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the SABR Minor League Committee Newsletter

Volume 2.3

News Notes & Nonsense

lans, as they say, are made to be broken. This issue of the newsletter will not contain everything that I announced in the last issue. Since that time a number of things have come up to change my plans— most notably things that came up at and around the time of the SABR Convention in Pittsburgh. Instead of the things we promised last issue, we are dedicating a full seven pages to another Minor League Committee initiative: the Minor League Committee 19th Century Initiative. We'll also review a couple of books on the Coast League, and my long promised review of software that one can use to do final league averages from box scores.

Some of you may ask why we're beginning another initiative when we just announced two initiatives in the last issue. The answer is simple: The final league average initiative has almost been completed, and in Pittsburgh the SABR board approved our desktop publishing the product as a limited-run book. (Which I expect everybody in the committee will order.) Almost all the guides have been spoken for, and about 90% of the actual work has been done. But more about that in the next issue. I would just like to thank all the people who joined in and made it possible to get the project done in record time.

Thanks!

Next issue will go over a number of things I had hoped to get to in this issue:

- The Minor League Committee meeting in Pittsburgh (over 40 people showed up), and also highlights of the Committee Chairs' Meeting.
- The Willie George material, what's there and what the Committee's plans are for it.
- The Minor League Committee's annual report.
- And we'll list all the new committee members, and update some changes of address.

We'll try to get to these matters in the next issue, and try to squeeze in a few other surprises.

Until then....

Back Issues

Because of the cost involved in reprinting back issues of the newsletter, we will have to charge committee members one dollar per back issue. Non-members will be charged $1.50 per issue.

STAT TRACKING SOFTWARE

nyone who has ever worked up a set of final league averages from box scores knows how tedious that can be. From pad and paper we moved on to spreadsheets. And for several years now there has been software packages designed specifically for tracking baseball stats. This year, there was an explosion of baseball stat-tracking software being advertised. I counted fully seven programs. With this article I'm going to evaluate all eight of those programs. Three are DOS programs, and 5 are Windows™ based programs.

Before we get to the meat of the subject, let's go into just what these programs really are, and what they can do for the baseball researcher. Basically, these computer programs track the same stats that one has tracked before by hand, but they not only keep a running total of at bats, hits, home runs, wins, earned runs, etc., they also calculate batting averages, earned run averages, what have you, on the fly. You can input the raw data on one screen, either from inputting stats from box scores or from score sheets, and switch to another screen and read the totals, the averages, etc.

Besides the ability to have running totals and averages always at hand, these programs both increase your speed and accuracy. As to speed, I have been using a program for several years now, and I've found I'm able to input a week's worth of box scores in an hour, including fielding. If you were to just do batting and pitching, you'd be able to zip right through boxes in no time.

Some of the other things one could do is not limited to compiling final league averages. One could compile the stats for less-than-ten players, record the stats for a single player, or players, over the course of a season— or even record ballpark statistics, which is something I have recently begun to do. For this I just record the basic pitching and hitting and fielding stats for every game played in a specific park. I do not break it down in any way. At the end of the season I can say how many home runs were hit, or how many strike outs were recorded at a specific park. (As many of you know, my primary project is to redo all the pre-WWI PCL stats, correcting and expanding the official statistics. Without stat-tracking software, I'd never even be able to contemplate such a project.)

I started using stat tracking software a few years ago. The product I started with— and still use today— is a shareware product called *Softball*,

which has gone on to become one of the commercial products (which I didn't realize) we will be reviewing here today.

For the last couple of years, I had noticed a couple of stat tracking software programs being advertised, and every once in a while a third would pop up, only to disappear and never to be heard from again. Then, for some reason, a whole slew of programs came on the market this year. So what I did was write all the companies requesting a review copy. All the companies supplied with full programs, save one, which supplied me with a pretty detailed demo. (I must say the demo turned out to be of no hindrance in reviewing the product in question. On fully operational products, I input a weeks worth of 1903 PCL box scores to see how they held up when working with them. With the demo, I believe I was able to surmise how it would be to work with the program.)

I have rated all the programs with an eye to not only baseball researchers, but to our members who are in Organized Baseball and in the high school and college ranks. In general terms, I found all three DOS programs to be acceptable, but only two of the Windows™ programs to be. We'll begin with the Windows programs.

Windows™ Programs:

StatTrak for Baseball version 2.0
All-Pro Software
30 Maple Court
Madison, WI 53719
To Order: 800/SPORT-59 $39.95

For the researcher or the baseball executive, one has to look no further than this very complete, simple and elegant program. It's head and shoulders above any of the other programs reviewed— and it's one of the lowest priced programs to boot! And they have a money back guarantee.

The stats you can track are many, many more than I would ever want to track, and it automatically figures such things as On Base Average, Strike Outs per nine innings, and even Runs Created. This program even lets you track 5 user-defined stats for batting, pitching and fielding. In other words, one could track low hit and no hit games for pitchers. Or

(Software... Continued from page 1)

pick-offs. This is a very nice touch. Another nice touch is that you can format any of the reports any way you want, and make them as extensive as you want. One is also able to sort stats any way them want.

