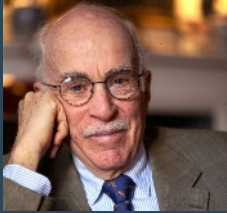




SECOND CHANCE NEWS



“ Kevin’s writing style is the perfect metaphor for a monkey pounding on a keyboard. Although the monkey has a better shot at writing actual prose” -Roger Angell

Roger Angell will turn 98 in September, and he can say anything he wants about my prose.

Notes From The Commissioner

In 1922 Cool Papa Bell will make his SCL debut. He'll get around 100 Abs and hit somewhere in the .350 range.

Unfortunately his 1st 2 seasons are primarily as a mediocre pitcher who will probably knock out a 4.50+ ERA. He has no stats in 1926,27,30,31,38,39,40, and 41. At our current pace his debut could happen sometime in 2020. Hopefully the SCL is still around.

So I ask you, who would waste a draft pick on this guy? You have to suffer through 2 poor seasons before he steps off the mound and heads to the outfield. He has 8 seasons with zero stats, and he hits very few Hrs. So as Commissioner of the SCL, I'm going to show you just what kind of a stand up guy I am. I'll take this guy off your hands; no GM will be allowed to draft this guy, except me. I'll do it for the league, I'll do it for every SCL GM, past, present and future that has ever, or will ever fill out a Diamond Mind Manager profile. I'll bear this burden, without complaint, for the league. No need to thank me. Your continued participation in the league is thanks enough.



Plus, he's already got the cap. Go Skeeters!

1915 In The Second Chance Baseball League

Second Chance League

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|------------------------------|----|----|------|--------|
| American League | | | | |
| 1915 Kenmore Miners | 90 | 41 | .687 | - |
| 1915 Shamokin Stogies | 82 | 54 | .603 | 10 1/2 |
| 1915 Jersey City Skeeters | 69 | 67 | .507 | 23 1/2 |
| 1915 Georgia Pines | 64 | 66 | .492 | 25 1/2 |
| 1915 Virginia Rebels | 63 | 71 | .470 | 28 1/2 |
| 1915 Gas House Gorillas | 63 | 72 | .467 | 29 |
| 1915 Sharples Works Turks | 50 | 79 | .388 | 39 |
| National League | | | | |
| 1915 Bridgeport Blue Meanies | 82 | 50 | .621 | - |
| 1915 Wheaton Warbirds | 71 | 61 | .538 | 11 |
| 1915 ArkLaTex Robins | 69 | 66 | .511 | 14 1/2 |
| 1915 Custer's Crimson Tide | 68 | 68 | .500 | 16 |
| 1915 Baltimore Terrapins | 58 | 78 | .426 | 26 |
| 1915 Alexandria Tornados | 54 | 78 | .409 | 28 |
| 1915 Peoria Caterpillars | 52 | 84 | .382 | 32 |

With just over 20 games to go in 1915 you might notice that this season will not be remembered for it's pennant race. The Miners are in, the Stogies will soon follow. The Blue Meanies have all but wrapped up the NL, while the Robins, Crimson Tide, and the Warbirds at least make the WC race interesting. Right now my money is on the Robins to pull this one out. Back in 1910 the then ArkLaTex Superbas won their last 5 games, 3 in extra innings to take the Wild Card by 1 game. I see more of the same.

The Miners, led by GM Mike Murphy will finish with the best record in the league for the 2nd season in a row. My prediction of a 5th place finish, in hindsight, was not very good, but if the standings remain as they are, I'll have 3 out the 4 predicted playoff teams correct. Amazing.... I know.

