

Society for American Baseball Research



MINOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE

Volume 2, No.3

December, 1988

MINOR LEAGUE DEPARTMENTAL LEADERS, 1988

HITTING:

BATTING AVERAGE: .445 Tim McWilliam, (182 AB, 159 minimum), Arizona
.391 Robb Maurer, (233 AB); Butte, Pioneer
.374 Nick Castaneda; (321 AB); Yucatan, Mexican

AT BATS: 578 Paul Faries; San Jose, California

RUNS: 121 David Stockstill; Jalisco, Mexican

HITS: 185 Marty Lanoux; Visalia, California

DOUBLES: 50 Mark Leonard; San Jose, California

TRIPLES: 16 Ray Langford; Springfield, Midwest

HOME RUNS: 36 Leo Hernandez; Union Laguna, Mexican

RUNS BATTED IN: 124 Nelson Barrera; Mexico City Reds, Mexican

STOLEN BASES: 98 Ramon Sambo; Cedar Rapids, Midwest

WALKS: 156 Charles Montoyo; Stockton, California

STRIKEOUTS: 152 George Canale; El Paso, Texas

PITCHING:

WINNING PCT: (15 decs.), .933, 14-1, Dave Walsh; Laredo, Mexican

WINS: 21 Jesus Rios; Mexico City Tigers, Mexican

LOSES: 19 Jeff Shaw; Williamsport, Eastern

EARNED RUN AVERAGE: (112 IP minimum), 0.67, 121 IP, Dan Freed; Jamestown, New York-Penn

GAMES: 70 Jeff Fassero; Arkansas, Texas

INNINGS PITCHED: 234 Jesus Rios, Mexico City Tigers, Mexican

SAVES: 33 Pete Delkas; Kenosha, Midwest
Aquendo Vasquez; Baseball City, Florida State

HITS: 238 Ricardo Solis, Saltillo, Mexican

WALKS: 142 Ray Young, Modesto, California

STRIKEOUTS: 263 Tom Gordon
29 Omaha, American Association
62 Memphis, Southern
172 Appelton, Midwest

CORRECTIONS: 1987 LEADERS

STOLEN BASES: 83 Eric Yelding
73 Myrtle Beach, South Atlantic
10 Knoxville, Southern

Bob Hoie's Observations:

Several times during this past season Mike Perez's 42 saves in the 1987 Midwest League has been credited as the all time save record for a minor league season. I don't think there is any doubt that 42 is the individual saves record. If anybody had a chance to have more it was Bob Anderson with Los Angeles in 1956. Everything was in place, a great team with poor starting pitching and one key top reliever, Anderson. Even using the most liberal save definition, finishing a winning game, he had only 25. 20 by today's rules. I checked George Spencer and Ken Rowe in the seasons they pitched 85 games and the combination of team wins, complete games and relief pitcher wins would make anything over 25 saves for either unlikely. (Please refer to P.120, Minor League Stars I, Revised; 1984)

I would think that Pete Delkas's 0.26 E.R.A. with Kenosha this season is the lowest for any pitcher appearing regularly for his team throughout a full season. I don't recall anyone having that low an E.R.A. with that many innings. It probably is not as impressive as Bill Harris's 0.83 E.R.A. in 294 innings with Miami (Florida International) in 1952. Perhaps more amazing is that Harris's teammate Gil Torres had an 0.86 E.R.A. in 2.73 innings and could not lead the league.

MAC ATTACK

The final draft of the last newsletter left out 14 nominees for Minor League Stars III. The Additions are:

Ed Bryan
Gary Fortune
Wheeler Fuller
Howard Gregory
Herb Hall
George Harper
Roy Hitt
Berton Horne
William is actually Elmer Jacobs
Earl Johnson
Fred Klobedanz
Osborne C. McDaniel
Ray Prim
Andy Rush
James R. Walker

The response to the request for nominees for MLS III has been quite overwhelming. Several committee members submitted nominees. The complete list would take up all of next year's newsletters. If you would like to receive the complete lists of nominees please send the request to my address: 716 West 5th Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 57104. Costs will be handled by the Minor League Committee. Criteria for selecting the nominees will be included.

Stephen Bennett provides us with this addition on Minor League Star, Roy Dale "Tex" Sanner.

Born: 1921, Juda Springs, Kansas

Died: January 9, 1982, Houston, Texas

The Minor League Committee has received John Bensch Jr.'s, The Bushwackers Framed In Time. Batting Leaders of Baseball's Minor Leagues (1884-1987). John's work, 359 pages in length, provides a list of each season's minor leagues departmental leaders. It is a major contribution to our committee's research.

