

SABR Minor League Newsletter

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Annual SABR Convention

The annual convention is coming up in a few months. We have requested a time slot for the Minor League Committee meeting at 8 AM on either Friday, June 23, or Saturday, June 24. We estimate that the meeting will last one and a half hours. If you wish to speak on any minor league related subject, let Bob McConnell know, or e-mail Reed Howard. If you do not plan to attend the meeting and wish to have a subject discussed, contact Bob and give him the details.

Farm Club Project

Bill McMahon writes that he can use help on the Farm Club project. *The Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball* lists major league farm systems on a year-by-year basis, starting with the 1932 season. A few disagreements between the Encyclopedia and other sources must be checked out. Also, if you know of any farm clubs prior to 1932, send the information to Bill. This includes farm clubs of high minor league clubs. This is an important project, and the results will eventually be published. Write to Bill at 606 Nome Avenue, Akron, OH 44320.

How To Do Baseball Research

Jerry Tomlinson is editing a SABR publication entitled, "How To Do Baseball Research". This will be one of the books issued to all SABR members, and it should be ready in the near future. We expect this to be helpful to all committee members.

We have included several articles on research in our newsletters. We may continue to have articles in future newsletters, but we will avoid duplicating the information in the SABR book.

Joe Overfield

Joe has recently been in poor health and is currently in a nursing home. I suggest that all of you who know Joe drop him a line. Send mail to Joe's home address at 21 Pinewoods Avenue, Tonawanda, NY 14150. Joe joined SABR soon after the organization was formed and he has been one of our top minor league researchers. He is THE expert on baseball in Buffalo, and authored *The 100 Seasons of Buffalo Baseball*. (We will try to review this book in a near-future newsletter.)

What Happened to Thomas F. McDermott?

Bob Richardson is seeking the date and place of death for Thomas F. McDermott. McDermott was a player, manager, club owner and umpire from 1885 until at least 1911, mainly in the New England area. He disappeared from the Fall River, MA city directory in 1909, leaving his wife Mary living alone. It is known that he did not die in Massachusetts. He was umpiring in the Nebraska State League in 1911. His wife was listed as a widow in 1915. His brother Michael J. pitched in the majors from 1895 through 1897. Any information should be sent to Bob Richardson at 386 Riverway #4, Boston MA 02115.

Researching Minor League Baseball at the Hall of Fame Library

By Eric Enders

Research Department, National Baseball Hall of Fame Library

Founded in 1939 as part of the Hall of Fame, the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library collects, organizes, and preserves the written, visual, and oral history of baseball. The Library has many sources that researchers studying minor league baseball may find useful.

The backbone of the Library's minor league holdings is our collection of **National Association contract cards**. The collection spans the years 1904-1982, and we estimate that it contains contract cards for 90 to 95 percent of minor leaguers who played during those years. (The collection is more complete for recent years; for example, there is a greater chance of finding a contract card for a player from the 1950s than for a player from the 1910s.) Each contract card lists a player's name and, in some rare instances, his hometown and/or Social Security number. It then lists any transactions that took place during his career, including contract signings and purchases, trades, releases, placement on reserve lists, suspensions, and voluntary retirements. Contract cards exist not only for players but for managers and, occasionally, umpires and coaches. They are the most accurate and convenient tool for tracking the course of a player's career.

A player's contract card can be used to easily look up his statistics in the annual **Baseball Guides**. The Hall of Fame Library's reference area contains complete sets of Spalding (1877-1941), Reach (1883-1941), and Spink/Sporting News (1942-present) guides. Most of these guides contain the previous year's statistics for every minor league, although in some years only the final standings were published for certain leagues. Each guide also has a chronology of the previous season, and many pre-1940s guides contain photographs of various major league, minor league, and collegiate teams.

In addition to the yearly guides, the Hall of Fame Library has additional resources for those researching minor league baseball in a particular community. Our newly reorganized **geographic files** contain information on the history of baseball in many U.S. cities and towns. In addition, we have general information files on all 50 states and many foreign countries. The geographic file for a city may contain articles about minor league teams, major league teams, Negro League and women's league teams, barnstorming teams, amateur and semipro teams, and any other information about baseball history in that location. In addition, the Library maintains **subject files** on baseball-related topics, which contain both minor and major league information. For example, the file titled "On-Field Deaths" might contain information not only about the Ray Chapman-Carl Mays incident, but also about the several similar occurrences in minor league history. The subject files also contain files on specific leagues and stadiums. For example, information about the history of the Manitoba-Dakota League or an article about the Dudley Dome in El Paso, Texas, might both be found in the subject files.

The Hall of Fame Library does not generally keep **biographical files** on individual minor league players, but we do keep such files for each of the 15,000 players in major league history. These will prove useful to those researching players who had brief major league careers but were minor league stars, such as Smead Jolley and Steve Bilko. Occasionally, a player who played solely in the minor leagues will have a biographical file, especially if he was significant in some way - Joe Bauman or John Elway, for example.

In addition to vertical files, the Hall of Fame Library houses about 30,000 baseball **books**, many of which deal with minor league baseball. These include everything from classics like *A False Spring* and *Stolen Season* to self-published volumes about particular

minor league teams. In addition, our **photo collection** houses approximately 500,000 baseball photographs. Most of these photos are of major league teams and players, but we do have some photographs of specific minor league teams and stadiums, reproductions of which can be ordered for a nominal fee.

