

KELTNER'S HOT CORNER



Ken Keltner Badger State Chapter

December 2020

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Upcoming Events:

Keltner Book Club

Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 PM
With Author Jane Levy
Big Fella



Ken Keltner Virtual Holiday Party

December 19, 6:00 PM (CST)



SABR Day - National

January 30, 1:00 - 3:00 (CST)
With Bob Kostas & Tim Mead



Joint Chapter - SABR Day Milwaukee & Chicago

February 13 - Tentative

Direct questions or comments to:
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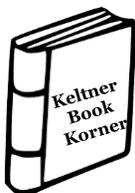
Happy Holidays

May you and those important to you have an enjoyable and safe Holiday Season.

Upcoming Virtual Meetings

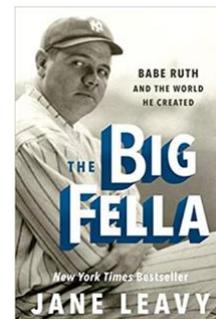
Keltner Book Korner

Ken Keltner Book Club Meeting
Wednesday, December 9th, 7:00 PM CT
With Author Jane Leavy



Book Club News by Mary Shea

Our next virtual Keltner Book Club meeting will be Wednesday, December 9th, at 7:00 PM (CT). The next selection is [“The Big Fella”](#), by nationally acclaimed author and Washington Post writer Jane Leavy. We are absolutely honored to have her join our meeting! Hope you can join us as well for this special event covering one of the most famous characters in baseball history. Please contact [Mary Shea](#) for details or if you have any questions. Special thanks to Mike Hauptert who helped arrange for Leavy to join our meeting. Happy reading!



If you have not received your Zoom invite contact [Mary](#) or [Dennis](#).

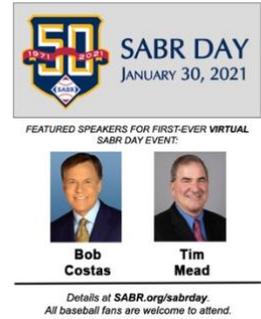
Ken Keltner Chapter Virtual Holiday Party Saturday, December 19, 6 PM (CDT)

It's been a strange and challenging year. Our Virtual Chapter Meetings have been a success with speakers from all over the country but we just don't get a chance to get together and talk baseball or other things. Let's have a Virtual Holiday Party to remedy that. Stop in for a few minutes or stay for an hour as we toast the holidays. Let's share a drink or two as we look forward to a better 2021.

Watch for a Zoom invite in your email.

National SABR Day - January 30

Broadcasting legend **Bob Costas** and Baseball Hall of Fame president **Tim Mead** will headline the SABR DAY event. We look forward to bringing together as many members as possible to help kick off SABR'S Golden Anniversary. It sounds like it will be a day we don't want to miss. [Register for the virtual event](#), which is FREE for all SABR members. Also bring a friend to introduce to SABR. A \$10 donation will be requested of non-members.



Official Scoring with Stew Thornley



On November 12, long time (1979) SABR member and Twin's official scorer, Stew Thornley, entertained 34 SABRen for 90 minutes discussing his role as an official scorer; testing our scoring skills; and answering questions for a very interesting and entertaining evening.

Although all sports have scorers who record what happens, only baseball adds judging plays and making calls. Some of the topics discussed including scoring shifts, the scoring review process, does the ball need to touch the glove for an error to be called and much more. We all learned a lot.

You can enjoy the entire meeting by clicking on the link of the meeting.

Down on the Farm with Tom Flanagan

We were very honored and thankful to have Tom Flanagan, the Brewers Vice President of Minor League Operations join us just before Thanksgiving on November 24. He talk about the role of the Farm Director and his 31 years with the ballclub starting as a batboy in 1990. We learned that the Farm Director oversees the minors with a team of coaches and others to get the players to the big club. Currently, Flanagan does not get involved in scouting but he did earlier in his career while working for Jack Zdurienck; he had some tales on that experience. The Brewers have fewer minor leaguers at this time, about 230 down about 50 with fewer players drafted in 2020. He discussed how development is a year round project with spring training, the minor league seasons, the Arizona fall league and winter programs. Flanagan covered the recent Instruction League play, getting back on the field was pure joy...and a lot of work. And he talked about more, answering questions and telling some stories.



