

SEASONS PAST BASEBALL



1956



YEARBOOK

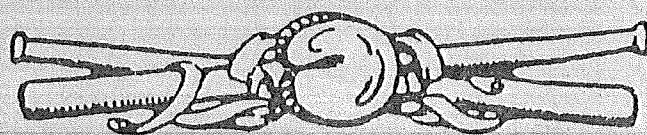


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THE "PRE-GAME SHOW"

With another year literally in the books, it's time for the one publication second to only the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue. This yearbook, though, is in a much smaller circulation, but has a small, but loyal following.

Many unpredictable events happened during the 1956 season, to include the crowning of a surprise champion. Just think, when the season first started, O.J. Simpson was a free man! I must thank all of you, for whom without playing all the games, and providing input for the articles and ideas, and for having the sense of humor enough to take some good-natured ribbing, this yearbook would not be possible. I'm sure you fellow league commissioners and statisticians know all too well how much smoother a league runs when it has competent and punctual managers. It is my pleasure to give something back to those who made things run so efficiently during the year.

It has been another fantastic year, and as you will see....there are even MORE numbers than last year. A few new items have been added (I will let you find them yourself, so as to not spoil the surprises!), and some of the ol' stanbys have stood the test of time to be included once again. Like fine wine, it just keeps getting better and better! As always, please forgive my occasional literary ignorance and any minor errors, if any....I was only trying to emulate Ken Burns! By the way....next year's yearbook WILL be printed in Korean, so study up!!

Without further adieu, I present for your approval, the SEASON'S PAST BASEBALL 1956 Yearbook. This is the ol' right hander rounding third, but heading for the dugout instead of home.....'cause I got caught stealing!

John S. Turnbull
SPB-I Statistician

FINAL STANDINGS

WESTERN DIVISION	WON	LOST	PCT	GB	EASTERN DIVISION	WON	LOST	PCT	GB
High Desert Mavericks	89	65	.578	--	Frankfort Tigers	110	44	.714	--
Gurnee Falcons	82	72	.532	7	Springfield Rifles	80	74	.519	30
Evanston Black Sox	82	72	.532	7	Dayton Flyers	76	78	.494	34
Pacific Cascades	79	75	.513	10	Mountain Park Minors	72	82	.468	38
Heartland Bluebirds	78	76	.506	11	Lafayette Blue Sox	72	82	.468	38
Schaumburg Saxons	73	81	.474	16	Rossville Cubs	71	83	.461	39
Nebraska Knights	67	87	.435	22	Rhode Island Grays	47	107	.305	63

BATTING TOTALS

WESTERN	AVG	OBP	SPC	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS
Mavericks	.282	.361	.412	5294	799	1492	275	53	103	756	665	673	59	40
Falcons	.278	.358	.421	5386	834	1497	230	50	146	786	661	668	52	36
Bluebirds	.275	.359	.424	5435	794	1492	233	39	168	761	707	732	43	23
Cascades	.274	.339	.416	5455	754	1496	219	39	158	716	542	673	17	26
Saxons	.274	.357	.382	5337	729	1460	190	44	100	686	705	625	55	32
Black Sox	.271	.350	.386	5296	737	1437	206	25	117	699	650	672	67	24
Knights	.268	.339	.446	5378	755	1440	259	37	208	709	587	720	15	17
DIVISION	.274	.352	.412	37581	5402	10314	1612	287	1000	5113	4517	4763	308	198

EASTERN	AVG	OBP	SPC	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS
Flyers	.301	.369	.415	5496	793	1654	220	35	112	752	595	555	30	43
Minors	.288	.365	.424	5342	804	1537	235	39	138	759	625	559	49	34
Tigers	.280	.371	.489	5389	941	1508	228	32	278	904	780	811	90	44
Cubs	.279	.347	.458	5424	849	1512	233	51	213	807	567	692	97	49
Blue Sox	.271	.353	.419	5287	773	1435	230	39	157	737	656	726	99	45
Grays	.269	.338	.414	5418	727	1458	201	50	161	683	549	857	9	12
Rifles	.259	.338	.398	5311	746	1374	175	36	164	708	639	625	24	20
DIVISION	.278	.353	.430	37667	5633	10478	1522	282	1223	5350	4411	4825	398	247

PITCHING TOTALS

WESTERN	WON	LOST	SAVE	ERA	INN	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	DP	CG	ShO
Mavericks	89	65	28	3.81	1377.1	1403	662	583	570	575	136	154	34	8
Black Sox	82	72	35	4.07	1372.0	1449	725	621	544	814	137	148	27	3
Saxons	73	81	28	4.28	1376.2	1469	753	655	566	674	144	116	33	5
Cascades	79	75	21	4.36	1377.1	1449	749	667	631	554	138	152	54	4
Bluebirds	78	76	37	4.67	1397.2	1465	817	726	648	690	165	147	19	2
Falcons	82	72	40	4.71	1389.2	1506	792	727	589	719	143	147	28	3
Knights	67	87	28	4.88	1376.1	1595	841	746	602	664	181	134	33	3
DIVISION	550	528	217	4.39	9667.0	10336	5339	4725	4150	4690	1044	998	225	28

EASTERN	WON	LOST	SAVE	ERA	INN	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	DP	CG	ShO
Tigers	110	44	24	3.37	1403.2	1223	601	526	666	783	117	147	64	11
Flyers	76	78	32	4.31	1373.3	1512	734	657	593	691	129	145	34	4
Rifles	80	74	33	4.47	1386.0	1385	743	689	670	854	221	144	22	5
Blue Sox	72	82	33	4.74	1382.1	1508	820	728	643	634	177	143	28	4
Minors	72	82	31	4.88	1367.0	1515	832	741	640	736	171	158	28	4
Cubs	71	83	18	5.01	1384.3	1571	864	771	701	626	149	143	36	9
Grays	47	107	25	6.53	1367.6	1758	1106	992	868	576	218	179	14	1
DIVISION	528	550	196	4.75	9664.1	10472	5700	5104	4781	4900	1182	1059	226	38

STATISTICAL SEASON AT A GLANCE

The following numbers will tell you what you probably already know...that the 1956 season statistics were, in short, offensive. The new version of PTP has been rumored to be the culprit, but if you ask Mickey Mantle and the Grays, they may have different reasons! Feel free to peruse with your favorite beverage, but don't show this to your accountant...they may not understand!

	1956 Season	SPB55	SPB56 PROJ*	DIFF	% DIFF	LAST YR
AVG	.259	.276		+.017	+6.5	+1.9
OBP	.332	.353		+.021	+6.3	+1.5
SLG	.398	.422		+.024	+6.0	-0.5
Games	1237	1078	1237			
At Bats	83353	75248	86346	+2811	+ 3	+ 4
Runs	10999	11035	12662	+1663	+15	+ 9
Hits	21599	20792	23858	+2259	+10	+ 6
Doubles	3328	3134	3596	+ 268	+ 8	+10
Triples	722	569	652	- 10	-10	- 4
Home Runs	2290	2223	2550	+ 260	+11	- 5
RBIs	10308	10463	12006	+1698	+16	+10
Walks	8963	8928	10244	+1281	+14	+ 5
Strikeouts	11389	9588	11002	- 387	- 3	- 3
Stolen Bases	718	706	810	+ 92	+13	-41
Caught Stealing	496	445	510	+ 14	+ 3	-35
Home Run %	.027	.029		+.002	+ 7	-12
BB/SO	.786	.931		+.145	+18	+ 8
ERA	3.90	4.58		+0.68	+17	+10
Saves	361	413	473	+ 112	+31	+19
Innings	21680	19331.3	22182	+ 502	+ 2	+ 4
Earned Runs	9389	9829	11278	+1889	+20	+19
Double Plays	1932	2057	2360	+ 428	+22	+19
Complete Games	755	451	517	- 238	-31	-19
Shutouts	126	66	75	- 51	-40	-26

Hopefully, with the implementation of the 50 at-bat rule, the usage of better players will decrease slightly, and give the edge back to the pitchers. Of course, it could have been the weather too! Of note is the dramatic increase of the use of the stolen base, which could also lead to more men being put in scoring position. The offensive stats were on the increase every month of the season except the last.

MONTHLY RECAP

***** TEAM STANDINGS *****

<u>EAST</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>
Tigers	12- 8(2)1	16- 9(1)-	18- 7(1)-	23- 5(1)-	19- 9(1)-	22- 6(1)-
Rifles	9-11(4)4	15-10(2)4	11-14(3)11	10-18(6)24	21- 7(2)22	14-14(2)30
Flyers	13- 7(1)-	10-15(3)5	14-11(2)9	12-16(2)20	13-15(3)26	14-14(3)34
Minors	10-10(3)3	10-15(4)8	8-17(6)18	18-10(4)23	11-17(5)31	15-13(4)38
Blue Sox	9-11(4)4	9-16(6)10	15-10(4)13	14-14(3)22	10-18(5)31	15-13(4)38
Cubs	7-13(6)6	12-13(5)9	13-12(5)14	14-14(4)23	16-12(3)26	9-19(6)39
Grays	7-13(6)6	8-17(7)13	8-17(7)23	7-21(7)39	8-20(7)50	9-19(7)63
<u>WEST</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>
Mavericks	13- 7(1)-	15-10(1)-	10-15(4)1	18-10(1)-	16-12(1)-	17-11(1)-
Falcons	11- 9(3)2	15-10(2)2	13-12(1)-	11-17(5)6	18-10(2)4	14-14(2)7
Black Sox	8-12(6)5	16- 9(4)4	15-10(1)-	12-16(3)5	17-11(2)4	14-14(2)7
Cascades	8-12(6)5	14-11(5)6	13-12(5)4	16-12(3)5	12-16(5)9	16-12(4)10
Bluebirds	11- 9(3)2	14-11(3)3	14-11(1)-	14-14(2)3	13-15(4)6	12-16(5)11
Saxons	13- 7(1)-	9-16(5)6	11-14(6)6	15-13(6)8	11-17(6)13	14-14(6)16
Knights	9-11(5)4	12-13(7)7	12-13(6)6	12-16(7)11	11-17(7)16	11-17(7)22

Records are shown month by month, with the placing in the division in parenthesis, and the number of games behind the leader at the end of that month to the right of the ().

***** MONTHLY BESTS *****

	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>
PLAYER:	Mantle .378-10-26	Mantle .408-8-31	Mays .398-9-26	Mantle .440-17-35	Williams .414-11-36	Mantle .398-10-27
STARTER:	Burdette 4-0 1.14	Ford 4-0 1.85	Newcombe 4-1 1.16	Antonelli 5-0 2.14	Wilson 4-1 1.83	Newcombe 5-0 1.18
RELIEVER:	Byerly 0-0-4	Mossi 2-0-4	Valentinetti 1-0-5	Surkont 2-0-0	Narleski 0-0-6	Grissom 4-0-5
TEAM:	Flyers	Tigers	Tigers	Tigers	Rifles	Tigers
RECORD:	FLY MAV SAX 13-7	TIG ASX 16-9	Tigers 18-7	Tigers 23-5	Rifles 21-7	Tigers 22-6
TEAM BAVG:	Flyers .311	Cubs .297	Falcons .310	Flyers .308	Flyers .312	Minors .291
TEAM ERA:	Flyers 2.93	Mavericks 3.15	Tigers 3.03	Tigers 3.12	Black Sox 3.17	Tigers 3.26

TIGERS TAMED TWICE

Mavericks bludgeon Bengals in series shocker

The SPB-I Championship trophy moved unexpectedly west, thanks to a classic "David and Goliath" battle of this years' divisional winners. If someone had asked you in June which Maverick team would be the first to win a championship, High Desert or Dallas, it would have been a very tough choice! It looked like the Tigers had it all this year; they lost last years title, giving them the drive to try again (Gee, Just like the National Champion Nebraska Cornhuskers!), they had the leagues best overall hitting and pitching, and cruised to a record 110-win season. But as Steve Ehresman hates to say..."Anything can happen in a short series."

The Western Division was up for grabs as late as September, when all but one team (Turnbull takes a bow), was within 10 games of the leader. The Mavericks pulled away during inter-divisional play and won the West by 7 games. The Tigers, if you can believe it, actually trailed the Flyers, who had the division lead in June (that may be the answer to a trivia question someday!), until they kicked on the afterburners and left the rest of the division in the dust. Let it be known that the Tigers and the Mavericks WERE the two teams with the best records, which made the series a legitimate matchup.

Going into the series, the Tigers looked to be, on paper, as the clearcut choice to win it all.....but so were the 1990 Oakland Athletics when they played the Cincinnati Reds. Plunkitt's murderer's row of Mantle, Snider, Hodges and Mathews, and the arms of Brewer, Antonelli, Harshman, and Lown had taken eight of ten during the season from the upstart Mavs. But what went wrong?? Broom sales in Southern California are at an all-time high because of the sweep, and rumor had it that the Santa-Anna winds made havoc of the tickertape parade in downtown Palmdale. Whatever the reason, everyone likes to root for the underdog, and this year, the faithfully-challenged got their wish. Congratulations to the 1956 Seasons Past Baseball Champion High Desert Mavericks! Savor it Mike, because it only lasts for nine months!

For complete details on the series, see the latest SPB newsletter. Enclosed are the final series statistics. Marv Grissom, who saved the first three victories, was named series MVP.