Everyone, from serious researchers to elementary school students, is encouraged to utilize the resources at the Hall of Fame Library. Our hours are 9a.m. to 5p.m. Eastern time Monday through Friday, and Saturdays during the summer. (An appointment is recommended, but not required.) If you are unable to visit Cooperstown to do research in person, our staff will be happy to handle your request. Our charges are \$25 per hour for research time and 25 cents per photocopy, Students working on academic projects are generally not charged. Depending on time of year, research requests may take anywhere from 2 to 12 weeks to fulfill. However, if you have a quick baseball question for our staff; you can call our reference desk at (607) 547-0330 during business hours and they will do their best to help. To submit a research request, you can either call the reference desk, fax your request to (607) 547-4094, or mail it to Research Department, National Baseball Hall of Fame Library, P.O. Box 590, Cooperstown, NY 13326. Please be sure to include a daytime telephone number so our staff may contact you about potential fees.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame is a nonprofit organization which operates largely on financial and material donations, and the Hall of Fame Library is no different. Much of our research material would not exist if not for the generosity of donors. Currently, many geographic files are either very small or nonexistent, and we are looking to augment them in any way we can. We would be happy to accept and place in our files any articles or other information about minor league baseball that anyone wishes to send us. All such items can be sent to the Research Department at the above address.

More on The Contract Record Cards at The HOF Library

We want to stress that these contract record cards are very important in compiling player career records. For those of you who have occasion to use them, we offer the following details.

There are four types of cards as follows with the approximate period covered:

Type #1	Slot in bottom center; all handwritten	1904-1924
Type #2	Some handwritten and some typed	1912-1941
Type #3	Extensive printed form on card	1926-1974
Type #4	Abbreviated printed form on card	1971-1982

On Type #1 and #2, abbreviations are used for transactions as follows:

AC, or A of C	Assignment of contract
AC-NOT	Assignment of contract notice issued to player
C	Contract signed
CAC	Conditional assignment of contract
CAC-NOT	Conditional assignment of contract notice issued to player
IN	Ineligible list
OP, or OPT	Optional assignment of contract
Opt Agt	Option agreement
Opt Ex	Option exercised
Opt Sel Ex	Option to select exercised
R by P	Released by purchase
Rel	Released
RES	Reserved

RES-IN	Reserved on Ineligible list
Ret or RT	Returned
RE-VR	Reinstated from Voluntarily Retired List
TA	Acceptance of terms
VR	Voluntarily Retired List

JA, R, Re, REC These abbreviations were unknown to the National Association office per a letter in 1970

An entry for a player, "R by St. Paul to Jersey City (5)", indicated that he was sold by St. Paul to Jersey City and the approximate date can be found in NA Bulletin #5.

Three Books on Baseball on the Pacific Coast

Always on Sunday: The California Baseball League, 1886 to 1915.

This is the history of the first professional league in the west. It tells the story of the California League and the 1,400 men who played for teams from San Francisco to Los Angeles. It describes how the league gave birth to the Pacific Coast League in 1903 and provides 130 team rosters, identifies 236 players who went to the majors and gives standings, batting and pitching leaders and other statistics never before published. Softcover. 176 pages. \$22.00 plus \$1.45 tax for California residents.

Pacific Coast League Stars, Volumes I & II.

Volume I has biographies of 100 outstanding PCL players. Volume II has biographies of an additional ninety players, all of whom went to the majors. Both volumes have player stats and many photos. Each volume is \$22.00 including postage plus \$1.45 tax for California residents. Volume II is available in hardcover for \$27.00 plus \$1.80 tax for California residents.

All three books can be ordered from John Spalding, PMB #257, 1875 S. Bascom Ave., #116, Campbell, CA 95008.

Book Review: *Glory Days of Summer: The History of Baseball in Oklahoma*

This cloth bound, 480 page book was written by Bob Burke, Kenny Franks and committee member Roysce Parr. It covers the history of sandlot, college and minor league baseball in Oklahoma, starting back in the days when it was Indian Territory. The book profiles players who were natives of the state as well as players who played in the minors in the state. The book was advertised in the Nov-Dec *SABR Bulletin*. The cost is \$38.95, including shipping, for SABR members. Send to OHBC, 1500 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, OK 73103.

Would You Like to Find a Publisher for Your Book?

The above mentioned book was published by the Oklahoma Heritage Association. This non-profit organization publishes historical books on many subjects. The authors do not receive compensation. Most states have similar type organizations and they usually have "Historical" or "Heritage" in their title. You should consider contacting one of these organizations if you are working on a book of a historical nature.

1888 Pre-Season Rosters

The Sporting Life, 23 May 1888 gives pre-season rosters for both the Central Pennsylvania and Indiana State Leagues.

Minor League Baseball Stars, Volume IV

Many of our members compile player career records. Some have suggested that we publish the records of the best players. I talked to Mark Alvarez, SABR Publications Director, about a fourth volume of *Minor*

League Baseball Stars. Mark was encouraging and suggested that we put together our material and then he will give it strong consideration. I suggest that we move forward with this project. We should be able to determine by the end of the year if there is enough interest to continue the project. With sufficient interest we can complete it by mid-2004.

As most of you know, Baseball America published *The Minor League Register*, in 1994. This included the player records of all but twenty-four of the records listed in the three volumes of *Minor League Baseball Stars*, and included some additional records. Our proposed book will not include any of the records in either of the above publications.

It was mentioned in a previous newsletter that Baseball Press Books is planning a publication that will have all of the records that are in the *Register*, plus a few additional records. Our book will avoid the inclusion of any of the records in this new publication.

The late Willie George donated most, or all, of his baseball material to SABR and it is located in the archives at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland. One of Willie' s big interests was in compiling player career records. We will determine if this material is in the archives and, if so, will obtain a list of the players involved.