You can enjoy the entire meeting by clicking on the link above. (Note: There is some pre-meeting chatter as people sign on, the moderator mistakenly turned off his video instead of the recording.)

Emil Rothe - Chicago Chapter newsletter, [NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2020](#)
Volume 11 | EDITION 6 is available now.

Get to Know...Dave Weller

Scaring the daylight out of his pitcher is one of the memories from Dave Weller's first Little League game. Doing his best [Yogi Berra impersonation](#), he ran out to the mound and jumped on his teammate who struck out the final batter to win the game. The young hurler was thoroughly surprised and not aware of how to respond like [Don Larson](#).



David Weller was born on Tuesday, June 27, 1972 in Milwaukee. His father, Dennis, worked in maintenance for Nestle and his mother, Charlene (Bukovcan), was a Nursing Assistant at St. Luke's Hospital. Weller grew up in Franklin, WI, along with his younger sister; attending Pleasant View Elementary, Forest Park Middle School, and Franklin High School.

Playing backyard baseball with a big red plastic bat and plastic softball is Weller's earliest baseball memory from when he was about age five or six. He imitated the batting styles of the Brewers, especially [Cecil Cooper](#) and [Ben Oglivie](#) even though he bats right handed. In addition to scaring the dickens out of his pitcher, Weller has other fond memories of that first Little League game that he was so excited to be playing. The starting catcher's excitement was on display during the first pitch in his first at bat. The ball was about a foot over his head, but that didn't stop him from swinging at it. As he recalled, "I remember looking at my coach and he told me to lay off the high ones as he waved his hand over his head." He saw a better pitch next and hit it up the middle for his first base hit.

Not surprising for a youngster growing up in the Milwaukee area in the 1970s and 1980s, Weller's favorite team was the hometown Brewers during the franchise's first exciting era. His heart still breaks when he thinks about Games Six and Seven of the 1982 World Series. He really liked [Paul Molitor](#) and [Robin Yount](#) and was devastated when [Sixto Lezcano](#), was traded. And, being a catcher, [Charlie Moore](#) was another favorite. But his all-time favorite player was and remains [Jim Gantner](#); he always loved the way Gumby played the game, how much grit he had. As Weller stated, "Although never an offensive giant, his defense made him indispensable."

Weller wound up playing third base in Little League¹ and some second base which he also played at Franklin High during his two middle high school years. Due to knee issues, he was unable to participate in his freshman and senior years. In addition to baseball, he ran track in his sophomore year. He continued playing rec baseball after high school into his mid-20's primarily behind the plate again although he occasionally manned third or second.

After graduating high school, Weller went to Madison obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Theatre from the University of Wisconsin in 1994, or as he claims, "I have a BS in bs." He parlayed his degree into being a professional stagehand for 10 years, culminating with a 5-year stint with Siegfried and Roy in Las Vegas before the show ended.

After that show went down, he moved to Florida to try something else; working in IT for the Department of Corrections. When Weller developed a facial paralysis that prevented him from opening his eyes, making working for the DOC too risky, he started his first baseball writing.

He started submitting articles to AOSN (All Out Sports Network), a sports website and has over 200 articles that cover baseball, football, NASCAR, hockey, and soccer. Included was a five part series "[The Ultimate Baseball Road Trip](#)" published this year covering all of the major league ballparks in 2019. Weller worked his way up, from Writer to Editor to Baseball Section Editor to Editor-in-Chief. Other baseball writing he has done includes authoring the *Sabermetrics Primer* in our newsletter the past few months as well as posts for the SABR Baseball Card Research Committee. And, he has a novel in the works; looking forward to publishing it someday.

¹ An umpire called him [Brooks Robinson](#) which meant nothing to Weller at the time but he later learned about the Orioles Hall of Famer who is one of his favorites today.