SERIES STATISTICS

TEAM HITTING

TIGERS	AVG	OBA	SLG	G	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	BI	BB	SO	SB	CS
Hodges	.437	.437	.937	4	16	7	2	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	0
Bauer	.312	.312	.687	4	16	5	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0
Snider	.250	.250	.400	4	16	4	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0
Mathews	.062	.062	.062	4	16	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Reese	.200	.250	.143	4	15	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	5	0	1
Bailey	.133	.187	.133	4	15	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0
Mantle	.272	.500	.909	4	11	3	1	0	2	4	4	5	3	0	0
Bolling	.125	.222	.125	3	8	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Hemus	.200	.200	.200	3	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Mele	.500	.500	.500	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Frazier	1.000	1.000	1.000	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Belardi	.000	.000	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cooper	.000	.000	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moss	.000	.000	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renna	.000	.000	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jacobs	.000	.000	.000	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antonelli	.500	.500	.500	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Brewer	.000	.333	.000	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Freeman	.000	.000	.000	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sisler	.000	.000	.000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TIGERS	.229	.288	.458	4	131	30	3	0	9	15	15	11	16	1	1

MAVERICKS	AVG	OBA	SLG	G	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	BI	BB	SO	SB	CS
McDougald	.470	.571	.470	4	17	8	0	0	0	2	6	4	2	0	0
White	.375	.444	.562	4	16	6	0	0	1	4	3	2	2	0	0
Musial	.200	.294	.200	4	15	3	0	0	0	3	2	2	1	0	0
Jackson	.307	.400	.538	4	13	4	0	0	1	3	7	2	5	0	0
Wilson	.300	.588	.500	4	10	3	0	1	0	4	1	7	2	0	0
Irvin	.200	.384	.300	3	10	2	1	0	0	2	1	3	2	0	0
Mazeroski	.333	.333	.333	3	9	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
Groth	.222	.222	.333	2	9	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
Plews	.000	.222	.000	2	7	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
Pilarcik	.000	.333	.000	3	6	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0
Rhodes	.250	.400	.250	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Grammas	.000	.000	.000	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Caffie	1.000	1.000	1.000	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Olson	.000	.000	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phillips	.000	.000	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Peete	.000	.000	.000	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schmidt	.667	.667	.667	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ford	.000	.000	.000	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Kline	.000	.000	.000	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grissom	.000	.000	.000	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Keegan	1.000	1.000	1.000	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Aber	.000	.000	.000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greoss	.000	.000	.000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAVERICKS	.274	.402	.351	4	131	36	2	1	2	26	25	28	21	0	0

SERIES STATISTICS

TEAM PITCHING

TIGERS	ERA	G	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	BF	HR	GS	CG
Brewer	3.38	1	0	1	0	8.0	6	5	3	6	6	39	0	1	1
Harshman	6.00	1	0	1	0	6.0	6	4	4	2	5	25	1	1	0
Antonelli	5.40	1	0	0	0	5.0	7	4	3	4	1	25	0	1	0
Freeman	8.31	3	0	1	0	4.1	6	4	4	3	3	21	0	0	0
Acker	8.10	2	0	0	0	3.1	5	4	3	3	2	17	1	0	0
Foytack	18.00	1	0	1	0	3.0	2	6	6	7	2	18	0	0	0
Sisler	0.00	2	0	0	0	2.0	1	0	0	2	2	8	0	0	0
Larsen	0.00	1	0	0	0	2.0	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
Meyer	0.00	1	0	0	0	0.1	2	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0
TIGERS	6.08	4	0	4	0	34.0	36	27	23	28	21	163	2	4	1

MAVERICKS	ERA	G	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	BF	HR	GS	CG
Keegan	3.37	1	1	0	0	8.0	7	3	3	1	3	32	3	1	0
Ford	4.50	1	1	0	0	8.0	5	4	4	2	6	29	2	1	0
Schmidt	3.55	1	1	0	0	7.2	6	3	3	4	2	32	2	1	0
Kline	4.50	1	0	0	0	6.0	5	3	3	4	3	24	2	1	0
Grissom	0.00	3	0	0	3	3.1	3	0	0	0	1	12	0	0	0
Aber	4.50	1	1	0	0	2.0	2	1	1	0	0	8	0	0	0
Gross	9.00	1	0	0	0	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	5	0	0	0
MAVERICKS	3.75	4	4	0	3	36.0	30	15	15	11	16	142	9	4	0

Errors: Tigers- Mathews, Reese 2, Bailey 2, Hodges
Mavericks- White

GWRBI: Tigers- NONE
Mavericks- Jackson 2, McDougald, Keegan

Sacrifice Flies: Tigers- Irvin
Mavericks- Groth

Hit By Pitch: Tigers- NONE
Mavericks- NONE

COMPOSITE SCORES BY INNINGS:

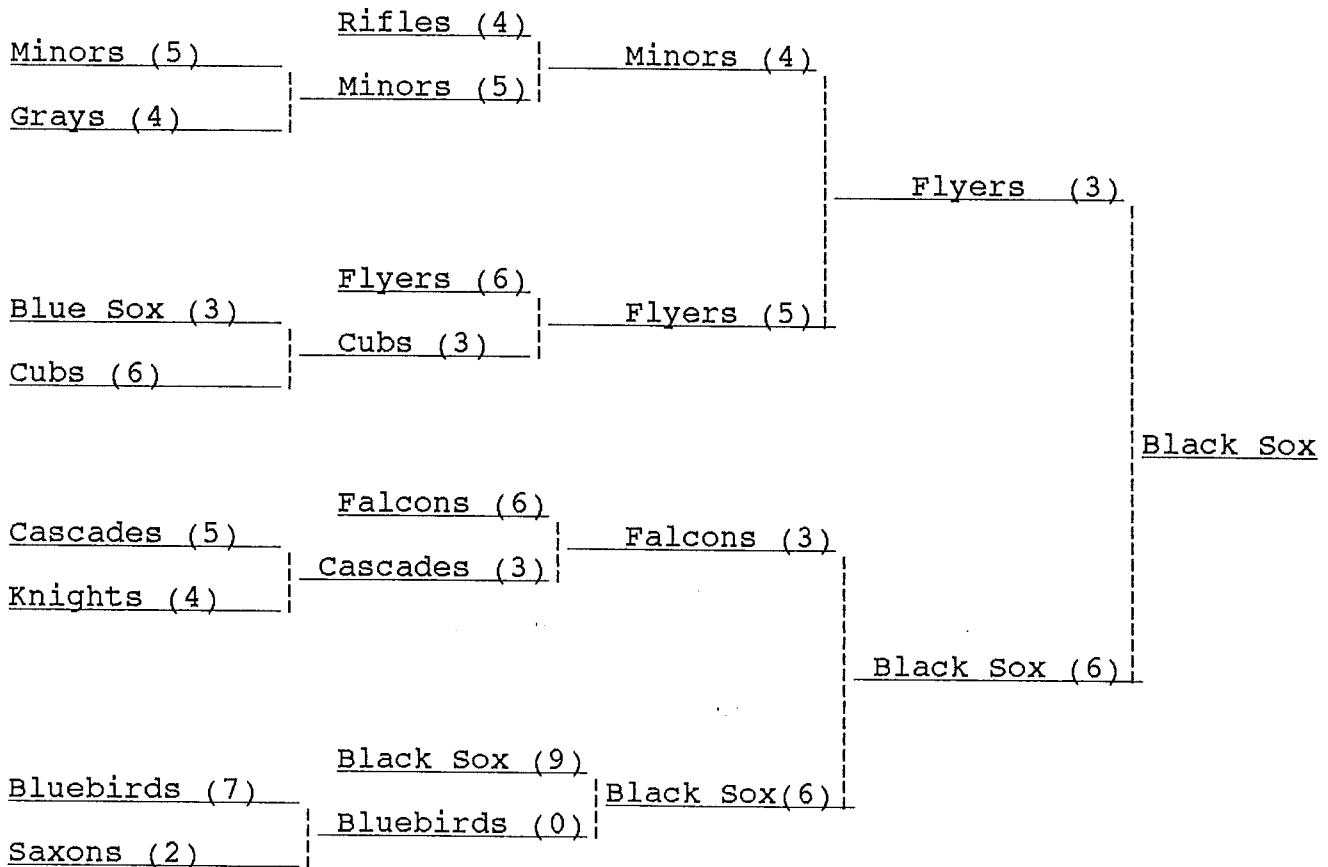
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
TIGERS	0	0	0	2	3	4	3	2	1
MAVS	2	2	0	11	1	2	2	4	3

EVANSTON WINS 1st NIT

Western Division goes 2-0 in 56 Playoffs

Since there was no "All-Star" game or series this season, I took it upon myself to introduce another twist in playoff play. The "SPB NIT" gives those non-division winners the chance to prove their might against each other. The brackets were designed to give a first-round bye to the second and third place teams in each division with the #4 and #7 seeds, and the #5 and #6 seeds matched together in first round play. The team with the best record gets home-field advantage in the 9 game series, with all 9 games being played each series. Team lineups and rotations were determined by the computer. If you like this idea, let me know, I can continue it, and/or involve everyone in playing their own series. The Black Sox, as you can see, cruised to the championship by blanking the Bluebirds, and waxing the Falcons and Flyers. Sorry John, only the REAL champion gets a plaque, but it DOES get your name in the yearbook one more time! Herb Score was named series MVP by going 6-0, 3.04.

SERIES RESULTS:



Maybe next year two of these teams will make it to the "Big Show!" Stay tuned!

SEASONS PAST BASEBALL 1956 INDIVIDUAL HITTING (MIN 477 PLATE APPEARANCES)

PLAYER	TEAM	AVG	G	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS
1 M.Mantle	TIG	0.396	154	551	218	23	5	66	176	154	138	87	32	6
2 Schoendienst	FLY	0.358	129	508	182	21	3	1	78	69	51	9	0	3
3 Virdon, B.	FLY	0.351	144	612	215	21	5	14	93	85	52	61	6	7
4 Minoso, M.	MTP	0.349	152	562	196	43	10	25	130	102	105	31	7	5
5 Kluszewski, T	SAX	0.340	153	611	208	15	1	42	92	146	55	32	4	2
6 Williams, T.	FAL	0.340	142	474	161	29	4	34	100	118	100	51	0	0
7 Snider, D.	TIG	0.334	146	515	172	45	0	36	103	121	93	92	2	2
8 Maxwell, C.	BLB	0.334	141	497	166	9	4	21	92	92	88	80	0	0
9 Mays, W.	CUB	0.330	147	624	206	41	5	29	131	103	47	75	64	10
10 Moon, W.	USX	0.329	152	586	193	26	8	19	101	103	93	56	15	8
11 Jensen, J.	FLY	0.328	153	616	202	26	7	19	112	104	80	45	12	9
12 Banks, E.	CUB	0.326	145	583	190	26	10	37	102	129	51	67	11	4
13 Berra, Y.	KNI	0.326	152	582	190	29	2	37	110	113	93	25	0	1
14 Skowron, B.	MTP	0.325	140	498	162	34	8	23	87	111	73	62	4	3
15 Kaline, A.	SAX	0.323	154	622	201	20	12	15	94	96	62	55	18	4
16 Aaron, H.	GRA	0.321	149	616	198	30	16	24	92	99	49	60	2	1
17 Musial, S.	MAV	0.321	152	592	190	42	7	22	99	112	79	38	4	1
18 Ashburn, R.	BLB	0.319	154	656	209	24	9	6	125	60	93	54	30	13
19 Vernon, M.	BLB	0.318	149	500	159	37	5	19	76	85	86	47	0	0
20 Fox, N.	CAS	0.318	154	661	210	26	7	9	103	70	56	17	2	6
21 Runnels, P.	FAL	0.315	146	585	184	26	15	9	107	69	58	61	5	1
22 Triandos, G.	FLY	0.313	132	489	153	15	1	27	75	99	44	74	0	1
23 McDougald, G.	MAV	0.313	140	511	160	22	2	15	93	62	87	74	3	4
24 Clemente, R.	RIF	0.310	143	580	180	27	3	19	85	85	19	51	5	4
25 Kuenn, H.	MTP	0.309	141	596	184	23	7	8	80	65	50	43	5	4
26 Piersall, J.	CUB	0.307	154	651	200	38	7	17	116	63	62	62	5	12
27 Gilliam, J.	FAL	0.307	152	599	184	29	5	1	125	44	104	23	27	16
28 Boyer, K.	FAL	0.305	149	597	182	28	0	25	89	123	53	67	4	2
29 Wertz, V.	ASX	0.305	142	499	152	19	0	28	89	110	61	87	0	0
30 Groat, D.	FLY	0.304	150	565	172	20	2	3	60	67	50	31	2	2
31 White, B.	MAV	0.302	146	566	171	31	11	15	106	108	72	63	24	13
32 Lollar, S.	USX	0.297	141	495	147	35	0	9	63	80	61	50	0	2
33 Furillo, C.	KNI	0.295	153	596	176	30	0	26	72	92	54	45	2	1
34 Reese, PW	TIG	0.294	141	476	140	14	0	6	59	33	46	52	18	14
35 Power, V.	FLY	0.294	133	595	175	27	7	7	79	59	25	26	0	3
36 Boone, R.	BLB	0.294	140	500	147	17	7	31	94	105	71	45	0	0
37 Klaus, B.	ASX	0.293	149	597	175	29	9	10	109	51	94	44	0	0
38 Moryn, W.	CAS	0.293	151	583	171	26	4	27	92	93	73	77	1	4
39 Fondy, D.	CAS	0.292	149	624	182	29	9	17	90	76	25	86	4	5
40 Smith, A.	CUB	0.291	149	546	159	27	5	15	89	83	83	69	8	8
41 Adcock, J.	KNI	0.290	134	517	150	28	0	43	90	115	40	98	0	0
42 Lopez, H.	ASX	0.289	153	570	165	22	3	12	76	77	61	71	0	2
43 Robinson, F.	FAL	0.289	153	564	163	26	8	27	106	111	83	111	6	6
44 Bruton, B.	SAX	0.286	151	583	167	32	12	8	82	83	37	61	2	3
45 Lopata, S.	BLB	0.284	147	573	163	43	5	40	96	139	86	110	6	8
46 Walls, L.	RIF	0.280	136	472	132	14	6	21	67	86	57	74	1	2
47 Ennis, D.	CAS	0.277	154	638	177	22	1	25	83	101	52	65	3	4
48 Simpson, H.	GRA	0.275	153	640	176	28	11	24	92	100	52	93	1	1
49 Bell, G.	ASX	0.275	154	626	172	29	2	23	100	101	63	73	17	5
50 Aparicio, L.	ASX	0.273	154	534	146	23	3	3	46	49	37	63	33	13
51 Rivera, J.	USX	0.272	140	456	124	24	3	15	79	61	52	55	34	14
52 Jones, W.	KNI	0.270	153	600	162	26	5	21	99	77	110	74	2	6
53 Hodges, G.	TIG	0.269	152	540	145	32	7	26	81	117	74	92	3	3
54 Thomas, F.	BLB	0.268	153	600	161	31	1	26	71	99	50	65	0	0
55 Temple, J.	SAX	0.267	154	621	166	17	0	0	83	44	78	46	16	12
56 Logan, J.	USX	0.267	149	595	159	25	7	19	84	91	56	59	5	2
57 Long, D.	CUB	0.265	153	597	158	20	7	30	86	111	58	87	3	1
58 Blasingame, D	USX	0.265	154	623	165	27	3	3	92	45	89	50	2	1
59 Mathews, E.	TIG	0.265	152	592	157	25	0	42	132	110	97	103	5	2
60 Lemon, J.	USX	0.263	153	597	157	26	11	28	94	94	74	154	1	4
61 McMillan, R.	RIF	0.262	142	481	126	8	7	3	59	49	99	54	2	2
62 Nieman, B.	SAX	0.261	150	498	130	20	6	9	83	58	114	77	0	1
63 Baker, G.	GRA	0.261	149	613	160	26	4	13	74	60	46	60	1	4
64 Jablonski, R.	FLY	0.259	131	441	114	24	0	14	54	81	47	54	4	4
65 Doby, L.	ASX	0.259	151	528	137	24	2	24	95	96	110	95	0	0
66 Miranda, W.	CAS	0.256	141	457	117	20	7	6	56	52	46	61	2	3
67 Post, W.	KNI	0.255	149	593	151	26	2	35	77	105	49	158	1	3
68 Avila, B.	MTP	0.252	151	489	123	19	1	8	82	46	75	77	11	4
69 Carrasquel, C	BLB	0.244	154	499	122	17	0	6	58	50	65	63	0	0
70 Kell, G.	KNI	0.242	135	491	119	26	0	11	51	42	52	55	0	1
71 Blaylock, M.	GRA	0.242	139	472	114	12	7	12	53	44	55	96	3	1
72 Sievers, R.	RIF	0.241	154	569	137	15	1	37	102	104	109	98	0	0
73 Hamner, G.	KNI	0.237	154	482	114	37	4	6	52	41	51	55	1	0
74 Yost, E.	SAX	0.233	154	575	134	27	3	9	107	50	161	75	10	4
75 Hoak, D.	RIF	0.229	151	454	104	23	4	8	58	45	60	50	5	4
76 O'Connell, D.	RIF	0.224	139	473	106	5	6	8	64	37	79	48	2	0
77 Bauer, H.	TIG	0.224	125	460	103	16	6	26	75	68	55	76	5	4