Willie Runquist has completed a pamphlet on the Hollywood - Los Angeles rivalry. Copies may be obtained by contacting Willie at Box 289, Union Bay, British Columbia, VOR 3B0. Cost will be minimal.

Larry Gerlach, chairman of the Umpires and Rules Committee, will be compiling an annual roster of umpires for individual minor leagues. He is preparing biographical sketches of outstanding, minor league umpires like Steamboat Johnson and Augie Guglielmo. Any committee member interested in or in doing research in this area should contact Larry. Do you have any suggestions for future research on minor league umpires and how we can assist the Umpire and Rules Committee?

Redefinition Book Company is publishing a multi-volume, World of Baseball series. It will be devoting an entire volume to the minor leagues, including numerous photos of minor league ballparks. They are hoping to call upon the Minor League Committee for assistance in their research efforts. We will be providing the company with a copy of the newsletter. We will let you know of any further interest by the company in our committee's work.

David Pietrusza is completing a book on the Class C Canadian-American League, 1936-1951. He is also beginning work on the New York State and the recent Empire State League.

Robert B. Van Atta is interested in helping with Western Pennsylvania minor leagues, including the 1907 Western Pa. League.

Steve St. Martin has compiled a list of Mexican League players with 15 or more years service, active during 1985-87. This includes the Mexican Center and Southeast. This is included in our MLS III project.

Gene Wood is interested in doing research on the Texas-Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Western Association, and Sooner State Leagues.

Dave Kemp has recently assisted in the editing of a "Century of Minnehaha County Baseball". Copies are available by contacting the Minor League Committee address. The price is \$10 for the first edition, which is nearly sold out. Dave is using this as the excuse for this newsletter being a bit late. He will begin work on the Dakota League this spring as part of the South Dakota Centennial year. He has had various inquiries that have been on hold concerning the league. Further requests are still being accepted.

These researchers and their interests are now part of the Minor League Committee Research Directory. Please send your interests in to help complete the directory.

The 19th Century Committee newsletter includes a quiz on Ban Johnson's Western League.

EVANGELINE LEAGUE HOME RUN LEADERS

By Arthur Schott

YEAR	PLAYER & CLUB	G	AB	HR	FREQUENCY
1934	Harry Nolan, Rayne	100	397	25	15.9
1935	Cecil Dunn, Alexandria	129	507	18	28.2
1935	Bartelli, Rayne	129	479	18	26.6
1936	Cecil Dunn, Alexandria	139	579	47	12.3
1937	Ken Silvestri, Rayne	133	531	23	23.1
1938	R.B. Hood, Lake Charles	114	383	18	21.3
1939	Joseph Yourkovich, Rayne	136	520	18	28.9
1940	Woody Fair, New Iberia	135	510	24	21.3
1941	Woody Fair, New Iberia	131	502	13	38.6
1942	Clary Hack, Port Arthur	29	115	3	38.3
1943-45	World War II				
1946	Irving Clement, Ham.-Abbeville	124	438	25	7.5
1947	Daniel Seiler, Houma	132	522	22	23.7
1948	Roy Sanner, Houma	126	492	34	14.5
1949	Robert Dunn, Hammond	136	515	30	17.2
1950	Ray Dunn, Hammond	138	526	39	13.5
1951	Remy LeBlanc, New Iberia	132	510	42	12.1
1952	Conklyn Meriwether, Crowley	118	412	33	12.5
1953	Conklyn Meriwether, Crowley	134	525	42	12.5
1954	Remy LeBlanc, New Iberia	140	549	42	13.1
1955	Thomas Nerad, Lafayette	137	525	26	20.2
1956	Eugene Johnson, Lake Charles	120	432	20	21.6
1957	David Irby, Alexandria	113	453	26	17.4

Notes: The all-time home run leader of the Evangeline for a season was Cecil Dunn with 47 in 1936, a frequency of one homer every 12.3 times at bat. The frequency mark for a leader, however, was 12.1 by Remy LeBlanc who hit 42 home runs in 510 times at bat in 1951. LeBlanc again led the league with 42 in 1954. Conklyn Meriwether, a fence buster at Crowley, hit 75 homers in two consecutive seasons, 1952-53, posting the same frequency of 12.5 each season. Dunn, LeBlanc, and Meriwether are the only Evangeline League leaders to show frequency ratings less than 13. In 1942 the league suspended play after one month because of World War II, then resumed action in 1946 when Irv Clement became the first post-war leader while sharing his play between Hammond and Abbeville. Clement is a native of Gretna, Louisiana (just across the Mississippi River from New Orleans), and that's the birth place of National League Slugger, Mel Ott.