

## SABR MINOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2006

FROM: John Schleppi, Chair, Minor League Committee  
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GENERAL: The National Convention is in Seattle the weekend of June 29-July 2

If anyone has an item, announcement, or topic to be included in the Minor League Committee meeting, please send it to me at the above e-mail address. Meeting times have not been assigned yet - watch the SABR website for further information.

The Encyclopedia of Minor League baseball is progressing in its revision.

Phil Lowery (PLowery1176@aol.com) can use further information identifying minor league doubleheaders taking 25 or more innings and 7 or more hours to complete. If you have any additional info, contact him at the above e-mail. See his current list at the end of this newsletter.

Phil also wonders if the following are baseball records:

Syracuse (IL) played eight consecutive doubleheaders (no intervening single games) in the period 8/14 to 8/21/1945.

The Boston Braves played nine doubleheaders from 9/4 to 9/15/1928

On the collegiate level, Western Michigan played 10 doubleheaders 1/4 thru 5/7/1982—and the Broncos won them all!

Let us know if there are any corrections here!

John Galm (jggalm1@bellsouth.net) would like to hear from anyone with knowledge of a written history of the Florida State league. He is working on a history of the Gainesville club in the 1940s.

Jack Carlson notes ----On July 7, 1914 the Cincinnati Reds traveled to Dayton Vets in an exhibition game. The Vets were in first place in the Class B Central League at the time.

Cincinnati scored a run in the first inning from a walk and two Dayton errors. Dayton later tied the game and went on to win in the 10<sup>th</sup> inning 2-1.

Dayton used two pitchers, Peter Fahrer and Paul Wachtel. Neither pitcher gave up a hit---Dayton had won a no-hitter over a major league team!

Has any other minor league team won a no hit game from a major league team?

Bob McConnell is pursuing the publishing of a fourth volume of Minor League Baseball Stars, a revised edition of The Minor League Register, and a revised edition of the Minor League Home Run Record Book, as well as a combined edition of the player statistics in the four volumes of the Minor League Stars.

#### MINOR LEAGUE NOTES:

Allentown, PA is to build a stadium for AAA baseball as early as 2007. Ottawa stands to move there and be a Phillies farm club. Wilkes-Barre will be looking for a new affiliate.

Marion, IL was turned down by the Midwest League for a possible franchise

Vermont (NYP) has severed its last connection with Montreal by changing their name from Expos to Lake Monsters

Norwich (EL) have changed their name to the Connecticut Defenders

Will Erie (EL) move to Dearborn or Taylor, MI to be closer to the parent Tigers? Eastern League officials appear reluctant to move that far west.

Greenville, SC (SAL) will move into a new downtown stadium in 2006 and be known as the "Drive". The SAL All-Star game is June 20 in Eastlake, OH (near Cleveland)

Battle Creek (MWL) will move to Midland, MI, probably in 2007

Salt Lake City (PCL) returns to its Bees Nickname for the 2006 season. The AAA All-Star game is in Toledo on July 11

Portland, ME (EL) have expanded their Hadlock Field pavilion to a pub style venue, popularized in the new Philadelphia and San Diego parks

Columbus, OH (IL) will build a new ballpark in the Arena District on the near north side. It should be ready for the 2008 season. It will be known as Huntington Park, for the bank that bought the naming rights.

The new State College, PA team in the NYP will be known as the "Spikes"

The Southern League will use five game series between clubs (versus 2 or 3 game sets) in 2006. The League will cut travel costs by approximately 25%. The Southern League All-Star game is in Montgomery July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Nashville should have its new downtown facility ready for the 2008 season.

## INDEPENDENT LEAGUES:

The Frontier League will operate with 10 teams in 2006.

