

Society for American Baseball Research Baseball Records Committee Newsletter

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

—Albert Einstein

Newly-discovered Batting Streaks

This remarkable discovery from the nineteenth century is from Frank Williams. Frank found 19 of these consecutive-game batting streaks while going over selected ICI sheets. The other two, those of Cal McVey and Dick Higham, were deduced from John Tattersall's collection of 1876 box scores.

Frank says that these 21 streaks have never before appeared in any record book or encyclopedia. He also wants to emphasize that his research was selective as to both years and teams. He concentrated primarily, though not exclusively, on Boston teams and the post-1889 National League. Therefore, he feels that there are other nineteenth-century hitting streaks still to be discovered.

It was during Cal McVey's streak, says Frank, that he became the only player to have six hits in each of two consecutive games (July 22 and July 25). McVey went six-for-seven in each of those games.

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>GAMES</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BEGAN</u>	<u>ENDED</u>
CAL MCVEY	CHI (NL)	30	1876	JUNE 1	AUG. 8
MONTE WARD	BKL (PL)	28	1890	JUNE 26	JULY 26
HUGH DUFFY	BOS (NL)	27	1893	MAY 22	JUNE 21
HUGH DUFFY	BOS (NL)	26	1895	JULY 29	AUG. 27
HERMAN LONG	BOS (NL)	26	1897	JUNE 7	JULY 9
JIMMY BANNON	BOS (NL)	25	1894	JULY 30	AUG. 29
HUGH JENNINGS	BAL (NL)	25	1897	JULY 19	AUG. 17
JESSE BURKETT	CLE (NL)	25	1897	SEPT. 2	OCT. 2
DICK HIGHAM	HAR (NL)	24	1876	AUG. 12	OCT. 21
HERMAN LONG	BOS (NL)	23	1895	SEPT. 2	SEPT. 24
JIMMY COLLINS	BOS (NL)	23	1897	AUG. 17	SEPT. 10
HUGH DUFFY	BOS (NL)	22	1894	MAY 17	JUNE 13
BILL SHINDLE	PHI (PL)	21	1890	AUG. 7	AUG. 30
JIM O'ROURKE	NY (PL)	21	1890	AUG. 26	SEPT. 22
TOM BROWN	BOS (AA)	21	1891	MAY 31	JUNE 30
JIMMY BANNON	BOS (NL)	21	1895	MAY 11	JUNE 11
CHICK STAHL	BOS (NL)	21	1897	SEPT. 4	OCT. 2
ED DELAHANTY	PHI (NL)	21	1897	JUNE 22	JULY 14
BILLY HAMILTON	BOS (NL)	21	1898	MAY 10	JUNE 6
MIKE TIERNAN	NY (NL)	20	1891	MAY 2	MAY 27
NAP LAJOIE	PHI (NL)	20	1897	MAY 8	MAY 31

Running on empty

That is the title Bob Davids gives to his list of Players Who Hit a Triple and Then Stole Home. I wonder if any of them did it on consecutive pitches.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LG</u>	<u>PLAYERS</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>SITE</u>	<u>INN</u>	<u>COMMENT</u>
7/13/1899	N	SAM MERTES	CHI	BOS	BOS	1	
7/08/1910	A	BERT DANIELS	NY	CHI	NY	6	
7/12/1911	A	PATSY DOUGHERTY	CHI	BOS	CHI	3	
4/23/1913	N	ED KONETCHY	STL	PIT	STL	4	
8/22/1914	A	TRIS SPEAKER	BOS	CLE	BOS	5	
4/30/1924	N	RABBIT MARANVILLE	PIT	CHI	CHI	14	WON GAME
8/22/1924	A	FRANK O'ROURKE	DET	NY	NY	12	WON GAME
6/09/1927	A	BABE RUTH	NY	CHI	CHI	6	
4/19/1928	N	JIMMY WILSON	PHI	BKL	PHI	2	
7/21/1930	A	CHARLIE GEHRINGER	DET	PHI	DET	5	
8/17/1931	A	GERALD WALKER	DET	NY	DET	1	
8/02/1936	A	JESSE HILL	WAS	DET	DET	9	
9/11/1936	N	DON GUTTERIDGE	STL	BKL	BKL	7	1 ST DH
5/20/1942	A	LOU BLAIR	PHI	DET	DET	9	WON GAME
7/29/1943	A	THURMAN TUCKER	CHI	WAS	WAS	4	
8/28/1945	N	TOMMY BROWN	BKL	PHI	BKL	5	AGE 17
8/29/1947	A	FRED HUTCHINSON	DET	STL	STL	3	PITCHER
5/26/1955	N	DON NEWCOMBE	BKL	PIT	PIT	9	PITCHER
6/04/1960	A	CHICO FERNANDEZ	DET	CLE	CLE	10	
8/03/1962	N	MAURY WILLS	LA	CHI	CHI	4	
9/01/1963	N	CURT SIMMONS	STL	PHI	PHI	2	PITCHER
6/30/1965	N	JIM WYNN	HOU	SF	HOU	8	
8/29 1965	N	TONY TAYLOR	PHI	LA	PHI	3	
7/25/1970	N	CESAR CEDENO	HOU	CHI	CHI	8	TIED GAME
4/08/1984	N	RYNE SANDBERG	CHI	SD	SD	10	WON GAME
6/29/1984	N	STEVE SAX	LA	CHI	LA	1	
6/24/1995	A	JON NUNNALLY	KC	TOR	TOR	5	