Each of the volumes of the *Minor League Baseball Stars* had a number of pages in the front section with various features - stories, statistics, etc. We should strive to have similar features in Volume IV.

The following is a list of possible candidates for Volume IV. It was compiled from lists provided by several members. These notes may not be entirely accurate since some of them are based on incomplete records. Feel free to send in your list of candidates, especially pitchers. Send any completed player records or lists of players being worked on, to Bob McConnell. When we have completed a sufficient number of records, we will form a committee to make the final selections.

Ala, Aurelio 10 yrs .322
 Alfaro, Jesus 200+ HR
 Allington, Bill 9 yrs .327
 Anderson, John N. 14 yrs .322
 Armstrong, Paul 350+ 2B
 Atkins, Ralph 199 HR Career leader in
 HR for Southern Assn
 Balcena, Bob 1995 H 375+ 2B 1200+ R
 Banks, George 200+ HR
 Barber, Ty 10 yrs .326
 Barnes, Emile 14 yrs .323 100+ 3B
 Baxes, Jim 200+ HR
 Becker, Len 350+ 2B
 Biggerstaff, George 11 yrs .321
 Boles, Howard 200+ HR
 Boniar, Frank 7 y-rs .337
 Brower, Frank 11 yrs .321
 Brummitt, Robe 15 yrs .329
 Bryan, Jim 12 yrs .315
 Burgess, Tom 200+ HR
 Butcher, Henry 12 yrs 320
 Caldwell, Bruce 4 yrs .356
 Canada, Romel 14 yrs .310
 Canales, Roberto 5 yrs .338
 Canales, Victor 7 yrs .343
 Carpenter, Keith Hit .350+ 4X
 Carrillo, Matias 200+ HR
 Castaneda, Nick 200+ HR
 Cerda, Ben 2000+ H 397 2B
 Christensen, Walt 1900+ 13
 Cicero, Joe 119 3B 300+ SB
 Cichosz, Chester 8 yrs .331
 Clark, Dan 1900+ H
 Clarke, Jay 14 yrs Hit 8 HR in C
 Clements, Harry 1993 H
 Cosey, Don 2000+ H
 Cox, Elmer 12 yrs .317
 Crabtree, Estel 14 yrs .314
 Crosby, Jerry 1800+ 13 1000+ R&RBI
 Cruz, Luis 200+ HR
 Darkis, Willie 200+ HR
 Davidson, Crawford 200+ HR
 Davis, Van Averages 1+ RBI/G & 1+ BB/G
 Dean, Doug 6 yrs .343
 Diaz, Arsenic 1900+ H 200+ HR
 Dodd, Tom 200+ HR
 Drauby, Jake 17 yrs 19th Century plyr
 Dunn, J. C. 13 yrs .320 300+ SB
 Eastham, Leo 12 yrs .313 364 SB
 Eayrs, Ed 13 yrs .310
 Edinger, Art 5 yrs .330
 Emery, Cal 200+ HR
 Enrner, Frank Triple digits in 2B, 3B, HR
 Enos, William E. 12 yrs .318
 Etchison, Buck 1000+ R, RBI, BE
 Felber, Oscar 423 2B
 Flynn, Don 14 yrs .327
 Fridley, Jim 200+ HR
 Frierson, Lou 11 yrs .319 186 HR
 Fulenwider, Emmitt 8 yrs .310 187 HR
 Funderburk, Mark 200+ HR
 Gabler, Bill 200+ HR
 Gainey, Ty 200+ HR
 Ganzel, John 15 yrs .321
 Garcia, Ernesto 2000+ H
 Garcia, Humberto 200+ HR
 Garcia, Luis 200+ HR
 Gibson, Charles 9 yrs .327
 Gilbert, Andy 200+ HR
 Gilchrist, Verdon 5 yrs .352 Avg 1+ BB/(

 Ginglardi, Henry 9 yrs .323
 Grant, Charles 200+ HR
 Gray, Cecil Led ig 2B 4X & HR 2X
 Gray, Gary 200+ HR
 Greene, Albert 9 yrs .327
 Greene, Altar 200+ HR
 Grimes, Oscar, Sr. 12 yrs .314
 Grimes, Roy 16 yrs .316 1900+ II
 Guerrero, Humberto 16 yrs .316 200+ HR
 Harrigan, Harold 200+ HR
 Harshaney, Sam 15 yrs .318, mostly as C
 Heitmuller, Bill Won PCL bat title after
 death!
 Hernandez, Pedro 2 yrs .364 50 HR in 19'
 Hernandez, Rudolfo 2000+ H
 Hicks, Jim 200+ HR
 Hines, Henry 19th Century plyr .427 1' -
 Holland, Bob 384 2B
 Holman, Ernest 2000+ H
 Holt, Jim 12 yrs .310
 Hood, Wally, Sr. 13 yrs .309
 Horn, Sam 200+ HR
 Hosley, Tim 200+ HR
 Howard, Charles 200+ HR
 Hurst, Don 9 yrs .317 100+ HR in maj &
 Hyatt, Ham 13 yrs .317
 Jablonski, Ray 200+ HR
 Jahn, Art 10 yrs .326
 Johnson, Otis Led lg in HR 4X
 Johnson, Roy E. 200+ HR
 Kazak, Ed 16 yrs .307 1900+ H
 Keller, Charles B. 200+ HR
 Kelly, Joseph J. 10 yrs .319 .335 in 1
 major lg yr
 Klusman, Bill 13 yrs .314 19th C plyr
 Koenecke, Len 7 yrs .343
 Kousagan, Pete Played in 16 lgs in 11 yrs
 Kubski, Al 16 yrs .309
 Laga, Mike 200+ HR
 Lahman, Cal 9 yrs .318
 Lamar, Bill 12 yrs .328 Hit .310 in maj
 Lehman, John 19 yrs .313
 Leslie, Roy 350+ 2B
 Lilly, Art 1900+ H 380 2B 111 3B 1100+
 Llenas, Winston 2000+ H 200+ HR
 Lugo, Gabe 2289 H 1175 R 1200+ RBI 200+