This is by far the simplest program of the lot to use. You only have four menu items on the top of the open screen: *Reports*, which gives you the up to the moment stats and standings, from where you can print those files out; *Update*, where you input game data, create or revise rosters (which hold up to 99 players), and add or change team name; *Options*, where you can switch from one league you are working on to another, and where you can add 5 categories of stats to track; *Help*, which is an on-line manual.

Switching from batting to fielding to pitching is just a matter of a mouse click. The printed statistic reports are clean and legible. You can also print out stats for individual players for the whole league (with minimums if you want) or just the players on the team.

Rating: Top Rated & the Best Buy.

> Turbo Stats for Windows
> Turbostats
> P. O. Box 144
> Towaco, NJ 07082
> To Order: 800/60 STATS
> $39.95 to $59.00

Turbo Stats is the only other Windows based program that turned out to be acceptable. The company shows its origins as primarily a softball program in that its pricing runs from $39.00 (for batting only) to $49.00 (for batting and base running) to $59.00 (for batting, baserunning, fielding and pitching). In other words, for what the researcher, coach or exec wants to do this program costs $59.00.

This program is somewhat a little difficult to use when beginning, so they do include a tutorial to run you through the procedures. The program comes with a short but complete manual that takes you through the whole process of recording rosters, adding game stats, printing reports, etc.

Inputting game data is fairly straight forward: You do it by double clicking on a player, then scrolling through a number of boxes to add Plate Appearances, Run Hits singles, Doubles, etc. And the same for fielding and baserunning, and for pitching. While it is nice not to have to type in the numbers, it limits the number of stats you can track. Pitching, for instance, does not include ShO, GS, CG, GF, Int. W. Fielding and batting have the same limitations. They do include, though, three user defined stats on the fielding form. Also, there is no way to print out league standings, which I find rather strange.

You can add unlimited games, and roster hold sufficient numbers of players.

Printing is another problem. While the printing is nice and clear, the reports combine all the batting, pitching and fielding on one line, which makes the report spill over onto another page.

All in all, TurboStats still needs to be refined, but could be a nice program in the future.

Rating: Barely Acceptable.

> Team Manager for Baseball
> Visual Ware, Inc.
> 9311 Monroe Road
> Charlotte, NC 28270
> To Order: 800/553-2287 $59.95

If you ever buy a program, make sure it doesn't have a menu item called *Repair Database*. This program crashes so many times, they even make a joke of it in the manual. The joke 'll be on you if you buy this

program. Apart from that, the statistical categories are meager, and you cannot input partial innings pitched for pitchers. Need I say more...

Rating: Unacceptable

> Manager's Edge 95
> Taylor Made Software
> 114 Stonebridge Blvd.
> New Castle. DE 19720
> To Order: 800/553-2287 $34.95

With this program there is no inputing game stats on the fly: you first have to schedule a game, then input the stats. And the stats are minimum at best. This program is geared to little league or other amateur leagues, where one needs to track players addresses, and team expenses. Also, you can only track 99 games, of which only 30 can be in same division. Not much use to researchers or GMs.

Rating: Unacceptable.

> TeamMate Score Keeper
> Team Systems
> 252 Middough Road
> Clarendon Hills, IL 60514
> To Order: 708/323-0012 $49.95

The idea of keeping score on a portable computer has always intrigued me. This program lets you do that, plus it lets you import box score data into a box score format data form. I found this box score method to be interesting, but flawed (only home runs, no triples or doubles). First, no partial innings pitched are recorded in either the scorecard or box score format. If a pitcher pitches a third of an inning he's given credit for a full inning pitched. Very limited amount of statistical categories, and too much set up time before one can input data.

Rating: Unacceptable.

DOS Programs:

> StatTrak for Baseball 6.0
> All-Pro Software
> 30 Maple Court
> Madison, WI 53719
> To Order: 800/SPORT-59 $39.95

Does almost all of the same things as its Windows counterpart. Takes up much less room on hard drive, and is a tad faster than the Windows version. Has complete mouse support. (I have used the shareware father of this product, Softballs 5.0, and find the newer product does more things, but but takes slightly more time to input game data.) All in all, the best DOS program, and the easiest to use.

Rating: Top Rated & the Best Buy.

> SCOR Baseball Management System
> Bleifuss Software Projects
> P. O. Box 2723
> Glen Ellyn, IL 60138-2723
> To Order: 708/790-9797
> $89.00 and $149.00

This is a fine program, no doubt about it. It is a serious stat tracking and team management program. However, it does have some limitations, which I believe preclude it from being used in O. B., or by the serious baseball researcher: 1) Rosters are limited to only 48 players; 2) only a 199 games per season, which makes it useless for many pre-WWII PCL seasons. The real problem, though, is the roster size.

You can input virtually any stat, and print it out in an acceptable though cramped report. Inputting game data is a little more difficult than StatTrak, but by no means very difficult.