Weller returned to Milwaukee from Florida in 2016 after a divorce (he has a son from his first marriage). In addition to working and writing for the website, he returned to graduate school, graduating in May 2020 with a Master of Science in Data Science from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. He stepped down from his position with AOSN this June to focus on getting a job as a Data Analyst or Data Scientist. His dream job would be working in the Analytics Department for the Milwaukee Brewers and helping them win the World Series.

Why did Weller join SABR? “I joined SABR a couple years ago because I’m interested in the statistics side of baseball.” He cannot wait until COVID is under control so we can meet again and can enjoy talking baseball over a beer or two after the meetings. I’m sure most of us are ready for that as well.

If Weller could have a baseball time machine wish, what would that be? “If I could go to any baseball event, I think I would go to Game 5 of the ’82 ALCS. I did not go to a Brewer’s playoff game until 2018, but I remember watching the ’81 and ’82 playoffs on TV. Watching [Rod Carew](#) ground out to Robin Yount was the highlight of my childhood. I will never forget seeing Cecil Cooper leap into the air when he secured the final out.”

Weller married Kathy in the Florida Keys in December 2019. They live in the Enderis Park neighborhood in Milwaukee. She likes to go to Brewer games as much as he does; both attending their first post season together, Game One of the 2018 NLCS. He also related that, “My wife got me a poster to keep track of all of the stadiums that we see a game at (preferably when the Brewers play there). So far, we have been to two, Miller Park and Petco Park. Hopefully we can add to that in 2021.”

What final words of wisdom does our sabermetrics guru have for us? “Never do anything that you don’t want to explain to the paramedics.”

Celebrate SABR’s Golden Lineup



You can join **SABR’s Golden Lineup** by [making a gift of at least \\$100](#) by December 31, 2020 and receive the upcoming SABR publication, *From Rube to Robinson* celebrating the Negro leagues 100th anniversary. Your gift of \$100, \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 will bring more young people into the beautiful world of baseball; help us continue to publish groundbreaking books and articles; and to promote research, preservation, and scholarship.

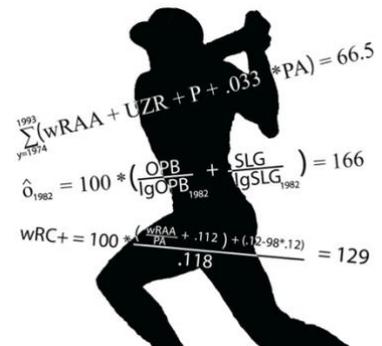
SABERMETRICS PRIMER

By Dave Weller

WRC and WRC+ One of the Most Valuable Statistics

One of the most valuable statistics is wRC and its standardized form wRC+. It stands for weighted runs created and is a good overall metric to compare different hitters’ abilities to produce runs. Weighted means that every result of a plate appearance will be worth a different amount. For instance, a walk will not have as much value as a home run. wRC+ takes into account the league and ballpark effects, making it easier to compare hitters from different leagues and/or eras.

wRC is a counting stat, like hits and home runs, while wRC+ is a rate stat, like batting average or slugging percentage. However, they are not a simple calculation based on stats that are readily available at the ballpark. The bottom line is that wRC is a measure of how many runs a certain hitter produced. wRC+ is more useful



in that it is centered around 100, and it takes into account league and ballpark factors. That makes it easier to compare players in hitter-friendly ballparks to ones that are not so hitter friendly, and to compare players from different leagues and even different years.

wRC and wRC+ can both be found on Fangraphs. Baseball Reference uses runs created (RC) and runs above average (RAA). wRC and wRC+ provide more value because of the way they weight the outcomes, and because wRC+ considers league and park effects. wRC+ is a solid go-to stat for judging a hitter's run production and comparing that to another hitter.

Using wRC+ is easy. If a hitter has a wRC+ of 100, that hitter has an average run production. If a hitter has a wRC+ of 120, he is 20% better than the average hitter. If his wRC+ is 80, he is 20% worse than an average hitter.

