

Beating the Bushes

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The Demise Of The Home Of The Pawtucket Slaters

By Bob Brady

Background

Pawtucket, Rhode Island's McCoy Stadium was built on a swampy area called Hammond's Pond. City mayor Thomas P. McCoy led the effort to construct the stadium. Work on it commenced in 1938 and Pawtucket Stadium was officially dedicated on July 4, 1942. It was renamed McCoy Stadium after Mayor McCoy's passing in 1945. The ballpark served as a site for a semi-professional league's ballgames until it attracted a professionally affiliated prime tenant in 1946. The Pawtucket Slaters of the Class B New England League moved in as a farm club of the Boston Braves. The new franchise adopted the Slaters nickname from a semi-pro predecessor. The Braves-Red Sox rivalry that existed in the majors back in Boston was perpetuated in this B-level circuit as the Crimson Hose also fielded an entry — the Lynn (Massachusetts) Red Sox. The Slaters would occupy the ballpark and retain its Tribe relationship through 1949.

The "Pawtucket" name was derived from the Native American Narragansett Tribe's term for "at the river's falls." The city is home to the historic Slater Mill. Built in 1783 beside the Blackstone River, it was the first water-powered cotton-spinning mill in the United States and has been credited as being the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution.

In the most recent past, the stadium had served as the home of a Boston Red Sox farm team from 1970 to 2021. Pawtucket's Red Sox had started out as a Double-A entry in 1970 and was elevated three years later to Triple-A status, joining the International League. Among the civic leaders who were instrumental in attracting a Bosox Double-A franchise after an absence created when Cleveland's 1966-67 farm club abandoned Pawtucket were a couple of ex-Boston Braves hurlers — Chet Nichols, Jr.

(1951) and Max Surkont (1950-52). The "PawSox" developed many notable players for their Hub parent over the years, among them Jim Rice, Fred Lynn, Wade Boggs, Roger Clemens, John Lester, Mo Vaughn, Nomar Garciaparra and Mookie Betts.



On Easter Eve, April 18, 1981, McCoy Stadium achieved its own bit of baseball immortality when the PawSox and visiting Rochester Red Wings played 32 innings before the game was stopped at 4:09 a.m. with the score tied. The home team was led by former Boston Braves farmhand Joe Morgan, who was ejected from the contest in the 22nd inning. The game was resumed on June 23 and ended in the bottom of the 33rd frame at 3-2, when Pawtucket's Marty Barrett was driven home from third base on a base hit. Given the now permanent change in the set-up for playing extra inning games with a "ghost runner" installed on second base, McCoy's title of the home of professional baseball's longest game is likely to be long lasting.

Sadly, the city's relationship with minor league baseball ended in 2021 when the team relocated to Worcester, Massachusetts. Pawtucket's baseball fans are faced with a similar fate as were the followers of Boston's Braves. Both fell victim to a franchise relocation. Recently, the fate of McCoy Stadium was determined and a déjà vu mo-

The Boston Braves/Pawtucket Slaters Years

1946

The 1946 and 1948 Slaters were led by Hugh Wise, a former catcher whose major league résumé consisted of a two-game appearance with the 1930 Tigers. He directed the club to a fourth place finish (70-54) in 1946 and to the post season playoffs. However, the Slaters were defeated by the Nashua Dodgers in the first round. A season highlight took place on August 12 when the Philadelphia Phillies paid a visit to Rhode Island. A crowd of 6,500 saw the home team nine go down to defeat, 7-5.

Wise was a graduate in engineering from Purdue and was credited with developing a 4-field cloverleaf patterned

diamond facility in 1949 at the Braves's minor league training complex at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. His creation resulted in the first multi-field/multi-team baseball training camp.

Wise also did some scouting for the Hub parent and was reported to once have not so wisely advised his Braves employer against the signing of a teenaged outfield prospect by the name of Willie Mays. In 1952, his son Kendall "Casey" Wise received

a tryout with the Tribe's top affiliate, the Milwaukee Brewers, at his dad's request. Despite a strong interest and decent offer from the Tribe, the lad signed with the Cubs who'd outbid the Braves for the 20-year-old infielder's services. Over the course of a four year big league career (1957-1960), Casey Wise played for the Cubs, Braves and Tigers. He followed in his father's footsteps, playing and managing the Indians-affiliated International League Jacksonville Suns for part of the 1963 season. His older brother, Hugh, Jr., signed with the Braves in 1953 as an outfielder but failed to advance above A-level play, in a career that ended in 1956.

During its debut season, the Slaters fielded some ex-big leaguers. 26-year-old infielder, Roy Talcott attempted to convert from pitching after suffering with a sore arm. He'd actually performed for Casey Stengel's Braves in 1943. On June 24, 1943 before a sparse crowd of 1,585 at the Wigwam, he made a relief appearance for what would represent his only time in the majors. Talcott was pressed into service in the top of the third against the visiting Phillies. Credited with a $\frac{2}{3}$ of an inning stint, he

gave up a hit, walked two and ended up with a 27.00 ERA when his replacement yielded a home run that allowed Talcott's baserunners to score. Talcott went on to become a physician and claimed to have had Ted Williams as a former patient.

Talcott's teammates, righty Hal Schacker and southpaw Bob Whitcher logged big league time with the 1945 Tribe, appearing in 6 games each, which would comprise their total big league experiences. 29-year-old righty Walt Ripley briefly appeared for Pawtucket in what was his final professional season. He'd broken in at age 18 with the 1935 Red Sox and found himself relieving in two contests. Unfortunately, those box score entries comprised his complete time in the majors. Arm miseries curtailed his career. His Pawtucket assignment came after being away from baseball since 1941 while performing WWII military service. Ripley had a talented son, Allen, also a right-hander, who had a 5 year tour of duty with the Red Sox, Giants and Cubs from 1978-82 that his dad had the pleasure of following. Allen Ripley also had a further Pawtucket Slaters link. He was scouted and signed by 1947 Slater pitcher William "Lefty" Lefebvre (see below).

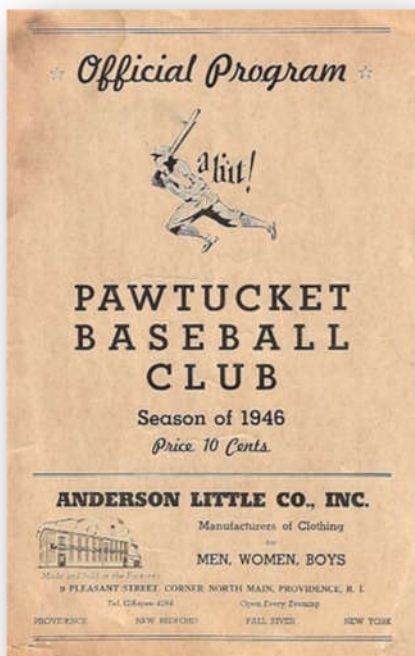
In addition to Schacker, Whitcher and Ripley, the Slaters' pitching staff included 22-year-old prospect Ernie Johnson who would toe the Wigwam's pitching rubber in Boston in 1950 and 1952. He followed the club to Milwaukee, perform for nine years in the majors, and eventually make his way into broadcasting and, once again, rejoin the Tribe at its current residence in Atlanta.

Another ballplayer wrapping up his career in Pawtucket was 29-year-old outfielder Sam Gentile who'd made it to the Braves in 1943 where he performed in the only six games that would constitute his major league experience. Gentile never played defense as he was relegated to pinch hitting and running. He, too, was attempting to comeback after an absence due to wartime service.

1947

The Slaters' sophomore campaign was almost a carbon copy of its inaugural year. The ball club finished fourth (65-60), made the league playoffs and lost in the first round. They were managed by 38-year-old Pete Fox, a 13-season veteran major league outfielder with the Tigers and Red Sox from 1933 to 1945. It was his managerial debut that would include two other future leadership assignments in the Chicago White Sox farm system.

A highlight of the season was the parent's visit on Monday, June 30. The Braves and Slaters played an exhibition game before 8,291 at McCoy Stadium. The home team went down to defeat, 4-3. The ball club drew support from 92,787 fans who paid to enter the park that season. That figure was tops in the New England League and 17,707 better than its nearest rival.



18-year-old right-hander Normie Roy, a Waltham (Massachusetts) High School pitching star signed by the Braves, made an impressive professional debut with the Slaters with a 6-1, 1.86 ERA record. He wasn't too shabby at the plate either and batted .280. Roy reached the majors with the Tribe in 1950 for his sole season in the big leagues as arm troubles cut short his promising career.

At 31, southpaw Bill "Lefty" Lefebvre, a Rhode Island native and former member of the Red Sox and Senators pitching staffs, closed out his playing career with nine Pawtucket appearances. Lefebvre had the distinction of swatting a home run in his first major league at bat. Fresh out of Holy Cross College, he was called in from the Bosox's Fenway Park bullpen on June 10, 1938 in the sixth inning of an eventual White Sox 15-2 blowout victory. Lefebvre debuted at the plate in the eighth inning and faced Pale Hose hurler Monty Stratton. On the first pitch, he drove the ball above the left center wall. The blow also represented his only big league circuit clout. Lefebvre was optioned to the American Association Minneapolis Millers where he teamed up with a 19-year old Ted Williams. Lefebvre later became a teacher in Pawtucket and a Bosox scout.

28-year-old Lawrence "Crash" Davis held down second base for the Slaters in '47 while attempting a return to the big leagues. He'd performed at that spot for Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics in 1940-42 before departing for wartime service. Davis had received his colorful nickname because he once ran into a fellow outfielder while trying to haul in a fly ball. In 1948 with the Durham Bulls, he set a Carolina League record with 50 doubles while batting .315. Many years later, Davis granted permission to the makers of the film *Bull Durham* to allow his name to be used for the character to be played by Kevin Costner, providing the retired infielder with a bit of notoriety.

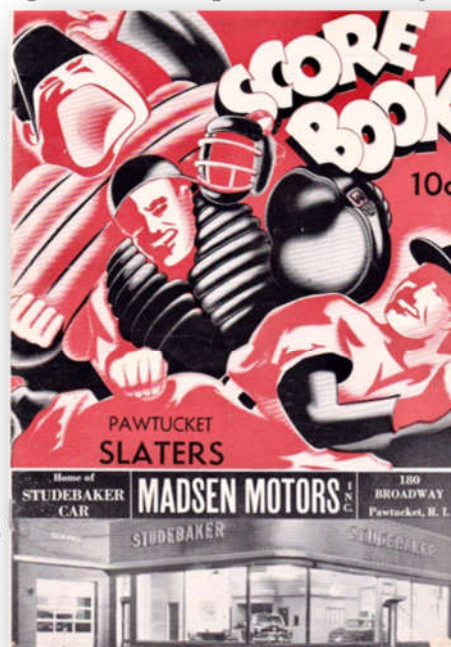
1948

While the parent Braves were capturing the National League pennant, Pawtucket yet again finished in fourth place with their first losing record (61-64) and an annual early exit from the New England League playoffs. Hugh Wise had returned to Pawtucket to direct the ball club. Attendance suffered a significant decline of 32,355 partially due to the lack of a Tribe visit to McCoy Stadium.