This program has limited mouse support.

The program is very pricey. For team stats, it costs $89.00; to be able to rank and print out all the players in the league, you have to buy another module that brings the program's price up to $149.00. StatTr: does all of that for $39.00! But as far as the program is concerned, it's a fine program.

Rating: Acceptable.

> The Baseball Statbook™
> RJL Systems
> 106 New Haven Avenue
> Milford, CT 06460
> To Order: 203/878-0376 $69.00

This is the granddaddy of all computer stat tracking software. It still does everything you want it to do. Ten years ago it was the best thing since sliced bread. But that's the problem: This program hasn't evolved since, and cannot be viewed as anything more than a complex, dated and frustrating relic.

The program also offers no mouse support.

Basiclly, this program is really made up of several separate programs: One to add players, another to record stats, yet another to set program variables, plus a print program to print out reports. While all these modules can be accessed from the master menu, it does seem to be way too complex for this day and age.

Also, before you're able to print a report, you'll have to define the parameters of your report.

Taking everything together, this program is too complex, dated and expensive, but one has to admit it does the stats right.

Rating: Acceptable.

The Skinny:

I have to admit I was surprised at how few Windows programs proved to be acceptable. And what a poor grasp of baseball statistics the programers had. (How could anyone have a program that didn't record thirds of an inning pitched?) Yet with that said, I still wonder how anyone could still use a DOS based program when an equally good Windows program exists?

Even though I've only input a week's worth of games into the Windows version of StatTrak for Baseball, it's going to be the program I'll be using in the future. DOS may not be dead, but Windows programs are so much easier to work with that one should only buy a DOS program if an equivalent program doesn't exist for Windows. (It's also rock solid running under Windows95™, which I've been using for some time now.)

In short, there is only one program to consider at this point in time: StatTrak for Windows 2.0.

Two Books on the Coast League

Barbary Baseball
by R. Scott Mackey
227 pages $29.95 Postpaid
McFarland & Co.
Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640
To Order: 800/253-2187

The PCL— much like the majors— began the 20s under a cloud of scandal. The 1919 pennant, won by the Vernon Tigers, was tainted by bribery. In a league crackdown on gambling, it came out that Vernon first baseman Babe Borton had bribed several Salt Lake players to throw games during the week of September 22nd; later it would be revealed that the whole Vernon team had contributed to a slush fund to bribe players on other teams over the whole course of the season; still later, Hal Chase and gambling interests come into the story. Gambling had been a staple at Coast League ballparks since the league began, but by 1919 it had become so pervasive that the league had to do something. And it did: Some of the biggest names in Coast League ball were released or suspended, including Bill Rumler, Harl Maggert, Tom Seaton, Sailor Stroud, Babe Borton.

Scott Mackey's wonderful book on PCL baseball in the 1920s opens with a recounting of the scandal and the subsequent clean up, which— once again like the majors— led to the golden age of West Coast baseball. I cannot say enough about this well-written, well researched book (even though I did find a couple of minor errors in the book). Besides the history of the league in the 1920s, excerpts from interviews of Coast League players done by the author are included: Tony Freitas, Carl Dittmar, Dallas Locker, Gus Suhr, Louie Almada and Dolph Camilli. Barbary Baseball is also amply illustrated with about 50 photos. Mackey also had Bill Weiss, Dick Beverage, Dick Dobbins (along with the author himself) vote on whom they thought should be included in an All-1920s Team. I really thought that added a nice touch, and rounded out the book. (Catcher Art Koehler turned out to be the only unanimous choice, strangely enough.)

Other features include an index (always useful), an above average bibliography, and a list of all the players listed in the guides as having played in the Coast League during the decade, broken down by team and listing the years played for that team. I've never seen this done before, but seems like it could be very useful (though no less than 's players are included.)

The writing a book about the 20s Coast League is completely justified: the 1920s was the PCL's Golden Age, and while arguments for the 30s being the most momentous decade, I believe Scott Mackey made the right choice. After the Coast league suspended operations on July 14, 1918 because of the famous "Work or Fight" ruling by the Secretary of War, talk was that the PCL might come back as only a four team league in much the same way the league had been forced to in the wake of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. The league came back, however, stronger than ever, with eight teams for the first time in its history. During the decade of the 20s, the PCL became solidly established for the first time in its history. Add to that the great stars that played during those years (Buzz Arlett, Lefty O'Doul, Tony Lazzeri, Smead Jolley, Ike

Boone, Jigger Statz, Wheezer Dell, Frank Shellenback, Doc Crandall, and one long et cetera), and you have reason enough to justify a book. But on top of that, there were such things as Wrigley Field opening in 1926, and one of the greatest minor league teams of all time, the 1925 San Francisco Seals.