It should come as no surprise that [Babe Ruth](#) is the career wRC+ leader with 197. That means he produced about twice as many runs as an average player over the course of his career. [Ted Williams](#) is second with 188, while [Lou Gehrig](#), [Rogers Hornsby](#), and [Barry Bonds](#) round out the top 5, each with a 173 wRC+.

This is one of the few stats where [Robin Yount](#) is not among the leaders in Brewer history. In fact, he is not even in the top 20 with a wRC+ of 113. [Christian Yelich](#) takes the top spot with 160 while [Prince Fielder](#), [Ryan Braun](#), [Johnny Briggs](#), and [Richie Sexson](#) round out the top 5.

Barry Bonds has the four highest single season wRC+ totals with a high of 244 in 2002. Mark McGuire's mark of 205 takes the fifth spot.

For the Brewers, Yelich tops the list at 174 in 2019 and is third with 166 in 2018. Braun had the second best season with 171 in 2011, and Paul Molitor (1987) and [Sixto Lezcano](#) (1979) each finished with 165. Those numbers are with a minimum of 200 plate appearances. Eduardo Rodriguez easily has the top mark with no minimum plate appearances. He had one plate appearance, went 1 for 1 with a triple to give him an amazing 1002 wRC+. He was 10 times as productive than the average player!

Send your sabermetric questions to [Dave Weller](#).

SABR 50 at 50: Off-Field Figures

As part of the [SABR 50 at 50 project](#) to commemorate the organization's fiftieth anniversary, we present 50 of the most significant [Off-Field Figures for the past 50 years](#).

While the players take center stage in most baseball discussions, many others have made a significant impact on the game off the field. These individuals have indelibly marked the way the game is played, watched, understood, enjoyed, governed, and bankrolled.

In creating this list, we have mostly shied away from people whose legacies are still being written, like Commissioner Rob Manfred and MLBPA executive director Tony Clark, or individuals associated with a single event, such as investigator John Dowd.

There is, of course, something a little arbitrary in choosing a list like this, filled with not just owners and commissioners but general managers, field managers, coaches, umpires, writers, announcers, doctors, mascots, and numerous others associated with baseball. Our hope is that you enjoy deliberating the impact of these newsworthy individuals.

— **Compiled by Dan Levitt and Mark Armour, with assistance from Carl Riechers and Scott Bush**





Marcus Hanel Retires as Brewer Bullpen Catcher

After 21 years as the Milwaukee Brewers bull pen catcher, Marcus Hanel retired. After a nine year minor league career he joined the Brewers in 2000 and saw every pitcher who toed the rubber for the Brew Crew. Read the excellent [Racine Journal Times](#) article from November 15.

Research Assistance Request

For anyone with access to the Milwaukee Journal Archive online via the Milwaukee Public Library, Rex Hamann of the American Association Almanac seeks your assistance for a project to tabulate each of the 164 home runs of the Milwaukee Brewers 1936 season. This project is ongoing and the list has been completed, but the total comes up short. If you have an interest in assisting with this project, please contact Rex, the editor of the *American Association Almanac*, for further information. He is available via email at pureout@msn.com or by phone at 763-862-8187.

The American Association Angle by Rex Hamann of The American Association Almanac

Part 2 - Milwaukee Turns the Tables on the Blues



After disposing of the Brewers during the first half of their season series, the Kansas City Blues sat in second place, just a game behind Milwaukee through July 4 when they swept the league champs in a doubleheader. Winning eight of their first 11 contests, the Blues were poised to challenge the Brewers both in the standings and in head-to-head competition.

The Brewers had their work cut out for them going into the Milwaukee portion of the series. The Blues rode the crest of a wave beginning in mid-June when they won 16 of 21 league games, including the pair they won to conclude the Kansas City segment of the series.

Blues bats sizzled like Kansas City steaks on the grill, producing home runs at a record pace. The Blues claimed 38 of the 51 long balls hit in their games from June 16 through July 4. Two games stood out. On June 29 in the first of a pair against the St. Paul Saints at Lexington Park in St. Paul, the Blues clouted *ten home runs* on their way to a 17-4 rout, tying the league record. Two days later at Nicollet Park in Minneapolis, they pounded out another eight circuit drives in a 16-11 victory over the Millers.