The Slaters' roster included future major leaguers Johnny Logan, Pete Whisenant and Chuck Tanner. At age 22, Logan entered his sophomore season and split his time among the Triple-A Milwaukee Brewers, the Double-A Dallas Eagles and Pawtucket. In 45 Slaters games, Logan batted a team high of .325 and later would arrive in Boston in 1951. Teenagers Whisenant (18) and Tanner (19) saw limited duty while in Pawtucket. Whisenant played in 13 games and also spent time with the Evansville

Braves. He introduced himself to the majors with the Tribe in 1952 and would spend parts of eight seasons in the big leagues. Tanner was sharing his third professional campaign with the Slaters and the Eau Claire Bears. He didn't surface in the big leagues until after the Braves had left for Milwaukee. Tanner accumulated eight years of playing time with the Braves, Cubs, Indians and Angels. However his true claim to fame was as a manager with the White Sox, Athletics and Pirates. While with Pittsburgh in 1979, he directed the "We Are Family" Bucs to a World Series championship.

Pawtucket's mound staff included a right hander and a southpaw, both of whom were destined to appear in the majors. At 17, righty Dave "King" Cole was in his inaugural pro season. He acquitted himself quite well breaking in with a 5-2, 3.34 record. He arrived in Boston for a brief late season debut in 1950 while just 19. Cole remained with the Braves through 1952, relocated to Milwaukee and later pitched for the Cubs and Phillies during six seasons in the big leagues. Control issues were his downfall and he finished with a 6-18 record over 84 career games.



Southpaw Don Liddle was a WWII Navy vet who'd earned eight campaign ribbons and six battle stars. He compiled an unimpressive 5-6 record in his third pro campaign. Liddle would remain in Pawtucket and experience a dramatic improvement in performance the following season (see 1949). He would miss playing for the Boston version of the Braves by a single year, debuting in Milwaukee in 1953. Liddle would be traded to the Giants in 1954 along with Johnny Antonelli. In return, "Shot Heard 'Round The World" Bobby Thomson headed to the Tribe.

That swap provided Liddle with an opportunity to pitch in the '54 World Series where he was the starting and winning pitcher of record in the Game 4 sweep of the Indians. Ex-Braves bonus baby Antonelli was awarded a save in the clincher. Liddle had made a relief appearance in Game 1 of the Fall Classic and was on the mound to witness Willie Mays' famous over-the-shoulder catch after he'd served up the baseball that Vic Wertz had blasted 460 feet into the Polo Grounds' distant center field. Immediately replaced by Giants' manager Leo Durocher, Liddle remarked to his mound replacement, "I got my man." However, his time at the top ended after four

years at age 31, finishing with the Cardinals in 1956. He was dealt to St. Louis along with '48 Braves Rookie of the Year Al Dark with Red Schoendienst heading to New York.

21-year-old George Uhle, Jr., who pitched in seven games for the '48 Slaters (2-0, 1.95), was the son of a 17-season major league hurler who won 200 games over his career. The elder Uhle played for the Indians, Tigers, Giants and Yankees. He won over 20 games three times and twice led the American League in victories. He performed in two World Series games for the Indians in 1920. Uhle, Sr. was also known for his potent bat and frequently was called upon as a pinch hitter. His lifetime batting average was .289 and he once led the junior circuit in pinch hit batting averages. Another claim to fame was the fact that he faced Babe Ruth more times (110 at bats) than any other pitcher. The Babe regarded him as one of his toughest mound opponents.

Unfortunately, Junior wasn't a "chip off the old block." The right-hander was Boston Braves minor league chattel in 1948-49. Over five seasons in the bushes, Uhle, Jr. won 32 while losing 28. He never rose above the Class A level and left professional baseball after the 1950 season.

Infielder Jack Weisenburger broke into pro ball with the Slaters in '48, batting .313. He'd already achieved athletic glory at the University of Michigan with their 1948 Rose Bowl team by scoring three touchdowns in the Wolverines' 49-0 blowout of USC on January 1. During his time in the Braves' farm system that lasted until 1951, Weisenburger made it up to Triple A but never got a promotion to the majors despite making pre-season rosters. His grandson, John Weisenburger, III, a right-handed pitcher/outfielder, was drafted and signed by the Oakland Athletics in 2019. He was active in their farm system in 2022 with the Double-A Midland RockHounds.

Dick "Bo Bo" Breck relieved in just two games for the Slaters. As a youth, the Duxbury, Massachusetts native had been a Knot Hole Gang member at Braves Field and followed the exploits of his idol, Wally Berger, from a perch in the Wigwam's left field pavilion. The Philadelphia Athletics gave him a tryout at Fenway Park but Tribe owner Lou Perini had taken notice of his talents and was instrumental in his signing. An injury while with the Slaters in June led to a transfer to the Tribe's Class C Kingston Ponies but Beck failed to recover and was released. However his relationship with the Braves didn't end there. He became a batting practice pitcher for the Tribe and was assigned a locker in the Braves Field clubhouse in between Sibby Sisti and Connie Ryan. In retirement, Breck would play golf with John Benson, the Tribe's bullpen catcher, and Leo Egan, a noted local sportscaster for the Braves, Red Sox and Bruins.

1949

The 1949 campaign proved disastrous for the New England League. Four of its eight ball clubs ceased operations during the first half of the season, requiring the adoption of split season format. On both a dual season and aggregate basis, Pawtucket was the premier entry with an overall 83-43 record, 10½ games ahead of its nearest competitor. Despite their victory total and roster of players that dominated the league's batting and pitching statistics, the Slaters failed to capture the circuit's playoff crown.

Notwithstanding the turmoil, the Slaters' attendance improved by over 8,000 from the past year. Two exhibitions helped out. On July 12, they lost 11-1 to the Brooklyn Dodgers and on August 15, fell to the parent Braves, 14-1. Pawtucket's total gate, however, placed them a distant third in that league measure.

The team's leadership changed three times during the season. Ex-Cardinals, Cubs and Pirates first baseman James "Ripper" Collins helmed the team from April 30 to June 19, when he was promoted to the Eastern League Hartford Chiefs to replace skipper Tommy Holmes who headed to Boston when Billy Southworth resigned. Earl Browne, a former four season outfielder for the Phillies and Pirates, stepped in from June 20 to July 25 before yielding the reigns to Fred "Dutch" Dorman. Browne finished 1949 directing the efforts of the Tribe's Western League Denver Bears affiliate. Dorman, a veteran minor league infielder, previously had been the overseer of the Braves' 1946-47 Hartford Chiefs. He completed the "musical chairs" shifting of Pawtucket's pilots and claimed the honor of being the final Slaters manager.

The Slaters were integrated before their Hub parent did so with ex-Negro Leaguer Sam Jethroe in 1950. Pawtucket first baseman George Crowe had played for the Negro League New York Black Yankees and the Philadelphia Stars before his minor league debut in Rhode Island. He was a New England League All-Star, batted .354 and captured the RBI crown, plating 106. He'd proceed to the parent club in 1952 and spend nine years in the National League with the Braves, Reds and Cardinals. Teammate and outfielder Bob Montag was a fellow All-Star. He dominated the circuit's batting statistics, assuming the lead in batting average (.423), runs (139), hits (192) and homers (21). For his efforts, Montag made the Tribe's 1950 preseason roster but failed to earn a trip north. Montag would spend 13 seasons in the bushes from 1946 to 1959, ten of which were as Braves chattel, but never made it to the majors.

Shortstop Steve Kuczek jumped to the big leagues from Pawtucket on September 8. He received his sole major league experience on a rainy September 29th at Braves Field in the second game of a doubleheader. He pinch hit for Connie Ryan in the bottom of the fifth inning. Ryan had been banished by umpire George Barr when the Tribe shortstop walked to the plate wearing a rain slicker.

Barr was being challenged to call the ballgame because of inclement conditions and darkness, as Ryan's teammates also had built a fire on the edge of the dugout. The rookie faced Dodgers' ace Don Newcombe, a former 1946-47 New England Leaguer with Nashua, and doubled down the right field line. That hit ultimately caused his career major league average to be registered at 1.000. When Newcombe struck out the next Brave and the game became official, Barr terminated the affair.

The second time around proved to be a charm for lefty Don Liddle. He blossomed on the mound with a 11-2, 1.80 performance that resulted in a winning percentage of .846, tops in the league. Slaters' mound leader Ralph Albers, then 19, led all Eastern League pitchers in wins, finishing at 14-6, 2.78. He was given the nickname, "Phenom," based upon an impressive high school career. Albers had been on the parent Braves spring roster prior to his Slaters' assignment after making only a brief professional debut in 1948. He'd receive another parent club spring training invite in 1950. Regrettably, the aftereffects of a car accident cut short the southpaw's career that concluded in 1953.

Slaters right-hander Harry MacPherson had gotten a taste of the majors in 1944 at age 18. Like Kuczek, his one game in the majors would prove to be his last. On August 14 at Forbes Field in Pittsburgh, MacPherson entered the game in the eighth inning in what would end as a 5-0 Tribe loss and proceeded to only allow one Pirate walk while striking out Preacher Roe and keeping the home team from adding to their total. For that effort, MacPherson would forever be listed in the record books as 0-0, 0.00. In 1949, the North Andover, Massachusetts native achieved an 8-0, 2.18 record in Pawtucket but departed the professional ranks by 1951, never advancing beyond Double-A after his teenage introduction to the majors.

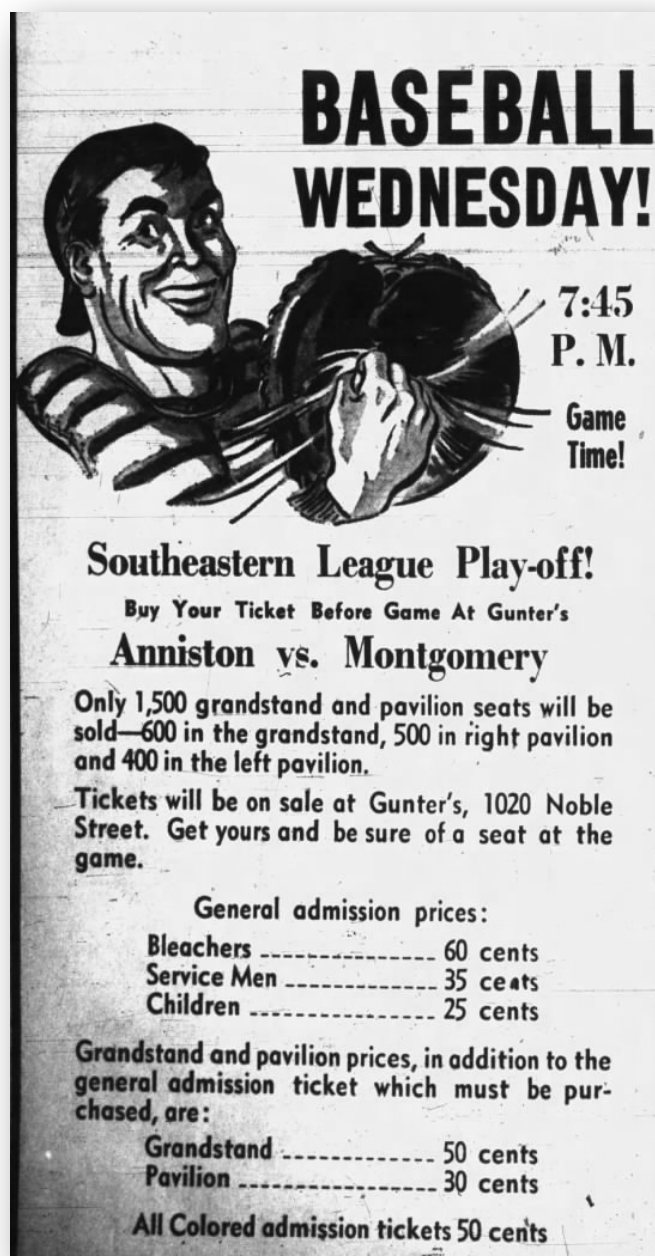
Right hander John Fetzner had been on the Boston parent's spring training roster before being assigned to Pawtucket's pitching squad in '49. The hurler had performed in the Braves farm system since 1947. At age 23, he was approaching the end of the line. With the Slaters, Fetzner went 5-7, 4.50 and lasted one more season in the minors before calling it quits. In retirement, he would serve as a part-time scout for the Dodgers.