Mallonee, Ben 14 yrs .322
 Marshall, Jim 200+ HR
 Martin, Earl 6 yrs .340 .400 in 1937
 Mattick, Wally 2000+ H
 McCaskey, Arden 7 yrs .332
 Mcilenry, Art 1970 H 1100+ RBI 370 2B
 NcMillan, Ed 2 yrs .340
 McNulty, Bill 200+ HR
 Mendoza, Saul 2265 [3 1194 B 387 2B
 Miller, Charles F. 11 yrs .324
 Miner, Dave 13 yrs .336
 Montag, Bob 200+ HR .423 in 1949
 Mooers, Ed 14 yrs 0-med Richmond 21 yrs
 Morrow, Ross 10 yrs .316
 Morton, Jim 200+ HR 1100 B 1100 RBI
 Morse, Harry 1900+ H 1100+ B
 Moyer, Bob 200+ HR 1100+ PSI
 Nelson, Bob 200+ HR
 Newman, John 10 yrs .3235
 Nydahl, Malvin 4 yrs .342
 Obradovich, Jim 200+ HR
 Orr, Charles 7 yrs .357
 Orsatti, Ernie 6 yrs .350 9 yrs in maj
 Ortiz, Jose 2000+ H
 Osorio, Elias 200+ HR
 Osuna, Elpidio 2000+ H 200+ HR
 Ozark, Danny 200+ HR
 Parrish, Clay 6 yrs .339
 Payne, Leo 6 yrs .347
 Pepper, Ray 6 yrs .326 Plyd in `27 Rose B.
 Perry, Bob 200+ HR
 Pitt, Clarence 11 yrs .323
 Pokel, Jim 200+ HR
 Purtell, Mark 1900+ H
 Rensa, Tony 25 yrs in pro BB, incl 21 in mir
 Rice, Harry 10 yrs .329 10 yrs maj
 Richardson, Nolen 1837 H mostly as 55
 Riddle, Charles 18 yrs .319
 Bios, Alfredo 2000+ H
 Rivero, German 2180 H 1182 B 1186 RBI
 Robinson, Everett 2159 H 1305 R 459 2B
 Robinson, Henry 200+ HR
 Roscoe, Frank 7 yrs .327
 Rodgers, Frank 200+ HR
 Rodriguez, Cuillerino 200+ HR
 Rossman, Claude 9 yrs .322
 Rurnler, Bill 9 yrs .340
 Rye, Gene 12 yrs .304 Hit 3 HR in 1 inn
 Sanchez, Alejandro 250+ HR
 Sanchez, Orlando 200+ HR
 Sanford, Taylor 13 yrs .320
 Santana, Bias 2000+ H
 Santomauro, Maurice 200+ HR 1200+ RBI
 Saucier, Frank 4 yrs .380
 Scarsella, Les 14 yrs 1900+ H 350+ 2B
 Scheffler, Ted 1996 H 1603 B 19th C plyr
 Schinger, John .337 in 1195 C
 Schino, Stan 361 SB

Schulmerich, Wes 10 yrs .329
 Schweda, Edwin 4 yrs .340 .422 in `4
 Scott, Floyd 11 yrs .320
 Sears, Ken 8 yrs .318
 See, Larry 200+ HR
 Serna, Joel 2000+ H
 Serre, Chris 9 yrs .321
 Shaner, Walt 9 yrs .320
 Shaughnessy, Frank 20 yrs + many as exec
 Shetler, Vern 13 yrs .313 1200+ RBI
 Shirley, Mule 14 yrs .316
 Shiver, Ivey 8 yrs .306 all in top min
 Shorten, Chick 10 yrs .325
 Smith, Bobby G. 14 yrs .316 led lg 4X
 Snider, Van 200+ HR
 Sockalexix, Louis S yrs Great Indian
 Soufas, Harry 11 yrs .316
 Stellbauer, Bill 12 yrs .314 1855 H
 Stockstill, Dave 200+ HR
 Stroner, Jim 14 yrs .309
 Stuart, Dick 200+ HR in both maj & mi
 Sturdivant, George 9 yrs .319
 Swander, Ed 1900+ H
 Taylor, Dan 11 yrs .327
 Thomas, John Led lg in HR 4X in early yrs
 Throneberry, Mary 200+ HR
 Treadway, Thad 15 yrs .323 1900+ H
 Turgeon, Pete 1900+ H 1100+ R 360 21
 Valdez, Baltazar 200+ HR
 Valenzuela, Ben 21 yrs 1900+ H
 Villalobos, Gonzalo 2000+ H
 Ward, Jay 200+ HR
 Wasley, Mel 15 yrs .308 2313 H 1381
 Watson, George 396 SB
 Weatherspoon, Chuck 200+ HR
 Weikart, Frank Led lg HR 5X 19th C plyr
 Werrick, Joe 11 yrs 19th C plyr
 Wetzel, Frank 14 yrs .321
 Williams, Denny 9 yrs .327
 Williams, William 2100+ H
 Wilson, Bill 200+ HR
 Withrow, Ray 200+ HR
 Worthington, Lee .340+
 Wright, Albert E. 1900+ H
 Wright, Fat 11 yrs .322
 Wright, Taft 12 yrs .319
 Xavier, Joe One of very few X plyrs
 Yordy, Hal 12 yrs .313 129 3B
 Zwilling, Dutch 129 3B

Pitchers

Ash, Ken 170+ W
 Brown, Norman 180+ W
 Brown, Winston 190+ W
 Colorado, Salvador 180+ W
 Horsford, Jim 175+ W
 Howell, Dixie 180+ 14
 Joyce, Bob 175+ 14
 Schultz, Bob 300+ SO in yr 2X

Suggested Format For Player Career Records

Full name. Put nickname in quotation marks preceding family name (George Herman "Babe" Ruth). Include nickname only if it was used fairly often.