While the author follows the normal chronological order of chapters, he does something unique: He takes the year's major story, whether it be end of the McCredie era in Portland or the 1925 Seals or the opening of Wrigley Field in Los Angeles, and intertwines it with what other things that happened both on and off the field. Scattered in and out of the chapter of the 1925 Seals, for instance, Mackey gives a feel for the season with slices of Tony Lazzeri's PCL record 60 home run year at Salt Lake, the return of Jigger Statz from the Cubs, Paul Waner's quest for .400, and finally the Seals lackluster Junior World Series win over the Louisville nine out on the West Coast.

(At the end of each chapter, final standings are provided, as well as league leaders in all the major batting and pitching categories.)

To give you some idea of the flavor of how this book is constructed, the following is how Mackey begins Chapter 10, which primarily deals with the Cinderella story of the 1928 Sacramento Senators: "Sixty miles north of Sacramento, California, Judge Frank Fogalsong issued a judicial order barring Colusa resident Frank Nutter from the Sacramento Senators' three-game series with Seattle the first week of October, 1928. Neither a gambler nor a hooligan, Nutter was something worse. He was a jinx. Supposedly, every time Nutter attended a Senators game, they lost. In Fogalsong's view, the Senators, locked in a first place tie with San Francisco for the PCL's second-half title, could ill afford to lose any of its last three games, especially because of a jinx. Fogalsong's order was tongue-in-cheek, but it demonstrated the interest and excitement the Senators had generated in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys in 1928. As the season approached its end, California's capital city and the area as far south as Stockton and north to the Oregon border became consumed by pennant fever."

While some may say this book doesn't quite approach the very best writing of major stylists, like a Luke Salisbury or a Roger Kahn, this is still terribly good writing. Barbary Baseball is well written from page one right on to the end. As long as I freely admit I'm a sucker for good writing, I'll also state that I'm a sucker for good research, and this book is incredibly well researched. Barbary Baseball is a necessary addition to every baseball library.

The Pacific Coast League:
A Statistical History, 1903-1957
by Dennis Snelling
392 pages $32.50 Postpaid
McFarland & Co.
Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640
To Order: 800/253-2187

What's wrong with the following stolen base totals of Wally Hood: 16, 25, 19, 0, 317. Whether you see that

the "0" happens to be out of place or not, the fact remains that Dennis Snelling saw the incongruous "0" and called Bob Hoie to see if he had Wally Hood's true stolen base totals for 1924. Bob didn't have them, but told Snelling that by looking at the final stats published in the San Francisco Chronicle, which compiled their own stats, be be able to come up with the correct number. Snelling's book lists "0" for Hood's 1924 SB totals; not a dash, not a note— not even an bloody asterisk! How long could it take to go to the library and look up Hood's SBs? I got curious myself, and threw a reel of The Sporting News on my reader: it took me all of an hour and a half to go through all of the PCL box scores and determine that Wally Hood stole 24 bases in 1924.

That is what is wrong with this book: sloth, and a marked lack of commitment to any research at all.

What Snelling did was borrow from everyone he could sucker into giving him information, from Bob Hoie and Bill Weiss to even me.

(Snelling called me up when I was still living in Chicago. He told me that he and Bill Weiss were putting together a statistical Coast League book, and asked me to send him all my work on the early years of the PCL!!! Yeah, right. I did, however, correct the first initials of all his pre-WWI players in the roster section. I'm still waiting for his thank you card. And, by the way, I didn't see Bill Weiss' name on the cover of this book, either.)

Dennis Snelling borrowed from so many sources, in fact, that he thanked Bill Weiss for material supplied by Bob Hoie. Errors are all over the place: Sacramento is listed as having a team in the PCL in 1903 (supposedly transferred from Tacoma, though the Tigers never played a game within a hundred miles of Sacramento); no mention of Oakland playing Idora Park, etc. Every few pages there is one sort of an error or another, with apparently the author not caring enough to correct them, or oblivious to them.

The Pacific Coast League is divided into two major parts: the first contains a roster section exactly like the one in the Macmillan Encyclopedia, even down to listing the players' first initial rather than complete first name; a second section is a player register that purports to include almost all player "who appeared in 10 or more major league seasons and or (nc)10 or more Pacific Coast League seasons..." I don't want to call Dennis Snelling a racist, but I find it strange that Louie Almada, the first Mexican born star to appear in the Coast League does not appear even though he played 10 years in the Coast League. (Louie's brother Mel was the first Mexican born player to appear in the majors, if you didn't know.)

The last hundred pages of the book are lifted directly from Bill Weiss' PCL Record Books, or those of others. Then, in what may be one of the most curious publishing decisions ever, Snelling ostensibly lists what he purports to be each and every rounding off mistake caught by his computer. Seven full pages of this!!! Can you believe seven pages of things like: 1985 Frary, Son OM .237 New .238? God, if there ever were a time to look up to the sky and yell: "Save a tree..!"

In contrast to Scott Mackey's fine book, The Pacific Coast League: A Statistical History, 1903-1957 stands out as what can happen when an incompetent gets a hold of a good idea. But don't despair for that, Snelling is coming out with his own history of the PCL. That should be something to really worry about.