Remember McCoy And Also The Slaters

As would be expected, the recent relationship with the Red Sox likely should dominate any efforts to honor McCoy's ties to the National Pastime. However, let's hope that this review of its days serving as a home field for Boston Braves talent will remind the powers that be not to overlook a rich part of the city's baseball heritage. To quote from a song recorded by Frank Sinatra in 1973, "There Used To Be A Ballpark":

*And there used to be a ballpark where the field was
warm and green
And the people played their crazy game with a joy I'd
never seen
And the air was such a wonder from the hot dogs and
the beer*

A version of this story first appeared in Volume 29, Issue 2 of the 2023 Boston Braves Historical Association Newsletter.



BASEBALL WEDNESDAY!

7:45 P. M.
Game Time!

Southeastern League Play-off!
Buy Your Ticket Before Game At Gunter's
Anniston vs. Montgomery

Only 1,500 grandstand and pavilion seats will be sold—600 in the grandstand, 500 in right pavilion and 400 in the left pavilion.

Tickets will be on sale at Gunter's, 1020 Noble Street. Get yours and be sure of a seat at the game.

General admission prices:

Bleachers	60 cents
Service Men	35 cents
Children	25 cents

Grandstand and pavilion prices, in addition to the general admission ticket which must be purchased, are:

Grandstand	50 cents
Pavilion	30 cents

All Colored admission tickets 50 cents

The Anniston Star Sep 1, 1946

The Team That Got Its Name from Its Own Jerseys

By Chris Betsch

It has been written about numerous times how after the end of World War II there was a surge of young men that came home from the war and looked to get back into baseball. The minor leagues boomed from twelve leagues in 1945 to a whopping 43 leagues for 1946, as cities all over the country looked to return to the normalcy of having a local baseball team to support. One of those cities was Oil City, Pennsylvania. The city is located at the intersection of the Allegheny River and Oil Creek, and as its name implies it has been deeply involved in the country's petroleum industry. The city has been home to teams in the minor leagues, semi-pro leagues, and especially the city industrial leagues dating back to the 1800s. The biggest claim to baseball fame for Oil City is that it is believed to be the site where pitcher Edward Waddell was first referred to as "Rube".

Oil City had a minor league team in the Pennsylvania State Association from 1940 to 1942, but like many other towns, they lost their team to the wartime situation. But in 1945 the Oil City Athletic Club declared their intentions to get back into Organized Baseball, and in January 1946 it was announced that Oil City would be admitted to the Mid-Atlantic League, that league's first year back after also shutting down after 1942. As of February 8, the Oil City Club did not yet have a name, but they did have a working agreement to be the Class C affiliate for the Pittsburgh Pirates. In March the team started to appear in articles as the Oil City Oilers. The baseball club didn't have to exert too much energy to come up with the nickname; it shared the name with the previous minor league team, and also with the local Oil City High School, still known to this day as the Oilers.

The Oil City Oilers, managed by catcher Charlie Muse, prepared for their season opener on May 7, to be played at home against the Butler (Pennsylvania) Yankees. The fans had waited over three years for minor league baseball to return to Oil City, but they would have a little longer, as rain delayed the season opener for two straight nights. When Oil City emerged out of their dugouts at Hasson-Ramage Ballpark for the first time, many of the 2,664 fans in attendance may have been surprised to hear the team announced as the Oil City Pirates. The team had seemingly changed their name overnight to tie in with their major league affiliation. So what happened?

A short article in the May 7 edition of Oil City's newspaper, *The Blizzard* explained:

"When the new baseball uniforms were received over the weekend, it was discovered that the name 'Pirates' graced the front of the uniforms, instead of 'Oilers' as had been requested by the local club.

So a meeting was called last night to decide what action to take, if any. It was finally decided to change the name of the club to 'Pirates'."

Rather than go to the trouble of having the incorrect uniforms remade, the club opted to change the name of the team to match the jerseys they received and would hence be known as the Pirates. The uniform gaff should have been the first sign that the newly christened Pirates were in for a long season. The team had financial difficulties right out of the gate, to the point that they felt impressed to press charges against local youths that took off with balls hit outside the ballpark.

Like Oil City teams of the past, the 1946 club featured mostly local recruits from Pennsylvania and Maryland. Unlike the 1941 and 1942 Oilers squads, which featured Al Gionfriddo and Junior Walsh, these Oil City teams did not feature any players that would appear in a major league game. The only glimmer of hope these Pirates had of playing in a big league ballpark was when they were on standby to provide replacement players if the Pittsburgh Pirates went on a threatened strike with the American Baseball Guild in June, but that did not materialize. The closest there was to a notable name on the team was outfielder Chuck Harig. Harig was a veteran of the minor leagues and had advanced as far as the AA International League, spending parts of three seasons with Syracuse. He joined the team in June as an outfielder and took over managing duties for the dismissed Muse. Charlie Muse did return to the Pirates organization later though as a scout and executive, and eventually worked with Branch Rickey to design the first widely used batting helmets.

The team finished last in the six-team Mid-Atlantic League with a 40-90 record, 51 games out of first place. Soon after the end of the season the Oil City Athletic Club canceled its agreement with Pittsburgh. They would not have to wait long before finding a new partner; in February they teamed up with the White Sox. The Oil City Athletic Club retained a team in the Mid-Atlantic League for four more seasons before dropping out of the minor leagues after 1950. During those seasons the Oil City ball club stuck with the oil category for a nickname but took on the more original moniker of the "Refiners". As far as anyone knows the Refiners' jerseys were always printed correctly.

The 1936 Kitty League Championship Series Leads to Protests and Bans

By Bryan Peabody

What was the dustup?

The Kitty League was run very loosely. So much so that teams often wouldn't pay league dues or notify the league when they signed new players. The league was also infamous for not keeping or publishing player stats, which, by today's standards seems unforgivable. Many people involved with the Kitty League were critical of Dr. Bassett, president of the Kitty League in 1936. Many wanted to see him step down and be replaced with someone that would run a tighter ship.

At the end of the 1936 season, the Union City Greyhounds won the second half of the season and were set to take on the Paducah Indians, winners of the season's first half, to determine the champion.

Shortly before the championship series was scheduled to start, there were two protests over ineligible players and concerns by Paducah manager Ben Tincup about playing night games at Union City in the upcoming series. The first protest regarding ineligible players was brought by the Lexington Giants, who finished second in the league behind Union City, protesting Union City winning the league with the use of ineligible pitchers. The second protest was brought by the Paducah Indians who protested the same two recently signed Union City pitchers, both of whom would be used against them in the upcoming championship series.

The two Union City pitchers in question were Larry Irvin, who was signed on August 15th, and "Rip" Schroeder, who was signed on August 18th. The season ended on September 13th and the championship series was scheduled to begin on September 16th. League rules, supposedly, were that no player signed with less than 30 days remaining in the season would be eligible to pitch in the postseason.

Lexington Giants Protest Against Union City Greyhounds

The protest by the owner of the Lexington Giants against awarding the second half pennant to the Union City Greyhounds was denied by a vote of 4 to 0 at a meeting in Mayfield with club owners in attendance on September 14, 1936.

As a result, the playoff between Union City and Paducah,

the first half pennant winners, would go on as scheduled.

Owners of four of the six clubs represented at the meeting voted to refuse Lexington's claim that the second half winners had used more class players than was allowed in league regulations. Lexington and Union City did not vote on the issue. The Owensboro and Jackson clubs were not represented.

Paducah Indians Protest Union City Pitchers

Paducah manager, Ben Tincup, lost his fight to prohibit the use of the two Greyhound pitchers during the championship series and also failed in an effort to prevent the playing of night games at Union City.

Tincup was informed by Dr. Frank Bassett, president of the league, that a 20-day rule instead of the 30-day rule was inaugurated at the reorganization of the league last year. Dr. Bassett did not present any written rules, however.

This meant that the deadline to sign new players, and have them be eligible for the postseason, was August 24th. Making both Union City pitchers eligible according to Dr. Bassett.

After being informed by Dr. Bassett that the two pitchers would be allowed to play, Tincup argued that Paducah should not be forced to play night ball but again was refused.

Dr. Bassett said he called Judge W. B. Bramham, president of the National Association of Professional Leagues, for an opinion on the subject. It was understood that Judge Bramham informed the Kitty League president that Paducah would have to play the scheduled night games.

Tincup said he was uncertain whether he would appear at Union City for game 1, as his contract was terminated with the close of the season. He said, however, that he had notified the team to appear for the game.

The Championship Series Game 1

September 16th, 1936: The Paducah Indians and Ben Tincup were ordered by Judge W. G. Bramham, president of the National Association, to play game 1 that night as scheduled. After a hectic day of uncertainty, the Indians, minus their manager Ben Tincup, showed up at Union City half an hour late but did play.

When the game finally got underway, Union City defeated Paducah by a score of 6 to 2. Both teams played fine ball but the contest was marred by poor officiating. Umpires frequently made glaring mistakes and questionable decisions. The Paducah players protested many of the

rulings without success.

“Rip” Schroeder, the Greyhounds ace pitcher and the center of the pre-series controversy, allowed the Indians nine hits but kept them scattered and himself out of trouble.

The largest crowd ever to jam into the Union City ballpark witnessed the game. It was reported that 1,329 attended the contest.

Paducah Walks Out

After the game, Paducah players said that they didn't want to play because they feared they would not receive an even break from the umpires. Perhaps they had a point given the poor umpiring in the game.

The fact that they did not have their manager on the field to take their side of the arguments and the belief that they were being disloyal to Tincup influenced the team not to continue the series.

Paducah Owner Hook Names “Revoltors”

President Frank Bassett of the Kitty League instructed Hook to notify him which players refused to perform and Hook sent the following wire to Bassett and a copy to Bramham:

“Manager Ben Tincup, players James Hoff, Wayne Blackburn, Gordon Swope, Glenn Grimes, Bob Copenbaker, John Cannon, Junior Thompson all refused to play in the championship series and went home. I have worked hard with the boys, trying to make them play. Balance of the team wanted to play. B.B. Hook.”