Date of birth. If date of birth is not known, but you have seen age given in a certain publication, use two years. For example, John Doe' s age is given as 23 in the June 1947 edition of a newspaper. List year of birth as 1923 or 1924.

After biographical data, include lines for outstanding or unusual achievements (including those in fields other than baseball), teams managed, family relationship to other ball-players, etc.

YEAR column. Type given year only once. When a player was in two leagues in a given year, the YEAR column should be blank for the second league.

Gaps in record. When there is a gap in the player' s record, include a line (1930 or 1930-32) with an explanation.

Several examples:

No Record This indicated that player may have played, but we are not sure.

Did Not Play In Organized Baseball We know for sure that player was not in OB.

Voluntarily Retired A little more description than above.

Military Service (or US Army or US Navy)

Manager - Did Not Play Include club and league

Broke Leg & Missed Entire Season

Club. When a player was with two clubs in the same league during a season, use a slash between clubs (Newark/Buffalo)

Use a dash only in the following 3 cases:

1 Wilkes-Barre Winston-Salem Correct spelling for one city.

2 Fargo-Moorhead Two cities represented by one club.

3 Springfield-Decatur Club moved from one city to another during season. If you know that the player played in only one of the two cities, you may list only that city.

Two leagues in one year. Try to list the leagues in chronological order. (NA contract record cards are very helpful)

Use abbreviations for Clubs and Leagues if necessary. Try to use sparingly.

Position. When a player has two or more positions during a season, list the position with the most games first, etc. If he has an equal number at two positions, toss a coin.

If a stat is unknown for a given year, put a dash in that column. This will be particularly true for RBI.

League leading stats. Use bold print or an asterisk to the right of the stat (72*)

Batting averages. Check all batting averages. Averages in guides were sometimes off by a point, particularly in the early days.

Innings Pitched Round off IP to the nearest full inning Although some leagues gave stats to the 1/3 inning, most did not and we have to be consistent.

Try to include lines for "Less than 10 games" clubs. Until the 1960' s, many league averages did not include players in less than 10 games. If possible, NA contract record cards should be checked. The cards will indicate if a player signed a contract with a club. If he signed, newspaper box scores should be checked. This involves time, but it is highly recommended. The Baseball HOF Library can supply copies of the cards for a nominal fee.

Independent leagues. We have included the following non-OB leagues in Minor League Total:

1900 American Lg, 1902 American Assn, 1902-09 California Lg, 1903 Pacific coast Lg, 1904-07 Tri-state Lg, 1937-39 Provincial Lg. If you have stats for other non-OB leagues, list them with an asterisk to indicate that the stats are not included in Minor League Totals. List all lines for Japanese, Negro and pre-1955 Mexican Leagues with stats, if known. After Minor League Totals at bottom of record, list Japanese League Totals, etc.

Major League stats Should agree with stats in Total Baseball

Columns for regulars Year Club League Pos G AB R H 2B 3B HR RBI SB Avg

Columns for pitchers Year Club League G IP W L H B ER BB SO ERA

These are suggestions. If you submit records which do not conform, don' t worry about it.

Getting Involved

We hope that all members of the committee will become involved in minor league research. Most of you have indicated on your questionnaire that you are working on a pet project; but a few of you are not doing any research at the moment. Maybe you do not know what to research, or how to get started.

From time to time the newsletter puts out appeals for help on projects. If you think one of these sounds interesting, please contact the person leading the effort. Don't feel obligated to volunteer, but join in any work that you think you will enjoy. And we encourage members to contact other members with similar interests.

Minor League Manager Data Base

A number of committee members are interested in minor league managers. Volume II of *Minor League Baseball Stars* featured the records of a few of the top managers. However, that just scratched the surface. Jerry Jackson already has a tremendous amount of information on the subject and has suggested the creation of a data base. Information includes full name, date and place of birth, date and place of death, year by year managing record (W, L, place in standings), and dates when managing less than a full season). All interested members should contact Jerry Jackson at PO Box 620218, Oviedo, FL 32762, or e-mail sabrmnlgs@aol.com.

Inter-Library Loan

Newspapers are the greatest source of information for minor league researchers. Most newspapers, from big city dailies to small town weeklies, are now on microfilm. Local, state, college and historical society libraries have newspapers on microfilm. The Library of Congress in Washington has a great collection. Many of these libraries will loan microfilm to you at your local library. The Library of Congress published a book which listed all available newspaper microfilm at the time of publication, titled *Newspapers in Microform, United States*. Another helpful book is *Interlibrary Loan Policies Directory*, which lists many libraries and the material, including microfilm, that they will loan. These books are available in many local libraries.

Jerry Jackson is working on a revision of a booklet that he prepared a number of years ago, *Microfilm Index of Minor League Baseball Cities*. It lists by state and city all microfilms for that city, and the libraries that will loan the microfilm. I have urged Jerry to speed up the completion of his revisions and produce an inexpensive booklet for sale to our members.

