a few) resonate in our collective memories if the second-place team in those races had also gotten into the "post-season"? Would David Halberstam have written a book about the "Summer of '49" if both the Yankees and the Red Sox made the playoffs?

We are a large organization, one that is continually gaining in influence with the baseball "establishment". I believe no better use of that influence can be made, than that involving the preservation of the character of the game. I appeal to the elected leadership of SABR to do so.

John Schwartz has furnished a list of the top fifteen relief pitchers in number of games finished, through 1992.

1. Rollie Fingers	709	6. Sparky Lyle	634	11. Dan Quisenberry	553
2. Jeff Reardon	655	7. Lee Smith	618	12. Mike Marshall	549
3. Hoyt Wilhelm	651	8. Gene Garber	609	13. Tug McGraw	541
4. Rich Gossage	648	9. Lindy McDaniel	577	14. Bruce Sutter	512
5. Kent Tekulve	638	10. Elroy Face	574	15. Don McMahon	506

On the subject of games finished by relievers, Jim Weigand says that in 1992 Jeff Montgomery finished the first 56 games in which he appeared. Jim thinks that this is probably a record. It well may be, however, I doubt that if in the future when one hears of 56 consecutive games, the name Jeff Montgomery will come to mind.

According to Jim Troisi, there are only thirteen major league teams that led their respective leagues in batting, pitching, and fielding. Two of them, New York in 1885, and Cleveland in 1906 failed to win pennants.

1882 Cincinnati	(AA)	1906 Cleveland	(AL)
1884 St. Louis	(UA)	1910 Philadelphia	(AL)
1885 New York	(NL)	1944 St. Louis	(NL)
1888 St. Louis	(AA)	1945 Chicago	(NL)
1890 Louisville	(AA)	1946 St. Louis	(NL)
1904 New York	(NL)	1948 Cleveland	(AL)
1906 Chicago	(NL)		

The following lists are from the Tattersall/McConnell Home Run Log, and were supplied, as usual, by Dave Vincent.

Batters with the most extra-inning home runs, and pitchers who have allowed the most extra-inning home runs. Both lists are through 1992.

<u>Batters</u>		<u>Pitchers</u>	
Willie Mays	22	Elroy Face	21
Jack Clark	18	Willie Hernandez	15
Babe Ruth	16	Hoyt Wilhelm	14
Frank Robinson	16	Lindy McDaniel	13
Hank Aaron	15	Rollie Fingers	13
Jimmie Foxx	14	Johnny Sain	12
Mickey Mantle	14	Dick Radatz	12
Ted Williams	13	Don McMahon	10
Willie Stargell	12	Gaylord Perry	10
Stan Musial	11	Bruce Sutter	10
Harmon Killebrew	11	Aurelio Lopez	10
Graig Nettles	11	Jeff Reardon	10
Lance Parrish	11		

Pitchers With Most Lifetime Home Runs

Wes Ferrell	37	John Clarkson	24	Dizzy Trout	19
Bob Lemon	35	Bob Gibson	24	Cy Young	18
Warren Spahn	35	Walter Johnson	23	Jim Kaat	16
Red Ruffing	34	Milt Pappas	20	Schoolboy Rowe	16
Earl Wilson	33	Jack Stivetts	20	Jim Tobin	16
Don Drysdale	29	Jack Harshman	19		

Top Home Run Totals By One Batter vs One Pitcher

<u>Batter</u>	<u>Pitcher</u>	<u>Total</u>
Duke Snider	Robin Roberts	19
Willie Mays	Warren Spahn	18
Babe Ruth	Rube Walberg	17
Stan Musial	Warren Spahn	17
Hank Aaron	Don Drysdale	17
Jimmie Foxx	Red Ruffing	16
Jimmie Foxx	General Crowder	16
Jimmie Foxx	Tommy Bridges	16
Jimmie Foxx	Ted Lyons	15
Willie Mays	Vern Law	15
Ernie Banks	Robin Roberts	15
Babe Ruth	Hooks Dauss	14
Lou Gehrig	Earl Whitehill	14
Lou Gehrig	Lloyd Brown	14
Jimmie Foxx	Willis Hudlin	14
Jimmie Foxx	Lefty Gomez	14
Eddie Mathews	Bob Friend	14
Hank Aaron	Claude Osteen	14
Babe Ruth	Howard Ehmke	13
Babe Ruth	Milt Gaston	13
Babe Ruth	Lefty Stewart	13
Lou Gehrig	George Blaeholder	13
Jimmie Foxx	Bump Hadley	13
Mel Ott	Lon Warneke	13
Gil Hodges	Murry Dickson	13
Roy Campanella	Robin Roberts	13
Mickey Mantle	Early Wynn	13
Eddie Mathews	Robin Roberts	13
Willie Mays	Don Drysdale	13
Rocky Colavito	Ralph Terry	13
Frank Howard	Dave McNally	13

The following two lists are a bit esoteric, but nonetheless interesting. The one on the left is of those pitchers who gave up the most "only" home runs, e.g., six players who had only one career home run, hit that one HR off Ferguson Jenkins. The list on the right side is of those pitchers who gave up the most career # 1 home runs by a player.