Meanwhile, do yourself a favor and buy Scott Mackey's very fine book, and let this piece of garbage disappear into the marked-down mists of remainderland.

19th Century Initiative

by Bob McConnell and Carlos Bauer

The Minor League Committee is starting a 19th Century Minor League project. After years of talking about this project, it seems that the time has finally come to begin what a great number of Minor League Committee members have expressed to be a top priority.

The Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball, published in 1993, contained information on every minor-league from 1902 to date (i. e., every year the National Association existed). The main section of the book contained a year-by-year record of each league. It included the league classification, league president, league standings, team nicknames, team managers, attendance for each team (nicknames, managers, and attendance were not included for the earlier years), dates of franchise changes during the season, individual batting leaders in R, H, HR, RBI, AVG, and individual pitching leaders in W, W-L PCT, SO, ERA.

The purpose of the 19th Century Minor League project is to compile similar information for earlier leagues. (A minor league is defined as a league with salaried players, salaried umpires and a set schedule.)

The ultimate purpose of this project is to either include it in *The Minor League Encyclopedia* if and when Baseball America decides on expanding their coverage of minor leagues to include non-National Association. If Baseball America decides to continue to only carry National Association leagues, then the Minor League Committee will look for another solution: a stand-alone book, either a SABR publication, or with a commercial publisher.

The organization of the project will be in the following manner: Carlos Bauer will be the coordinator of the sign-up part of the project; if you have information on a particular league, or would like to work on a particular league, get in touch with him and be will confirm your participation so to avoid duplication of effort (though a couple of members may want to collaborate); once you are assigned and are working on a a league all your work product, all questions and checking will be done by Bob Hoie (with the help of Bob McConnell and John Pardon).

For the 19th Century project we would attempt to get the following on each league:

1 Proper name of the league
2 League president
3 List of clubs with won-lost records
4 Team nicknames
5 Team managers
6 Franchise changes during season
7 Batting leaders in AVG, H, R, HR
8 Pitching leaders in W, W-L Pct, SO
9 Any outstanding or unusual events

In doing this research, you will probably have problems being able to compile all the pitching and batting leaders. This is inevitable. But what we want is to get as close to complete as possible, realizing that there will probably always be blanks for us to fill in. And maybe once it's published, someone will write us with the data to fill in those blanks. It's happened before!

(And remember, if any of you come across any final league averages— or any stats of interest— in your research, please make a copy of them and send them to the Minor League Committee. Thanks!)

Some members of the committee have already expressed an interest in the project in Pittsburgh. They will shortly be sent a sign up sheet. The rest of you should write Carlos as soon as possible.

(Bob McConnell also presented this project at the 19th Century Committee meeting in Pittsburgh, but not one person showed any interest in the project, so once again we'll have to do it all ourselves.)

The following material will help you decide what leagues to do, and will show you what material for those leagues has been compiled.

You also may want to make a photo copy of the 19th century list of leagues and put it into your *Minor League Encyclopedia*. I think it will be good reference material until we are able to put our 19th century project between covers.

Because so many of you have expressed interest in the 19th century, and in updating *The Minor league Encyclopedia*, I expect a good deal of participation. The Minor League Committee has announced three initiatives— there must be one that appeals to every last member, and this 19th century project requires nothing more than the committee member going to the library and researching a minor league in his own area. If we all work together (the purpose of a research committee, then we'll be put together something we can all be proud of in a relatively short period of time.

Keep in mind that there were 19th century league in all parts of the the country, and So let's get this project moving.

The Minor Leagues 1877-1901

The list on the following six pages is a compilation of all minor leagues prior to 1902 (when all minor leagues in Organized Baseball came under the umbrella of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues).

The names of most of these leagues came from lists compiled by Ray Nemec, Jerry Jackson and Vern Luse, with corrections and additions by Bob Hoie and Bob McConnell. It is possible that a few of these leagues never actually played any official championship games. Also, some of these leagues might have to be classified as nothing more than semi-pro leagues, or even amateur, after we complete our project. We have to determine that. And we have to check for accuracy every piece of data that has come down to us.

Some of the following leagues have been referred to by more than one name. This is particularly true in the case of *League* vs *Association*, and of tacking on the word *State* (e. g., Ohio League vs Ohio State League). Alternative names are shown in a separate column.

The first column after the league name and alternative name indicates if the league was a signatory or member of the National Agreement (Member). This

information came from the *First Official Guide of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues*, 1902, T. H. Murnane, editor. It covered the seasons from 1883 through 1900.

The next column indicates league classifications for the years 1886 through 1901 (Class). This information came from *The Sporting News* and/or *Sporting Life*. It is unknown whether these were official classifications or not.

The third column indicates if there were Win-Loss Records (i. e., league standings) for teams in the league (W-L). If only the names of the teams are known, then we only put teams in the column.

(Please note that the accuracy of the won-loss records cannot always be guaranteed, and that's where you come in. No matter if we have records, they should always be checked, especially those coming from the 19th century. And in a few cases, even the list of teams is incomplete.)