FYI, I know I've said it before, but if you want to compete in this league, you need to understand that the Miners will battle you for all 15 rounds. Mike utilizes all aspects of the Manager profile sheet. He doesn't just send in a rotation and a batting order, he utilizes the depth chart, defensive replacements, player tendencies, and playing % more than anyone else. (By far) He makes changes 3x per week. He scouts his upcoming opponent, and makes changes accordingly. Ben Taylor and Harry Hooper are the only offensive players with any significant Abs that are performing above their real life stats, and Hooper is hitting just .260. Nick Cullop, and Juan Padron are the only pitchers that are better than their real life stats. Most of his players are struggling to even approach their real life stats. 31-11 in 1 run games, 12-5 in extra innings, a 20 game winning streak. Before they slumped a little in the last 20 games, they were on pace to win 120 games.

Is luck involved? A little bit. How many times can a team score 5x in the 9th inning to pull a victory out of the jaws of defeat? I look at the Skeeter's win over the Miners in last season's Playoffs as a Miracle Mets type victory. I look forward to the challenge of trying to beat this guy in the future, I just wish I put them in the NL.



Take note guys. This is what the enemy looks like. Do not fear him. The many will always beat the few. The righteous will always defeat the wicked. We will not go quietly into the night! We will not vanish without a fight! We're going to live on! We're going to survive! Who's with me?

Sadly Turks GM, Phil Wagner has let me know that this will be his last season with the SCL. Phil has been with the SCL since its inception, and has been a great GM. Despite never making the playoffs, he consistently managed his team from the draft to the final week of every season. He snatched Addie Joss from me in the initial draft, causing me many a sleepless night, but I don't hold that against him. Thank You Phil, and if you get bit by the historical baseball simulation bug again, you'll always have a place in the SCL. I'll just throw Buckley out of the league to make a spot for you.

And despite all the love and respect I have for the Miners and Mike Murphy, I will still stick with my prediction of Bill Miller's Blue Meanies winning it all. 7 games, all decided by 1 run.



This is what the enemy looks like. Do not fear him, because....well...they're blue,.....and not really mean looking.....kind of lame actually.....but they're scrappy!



A SECOND CHANCE PLAYER YOU SHOULD KNOW

Sam Crawford- Gashouse Gorillas

[-VERDUN 2's Blog](#)



A Baker's Dozen Things You Should Know About Sam Crawford

11. After umpiring in the PCL from 1935 through 1938 he retired, became something of a recluse, and lived in a cabin near the Mojave Desert.

12. In 1957 he was elected to the Hall of Fame and in 1964 was interviewed for the book "The Glory of Their Times" (still the best book about Deadball Baseball).

13. He died in California in 1968.

1. Samuel Earl Crawford was born in 1880 in Wahoo, Nebraska. Hence the nickname "Wahoo Sam."

2. He was a star football player in high school, leading his team to state titles in both 1896 and 1897.

3. After a stint with a barnstorming minor league team he joined the Cincinnati Reds in 1899.

4. In 1901 he led the Major Leagues with 16 home runs. Twelve of them were of the inside-the-park variety. That's still the record.

5. In 1903 he jumped to Detroit of the new American League (then in its third season). He led the AL in triples.

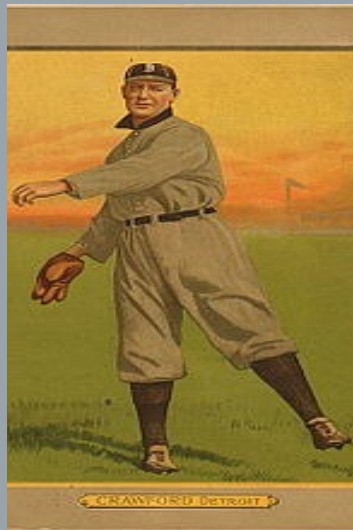
6. He played in three consecutive World Series', 1907-1909. He hit .243 with 17 hits, one home run, and eight RBIs. Detroit lost all three Series'.

7. He led the AL in RBIs in 1910, 1914, and 1915; in total bases in 1913; in runs in 1907; in doubles in 1909; in home runs in 1908; and in triples six times.