Other Library Services

It is not always possible to obtain the newspaper microfilm that you need. Most libraries will make copies of material as long as they do not have to spend a great deal of time searching for it. Give them a specific date, and as long as it is baseball related they can go directly to the sports page. If you need a box score send them a sample since they might not have the foggiest idea of what a box score is. Mention diplomatically that the following day's edition should be used for a given game, and that if there are no Sunday editions, Monday's paper may include details of a Saturday game. Most libraries only charge a dollar or two for this service.

Consecutive Wins at the Start of a Season

In 1918, Bridgeport of the Eastern League opened the season with seventeen consecutive victories (actually eighteen, but one was thrown out). Frank Williams asks, "Is this a minor league record?" If you can answer this question, please let us know.

Research in Baseball Index (RBI)

RBI, the Research in Baseball Index, is the Bibliography Committee' s major project. It could also be a significant aid to Minor League Committee members in their research.

RBI is an electronic database of baseball research materials. As of March, there are a little over 250,000 entries in the database. This includes about 18,000 books, about 12,500 "book sections" (such as individual profiles in *Glory of Their Times*, or individual articles in the *Baseball Research Journal*) and closing in on 100,000 articles from magazines and newspapers.

In addition to the obvious bibliographic information such as author and title, each entry contains searchable fields for persons' names and topics. Thus, the database can be searched for the name Frank Shellenback or for phrases such as Gilmore Stadium, Syracuse Chiefs, double plays, or particular minor leagues.

Coverage so far is spotty. Most of *Sports Illustrated* is cataloged, for example, but little of *The Sporting News*. This is a volunteer project and they are limited to what they can access. Nevertheless, it can be extremely useful.

For example, there are 366 books, 107 book sections and 3,391 articles entries which include mention of the topic "minor leagues". These may range from an article in a recent issue of *USA Today Baseball Weekly*, to the guide for the Ohio Baseball Association of 1884. The database contains no statistics. It is basically an electronic version of the card catalogs we were taught to use in libraries. It will guide you to where you can find answers to your questions, rather than answer those questions.

You can request a search of the database by contacting Ted Hathaway at 3536 Orchard Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55305, or at sabrrbi@baldeagle.com, or through SABR' s web page, www.sabr.org, where RBI is under the publications section. You can order the entire database, a subscription to get the updated database regularly, or an individual search. If the search turns up just a few citations, the information will be free. If there are more than a handful, there will be a charge, but it should be fairly modest. Detailed information on searches and purchase is available on the web site.

As with all volunteer projects, RBI is always looking for more help. Many of the minor league books we are familiar with are not completely annotated. The same is true for minor league guides and yearbooks. We could use volunteers who would concentrate on *Baseball America*, a rich source for the past two decades. If you are interested contact Ted Hathaway, or the author of this article, Andy McCue, Bibliography Committee Chair, 4025 Beechwood Pl., Riverside, CA 92506, Agmccue@pe.net.

A Ballplayer Who Died Young

John Schober, age 22, of the Glenwood Springs team of the 1898 Colorado State League died on June 23, 1898 of typhoid. He was batting .372 in twelve games, and played his last game on June 12 1898.

Deaths of Minor Leaguers

Ray Nemecek has supplied the latest list of minor leaguers' deaths (see next page). Don' t forget to send notices of the deaths of former minor league players to Ray Nemecek, 1424 Heatherton Drive, Naperville IL 60563-2233, or BasebalRay@aol.com.

Minor League Player Deaths through 3/17/2000 - Issue #1

Player	Debut DOD / POD	Informant
Barry, John G.	1946 11/26/99 Cambridge, MA	Bill Carle
Bedore, Frederick O.	1926 212/83 Chicago, IL	Mark Bedore
Beiden, John Peter	1946 3/6/00 Fresno, CA	Bill Weiss
Blanco, Roger	1993 11/30/99 Catia la Mar, Venez.	John Royster
Breisinger, Thomas O.	1949 5/23/90 Pittsburgh, PA	Tony Szabelski
Brown, James E.	1947 12/8/96 Santa Clara, CA	Rich Topp
Carroll, Charles	1944 1/25/00 Hinsdale, IL	Bill Weiss
Conlan, Thomas Joseph	1930 11127/99 Castro valley, CA	Joe Murphy
D' Alonzo, Alvin J.	1952 3/24/84 Livingston, NJ	Rich Bozzone
Dant, Robert	1947 4/15/88 Madison, IL	Tony Szabelski
Dotterer, Henry .1., Sr.	1928 7116/90 Syracuse, NY	Rich Topp
Driskill, Alec	1946 12/1/97 Lynchburg, VA	Driskill family
Feimster, Henry	1941 12/18/99 n/a	John Royster
Hibbs, Norman	1932 9/30/95 Ogdensburg, NY	Tony Szabelski
Hildebrand, Richard F.	1947 2/23/00 Martin Twp, MI	Bill Carle
Infante. Asbrubal	1999 12/29/99 Guanta, VZ	John Royster
Husman, Jack	1940 7/1/98 Toledo, Ohio	John Husman
Kenyon, Arthur	1949 2/8/00 Mesa, Arizona	Bill Carle
Ketchen, Ronald J.	1961 2/21/00 Brockton, MA	Dick Thompson
Krakowski, Joseph Walter	1937 11/24/99 Providence, RI	Bill Carle
Knupa, Tom	1946 1/14/00 Royal Oak. MI	Rich Adler
LaFrance, Roger	1944 11/14/99 Hartford, CT	Bill Carle
Landini, Louis	1948 1/4/00 San Francisco, CA	Joe Murphy
Leahy, John J.	1946 11/30/99 Braintree, MA	Dick Thompson
Lewandowski (Leonard), Joseph	1947 5/20/91 Livingston Manor. NY	family
Maul, Allan F.	1947 9/30/97 Tacoma, WA	Rich Topp
McCawlev, William D.	1942 2/6/00 Long Beach, CA	Dick Beverage
McDaniel. James R.	1950 12/3/99 Indio, CA	Dick Beverage
Medlar. Charles	1941 10/3/99 Johnston, PA	Rich Adler/Dave Chase
Mervar. John	1937 12/23/99 Leroy Twp. Ohio	Joe Simenic
Mishasek, Joseph J.	1939 2/10/00 Desert Palm, CA	Mark Blau
Olsen, Lyle I.	1951 1/27/00 Johnson City, TN	Bill Weiss
Feet, Ray	1948 1/16/00 Ashtabula, OH	Joe Simenic
Pekich, Pete	1958 1/21/00 Windber. PA	Bill Carle
Phipps, Jodie	1939 11/29/99 Muskogee. OK	Bill Cade
Popely, Joesph N.	1949 1/21/00 Painesville. Ohio	Joe Simenic
Pulko. George	1948 11/15/99 Phoenixville. PA	Jack Morris
Rhem, N. Victor	1954 2/21/00 Prairie Village, KS	Bill Carle
Roberson, H. Foster	1951 2/28/98 Fresno. Calif.	Tony Szabelski
Roman. Robert	1947 12/24/96 Durham. NC	friend
Santora. Frank P.	1944 8/13/97 Hackensack. NJ	Rich Bozzone
Schumrn, William	1947 11/21/99 Moberry. MO	John Hall
Tefft. Albert A.	1948 11/7/99 Las Vegas, NV	Rich Bozzone
Teter. Gordon	1966 12/18/99 Powell, Ohio	Pete Cava
Thom, Robert	1941 3/22/99 Evansville, IN	Davis Barker
Tierney, John J.	1948 6/22/96 San Francisco, CA	Rich Topp
Tyson, Cecil W.	1938 2/17/00 Elm City, NC	Tony Szabelski
Williams, Richard N.	1948 12/16/99 Charlotte, NC	n/a