SEASONS PAST BASEBALL 1956 SEASON INDIVIDUAL PITCHING (MINIMUM 154 IP)

PITCHER	CLUB	ERA	W	L	S	G	GS	CG	ShO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	BF	HR	WP	DP
1 Brewer, J.	TIG	2.64	24	5	0	33	33	17	3	272.6	206	94	80	115	127	1122	15	5	20
2 Antonelli, J.	TIG	2.92	22	7	1	41	37	17	3	274.3	256	108	89	119	135	1173	19	1	28
3 Ford, W.	MAV	3.07	18	7	0	30	30	15	3	231.3	183	82	79	113	131	968	14	1	24
4 Newcombe, D.	CAS	3.11	26	7	0	38	36	26	3	304.3	254	122	105	82	155	1235	25	2	25
5 Donovan, D.	CAS	3.16	19	10	0	33	31	15	1	262.3	248	100	92	84	117	1099	24	3	23
6 Harshman, J.	TIG	3.31	16	4	0	29	29	11	2	209.6	168	94	77	92	122	883	18	5	17
7 Wehmeier, H.	USX	3.46	12	9	2	43	23	3	1	184.6	166	80	71	96	95	802	16	0	20
8 Wynn, E.	ASX	3.47	16	15	0	34	34	10	2	251.6	272	121	97	82	135	1098	18	5	28
9 Sturdivant, T	FLY	3.60	13	6	3	34	17	5	1	162.6	167	75	65	49	112	699	18	0	15
10 Crone, R.	ASX	3.66	8	7	1	30	22	6	1	162.3	168	74	66	58	65	691	13	1	24
11 Burdette, L.	FLY	3.67	18	11	2	37	34	15	2	235.6	254	106	96	64	108	996	23	2	25
12 Kline, R.	MAV	3.95	18	12	0	39	39	8	3	262.3	261	139	115	91	109	1123	31	9	31
13 Foytack, P.	TIG	3.98	17	8	0	34	32	12	1	224.0	218	109	99	121	155	986	26	6	32
14 Wilson, J.	CUB	4.06	12	12	0	32	28	13	2	212.6	212	105	96	97	107	929	24	2	20
15 Hoeft, B.	SAX	4.06	8	14	0	34	34	5	2	213.0	249	116	95	82	144	957	9	12	21
16 McLish, C.	CAS	4.08	7	7	3	34	21	2	0	154.3	186	81	70	75	66	694	7	5	27
17 Kaiser, D.	FAL	4.08	6	10	0	27	22	8	1	172.0	162	87	78	63	66	719	16	4	19
18 Friend, B.	SAX	4.10	18	14	3	45	42	12	2	307.3	327	165	140	106	143	1346	29	6	23
19 Lary, F.	MTP	4.13	10	19	0	38	37	11	2	257.0	289	143	118	120	147	1181	17	2	24
20 Dickson, M.	SAX	4.23	11	11	0	30	30	7	0	202.0	199	113	95	110	89	904	18	3	20
21 Sullivan, F.	BLB	4.25	20	8	0	34	33	7	2	249.6	257	126	118	96	119	1077	16	1	22
22 Craig, R.	MTP	4.26	12	11	1	35	32	3	0	211.3	189	109	100	122	113	929	21	9	24
23 Buhl, B.	CAS	4.40	12	14	0	34	33	6	0	235.0	236	130	115	125	76	1050	21	5	23
24 Moore, R.	FLY	4.42	5	10	1	29	25	2	0	158.6	157	92	78	92	85	716	16	1	13
25 Law, V.	RIF	4.43	15	9	0	35	32	4	1	223.6	222	121	110	81	72	949	42	5	24
26 Poholsky, T.	ASX	4.44	9	11	0	32	29	3	0	190.3	224	107	94	56	99	842	27	1	16
27 Spahn, W.	SAX	4.45	7	22	0	35	35	9	1	259.0	276	140	128	91	111	1135	31	4	16
28 Nuxhall, J.	KNI	4.45	10	15	0	32	32	7	1	222.3	251	126	110	112	140	1015	21	2	25
29 Roberts, R.	MTP	4.45	17	10	1	36	34	9	2	252.6	294	138	125	42	140	1068	42	2	21
30 Fowler, A.	FLY	4.47	11	12	2	39	23	8	1	183.3	186	93	91	53	85	774	18	0	13
31 Jones, S.	RIF	4.50	12	13	0	31	28	3	0	196.0	183	110	98	133	181	887	24	1	23
32 Score, H.	ASX	4.53	12	13	0	35	33	7	0	238.3	208	142	120	163	250	1082	24	14	23
33 Stobbs, C.	KNI	4.66	10	15	0	33	32	6	0	222.3	265	135	115	67	83	983	28	0	22
34 Hacker, W.	CUB	4.75	12	7	0	30	24	7	2	178.0	207	104	94	65	56	796	31	0	19
35 Pierce, B.	USX	4.75	8	15	0	34	33	6	1	233.0	261	131	123	93	157	1030	28	5	27
36 Lawrence, B.	USX	4.79	12	14	1	36	31	5	1	221.6	235	133	118	112	88	988	29	0	27
37 Erskine, C.	FLY	4.85	6	14	0	31	29	2	0	172.6	209	102	93	78	71	787	19	8	19
38 Maglie, S.	FAL	4.85	16	11	1	32	27	5	1	198.6	204	113	107	76	108	855	27	0	22
39 Rush, B.	BLB	4.89	14	11	0	32	32	8	0	226.3	316	137	123	96	91	981	29	4	16
40 Lemon, B.	USX	4.90	10	11	0	33	33	10	0	240.6	251	142	131	112	89	1069	30	5	18
41 Johnson, C.	FAL	4.93	12	12	0	29	27	8	0	200.6	200	114	110	79	150	868	24	6	16
42 Mizell, VB	RIF	5.06	12	14	0	33	33	6	2	227.6	195	137	128	119	161	981	48	5	16
43 Klippstein, J	KNI	5.20	8	11	0	29	29	3	0	181.2	196	119	105	91	82	829	20	0	14
44 Garcia, M.	FAL	5.27	9	6	0	34	30	5	1	196.3	234	124	115	88	108	891	27	3	15
45 Wight, B.	CUB	5.60	6	13	1	35	26	4	2	168.6	235	122	105	84	78	809	11	9	21
46 Haddix, H.	KNI	5.62	10	16	0	31	31	9	1	208.3	256	142	130	82	143	954	43	4	20
47 Kucks, J.	USX	5.77	6	11	0	32	31	3	1	199.6	252	149	128	78	48	925	21	3	16
48 Gomez, R.	MTP	5.87	8	9	2	39	25	3	0	178.0	224	132	116	94	72	838	15	0	25
49 Kretlow, L.	GRA	6.40	7	15	1	59	15	2	0	156.0	188	122	111	91	62	737	28	2	20

COMPARISON OF LEAGUE LEADERS

HITTING LEADERS

BATTING AVERAGE

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mantle	.353	.396	Mantle
Williams	.345	.358	Schndienst
Kuenn	.332	.351	Viridon
Aaron	.328	.349	Minoso
Maxwell	.326	.340	Klu/Williams

HOME RUNS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mantle	52	66	Mantle
Snider	43	43	Adcock
Robinson	38	42	Mathews
Adcock	38	42	Kluszewski
Mathews	37	40	Lopata

ON BASE AVERAGE

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Williams	.479	.512	Mantle
Mantle	.467	.469	Minoso
Nieman	.438	.452	Williams
Minoso	.430	.433	Snider
Maxwell	.420	.433	Maxwell

RUNS BATTED IN

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mantle	130	154	Mantle
Kaline	128	146	Kluszewski
Musial	109	139	Lopata
Wertz	106	129	Banks
2 tied at	105	123	Boyer

SLUGGING PERCENTAGE

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mantle	.705	.815	Mantle
Williams	.605	.633	Williams
Snider	.598	.631	Snider
Adcock	.597	.595	Banks
Robinson	.558	.594	2 players

WALKS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Yost	151	161	Yost
Mantle	112	138	Mantle
Williams	102	114	Nieman
Doby	102	110	Doby
Sievers	100	110	Jones

HITS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Aaron	200	218	Mantle
Kuenn	196	215	Viridon
Kaline	194	210	Fox
Fox	192	209	Ashburn
Ashburn	190	208	Kluszewski

TOTAL BASES

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mantle	376	449	Mantle
Aaron	340	351	Kluszewski
Kaline	327	347	Banks
Snider	324	344	Mays
Mays	322	336	Lopata

DOUBLES

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Piersall	40	45	Snider
Aaron	34	43	Minoso
Snnider	33	43	Lopata
Musial	33	42	Musial
Lopata	33	41	Mays

STOLEN BASES

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mays	40	64	Mays
Aparicio	21	34	Rivera
Gilliam	21	33	Aparicio
Rivera	20	32	Mantle
Avila	17	30	Ashburn

TRIPLES

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Bruton	15	16	Aaron
Aaron	14	15	Runnels
6 tied at	11	12	Jackson
		12	Bruton
		12	Kaline

RUNS SCORED

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Mantle	132	176	Mantle
Robinson	122	132	Mathews
Snider	112	131	Mays
Fox	109	130	Minoso
2 tied at	106	125	Gilliam

COMPARISON OF LEAGUE LEADERS

PITCHING LEADERS

WINS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Newcombe	27	26	Newcombe
Lary	21	24	Brewer
Spahn	20	22	Antonelli
Antonelli	20	20	Sullivan
		19	Donovan

INNINGS PITCHED

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Friend	314.1	307.1	Friend
Roberts	297.1	304.1	Newcombe
Lary	294.0	274.1	Antonelli
Spahn	281.1	272.2	Brewer
Wynn	277.2	262.1	Donovan

WINNING PERCENTAGE

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Newcombe	.794	.828	Brewer
Ford	.760	.800	Harshman
Buhl	.692	.788	Newcombe
Wynn/Score	.690	.759	Antonelli
Pierce	.690	.720	Ford

EARNED RUN AVERAGE

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Ford	2.47	2.64	Brewer
Score	2.53	2.92	Antonelli
Burdette	2.70	3.07	Ford
Wynn	2.72	3.11	Newcombe
Spahn	2.78	3.16	Donovan

GAMES PITCHED

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Face	68	63	Wilhelm
Wilhelm	64	63	Face
Freeman	64	60	Griggs
Labine	62	59	Kretlow
Zuverink	62	53	Labine

STRIKEOUTS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Score	263	250	Score
Pierce	192	181	Jones
Foytack	184	161	Mizell
Jones	176	157	Pierce
Hoelt	172	155	Foytack

COMPLETE GAMES

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Roberts	22	26	Newcombe
Pierce	21	17	Brewer
Lemon	21	17	Antonelli
Spahn	20	15	Ford/Donovan
Lary	20	15	Burdette

BASERUNNERS PER 9 INNINGS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Newcombe	9.00	10.03	Newcombe
Spahn	9.73	10.69	Brewer
Maglie	9.94	11.25	Harshman
Burdette	10.15	11.49	Donovan
Rush	10.18	11.59	Ford

SHUTOUTS

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Burdette	6	3	Nixon
Newcombe	5	3	Ford/Brewer
Antonelli	5	3	Newcombe
Score	5	3	Antonelli
Friend	4	3	Kline

SAVES

<u>1956</u>		<u>SPB56</u>	
Labine	19	27	Wilhelm
Freeman	18	22	Valentinetti
Zuverink	16	20	Grissom
Lown	13	18	Narleski
Jackson	9	16	Bessent/Mossi

SPB AWARDS BANQUET

MANTLE BAGS ANOTHER MVP TROPHY

Another year, another MVP for the Mick. Mantle was a runaway winner with not only this award, but with the triple crown as well, as he lead his Tigers to another divisional crown. Mantle also broke Babe Ruth's single season Home run record, clouting 66 round-trippers. Mantle captured all 14 first place votes. The big Klu also ran second for the second consecutive year.