The Can-Am League gained Nashua, NH from the Atlantic League. Elmira dropped out of the Can-Am, and a new team, known as Sussex County, will play at Skylands Park in Augusta, NJ, vacated when the New Jersey Cardinals moved to State College, PA

The Golden League (California) dropped three teams: Surprise and Mesa, AZ: and the traveling Japanese team will not return. The League will function with six teams with the addition of Reno. The 80 game schedule will feature the All-Star game in Chico, CA

The Atlantic League will have a traveling team in 2006 with the loss of the Nashua franchise. It will add a team in Charles County, MD in 2007

Owensboro, KY is exploring a new ballpark to attract an independent/minor league team

There is a movement for a new ballpark in suburban Detroit for a Northern League team

St. Joe, MO became the 10<sup>th</sup> team in the newly formed American Association. The Association absorbed six Central League teams and the four Northern League defectors.

A new independent league, The South Coast League, with eight teams from Virginia to Florida, is tentatively to open in 2007

With rumored movements of clubs in Jackson, TN, Erie, and Augusta and other organized and independent teams: the adage "if you build it, they will come" may include "but will they stay?"

**BE SURE TO SEND ME MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER!**

Following is the list of MINOR LEAGUE marathons, those lasting either 25 or more innings or seven hours or more in combined time of game.

### **DOUBLEHEADERS LASTING 25 OR MORE INNINGS**

#### **MINOR LEAGUES (39)**

##### **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION (2)**

27 – Watt Powell Park, Charleston, West Virginia - 7/21/ 19 57 – Charleston

Senators 6 Wichita Braves 5 in 1:47 and 7 innings, then Wichita 8 Charleston 6 in 4:10 and 20 innings – 1943 fans – finished at 12:27 AM in the early morning of 7/22.

31 – Fairgrounds (later Cardinal) Stadium, Louisville, Kentucky – 7/4/1959 – Louisville Colonels 3 Dallas Rangers 2 in 2:44 and 12 innings, then Louisville 3 Dallas 2 in 4:56 and 19 innings – 4883 fans - 2nd game finished at 9:50 PM.

### **CAROLINA LEAGUE (1)**

26 – City Stadium, Lynchburg, Virginia – 8/8/1966 – Kinston Eagles 6 Lynchburg White Sox 0 in 1:33 and 7 innings, then Lynchburg 4 Kinston 3 in 3:48 and 19 innings – 428 fans – 2nd game finished at 11:56 PM.

### **CENTRAL LEAGUE (1)**

28 – Louisiana Street Park, Evansville, Indiana – 7/4/1907 – Terre Haute Hottentots vs. Evansville River Rats in 9 innings, then Evansville 2 Terre Haute 0 in 3:30 and 19 innings.

### **DIXIE ASSOCIATION (1)**

27 – Ray Winder Field, Little Rock, Arkansas – 8/7/1971 – Jacksonville Suns 4 Arkansas Travelers 2 in 3:58 and 16 innings, then Arkansas 3 Jacksonville 2 in 3:16 and 11 innings – 2638 fans – 2nd game finished at 1:45 AM in the early morning of 8/8.

### **EASTERN LEAGUE (3)**

29 – Chadwick Park, Albany, New York - 5/30/1924 – Pittsfield Hillies 6 Albany Empires 0 in 9 innings in a.m. game, then Pittsfield 9 Albany 8 in 20 innings in p.m. game – 5000 fans.

26 – Bulkeley Stadium, Hartford, Connecticut – 5/11/1948 – Hartford Chiefs 5 Elmira Pioneers 4 in 9 innings, then Hartford 5 Elmira 4 in 17 innings.

27 – Triplets (later Johnson) Field, Johnson City, New York – 5/18/ 19 52 – Binghamton Triplets 4 Scranton Miners 3 in 5:10 and 20 innings, then Scranton 4 Binghamton 0 in 7 innings.

### **FLORIDA STATE LEAGUE (3)**

25 – City Island Park, Daytona Beach, Florida – 6/21/1966 – Daytona Beach Islanders 1 Deerfield Beach Sun Sox 0 in 18 innings, then Deerfield Beach 11 Daytona Beach 3 in 7 innings.

25 – City Island Park, Daytona Beach or Miami Stadium, Miami, Florida – 8/18/1970 – Daytona Beach Dodgers vs. Miami Marlins, then Miami 4 Daytona Beach 3 in 4:00 and 16 innings.

