

# Society for American Baseball Research Records Committee Newsletter ©

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Lyle Spatz, Editor

February 1996



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

---Albert Einstein

The Records Committee welcomes Thomas Assicurato; 2026 Yates Avenue; Bronx, NY 10461; 718-823-7872, Mike Attiyeh; 1 Independence Court; Piscataway, NJ 08854; 908-463-8110, and Ev Cope; 317 E. Mendenhall; Bozeman, MT 59715; 406-586-3440.  
A new address for Hiroshi Takagi; 2-21-26-602 Shihiguchi; Fukui-shi, Fukui 910, Japan

The SABR Nominations Committee would like to remind everyone that the limit of three candidates per SABR-office has been lifted. Therefore, anyone interested in running for vice president, secretary, or the Board of Directors, should notify a member of the committee by February 15. The members are Jim Overmyer, of Massachusetts (413-637-3306), Dick Thompson, of Massachusetts (508-697-9369), and Andy McCue, of California (909-787-4954).

Let me correct an error from the last newsletter on the subject of Hitting Home Runs From Both Sides of Plate in One Game. Bobby Bonilla does not belong on that list. Bonilla's two home runs for the Mets against St. Louis on April 6, 1992 came off Jose DeLeon and Lee Smith, both right-handers. Thanks to Dave Vincent and Ken Samelson for spotting the error.

Thanks also to Ted DiTullio, Greg Beston, and Bob Hoie for identifying Mike Kinnunen (with 48) as the pitcher who appeared in the most career games without ever having a decision. Greg also found an omission on page 136 of The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book (1995 edition). Along with Jimmy Dykes and Dick Williams, the Most Clubs Managed Career, Since 1900 should include John McNamara who managed Oakland, San Diego, Cincinnati, California, Boston, and Cleveland.

Here's an "I wonder" question from Tim Kurkjian. The one-season records for Most Times With Four or More Strikeouts in a Game belong to: NL--Dick Allen (7); AL--Reggie Jackson and Bobby Darwin (5). The career records belong to: NL--Dick Allen (13); AL--Mickey Mantle (10); ML--Dick Allen (15). Tim wondered if somehow the record books have let Rob Deer slip through the cracks on these records. I checked with Al Blumkin who faithfully follows Deer's "accomplishments," but Al said he tracked Deer only by season and not by individual games. Any other Deer-trackers out there? Al did inform me that the Cardinals were the first team since the 1957 Kansas City A's not to have a pitcher with enough innings to qualify for the ERA title.

I noticed that in Total Baseball's listing of umpires they list the first year for the American League's Dan Morrison as 1984; he actually started in 1983.

The reaction was mixed on whether Ferdie Schupp deserves to be recognized as the National League's earned-run-leader in 1916. Schupp, who pitched for the Giants that year, had an ERA of 0.90, with eight complete games and 140 innings-pitched. Without going into the arguments that they made (all reasonable and persuasive) Norman Macht, Bob Hoie and Joe Wayman said yes; Ralph Horton and Lowell Blaisdell said no.

Here is some very good news for all of us who do baseball research. David Nemecek is nearing completion of an encyclopedia devoted entirely to the nineteenth century. David says the statistical part will look more like Neft-Cohen than Total Baseball or The Baseball Encyclopedia, but there will be other goodies, like the following list of

Nineteenth Century Players Who Batted Below .200 While Playing In At Least 100 Games

	<u>Year</u>		<u>G</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>BAV</u>			<u>Year</u>		<u>G</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>BAV</u>
Joe Gerhardt	1885	NY NL	112	399	.155	Henry Easterday	1888	KC AA	115	401	.190	
Jim Canavan	1892	CHI NL	118	439	.166	Ed Kennedy	1884	NY AA	103	378	.190	
Charlie Bastian	1885	PHI NL	103	389	.167	Germany Smith	1890	BKL NL	129	481	.191	
Ben Conroy	1890	PHI AA	117	404	.171	Bill Greenwood	1888	BAL AA	115	409	.191	
Jim Lillie	1886	KC NL	114	416	.175	Harry Lyons	1888	STL AA	123	499	.194	
Jack Boyle	1892	NY NL	120	436	.183	John Morrill	1888	BOS NL	135	486	.198	
Milt Scott	1886	BAL AA	137	484	.190	Patsy Cahill	1886	STL NL	125	463	.199	
Joe Gerhardt	1886	NY NL	123	426	.190	Bill Muldoon	1886	BAL AA	101	381	.199	

Also, David is trying to construct the evolution of the pre-Karl Spooner record for most strikeouts by a pitcher in his first major league game. He would appreciate receiving any input in this chronology.

