

## Batteries from the Great White North

On September 6, 1993 Montreal-born Denis Boucher made his Expos' debut in front of forty thousand home town fans.


Part of the story that day was that Boucher was the first player born in Montreal to suit up for the Expos and just the second Quebecois to do so after Claude Raymond more than two decades earlier ${ }^{(2)}$. Also notable that day was the fact that Boucher and catcher Joe Siddall from Windsor, ON formed an all-Canadian battery ${ }^{(3)}$.


The rarity of the latter event was noted but incomplete information was available at that time about other Canadian pitcher-catcher combos ${ }^{(6)}$. This gap in the historical record inspired a research project to find every all-Canadian battery in big league history and this paper is about the first one.

The term "Canadian" needs to be defined. People who were born in Canada may have emigrated soon thereafter and others born elsewhere may have moved to Canada before they could walk. Are they all Canadian? The uncertainty is a complication and, with no disrespect meant to Canadians born abroad, this paper is limited to players who were born in Canada. Resources may differ on places of birth so only players who had a Canadian home town listed in BaseballReference.com on October 23, 2019 are included in this review.

Through the 2019 season 255 Canadian-born players have appeared in at least one Major League game ${ }^{(7)} ; 132$ pitched ${ }^{(8)}$ and 38 caught ${ }^{(9)}$. Once this list was compiled the next step was to align the pitchers' and catchers' careers to see where there were Canadian teammates who could potentially form a battery; then the box scores for those teams' games were reviewed. Fifteen pairings of Canadian-born battery mates have been found and forty percent of them involve Russell Martin ${ }^{(10)}$. The first all-Canadian battery played in 1883.

There were very few Canadian pitchers and catchers in the early seasons of Major League baseball. The first to pitch was Edward Sylvester "The Only" Nolan (born in Trenton, ON) ${ }^{(11)}$ with Indianapolis of the National League in $1878{ }^{(12)}$ and the first catcher was William B. "Bill" Phillips (Saint John, NB) ${ }^{(13)}$ with Cleveland in $1879{ }^{(14)}$. Nolan and Phillips both appeared for Cleveland in 1881 but Phillips only played first base that year ${ }^{(15)}$ so they never had the chance to form a battery.

The 1883 New York Gothams of the National League were the first team to have Canucks play at both pitcher and catcher ${ }^{(16)}$. James "Tip" O'Neill (Springfield, ON) is best known as an outfielder but he began his career that year in the pitcher's box with a record of 5-12 and a 4.07 ERA in nineteen games ${ }^{(17)}$. Catcher John Humphries (North Gower, ON) played two major league seasons and he made his debut on July 7, 1883 after finishing his studies at Cornell ${ }^{(18)}$.


O'Neill and Humphries first formed the Gothams' starting battery on July 13 against the Buffalo Bisons ${ }^{(21)}$.They were not the first international battery, an honour that went to Irishmen Curry Foley (Milltown) and Sleeper Sullivan (city unknown) who accomplished that with the 1881 Buffalo Bisons ${ }^{(22)}$. But O'Neill and Humphries were the first Canadian-born Major League battery.


Buffalo beat New York 6-3 that day with O'Neill pitching a complete game. He gave up six runs, none of which were earned, and he foretold his future hitting prowess by contributing a double. Humphries, in his third Major League game, was the starting catcher and played the full game. He didn't have any hits and he was charged with two passed balls.

The winning pitcher was Hall of Famer Pud Galvin, who was in the middle of a 46win season. Fellow Hall of Famers Dan Brouthers, Deacon White and Jim O'Rourke also played for Buffalo. New York was pretty stacked too; their top three hitters were Hall of Famers Monte Ward, Roger Connor and Mickey Welch, and Hall of Famer Buck Ewing was given a day off so Humphries could start. There were thirteen Hall of Famers active in 1883 and seven started this game with another one watching from the bench ${ }^{(24)}$.

O'Neill's next start ${ }^{(25)}$ was a 10-1 loss in Cleveland on July 18.



