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Plot Thickens in the Atmospheric!

In the **Atmospheric Conference**, the pennant chase just got very interesting! **Chestertown** played .500 ball (21-21) in Period 2 and this allowed **Bloomington** (28-14) to surge past and take a 1-game lead! **North Adams** (26-16) pulled to within 2 games of the lead! **Sioux Falls** (20-22) and **Arkansas** (22-20) slipped to 4 and 5 games off the pace, respectively! This is the closest pennant race in the TML Retro era! Only **Summer** and **Sonoma** are out of the post season battle in Period 3, but could be spoilers!

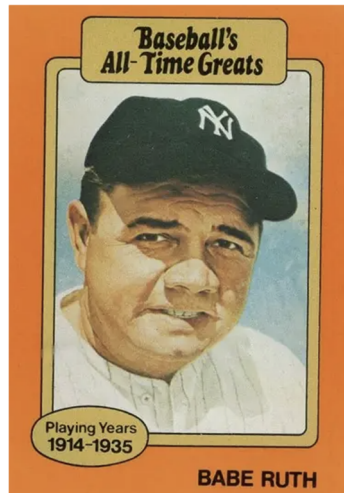
Over in the **Oceanic Conference**, the **Albany Avalanche** posted a Period 2 best **32-10** record and took a 2-game lead over rival **Oakdale** (30-12 in Period 2). **Duluth**, in 3rd place, played .500 ball 21-21, but now trail by a nearly unsurmountable 17 games! Period 3 will determine home field advantage for the top two.

The new batting leader is **Duluth's Earl Webb** at .402, followed by **Chestertown's Charlie Grimm** at .392. Eight players are still batting over .350! **Oakdale's** repeat **"Player of the Period" Babe Ruth** is still the leader in HR (36), SLG (.715), Runs (121) and RC (151), and is the new leader in OBP (.507) and Walks (120)! **Albany's Goose Goslin** is the RBI leader with 120. The SB leader is **Arkansas's Roy Johnson** (28 SB, 10 CS).

The new ERA leader is **Oakdale's "Player of the Period" Lefty Grove** at 2.34, followed by **Beverly's Syl Johnson** at 2.56. **Grove** is 2nd in victories (17-5) and Strikeouts (115). The Strikeout leader is teammate **Carl Hubbell** (121 K) and the victories leader is **Sioux Falls's Wes Ferrell** (18-4). The Saves leader is still **Bloomington's Carl Fischer** (20/23 SVO, 35 GR, 2.57).

Below are some awards and tid-bits from Period 2 in the 1931 TML American Retro.

**** Player of the Period ****



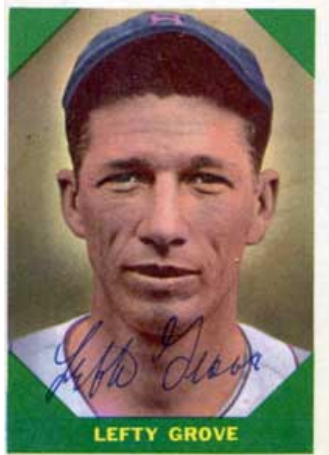
(OK) Babe Ruth

.390, 57-146, 7-0-17, 115 TB,
51 R, 55 RBI, 56 W, 68 RC
1.342 OPS, 6 GW-RBI
19.2 RC/27

Honorable Mentions:

Lou Gehrig(AV)	.394, 13 HR, 53 R, 41 RBI, 61 RC
Al Simmons(BV)	.364, 12 HR, 41 R, 39 RBI, 49 RC
Joe Cronin(AV)	.376, 7 HR, 46 R, 38 RBI, 48 RC
Earle Combs(DT)	.363, 4 HR, 49 R, 25 RBI, 48 RC
Charlie Grimm(CH)	.384, 4 HR, 29 R, 35 RBI, 47 RC

**** Pitcher of the Period ****



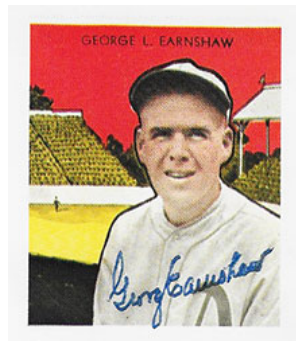
(OK) Lefty Grove

7-2, 1.56, 7 QS, 8 GR, 5 CG,
75.0 IP, 48 H, 17 W, 45 K,
.180 OAVG, 0.87 WHIP
3 shutouts

Honorable Mentions:

Clint Brown(BY)	6-2, 1.97, 9 QS, 21 K, 1.14 WHIP
George Earnshaw(BV)	7-2, 2.43, 7 QS, 50 K, 1.03 WHIP
Wes Ferrell(SF)	6-3, 2.80, 7 QS, 33 K, 1.14 WHIP
Fred Fitzsimmons(BY)	6-2, 2.53, 6 QS, 29 K, 1.21 WHIP
Charlie Root(AR)	3-2, 2.65, 6 QS, 37 K, 1.07 WHIP
Bobby Burke(NA)	7-3, 2.75, 6 QS, 25 K, 1.43 WHIP
Dazzy Vance(NA)	3-1, 2.01, 5 QS, 28 K, 1.20 WHIP
Jesse Haines(BX)	1-3, 2.19, 5 QS, 15 K, 1.20 WHIP

** Top Oceanic Pitching Performance **



Beverly's **George Earnshaw** turned in an outstanding **1-hit shutout** on the road at the **Bronx**! The only hit he allowed was a 2-out single to **Rabbit Maranville** in the 4th. **Earnshaw** walked only 1. No **Bronx** runner even reached 2nd base!