26 – Ed Smith Stadium, Sarasota, Florida – 8/8/2005 and 8/25/2005 – rain delay 0:55 at start, Sarasota Reds 5 Lakeland Tigers 1 in 3:51 and 15 innings, then Lakeland 3 Sarasota 1 in 2:57 and 11 innings, suspended after 2:38 and 10 innings – 293 fans on 8/8 – 2nd game suspended at 12:59 AM in the early morning of 8/9; finished at 5:19 PM on 8/25.

#### **GEORGIA STATE LEAGUE (1)**

25 – Legion Park, Eastman, Georgia - 5/27/19 52 – Eastman Dodgers 6 Jesup Bees 5 in 21 innings , 2nd game called after 4 innings .

#### **ILLINOIS-INDIANA-IOWA (3-I) LEAGUE (1)**

25 – Sherman Field, Lincoln , Nebraska – 8/19/1961 – Lincoln vs. Fox Cities Foxes, then Lincoln 6 Fox Cities 3 in 16 innings – finished at 1:35 AM in the early morning of 8/20.

#### **INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE (4)**

27 – Jets (later Franklin County) Stadium, Columbus, Ohio – 5/8/1955 – Montreal Royals 6 Columbus Jets 4 in 2:14, then Montreal 5 Columbus 3 in 4:10 and 18 innings – 4588 fans, 1000 fans at end – finished at 8:18 PM.

25 – Miami Stadium, Miami, Florida – 4/22/1956 – Rochester Red Wings 10 Miami Marlins 6 in 5:16 and 18 innings, then Miami 3 Rochester 2 in 2:03 and 7 innings – 3486 fans – finished at 9:06 PM.

28 – Diamond, Richmond, Virginia - 8/7/1989 – Toledo Mud Hens 4 Richmond Braves 1 in 5:01 and 21 innings, then Richmond 3 Toledo 0 in 2:23 and 7 innings – 100 fans at end - 2nd game finished at 1:57 AM in the early morning of 8/8.

25 – Knights Castle, Fort Mill, South Carolina – 8/15/2003 – Charlotte Knights 4 Indianapolis Indians 3 in 6:20 and 18 innings, then Charlotte 5 Indianapolis 1 in 1:54 and 7 innings – 5275 fans, 100 fans at start of second game, 36 fans at end plus 250 Girl Scouts asleep in Home Run Café ballpark restaurant who were to have camped out in the outfield after the games – 2nd game finished at 2:55 AM in the early morning of 8/16.

#### **MIDWEST LEAGUE (2)**

30 – Waterloo Stadium, Waterloo, Iowa – 5/30/1976 – Burlington Bees 4 Waterloo Royals 3 in 5:33 and 22 innings, then Burlington 4 Waterloo 3 in 2:09

and 8 innings – 603 fans – 2nd game finished at 11:12 PM.

28 – Philip B. Elfstrom Stadium, Geneva, Illinois – 4/9/2003 – Kane County Cougars 3 Burlington Bees 2 in 3:49 and 13 innings, then Kane County 2 Burlington 1 in 3:32 and 15 innings – 1469 fans, 14 fans at end – 2nd game finished at 11:25 PM.

#### **NEW YORK-PENNSYLVANIA LEAGUE (1)**

27 – Richmond County Bank Ballpark at St. George, New York, New York - 7/16/2004 and 8/2/2004 – Staten Island Yankees 4 New Jersey Cardinals 3 in 4:43 and 17 innings, then New Jersey 3 Staten Island 0 in 2:53 and 10 innings, suspended after 1:38 and 6 innings, resumed on 8/2 after regularly scheduled game New Jersey 10 Staten Island 5 in 2:53 – 3909 fans on 7/16, 350 fans at start of 2nd game, 150 fans at suspension, 300 fans top 7th on 8/2, 175 fans at end – suspended at 1:14 AM in the early morning of 7/17, finished at 11:55 PM on 8/2.