More on Sluggers Batting in the Leadoff Spot

Mention was made in the last two newsletters of Frosty Kennedy and Tony Lazzeri batting in the leadoff spot on the last day of the season, while shooting for their sixtieth home run. Bob Rives writes that Bob Crues batted leadoff in a doubleheader on the final day of the 1948 season while trying to get number seventy. He didn't make it. Rives also points out that Joe Bauman hit numbers seventy, seventy-one and seventy-two in 1954 from the leadoff spot.

New Members:

The format is the same as for the roster printed in the previous newsletter. The number in parenthesis indicates the amount of time that members are willing to spend to fill requests from other members. (1) considerable; (2) some; (3) little; (4) none.

Regular and/or e-mail addresses are included on the roster only when they do not agree with those listed in the 1999-2000 SABR Directory.

Fink, Gary; (2); player career records for players in Detroit spring training rosters starting in 1921; 1947 Sunset League; 4205 Mira Loma Drive, Reno, NV 89502; garycf@aol.com

Hamann, Rex (3); player bios and ballparks for pre-1954 American Asso.; 2298 Martin Rd., Mogadore, OH; pure457@aol.com

Hotard, Mike (2); records of players with high R, H, TB, RBI, etc. in the Pacific Coast League; 9106 Eastern, Kansas City, MO 64138; mikehothan@primary.net

McCann, Mike (2); league histories, especially how teams moved and/or were replaced within leagues; 700 Avondale Rd., Apt. 50, Wallingford, PA 19086; bunko@udel.edu

Morris, Peter (2) leagues in Michigan; 19th Century leagues; 6461 Green Rd., Haslett, MI 48840

Rice, Alan (2); team histories, especially Billings Mustangs

Szabelski, Tony (2); player photographs

Weaver, Newt (1); team rosters from early days thru 1879; box scores and game accounts thru 1890; vette-99@prodigy.net

Western Reserve Historical Society Library, Attn: Marian Sweton, 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland OH 44106

Additions and Changes to Roster of January, 2000

Bauer, Carlos; change phone to 858-453-1088

Bauer, Rock; change (3) to (2)

Brooks, Ed; change (3) to (2)

Cartwright, Al; change (3) to (2); new info - player career records; league stats; mmandgpa@gateway.com

Coughenour, Dean; change (3) to (2); new info - minor league cities; comparing pitcher's ERA to league ERA

Dempsey, Mike; new address - PO Box 32, Uncasville, CT 06382

Gregory, Jerry; new info - Carolina League and Central League of 1948-51; sabr72@aol.com

Jackson, Jerry; new info - league and team histories; minor league manager database; sabrmnlgs@aol.com

Nemec, David; change (3) to (2); new info - 19th Century leagues and teams; outlaw leagues; 1900 American League stats; vmence@earthlink.net

Pawlush, George; change (3) to (2)

Savitt, Bob; new info - league histories, especially Blue Ridge League

Schmidt, Ray; change (3) to (4); new info - Three I League; pre-1958 Pacific Coast League

Selter, Ron; new address -1430 E. Walnut Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245

Minor League Ballparks

Ted Lukacs is coordinating the efforts of our committee members on ballpark research. Ted has been in contact with Bob Bluthardt, chairman of the SABR Ballparks Committee, and we will share information with that committee.

History of Early Minor Leagues

Newt Weaver, a new committee member, has suggested a project involving the history of the first minor leagues, including statistics, standings, records, etc. Newt has already done a considerable amount of work on this period (about 1877 to 1882). Your editor heartily encourages this project. The major history books on baseball devote only a few pages to the minors for this period. This is a wide open field for original research. If you are interested in this project, contact Newt at 2 South Baltimore Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842, or vette-99@prodigy.net, or phone 410-289-7215.

