

MINOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN BASEBALL RESEARCH
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MINOR LEAGUE DEPARMENTAL LEADERS, 1989
compiled with assistance from
Howe Sportsdata International
Baseball America

Batting Leaders:

Batting Average: .395 Willie Aikens, Leon (Mexican)
Home Runs: 39 Leo Hernandez, Campeche (Mexican)
Runs Batted In: 133 Jim Wilson, Calgary (Pacific Coast)
Stolen Bases: 100 Mike Cole, Tabasco (Mexican)
Hits: 183 Don Ray Casey, Monterrey Sultans (Mexican)
Doubles: 46 Greg Smith, Saltillo (Mexican)
Triples: 18 Trench Smith, Saltillo (Mexican)
Runs: 108 Willie Aikens, Leon (Mexican)
Mike Cole, Tabasco (Mexican)

Pitching Leaders:

Wins: 20 Idefonso Velaquez, Campache (Mexican)
Losses: 15 Dale Polley, Greenville (Southern)
Kent Bottenfield, Jacksonville (Southern)
Dave Neal, Palm Springs, (California)
Earned Run Average: 1.06 Art Canesta, Oneonta
(N.Y.-Penn.)
1.57 Jose Ventura, South Bend
(Midwest)
Innings Pitched: 202 Mike Soddors, Peoria (Midwest)
Games: 78 Laddie Renfro, Charlotte (Southern)
Complete Games: 12 Jack Armstrong, Nashville
(American Association)
Pete Plohm, Augusta
(South Atlantic)
Frank Castillo, Charlotte (Southern)
Shutouts: 6 Jack Armstrong, Nashville
(American Association)
Mike Linskey, Hagerstown (Eastern)
Fredrick (Carolina)
Saves: 37 Dale Kisten, Springfield (Midwest)
Strikeouts: 211 John Ericks, Savannah (South Atlantic)

Save Leaders, Part 3: Mike Perez's 41 saves at Springfield (Midwest) in 1987 remained an all time record. His 33 this year at Arkansas (Texas) adds to his career minor league total of 91 saves. Who holds the all time record for career Minor League saves?

CONVENTION REVIEW: John Pardon reports that 17 minor league members attended the 7:00 A.M. committee meeting. I have received one card reporting that a member overslept. One report stated that Ray Nemec was in attendance. Another stated that he was no where to be seen. Ray's legendary status remains in tact. Compliments were received concerning the thoroughness in which the program was organized. Let us hope that Richard Puff's thoroughness continues in his work as a SABR board member and in assisting John Thorn in the editing world.

Sal Artiaga, committee member and president of the National Association, was in attendance at the Saturday morning meeting. Sal expressed his appreciation for the work that our members have carried out. He expressed interest in working closely with the committee in the future. Mr. Artiaga was scheduled to address the convention on Saturday afternoon. Due to the "proceedings" of the annual meeting his presentation was canceled. Shortly after the convention I called Mr. Artiaga to express our committee's apology for the cancellation. Mr. Artiaga, having witnessed the events of the day, expressed concern about the future of the Society. He certainly hopes that SABR will continue. He asked that further considerations concerning our possible work with the Association be delayed until we have resolved the conflicts within the organization. Needless to say his initial contact with SABR has not been a positive experience.

The Minor League committee is the largest committee in SABR with over 100 active members. Many of our committee members spend their summers with baseball at minor league parks throughout the nation. The highlight of my summer of baseball was attending four Pioneer League games in Billings, Montana. I was fortunate to see two Great Falls Dodgers performances. Both were wins by Jaime McAndrews and Kiki Jones. Kiki Jones's performance was highlighted in July on committee member, Warner Fusselle's Major League Baseball Magazine. The Great Falls team finished with a 53-14, .791 % record. In terms of the all time minor league winning percentage this was just ahead of the 1902 Corsicana (Texas), the team with the 26 game winning streak, at .7909. 87-23, but behind the 1922 Enid, Oklahoma (Western Association) team record of .796, 105-27, and the 1979 Paintsville (Appalachian) team record of 52-13, .800. Thanks to committee member, Rip Rowan of the Albany Colonie Yankees for the initial inquiry.

RESEARCH/PUBLICATIONS

John Bensch is making available to committee members a portion of his text, The Bushwackers, entitled, Baseball's Minor League Batting Leaders of the 19th Century. The booklet maybe obtained by sending \$4 to John Benesch, 75 Phaeton Dr., Penfield, New York. 14526. John is in need of assistance on the following areas:

Texas League Batting Leaders for 1902 and first half of 1903.

Texas League Extra Base Hit Leaders for 1906 & 1907 (Speaker had 32 2b's and 12 3b's).