#### **NEW YORK STATE LEAGUE (1)**

27 – Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, Pennsylvania – 5/31/1909 – Scranton Miners vs. Wilkes-Barre Barons in 9 innings at Wilkes-Barre, then Scranton 1 Wilkes-Barre 0 in 18 innings at Scranton.

#### **NORTH CAROLINA STATE LEAGUE (1)**

34 ½ – League Park, Raleigh and Hanes Field, Durham, North Carolina - 7/5/1915 – Raleigh Capitals 3 Durham Bulls 2 in 3:05 and 14 innings in a.m. game at Raleigh; Raleigh 2 Durham 2 in 3:11 in p.m. game at Durham, called due to darkness with Durham batting in bottom of 21st – 700 fans for a.m. game; 1500 fans for p.m. game.

#### **OHIO-PENNSYLVANIA LEAGUE (1)**

27 – Strouthers Park, Mansfield, Ohio – 7/14/1910 – Canton Deubers vs. Mansfield Reformers in 9 innings, then Mansfield 3 Canton 2 in 18 innings.

#### **PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE (7)**

28 – Oakland Baseball (later Oaks) Park, Emeryville and New Recreation Park, San Francisco, California – 6/4/1916 – Oakland Oaks 1 San Francisco Seals 0 in 18 innings in a.m. game in Oakland, then Oakland 4 San Francisco 3 in 2:07 and 10 innings in p.m. game in San Francisco.

31 – Oakland Baseball (later Oaks) Park, Emeryville, California – 5/6/1928 – Sacramento Senators 5 Oakland Oaks 2 in 1:45 and 9 innings in a.m. game,

then Oakland 7 Sacramento 6 in 4:00 and 22 innings in p.m. game.

26 – Lucky Beaver Stadium, Portland, Oregon – 5/9/ 19 43 – Los Angeles Angels 7 Portland Beavers 6 in 4:32 and 19 innings, then Los Angeles 2 Portland 1 in 1:38 and 7 innings.

26 – Wrigley Field, Los Angeles , California – ?/??/1948 or 1949 on a Sunday – ????? ???? at Los Angeles Angels in 9 innings, then ????? ???? at Los Angeles in 17 innings.

25 – Lane Field, San Diego, California – 7/26/ 19 53 – San Diego Padres 2 Seattle Rainiers 0 in 9 innings, then Seattle 3 San Diego 2 in 16 innings.

29 – Lucky Beaver Stadium, Portland, Oregon – 4/24/ 19 55 – Portland Beavers 9 San Diego Padres 5 in 2:06 and 9 innings, then Portland 3 San Diego 2 in 4:14 and 20 innings – 4760 fans.

27 – Sicks' Stadium, Seattle, Washington – 5/26/ 19 57 – Vancouver Mounties 7 Seattle Rainiers 2 in 2:20, then Vancouver 6 Seattle 4 in 4:30 and 18 innings – 3915 fans - 2nd game finished at 8:40 PM.

#### **SOUTH ATLANTIC (SALLY) LEAGUE (1)**

29 – McCormick Field, Asheville , North Carolina – ?/??/ between 1960 and 1966 – Knoxville Smokies vs. Asheville Tourists in 15 innings, then Knoxville defeated Asheville in 14 innings – 2nd game finished at 2:50 AM in the early morning of ?/??.

#### **SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION (1)**

26 – Ponce de Leon Park, Atlanta, Georgia – 7/23/ 19 58 – Atlanta Crackers 11 Mobile Bears 10 in 4:31 and 19 innings, then Mobile vs. Atlanta in 7 innings.

#### **SOUTHERN LEAGUE (3)**

26 – Tinker Field (II), Orlando, Florida – 5/22/1980 – Orlando Twins 3 Memphis Chicks 2 in 4:07 and 19 innings, then Memphis 6 Orlando 0 in 1:50 and 7 innings – 2nd game finished at 1:06 AM in the early morning of 5/23.