Voting went as follows: (first place votes in parenthesis) 70 points represents a perfect score with 14 ballots received.

1. M.Mantle-TIG	70 (14)
2. T.Kluszewski-SAX	36
3. T.Williams-FAL	26
4. S.Lopata-BLB	18
5. M.Minoso-MIN	18

NEWK, THERE IT IS

Also for the second straight year, Don Newcombe wins the Cy-Young award. Newcombe led the league in wins with 26, and was fourth in ERA with a 3.11, and was the workhorse for an average Cascades squad. Don tossed 9 more complete games than his nearest competitor, and was one of only two pitchers to log over 300 innings. Don was a comfortable winner over Tom Brewer of the Tigers. 11 pitchers received votes this year for the award.

Cy Young Voting:

1. D.Newcombe-CAS	66 (11)
2. T.Brewer-TIG	45 (2)
3. W.Ford-MAV	35
4. J.Antonelli-TIG	35 (1)
5. F.Sullivan-BLB	16

GRISSOM HOSES THE FIREMAN

Marv Grissom, capping off a fairy-tale year, adds the Fireman award to his list of accomplishments. Grissom was third in the league with 20 saves with a sterling 2.01 ERA. Marv also only allowed 2 home runs in over 62 innings, and was named the World Series MVP, saving 3 games to secure the title for the Mavericks. Grissom was also a unanimous winner.

Fireman Voting:

1. M.Grissom-MAV	70 (14)
2. R.Narleski-ASX	36
3. E.Kinder-SAX	36
4. H.Wilhelm-RIF	19
5. V.Valentinetti-KNI	16

CASCARANO EARNS RESPECT

The High Desert Mavericks took advantage of a wide-open divisional race and ended up with the league championship. Mike Cascarano took a potential winner, and seemingly pushed all the right buttons (no pun intended) to win the manager of the year award. Everyone knew the Tigers had a good team, but second place finisher Gary Plunkitt took them a step further, as their 110 wins will attest.

Manager of the Year voting:

1. M.Cascarano	66 (10)
2. G.Plunkitt	49 (4)
3. B.Callichia	30
4. F.Papp	29
5. J.Ungashick	17

SKIPPER STATS

Here we are once again.....at the stat without an official name. The +/- index has already been taken by the NHL, but since they are not playing as of this printing, I guess we wouldn't be intruding. Some other suggestions have included the "sand-bagger index" or the "Exxon Valdez *Tanker* quotient". Reguarldess, this is by no means a concrete yardstick, since a number of factors come into play when deciding who wins or loses a ballgame. I guess the safest thing you could say about this is that you could make an argument as to who over and under-achieved this past year. Judging by the Series winner, the Mavericks definitely over-achieved!!

CLUB	RF	RA	XPCTD W%	XPCTD W	ACT W	+/-
Tigers	941	601	.610	94	110	+16
Black Sox	737	825	.472	73	82	+ 9
Mavericks	799	662	.547	84	89	+ 5
Falcons	834	792	.513	79	82	+ 3
Rifles	746	743	.501	77	80	+ 3
Bluebirds	794	817	.493	76	78	+ 2
Cascades	754	749	.502	77	79	+ 2
Blue Sox	773	820	.485	75	72	- 3
Saxons	729	753	.492	76	73	- 3
Minors	804	832	.491	76	72	- 4
Flyers	793	734	.519	80	76	- 4
Cubs	849	864	.496	76	71	- 5
Knights	755	841	.473	73	67	- 6
Grays	727	1106	.397	61	47	-14

The one item that sticks out is the fact that the Black Sox and the Bluebirds both had winning record while allowing more runs than they scored.

Last year I listed in this section the amount of managerial changes made by each home manager. Due to time constraints, this item was left out of this year's yearbook....although there is an indicator of such managerial activity in the team stats breakdown section.

MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Accumulated statistics for each manager since the inception of Seasons Past Baseball.

	W	L	PCT	90+W	WS	DIV	LG
Gary Plunkitt	273	191	.588	2	2	2	0
John Ungashick	264	200	.569	2	3	0	0
Andy Langert	260	204	.560	1	3	1	1
Tom Falduto	248	216	.534	1	1	1	1
Bob Callichia	71	63	.530	0	1	0	0
Lou Ross	243	221	.524	1	2	0	0
Steve Ehresman	243	221	.524	1	1	0	0
Rick Ryan	239	225	.515	0	2	0	0
Vern Easley	238	226	.513	1	1	1	0
Jim Wheeler	230	234	.496	0	1	0	0
Mike Cascarano	222	242	.478	0	1	1	1
Frank Papp	128	182	.413	0	1	0	0
Jeff Nicholson *	135	175	.435	0	1	0	0
John Turnbull	199	265	.429	0	0	0	0
Red Sears *	66	88	.429	0	0	0	0
George Kaldis *	60	116	.341	0	0	0	0
Paul Kenyon	47	107	.305	0	0	0	0

* No longer league member

"FIELD OF NUMBERS"

Last year was the first year that we took a look at what statistics were garnered at each ballpark. The main purpose of this was to compare the ballpark ratings given by PTP, and compare them to what the ratings were based on the games we've all played. The numbers aren't going to come out perfect, obviously, because different players are playing in those ballparks for our teams versus those who played in them 39 years ago. But who said it wasn't fun to compare?? Thanks to new technology (version 5), I was able to actually figure out the total number of hits by type for each ballpark, and compare the ballpark ratings to the actual...NOTE: this article is best enjoyed with a Milwaukee brat, Cleveland Stadium mustard, and a Yoo-Hoo.

BALLPARK-TEAM	SPB PTP			SPB PTP			SPB PTP			SPB PTP			AVG	SLG
	1B	RAT	RAT	2B	RAT	RAT	3B	RAT	RAT	HR	RAT	RAT		
Fenway-Minors	1086	103	100	265	120	118	53	130	117	152	96	95	.289	.442
K.C.Muni-Blue Sox	998	95	95	217	98	98	41	101	101	177	111	95	.271	.428
Griffith-Grays	1220	116	107	188	85	97	52	128	97	219	138	123	.297	.465
Briggs-Tigers	859	82	85	203	92	93	37	91	92	210	132	119	.249	.422
Wrigley-Cubs	1115	106	104	225	102	97	40	98	101	174	109	103	.289	.442
Polo Grounds-Rifles	930	89	89	153	69	52	18	44	50	244	153	160	.254	.428
Forbes Field-Flyers	1306	124	117	230	104	117	36	89	134	80	50	58	.303	.402
Yankee Stadium-Mavs	802	76	102	259	117	97	44	108	94	94	59	85	.229	.349
County Stadium-Saxons	1085	103	104	205	93	111	46	113	103	102	61	70	.271	.385
Clev. Muni-Bluebirds	1033	98	100	221	100	100	31	76	101	157	99	61	.265	.403
Sportmans Pk-Falcons	1128	107	101	245	111	111	51	125	105	130	82	87	.289	.426
Crosley Fld-Cascades	1032	98	104	224	102	110	38	93	102	144	91	120	.268	.405
Ebbetts Field-Knights	997	95	90	241	109	100	50	123	108	221	139	118	.276	.460
Comiskey-Black Sox	1116	106	115	212	96	98	32	79	99	122	77	89	.275	.394
LEAGUE AVERAGE	1051			221			40			159				

There you have it! All in all, the numbers fall in line with a few larger differences here and there. Here's another Mantle Nugget for ya: without The Mick, the Briggs stadium HR rating for SPB56 would have been a 113 instead of 132! Forbes field takes the cake for the best hitters park, while sluggers were found feasting at Griffith. If Yankee stadium was the "House that Ruth built", he should have remained a pitcher based on the 56 stats! Four parks this year had over 200 home runs hit in them...last year Briggs stadium was first with 180 dingers. The batting average at Forbes field went up 68 points from last year. Cleveland's Municipal stadium, Crosley Field, Ebbetts Field and the Polo Grounds all had park batting averages within 5 points of last year's. The Polo Grounds was exactly the same at .254. Maybe next year we can see about getting attendance figures and ticket prices, to see who really gauges their fans!

TEAM HOME/ROAD HITTING

	1B	2B	3B	HR		AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	K	SB	CS
100 100 101 61					AVG														
BLUEBIRDS	HOME				.267	.352	.420	2686	403	717	123	18	84	377	350	378	26	17	
Cleveland	ROAD				.282	.365	.429	2749	391	775	110	21	84	384	357	354	17	6	
104 110 102 120					AVG														
CASCADES	HOME				.287	.352	.445	2679	418	770	118	22	87	399	272	323	4	9	
Crosley	ROAD				.262	.327	.387	2776	336	726	101	17	71	317	270	350	13	17	
104 111 103 70					AVG														
SAXONS	HOME				.276	.360	.381	2588	345	715	95	29	39	321	346	307	25	17	
County	ROAD				.271	.355	.383	2749	384	745	95	15	61	365	359	318	30	15	
95 98 101 95					AVG														
BLUE SOX	HOME				.269	.349	.418	2548	382	685	118	18	75	364	308	345	53	28	
KC Muni	ROAD				.274	.356	.420	2739	391	750	112	21	82	373	348	381	46	17	
104 97 101 103					AVG														
CUBS	HOME				.282	.351	.462	2599	415	732	118	26	100	394	282	307	43	33	
Wrigley	ROAD				.276	.343	.455	2825	434	780	115	25	113	413	285	385	54	16	
115 98 99 89					AVG														
BLACK SOX	HOME				.283	.361	.395	2625	365	743	119	11	51	351	324	324	46	12	
Comiskey	ROAD				.260	.339	.377	2671	372	694	87	14	66	348	326	348	21	12	
85 93 92 119					AVG														
TIGERS	HOME				.283	.378	.500	2612	480	738	111	14	143	463	399	397	58	23	
Briggs	ROAD				.277	.364	.478	2777	461	770	117	18	135	441	381	414	32	21	
100 118 117 95					AVG														
MINORS	HOME				.297	.377	.433	2623	404	779	125	22	63	381	328	270	26	20	
Fenway	ROAD				.279	.352	.414	2719	400	758	110	17	75	378	297	289	23	14	
102 97 94 85					AVG														
MAVERICKS	HOME				.286	.364	.420	2590	432	740	156	28	45	408	329	325	35	20	
Yankee	ROAD				.278	.358	.405	2704	367	752	119	25	58	348	336	348	24	20	
117 117 134 58					AVG														
FLYERS	HOME				.314	.381	.410	2689	391	845	116	20	34	367	292	305	14	25	
Forbes	ROAD				.288	.358	.419	2807	402	809	104	15	78	385	303	250	16	18	
107 97 97 123					AVG														
GRAYS	HOME				.284	.351	.445	2719	397	771	104	27	94	371	275	424	5	8	
Griffith	ROAD				.255	.325	.382	2699	330	687	97	23	67	312	274	433	4	4	
90 100 108 118					AVG														
KNIGHTS	HOME				.261	.329	.451	2624	375	685	119	20	113	360	272	356	4	2	
Ebbetts	ROAD				.274	.348	.441	2754	380	755	140	17	95	349	315	364	11	15	
80 52 50 160					AVG														
RIFLES	HOME				.240	.324	.397	2566	350	616	65	11	105	334	322	303	4	8	
Polo	ROAD				.276	.351	.399	2745	396	758	110	25	59	374	317	322	20	12	
101 111 105 87					AVG														
FALCONS	HOME				.286	.365	.422	2632	414	754	120	24	63	392	315	329	25	16	
Sportsmans	ROAD				.270	.352	.419	2754	420	743	110	26	83	394	346	339	27	20	