Back in August I published a list that Frank Williams had seen in a newspaper under the heading of Baseball's Fastest Starts. Frank said that this list did not include the National League Boston club that won their first nine games in 1888, and suspected there were other teams missing. Correctly so. In the October newsletter, both Ralph Horton and Jim Smith responded that the Union Association's St. Louis Unions won their first 20 games in 1884. Now Jim would like to add the 1884 New York Giants who won their first twelve games. Below is a revised list of Baseball's Fastest Starts.

STL (U) 1884 20-0	OAK (A) 1981 11-0	BOS (N) 1888 9-0	DET (A) 1984 9-0
ATL (N) 1982 13-0	BKL (N) 1955 10-0	NY (N) 1918 9-0	PHI (N) 1915 8-0
NY (N) 1884 12-0	PIT (N) 1962 10-0	BKL (N) 1940 9-0	CIN (N) 1980 8-0
MIL (A) 1987 12-0	CLE (A) 1966 10-0	STL (A) 1944 9-0	CHI (A) 1982 8-0

John Schwartz wrote to dispute three items in the encyclopedias.

1. In the Total Baseball summary of the Temple Cup (page 292). Cleveland is shown with a total of nine batter strikeouts. The individual totals of Harry Blake (2), Patsy Tebeau (1), Cy Young (1), and Chief Zimmer (4), adds to only eight, which TB acknowledges and says that research has failed to turn up the missing strikeout. However, John says that Zimmer actually had a combined five strikeouts, all of which came in Games four and five according to play-by-play in the Washington Post. Total Baseball, in their World Series Register (page 496) also shows Zimmer with five. But before you conclude that we have now found the missing strikeout, it turns out that Tebeau is shown with no strikeouts in the World Series Register (page 493).

2. Elmer Gedeon (yes that Elmer Gedeon) made his debut with the Washington Senators on September 18, 1939. According to both Total Baseball, The Baseball Encyclopedia, and Neft-Cohen, he played in five games and had one run-batted-in. John says a thorough review of Gedeon's five games shows that he had no RBI's, and that perhaps one of his teammates was given one less RBI than he deserves.

3. John believes that the one walk credited to Walter Johnson as a batter in 1907 is incorrect. His research reveals no walks for Johnson.

Below is Dave Vincent's list of the five leading home run hitters by letter of the alphabet. It's one of many lists that Dave has generously shared with us from the Tattersall/McConnell Home Run Log. Dave sent this one last fall, and Joe Dittmar and I have tried to update it to include 1995. For instance, Chili Davis's 20 home runs in 1995 moves him ahead of Larry Doby into fourth place among the "D's". Speaking of the "D's," some of you may have seen a list of the top man for each letter in the January 1996 Baseball Digest. They were mistaken on "D" having Joe DiMaggio on top instead of Dawson. One more caveat, we caught Eddie Murray moving ahead of Stan Musial into fifth place among the "M's" but it's possible that there are others who may have hit enough home runs in 1995 to now be on the list. If you are aware any, please let me know.