26 – Municipal Stadium, Greenville, South Carolina – 7/13/1984 and 7/14/1984 – Memphis Chicks 3 Greenville Braves 2 in 6:02 and 19 innings, then Greenville 6 Memphis 5 in 2:11 and 7 innings, suspended after 2 innings, completed 7/14 – 3044 fans on 7/13, 250 fans at suspension, 4456 fans on 7/14 – 2nd game suspended at 1:07 AM in the early morning of 7/14.

26 – Joe Davis Stadium, Huntsville, Alabama – 6/10/1990 – Huntsville Stars 3

Knoxville Blue Jays 2 in 5:35 and 19 innings, then Huntsville 2 Knoxville 0 in 2:05 and 7 innings – 2nd game finished at 2:10 AM in the early morning of 6/11.

### **TEXAS LEAGUE (3)**

25 – La Grave Field (I), Fort Worth, Texas – 7/4/1932 – Longview Cannibals 7 Fort Worth Cats 6 in 3:25 and 18 innings, then Longview 2 Fort Worth 1 in 1:35 and 7 innings – 2000 fans - 2nd game finished at 1:10 AM in the early morning of 7/5.

26 – Mission Stadium, San Antonio, Texas – 8/11/1952 – Oklahoma City Indians 6 San Antonio Missions 2 in 1:55 and 7 innings, then San Antonio 5 Oklahoma City 4 in 5:00 and 19 innings – 3143 fans – 2nd game finished at 2:10 AM in the early morning of 8/12.

26 – Mission Stadium, San Antonio, Texas – 6/19/1961 – Amarillo Gold Sox 2 San Antonio Missions 0 in 1:41 and 7 innings, then Amarillo 2 San Antonio 1 in 4:59 and 19 innings – 1237 fans – finished at 1:30 AM in the early morning of 6/20.

### **WESTERN INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE (1)**

32 – Royal Athletic Park, Victoria, Province of British Columbia, Canada – 5/5/1951 – Salem Senators 1 Victoria Athletics 0 in 4:36 and 23 innings in afternoon game, then Salem 3 Victoria 1 in 2:01 in evening game – 1200 fans for afternoon game; 2800 fans for evening game - afternoon game finished at 7:06 PM.

### **DOUBLEHEADERS LASTING SEVEN OR MORE HOURS**

### **MINOR LEAGUES (14)**

#### **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION (1)**

7:40 – Fairgrounds (later Cardinal) Stadium, Louisville, Kentucky – 7/4/1959 – Louisville Colonels 3 Dallas Rangers 2 in 2:44 and 12 innings, then Louisville 3 Dallas 2 in 4:56 and 19 innings – 4883 fans - 2nd game finished at 9:50 PM.

#### **CAROLINA LEAGUE (1)**

7:00 – Davis Ford Park (later G. Richard Pfitzner Stadium), Woodbridge, Virginia – 4/25/1984 – Salem Redbirds 5 Prince William Pirates 2 in 2:40 and 9 innings, then Prince William 8 Salem 7 in 4:20 and 11 innings – 1588 fans – finished at 2:00 AM in the early morning of 4/26.

#### **DIXIE ASSOCIATION (1)**

7:14 – Ray Winder Field, Little Rock, Arkansas – 8/7/1971 – Jacksonville Suns 4 Arkansas Travelers 2 in 3:58 and 16 innings, then Arkansas 3 Jacksonville 2 in 3:16 and 11 innings – 2638 fans – 2nd game finished at 1:45 AM in the early morning of 8/8.

#### **INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE (5)**

7:19 – Miami Stadium, Miami, Florida – 4/22/1956 – Rochester Red Wings 10 Miami Marlins 6 in 5:16 and 18 innings, then Miami 3 Rochester 2 in 2:03 and 7 innings – 3486 fans – 2nd game finished at 9:06 PM.

7:24 – Diamond, Richmond, Virginia - 8/7/1989 – Toledo Mud Hens 4 Richmond Braves 1 in 5:01 and 21 innings, then Richmond 3 Toledo 0 in 2:23 and 7 innings – 100 fans at end - 2nd game finished at 1:57 AM in the early morning of 8/8.

