

Society for American Baseball Research

Records Committee Newsletter

Lyle Spatz, Editor

June 1993

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

From The Chairman: I look forward to seeing and chatting with those of you who will be in San Diego later this month. The Records Committee meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 26, from 10:10 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. in Room B. Last year the focus of the meeting was on the planning of the committee's publication, the White Paper. For this year the agenda is much more open. Therefore, I would welcome any suggestions that you might have for pertinent topics of discussion. It would be helpful if I could get them prior to the convention. There are two items that I would like to include: a talk by Joe Wayman on the ICI data, and a discussion of the implications on player and team records of forfeited and protested games.

ICI Data As most of us who have done research in the 19th century and early 20th century know, the records for these years are not "official" records, but rather those compiled from newspaper accounts and other sources by a company called Information Concepts Incorporated (ICI). That effort was directed by David Neft in preparation for publication of the 1969 Macmillan Baseball Encyclopedia. Myths and misconceptions concerning these records abound. There are stories of how the disappearance of certain data was caused by flood, or fire, or some other form of pestilence. In an attempt to discern the actual history and status of these records, Joe Wayman wrote to Mr. Neft. Joe says that Neft was extremely helpful, and now he would like to share what he has learned with other researchers so that they will be more aware of the sources of the data that they use.

Forfeited and Protested Games Once again the focus here is primarily on the 19th and early 20th century. The treatment of player records in games that were forfeited or protested is inconsistent to say the least. It is difficult to find a pattern as to why some games got counted in the individual player records, and some did not. I have asked a small group of committee members, all extremely knowledgeable in this area, to investigate the problem and to make some recommendations. Pete Palmer has agreed to chair the group, that so far includes: Bob Davids, Rich Topp, Frank Williams, and Jeffrey Platt. Anybody interested in assisting in this effort, please get in touch with Pete.

The following list, courtesy of Dave Vincent, is from the Tattersall/McConnell Home Run Log.

Pitchers Yielding The Most Career Home Runs

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Away</u>	<u>NL</u>	<u>AL</u>
Robin Roberts	505	240	265	418	87
Ferguson Jenkins	483	263	220	272	211
Phil Niekro	482	267	215	392	90
Don Sutton	473	234	239	326	147
Bert Blyleven	435	234	201	59	376
Warren Spahn	434	203	231	434	0
*Frank Tanana	420	201	218	1	419
Steve Carlton	413	197	216	378	35
Jim Kaat	396	225	171	70	326
Gaylord Perry	396	226	170	195	201
Tom Seaver	380	211	169	314	66
Jim Hunter	373	175	198	0	373
Jim Bunning	372	222	150	149	223
*Jack Morris	364	187	171	0	364
Mickey Lolich	349	207	142	18	331
*Charlie Hough	348	167	177	71	277
Luis Tiant	347	182	165	3	210
Early Wynn	338	160	178	0	338
Doyle Alexander	325	176	149	67	258
Juan Marichal	320	157	163	317	3
*Nolan Ryan	317	156	161	145	172
Pedro Ramos	316	162	154	11	305
*Dennis Eckersley	308	165	142	47	261
Tommy John	307	164	163	68	239
Jim Perry	307	157	150	0	307
Jim Palmer	304	145	159	0	304
Murry Dickson	302	150	152	277	25

Dave's list was through 1992. I have updated it through May 17, 1993 for the five active pitchers on the list. I updated total home runs allowed and the league in which they occurred; I did not update the home/away split.

Bob Tiemann informs me that he has discovered two additional losing streaks, of at least 13 games, that are not listed, or are listed incorrectly in The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book. In last month's newsletter we showed the 16 that Bob had found previously. Following is a revised list that includes all 18.

1898	St. Louis	NL	18	1877	Cincinnati	NL	13
1891	Louisville	AA	15	1884	Cleveland	NL	13
1895	Louisville	NL	15	1885	Detroit	NL	13
1889	Louisville	AA	14	1886	Louisville	AA	13
1890	Brooklyn	AA	14	1886	Kansas City	NL	13
1898	Washington	NL	14	1888	Indianapolis	NL	13
1905	St. Louis	NL	14	1890	Pittsburgh	NL	13
1927	Philadelphia	NL	14	1892	Baltimore	NL	13
1876	Cincinnati	NL	13	1899	Cleveland	NL	13

In the April 1993 newsletter there was a list from Bill Gilbert of 41 20th century players who had one, and only one, year in which they hit above .300 had more than 30 home runs and drove in at least 10 runs. Bill said that he believed that there were two others who belonged on this list, but couldn't come up with them. Thanks to Jim Fredlund we now have the other two. They are Don Hurst of the 1929 Phillies and Jim Hickman of the 1970 Cubs. What follows is Bill's list of the 41 20th century players who have accomplished this feat in multiple seasons.