Pitchers who completed what they started

This list, submitted by John O'Malley, is not likely to grow. It contains those pitchers who started at least 250 games and completed at least 90% of them. Each one began his career in the 19th century. John used the 4th edition of *Total Baseball* as his source.

<u>PITCHER</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>GS</u>	<u>CG</u>	<u>PCT.</u>	<u>PITCHER</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>GS</u>	<u>CG</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
WILL WHITE	1877-1886	401	394	98.25	JOHN CLARKSON	1882-1894	518	485	93.63
CHARLEY RADBOURN	1881-1891	503	489	97.22	TIM KEEFE	1880-1893	594	554	93.27
JACK TAYLOR	1898-1907	286	278	97.20	TONY MULLANE	1881-1894	504	468	92.86
GUY HECKER	1882-1890	320	310	96.88	BILL HUTCHISON	1884-1897	347	321	92.51
ED MORRIS	1884-1890	307	297	96.74	BERT CUNNINGHAM	1887-1901	310	286	92.26
BOB CARUTHERS	1884-1892	310	298	96.13	CY YOUNG	1890-1911	815	749	91.90
JIM MCCORMICK	1878-1887	485	486	96.08	AMOS RUSIE	1889-1901	427	392	91.80
MICKEY WELCH	1880-1892	549	525	95.63	RED DONAHUE	1893-1906	341	313	91.79
LARRY CORCORAN	1880-1887	268	256	95.52	BOBBY MATHEWS	1876-1887	315	289	91.75
JIM WHITNEY	1881-1890	396	377	95.20	SADIE MCMAHON	1889-1897	305	279	91.48
CHARLIE GETZEIN	1884-1892	292	277	94.86	CLARK GRIFFITH	1891-1914	372	337	90.59
KID NICHOLS	1890-1906	561	531	94.65	MATT KILROY	1886-1898	292	264	90.41
JIM GALVIN	1879-1892	682	639	93.70	ADONIS TERRY	1884-1897	406	367	90.39
TOMMY BOND	1876-1884	314	294	93.63	MARK BALDWIN	1887-1893	328	296	90.24

Most home runs by batter off pitcher (season)

On this list submitted by Dave Vincent, three batters (George Kelly in 1923, Ted Kluszewski in 1954, and Ted Williams in 1941) hit six home runs off one pitcher in a single season. The others all had five.