TEAM HOME/ROAD PITCHING

1B	2B	3B	HR		ERA	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR	DP	CG	ShO	
104	111	103	70		4.15	41	36	15	701.0	723	366	323	308	354	63	73	16	4	
SAXONS				HOME															
County				ROAD	4.42	32	45	13	675.2	746	387	332	258	320	81	43	17	1	
95	98	101	95		4.66	39	38	17	703.0	748	423	364	330	340	102	76	13	2	
BLUE SOX				HOME															
KC Muni				ROAD	4.82	33	44	16	679.1	760	397	364	313	294	75	67	15	2	
115	98	99	89		3.83	43	34	17	710.0	739	284	239	291	403	47	59	17	5	
BLACK SOX				HOME															
Comiskey				ROAD	4.34	39	38	18	662.0	710	363	319	283	391	66	65	17	0	
100	100	101	61		4.32	44	33	17	725.0	725	395	348	333	324	73	84	10	1	
BLUEBIRDS				HOME															
Cleveland				ROAD	5.06	34	43	20	672.2	740	422	378	315	366	92	63	9	1	
104	110	102	120		3.49	53	24	14	714.0	668	311	277	321	268	57	83	25	2	
CASCADES				HOME															
Crosley				ROAD	5.29	26	51	7	663.1	781	438	390	310	286	81	69	26	2	
104	97	101	103		5.00	38	39	9	704.0	822	432	391	352	299	74	77	20	6	
CUBS				HOME															
Wrigley				ROAD	5.03	33	44	9	680.1	749	432	380	349	327	75	66	26	3	
85	93	92	119		3.15	59	18	12	720.0	568	285	252	332	395	67	71	34	7	
TIGERS				HOME															
Briggs				ROAD	3.61	51	26	12	683.2	655	316	274	334	388	50	76	30	4	
117	117	134	58		4.15	41	36	18	699.0	807	365	322	303	374	46	81	16	1	
FLYERS				HOME															
Forbes				ROAD	4.47	35	42	14	674.1	705	369	335	290	317	83	64	18	3	
100	118	117	95		5.04	39	38	15	707.0	777	435	396	311	372	89	72	15	3	
MINORS				HOME															
Fenway				ROAD	4.70	33	44	16	660.0	738	397	345	329	364	82	86	13	1	
80	52	50	160		4.63	41	36	18	717.0	729	393	369	344	438	139	79	9	2	
RIFLES				HOME															
Polo				ROAD	4.30	39	38	15	669.0	656	350	320	326	416	82	65	13	3	
90	100	108	118		4.82	36	41	9	709.0	824	425	380	262	362	108	71	22	2	
KNIGHTS				HOME															
Ebbetts				ROAD	4.94	31	46	19	667.1	771	416	366	340	302	73	63	11	1	
101	111	105	87		4.75	43	34	21	707.0	780	406	373	313	366	67	76	15	2	
FALCONS				HOME															
Sportsmans				ROAD	4.67	39	38	19	682.2	726	386	354	276	353	76	71	13	1	
102	97	94	85		2.96	56	21	19	714.0	650	266	235	282	283	49	92	20	6	
MAVERICKS				HOME															
Yankee				ROAD	4.72	33	44	9	663.1	753	396	348	288	292	87	62	15	2	
107	97	97	123		6.66	28	49	14	713.0	958	604	528	465	299	125	97	6	0	
GRAYS				HOME															
Griffith				ROAD	6.38	19	58	11	654.2	800	502	464	403	277	93	82	8	1	

LEFTY/RIGHTY HITTING

Below listed is the lefty/righty hitting statistics of each ballclub.

VS LHP	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO
FLYERS	0.308	0.372	0.411	1505	463	56	9	27	211	159	152
MAVERICKS	0.299	0.373	0.438	1614	483	99	19	29	255	193	205
BLUE SOX	0.296	0.383	0.478	1315	389	64	8	53	216	181	166
CUBS	0.294	0.373	0.501	1383	406	70	14	63	223	177	169
GRAYS	0.288	0.358	0.427	1178	339	55	11	29	161	133	225
MINORS	0.284	0.368	0.437	1382	393	70	9	41	222	183	149
KNIGHTS	0.277	0.374	0.470	1268	351	62	9	55	198	200	178
TIGERS	0.275	0.367	0.484	1707	470	81	13	83	263	248	275
BLACK SOX	0.273	0.351	0.377	1555	424	66	6	28	207	190	193
SAXONS	0.269	0.365	0.389	1288	347	47	10	29	184	198	162
RIFLES	0.268	0.349	0.414	1383	370	54	8	44	181	176	172
FALCONS	0.268	0.351	0.412	1466	393	61	15	40	198	182	208
CASCADES	0.262	0.328	0.391	1643	431	66	8	43	202	162	255
BLUEBIRDS	0.258	0.347	0.394	1575	406	71	13	39	206	209	240
TOTALS	0.280	0.361	0.429	20262	5665	922	152	603	2927	2591	2749

VS RHP	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO
FLYERS	0.298	0.368	0.416	3991	1191	164	26	85	541	436	403
MINORS	0.289	0.364	0.419	3960	1144	165	30	97	537	442	410
TIGERS	0.282	0.373	0.491	3682	1038	147	19	195	641	532	536
FALCONS	0.282	0.361	0.424	3920	1104	169	35	106	588	479	460
BLUEBIRDS	0.281	0.363	0.437	3860	1086	162	26	129	555	498	492
CASCADES	0.279	0.344	0.426	3812	1065	153	31	115	514	380	418
SAXONS	0.275	0.355	0.380	4049	1113	143	34	71	502	507	463
MAVERICKS	0.274	0.356	0.401	3680	1009	176	34	74	501	472	468
CUBS	0.274	0.338	0.444	4041	1106	163	37	150	584	390	523
BLACK SOX	0.271	0.349	0.390	3741	1013	140	19	89	492	460	479
KNIGHTS	0.265	0.328	0.438	4110	1089	197	28	153	511	387	542
GRAYS	0.264	0.332	0.410	4240	1119	146	39	132	522	416	632
BLUE SOX	0.263	0.342	0.399	3972	1046	166	31	104	521	475	560
RIFLES	0.256	0.334	0.392	3928	1004	121	28	120	527	463	453
TOTALS	0.275	0.350	0.419	54986	15127	2212	417	1620	7536	6337	6839

LEFTY/RIGHTY PITCHING

Below listed is the lefty/righty statistics allowed by each team's pitching staff

VS LHB	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO
TIGERS	0.245	0.329	0.376	1864	457	53	20	50	223	238	261
RIFLES	0.273	0.362	0.444	2068	564	75	12	85	282	290	284
SAXONS	0.278	0.350	0.397	1973	548	83	15	41	236	218	217
FLYERS	0.281	0.360	0.411	2160	608	76	13	59	295	268	240
CASCADES	0.282	0.370	0.406	2098	591	94	10	49	288	297	184
MAVERICKS	0.284	0.362	0.428	1927	548	83	10	58	246	235	175
FALCONS	0.285	0.359	0.421	2110	601	71	27	54	279	246	244
KNIGHTS	0.297	0.371	0.476	1919	570	96	25	66	287	222	207
CUBS	0.299	0.384	0.459	2054	614	92	13	70	338	282	195
BLUEBIRDS	0.299	0.374	0.460	2137	639	87	20	72	344	261	246
MINORS	0.300	0.382	0.468	2130	638	109	14	74	323	285	243
BLACK SOX	0.301	0.366	0.447	2040	615	90	25	52	273	203	247
BLUE SOX	0.302	0.382	0.467	1909	576	86	14	67	308	252	188
GRAYS	0.326	0.424	0.512	1906	622	92	20	74	365	334	189
TOTALS	0.289	0.370	0.441	28295	8191	1187	238	871	4087	3631	3120

VS RHB	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO
TIGERS	0.228	0.317	0.341	3367	766	126	27	67	351	428	522
BLACK SOX	0.251	0.320	0.378	3329	834	122	23	85	415	341	567
BLUEBIRDS	0.254	0.333	0.387	3250	826	112	21	93	428	387	444
MAVERICKS	0.255	0.323	0.382	3352	855	150	20	78	380	335	400
RIFLES	0.257	0.339	0.428	3193	821	117	11	136	429	380	570
BLUE SOX	0.265	0.339	0.412	3516	932	136	26	110	469	391	446
CASCADES	0.267	0.336	0.411	3218	858	144	26	89	422	334	370
SAXONS	0.269	0.337	0.417	3420	921	149	24	103	469	348	457
MINORS	0.272	0.345	0.428	3223	877	152	30	97	463	355	493
FALCONS	0.276	0.344	0.417	3277	905	152	22	89	476	343	475
FYERS	0.279	0.345	0.392	3243	904	122	18	70	403	325	451
CUBS	0.281	0.360	0.405	3408	957	135	25	79	473	419	431
KNIGHTS	0.287	0.357	0.442	3569	1025	149	29	115	519	380	457
GRAYS	0.312	0.400	0.497	3637	1136	182	29	144	686	534	387
TOTALS	0.268	0.343	0.410	47002	12617	1948	331	1355	6383	5300	6470

HITTING BREAKDOWN

Listed below is the breakdown of the league hitting statistics by team and broken down by the following groups:

STARTERS= The eight batters with the most AB's....or the team's main starters

BENCH= All remaining hitters with the exception of the pitchers.

PITCHERS= In other words, all those who batted 9th in the order.

STARTERS	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	RBI	BB	SO	HB	SB	CS
FLYERS	0.315	0.382	0.434	4162	1313	174	25	90	598	604	427	323	20	24	34
MINORS	0.305	0.385	0.451	3592	1096	176	36	92	563	510	423	309	42	38	19
FALCONS	0.302	0.381	0.462	3921	1183	198	41	116	652	628	475	416	29	47	25
MAVERICKS	0.299	0.382	0.452	3349	1002	177	43	83	545	523	441	399	9	38	27
CUBS	0.294	0.358	0.488	4074	1197	184	44	173	661	642	398	458	8	92	39
TIGERS	0.293	0.394	0.534	3830	1124	174	24	233	740	720	625	597	10	79	36
BLUEBIRDS	0.292	0.382	0.465	4225	1234	205	33	153	656	662	593	480	21	36	22
CASCADES	0.285	0.352	0.428	3898	1112	160	33	110	553	530	392	409	9	14	23
BLUE SOX	0.285	0.373	0.439	4028	1146	188	34	122	632	583	544	513	25	77	40
SAXONS	0.284	0.373	0.405	4150	1179	157	41	88	590	567	577	409	13	50	28
BLACK SOX	0.279	0.362	0.414	3953	1103	162	23	109	577	560	503	485	9	51	20
KNIGHTS	0.279	0.354	0.472	4208	1172	220	22	184	620	617	483	535	11	9	14
GRAYS	0.273	0.337	0.435	3682	1005	143	43	122	485	491	333	533	23	8	10
RIFLES	0.266	0.351	0.412	3800	1009	130	30	122	562	499	487	437	14	17	15
=====															
BENCH	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	RBI	BB	SO	HB	SB	CS
GRAYS	0.285	0.373	0.408	1386	395	54	7	34	203	163	188	227	6	1	2
MINORS	0.279	0.363	0.397	1337	373	54	4	32	204	220	173	159	4	9	14
BLACK SOX	0.274	0.355	0.335	952	261	39	2	5	123	112	120	101	0	16	3
FLYERS	0.274	0.373	0.393	920	252	35	9	19	150	110	145	132	0	6	9
TIGERS	0.267	0.348	0.423	1101	294	45	8	37	166	148	120	113	16	11	8
MAVERICKS	0.261	0.345	0.359	1561	407	85	10	16	213	189	199	181	3	21	13
RIFLES	0.251	0.330	0.393	1131	284	37	6	37	149	164	128	103	5	7	5
SAXONS	0.251	0.337	0.330	821	206	29	3	10	92	91	104	135	2	4	2
CASCADES	0.250	0.318	0.420	1118	279	48	4	45	150	154	111	154	1	3	3
BLUEBIRDS	0.248	0.329	0.341	828	205	22	5	15	102	79	96	146	5	7	1
KNIGHTS	0.247	0.315	0.396	765	189	30	15	18	99	68	75	102	1	6	1
BLUE SOX	0.240	0.314	0.403	883	212	37	7	31	107	118	92	132	3	22	5
FALCONS	0.238	0.342	0.351	1067	254	27	9	25	152	128	164	136	5	4	10
CUBS	0.238	0.341	0.393	962	29	38	6	33	147	123	143	151	7	5	10
=====															
PITCHERS	AVG	OBP	SLG	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	RBI	BB	SO	HB	SB	CS
CASCADES	0.239	0.303	0.294	439	105	11	2	3	51	32	39	110	1	0	0
CUBS	0.222	0.271	0.309	388	86	11	1	7	41	42	26	83	0	0	0
MAVERICKS	0.216	0.264	0.281	384	83	13	0	4	41	44	25	93	0	0	0
FLYERS	0.215	0.258	0.268	414	89	11	1	3	45	38	23	100	1	0	0
RIFLES	0.213	0.260	0.274	380	81	8	0	5	35	45	24	85	0	0	0
SAXONS	0.205	0.254	0.232	366	75	4	0	2	47	28	24	81	0	1	2
BLUE SOX	0.205	0.247	0.250	376	77	5	0	4	34	36	20	81	1	0	0
KNIGHTS	0.198	0.248	0.263	400	79	8	0	6	36	24	27	83	0	0	2
TIGERS	0.197	0.255	0.269	458	90	9	0	8	35	36	35	101	1	0	0
BLACK SOX	0.187	0.239	0.223	391	73	5	0	3	37	27	27	86	0	0	1
GRAYS	0.166	0.234	0.220	350	58	4	0	5	39	29	28	95	3	0	0
MINORS	0.165	0.221	0.199	413	68	5	0	3	37	29	29	91	1	2	1
FALCONS	0.151	0.201	0.201	398	60	5	0	5	30	30	22	116	3	1	1
BLUEBIRDS	0.139	0.180	0.160	382	53	6	1	0	36	20	18	106	1	0	0

