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Down to the Wire in the Atmospheric!

In the **Atmospheric Conference**, **Sioux Falls** surged to a 27-15 record in Period 3 and caught **North Adams** (25-17) on the final game of their series, while **Chestertown** (22-20) continued their fade out of the post season! **Sioux Falls** is awarded the pennant with an 8-6 advantage over **North Adams** during the season. The two will face each other to see who will advance to the **World Series**! **Summer** (24-18) did play the spoiler, effectively knocking both **Chestertown** and **Bloomington** out of the playoffs!

Over in the **Oceanic Conference**, **Albany** continued to roll posting a Period 3 best **30-12** record and kept **Oakdale** (29-13) from gaining any ground. These two powerhouse ballclubs will face each other for a 3rd consecutive season. In the previous two meetings, the team in 2nd place easily dispatched the other. **Albany** and **Oakdale** were 7-7 in head-to-head play this season!

The batting Champion is **Duluth's Earl Webb** at .401, followed by **Albany's "Player of the Period" Lou Gehrig** at .384. Seven players ended up batting over .350! **Gehrig** also led in SLG (.706), Runs (176) and RC (219)! **Oakdale's Babe Ruth** is the HR Champ with 46, 2 HR ahead of **Gehrig**. **Ruth** also led in OBP (.501) and walks (157), finishing 2nd in RC (202). **Albany's Goose Goslin** is the RBI leader with 171, and led in EXBH (92). **Oakdale's Bill Terry** is the Hits leader with 242. The SB Champ is **Arkansas's Roy Johnson** (36 SB, 13 CS).

The ERA Champion is **Beverly's Syl Johnson** at 2.54, followed by **Oakdale's** duo of **Lefty Grove** (2.60) and **Carl Hubbell** (2.60). The victories leader is **Sioux Falls's Wes Ferrell** (25-7). There were 6 other 20-game winners, 3 from each **Oakdale** (**Meine** 23-8, **Grove** 22-8, **Hubbell** 21-5) and **Albany** (**Brown** 22-5, **Walker** 20-2, **Clark** 20-4). The Strikeout champ is **Hubbell** with 175 K. The **"Fireman of the Year"** is **Bloomington's Carl Fischer** (30 RP, 23/27 SVO, 41 GR, 2.59).

Below are some awards and tid-bits from Period 3 in the 1931 TML American Retro.

** Player of the Period **



(AV) Lou Gehrig

.415, 71-171, 8-6-18, 155 TB,
57 R, 58 RBI, 36 W, **77 RC**
1.355 OPS, 6 GW-RBI
19.7 RC/27

Honorable Mentions:

Al Simmons (BV)	.420, 11 HR, 37 R, 47 RBI, 61 RC
Babe Ruth (OK)	.367, 10 HR, 40 R, 38 RBI, 51 RC
Ed Morgan (SM)	.401, 3 HR, 40 R, 19 RBI, 44 RC
Mel Ott (BV)	.329, 6 HR, 36 R, 26 RBI, 44 RC
Earl Averill (AV)	.341, 8 HR, 38 R, 44 RBI, 42 RC
Sparky Adams (SR)	.369, 5 HR, 22 R, 31 RBI, 41 RC

** Pitcher of the Period **



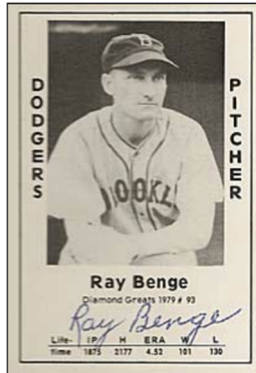
(SF) Si Johnson

8-2, 1.78, 10 GS, 9 QS, 6 CG,
81.0 IP, 70 H, 22 W, 35 K,
.230 OAVG, 1.14 WHIP
3 shutouts

Honorable Mentions:

Ray Benge (OK)	7-2, 2.07, 7 QS, 45 K, 0.98 WHIP
Heinie Meine (OK)	6-1, 2.07, 8 QS, 26 K, 1.23 WHIP
Red Ruffing (CH)	5-5, 2.47, 5 QS, 50 K, 1.38 WHIP
Larry French (AV)	7-1, 2.69, 6 QS, 23 K, 1.21 WHIP
Hank Johnson (SM)	5-4, 2.75, 11 QS, 57 K, 1.29 WHIP
Carl Hubbell (OK)	7-2, 2.81, 7 QS, 54 K, 1.30 WHIP
George Uhle (NA)	7-4, 2.96, 9 QS, 43 K, 1.39 WHIP

** Top Oceanic Pitching Performance **



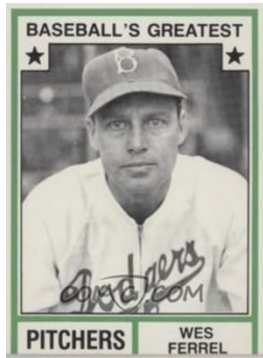
Oakdale's **Ray Benge** tossed the TML's first **no-hitter** since 1934 against visiting **Bronx**! With 2 outs in the 1st inning, **Benge** walked **Charlie Gelbert** and **George Grantham** before getting **Jimmy Dykes** on a F7. **Benge** then retired the remaining 24 consecutive batters! A HR by **Babe Ruth** in the 4th proved to be the game-winner.