<u>Player</u>	<u>No. of Seasons</u>	<u>Years</u>
1. Babe Ruth	12	1920-21, 1923-24, 1926-33
2. Lou Gehrig	10	1927-37
3. Jimmie Foxx	9	1929-30, 1932-36, 1938-39
4. Hank Aaron	7	1957, 1959, 1961-63, 1967, 1971
5. Joe DiMaggio	7	1937-41, 1948, 1950
6. Willie Mays	7	1954-55, 1959, 1961-63, 1965
7. Ted Williams	7	1939, 1941-42, 1946-47, 1949, 1951
8. Stan Musial	6	1948-49, 1951, 1953-55
9. Mel Ott	6	1929, 1932, 1934-36, 1938
10. Hank Greenberg	5	1935, 1937-40
11. Frank Robinson	5	1959, 1961-62, 1966, 1969
12. Chuck Klein	4	1929-32
13. Ted Kluszewski	4	1953-1956
14. Jim Rice	4	1977-79, 1983
15. Duke Snider	4	1950, 1953-55
16. Hack Wilson	4	1927-30
17. Earl Averill	3	1931-32, 1934
18. Roy Campanella	3	1951, 1953, 1955
19. Orlando Cepeda	3	1961-62, 1970
20. Rogers Hornsby	3	1922, 1925, 1929
21. Ralph Kiner	3	1947, 1949, 1951
22. Mickey Mantle	3	1956, 1961, 1964
23. Don Mattingly*	3	1985-87
24. Eddie Murray*	3	1980, 1982, 1983
25. Al Simmons	3	1929-30, 1932
26. Billy Williams	3	1965, 1970, 1972
27. Dick Allen	2	1966, 1972
28. Ernie Banks	2	1958-59
29. George Bell*	2	1986-87
30. Barry Bonds*	2	1990, 1992
31. Cecil Cooper	2	1982-83
32. Gil Hodges	2	1953-54
33. Greg Luzinski	2	1975, 1977
34. Eddie Mathews	2	1953, 1959
35. Johnny Mize	2	1940, 1947
36. Dale Murphy*	2	1983, 1985
37. Dave Parker	2	1978, 1985
38. Danny Tartabull*	2	1987, 1991
39. Hal Trosky	2	1934, 1936
40. Carl Yastrzemski	2	1967, 1970
41. Rudy York	2	1938, 1940

* Active

Bill points out that every player eligible for the Hall of Fame with at least three such seasons has been elected, with the exception of Kluszewski (4) and Cepeda (3).

RECORDS POTPOURRI: If anyone is looking for information on expansion teams in general, or the Florida Marlins in particular, the man to see is Evan Meyer. Since last October, Evan has been assisting the Marlins on expansion team research and records.

I hope everyone is pleased at the way the Baseball Records Update 1993 (White Paper) turned out. I believe that it is a publication that each of us on the Records Committee can be proud of, and once again a heartfelt thank you to all of those who contributed. By the way its official title is the Baseball Records Update 1993. SABR is committed to funding other publications for next year, so there will be no Baseball Record Update for 1994, perhaps 1995.

An interesting item from Sports Illustrated--- Dave LaPoint, who didn't play last year, started the season pitching for the Twin's Triple A team in Portland, Oregon, his ninth minor league team. He last pitched in the majors for the 1991 Phillies, his ninth big league team. If he is recalled by Minnesota, and starts a game for them, he will become the first pitcher who played his entire career in this century to start games for 10 different major league teams.

Going into the 1993 season, Russ Nixon (2,504 AB) and Cecil Fielder (2,297 AB) are the only two players in this century to have more than 2,000 at bats with no stolen bases. As of May 17 Fielder has now batted 2,433 times, and still has no steals.

The following is a list of 20th century pitchers who each, at one time in his career, made at least 100 consecutive starts without throwing a shutout. The list was compiled by William Ruiz, with help from Bill Deane and Ray Gonzalez.

John Montefusco	169 (E)	Jose DeLeon	114
Paul Splittorff	157 (E)	Jim Palmer	113
Bill Bonham	139 (E)	Steve Carlton	112 (E)
Nolan Ryan	138	Mike Flanagan	112
Alex Ferguson	136	Rollie Naylor	112
Jack Russell	136 (E)	Gordon Rhodes	112
Jimmy Ring	133	Sid Hudson	111 (E)
Storm Davis	130	Bryn Smith	110
Roy Mahaffey	128 (C)	Jim Bunning	108 (E)
Al Nipper	124 (C)	Danny Cox	107 (A)
Ownie Carroll	124 (E)	Roger Craig	107
Rick Reuschel	121	Dick Ellsworth	107
David Palmer	119	Mike Torrez	107 (E)
Roger Errickson	117 (C)	Curt Young	106
Slim Harriss	117	Todd Stottlemyre	104 (S)
John Candelaria	116	Wayne Simpson	104 (E)
Chuck Stobbs	116 (S)	Mike Krukow	104
Bill Kreuger	115 (S)	Steve Trout	103
Bill Laskey	115 (E)	Cal McLish	100
Bob Weiland	115	Danny Jackson	100 (A)

(A) Streak is active, as of May 10, 1993 (C) Entire career
 (E) End of career (S) Start of career