The next column indicates if teams nicknames are known or not (Nick). Obviously, just like team win-loss records, team nicknames should be considered to be incomplete, even when listed as being known.

The final column indicates if the manager of the team is known. In some cases, this too, is incomplete.

(It should also be noted that in the early years of organized baseball, the term "manager" did not refer to field manager, but rather to general manager. Captain generally referred to what today we call "manager." A case in point: In all records listing managers for the PCL, the Los Angeles manager is given as James A. Morley. Morley, however, was the owner of the Angels, and never went on a road trip with the team, and even once during the season spent two weeks traveling to Chicago to negotiate an end to the war between the Coast League and the Pacific Northwest League. Frank "Pop" Dillon was listed as captain of the Angels. He made out the line ups, led the team on the field, took care of arrangements on road trips, etc. If it were today, we'd call Cap Dillon a playing manager. Sometimes, however, a "manager" would also be the captain of the team, especially in lower classification leagues. And at all levels owners were much more hands-on. But one should be aware of the possibility of confusion.)

Finally, both of us request that all members do at least something on this project. It is a mammoth undertaking, but if everybody pulls together, we'll be able to pull it off.

Sally League Park Demensions for 1938 According to The Sporting News April 7, 1938			
City	Left	Center	Right
Augusta	340	430	320
Columbia	330	400	330
Columbus	320	500	300
Greenville	New Park	still under	Construction
Jacksonville	330	450	209
Macon	360	450	360
Savannah	248	No Fence	248
Spartenburg	320	385	315

Year	League	aka/notes	Member	Class	W-L	Nick	Man
1877	International Assn				yes	yes	
	League Alliance				yes		
	New England				yes		
1878	International Assn				yes		
	New England Assn				teams		
	Pacific						
1879	California						
	National Assn	International Assn			yes		
	Northwestern				yes	yes	
	Pacific						
1880	California						
	National Assn	International Assn			yes		
	Pacific						
1881	Eastern Assn	National Assn			yes		
	League Alliance						
	California						
1882	American Alliance						
	Eastern Assn						
	League Alliance						
	Northwestern				teams		
	Western				teams		
1883	Eastern Assn						
	Inter-State Assn				yes	yes	yes
	Massachusetts St. Assn						
	Northwestern		M		yes	yes	yes
1884	Connecticut				yes	yes	
	Eastern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Iron & Oil Assn		M		yes	yes	yes
	Keystone Assn		M		teams		yes
	Massachusetts St. Assn				yes		yes
	New York State						
	Northwestern	(IN-MI-WI-IL)	M		yes		yes
	Ohio State	Ohio Assn	M		teams	yes	yes
	Western Ontario				teams		
1885	Canadian				yes	yes	yes
	Colorado				yes		yes
	Connecticut State				yes		yes
	Eastern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Eastern New England				yes		yes
	Hudson River				yes		
	Inter-State				teams		yes
	New England				yes		
	New York State		M		yes	yes	yes
	North Carolina State						
	Northwestern				yes		
	Ontario						
	Southern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Southern New England				yes	yes	yes
	Virginia						
	Western	(IN-WI-MO-IA-OH-NE)	M		yes	yes	yes
1886	California	California State			yes	yes	yes
	Canadian						
	Central New York						
	Eastern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Hudson River				yes		yes
	Inter-State						
	International	International Assn	M		yes	yes	yes
	New England		M		yes		yes
	New Hampshire State				teams		
	Northwestern		M		yes		yes
	Pennsylvania St. Assn				yes	yes	yes
	Southern		M	B	yes		yes
	Virginia				teams		yes

Year	League	aka/notes	Member	Class	W-L	Nick	Man
1886	Western	(MN-WI)	M				
1887	California	California State	M		yes	yes	yes
	Central Pennsylvania		M		yes	yes	yes
	Eastern				yes		yes
	International	International Assn	M		yes		yes
	Kansas State				yes	yes	yes
	Montana				yes	yes	yes
	Mountain				yes	yes	yes
	National Colored						
	New England		M		yes	yes	
	Northeastern	Vermont St.	M		yes		yes
	Nothern Michigan				yes		yes
	Northwestern				yes		yes
	Ohio State		M		yes	yes	yes
	Pennsylvania St.	Pennsylvania St Assn	M		yes	yes	yes
	Red River Valley				yes	yes	yes
	Southern				teams		
	Southwestern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Western	(KS-NE-CO-MO)			yes	yes	yes
1888	California				yes	yes	yes
	Central Inter-State		M		yes	yes	yes
	Central	(NY, NJ, PA)	M		yes		yes
	Central Pennsylvania		M		yes	yes	yes
	Connecticut State				yes	yes	yes
	Eastern International				teams		
	Hudson River				yes		yes
	Indiana State				teams	yes	yes
	International Assn				teams	yes	yes
	New England		M		yes	yes	yes
	New England Inter-State		M		yes	yes	yes
	New York State	Central New York			teams		yes
	Ohio State				teams		yes
	Saginaw Valley						
	Southern				yes		
	Texas	Texas-Southern	M	B	yes	yes	yes
	Tri-State	(OH-MI-WV)	M		yes	yes	yes
	Western Assn		M		yes	yes	yes
	Western		M	A	yes		yes
1889	Atlantic Assn		M		yes		yes
	California		M		yes	yes	yes
	Central Inter-State	(IA-IL-IN)	M		yes	yes	yes
	Colorado State				yes	yes	yes
	Eastern Inter-State				teams		
	Illinois-Indiana				yes		yes
	International	International Assn	M		yes	yes	yes
	Michigan State		M		yes		yes
	Middle States	(PA-DE-NJ)			yes		yes
	New England						
	New York State		M		yes		yes
	Ohio State				yes		yes
	Rhode Island						
	Southern				yes	yes	yes
	Texas		M		yes	yes	yes
	Tri-State	(OH-WV)	M		yes		yes
	Western Assn		M		yes	yes	yes
	Western Pennsylvania				teams		
1890	Atlantic Assn		M		yes		
	California				yes	yes	yes
	Central Inter-State		M		yes		
	Colorado				teams		
	Eastern Inter-State	Pennsylvania State			yes		yes
	Illinois-Iowa				yes	yes	yes
	Indiana State				yes		