League Statistics

Carlos Bauer has completed the 1910 California League. Ray Nemeck is working on the 1916 Northern League and plans to do the 1919 Northwest International League next. Jack Dougherty is about to wrap up the 1884 Keystone League and is working on the 1924 Florida State League. Bob Richardson is continuing his work on the New England League and is now up to 1904.

Ray Nemeck points out that you do not have to obtain every box score to compile leagues. Check every possible source for missing box scores. Then compile the stats and note the missing games.

Billy Bottenus' Big Days

Billy Bottenus, playing for Springfield at Binghamton in an Eastern League game on July 25, 1893, hit two home runs in the fourth inning. Bottenus was at bat again in the fifth when he took exception to a called strike by umpire "Herm" Doscher, and started an argument. Billy then proceeded to hit another homer. After rounding the bases he resumed the argument. Doscher fined him ten dollars (umpires had the authority to fine players on the spot). The argument continued. Bottenus was fined an additional twenty-five dollars. This didn't help and Bottenus was finally ejected from the game. It required two policemen to remove him from the grounds. Maybe the glory of hitting three homers in five innings was worth it to Billy.

On May 12, 1895, Bottenus had an even better slugging spree. Playing for Buffalo vs. Wilkes-Barre in an Eastern League game, he hit four home runs and a double - and this was only a seven inning game!

In spite of these two big games, Bottenus was not a home run hitter. 1895 was his best year with a total of nine homers. He hit only forty-one in a twenty year career.

People in The Pro Football Hall of Fame Who Played Professional Baseball

Reds Badgro	See record, next page	Ernie Nevers	See record, next page
Sammy Baugh	Record in MLBS III	Ace Parker	Record in MLBS III
Joe Guyon	Record in MLBS II	Art Rooney	Record in MLBS III
George Halas	See record, next page	Ken Strong	Record in MLBS II
Don Hutson	Record in MLBS III	Jim Thorpe	Record in MLBS I
Greasy Neale	See record, next page	Charley Trippi	See record, next page

MLBS = *Minor League Baseball Stars*

Reds Badgro

<u>Year</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>League</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>2B</u>	<u>3B</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>	<u>SB</u>	<u>Avg.</u>
1928	Muskogee	Western Assn	OF	37	142	34	56	13	1	8	36	5	.394
	Tulsa	Westen	OF	92	371	76	124	27	2	8		10	.334
1929	Milwaukee	American A	OF	43	159	26	45	11	3	5		1	.285
	St. Louis	American	OF	54	148	27	42	12	1	0	18	1	
1930	St. Louis	American	OF	89	234	30	56	18	3	1	27	3	.239
1931	Wichita Falls	Texas	OF	105	382	58	117	25	12	2	71	13	.306
1932	Wich F/Longview	Texas	OF	103	394	40	111	20	5	1	43	9	.282
1933	Seattle	Pacific Coast	OF	33	76	12	21	3	0	1	7	0	.276
Major League Totals				143	382	57	98	30	3	2	45	4	.257
Minor League Totals				413	1523	246	474	99	23	25	157	38	.311

George Halas

1919	New York	American	OF	12	22	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.091
	St. Paul	American A	OF	39	84	15	23	2	1	0		6	.274

Greasy Neale

1912	London	Canadian	OF	79	244	37	61					22	.250
1913	London	Canadian	OF	68	212	48	71	4	7	2		1	.335
1914	London	Canadian	OF	21	75	10	24	0	2	0		4	.320
	Cleveland	American A	OF	18	48	8	11	1	0	1		1	.229
1915	Saginaw	S Michigan A		League folded July 7. No averages									
	Wheeling	Central		51	185	25	69	9	3	1		12	.373
1916	Cincinnati	National	OF	138	530	53	139	13	5	0	20	17	.262
1917	Cincinnati	National	OF	121	385	40	113	14	9	3	33	25	.294
1918	Cincinnati	National	OF	107	371	57	100	11	11	1	32	23	.270
1919	Cincinnati	National	OF	139	500	57	121	10	12	1	54	28	.272
1920	Cincinnati	National	OF	150	530	55	135	10	7	3	46	29	.255
1921	Phil/Cin	National	OF	85	298	46	70	11	5	0	13	12	.2-
1922	Cincinnati	National	OF	25	43	11	10	2	1	0	2	5	.233
1923				Did not play in Organized Baseball									
1924	Cincinnati	National	OF	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
1925-29				Did not play in Organized Baseball									
1930	Clarksburg	Mid-Atlantic	OF	93	334	71	111	15	9	4	38	21	.332
Major League Totals				768	2661	319	688	71	50	8	200	139	.259
Minor League Totals				330	1098	199	347	29	21	8	38	61	.316

Charley Trippi

1947	Atlanta	Southern A	OF-1B	106	410	74	137	19	10	3	42	14	.334
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Ernie Nevers

<u>Year</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>League</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>ER</u>	<u>ERA</u>
1926	St. Louis	American	11	2	4	74.2	82	24	16	37	4.46
1927	St. Louis	American	27	3	8	94.2	105	35	22	52	4.94
1928	St. Louis	American	6	1	0	9	9	2	1	3	3.00
	San Francisco Mission	Pacific Coast	29	14	11	206	202	69	54	100	4.37
1929	San Francisco Mission	Pacific Coast	36	7	8	148	194	60	44	75	4.56
Major League Totals			44	6	12	178.1	196	61	39	92	4.64
Minor League Totals			65	21	19	354	396	129	98	175	4.45