7:21 – MacArthur Stadium, Syracuse, New York – 7/19/1992 – Syracuse Chiefs 8 Pawtucket PawSox 7 in 5:05 and 15 innings, then Syracuse 4 Pawtucket 3 in 2:16 and 7 innings – 14,143 fans - 2nd game finished at 1:21 AM in the early morning of 7/20.

8:14 – Knights Castle, Fort Mill, South Carolina – 8/15/2003 – Charlotte Knights 4 Indianapolis Indians 3 in 6:20 and 18 innings, then Charlotte 5 Indianapolis 1 in 1:54 and 7 innings – 5275 fans, 100 fans at start of second game, 36 fans at end plus 250 Girl Scouts asleep in Home Run Café ballpark restaurant who were to have camped out in the outfield after the games – 2nd game finished at 2:55 AM in the early morning of 8/16.

7:08 – Dunn Tire Park, Buffalo, New York – 7/16/2004 – Buffalo Bisons 11 Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Red Barons 1 in 2:01 and 7 innings, then Scranton/Wilkes-Barre 8 Buffalo 3 in 5:07 and 16 innings – 14,143 fans - 2nd game finished at 1:47 AM in the early morning of 7/17.

#### **MIDWEST LEAGUE (2)**

7:42 – Waterloo Stadium, Waterloo, Iowa – 5/30/1976 – Burlington Bees 4 Waterloo Royals 3 in 5:33 and 22 innings, then Burlington 4 Waterloo 3 in 2:09 and 8 innings – 603 fans – 2nd game finished at 11:12 PM.

7:21 – Philip B. Elfstrom Stadium, Geneva, Illinois – 4/9/2003 – Kane County Cougars 3 Burlington Bees 2 in 3:49 and 13 innings, then Kane County 2 Burlington 1 in 3:32 and 15 innings – 1469 fans, 14 fans at end – 2nd game finished at 11:25 PM.

#### **NEW YORK-PENNSYLVANIA LEAGUE (1)**

7:36 – Richmond County Bank Ballpark at St. George, New York, New York - 7/16/2004 and 8/2/2004 – New York-Pennsylvania League – Staten Island Yankees 4 New Jersey Cardinals 3 in 4:43 and 17 innings, then New Jersey 3 Staten Island 0 in 2:53 and 10 innings, suspended after 1:38 and 6 innings, resumed on 8/2 after regularly scheduled game New Jersey 10 Staten Island 5 in 2:53 – 3909 fans on 7/16, 350 fans at start of 2nd game, 150 fans at suspension, 300 fans top 7th on 8/2, 175 fans at end – suspended at 1:14 AM in the early morning of 7/17, finished at 11:55 PM on 8/2.

### **SOUTHERN LEAGUE (2)**

8:13 – Municipal Stadium, Greenville, South Carolina – 7/13/1984 and 7/14/1984 – Memphis Chicks 3 Greenville Braves 2 in 6:02 and 19 innings, then Greenville 6 Memphis 5 in 2:11 and 7 innings, suspended after 2 innings, completed 7/14 – 3044 fans on 7/13, 250 fans at suspension, 4456 fans on 7/14 – 2nd game suspended at 1:07 AM in the early morning of 7/14.

7:40 – Joe Davis Stadium, Huntsville, Alabama – 6/10/1990 – Huntsville Stars 3 Knoxville Blue Jays 2 in 5:35 and 19 innings, then Huntsville 2 Knoxville 0 in 2:05 and 7 innings – 2nd game finished at 2:10 AM in the early morning of 6/11.

### **TEXAS LEAGUE (1)**

7:22 – Ray Winder Field, Little Rock, Arkansas - 4/19/1968 – Arkansas Travelers 13 Memphis Blues 2 in 2:12 and 7 innings, then Memphis 6 Arkansas 3 in 5:10 and 16 innings – 875 fans – finished at 2:22 AM in the early morning of 4/20.