THE STATS PTP MISSED

PITCHING STATISTICS

% OF TEAMS WINS

1. Newcombe-CAS	32.9
2. Sullivan-BLB	25.6
3. Friend-SAX	24.7
4. Donovan-CAS	24.1
5. Burdette-FLY	23.7
6. Roberts-MIN	23.6
6. Brewer-TIG	21.8
8. Ford-MAV	20.2
9. Kline-MAV	20.2
10. Antonelli-TIG	20.0

STUFF RATING (BR/9-K/BB)

1. Newcombe-CAS	8.05
2. Roberts-MIN	8.64
3. Brewer-TIG	9.49
4. Sturdivant-FLY	9.67
5. Harshman-TIG	9.84
6. Donovan-CAS	10.00
7. Fowler-FLY	10.13
8. Ford-MAV	10.36
9. Burdette-FLY	10.46
10. Johnson-FAL	10.62
LEAGUE AVERAGE	12.77
LAST YEAR	11.85

UNEARNED RUN AVERAGE

1. Kucks-USX	0.95
2. Wight-CUB	0.91
3. Hoeft-SAX	0.89
4. Lary-MIN	0.88
4. Wynn-ASX	0.86
6. Score-ASX	0.83
7. Kline-MAV	0.82
8. Stobbs-KNI	0.81
9. Gomez-MIN	0.81
10. Dickson-SAX	0.80
LEAGUE AVERAGE	0.56

WIN% - TEAM'S WIN %

1. Newcombe-CAS	.275
2. Sullivan-BLB	.208
3. Sturdivant-FLY	.190
4. Hacker-CUB	.171
5. Roberts-MIN	.162
6. Donovan-CAS	.142
7. Ford-MAV	.142
8. Burdette-FLY	.127
9. Brewer-TIG	.114
10. Law-RIF	.106

WINNING PERCENTAGE

1. Brewer-TIG (24-5)	.828
2. Harshman-TIG(16-4)	.800
3. Newcombe-CAS(26-7)	.788
4. Antonelli-TIG(22-7)	.759
5. Ford-MAV (18-7)	.720
6. Sullivan-BLB(20-8)	.714
7. Sturdivant-FLY(13-6)	.714
8. Foytack-TIG (17-8)	.680
9. Donovan-CAS (19-10)	.655
10. Hacker-CUB (12-7)	.632

COMPLETE GAME PERCENTAGE

1. Newcombe-CAS	.72
2. Brewer-TIG	.52
3. Ford-MAV	.50
4. Donovan-CAS	.48
5. Wilson-CUB	.46
6. Antonelli-TIG	.46
7. Burdette-FLY	.44
8. Harshman-TIG	.38
9. Foytack-TIG	.38
10. Kaiser-FAL	.36
LEAGUE AVERAGE	.209

THE STATS PTP MISSED

HITTING STATISTICS

% OF TEAM'S RUNS SCORED

1. Mantle-TIG	18.7
2. Minoso-MIN	16.2
3. Ashburn-BLB	15.7
4. Mays-CUB	15.4
5. Gilliam-FAL	15.0
6. Klause-ASX	14.8
7. Yost-SAX	14.7
8. Berra-KNI	14.6
9. Jensen-FLY	14.1
10. Mathews-TIG	14.0
LEAGUE AVG	3.2

EXTRA BASE HITS

1. Mantle-TIG	94
2. Lopata-BLB	88
3. Snider-TIG	81
4. Minoso-MIN	78
5. Mays-CUB	75
6. Banks-CUB	73
7. Adcock-KNI	71
8. Musial-MAV	71
9. Aaron-GRA	70
10. Berra-KNI	68

PITCHERS

HITTING

STATISTICS

TIMES REACHED BASE

1. Mantle-TIG	356
2. Minoso-MIN	325
3. Ashburn-BLB	303
4. Yost-SAX	300
5. Gilliam-FAL	290
6. Berra-KNI	288
7. Moon-USX	287
8. Jensen-FLY	285
9. Jones-KNI	274
10. Fox-CAS	272

XTRA BASE HIT PERCENTAGE

1. Lopata-BLB	54.0
2. Adcock-KNI	47.3
3. Snider-TIG	47.1
4. Bauer-TIG	46.6
5. Hodges-TIG	44.8
6. Mantle-TIG	43.1
7. Mathews-TIG	42.7
8. Post-KNI	41.7
9. Williams-FAL	41.6
10. Lemon-USX	41.4

BATTING AVERAGE (HITS)

1. Wilson-CUB (26)	.338
2. Nuxhall-KNI (26)	.310
3. Ford-MAV (24)	.308
4. Donovan-CAS (30)	.300
5. Newcombe-CAS (35)	.294
6. Score-ASX (21)	.262
7. Lemon-USX (22)	.259
8. Law-RIF (22)	.256
9. Roberts-MIN (21)	.253
10. Wynn-ASX (23)	.250
LEAGUE AVERAGE	.194

%RBI TO TEAMS RUNS

1. Kluszewski-SAX	20.0
2. Lopata-BLB	17.5
3. Mantle-TIG	16.4
4. Adcock-KNI	15.2
5. Banks-CUB	15.2
6. Berra-KNI	15.0
7. Wertz-ASX	14.9
8. Boyer-FAL	14.7
9. Williams-FAL	14.1
10. Musial-MAV	14.0
LEAGUE AVG	3.2

WALKS PER STRIKEOUT

1. Schoendienst-SAX	5.66
2. Gilliam-FAL	4.52
3. Berra-KNI	3.72
4. Minoso-MIN	3.38
5. Fox-CAS	3.29
6. Yost-SAX	2.14
7. Klaus-ASX	2.13
8. Musial-MAV	2.07
9. Williams-FAL	1.96
10. McMillan-RIF	1.83
LEAGUE AVERAGE	0.93

RUNS BATTED IN

1. Newcombe-CAS	17
2. Donovan-CAS	16
3. Wilson-CUB	14
4. Ford-MAV	12

PLATE APPEARANCES

1. Ashburn-BLB	750
2. Yost-SAX	741
3. Fox-CAS	723
4. Piersall-CUB	713
5. Blasingame-USX	713
6. Jones-KNI	712
7. Gilliam-FAL	705
8. Temple-SAX	700
9. Jensen-FLY	699
10. Simpson-GRA	692

PLATE APP PER RBI

1. Kluszewski-SAX	4.99
2. Lopata-BLB	5.71
3. Mantle-TIG	6.11
4. Adcock-KNI	6.56
5. Banks-CUB	6.58
6. Berra-KNI	6.68
7. Wertz-ASX	6.70
8. Boyer-FAL	6.78
9. Williams-FAL	7.06
10. Musial-MAV	7.13
LEAGUE AVERAGE	8.04

SINGLES

1. Virdon-FLY	175
2. Ashburn-BLB	170
3. Fox-CAS	168
4. Schndienst-FLY	157
5. Kaline-SAX	154
6. Jensen-FLY	150
6. Kluszewski-SAX	150
8. Gilliam-FAL	149
9. Avila-MIN	142
10. Groat-FLY	147

UNINTENTIONAL WALKS

1. Yost-SAX	160
2. Mantle-TIG	108
2. Nieman-SAX	108
4. Jones-KNI	107
5. Sievers-RIF	105
6. Gilliam-FAL	102
7. Doby-ASX	99
7. Minoso-MIN	99
7. McMillan-RIF	99
10. Mathews-TIG	96

SPB-I's ALL-TIME SEASONAL LEADERS

BATTING AVERAGE

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	.396
2) 1956 B.Avila	MIN	.377
3) 1956 R.Schoendnst	FLY	.358
4) 1954 B.Goodman	BLB	.356
5) 1956 B.Virdon	FLY	.351
6) 1956 M.Minoso	MIN	.349
7) 1955 R.Ashburn	BLB	.347
8) 1954 T.Williams	FAL	.344
9) 1954 D.Mueller	DUC	.343
10) 1954 M.Minoso	MIN	.342

ON BASE AVERAGE

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	.512
2) 1954 T.Williams	FAL	.511
3) 1956 M.Minoso	MIN	.469
4) 1954 E.Mathews	CUB	.465
5) 1955 T.Williams	FAL	.461
6) 1955 R.Ashburn	BLB	.463
7) 1956 T.Williams	FAL	.452
8) 1955 B.Goodman	BLB	.444
9) 1954 R.Ashburn	BLB	.443
3 tied with		.433

SLUGGING

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	.815
2) 1955 M.Mantle	TIG	.655
3) 1954 A.Rosen	CAS	.653
4) 1956 T.Williams	FAL	.633
5) 1955 T.Williams	FAL	.633
6) 1956 D.Snider	TIG	.631
7) 1954 T.Williams	FAL	.626
8) 1954 E.Mathews	CUB	.613
9) 1955 W.Mays	CUB	.607
10) 1955 R.Campnlla	CAS	.606

HITS

1) 1954 B.Avila	MIN	246
2) 1954 D.Mueller	FLY	242
3) 1954 M.Minoso	MIN	227
4) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	218
5) 1954 Y.Berra	KNI	218
6) 1954 R.Schondnst	USX	218
7) 1956 B.Virdon	FLY	215
8) 1955 G.Bell	ASX	215
9) 1954 H.Kuenn	MIN	213
10) 1954 W.Mays	CUB	212

RUNS

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	176
2) 1954 M.Minoso	MIN	163
3) 1955 M.Mantle	TIG	151
4) 1955 R.Ashburn	BLB	137
5) 1955 W.Mays	CUB	135
6) 1954 M.Mantle	TIG	134
7) 1954 W.Mays	CUB	134
8) 1954 A.Rosen	CAS	133
9) 1956 E.Mathews	TIG	132
10) 1954 R.Ashburn	BLB	132

RUNS BATTED IN

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	154
2) 1954 A.Rosen	CAS	153
3) 1955 T.Kluszewski	SAX	152
4) 1956 T.Kluszewski	SAX	146
5) 1954 G.Hodges	MIN	140
6) 1956 S.Lopata	BLB	139
7) 1955 M.Mantle	TIG	139
8) 1954 B.Avila	MIN	137
9) 1954 J.Adcock	KNI	137
2 tied at		134

DOUBLES

1) 1956 D.Snider	TIG	45
2) 1954 D.Mueller	DUC	44
3) 1956 M.Minoso	MIN	43
4) 1956 S.Lopata	BLB	43
5) 1955 W.Post	KNI	43
6) 1956 S.Musial	MAV	42
7) 1955 R.Ashburn	BLB	42
8) 1954 G.Bell	ASX	42
9) 1954 D.O'Connell	TRT	42
2 tied at		41

TRIPLES

1) 1954 M.Minoso	MIN	19
2) 1956 H.Aaron	GRA	16
3) 1954 B.Skowron	FLY	16
4) 1956 P.Runnels	FAL	15
5) 1955 D.Long	TIG	15
6) 1955 R.Clemente	TRT	15
7) 1955 W.Mays	CUB	14
8) 1954 P.Runnels	FAL	14
9) 1954 W.Mays	CUB	14
10) 1955 L.Doby	ASX	13

HOME RUNS

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	66
2) 1955 M.Mantle	TIG	48
3) 1954 A.Rosen	CAS	48
4) 1955 T.Kluszewski	SAX	46
5) 1955 W.Mays	CUB	45
6) 1956 J.Adcock	KNI	43
7) 1954 E.Mathews	CUB	43
8) 1954 R.Sievers	TRT	43
9) 1956 E.Mathews	TIG	42
10) 1956 T.Kluszewski	SAX	42

WALKS

1) 1956 E.Yost	SAX	161
2) 1954 E.Mathews	CUB	161
3) 1954 T.Williams	FAL	139
4) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	138
5) 1954 R.Ashburn	BLB	133
6) 1954 H.Smith	TRT	131
7) 1954 E.Yost	SAX	130
8) 1955 R.Ashburn	BLB	119
9) 1954 B.Thompson	ASX	115
2 tied at		114

STRIKEOUTS

1) 1956 W.Post	KNI	158
2) 1956 J.Lemon	USX	154
3) 1954 M.Mantle	TIG	139
4) 1954 L.Doby	ASX	121
5) 1954 D.Snider	FLY	116
6) 1956 F.Robinson	FAL	111
7) 1955 W.Post	KNI	111
8) 1956 S.Lopata	BLB	110
9) 1954 H.Smith	TRT	105
10) 1956 E.Mathews	TIG	103

STOLEN BASES

1) 1956 W.Mays	CUB	64-10
2) 1954 J.Temple	SAX	58-21
3) 1954 B.Bruton	SAX	51-16
4) 1955 J.Temple	SAX	36-12
5) 1956 J.Rivera	USX	34-14
6) 1956 L.Aparicio	ASX	33-13
7) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	32-6
8) 1954 J.Jensen	USX	32-3
9) 1955 M.Minoso	MIN	31-7
10) 1956 R.Ashburn	BLB	30-13

TOTAL AVERAGE

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	1.815
2) 1954 T.Williams	FAL	1.434
3) 1954 E.Mathews	CUB	1.293
4) 1955 M.Mantle	TIG	1.254
5) 1955 T.Williams	FAL	1.248
6) 1956 T.Williams	FAL	1.220
7) 1956 M.Minoso	MIN	1.218
8) 1954 A.Rosen	CAS	1.191
9) 1956 D.Snider	TIG	1.160
10) 1954 M.Mantle	TIG	1.135