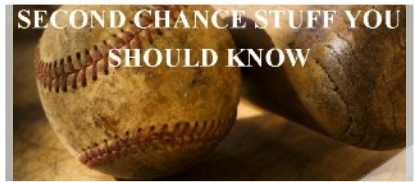
8. He is the all time leader in triples with 309, 14 better than his teammate Ty Cobb.

9. His last season in the majors was 1917. Afterwards he played four years with Los Angeles in the Pacific Coast League. The team won two pennants.

10. He was head coach for the University of Southern California between 1924 and 1929, placing second in his conference twice.



SECOND CHANCE STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW



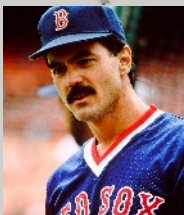
As of this writing Gavvy Cravath is the SCL career leader in Hrs with 92. Fellow Skeeter, Sherry Magee is 2nd with 60. Frank Baker(Terrapins) and Wildfire Schulte(Terrapins) are tied with 50. That should change in about 5 years. Cravath was the active leader in Hrs in 1920 with 119, before being surpassed by the Bambino. Dwight Evans was the active career leader in Hrs in 1990 with 379. Who'da think?



Gavvy Cravath



Babe Ruth



Dwight Evans

TEAMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

The Gashouse Gorillas stole a record 12 bases in the 1910 SCL World Series.

The 1909 Pirates hold the World Series record with 18 stolen bases, led by Honus Wagner's 6. Only 2 other teams have swiped more than 12 bases in a World Series. The 1907 Cubs with 16, and surprisingly the 1992 Atlanta Braves, led by Otis Nixon and Deion Sanders with 5 each. Who'da think?



SECOND CHANCE WORDS

*From The Grip Of The Game by
Thomas Boswell*

*Baseball was meant, and still is meant,
to be irresponsible, anti-adult, silly, lyric,
inexplicable, slightly rebellious and
generally disreputable.*

*The ballpark is the place you go to play
hooky. When you get there, you scream,
yell insults at grown millionaires, knock
people aside chasing foul balls and eat
nachos until your stomach is so full that
you have to switch to ice cream
sandwiches.*

*They call baseball the summer game,
which, to a child means vacation and*

*laziness and multifarious mischief. When
you're indoctrinated from the cradle that
baseball is officially acceptable, what
chance have you got?*

*As well as being many other things,
baseball is a wonderful waste of time, a
raspberry in the face of authority. The
same long division that plaques the grade
schooler becomes a joy when it's a hero's
batting average that's being computed.
Arithmetic in pursuit of grades can be
done hurriedly on the bus to school. Math
for the sake of a batting title must be
completed before breakfast and double-
checked.*

*Those of us who are guilty of scrubbing
baseball behind the ears and making it
appear a mite more upstanding than it
ever could be should apologize and
promise not to sin again. For at least a
day.*



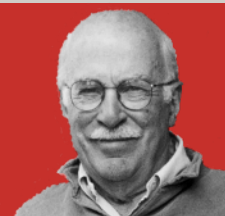
When I was a kid I got a How To Draw book put out by Walter Lantz. The guy that drew Woody Woodpecker. I goofed around with it, took some books out of the library, drew some stuff, and then stopped. If I had to draw a house, or a dog, or Captain Kirk, I could not picture them in my head, and draw them from my own inner vision. I don't have the ability to clearly picture things in my brain. I can't picture color either, nor do I ever remember my dreams. Copy Woody Woodpecker off the page of my book...no problem. Turn away from the book and draw Woody from my head.....no way. Oh well....who wants to draw anyway....not me. So I moved on to other things....some legal, some, let's just say, were in the gray area. (Just kidding, I was pathetically straight-laced)

As I get older, I worry about diminished cognitive abilities; when you're rocking a near 3-digit IQ, that's a lot to have diminish! Studies show that if you continue to stretch your brain, like any muscle, it will continue to function better and longer into your senior years. Don't use it, you lose it.