Milwaukee, meanwhile, lost their top run producer, second baseman **Jack Dittmer**, to the parent Boston Braves in mid-June, sending the team into a funk. While the Blues laid rubber wherever they went, the Brews rode on flat tires.

But while opponents managed a 32-10 home run advantage in the 42 contests from June 16 through July 4, the Brewers battled back. After losing six of eight games, they rebounded with an eight-game winning streak.

The race between the Blues and Brews was tighter than a hard-torqued screw, but their head-to-head battles continued to go Kay-See's way. On July 3, at Blues Stadium, the hosts put a decisive end to Milwaukee's win skein, and started one of their own...at Milwaukee's expense.

Through July 2, two Blues headed the list of the league's top five batters: right fielder/ third baseman **Vic Power** led the loop with a .370 average in 71 games, and left fielder **Bill Skowron** second,

batting .356 in 77. Milwaukee centerfielder [Bill Bruton](#) filled a slot among the top five the following week, batting .345 in 81 tilts. Kansas City first baseman **Don Bollweg**, after recovering from a hand injury, joined the elite group with a .348 average through 62 contests.

Through July 9, the Brews and Blues led the loop not only in the standings but also for wins in one-run games. According to *The Sporting News*, the Blues won 15 of 23 single-run decisions. The Brewers won 18 of 29 such tilts. Kansas City copped the only one-run decision against Milwaukee during this time frame.

The following game summaries account for the second half of the 1952 season's head-to-head battles between the Association's two top-tiered teams. (Part 1 appeared in the November edition of the *Hot Corner*.) Each of the contests were played at Borchert Field in Milwaukee. After dropping eight of the 11 tilts at Kansas City, the Brewers had a score to settle, and with home field advantage, they set their sights on doing just that.

Game 12, July 5: Entering play, the Brewers and Blues were tied for first place. With big [Gene Conley](#) on the hill for the hosts, Milwaukee takes the early lead with a run in the second inning. The Blues tie it in the fourth on first baseman **Fenton Mole**'s fourth homer of the season. The Brews go ahead, 2-1, in the fifth, padding the lead with three the sixth and holding on for the win. Milwaukee takes over first place by .012 points with its 50th win of the season. Conley strikes out nine before a big Saturday night crowd of 8,045. **Brewers 5, Blues 2.**

Game 13, July 6a: Milwaukee's bespectacled **Eddie Blake** goes the distance with a five-hitter, despite giving up a pair of runs in the first inning. The Brewers retaliate with three tallies in their half, then hold the lead to secure the win with the aid of right-fielder [Wally Post](#)'s two-run homer in the eighth. **Bill Skowron**'s long ball in the first provides the fuel for the Blues' first two runs, and **Kal Segrist** goes yard in the eighth to bring the visitors to within a run of tying the score. Brewer center fielder **Bill Bruton** has a 3-for-4 game. **Brewers 6, Blues 3.**

Game 14, July 6b. Milwaukee manager [Bucky Walters](#) picks home-grown hurler [Bert Thiel](#) for the start in the nightcap. After the Crew posts a run in the first, the Blues take the lead with three tallies in the second and hold on for the win in the seven-inning game (Association twin bills included one seven-inning game). With the loss, Thiel's record fell to 4-3 as Kansas City's **Tom Gorman** held the hosts to six hits. Milwaukee played error-free ball for the second straight game before a robust Borchert Field crowd of over 9,000. **Blues 3, Brewers 2.**

Game 15, Aug. 15. In the words of Joe McGuff, sportswriter for the *Kansas City Star*, "Rain, wrangles, walks and rallies made last night's opening game of this series one which will be discussed for a long time to come. For sheer suspense this contest takes a high spot in Association history. Down, 2-1, entering the sixth inning, the Brewers stage a four-run rally. The Blues answer with a run in the seventh and eighth, and it's a 5-4 Milwaukee lead. With dark clouds looming in the ninth, a Kansas City cloudburst descends upon Borchert Field and the 2,470 in attendance as five runs cross the plate. In the home half, the Brewers rally for two tallies, and have the bases full before **Wally Post** bounces into a force to end the game, putting [George Selkirk](#)'s boys on top in the standings by half a game. **Blues 9, Brewers 7.**