TOTAL BASES

1) 1956 M.Mantle	TIG	449
2) 1954 A.Rosen	CAS	387
3) 1954 M.Minoso	MIN	387
4) 1955 M.Mantle	TIG	380
5) 1954 W.Mays	CUB	372
6) 1955 W.Mays	CUB	371
7) 1954 J.Adcock	KNI	371
8) 1954 B.Avila	MIN	365
9) 1954 Y.Berra	KNI	363
10) 1955 G.Bell	ASX	362

DOUBLE PLAYS

1) 1954 R.Boone	BLB	38
2) 1955 R.Repulski	FAL	35
3) 1955 M.Vernon	BLB	35
4) 1954 J.Jensen	USX	34
5) 1955 W.Post	KNI	33
6) 1956 C.Furillo	KNI	32
7) 1954 A.Grammas	KNI	32
8) 1954 M.Irvin	WIN	31
9) 1954 J.Greengrass	FLY	29
3 tied at		28

EARNED RUN AVERAGE

1) 1955	B.Pierce	USX	2.32
2) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	2.36
3) 1956	T.Brewer	TIG	2.64
4) 1954	J.Podres	FLY	2.69
5) 1955	M.Dickson	USX	2.79
6) 1955	B.Hoeft	SAX	2.83
7) 1955	D.Newcombe	CAS	2.83
8) 1955	W.Spahn	SAX	2.83
9) 1956	J.Antonelli	TIG	2.92
10) 1954	N.Garver	BLB	2.95

BASERUNNERS PER 9 INNINGS

1) 1956	D.Newcombe	CAS	10.03
2) 1955	W.Hacker	CUB	10.15
3) 1955	B.Pierce	USX	10.19
4) 1955	D.Newcombe	CAS	10.46
5) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	10.58
6) 1954	C.Erskine	USX	10.60
7) 1955	W.Spahn	SAX	10.67
8) 1956	T.Brewer	TIG	10.69
9) 1954	N.Garver	BLB	10.77
10) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	10.93

SHUTOUTS

1) 1955	S.Jones	TRT	6	
2) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	6	
3) 1955	W.Spahn	SAX	5	
4) 1954	R.Gomez	MIN	5	
5) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	5	
			7 tied at	4

STRIKEOUTS

1) 1955	H.Score	ASX	251
2) 1956	H.Score	ASX	250
3) 1955	B.Turley	FLY	210
4) 1954	H.Haddix	KNI	195
5) 1955	S.Jones	TRT	194
6) 1954	B.Turley	FLY	184
7) 1956	S.Jones	RIF	181
8) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	180
9) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	179
10) 1954	E.Wynn	ASX	176

WINS

1) 1956	D.Newcombe	CAS	26-7	
2) 1956	T.Brewer	TIG	24-5	
3) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	22-6	
4) 1956	J.Antonelli	TIG	22-7	
5) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	22-10	
6) 1955	D.Newcombe	CAS	21-9	
7) 1956	F.Sullivan	BLB	20-8	
8) 1954	N.Garver	BLB	20-10	
9) 1954	B.Lemon	DUC	19-9	
			2 tied at	19-10

INNINGS PITCHED

1) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	314.0
2) 1955	R.Roberts	MIN	312.2
3) 1956	B.Friend	SAX	307.1
4) 1956	D.Newcombe	CAS	304.1
5) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	300.2
6) 1954	W.Spahn	SAX	293.1
7) 1954	E.Wynn	ASX	287.1
8) 1956	J.Antonelli	TIG	274.1
9) 1955	F.Sullivan	BLB	274.0
10) 1956	T.Brewer	TIG	272.2

WALKS

1) 1954	B.Turley	FLY	215
2) 1955	S.Jones	TRT	189
3) 1955	B.Turley	FLY	187
4) 1955	H.Score	ASX	167
5) 1956	H.Score	ASX	163
6) 1954	J.Jeffcoat	CAS	144
7) 1954	B.Rush	BLB	139
8) 1956	H.Griggs	GRA	137
9) 1954	A.Ditmar	TRT	134
10) 1956	S.Jones	RIF	133

LOSSES

1) 1956	W.Spahn	SAX	7-22
2) 1955	L.Burdette	DUC	9-20
3) 1956	F.Lary	MIN	10-19
4) 1954	M.Garcia	FAL	13-19
5) 1954	V.Law	TRT	6-18
6) 1954	M.Surkont	FAL	3-17
7) 1954	M.McDermott	DUC	6-17
8) 1955	F.Lary	MIN	8-17
9) 1956	V.Law	TRT	13-17
10) 1955	L.Jackson	DUC	2-16

HOME RUNS ALLOWED

1) 1954	C.Marrero	TRT	49
2) 1956	V.B. Mizell	RIF	48
3) 1956	H.Haddix	KNI	43
4) 1956	V.Law	RIF	42
5) 1956	R.Roberts	MIN	42
6) 1956	M.Minoso	GRA	41
7) 1955	R.Roberts	MIN	40
8) 1956	B.Pierce	USX	38
9) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	37
10) 1954	H.Haddix	KNI	35

HITS PER 9 INNINGS

1) 1955	B.Turley	FLY	6.35
2) 1955	S.Jones	TRT	6.68
3) 1956	T.Brewer	TIG	6.80
4) 1955	B.Pierce	USX	6.97
5) 1955	B.Buhl	CAS	7.00
6) 1954	B.Lawrence	TIG	7.02
7) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	7.09
8) 1956	W.Ford	MAV	7.12
9) 1955	H.Score	ASX	7.12
10) 1955	J.Harshman	TIG	7.21

SAVES

1) 1956	H.Wilhelm	RIF	27
2) 1956	V.Valentinetti	KNI	22
3) 1956	M.Grissom	MAV	20
4) 1955	H.Wilhelm	TRT	20
5) 1954	R.Narleski	ASX	20
6) 1955	H.Jeffcoat	CAS	19
7) 1956	R.Narleski	ASX	18
8) 1955	P.Ramos	KNI	18
9) 1954	H.Judson	MIN	18
10) 1954	J.Hughes	USX	18

STRIKEOUTS PER 9 INNINGS

1) 1955	H.Score	ASX	9.50
2) 1956	Score	ASX	9.44
3) 1956	S.Jones	RIF	8.31
4) 1954	B.Hoeft	SAX	7.11
5) 1955	B.Turley	FLY	7.06
6) 1954	J.Harshman	TIG	6.91
7) 1955	S.Jones	TRT	6.78
8) 1956	C.Johnson	TRT	6.78
9) 1954	B.Pierce	USX	6.73
10) 1954	B.Turley	FLY	6.65

WALKS PER 9 INNINGS

1) 1956	R.Roberts	MIN	1.50
2) 1955	D.Newcombe	CAS	1.76
3) 1955	S.Gromek	ASX	1.98
4) 1955	R.Roberts	MIN	2.19
5) 1955	D.Donovan	CAS	2.27
6) 1954	S.Gromek	ASX	2.30
7) 1954	N.Garver	BLB	2.33
8) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	2.41
9) 1956	D.Newcombe	CAS	2.42
10) 1956	L.Burdette	FLY	2.44

COMPLETE GAMES

1) 1956	D.Newcombe	CAS	26	
2) 1955	R.Roberts	MIN	21	
3) 1954	R.Roberts	MIN	20	
4) 1954	J.Antonelli	CUB	20	
5) 1955	D.Newcombe	CAS	19	
6) 1954	N.Garver	BLB	19	
7) 1954	B.Lemon	DUC	18	
8) 1954	W.Spahn	SAX	18	
			4 tied at	17

HOME RUNS ALLOWED PER 9 INN

1) 1955	B.Friend	SAX	0.27
2) 1954	B.Loos	FLY	0.28
3) 1955	B.Buhl	CAS	0.33
4) 1954	M.Garcia	FAL	0.34
5) 1955	S.Rogovin	ASX	0.35
6) 1954	S.Maglie	FAL	0.35
7) 1956	B.Hoeft	SAX	0.38
8) 1956	C.McLish	CAS	0.41
9) 1955	W.Nixon	CUB	0.41
10) 1954	B.Grim	FLY	0.44

MICKEY MANTLE....Nuff said

Looking at the 1956 season in the beginning, you would know that Mickey Mantle would have a great year....but who knew it would have been THIS great?? Sure, playing in Briggs stadium, and not having to face his own pitching, but the Grays' instead contributed greatly. But for now I will stop gabbing and let the numbers speak for themselves:

	AVG	OBP	SLG	G	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	R	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS
SPB56	.396	.512	.815	154	551	218	23	5	66	176	154	138	87	32	6
NY56	.353	.461	.705	150	533	188	22	5	52	132	130	112	99	10	1
PROJ	.377	.485	.729	150	533	201	23	5	62	153	150	127	96	11	1
JUNE	.378	.448	.811	20	74	28	2	0	10	21	26	11	9	5	1
JULY	.408	.491	.765	25	98	40	7	2	8	31	24	16	15	6	2
AUGUST	.351	.471	.753	25	97	34	1	1	12	27	22	22	21	5	0
SEPT	.440	.563	1.000	28	100	44	5	0	17	35	36	28	13	9	1
OCT	.393	.536	.798	28	84	33	5	1	9	27	19	27	11	4	1
NOV	.398	.541	.755	28	98	39	3	1	10	35	27	34	18	3	1
IN DIV	.411	.552	.854	84	282	116	13	2	36	97	82	89	42	16	3
OUT DIV	.379	.474	.773	65	269	102	10	3	30	79	72	49	45	16	3
VS LHP	.369	.509	.744		176	65	7	1	19		45	50	32		
VS RHP	.408	.514	.848		375	153	16	4	47		109	88	55		
HOME	.416	.529	.798	77	267	111	13	1	29	83	77	65	46	21	3
ROAD	.377	.497	.831	77	284	107	10	4	37	93	77	73	41	11	3

The PROJ line takes into consideration what Mantle was expected to hit based on the ballpark factor AND the SPB56 league averages versus the actual league averages.

CONSIDER THIS.....

Mantle's single-season ranking amongst the greatest seasons of all time:

RUNS SCORED	176	3rd	(1st...B.Hamilton 1894 with 193)
HR%	11.97	1st	(2nd...Ruth 1920 with 11.79)
TOTAL BASES	449	3rd	(1st...Ruth 1921 with 457)
OBAVG	.512	12th	(1st...T.Williams 1941 with .551)
SLG PCT	.815	3rd	(1st...Ruth 1920 with .847)
OBA+SLG%	1.327	3rd	(1st...Ruth 1920 with 1.378)
Runs Created	248	1st	(2nd...Ruth 1921 with 238)
Total Average	1.815	1st	(2nd...Ruth 1920 with 1.797)
Isolated Power	.419	3rd	(1st...Ruth 1920 with .472)

It is to be noted that Mantle was 1 run scored behind Ruth, who was 1st in the 1900's with 177. The following statistics lead to one thing....that Mantle's 1956 season can be considered AT LEAST the third best season of all-time, only behind Ruth's 1920 and 1921 campaigns. That, my friends, is an awesome feat no matter who you face or where you play. Mantle could have given Joe Adcock a 52-day headstart, and STILL would have won the Home run title. Mantle also accounted for three percent of the league's total homerun output. The only oddity here is that he hit more homeruns on the road (37) than at home (29). Also....If Mick had to face his own pitcher's instead of the Grays' staff, his average would have only been a measley .386. I could go on and on, but like a good Thanksgiving Day feast, it is better to just dig in, than to stand there and talk about how good it looks. With that, I will leave you forever in awe of this fantastic human accomplishment.

1956: The Doctor's Post-Season Anatomy Lesson

The Ol' Doctor can sum up the 1956 season by citing the following statistics:

League Batting Average:	.276
League ERA:	4.58
League Innings:	19,331.1
League Hits:	20808
League Runs:	11,039
League Home Runs:	2,226

Now, the Doctor is no math whiz, but it seems to him that the hitters tore up the SPB in 1956. Oh yes, some statistical genius among you will come up with a formula to show that SPB's 1956 was no more offensive than, say, 1930 or something, and you will undoubtedly be correct, on paper. But, the Doctor submits the following evidence of his own: Herb Score, Billy Pierce, Bob Lemon, Harvey Haddix, Frank Lary, Frank Sullivan, Bob Rush, Sal Maglie, Hoyt Wilhelm, Bob Friend, AND Warren Spahn. Damn hard to have a reasonable season when most of the big-name pitchers in the league have an "off year." Pass the scalpel, please.

Oh well, off the soap box. The Doctor is just a modest country boy, and he can't begin to match wits with you computer sharpies out there. So, the Doctor will go back to whatever it is he does best and leave the nerd work to someone else. After all, that's why SPB has John Turnbull.

The Doctor has a special end-of-the-season report for his loyal readers, in which he will present his Diamond Dandy awards. Then, "deserving" SPB managers will get what THEY deserve.

FIRST BASE

Diamond Dandy: Ted Kluszewski

The Doctor is sentimental about "Big Klu." But, sentiment aside, Schaumburg's first sacker was enough to choke up many an opposing pitcher with his 42 homers and his eye-popping total of 146 RBI. Maybe next year a lot more guys will be wearing shirts with cut-off sleeves.

Runner Up: Gil Hodges

The folks in Nebraska may howl over this selection, but Hodges beat out Joe Adcock for several reasons: Gil batted in 177 runs, swatted 32 doubles, AND legged out 7 triples. Adcock couldn't run that fast, even if he was chasing Ruben Gomez.