This absolved catchers Mel Ivy and Doc Turner. Pitchers Allen Hayes and Bill Woods, shortstop Joe Bestudik and Outfielder Clyde Bracy. Bestudik was given permission to return to his home in Springfield, Illinois due to a serious ankle sprain after being struck with a batted ball last week. His activity in game 1 aggravated the injury.

Revoltors Face Ineligible List

In a telegram in which he warned the boys to play, Judge Bramham informed them that he would place them on baseball's ineligible list and fine them if they refused. Hook said that Dr. Bassett informed him that he would recommend severe punishment to Bramham for the players who refused to play.

This is the second year in a row that the Kitty League season ended in a flare-up. Last year Jackson and Union City were disqualified for using ineligible players and the championship was awarded to Portageville, which wound up in third place during the regular season. Lexington, which won the first half legitimately, refused to play Portageville in a series but no action was ever taken.

While Tincup did not make an appearance in Union City, he was still in Paducah at game time.

Players Given an Olive Branch

Judge Bramham told Dr. Frank Bassett to hand out severe punishments to any player refusing to play. Bassett said he regretted to spoil the baseball careers of the youngsters and that if they would get together and agree to resume the series by the end of the week, he would attempt to persuade Bramham to overlook their failure to show up in Union City earlier in the week. Otherwise, he would report the cases to Bramham and let him decide the penalties.

Dr. Bassett and League Officials Travel to Paducah

Hoping to persuade balking members of the Paducah Indians to change their minds and finish the series against Union City, Dr. Frank Bassett and four officials of the Union City club, including Manager Freddie Hofman, made a futile trip to Paducah on Thursday afternoon.

When they arrived in Paducah, they found that the Paducah players had already left for their homes. Bassett reiterated that severe punishment would be meted out to those who were unwilling to continue the championship series.

Officials of the Union City club, which lost between \$500 and \$1,000 on Paducah's failure to finish out the series, were very much disappointed.

Bramham Bans Tincup, 7 Others From Baseball

Manager Ben Tincup and seven of his players were placed on the ineligible list of baseball and will be fined for their refusal to play the second game of the series, W. G. Bramham announced on Saturday September 19, 1936.

The players declared ineligible in addition to Tincup, were Junior Thompson, John Cannon, Robert Copenbaker, Glenn Grimes, Gordon Swope, Wayne Blackburn and James Hoff.

In the absence of a definite reason from Manager Tincup, it was presumed his refusal to continue the series was based on objections to playing under the lights at Union City.

Bramham said reports from the Union City club, confirmed by Bassett, established the fact that Paducah had played at Union City under the lights during the season and had participated in the first game of the championship series, although the contest resolved into a farce, according to reports of the umpires.

The National Association president was informed that Tincup had advised his players not to participate in the series, assuring them he “would take care of things” if any trouble arose.

“Nothing is more detrimental to baseball than the actions of Manager Tincup and the guilty players in this case”, Bramham said. “When two teams are declared winners in a split-season race, the public has a right to see them play for the championship. Baseball will not condone the actions of the Paducah manager and the players who refused to continue nor will it fail to inflict punitive measures against them for such deplorable conduct.”

The 1936 pennant of the Kitty league was awarded to Union City because of Paducah’s refusal to continue play, Bramham was advised by President Bassett.

Fate to be Decided in Montreal Meeting

Early January, 1937: At the minor league meeting in Montreal the fate of Manager Ben Tincup and seven of his Paducah Indians who refused to participate in a playoff series last September with Union City probably will be decided.

I (Sam Livingston of the Paducah Sun-Democrat) had a letter from Junior Thompson, big righthander who won 20 games for the Indians last summer, in which was enclosed a letter from Judge W. G. Bramham, president of the National Association to Thompson.

From Judge Bramham’s letter it was plain to see that Dr. Frank H. Bassett was doing his best to make the going tough for the Paducah players. Dr. Bassett wrote Bramham, according to the letter Thompson received from the judge, that the Paducah players made a ridiculous showing in the one game they played at Union City and did everything they could to disgust the fans and to be thrown out of the game.

Judge Bramham apparently regards that report as the most serious charge against the Indians. Nothing could be more untrue than that description of the Indians play at Union City. The Indians, even though they were without Manager Tincup, gave a superb exhibition and lost only after a gallant struggle. Union City fans and newspapermen praised their diligent efforts.

On behalf of the Indians I (Sam Livingston of the Paducah Sun-Democrat) wrote Bramham the true facts of the Union City incident, and I hope that the punishment will not be too severe on the Paducah boys who unquestionably made a mistake by refusing to continue play but who, after all, are just kids.

The Final Verdict

January 7, 1937: The members of the Paducah Kitty League club who refused to complete a playoff with Union City last September for the league championship will not have to remain out of baseball this year. Writes big Junior Thompson, Indian righthander who won 20 games and lost only 7:

“Well, I haven’t written to you for sometime, so I guess I’ll drop you a few lines and let you in on something that sure sounded sweet to me; that is, if you hadn’t already heard about it. Here’s the verdict: Judge Bramham says that he will let us off with a reprimand and a small fine. Ben Tincup, Paducah manager, wrote to me and told me about this. I think that is about the nicest thing I’ve heard in a long time. I can’t help but think that that letter that you contributed to our cause helped out an awful lot. Tell everybody that I said hello.”

Judge W. G. Bramham, president of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, recently wrote me (Sam Livingston):

“I have never let up in the investigation of the Paducah-Union City matter, held conferences concerning the same at Montreal, and as soon as I am able to get back to my office, will continue to investigate. I will make one comment upon it, and that is that I do not think I have ever heard as many different sides of one story as I have heard relative to this matter.”

The way is now cleared for Thompson and his buddies to report to Macon in the South Atlantic League. Macon, in Class B, now has claim to the following players who performed for Paducah last year: Thompson, “Shorty” Hayes and John Francis Cannon, pitchers: Gordon Swope, first base; Wayne Blackburn, second base: Joe Bestudik, short-stop; Jimmy Hoff, third base; Clyde Bracy, centerfielder; and Mel Ivy, catcher.

Bramham Officially Reinstates Ben Tincup and 7 Suspended Indians

January 12, 1937: William G. Brainham, president of the National Association of Professional baseball leagues has announced that Manager Ben Tincup and seven players of the Paducah club have been restored to good standing.

“After three months of investigation, I am unable to satisfy myself that the facts in the case justify the ineligibility of these players,” Bramham declared. “I am giving them the benefit of the doubt and restoring them to good standing.”

The players affected are James Hoff, Wayne Blackburn, Gordon Swope, Glen Grimes, Robert Copenbaker, John F. Cannon and Junior Thompson. Several of them have graduated to higher leagues for the coming season.

Kitty League Votes to Protest Leniency

Judge W. G. Bramham's declaration restoring to good standings Ben Tincup and his Paducah Indians apparently is a direct slap in the face to the present Kitty League Administration.

While this column (Sam Livingston, On Sports Avenue, Paducah Sun-Democrat) indicated some time ago that the players would be excused with a small fine and a reprimand, Judge Bramham's announcement coming on the heels of action the league took at its meeting last Sunday is most embarrassing to Dr. Frank H. Bassett, Kitty League president, and the club owners supporting him.

At the meeting Sunday the league voted to protest any leniency Judge Bramham might show the Paducah players. Apparently, Bramham heard of their action, for after months of silence he came out Tuesday night with a statement that "after the months of investigation, I am unable to satisfy myself that the facts in the case fully justify the ineligibility of these players. I am giving them the benefit of the doubt and restoring them to good standing." Bramham's decision apparently shows how well the Kitty League rates with those higher up.

The Kitty League was a constant source of worry to national officials last year and I would not be surprised if the National Association sent an investigator into this territory to find out just what is ailing the Kitty League.

Union City Fan Unhappy With Findings

January 19, 1937: Answering a letter from J. Burdick, Union City, Tenn. who protested the reinstatement of Ben Tineup and seven Paducah baseball players, suspended last September for not participating in a Kitty League playoff with Union City, Judge W. G. Bramham, president of the National Association, explains his decision.

His letter:

Mr. J. C. Burdick, Union City, Tenn.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of January 13. This office makes it a rule to reply to all communications that reach us whether they come from men who are interested in the game or whether they be nuts or vain individuals who find the best food for their egotism is the appearance of their names in the papers. Which class you belong to is impossible for me to determine, though I notice you say you are giving your letter to me to the daily press - The Daily Messenger of Union City.

You term your letter to me a "feeble protest" against my action in reinstating Manager Ben Tincup and the play-

ers on the Paducah club who were temporarily placed on the ineligible list as the outgrowth of the failure of the Paducah Club to play off the post-season games with Union City. It is evident that you do not know anything about the facts, but are merely speaking as a Union City fan, disgusted at the failure of the games to be played. In that disgust I share, but it is my duty to fix the responsibility for it, and for four months I have been diligently endeavoring to do so. The record shows that Mr. Tincup was officially released by the Paducah Club before the series began. Every player on the team supports him in his statement that he did not, by word of mouth or otherwise, attempt to influence his players not to play, but when he resigned, urged the boys on his club to go ahead just the same as if he were manager. Upon the occasion of his resignation, evidenced by the official release that is on file in this office, someone else was placed in charge of the club by the Paducah owner.

All of the players of the Paducah Club contend that Mr. Tincup's statement is true in so far as his conduct is concerned. The Paducah Club contends that the players refused to go to Union City. The players of the club strenuously deny this and state that they were ready and willing to go to Union City and were waiting to do so when they were informed the games were called off, and no transportation was arranged to carry them to Union City.

Whether there was a misunderstanding between the club owner and the players that caused the conflict in the statement of the two, I am not prepared to say, but I do know that after four month's effort to get solution of this conflict of positions, which includes considerable correspondence with the president of the league and Mr. Hook, the president of the Paducah Club, as well as others acquainted with the situation, the facts developed do not justify my finding against the players and keeping them on the ineligible list.

While I regret that you do not agree with the action taken by me, from the tone of your letter I doubt whether you would agree with anybody on any subject, and it is totally immaterial to me.

I assure you I shall not attempt to satisfy your apparent craving for publicity by further correspondence on the subject, but will contribute to a small degree this stage by favoring the press with a copy of this letter inasmuch as you have favored them with a copy of yours.

Very truly yours,

W. G. BRAMHAM, President.

Minor Leagues Miscellany

By Kevin Saldana

Games where a hitter had 7 or more hits

July 5, 1887

Northwestern League/ At Eau Claire, WI; Eau Claire 29, Duluth Freezers 3. Eau Claire third baseman Charlie Reilly had 7 hits.

August 8, 1887

Western League/ At Lincoln, NE; Lincoln Tree Planters 46, Wichita Braves 7. Charles E. Hoover of the Tree Planters had 7 hits.

May 21, 1892

Texas League/ At Houston, TX; Houston Mudcats 20, Fort Worth 10. Mudcats catcher Oliver D. Pickering had 7 singles.