Year	League	aka/notes	Member	Class	W-L	Nick	Man
1890	Inter-State		M		teams		
	International	International Assn	M		yes		yes
	Michigan State		M		yes		
	New Brunswick				yes		
	New England						
	New York-Pennsylvania				yes		
	New York State				yes		
	Pacific Northwest				yes	yes	yes
	Rhode Island						
	Texas		M		yes		yes
	Tri-State	(OH-PA-WV)	M		yes		yes
	Upper Peninsula				teams		
	Western Assn				yes		
	Western Inter-State	(IL-IA-IN)			yes		
	Western New York				yes		
1891	California		M		yes	yes	yes
	Central New Jersey						
	Colorado State						
	Connecticut State				teams		
	Eastern Assn		M	A	yes		yes
	Illinois-Iowa				yes	yes	yes
	Inter-State		M		teams		
	Michigan						
	New England		M		yes		yes
	New York-Pennsylvania		M		yes		yes
	Northwestern				yes		yes
	Ohio Valley				teams		
	Pacific Inter-State				teams		
	Pacific Northwest				yes	yes	yes
	Pennsylvania State				teams		
	Red River Valley						
	Rhode Island						
	Southwestern	Southwestern Missouri			teams		
	Tri-State				teams		
	Upper Peninsula				teams	yes	yes
	Western Assn		M		yes	yes	yes
	Wisconsin State				yes	yes	yes
1892	California			B	yes	yes	yes
	Central New Jersey				teams		
	Eastern		M	A	yes		
	Florida State				teams		
	Illinois-Iowa		M		yes	yes	yes
	Michigan-Wisconsin	Wisconsin-Michigan			yes	yes	yes
	Montana State			B	teams		yes
	Nebraska	Nebraska State		B	teams		
	New England		M	B	yes		yes
	Ohio State				teams		
	Pacific Northwest		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	Pennsylvania State		M	B	teams		
	South Atlantic				teams		
	Southern		M	B	yes		yes
	Texas			B	yes		
	Western Assn				teams		
	Western		M	A	yes	yes	yes
1893	California		M		yes		
	Eastern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Michigan State				teams		
	Mississippi State						
	New England		M		yes	yes	yes
	Ohio-Michigan		M		yes	yes	yes
	Pennsylvania State		M		yes	yes	yes
1893	Southern		M	B	yes		
	Western Assn	Kansas State	M		yes	yes	yes

Year	League	aka/notes	Member	Class	W-L	Nick	Man
1893	Western						
1894	Eastern		M		yes		
	Inter-State				teams		
	Merrimac Valley				teams		
	Michigan State						
	Mississippi State						
	New England		M		yes		yes
	New York State				yes	yes	yes
	Pennsylvania State		M		yes		
	Puget Sound				teams		
	Southern		M	B	yes		yes
	Tri-State	(OH-MI-WV)			teams		
	Virginia	Virginia State	M		yes		
	Western Assn	Kansas State	M	A	yes		
	Western		M		yes	yes	yes
1895	Colorado State						
	Connecticut State				yes		
	Cumberland Valley				teams		
	Eastern		M	A	yes	yes	
	Eastern Inter-State	(OH-WV)			yes		
	Eastern International						
	Eastern Iowa				yes	yes	yes
	Inter-State				teams		
	Iron & Oil				teams		
	Kansas State				teams		
	Michigan State		M	B	yes	yes	
	Missouri Valley				teams		
	New England Assn		M		yes		
	New England		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	New York State			B	yes		
	Northern Michigan						
	Ohio State				teams		
	Pennsylvania State		M		yes	yes	
	South Atlantic						
	Southern		M	B	yes		
	Southern Illinois						
	Southwest Inter-State						
	Texas-Southern		M		yes		
	Upper Peninsula						
	Virginia	Virginia State	M	B	yes	yes	yes
	Western Assn		M	B	yes		
	Western		M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Western Inter-State	(IN-IL)		B	yes		yes
1896	Atlantic		M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Blue Grass						
	Canadian				yes		
	Central Connecticut				teams		
	Central Pennsylvania				teams		
	Colorado State				yes		
	Cumberland Valley	possibly semi-pro	M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Eastern		M		yes	yes	yes
	Illinois						
	Indiana State				teams		
	Interstate	(IN-OH-MI)	M	C	yes		
	International						
	Kansas State				teams		
	Kentucky-Indiana				teams		
	Lehigh Valley						
	Maine State						
	Missouri State						
	Naugatuck Valley				yes		
	New England		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	New Pacific	Pacific Northwest	M	C	yes	yes	yes