California League Extra Base Hit Leaders for 1902.

Interstate Extra Base Hit Leaders for 1900 (Beck had 71 2b's and Jiggs Donahue 15 3b's).

Western League Extra Base Hit Leaders for 1900.

Northern League Batting Leaders first names from the full season years and Runs Scored from 1933-35. Jim

Poff, Jim Rogde, and myself should be able to be of assistance.

John is processing the year by year Batting Leaders by league. He will be completing the leaders in 50 of the leagues in the near future.

Jim Sumner's William G. Bramham: The Czar of Minor League Baseball was published in Carolina Comments, a publication of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in July. It is an excellent biographical sketch of an important minor league figure.

The SABR Biographical Committee's Research Guide #10 features Jim's Baseball in History Journals, (1980-1988). The list includes several minor league subject. They will be included in the Index of Minor League Researchers that we are compiling.

I have just begun compiling the index. We hope to publish it as the feature in one of the first newsletters of 1990. If you have not done so please pass along the information on work you have completed and work that is in process. I have requested money for an additional fourth issue of the minor league newsletter in 1990. This will allow for expanded work on Minor League Stars III and reduce the lag time between requests and their mention in the newsletter.

Richard Topp has located a collection of newspapers from throughout the country collected as a WPA microfilming project by the Chicago Library in Cilcothe, Illinois. Included are many small, minor league town publications. Rich says that the collection will be of assistance in locating stats for many minor league teams.

Rich is also hoping to obtain further information on George Treadway who served as an umpire in the Pacific North West League in 1905. He was arrested in 1905 for embezzling money from a pipefitters union in which he served as a treasurer. He is listed as a mulatto in the 1870 census.

Another person of interest to Rich is A. Wesley Paulin who worked as a promoter in the Western-Canadian League in the 1890's. He played under the name of Paul in the 1870's.

The league summaries created and collected by Vern Luse have been received for the collection. They include:

1892 California League, 1905 Cotton State League, 1884 Eastern League of Professional Baseball Clubs, 1887 International League, Indiana State League, 1896- Kentucky-Indiana League, 1888 New England League, 1896-New Pacific League, 1905 North Texas League, 1887 Northern Michigan League, 1891 Pacific Northwest League, 1886 Pennyrile League, 1897 Red River Valley League, 1886 Southern League, 1888 Texas Baseball League, 1888 Texas-Southern League, and 1896 Western League. All were compiled by Vern Luse. Also included are the Minnesota-Wisconsin League by Terry Bohn and the 1922 Lost Virginia League Season by David Chrisman.

Received also was the compilation: This Date in Date in Minor League History.

From 1939:

December 5- Term of National Association President Willaim G. Bramham extended for four years and his annual salary increased \$5,000 for one year, making yarly stipend \$25,000.

Bob Broeg and St. Louis, pulmonary specialist, Jim Kemp are interested in the experiences of catcher, Bill Delancy. Delancy was with Branch Rickey's Cardinals in the 1930's. He came down with Tuberculosis and was sent to the minor leagues in Arizona to recover. Were there other players sent to Arizona for treatment? Was there a special arrangement established to care for ballplayers with TB? Responses may be sent to me. Jim Kemp and I have spent many years in baseball research.

Total Baseball includes two excellent sections on the Minor Leagues and the development of the Farm System by Bob Hoie. The Minor League section includes several listing on yearly and career departmental leaders. Any additions or corrections that you might find would be appreciated. Two minor facts are that Mitchell was in the Dakota League in 1921. Appleton, Wisconsin was in the Midwest League in 1971.

The latest list of candidates for Minor League Stars III is included. Bob Hoie would like to emphasis that when making final decisions on candidates extra weight will be given to higher classification players. Also players not meeting the cutoff criteria will require an excellent sales job by their advocates.

I have placed a formal request for reimbursement from SABR for work carried out specifically for compilation of records to be included in Minor League Stars III. This will include microfilm rental, copying, and in special cases traveling and housing expenses. President Rich Topp has indicated that it will be given thorough and immediate consideration by the board. We will be at the point of asking for specific research in the next few months. The Index of Minor League researchers will assist us in carrying out this work. It is our understanding that Volume III will remain a sole publication of the SABR organization. I have asked that the role of the committee in future projects be defined by the board.

Carl Bunch, 450 W. Philadelphia, Ontario, California, 91761, great nephew of George Washington Payne, who appears in Minor League Stars, is compiling an in depth account of his career. Carl notes that his correct birthdate is May 23, 1890, not 1894. He would appreciate any antidotes you might provide.

David Pietrusza, has recently completed a full-length book on the Class C Canadian-American League (1936-51). He is beginning work on earlier works based in New York State.