June 15, 1902

Texas League/ At Ennis, TX; Corsicana Oil Cities 51, Texarkana Casketmakers 3. J. Justin "Nig" Clarke of the Oil Cities had 8 hits, all home runs. Oil Cities shortstop William S. Alexander and leftfielder Isaac Pendleton also went 8 for 8. First baseman Michael O'Conner only had 7 hits.

September 20, 1924

Pacific Coast League/ At Bonneville Park, Salt Lake City, UT; Portland Beavers 18, Salt Lake City Bees 8. Robert Emmett McCann of the Beavers had 7 hits.

June 2, 1930

Central League/ At Lincoln Life Field, Fort Wayne, IN; Springfield Blue Sox 38, Fort Wayne Chiefs 18. Blue Sox centerfielder Thomas F. Dennehy had 7 hits.

August 20, 1932

Pacific Coast League/ At Seals Stadium, San Francisco, CA; Los Angeles Angels 6, Mission Reds 5, 13 innings. Richard Gyselman of the Reds had 7 hits.

June 11, 1939

Pioneer League/ At Lewiston, ID; Lewiston Indians 26, Ogden Reds 12. Indians rightfielder Damon N. Hayes had 7 hits.

July 21, 1946

Southern Association/ Little Rock Travelers, 19 innings. Outfielder Lewis M. Flick of the Travelers had

9 hits.

August 12, 1946

Appalachian League/ At Bowen Field, Bluefield, VA; Bluefield Blue-Grays 35, Pulaski Counts 5. Blue-Grays first baseman Thomas J Zikmund had 7 hits.

May 2, 1947

Sunset League/ At City Park, Las Vegas, NV; Las Vegas Wranglers 30, Ontario Orioles 5. Wranglers first baseman Kenneth E. Myers had 7 hits.

September 3, 1948

Tri-State League/ At Duncan Park, Spartanburg, SC; Spartanburg Peaches 30, Asheville Tourists 6. Peaches third baseman Leonard E. Cross had 7 hits.

June 21, 1951

Western International League/ At Yakima, WA; Wenatchee Chiefs 20, Yakima Bears 1. Chiefs third baseman Walter J. Pocekay had 7 hits.

June 4, 1954

Arizona-Texas League/ At Parque Hidalgo, Mexicali, Baja California Norte, Mexico; Mexicali Eagles 28, Cananea Mineros 5. Eagles second baseman Moises Camacho had 7 hits.

September 3, 1955

Sooner State League/ At Memorial Park, Lawton, OK; Lawton Braves 28, Ardmore Cardinals 5. The Braves third baseman William E. Dennis had 7 hits.

May 17, 1963

Pacific Coast League/ Oklahoma City 89ers 10, Denver Bears 9, 13 innings. 89ers catcher Joseph F. Wooten had 7 hits.

July 1, 1980

California League/ At Moana Stadium, Reno, NV; Reno Silver Sox 25, Visalia Oaks 3. Silver Sox shortstop John P. Stevenson had 7 hits.

August 7, 1986

South Atlantic League/ At Columbia, SC; Sumter Braves 17, Columbia 0. Alexander G. Smith of the Sumter Braves had 7 hits.

June 27, 1993

Pacific Coast League/ at Cashman Field, Las Vegas, NV; Calgary Cannons 23, Las Vegas Stars 12. Cannons Rightfielder and lead off hitter Lee O. Tinsley had 7 hits.

June 4, 1999

International League/ At McCoy Stadium, Pawtucket, RI; Pawtucket Paw Sox 25, Norfolk Tides 2. Paw Sox centerfielder Michael D. Coleman had 7 hits.

May 15, 2012

California League/ At Mavericks Stadium, Adelanto, CA; Visalia Rawhide 26, High Desert Mavericks 11. Michael B. Freeman of the Rawhide had 7 hits.

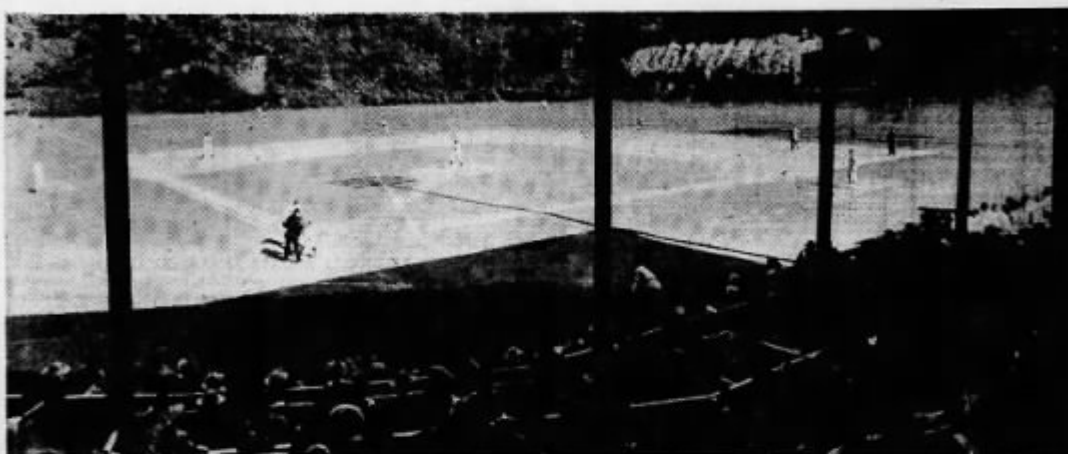
June 10, 2018

Pecos League/ At Central Park, Trinidad, CO; Trinidad Triggers 36, Garden City Wind 6. Triggers first baseman Kenneth Fudge had 7 hits.

June 12, 2021

Pecos League/ At Fort Marcy Park, Santa Fe, NM; Santa Fe Fuego 25, Salina Stockade 5. Fuego centerfielder and leadoff hitter Ben Tingen had 7 hits.

PLAY BALL



A Pledge to the Baseball Fans of Asheville and W. N. C.



*Congratulations
on Your Eightieth!*

As the 1950 Baseball season approaches, we find ourselves conscientiously visualizing the crowds of enthusiastic fans who follow this greatest-of-all sports. It is by their support—through their continued enthusiasm during recent years, that Asheville has developed and maintained this Baseball Club, with a fine, flood-lighted field. . . . In line with these thoughts, the Asheville Baseball Club pledges to all fans an all-out effort in anything and everything which is a betterment to the clean, All-American sport of Baseball.

ASHEVILLE BASEBALL CLUB

E. C. Burleson, Pres.

Paul S. Jones, Business Manager

Asheville Citizen-Times Mar 26, 1950

1922 Western International League, "One & Done"

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On the morning of Thursday, June 1, 1922, fans of the Western International League awake to find that the league standings of Wednesday night are no longer the standings of that Thursday morning.

Through Games of May 31				Adjusted Standings			
Calgary Bronchos	16	13	--	Calgary Bronchos	15	13	--
Edmonton Eskimos	15	13	1/2	Edmonton Eskimos	14	13	1/2
Vancouver Beavers	13	15	2 1/2	Vancouver Beavers	13	14	1 1/2
Tacoma Tigers	12	15	3	Tacoma Tigers	12	15	2 1/2

With the adjustment, both Calgary and Edmonton lose one victory ... Vancouver drops one loss while and Tacoma remains the same.

Prior to the start of the season, Western International League "magnates" announce that the first month of the season will be a period that team managers can "look over" their clubs and make player personnel changes without worrying about dropping out of contention and hurting attendance.



Western International League President
William Freeman "Deacon" White

"Along about" June 3, league president Deacon White is "empowered" to adjust the standings so that no more than one game shall separate each team from the club directly ahead of them in the standings ... no "tinkering" will be done to the actual standing of the teams, just the games won and lost.

After the readjustment, it will be the "responsibility" of the managers to keep their teams in contention ... all player statistics will be kept from the opening day and will not be adjusted in any way.

Unfortunately for the fans and players, the four-team league will pass out of existence 18 days later on June 18, because of financial difficulties ... Tacoma, Calgary and Edmonton vote to cease operations ... Vancouver, the only one of the four teams to make a profit, "balks" at quitting.

Despite a tight three team race, the league is not drawing enough to cover expenses ... poor attendance, high railroad fares and expensive hotels drive the league "to the rocks".

In 1922 there are 30 minor leagues, encompassing 206 cities that qualify for membership in the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues - only the Western Association disbands.

Page 1 of 8:

Vancouver Daily World
June 1, 1922

ADJUSTED STANDING OF W. I. BALL LEAGUE

EDMONTON, Alta., June 1.—President Deacon White last night issued the official adjusted standing of the Western International League.

Owing to the fact that but half a game separated Calgary and Edmonton at the close of play on May 31, they remain in the same relative standing and the total wins and losses for the league do not balance. Throughout the season the lost column will have one more game than the win column.

Vancouver has been brought up to one game behind Edmonton and Tacoma to one game behind Vancouver. The official standing, starting June 1, as issued by the president, is as follows:

	Won	Lost	Pct.
Calgary	15	13	.536
Edmonton	14	13	.519
Vancouver	13	14	.481
Tacoma	12	15	.444

League Throws Up Sponge Western International is Through

1922 Western International League - Final Standings

by Newspapers Accounts
Of the Day

Calgary Bronchos	23	18	--
Edmonton Eskimos	22	18	1/2
Vancouver Beavers	23	23	2 1/2
Tacoma Tigers	18	28	7 1/2

by Encyclopedia of
Minor League Baseball

Calgary Bronchos	24	16	--
Edmonton Eskimos	23	16	1/2
Vancouver Beavers	22	23	4 1/2
Tacoma Tigers	16	30	11

Western International League [2 of 8]:

1922 Western International League Statistics

Individual Batting

Player	Team	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	SB	AVG
Red Kierstead	Vancouver	4	12	2	7	1	0	0	0	.583
Phil Jensen	Vancouver	2	4	1	2	0	0	1	0	.500
Al Miller	Edmonton	12	35	5	14	2	1	2	3	.400
Adolph Schinkle	Calgary	41	184	31	58	12	0	1	4	.354
Gilbert Stokke	Edmonton	38	139	13	47	0	2	0	2	.338
Carl Wiggins	Vancouver	36	112	28	37	7	4	2	4	.330
John Kerr	Calgary	41	171	42	55	12	5	3	10	.322
Barney Kearns	Vancouver	25	88	10	28	3	1	0	3	.318
Pete Fitchie	Vancouver	40	169	33	53	4	0	1	8	.314
Walt Genin	Tacoma	45	169	34	52	5	3	0	11	.308
Warren Tyler	Vancouver	11	26	2	8	2	1	1	0	.308
Frank "Kid" Wilson	Vancouver	46	179	34	55	12	2	2	8	.307
Charlie Barnabe	Edmonton	39	138	28	42	10	1	3	3	.304
Mose Solomon	Tac-Van	19	76	10	23	3	1	0	3	.303
Verne Blenkiron	Tacoma	34	129	28	39	7	2	0	5	.302
Arthur Hauger	Edmonton	37	134	30	40	3	5	2	0	.299
Carl Manda	Calgary	41	160	28	47	8	2	1	8	.294
William Rose	Calgary	29	102	18	30	2	4	0	8	.294
Carl Zamloch	Calgary	41	159	27	46	10	0	4	3	.289
Bill Rodgers	Calgary	38	144	35	41	4	2	0	3	.285
Carl Shoots	Vancouver	42	151	30	43	4	3	0	0	.285
William Griffith	Calgary	41	141	38	40	10	7	1	8	.284
Bo Green	Edmonton	39	135	17	37	7	3	1	10	.274
Eddie Kenna	Edmonton	31	84	15	23	1	2	3	2	.274
Bob Snyder	Tacoma	30	147	29	40	12	2	0	1	.272
George Engle	Tacoma	15	48	7	13	2	2	1	1	.271
Pep Young	Edmonton	39	141	35	37	7	2	2	3	.262
Red Hodges	Edmonton	14	31	4	8	3	0	0	0	.258
Mike Matteoni	Calgary	13	31	3	8	1	0	0	4	.258
Marty Purcell	Vancouver	48	175	25	45	7	0	0	14	.257
John Mooney	Cal-Van	47	173	38	44	11	1	3	8	.254
Phil Apperson	Edmonton	32	108	25	27	3	4	3	5	.250
Bud Connolly	Tacoma	37	144	9	36	7	4	2	4	.250
Pat Kilhullen	Tacoma	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	.250
Roy Grover	Tacoma	37	148	17	38	13	0	0	3	.247
Luis DelaGuera	Vancouver	45	191	24	47	5	2	0	5	.248
Ira Colwell	Calgary	10	37	3	9	1	1	0	2	.243
Red Andrews	Edmonton	38	118	18	28	4	0	0	5	.237
Hazen Paton	Tacoma	46	170	14	40	9	3	1	0	.235
Lefty Bell	Vancouver	19	53	8	12	2	2	2	4	.220
Jim Marquis	Vancouver	14	31	5	7	2	1	0	0	.220
Nick Balsano	Tacoma	12	49	4	11	4	1	0	0	.224
Tony Batalina	Calgary	32	112	13	24	5	0	0	1	.214
R. Burns	Vancouver	31	103	10	22	6	3	0	0	.214
Henry Robke	Tacoma	26	81	4	13	1	0	0	1	.213
Walter Cadman	Tacoma	41	133	14	28	6	0	0	3	.211
Gus Gleichmann	Edmonton	11	38	3	8	1	0	1	0	.211
Spec Burke	Tacoma	34	125	15	28	6	1	0	2	.208
Herb May	Vancouver	11	30	3	6	2	0	0	1	.200
Bert Whaling	Edmonton	13	41	8	8	2	1	0	0	.195
Russ Plummer	Tacoma	11	24	2	4	1	0	0	0	.167
Frank Wolfram	Tacoma	11	28	3	4	0	1	0	0	.143
Fred Connell	Calgary	10	21	3	3	0	0	0	0	.143
Orville Eley	Vancouver	12	30	3	4	1	0	0	0	.133
Fred Brindza	Vancouver	12	32	1	3	0	0	0	0	.094
Milt Steengrafe	Calgary	10	30	1	2	0	0	0	0	.067
Paul Shepherd	Tacoma	11	16	1	1	0	0	0	1	.063
Shoulder	Vancouver	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
F. Lewis	Calgary	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000

Team Batting

Team	G	AB	R	H	TB	SB	AVG
Calgary Bronchos	41	1415	267	391	547	39	.279
Edmonton Eskimos	39	1228	200	333	484	30	.271
Vancouver Beavers	46	1529	218	414	543	64	.271
Tacoma Tigers	46	1544	202	380	528	33	.246

After the circuit disbands, Calgary and Edmonton, the top two teams in the standings, decide to conduct a playoff to determine the league champion ... Calgary wins the best-of-seven playoff in five games and the Western International League dissolves into history.

Batting Leaders

Batting Average	Adolph Schinkle	Calgary	.354
Slugging Percentage	Adolph Schinkle	Calgary	.518
Runs Scored	John Kerr	Calgary	42
Base Hits	Adolph Schinkel	Calgary	58
Doubles	Roy Grover	Tacoma	13
Triples	William Griffith	Calgary	7
Home Runs	Bob Snyder	Tacoma	6
Stolen Bases	John Kerr	Calgary	16
At Bats	Luis DelaGuera	Vancouver	191

Pitching Leaders

Victories	Ira Colwell	Calgary	7
	Al Miller	Edmonton	7
Winning Percentage	Al Miller	Edmonton	(7-2) .778
Innings Pitched	Herb May	Vancouver	91 2/3
Strikeouts	Frank Wolfram	Tacoma	63
Hits per 9 Innings	Al Miller	Edmonton	5.53
Strikeouts per 9 Innings	Warren Tyler	Vancouver	5.92

Six Western International League players - Calgary's John Kerr and Milt Steengrafe, Edmonton's Charlie Barnabe and Eddie Kenna, Vancouver's Jim Marquis and Tacoma's Mose Solomon - will eventually play in the major leagues.

Eight players had previous major league experience - Calgary's Carl Manda, Carl Zamloch and manager Bill Rodgers., Tacoma's Bud Connolly, Roy Grover and Pat Kilhullen, Edmonton's Bert Whaling and Arthur Hauger and Vancouver's Frank (Kid) Wilson.

WESTERN INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE CHRONOLOGY

January 12, 1922

The Western International League, an "amalgamation" of the Western Canada and Pacific International Leagues becomes official at a meeting in Edmonton, Alberta with representatives from Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Vancouver, Tacoma and Edmonton ... franchises are quickly awarded to Vancouver's Bob Brown and William (Bill) Klepper of Tacoma.



Edmonton's Charlie Barnabe is hitting .304 with 10 doubles and three home runs when the league folds on June 18 ... Barnabe plays a couple of games for the Nashville Volunteers before returning to his native California to play for the semi-pro Shell Oil team out of Long Beach ... Barnabe eventually makes it to the major leagues - as a pitcher - for two seasons with the Chicago White Sox (1927-28) ... Barnabe finishes his major league career 0-7 with a 5.48 ERA.

Western International League [3 of 8]:

1922 Western International League Statistics

Individual Pitching

Name	Team	W	L	G	IP	H	R	BB	SO
Al Miller	Edmonton	7	2	10	83.0	51	32	43	48
Ira Colwell	Calgary	7	3	10	88.2	70	32	24	46
Orville Eley	Vancouver	6	2	12	71.2	63	37	25	47
Fred Fairbanks	Edmonton	5	3	8	71.0	72	33	19	41
Herb May	Vancouver	5	4	12	91.2	90	49	35	38
Fred Brindza	Vancouver	5	5	13	79.2	80	47	40	47
Lefty Douglass	Edmonton	4	3	9	75.0	70	28	24	34
Milt Steengrafe	Calgary	4	5	11	89.0	82	28	31	47
McFadden	Calgary	3	1	7	32.0	47	33	17	18
Dick Bonnelly	Edmonton	3	1	8	41.0	38	23	23	17
Fred Connell	Calgary	3	2	10	57.0	64	35	26	32
Dodger Lewis	Calgary	3	2	6	44.2	44	23	15	30
Duke Cross	Tacoma	3	3	9	53.0	60	44	27	21
Henry Robeke	Tacoma	3	5	12	72.1	78	53	30	36
Warren Tyler	Vancouver	3	6	10	65.1	80	50	14	43
Frank Wolfram	Tacoma	3	8	11	85.1	75	39	33	53
Peek	Calgary	2	2	5	22.1	31	20	10	7
Barney Morris	Edmonton	2	2	5	25.2	50	19	17	9
Russ Plummer	Tacoma	2	2	10	49.2	50	36	18	18
Jim Marquis	Vancouver	2	3	12	65.1	75	41	27	17
Rip Hagerman	Edmonton	2	5	7	50.2	48	32	24	14
Ralph Coleman	Tacoma	1	0	1	9	8	1	2	5
Cooper	Vancouver	1	0	1	9	10	6	4	0
Phil Hovey	Tacoma	1	2	7	33.1	35	32	18	7
Paul Shepherd	Tacoma	1	4	12	51.1	57	51	29	17
Scott	Tacoma	1	6	9	43.2	58	45	25	27
Herbert Manouk	Calgary	0	0	1	2.1	2	0	0	3
Harry Huser	Calgary	0	1	5	23.0	20	13	15	9
Leon (Lefty) Bell	Vancouver	0	1	5	15.2	25	17	13	14
Shoder	Vancouver	0	1	1	8.0	12	7	2	2

The league gives Klepper, also the owner of the Portland Beavers of the Pacific Coast League, the option of putting his franchise either in Tacoma or Bellingham; he chooses Tacoma ... William (Deacon) White of Edmonton and president of the now-defunct Western Canada League is named president of the new organization.

Initial league rules set the player limit at 14 per team ... a forfeit guarantee to finish the season is established at \$1,500 and spring training will be limited to 10 days prior to the opening of the season.

January 14

Bill Klepper, president of the Tacoma club, announces that the Western International League will open the season with four teams on the Coast and two teams in Western Canada ... in an effort to save transportation costs, the initial schedule will have Calgary and Edmonton open the season at Tacoma and Vancouver and play in the Northwest for a two-week period after which Tacoma and Vancouver would go on the road for a month playing at Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon and Regina ... Klepper also announces that Tealey Raymond will be the manager of the Tacoma team.

Organize New League in North

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alta., Jan. 12.—Baseball club owners, here today from Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, Vancouver, B. C., Tacoma and Edmonton organized the Western International Baseball league, and amalgamation of the Western Canada league and the Pacific International. Franchises in the new circuit were granted to Bob Brown of Vancouver and W. H. Klepper of Tacoma. Deacon White, president of the Western Canada league, is president of the new organization.

The player limit for the league was set at 14; a forfeit guarantee to finish the season of \$1500 was decided upon; and spring training for all clubs in the league was limited to 10 days before the opening of the season. The waiver price was set at \$100, for the first 20 days and at \$250 thereafter.

January 21

Joe Devine, Calgary's manager for the past couple of seasons will not return to the team in 1922 ... it is noted that Devine's "desire" to leave the team is due to a decrease in his commission in the sale of players.

Bill Rodgers, who managed Sacramento the past three seasons, but was let go after a second-place finish in 1921, is considered the heir apparent to the Calgary position ... it is rumored that he might put some of his own money into the team and become manager/owner.



Bud Connolly makes his professional baseball debut with the Tacoma Tigers hitting .250 with two home runs in 37 games ... the San Francisco native will play in 2,440 games in 19 minor league seasons (1922-1940) ... a veteran of World War II, Connolly will hit .262 in 43 games for the Boston Red Sox in 1925.

Vancouver secures a working agreement with Seattle of the Pacific Coast League while Tacoma will team with the Portland Beavers ... Vancouver president Bob Brown makes inquiries as to the availability of Seattle pitchers Guy Cooper and Monroe Swartz and infielder Hap Harrigan, but is told that all three players are "mixed up" in pending deals and are not available.

February 27

"Biscuits" Besau, one of the top semipro pitchers in the Northwest, turns down an offer to pitch for Tacoma and will return to play for a "fast" semipro team in Kirkland, Washington.