Year	Lg.	Batter	Team	Pitcher	Team	HR's
1883	NL	Buck Ewing	NY	Fred Goldsmith	CHI	5
1923	NL	George Kelly	NY	Vic Aldridge	CHI	6
1929	AL	Earl Averill	CLE	General Crowder	STL	5
1930	AL	Goose Goslin	WAS/STL	Hod Lisenbee	BOS	5
1930	NL	Babe Herman	BKL	Larry French	PIT	5
1930	NL	Babe Herman	BKL	Les Sweetland	PHI	5
1937	AL	Joe DiMaggio	NY	Jack Knott	STL	5
1937	AL	Lou Gehrig	NY	Thornton Lee	CHI	5
1941	AL	Ted Williams	BOS	Johnny Rigney	CHI	6
1948	AL	Ken Keltner	CLE	Joe Dobson	BOS	5
1949	AL	Ted Williams	BOS	Howie Judson	CHI	5
1951	NL	Monte Irvin	NY	Ralph Branca	BKL	5
1952	NL	Hank Sauer	CHI	Larry Jansen	NY	5
1954	AL	Ray Boone	DET	Amie Portocarrero	PHI	5
1954	N L	Ted Kluszewski	CIN	Max Surkont	PIT	6
1955	NL	Willie Mays	NY	Vern Law	PIT	5
1956	AL	Mickey Mantle	NY	Camilo Pascual	WAS	5
1958	NL	Eddie Mathews	MIL	Bob Friend	PIT	5
1958	AL	Jackie Jensen	BOS	Pedro Ramos	WAS	5
1959	NL	Eddie Mathews	MIL	Jack Sanford	SF	5
1966	A L	Willie Horton	DET	Dave McNally	BAL	5
1966	AL	Frank Robinson	BAL	Earl Wilson	BOS/DET	5
1966	NL	Ron Santo	CHI	Dave Giusti	HOU	5
1970	NL	Nate Colbert	SD	Don Sutton	LA	5
1974	NL	Mike Schmidt	PHI	Jerry Reuss	PIT	5
1976	NL	Dave Kingman	NY	Andy Messersmith	ATL	5
1977	NL	Gary Carter	MON	Jim Rooker	PIT	5
1977	NL	Reggie Smith	LA	Joaquin Andujar	HOU	5
1990	NL	Paul O'Neill	CIN	Don Robinson	SF	5

Pitchers' Games Started by the 1934 NY Giants

The Giants played 153 games in 1934 and if you add up the pitcher's Games Started shown in *Total Baseball*, *The Baseball Encyclopedia*, and *The Sports Encyclopedia--Baseball* for each of their pitchers it does total 153. Furthermore, all three books agree on the disposition of those starts, one of which is credited to Clyde Castleman. Bill Deane, in response to a request for the date of that one start, reported it as July 5. But Dick Thompson said that according to his records it was Hal Schumacher, and not Castleman, who started that July 5 game against Brooklyn. Bill went back to the official sheets at Cooperstown, and found that Schumacher did indeed start the game and Castleman's appearance was in relief. He also checked Castleman's six other 1934 appearances and found that they too were in relief. Castleman made no starts in 1934. So subtracting Castleman's start, the Games Started by Giant pitchers in 1934 now added to 152—one short of their total games played.

I asked Walt Wilson to check into this discrepancy. Walt, who has corrected many previous errors in Games Started totals, found that along with the error in Castleman's record there are also errors in the Games Started totals for three other Giants pitchers: Carl Hubbell (should have 35, not 34), Roy Parmelee (should have 21, not 20) and Al Smith (should have 4, not 5).

At the same time, Bill made his own check from the day-by-day sheets and found the same results as Walt. Bill points out that the sheets did not have a separate column for Games Started at that time. The only way to determine who started a game and who relieved was to look at the "comments" section at the far right of each entry. For instance, on that July 5 game Bill says the comment sheet for Castleman should say "relieved Schumacher and was relieved by Bell," but the first part is omitted. These comments were sometimes sloppily written and are often difficult to read on scratched microfilm, so it's not surprising that there are errors made in reading these sheets. No doubt more such errors are out there waiting to be discovered.

Here then is a corrected list of pitchers' starts for the 1934 Giants.

Fred Fitzsimmons	37
Hal Schumacher	36
Carl Hubbell	35
Roy Parmelee	21
Joe Bowman	10
Jack Saiveson	4
Al Smith	4
Watty Clark	4
Hi Bell	2
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	153



Clydell Castleman

1. Walt says that the Total Games and Complete Games for all 1934 Giants pitchers are correct as shown in the three encyclopedias.

2. Bill says that Parmelee had two shutouts in 1934, not three. The latest editions of *Total Baseball* and *The Sports Encyclopedia--Baseball* have this, but *The Baseball Encyclopedia* shows Parmelee with three shutouts. The mistakenly credited shutout was the April 19 game against Brooklyn, in which he was relieved by Dolf Luque after 7 1/3 innings.

3. The additional start by Hubbell increases his lifetime total to 432, which ties him with Billy Pierce for 70th on the all-time list. Obviously, given the above, this list is not cast in stone.