8/6/1931, BV31-BX31, Yankee Stadium

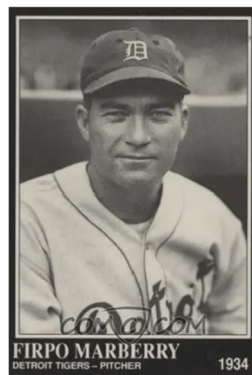
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Beverly	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	-	4	8	0
Bronx	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	1	1

Hillbillies	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
G.Earnshaw (W 12-6)	9	1	0	0	1	4	106/67	3.68

Honorable Mentions:

7/ 7: L.Grove(OK) 2-hit shutout, 1W, 7K
 7/11: J.Ogden(BX) 2-hit shutout, 3W, 2K
 8/12: G.Earnshaw(BV) 2-hit shutout, 2W, 5K
 8/13: L.Grove(OK) 2-hit shutout, 1W, 7K

** Top Atmospheric Pitching Performance **



Chestertown's **Firpo Marberry** turned in a fine effort against visiting **Sioux Falls**! **Marberry** allowed just one hit, a solo HR to **Nick Cullop** leading off the top of the 3rd! **Marberry's** walked 4 with 2 coming in the 9th. Back-to-back FC got him out of trouble in what was a slim 2-1 victory!

7/23/1931, SF31-CH31, Shibe Park

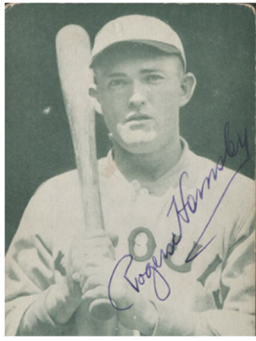
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Sioux Falls	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	1	0
Chestertown	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	x	-	2	7	0

Blue Herons	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
F.Marberry (W 11-8)	9	1	1	1	4	1	109/65	3.05

Honorable Mention:

8/11: R.Kremer(BY) 2-hit shutout, 1W, 3K

** Top Oceanic Offensive Performance **



Oakdale's **Rogers Hornsby** had a "monster" day on the road at **Beverly**! **Hornsby** helped put the game away late with a 2-run HR in the 6th, a **Grand Slam** in the 7th and a 2-run double in the 8th. All told, **8 RBI** in the game! Teammates **Babe Ruth**, **Heinie Manush** and **Charlie Berry** each had 3 hits in the 20-hit attack!

8/3/1931, OK31-BV31, Navin Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Oakdale	0	3	1	0	0	2	4	4	0	-	14	20	1
Beverly	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	-	2	12	1

Ravagers		AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
R. Hornsby	2b	5	3	4	2	8	1	.311
1:F9; 3:1B; 4:BB; 6:2-RBI HR; 7:GS-HR; 8:2-RBI 2B								

Honorable Mention:

7/ 5: B. Ruth(OK) 5-5, 4 R, 3 RBI, 3 **HR**, **2B**, **1B**

** Top Atmospheric Offensive Performance **



Chestertown's **Charlie Grimm** was a "run-scoring machine," leading a 21-hit barrage, against visiting **Summer**! **Grim** rapped out RBI singles in **each** of the first 5 innings! He had 6 RBI. **Grimm** added a 6th hit in the 7th with a double! This was a boost for **Grimm's** attempt to win the batting title!

8/13/1931, SM31-CH31, Shibe Park

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Summer	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	3	4	3
Chestertown	1	3	5	6	3	0	1	0	x	-	19	21	2

Blue Herons		AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
C.Grimm	1b	6	3	6	0	6	0	.398
1:RBI 1B; 2:RBI 1B; 3:RBI 1B; 4:RBI 1B; 5:2-RBI 1B; 7:2B								

Honorable Mention:

6/29: F. Leach (AR) 3-4, 2R, 7RBI, **GS-HR**, **2R2B**, **1R1B**

**** Overtime Game of the Period ****

The longest game of Period 2 was a 13-inning game between **Sioux Falls** and host **Arkansas**. After giving up 3 runs in the top of the 13th, **Arkansas** rallied for 1 run and loaded the bases in their half of the inning, only to see pinch-hitter **Joe Palmisano** whiff! Both teams had scored 3 runs in the 9th to send the game into extra innings!

6/27/1932, SF31-AR31, Sportsman's Park (N)

	123	456	789	012	3		R	H	E	LOB	DP
Sioux Falls	000	012	003	000	2	-	8	15	0	11	3
Arkansas	001	002	003	000	1	-	7	15	2	8	3

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Up next ... Period 3 highlights!

Staff Columnist - *Biff Barnes Sr.*

Previous article:

http://tmlam.org/Rnews/1931_Period_1.pdf