Hank Aaron	755	Reggie Jackson	563	Mike Schmidt	548
Dick Allen	351	Bob Johnson	288	Willie Stargell	475
Joe Adcock	336	Deron Johnson	245	Duke Snider	407
Bob Allison	256	Howard Johnson	228	Ron Santo	342
Tony Armas	251	Jackie Jensen	199	Roy Sievers	318
Ernie Banks	512	Harmon Killebrew	573	Frank J. Thomas	286
Johany Bench	389	Dave Kingman	442	Gorman Thomas	268
Yogi Berra	358	Al Kaline	399	Bobby Thomson	264
Don Baylor	338	Ralph Kiner	369	Andre Thornton	253
Bobby Bonds	332	Chuck Klein	300	Joe Torre	252
Orlando Cepeda	379	Greg Luzinski	307	Willie Upshaw	123
Norm Cash	377	Fred Lynn	306	Del Unser	87
Rocky Colavito	374	Chet Lemon	215	Ted Uhlaender	36
Jack Clark	340	Ernie Lombardi	190	Billy Urbanski	19
Gary Carter	324	Tony Lazzeri	178	Jose Uribe	19
Andre Dawson	436	Willie Mays	660	Mickey Vernon	172
Joe DiMaggio	361	Mickey Mantle	536	Andy Van Slyke	164
Brian Downing	275	Willie McCovey	521	Greg Vaughn	138
Chili Davis	270	Eddie Mathews	512	Ellis Valentine	123
Larry Doby	253	Eddie Murray	479	Mo Vaughn	111
Darrell Evans	414	Graig Nettles	390	Ted Williams	521
Dwight Evans	385	Bill Nicholson	235	Dave Winfield	465
Del Ennis	288	Jim Northrup	153	Billy Williams	426
Bob Elliott	170	Matt Nokes	136	Jim Wynn	291
Mike Epstein	130	Bob Nieman	125	Vic Wertz	266
Jimmie Foxx	534	Mel Ott	511	Carl Yastrzemski	452
Carlton Fisk	376	Ben Oglivie	235	Rudy York	277
George Foster	348	Tony Oliva	220	Robin Yount	251
Cecil Fielder	250	Al Oliver	219	Eddie Yost	139
Ron Fairly	215	Amos Otis	193	Steve Yeager	102
Lou Gehrig	493	Tony Perez	379	Gus Zernial	237
Hank Greenberg	331	Dave Parker	339	Richie Zisk	207
Gary Gaetti	292	Boog Powell	339	Don Zimmer	91
Steve Garvey	272	Lance Parrish	324	Todd Zeile	84
Joe Gordon	253	Larry Parrish	256	Al Zarilla	61
Frank Howard	382	Jamie Quirk	43		
Gil Hodges	370	Joe Quinn	29		
Willie Horton	325	Ray Quinones	29		
Rogers Hornsby	301	Luis Quinones	19		
Kent Hrbek	293	Carlos Quintana	19		
Pete Incaviglia	183	Babe Ruth	714		
Monte Irvin	99	Frank Robinson	586		
Mike Ivie	81	Jim Rice	382		
Garth Iorg	20	Cal Ripken	327		
Charlie Irwin	16	Brooks Robinson	268		

By the way, Joe has compiled a list of the alphabetical leader for most hits and most games won. (We've had an awful lot of snow back here.) If you are interested, send Joe a SASE.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Walt Wilson has been carefully evaluating major league pitching statistics, especially Games Started. Some of the corrections to the errors that Walt discovered have gotten into the latest versions of each of the three encyclopedias, but most have not. I received a list from Pete Palmer verifying a large group of Walt's discoveries, and will print several of them in each newsletter. Thanks too to Joe Wayman, who has been studying pitching stats for years and lent his expertise to both Walt and Pete.

New York (AA)--1886 A start and loss mistakenly given to Al Mays on Sept. 10 should go to Ed Cushman. Give Al Mays 40 Games Started and change his Won-Lost record to 11-27.  
Give Ed Cushman 38 Games Started and change his Won-Lost record to 17-21.

St. Louis (AA)--1887 The game of June 19 had been listed as a 23-0 St. Louis victory, and a combined shutout. However, the final score was actually 23-4, so the correct number of shutouts for St. Louis is six.

Washington (NL)--1886 A start mistakenly given to Tony Madigan on July 16 should go to Bob Barr with Madigan in relief. Madigan keeps the loss.  
Give Barr 23 G, 23 GS, 191 2/3 IP, 221 H, 153 R, 94 ER.  
Give Madigan 13 GS, 1 GF, 114 2/3 IP, 154 H, 110 R, 62 ER.

Washington (NL)--1888 This is a correction in the shutout totals for Jim Whitney and Hank O'Day. Give Jim Whitney three shutouts and Hank O'Day two shutouts. (It was reversed.)

Philadelphia (NL)--1901 A game pitched by Bill Duggleby on July 27 has been mistakenly shown as being pitched by Red Donahue. The correct 1901 season totals for Duggleby and Donahue should read:

	G	GS	CG	GF	SV	SHO	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	HB	SO	WP
Duggleby	35	29	26	6	0	5	20	12	284.2	302	120	91	9	41	10	95	1
Donahue	34	33	33	1	1	1	20	13	295.1	299	111	85	2	59	9	88	3

Boston (NL)--1902 In a game played on June 24, Dad Hale is listed as the starting and losing pitcher, with Mal Eason pitching one inning in relief. That should be reversed. The correct 1901 season totals for Hale (with Boston) and Eason (with Boston) should read:

	G	GS	CG	GF	SV	SHO	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	HB	SO	WP
Hale	8	5	3	3	0	0	1	3	40.0	57	38	27	1	16	1	11	0
Eason	27	27	20	0	0	2	9	12	223.1	249	100	69	4	61	12	51	6

One more item from Walt--Nine pitchers have thrown shutouts in their first two major-league games. But Walt discovered that George McQuillan of the 1907 Phillies threw shutouts in his first three major-league starts (his first appearance was in relief), and wonders if any other pitcher has shutouts in his first three starts.

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