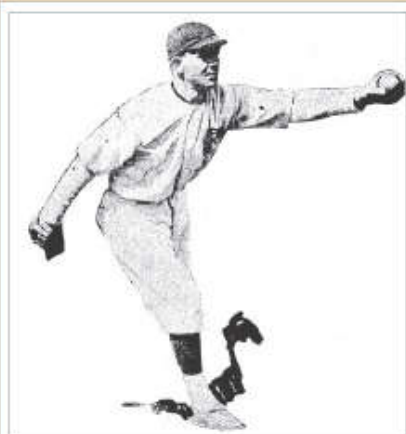
March 1

Signs of impending trouble - Yakima officials decline the opportunity to take over the Western International League franchise held by Regina deeming it "would be too costly a luxury."



Thirty-four year old catcher Bert Whaling is hitting .195 in 41 at bats for Edmonton when the league calls its quits on June 18 ... a .225 lifetime hitter in three seasons with the Boston Braves (1913-15), Whaling is a member of the Braves' 1914 World Series championship team.

Western International League [4 of 8]:



Vancouver Beavers lefty Orville Eley is third in the Western International League in wins (6) and strikeouts (47) ... signs with the PCL's Oakland Oaks.

March 11

At a belated league meeting held in Calgary, Saskatoon and Regina announce that they will not be able to field teams in the Western International League, leaving the first year organization with four franchises - Calgary, Edmonton, Tacoma and Vancouver ... Regina, considered doubtful from the beginning because of the failure of crops in that section of the country, has no one step forward and assume control of the franchise ... Saskatoon drops out because of an illness to team owner J.F. Cairns.

March 12 ▶▶

Two semipro shortstops - Ron Marble and Leo Taylor - try out for the Tacoma Tigers ... neither Marble, considered the better hitter, or Taylor, the better fielder, make the team.

Taylor may have had the last laugh as a year later, when the 21-year-old Walla Walla, Washington, native playing for the Chicago White Sox becomes one of a handful of players whose sole appearance in the majors is as a pinch-runner when he is sent in to run for Roy Graham in the bottom of the ninth in a 6-3 loss to the St. Louis Browns ... the White Sox eventually send the Seattle native to the Western League's Sioux City Packers where he hits a paltry .196 in 107 at bats.

Leo Taylor Will Play With Chicago Americans

One ex-Northwestern leaguer will make his debut in the American league this afternoon with the Chicago Americans, when the season for that league is officially opened at Cleveland. Leo Taylor, who played the early part of last season with Bloedel Donovan, was signed and taken to the training camp by the Chicago Americans, and while he may not be able to get into the lineup this afternoon, the fact that he has been retained by this club is regarded as good evidence that he will be used to some extent during the season. Taylor was regarded as a brainy ballplayer by the fans of the Northwestern Washington league, a wonderful fielder, but a little weak with the stick. He has, however, good form at the plate and will probably improve with experience.

RED KIERSTEAD IS COMING HERE

◀◀ April 16, 1922

Vancouver president Bob Brown announces that the Beavers have acquired standout shortstop Lee (Red) Kierstead from the Tacoma Tigers for promising outfielder Nick Balsano ... Kierstead, a "cleaver fielder and a hard

hitter" is released after nine games because of "weak hitting" ... Balsano hits a meager .224 in 12 games for the Tigers before drawing his walking papers in June ... three years later, Balsano, playing for the semipro Tacoma Keys, will lead Washington's semipro Southwest Timber League in home runs (3) while hitting .395 - good for third among league batting leaders.



◀◀ May 1

Charles Royal of the Orpheum Theatre invites Vancouver Beavers' stockholders, and players from both the Beavers and the Calgary Bronchos to be his guests on Thursday, the day after the team's scheduled season opener.

May 2 ▶▶

The league's opening game - Edmonton at Tacoma - is postponed because of rain.

May 3

The Western International League is 0-for-2

in season openers when the Calgary at Vancouver game is postponed because of wet grounds.

May 4

Leading off the top of the ninth inning, Calgary centerfielder Adolph Schinkle deposits Warren Tyler's "waist-high fast ball" onto Sixth Avenue leading the visiting Bronchos to a 2-1 win over Vancouver in the season opener for both teams ... for the 26-year-old Schinkle it will be the only home run he hits all year for Calgary en route to leading the league in



Western International League [5 of 8]:



Al Miller, 7-2 with Edmonton, leads the Western International League in winning percentage (.778) and is second in strikeouts (48) ... signs with the Oakland Oaks.



Thirty-two year old Carl Zamloch, the son of "Zamloch the Great," a professional magician, hits .289 with four home runs for Calgary ... following the demise of the league, Zamloch, returns to his head coaching duties at the University of California where is 146-93-7 in 13 seasons ... as a pitcher for the Detroit Tigers in 1913, Zamloch is 1-6 but with a 2.45 ERA.

hitting with a .354 average ... Ira Colwell limits the home-standing Beavers to three hits in a route-going performance.

Vancouver right fielder Mose Solomon bats cleanup and goes 0-for-4 as the Beavers manage only three hits off of Calgary right hander Ira Colwell ... a year later, playing for the Hutchinson Wheat Shockers, Solomon will lead the Southwestern (C) League in hitting (.421), home runs (49), runs scored (143), hits (222) and doubles (40), earning the nickname "Rabbi of Swat" and a two-game trial with the New York Giants at the end of the season.

May 6

Four days after it was originally scheduled to open its season, the Edmonton Eskimos beat Tacoma 10-1, before 5,000 Athletic Park fans in Tacoma ... Vancouver sweeps a doubleheader from visiting Calgary 4-0 and 4-3 ... Eskimos' right hander Fred Fairbanks hurls a four-hitter in Edmonton's win while Herb May and Fred Brindza turn in complete games in the Beavers sweep.

May 7

Tacoma turns the table on Edmonton, winning both games of a doubleheader, 7-4 and 5-1, with Phil Hovey and Frank Wolfram pitching complete games.

May 10 ►►

Frank Wilson singles home Carl Shoots in the bottom of the tenth inning as Vancouver rallies to beat Edmonton 4-3 ... Edmonton's Arthur Hauger hits his second home run in as many days giving the Eskimos a 3-2 lead in the sixth ... Eskimo catcher Eddie Kenna blocks the plate in the seventh inning on a sliding Mose Solomon causing the Vancouver paper to opine: "Somebody's going to cut this young man up pretty badly one of these days if he persists in thinking he owns the paths."

May 15

In the "wildest, woolliest, wantonest (sic), weirdest exhibition of the diamond pastime that has been seen at the local emporium this season," Calgary collects 18 hits and Vancouver commits six errors in a 15-6 Broncho win.

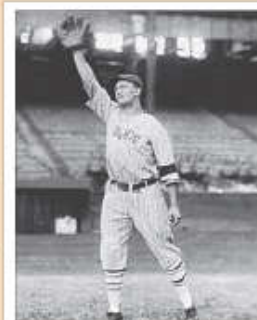
◄◄ May 19

Carl Zamloch is 4-for-5 with a pair of doubles as Calgary moves to 10-5 on the season with a 10-3 win over Vancouver ... the Bronchos are the only team in the Western International League with a winning record ... the Beavers are in second 2 1/2 games behind with a 7-7 mark.

Meanwhile, 175 miles to the North, Edmonton left hander Al Miller limits visiting Tacoma to three hits in a 5-3 Eskimo win.

May 22

Despite cold and chilly weather, Calgary's bats remain hot as the Bronchos total 26 hits en route to a 21-6 win over visiting Tacoma ... Calgary's Peek pitches a nifty 15-hit complete game.



Mose Solomon hits .303 in 76 at bats splitting time between Tacoma and Vancouver ... following the demise of the Western International the "Rabbi of Swat" will play for various semi-pro teams in the Northwest ... will hit .375 in three games (3-for-8) for the New York Giants at the end of the 1923 season.



Former San Francisco Seal bat boy and World War I veteran Eddie Kenna hits .274 for Edmonton ... In July, Kenna signs with the Ionia Mayors of the Central League in July ... In 71 games for the Mayors, Kenna hits .309 with four home runs and 29 RBIs ... In his only season in the major leagues, Kenna hits .297 with one home run and 20 RBIs for the Washington Senators in 1928.

CROSS PITCHES HITLESS GAME

(Special to The World)
CALGARY, May 29.—"Duke" Cross of the Tacoma Tigers hurled a no-hit no-run game against the Calgary Bronks here on Saturday, winning 3-0. He had wonderful control and used a fast breaking out that baffled the local sluggers, but his ability to outguess the league-leaders was the feature that decided so strongly in his favor. The Tigers gave him wonderful support to emulate the prowess of baseball heroes who occupy places on the scroll of the diamond pastime.

Score by Innings— R. H. E.
Tacoma .. 000001100—2 3 2
Calgary .. 000000000—0 0 1
Batteries—Tacoma, Cross and Cullen; Calgary, Steengrafe and Batistana.

◀◀ May 28

In the first game of a Sunday afternoon doubleheader, Tacoma's Duke Cross tosses the league's first and only no-hitter in a 2-0 win over Calgary ... in the second game; Calgary's Dodger Lewis makes his professional baseball debut shutting out the Tigers 4-0, yielding only four hits in the process.

In his next two starts, Cross is knocked out in the first inning of an 11-9 loss to Edmonton (June 1) and then allows 12 hits in an 11-0 complete game setback to the Eskimos two days later ... when the league folds on June 18, Cross goes up a class signing on June 22 with the Des Moines Boosters of the Western (A) League where he goes 4-12 in 22 appearances.

June 1

Baseball Commissioner Kennesaw Mountain Landis bans Bill Klepper, owner and president of the Portland Beavers and primary financial supporter of the Tacoma Tigers, from baseball for three years for his part in the "Kenworthy Case".

In retrospect, Landis' suspension of the portly Klepper plays a role in the demise of the Western International

League ... following his suspension, Klepper withdraws his financial support of the Tigers, "making the collapse of the league inevitable."

"The banishment of W. H. Klepper, president of the Portland Baseball club and part owner of the Tacoma Tigers of the Western International league, will not affect the local club, I believe," said Frank Scobey, president of the Tacoma Tigers. "Of course I do not know exactly and it is hard to say definitely, but I cannot see how the local club will be affected. Our deal with Klepper was made through the Portland Baseball club and not Klepper personally. The Tigers are sort of a farm for the Beaver team. I am not worrying."



John Kerr hits .322 for the Calgary Bronchos and leads the Western International League in stolen bases with 16 ... the 5-foot-8 middle infielder will follow his manager, Bill Rodgers, to Denver of the Western Association ... Kerr plays eight seasons in the American League with Detroit (1923-24), Chicago (1929-31) and Washington (1932-34), finishing with a .266 career batting average.

June 4

Edmonton's Al Miller whitewashes Tacoma 11-0 on two hits as the Eskimos take over first place with a double header sweep of the visiting Tigers ... Edmonton (17-13) takes a .004 percentage lead over Calgary (18-14) which splits its double header with Vancouver.

June 7

Released by the Tacoma Tigers, southpaw Phil Hovey signs with the Skagit Lions and pitches a four-hit 4-2 complete game victory against Bellingham Elks ... Hovey is 1-2 at the time of his release.

Vancouver releases outfielder Mose Solomon, who promptly signs with Tacoma ... a news story in the *El Paso Herald* notes, "Interest in the Western International is gathering momentum because of the close race and the wonderful games that are being handed out daily."