I read that learning a new skill will work different areas of your brain, so I thought, why not see if restarting the drawing thing works out. On Valentine's day I tried drawing a rose for my wife, and it turned out...acceptable. (And way cheaper than a real rose!) So I figured I'd see if I could get better at it, and do some baseball stuff. About 6 weeks ago, I drew a baseball, and put it on the website. I moved on to a still life with a catcher's mitt and some balls on a shelf, also on the website. This is my attempt at Douglas Tilden's bronze statue, "The Baseball Player" Tilden was a deaf mute and produced some of the greatest sports related bronze statues ever made. It's not great, but it's better than Woody Woodpecker. Hands and eyes are really hard to draw, so I need to work on that. And now that I look at it, the shading on his left leg kind of looks like a penis. That was not my intention. I swear.

PS... I just fixed the penis shadow on the original. (I bet you never expected to ever see that line in a baseball related newsletter.)

“ Since baseball time is measured only in outs, all you have to do is succeed utterly; keep hitting, keep the rally alive, and you have defeated time. You remain forever young. Sitting in the stands, we sense this, if only dimly. The players below us—Mays, DiMaggio, Ruth, Snodgrass—swim and blur in memory, the ball floats over to Terry Turner, and the end of this game may never come. ” -Roger Angell



SCL STUMPERS

WHO ARE THESE SECOND CHANCE LEAGUE STARS?

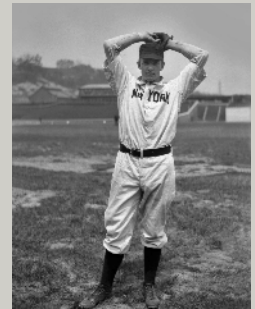
1. In this Charles Conlon action shot taken in a 1912 game between the Highlanders and the Naps, Umpire Billy Evans calls out a former Terrapin, after being tagged out by a current Warbird, on a throw made by a current Rebel. A current Turks second baseman looks on. Who are these players?



Terrapin, Bert Daniels, is tagged out by Warbird catcher Ted Easterly, on a throw from Rebel OFer Joe Jackson, with the Turks Ivy Olson looking on.

2. This is a photograph taken by Charles Conlon of Christy Mathewson in 1904. What is the significance of this photograph to Charles Conlon?

This is the 1st baseball photograph Charles Conlon ever took.



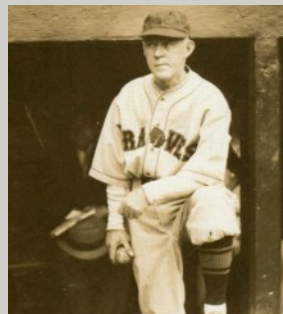
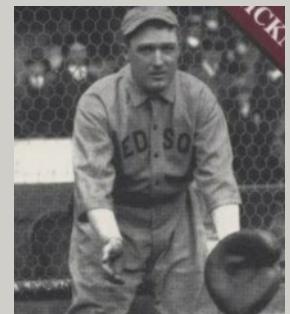
3. This should be any easy one. Who is this?



If you didn't know this is Honus Wagner, you don't deserve to be in this league.

1. This guy looks like a catcher, has the nickname of a catcher, and sometimes played 1st base with his catcher's mitt???

2. He's a little older, but he still has that look on his face, that says, "I know everything about the rules of baseball. And if you disagree, I will kill you." Who is this current SCL player?



3. This former Robins' player is a member of the Cuban Baseball Hall of Fame?





“Boy Pitching Baseball” by Robert Robinson 9/16/1911

This hard throwing youngster looks like he’s getting ready to snap off a nasty curve ball. He resembles a cherubic Christy Mathewson, but with the devil in his eyes, just like the real Christy Mathewson when he was on the mound. The unclasped suspenders are just perfect, as is the smudge of dirt on his cheek. The baseball is old and dirty, but it doesn’t matter, because no one is going to hit this pitch. This is a young boy playing a boy’s game, but don’t tell that to him.