SECOND BASE

Diamond Dandy: Nellie Fox

All "Little Nellie" did was hit .318, accumulate 210 hits, score 103 times, and drive in an impressive 70 runners. Sure, Red Schoendienst hit a robust .358, but his season just didn't compare to that of the Cascades' fiery second sacker. Red, better change your chew.

Runner Up: Jim Gilliam

If the august James Wheeler was unhappy that his keystone keeper couldn't beat out a guy named "Nellie," he'll be even angrier when he discovers that Red didn't measure up to a kid called "Junior," either. But, Jim "Junior" Gilliam socked 29 doubles, walked 104 times, scored an impressive 125 runs, and stole 27 bases. Sorry again, Red. That's too much offense to ignore.

THIRD BASE

Diamond Dandy: Eddie Mathews

Playing in the friendly confines of Tiger Stadium, this left-handed powerhouse smacked 32 doubles, crushed 42 home runs, and drove in 110 runs. Although his batting average was but .265, his slugging percentage was a robust .520. Although Mantle captured the headlines, Mathews was responsible for much of the ROAR in the Tigers' tank.

Runner Up: Ken Boyer

As the Gurnee Falcons improve, Ken Boyer's stock has begun to soar. In his second season, Boyer hit .305 with 25 homers and an impressive 123 RBI. So much for the sophomore jinx. At the tip of the Doctor's hat to veteran dugout boss/front office mogul Frank Papp for putting together a ___ good team.

SHORTSTOP

Diamond Dandy: Ernie Banks

This one was a no-brainer. If it were not for a Tiger fly chaser called "Mickey," Ernie Banks' name would be on the lips of every SPB manager. Buried on a mediocre team (What else is new?) and overshadowed by his big media center rivals (Remember Plunkitt's super station and pay urinals?), Banks put together a staggering year: .326 average, 37 home runs, and 129 RBI. In addition, "Mr. Cub" stole 11 bases and scored 102 runs. With this guy in the lineup, Manager Ryan often smiled and said, "Let's play two today!" That is if Ryan could find two qualified major league pitchers on his 5.01 ERA staff.

Runner Up: Johnny Logan

Yes, the Doctor knows that the other shortstops hit for a higher average or stole more bases; however, Johnny Logan, batting second for most of the year, socked 19 home runs and drove in 91 runs. These are impressive numbers for a shortstop on a team not known for its power hitting.

CATCHER

Diamond Dandy: Stan Lopata

What catcher had a 1956 season that would make the legendary Josh Gibson shake his head in wonder, that would force sluggers Roy Campanella and Yogi Berra to look for different bats, and that would make heroes of another era, Mickey Cochrane and Bill Dickey, blush with shame? Why, Stan Lopata of the Heartland Bluebirds, of course. Would you believe 43 doubles, 40 home runs, 96 runs scored, and 139 runs batted in? Neither did the Doctor! But, there the figures are in black and white. As the song goes, "We may never pass this way again." If Lopata ever comes close to these numbers again, Commissioner Wheeler should make saliva and urine tests part of the SPB constitution, at least for the Bluebirds' manager.

Runner Up: Yogi Berra

After being reported missing for much of last season, perhaps AWOL at the nearest pizzeria, "the Yog" is back. Not used to playing second fiddle, Yogi put together a season that should have bagged him a lot of awards: .326 average, 29 doubles, 37 homers, 110 runs, and 113 RBI. In the wacky world of SPB 1956, however, Yogi was only second best.

LEFT FIELD

Diamond Dandy: Ted Williams

Okay, so he's not a good fielder at this stage of his illustrious career. Many teams in the SPB league would be glad to have a .340-hitting left fielder who can sock 34 homers, score 100 runs, and drive in 118 more, regardless of his range and arm. Manager Papp will be sad to see "Teddy Ballgame's" tremendous run come to an end, but as long as "Full Count" Frank keeps coming up with caddies like Tommie Umphlett and Bobby Del Greco, that won't be any time soon.

Runner Up: Stan Musial

This was an easy choice: the best player on the World Champion team. Stan is still "the Man," batting .321; banging out 42 doubles, 7 triples, and 22 home runs; and driving in 112 runs, while notching 9 tallies himself. Despite several offers for Musial, Manager Cascarano stubbornly held on to his aging slugger. In 1956, "Iron Mike's" pertinacity paid off, as his Mavericks ended up "Mile High" on the Desert. Just ask the Bengals.

CENTER FIELD

Diamond Dandy: Mickey Mantle

The Doctor, never one to back away from a verbal barrage, simply had no adjective to describe this: .396 batting average, .512 on base average, .815 slugging average, 176 runs scored, 138 walks, 154 RBI, and a mere 66 homers. This is just not the MVP, not just the player of the decade, not even the player of the century. Try player of the millennium. All this, with Bailey, Hodges, Snider, and Mathews too, but no World Series rings. The Doctor is tempted to resort to the cliches "That's baseball" and "Anything can happen in a short series," but he has too much respect for his sophisticated audience.

Runner Up: Willie Mays

For a crummy team, the Rossville Cubs sure had a lot of good players. The "Say Hey Kid," like his teammate Ernie Banks, was the victim of being on the wrong team in the wrong year. The Doctor blushes to award a mere "runner up" award to such numbers: .330 average, .551 slugging percentage, 41 doubles, 29 homers, 131 runs scored, 103 runs batted in, AND 64 stolen bases. But, hey, "You win some, you lose some."

RIGHT FIELD

Diamond Dandy: Duke Snider

What?? Another Tiger?? You bet. A good one too, who spent much of the year making sure "the Mick" saw good pitches. Duke, in his first season at Tiger Stadium, batted .334 with a .631 slugging percentage, 45 doubles, 36 home runs, 103 runs scored, and 121 runs batted in. Could "Diamond Jim" Wheeler or Steve "the Little Genius" Ehresman, the Duke's former employers, have used a bat like this in their Punch-and-Judy lineups??

Runner Up: Minnie Minoso

Technically, Minnie spent most of 1956 patrolling center field for the Mountain Park Minors. But, the Doctor feels encumbered to recognize the Cuban-born minoso's spectacular SPB season: .349 average, .594 slugging percentage, 43 doubles, 10 triples, and 25 home runs. In addition, the fleet Minoso walked 105 times and drove in 102 runs, and scored a whopping 130 runs. Could you, fellow managers, imagine Major League Baseball without talented Cubans such as Minnie? Neither can the Doctor.

LEFT HANDED STARTER

Diamond Dandy: Johnny Antonelli

The 1956 SPB league had a singular lack of quality left-handed hurlers. Nevertheless, the Doctor recognizes the Tigers' southpaw ace, Johnny Antonelli, for his superior performance in a year that proved to be "open season" on lefties. Antonelli's final numbers were a 22-7 record, 37 starts, 17 complete games, and a 2.92 ERA. Whereas most SPBers have marveled at the Bengal hitting attack, the Doctor suggests you look at their sparkling 3.37 team ERA, fueled in part by Johnny's heroics.

Runner Up: Whitey Ford

How fitting that the two SPB division winners also had to be two best left-handed starting pitchers. Whitey's numbers were only a hair behind those of his rival Antonelli: an 18-7 record, 30 starts, 15 complete games, and a 3.07 ERA. Look, however, at the eye-popping hits per innings ratio: 183 hits in 231.1 innings. No wonder the Mavericks found a way to win those clutch games in their division.

RIGHT HANDED STARTER

Diamond Dandy: Don Newcombe

Manager Plunkitt will howl over this selection. As a "famous" man once said, "I feel your pain." NOT! How can one argue with a 26-7 record, 36 starts, 26 complete games, AND an excellent hits per innings ratio: 254 hits in 304.1 innings. Besides, the Doctor acknowledges the Lou "Mandrake" Ross fans in the audience. "Mandrake" does it again!

Runner Up: Tom Brewer

The Doctor will throw a "bone" to the Bengals by admitting that Tom Brewer, like most of the Frankfort team, had a spectacular year. The steady Tiger right-hander cruised to a 24-5 record, with 17 complete games and a 2.64 ERA. Any other year, and the Doctor would have showered accolades on Brewer, but this season he suffers from the Willie Mays Syndrome.

RELIEF PITCHER

Diamond Dandy: Marv Grissom

Again, the High Desert Mavericks show that they were no flukes in 1956. What a season for the grizzled veteran. Marv Grissom: 10-4 record, 20 saves, and a 2.01 ERA. Although the Mavs did not have a twenty-game winner, they did have a solid, balanced staff, to which Grissom made an invaluable contribution.

Runner Up: Turk Lown

On the strength of his 41 appearances, his 2.73 ERA, and his enviable ratio of 47 hits in 62.2 innings, Turk Lown beats out a number of capable relievers. In addition, the Tiger closer contributed a team-high 9 saves for Manager Plunkitt, who will never be mistaken for Sparky Anderson.

Thus, ends another addition of Doctor Diamond's "Diamond Dandy" awards. The Doctor doesn't ask for your agreement. In fact, he welcomes your dissent. And, speaking of dissent, the Doctor takes great pride in presenting his year-end manager recognition awards to those of you in the audience who REALLY deserve them.

THE GEORGE STALLINGS AWARD

Named for the legendary (or simply lucky) manager of the 1914 "Miracle Braves," this award goes to Mike Cascarano, skipper of SPB's World Champion High Desert Mavericks. Congratulations, Mike. No one who knows how Stallings did it either.

THE 1973 CINCINNATI REDS AWARD

Named for the champions of the National League's Western Division in 1973, the powerful Cincinnati Reds, who compiled baseball's best record (99-63), only to succumb to the New York Mets (82-79) in the NLCS, this award goes to Gary Plunkitt and his entire Frankfort Tigers team. One can almost imagine a new Tiger drill during spring training 1957: the Heimlich maneuver.

THE 1968 NEW YORK METS AWARD

Named for the Met team, who, one year later, would surprise the baseball world with their stunning upset victories over the Cubs, the Braves, and, finally, the powerful Orioles, this award goes to Bob Calicchia's (once Red Sears') Springfield Rifles. Certainly Manager Calicchia believes in the right to keep and bear arms, notably the following lethal weapons: Mike Fornieles, Sam Jones, Vern Law, Wilmer Mizell, Camilo Pascual, AND Hoyt Wilhelm. This arsenal is just waiting to blow up in the faces of rival SPB managers. Perhaps in 1957.

THE 1915 PHILADELPHIA A'S AWARD

Named for Connie Mack's A's, who, after losing the 1914 World Series, were torn apart, only to resurface as a miserable 43-109 team in 1915, a mere 58 1/2 games behind the pennant-winning Boston Red Sox. Well, "Long John" Ungashick has never had the privilege or the pain of playing in a World Series, but his Black Sox are ready to do their best 1915 A's impersonation, starting with SPB's 1957 season. By the way, the A's did not return to the top until 1929, a mere 15 years. Hey, there's hope, John.

THE CASEY STENGEL "CAN ANYBODY HERE PLAY THIS GAME" AWARD

Named for Casey Stengel in his final incarnation as manager of the hapless 1962 New York Mets, a breath-taking 40-120, this award goes to Paul Kenyon, who continues to pick up the pieces and tries to glue together a franchise in Rhode Island. In his first season, Manager Kenyon was 47-107. Good to know that the 1962 Mets' record is safe--for now.

That wraps up the Doctor's house call for another season, SPBers. The Doctor extends his best wishes to each of you for the 1957 SPB season. Let's try something rather novel for 1957, playing the season with realistic results and with hurlers who wake up and perform like major leaguers. Until next time, happy key stroking.

Note: The Annual installment of the "Baseball Curmudgeon" was allegedly illegally intercepted by the King County civil engineers for use as a ceiling tile at the Kingdome in Seattle. If you look close, you might be able to see some residual cigar ashes fall from the roof where the Curmudgeon's tile is placed. Rumor has it it is over section 142, seat 24 and 25. We won't be able to read it in the yearbook this year, but it should make for some great reading for those in the upper deck with binoculars! We will see to it that it is the first tile to fall (we are confident the Dome will crumple again!), so that you can enjoy its contents as soon as possible.

The "Post-Game Show"

This ending to this season is a little bit different from the rest, for this year there was no finish to the real season.....no pennant race, no Matt Williams, who could have raced arm in arm with our own Mickey Mantle, and no World Series for the first time in 91 years. This raises an interesting dilemma...do WE play with replacement players when it comes OUR turn to play 1994??!! I'm sure each and every one of you are sick and tired of hearing about the strike. Whenever I hear about it on the news, half of me wants to turn the TV off, because the thought of no baseball turns my stomach, and half of me watches and listens intently....hoping, praying for a glimmer of hope. Baseball like anything else is riddled with politics, and money problems. Maybe that's what makes computer baseball so great. Look at the advantages:

- You buy a franchise for under fifty bucks.
- You get a dugout each and every home game.
- Fans don't torment you for making a bad move.
- No long road trips on Michael Jordan's bus.
- A private bathroom.
- The ability to make managerial moves without backtalk

Even with all that....I would rather much see a real game with real players on grass field, with a box of Cracker Jacks, and my son. Minor league baseball gives everyone the opportunity to do just that, but even the integrity and the talent level of that may be in jeopardy as well.

Yes, we can all live without baseball. We do for four months out of every year. So what exactly am I getting at?? This league gives us a chance to see both at the same time.....to get our fix of computer baseball....and to catch a glimpse of how the "real" game was played decades ago. But I must admit, eating a 40 year-old box of Cracker Jacks could be an unpleasant experience indeed!

I thank each and every one of you again for making this season more memorable than ever. I look forward to next year and many more. I will do a yearbook from Korea next year with whatever data I have available. I will return in time for the 1959 draft, which should be a good one! Until then, happy trails, and Let's hope there's baseball in 95.