June 8

Twenty-four hours after being released by the Beavers, Solomon goes 1-for-4 against his former teammates and scores the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning as Tacoma hands Vancouver a 2-1 setback ... to make room for Solomon on the roster, Tiger manager releases first baseman Edward Burke who is hitting a meager .208 in 34 games.



Ira Colwell - 1918
126th Machine Gun Battalion

Colwell, drafted by the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1915 following a 22-win season for the Vancouver Beavers, is 7-3 for Calgary when the league dissolves in June.



Calgary's Mil Stengrafe is 4-5 for the Bronchos and is second in innings pitched (89) ... signs with the Denver Bears ... plays in parts of two seasons with the Chicago White Sox in 1924 and 1926.

Western International League [7 of 8]:

Calgary right hander Milt Steengrafe pitches a six-hit complete game as the Bronchos regain first place with a 5-3 win over Edmonton ... Steengrafe plays parts of two seasons with the Chicago White Sox in 1924 and 1926, finishing 1-1 with a 5.11 ERA in 16 career games.

June 11

Former Portland Beaver Ralph Coleman makes his Western International League debut in grand style, allowing eight hits and striking out five in a 3-1 complete game win over visiting Tacoma.

June 16

Following four weeks of not meeting payroll obligations, Tacoma's Bill Klepper informs the Western International League that he will be able to meet all salary demands and that the Tigers will be able to complete the season.

W.-I. LEAGUERS TO QUIT AFTER CONTEST TODAY

Poor Attendance and Heavy
Expense Cause of Dis-
banding Circuit.

After starting the season with flurry of flag and blare of brass with prospect of the greatest season in the history of Class E baseball in the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada facing them, the directors of the new Western International League voted last night to disband after today's game, which will be played at Tacoma between the Tigers and Vancouver Beavers.

Tacoma, Edmonton and Calgary to cease operations for the season. Bob Brown of the Vancouver club balked at quitting because his is the only club which has been making money. President Deacon White wired from Calgary that today's game would be the last for this year. In spite of a fine three-cornered race of the Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver clubs, the league did not draw enough money at the gate to pay expenses. Poor attendance, high railroad fares and expensive hotels drove the league to the rocks.

Seattle to Recall Pair.

President James R. Boldt of the Seattle club has only two players in the league and both are with Vancouver. Pitcher May and Catcher Ritchie. He will endeavor to place them in the Texas or the Western League for the remainder of the season. He sent Pitcher Art Henke to Galveston yesterday with a string attached and will bring him back at the end of the season.

The Portland club, which put \$5,000 into the Tacoma franchise to use it as a farm, has half a dozen players on its hands as a result of the blow-up. Other Coast League clubs have youngsters developing at Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton.

The Western International League was an amalgamation of the old Pacific International and the Western Canada Leagues.

June 17

League President Deacon White announces that a majority vote of the league owners has decided to discontinue the season ... with three of the four teams facing insurmountable financial problems, only Vancouver votes to continue.

White secures permission from the National Association for each of the four teams to hold on to its players for two weeks to be able to arrange sales ... Calgary and Edmonton arrange to play an exhibition series to assist in paying off salaries.

June 18 ►►

In the final game of the Western International League's brief existence, Vancouver beats Tacoma in a "snappy game" 6-4 ... playing as if they didn't want the season to end, the two teams battle for 13 innings with Vancouver's Orville Eley securing his sixth win in eight decisions, allowing nine hits and striking out four.

Eskimos Win Exhibition.

EDMONTON, Tuesday, June 20.—Donnelly pitched shutout ball for Edmonton and won the first of the exhibition series between the Eskimos and Calgary Bronks, survivors of the Western International League, here today. The score:

	R.	H.	E.
Calgary	0	3	0
Edmonton	2	7	2

Batteries—Connell and Battalina; Donnelly and Kenna.

Calgary Takes Lead.

CALGARY, Saturday, June 24.—Calgary assumed the lead in the post series by defeating Edmonton here last night, 6 to 1, in a game that was featured by a fist fight between Left Fielder Andrews and Umpire Jake Croter. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Edmonton:	1	6	2
Calgary	6	14	1

Batteries—Donnelly and Kenna, Whaling; Connell and Battalina.



Jim Marquis pitches in two games for the New York Yankees during the 1925 season, finishing 0-0 with a 9.82 ERA ... Marquis is 2-3 in 12 games for Vancouver before the league suspends operations on June 18 ... signing with the Beatrice Blues of the Nebraska State League, Marquis is 7-6 on September 3, when he is fined \$50 and suspended for the remainder of the season for refusing to play.

June 18 1922

Athletic Park, Vancouver, British Columbia

Beavers Take Last

TACOMA, June 18.—Battling stubbornly, as if it was the crucial game of an all-important series, rather than the last stand by a doomed league, Vancouver and Tacoma went thirteen innings before the Beavers emerged victorious, 6 to 4, on Sunday.

BOX SCORE

Vancouver—	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Delaguerra, 2b	6	0	0	0	4	0
Purcell, ss	5	0	1	0	3	0
Shoats, cf	4	1	1	6	0	0
Willson, rf	5	2	4	5	0	0
Mooney, lf	4	1	1	4	0	0
Wiggins, c	3	1	1	9	0	0
Kearna, 3b	6	1	3	4	0	0
Burns, 1b	2	0	1	10	0	1
Eley, p	6	0	0	0	1	0
Ritchie, c	3	0	1	1	1	0

Totals

Tacoma—

Tacoma—	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Blenkiron, cf	6	0	0	1	0	0
Genin, rf	4	0	1	2	0	1
Grover, 2b	6	1	1	3	5	0
Snyder, lf	5	1	2	4	0	0
Solomon, 1b	6	1	2	20	0	0
Paton, 3b	5	0	2	1	4	0
Connell, c	5	0	0	2	5	0
Cadman, c	3	0	0	6	1	0
Wolfram, p	4	1	1	0	6	0

Totals

Score by Innings:

Summary: Stolen bases, Genin, Grover, Snyder, Kearna; sacrifice hits, Genin, Wolfram, Shoats (2), Mooney (2); two base hits, Grover, Willson; home run, Snyder; double plays, Grover to Solomon, Paton to Grover to Solomon; struck out, by Wolfram 3, by Eley 4; bases on balls, off Wolfram 5, off Eley 5; wild pitch, Eley; time of game 2:33; umpire, Held.

Western International League [8 of 8]:

FOUR-CLUB CIRCUIT LIKELY

TWO TEAMS QUIT WESTERN INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Regina and Saskatoon Drop Out
and Lining Up of Other Cities
Is Improbable.

PUGET SOUND BUREAU, Tacoma, Wash., March 16.—Announcement that it is virtually a foregone conclusion that the Western International league will operate this season as a four-club organization was received here by fans with a general feeling of regret. Plans, financing and publicity for the infant league were based upon the promise that the organization would operate as a six-team circuit, with Tacoma, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Regina and Saskatoon as the member clubs.

From the first Regina was considered as doubtful, due to failure of crops in that section last year and the fact that no one was willing to take charge of the club.

At the belated league meeting in Calgary Saturday it developed that not only Regina, but Saskatoon, would not join, Saskatoon dropping out due to illness of J. F. Cairns, owner of the franchise. While Stub Nelson, business manager of the Tacoma team, held out some hope of landing two more clubs for the circuit, at this late date it is highly improbable, particularly as some of the league members favor a four-club organization this year.

However, in the situation there is considerable consolation. In the first place, the four teams which will compose the league will all have fast ball teams, insuring a close race. Some of the more optimistic of the fans have pointed out that a good four-team league is better than a league with six teams two of which are "weak sisters."

Adolph's Double Debut

1922 was a good year for 26-year-old Adolph Schinkle ... playing for two teams, the Cordelia, California native will hit a combined .316 with 29 doubles, nine triples and seven home runs and lead one league, the Western International, in hitting with a .354 average.

Beginning the season with Calgary Bronchos, Schinkle debuts by hitting a game-winning home run in the ninth-inning in a 2-1 win over Vancouver in the season opener for both teams.

After the Western International League folds on June 18, Schinkle signs with the Pacific Coast League's Sacramento Senators where on June 24, he homers in his debut in a 5-3 loss to San Francisco Seals.

A veteran of World War I, Schinkle spends two years (1917-1918) with the Marines as a sharpshooter and is stationed in France when the war ends.

Suffering an arm injury during the 1919 season, Schinkle pitches several years (1920-1921) in semi-pro leagues up and down the West Coast ... on March 7, 1920, Schinkle no-hits the Mare Island (Wash.) Sailors, striking out 12 in a 7-0 victory.

Schinkle Pitches No Hit; No Runner

MARE ISLAND, March 7.—Rudy Schinkle, late of Salt Lake, was in great form today, hurling the O'Hare Billiards of Vallejo to a no-run, no-hit game against the Mare Island sailors, the final score reading 7 to 0. Schinkle struck out twelve. The score:

Team	R	H	E
Billiards	7	13	1
Sailors	0	0	0

Outfielders: Schinkle and Beedingham; Kelly and Tudor.



Bill Rodgers
Player/Manager 1918 Calgary Bronchos

Denver Asks Press To Find Good Leader

CHICAGO, Tuesday, June 20.—Wanted: A first class manager for the Denver Club of the Western League, capable of playing second base or shortstop and instilling a lot of "pep" into a tail-end ball club.

This was the appeal of President Tearney of the Western League last night who, after exhausting all other means of finding a capable leader, requested the Associated Press to help in an effort to find the right man.

"Probably a hundred or more capable baseball managers will see this in the papers and we'll find the one we are looking for," President Tearney said.

Whoever is selected to take the job faces a difficult task, for the Denver Club, at the bottom of the heap in the race for the Western League pennant, has won only about one-third of its games.

Denver Gets a New Pilot

Denver, Colo., June 24.—President Al Price of the Denver Western league baseball club, announced today that he had engaged William Rodgers, as the new manager of the Denver team. Rodgers managed the Sacramento team of the Pacific Coast league for four years, including last year, and this season has been manager of the Calgary team of the Western International league.

1922 SEASON WITH BIG AND LITTLE LEAGUES

Organization	Opening Date	Closing Date
National League	April 12	Oct. 1
American League	April 12	Oct. 1
American Association	April 12	Oct. 1
International League	April 18	Sept. 23
Southern Association	April 12	Sept. 14
Pacific Coast League	April 4	Oct. 15
Western League	April 13	Sept. 26
Eastern League	April 26	Sept. 23
Western Association	April 20	Sept. 4
Texas League	April 14	Sept. 14
South Atlantic League	April 17	Sept. 4
Michigan-Ontario League	May 2	Sept. 4
Western International League	May 2	Sept. 4
Virginia League	April 20	Sept. 6
Piedmont League	April 26	Sept. 16
Appalachian League	April 27	Sept. 8
Blue Ridge League	May 15	Sept. 4
Kitty League	May 16	Sept. 4
Southwestern League	April 20	Sept. 4
Florida State League	April 3	Aug. 19
Mississippi Valley League	May 1	Sept. 4
Three-I League	(Schedule not announced)	