John R. Dowling, 315 S. 3rd. St., Watseka, Illinois, 60970 is currently doing research on the III(Illinois-Indiana-Iowa) League. The league operated from 1922 through 1961. He is need of the complete listing of towns and team names in the league. He is willing to assist in completing any compilations that exist. John served as a bat boy and later in the business office for the Danville, Illinois Dodgers.

Regulars

Angel Alcaez
Thomas Angley
James Bannon
Thomas Bannon
Charles Baron
Richard Barry
John Bassler
Charles Baumann
Ervin Beck
Larry Bettencourt
Wayne Blackburn
George Blackerby
Bernhard Borgmann
Arthur Bowland
Joseph Bratcher
Joseph Brovia
Edward Brown
Joseph Brown
Paul Bruno
Glenn Burns
Russell Burns
Ben Cantrell
Charles Cargo
Edwin Carnett
Arnoldo Castro
James Caveney
Harry Clark
James Clarkson
John Paul Cobb
Andrew Cohen
James Collins
Kevin Connors
Herbert Conyers
James Corbett
Clifford Crawford
Victor Davalillo
Cecil Davis
Edward Delahanty
Frank Delahanty
James Delahanty
Joseph Delahanty
Thomas Delahanty
William Delahanty
Otto Denning
George Detore
Vincent DiMaggio
Carl Dittmar
Frederick Dorman
Willie Duke
Charles Eagan
Herbert Ellison
Gilbert English
Francisco Estrada
Woodrow Fair
Beattie Feathers
Wesley Ferrell

Regulars

Walter French
Delos Gainor
Adrian Garrett
Leslie Goldstein
Joseph Granade
Romer Grey
Zane Grey
Art Griggs
Edgar Hartness
Charles High
Elmore Hill
Myril Hoag
Edward Hoffman
Arthur Hunt
George Jackson
Raymond Jacobs
Irvine Jeffries
Joseph Jenkins
Leonard Johnston
John W. Jones
Walter Judnich
Joseph Kelly
William Kelly
George Kihm
Wescott Kingdon
John Knight
Charles Knoll
Jesse Levan
Edward Levy
William H. Lewis
Abel Lezotte
Keith Little
Andy Lotshaw
Michael Lutz
Emil Mailho
William Massey
Horace McBride
James McDaniel
Frank McGowan
Roberto Mendez
Christobal Mendoza
Conklyn Meriwether
Frank Metz
William Mizeur
Peter Monahan
John Monroe
Felipe Montemayor
Andres Mora
Gregory Mulleavy
Frederick Muller
Albert Neil
Orville Nesselrode
Paul Owens
Stanley Palys
Clarence Parker
Harold Patchett

Regulars

Leslie Peden
Alonzo Perry
Edgar Pick
Jack Pierce
Alfred Platte
Harlin Pool
John Powers
George Quellich
Earl Rapp
George Rawlings
Andrew Reese
Frank Reiger
William Rhie
Ken Richardson
Virgil Richardson
Donald Richmond
David Roberts
Harry Rosenberg
John Roser
Ewell Russell
Robert Schmidt
John Sheehan
Sylvester Simon
Carr Smith
Moses Solomon
Edward Stevens
George Stumpf
Joseph Taylor
Herbert Thomas
Chester Tolson
Leonard Tucker
Jose Vidal
Ned Waldrop
James Warner
Arthur Weis
Stanley Wentzel
Lewis Whistler
John White
Solomon White
Harrison Wickel
Fred Williams
Marvin Williams
George Wilson
Elmer Yoter

CHARLES SWAIN

TOM WINSETT

BAKE DYE

FRANK BETS

Pitchers

Andres Ayon
Ed Bryan
Charles Chech
Robert Couchman
Howard Craighead
Wheezier Dell
Carroll Dial
Ed Donalds
Fred Ehman
Gary Fortune
Wheeler Fuller
Ralph Garcia
Harry Gardner
Sal Gliatto
Oscar Graham
Howard Gregory
Herbert Hall
George Harper
Bunn Hearn
Clarence Henley
Carmen Hill
Roy Hitt
Berwyn Horne
Ed Hovlik
Tom L. Hughes
Elmer Jacobs
Earl Johnson
Fred Klobedanz
Louis Leroy
Ray Lindsey
Willie Ludolph
Jim Lyle
Red Lynn
Walter Mails
Leo Mangum
Howard Merritt
Otto Merz
George Milstead
Antonio Polloreana
Ray Prim
Francisco Ramirez
Vicente Romo
Andy Rush
Norm Shope
Claude Thomas
Fay Thomas
John Tillman
T. Roy Walker
James Whelan
Dick Whitworth
RUBE KISSINGER
J. ROY WALKER