9/15/1931, BX31-OK31, Yankee Stadium

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Bronx	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	1
Oakdale	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	x	-	4	11	0

Ravagers	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
R. Benge (W 15-7)	9	0	0	0	2	6	113/75	3.47

** Top Atmospheric Pitching Performance **



Sioux Falls's **Wes Ferrell** opened a crucial season ending series at **North Adams** by hurling a **no-hitter**! **Ferrell** scattered 5 walks in his dominating effort. A lead-off walk in the 4th was followed by an **E3**, but a 643/GDP ended the only threat. **Ferrell** put an exclamation point on his 25th win by socking a 2-run HR in the 9th!

10/10/1931, SF31-NA31, Forbes Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Sioux Falls	0	3	1	0	0	4	0	0	4	-	12	16	1
North Adams	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	2

Fighting Sioux	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K	PCH/STR	ERA
W. Ferrell (W 25-6)	9	0	0	0	5	4	123/77	2.71

Honorable Mention:

9/25: S. Johnson (SF) 1-hit shutout, 4W, 3K, Won 10-0

** Top Oceanic Offensive Performance **



Albany's Lou Gehrig led his team to a road blowout at **Seattle**! **Gehrig** started the scoring with a solo HR in the 1st and ended it with a **Grand Slam** in the 8th! He had also hit a 3rd HR, a 3-run shot in the 7th! **Gehrig** totaled **8 RBI** on the day! He reached base in all 5 PAs and had 13 TBs!

9/11/1931, AV31-SR31, Ebbets Field

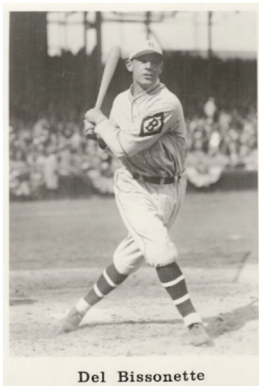
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Albany	3	0	0	0	0	2	3	4	0	-	12	11	1
Seattle	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	-	4	8	1

		AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
L.Gehrig	1b	4	4	4	3	8	1	.376
1: HR ; 3: 1B ; 6: BB ; 7:3-RBI HR ; 8: GS-HR								

Honorable Mention:

8/29: **E.Averill**(AV) 5-5,3 R,6 RBI, **HR**, **2B**, 3 **1B**, **BB**
 9/ 2: **C.Klein**(BV) 4-5,4 R,6 RBI, 3 **2RHR**, **1B**
 10/11: **T.Oliver**(SR) 6-6,3R,1RBI,1**2B**,**2B**,4 **1B**

** Top Atmospheric Offensive Performance **



Sioux Falls's Del Bissonette was the spark that led to the defeat of visiting **Arkansas**! **Bissonette** helped stake his team to an 8-0 lead after just 2 innings, by socking a **Grand Slam** in the 1st inning and a 2-run double in the 2nd! He added another RBI double in the 7th.

8/25/1931, AR31-SF31, Wrigley Field

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		R	H	E
Arkansas	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	-	3	7	4
Sioux Falls	4	4	1	3	0	0	2	0	x	-	14	16	2

		AB	R	H	HR	BI	BB	AVG
D.Bissonette	1b	4	3	3	1	7	1	.274
1: GS-HR ; 2:2-RBI 2B ; 4: BB ; 5:31; 7:RBI 2B								

Honorable Mention:

9/23: **T.Cuccinello**(AR) 4-6,3R,6RBI,**GS-HR**,1**2B**,1**1B**,**1B**

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

The longest game of Period 3 was a 17-inning marathon between **North Adams** and host **Summer**. After holding their own into the 17th inning, **Summer** saw "the roof cave in" on them! An **E3** was followed by a single and RBI-double by **??? Reynolds**. After a 32/FC, a series of three consecutive walks (two with the bases loaded) and an RBI ground out, **North Adams** took at 7-3 lead into the bottom of the 17th. **Summer** went down 1-2-3 to lose a heartbreaker.

9/19/1931, NA31-SM31, Ebbets Field

	123	456	789	012	345	67		R	H	E	LOB	DP
North Adams	000	201	000	000	000	04	-	7	14	1	15	0
Summer	000	000	201	000	000	00	-	3	9	4	8	1

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Up next ... Post Season highlights!

Staff Columnist - *Biff Barnes Sr.*

Previous article:

http://tmlam.org/Rnews/1931_Period_2.pdf