Game 16, Aug. 16. After scoring in the first against **Eddie Blake**, the Blues make it 2-0 into the fifth on **Bill Skowron**'s 28th homer of the year, a 300-footer to left. The Brews finally hit the board with a pair to tie it in their half after Blake opens the frame golfing a double off the wall in right. Bruton draws **Eddie Erault**'s first walk of the game, but Erault foils [Gene Mauch](#)'s attempted sacrifice, forcing Blake at third. **Buzz Clarkson** singles **Bill Bruton** home, Mauch landing at third. Mauch then scores on what should have been a double play ball to third baseman [Vic Power](#) and it's a 2-2 game. The Brewers then punch the winning run across in the ninth, taking advantage of a soft Kay-See defense before a crowd of just over 2,300. **Brewers 3, Blues 2.**

Game 17, Aug. 17a. Once again, the two top teams in the American Association volley for the league leadership. Blues southpaw [Art Schallock](#)'s five-hit shutout puts the visitors atop the loop in the

opener of a Sunday pair. Two runs in the first frame decide the contest early after **Bill Skowron** exploits the infamous Borchert Field power alley in left-center for a 425-foot double, scoring the singling **Bob Marquis** and **Vic Power**. Schallock struck out eight in the seven-inning tilt, and was the beneficiary of three double plays. Brewer starter [Murray Wall](#) was the hard-luck loser, allowing the Blues just six hits while striking out six. **Blues 2, Brewers 0.**

Game 18, Aug. 17b. Before a Sunday throng of 10,025, the Brewers reclaim first place with a decisive win against the Blues. Striking first with one run in the first inning, Milwaukee then pads the lead with three tallies in the third, inspired by big [George Crowe](#)'s leadoff triple to right; Crowe started the week in a Boston Braves uniform but after being released made the drive to Milwaukee in record time to make the Sunday start. Wisconsin favorite son **Bert Thiel** gets the nod for the Brews, making one of his rare starting appearances, and holds the Blues to six hits in a nine-inning complete game performance. Thiel was exceptional in the outing, striking out nine while walking only two, and giving up just one extra-base hit. Their respective records: Kansas City 79-49 after the loss; Milwaukee 79-48 after the win. **Brewers 6, Blues 1.**

Game 19, Aug. 18. After humbling the parent Boston Braves, 3-1, in an exhibition tilt prior to their scheduled game with Kay-See, the Brewers were again the victor before an uncharacteristically large Monday night crowd of 10,615. And again, it's Crowe who lifts the Brews with his first-pitch circuit clout over the fence in right field facing **Ernie Nevel**, driving home **Billy Reed** and [Luis Marquez](#) to make it a 4-1 game after one inning of play. Brewer starter **Gene Conley**, after giving up the first-inning run, shut down the Blues the rest of the way on eight strikeouts as Milwaukee fielded flawlessly in its second straight game. Brewer right fielder **Bob Montag** also homered, and center fielder **Bob Marquis** clouted one for Kansas City. **Brewers 5, Blues 1.**

Game 20, Sept. 1a. August was not kind to Kansas City. The Blues face mathematical elimination in their return to Borchert Field with a record of 83-61. Milwaukee leads the pack at 93-51. In the first of a pair, Brewer starter **Gene Conley** shuts out the Blues on six hits, while **Ed Cereghino** holds the locals to just four hits. In the Milwaukee fourth, Crowe delivers a mighty big blow, golfing a line drive over the right-field fence. That home run served effectively to grant the Brewers their second straight pennant. In the fifth, the singling **Bob Montag** plates the Crew's second run. Conley struck out eight. **Brewers 2, Blues 0.**