Most Only HR's

Ferguson Jenkins	6
Ed Reulbach	6
Tommy Bond	5
George Mogridge	5
Guy Bush	4
Frank Foreman	4
Dennis Martinez	4
Ken Raffensberger	4
George Suggs	4
Frank Sullivan	4

Most First HR's

Will White	19
Cy Young	16
Tommy Bond	15
Ferguson Jenkins	15
Phil Niekro	15
Robin Roberts	14
Don Sutton	14
Early Wynn	14
Larry Corcoran	13
Curt Simmons	13

RECORDS POTPOURRI: There is some dispute concerning a game played on September 18, 1890, between Pittsburgh and Cleveland of the National League. An effort is being made, led by Frank Williams and Bill Deane, to determine if this was a league game or an exhibition game. The game was played in Canton, Ohio, however it was not particularly unusual, at that time, for league games to be played in non-league cities. Cleveland won the game behind the pitching of Cy Young. If any of you, particularly those in the Cleveland area, have access to a Canton newspaper of the day it would be greatly appreciated if you could determine the status of this game.

Jerry Gregory has added the name of Bob Kennedy to the list of those players who saw active duty in two wars. As did Ted Williams and Jerry Coleman, Kennedy served in World War II and Korea.

John O'Malley has spent many years researching the career of the great nineteenth century pitcher, Tim Keefe. Recently, John uncovered what he believes are some minor errors in Keefe's record for 1883. In that year, Keefe was a member of the American Association's New York Mets, where he compiled a won-lost record of 41-27.

	<u>Shown as</u>	<u>Should be</u>
Hits allowed	486	488
Bases on balls	98	108
Strikeouts	361	359

Since 1946, only the following eight pitchers have had, in any one season, a winning record against each of the other clubs in their league. Only one, Whitey Ford, has done it since expansion, and that in 1961, expansion's first year. No one has done it since divisional play was instituted in 1969. This list was compiled by Herm Krabbenhoft.

<u>Dave Ferriss</u>	<u>Randy Gumpert</u>	<u>Ewell Blackwell</u>	<u>Vic Raschi</u>
<u>BOS (AL) 1946</u>	<u>NY (AL) 1946</u>	<u>CIN (NL) 1947</u>	<u>NY (AL) 1950</u>
CHI 4-1	BOS 1-0	BOS 4-3	BOS 3-2
CLE 3-1	CHI 2-1	BKL 3-1	CHI 3-1
DET 6-0	CLE 1-0	CHI 3-1	CLE 3-1
NY 4-0	DET 2-1	NY 2-1	DET 3-2
PHI 3-2	PHI 2-1	PHI 3-1	PHI 5-1
STL 4-1	STL 1-0	PIT 5-0	STL 2-1
<u>WAS 1-0</u>	<u>WAS 2-0</u>	<u>STL 2-1</u>	<u>WAS 2-0</u>
25-6	11-3	22-8	21-8

<u>Preacher Roe</u>	<u>Carl Erskine</u>	<u>Don Newcombe</u>	<u>Whitey Ford</u>
<u>BKL (NL) 1951</u>	<u>BKL (NL) 1953</u>	<u>BKL (NL) 1956</u>	<u>NY (AL) 1961</u>
BOS 3-1	CHI 2-1	CHI 6-1	BAL 4-1
CHI 2-0	CIN 1-0	CIN 2-1	BOS 3-1
CIN 3-1	MIL 3-2	MIL 2-1	CHI 2-1
NY 2-1	NY 3-1	NY 4-2	CLE 2-0
PHI 3-0	PHI 2-0	PHI 3-2	DET 3-0
PIT 2-0	PIT 3-0	PIT 6-0	KC 4-0
<u>STL 7-0</u>	<u>STL 6-2</u>	<u>STL 4-0</u>	LA 2-0
22-3	20-6	27-7	MIN 2-1
			<u>WAS 3-0</u>
			25-4

Ferris, Raschi, Erskine, and Ford also had a winning record in that year's World Series.