Year	League	aka/notes	Member	Class	W-L	Nick	Man
1896	Ohio-West Virginia						
	Pennsylvania State			B	yes	yes	yes
	Schuylkill Valley				teams		
	Southeastern		M		teams		
	Southern			B	yes	yes	yes
	Southern Illinois						
	Texas	Texas-Southern	M	C	yes		
	Virginia State		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	Western Assn		M	B	yes		
	Western		M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Wisconsin State						
1897	Arizona						
	Arkansas	Arkansas State			yes		
	Atlantic		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	Canadian				yes	yes	yes
	Central	(KY-IN-TN)		C	yes		
	Central Pennsylvania			F	yes		
	Connecticut	Connecticut State		F	yes		
	Eastern		M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Indiana State						
	Inter-State	(OH-IN-WV)	M	B	yes		yes
	Kansas State				teams		
	Kootenay & Washington						
	Lehigh Valley						
	Maine State				yes		
	Michigan	Michigan State		D	yes		
	New England		M	B	yes		yes
	New Jersey State			D			
	New York State			C	yes		
	Ohio State						
	Ohio-West Virginia				yes		
	Red River Valley			F			
	Southeastern				yes	yes	yes
	Texas	Texas-Southern		C	yes		
	Washington State				teams		
	Western Assn		M	B	yes		
	Western		M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Wisconsin						
1898	Atlantic		M	B	yes		
	California			D	yes	yes	yes
	Canadian				yes	yes	yes
	Central Pennsylvania				teams		
	Colorado				teams		
	Connecticut	Connecticut State		F	yes		
	Eastern		M	A	yes		
	Inter-State	(OH-IN-WV)	M	B	yes	yes	yes
	International				yes	yes	yes
	Iron & Oil			F	yes		
	Kansas State				yes		
	Maine State						
	Montana State						
	Naugatuck Valley						
	New England		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	New York State				yes		
	Ohio State			F	teams		
	Pacific Coast				yes	yes	yes
	Pacific Northwest			F	yes	yes	yes
	Pacific States				yes		
	Southern			B	yes		
	Southwestern	(TX-AR)			yes		
	Texas	Texas Assn		C	yes		
	Western Assn			B	yes	yes	yes
	Western		M	A	yes	yes	yes

Year	League	aka/notes	Member	Class	W-L	Nick	Man
1899	Atlantic		M	A	yes		
	California		M	E	yes	yes	yes
	Canadian		M	D	yes	yes	yes
	Connecticut	Connecticut State	M	F	yes		
	Colorado State				teams		
	Eastern		M	A	yes		
	Indiana-Illinois	Indiana State			teams		
	Inter-State	(IN-OH-MI-WV)	M	B	yes	yes	yes
	Montana State				teams		
	New England		M	F	yes	yes	yes
	New York State		M	C	yes		
	Southern			C	yes	yes	yes
	Southwestern						
	Texas	Texas Assn		C	yes		
	Western Assn			C	yes		yes
	Western		M	A	yes		
1900	American		M	A	yes	yes	yes
	Atlantic		M		yes		
	California		M		yes	yes	yes
	Central		M		yes		yes
	Connecticut	Connecticut State	M	F	yes		
	Eastern		M		yes		
	Indiana State				yes		
	Inter-State		M	B	yes	yes	yes
	International		M		yes	yes	yes
	Montana	Montana State	M		yes		
	New England				teams		
	New York State		M	C	yes		
	North Carolina	North Carolina Assn			yes		
	Northern New York				teams		
	Virginia			D	yes		
	Western		M	B	yes		
1901	California				yes	yes	yes
	Connecticut			F	yes		
	Eastern			A	yes		
	Missouri Valley			D	teams		
	New England				yes		
	New York State			C	yes		
	Pacific Northwest			D	yes		
	Pennsylvania State	poss. independent		D	yes		
	Southern Assn			B	yes		
	Three-I			D	yes		yes
	Utah	Inter-Mountain			yes		
	Virginia-North Carolina	North Carolina		C	yes	yes	yes
	Western Assn			A	yes		
	Western			A	yes		yes