Game 21, Sept. 1b. **Eddie Blake** takes the hill for the Brews who score in extended alternating fashion to subdue the sinking Blues. The scoring line for Milwaukee 1-0-1-0-1-0-3-1-x against **Ed Grenkowski** who keeps his team in the game until late. Before another handsome Borchert Field crowd of 7,337, second baseman Gene Mauch doubles and scores in the Brewer first. The Blues tie it in the second, but in the third, the lead swings Milwaukee's way, 2-1, before tacking on a fifth-inning tally, 3-1. Kay-See takes one back in the sixth, 3-2. The mash boils over when the Brews post three in the seventh before salting it away in the eighth. Blake registered two hits and an RBI on his own behalf to secure his tenth win of the season, Milwaukee's 95th. **Brewers 7, Blues 2.**

Game 22, Sept. 2. After the Blues post a run in the second, Milwaukee accosts **Ernie Nevel** with a seven-run barrage in the third, setting the stage for an even split in the season series. Six of the eleven men to approach the plate hit safely; the Brewers registered 11 of their 13 hits in the third and fourth innings, as well as amassing all ten of their runs. There were no home runs in the game, the ninth homer-less contest played between the two teams, the fifth at Milwaukee. While earning his fourth win against six losses, [Dick Donovan](#) wasn't content to merely toss a good game, he was hot at the plate as well, with three hits in four trips, scoring two runs and driving in one. Kansas City left 12 men aboard. **Brewers 10, Blues 3.**

After their win in the final game of the season series, the American Association standings looked like this.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.				
	W.	L.	Pct.	Games behind.
Milwaukee	96	51	.653
Kansas City	83	64	.565	13
St. Paul	79	68	.537	17
Minneapolis	77	70	.524	19
Louisville	73	75	.493	23½
Indianapolis	70	78	.473	26½
Columbus	66	81	.449	30
Charleston	45	102	.306	51

It wasn't much different from the season's final standings as there was only another week to play before the playoffs began.

Clearly the Blues were a different team during the second half of the 1952 season than during the first half. American Association beat writers were critical of the words of New York Yankees' manager [Casey Stengel](#) who had berated the talent coming up from the American Association. The actions of the Blues' parent New York Yankees were viewed as being detrimental to the morale of Blues' players. At issue was the handling of call-ups who weren't given sufficient playing time to prove themselves. This led to players being shuttled back and forth to the parent club, which in turn led to a loss of faith in the process, resulting in a loss of motivation, according to **C.E. McBride** writing in the *Kansas City Times* of Sept. 3, 1952.

During their 22 game series, both the Blues and the Brewers won 11 and lost 11.

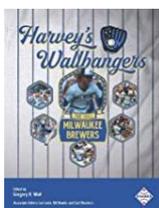
The run differentials in each half of the series were remarkably close. After being out-scored, 67-44, during the first 11 tilts at Kansas City, Milwaukee held the advantage for games at Borchert Field, 53-28.

Kansas City out-homered Milwaukee during the final 11 games of the series, 6-5, with a combined edge of 17-8 for the entire series.

A symmetry appeared in the sequence of wins and losses. At Kansas City, the Blues won the first two contests of the series, as well as the final three. At Milwaukee, the Brewers won the first two and final three tilts.

January's *Hot Corner* will feature a look at the postseason wrangling the Kansas City Blues and Milwaukee Brewers as they vied for the league championship in what became the Brewers' final series as an entry in the American Association.

The American Association Almanac is a bi-annual print publication dedicated to the history of the old American Association. Research is underway for the Spring 2021 issue which will explore each American Association team's home runs compared with the home runs hit against them for the period 1921 to 1955. To subscribe, please contact Rex Hamann by email at pureout@msn.com for further information.



“Harvey’s Wallbangers: The 1982 Milwaukee Brewers”

Have you picked up your copy of SABR’s BioProject book, “Harvey’s Wallbangers: The 1982 Milwaukee Brewers” yet? If you would like a printed copy of the book and support the Ken Keltner Chapter, we have books available for \$26 including shipping. Contact [Dennis](#) to arrange for your copy. The net proceeds supports the chapter. Makes a great gift item, too!