Humphries started in right field with Buck Ewing catching but，as The Sporting Life noted，＂Ewing hurt his fingers in the eighth inning and took right field．Humphries finished the game behind the bat．＂Cleveland batted first that day so Humphries caught O＇Neill for part of the eighth and all of the ninth innings．Bill Phillips was the Blues＇first baseman and he may have been the first Canadian－born batter to face a Canadian battery．Further research into that game＇s play－by－play is needed to confirm if he indeed batted after Humphries started catching in the top of the eighth（see Appendix I for more information about this game）．

O＇Neill started again on July 28 in a 4－2 loss at Detroit and he and Humphries were battery mates for the third time．


George Albert "Dandy" Wood (Pownal, PE) was the Wolverines' leadoff hitter that day so if Bill Phillips wasn't the first Canadian-born batter to face a Canadian battery, then George Wood was.

O'Neill appeared in some exhibition games ${ }^{(28)}$ but didn't play another regular season game until September 8 in Philadelphia.


After falling behind early in the game the Gothams scored thirteen runs in the third inning in a 16-6 drubbing of the Quakers that was mercifully ended after seven innings due to darkness. O'Neill pitched the full game and Humphries started behind the plate, although he switched positions with right fielder Mike Dorgan part way through the game.

O'Neill pitched only one more time in 1883, on September 18, and Humphries was benched that day ${ }^{(30)}$ so the game in Philadelphia was the last one in which they appeared as teammates.

Humphries began the 1884 season with Washington of the American Association then he returned to New York for the last two months of the schedule after the Nationals folded. He spent the following three seasons with teams in Syracuse, Toronto and Rochester ${ }^{(31)}$ then ended his baseball career and spent most of the rest of his life as a math and classics teacher. He died in California in 1933 at age 72 (32)

O'Neill also switched to the American Association in 1884. His pitching improved and he had a record of 11-4 with a 2.68 ERA for St. Louis. He also raised his batting
average eighty points while playing most of his games in left field. He never pitched again after 1884 but he became a star outfielder in the Association including hitting .435 and winning the Triple Crown in $1887{ }^{(33)}$. He remains one of the greatest Canadian-born Major Leaguers and an annual award presented by the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame is named in his honour ${ }^{(34)}$.

In the first few seasons of Major League baseball the most common homeland of foreign-born players was Ireland. They were passed by the Canadians in 1884 and Canada remained the top source of foreigners for over a century until they were passed by the Dominican Republic in 1994. Canada has since also fallen behind Venezuela and Puerto Rico in supplying Major Leaguers ${ }^{(35)}$ but the country still produces a few every year and two of them made history in 1883 as their nation's first home-grown battery.

## Footnotes

(1) Montreal Gazette, Tuesday, September 7, 1993, Page 1, unattributed photo caption.
(2) Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder, Find Single Seasons Totals, Years = 1969 to 2004 / Leagues = National League / Team = Washing Nats/Les Expos / Additional Criteria: G >= 1 / Place of Birth = Canada / Sort By = Year (or first season) / Use ascending Order, https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=0\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=196 9\&max year season=2004\&min season=1\&max season=-
1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g |D=|gNL\&|gAL team=tmAny\&|gNL team=tmWSN\&|gFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&lgPL team=tmAny\&IgUA team=tmAny\&IgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos 4=1\&pos $5=1 \&$ pos $6=1 \&$ pos $7=1 \& p o s \quad 8=1 \& p o s \quad 9=1 \& p o s \quad 10=1 \&$ pos $11=1 \&$ games min max=min\& qualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasValC=3 000\&mingamesValC=1000\&c1criteria=G\&c1gt|t=gt\&c1val=1\&c2gt|t=gt\&c3gtlt=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gt|t=gt\& c5val=1.0\&location=pob\&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=year id\&number matched=1\&orde $r$ by asc=1 Accessed October 23, 2019. The only Quebec-born players who appeared for the Expos from 1969 to 2004 are: Claude Raymond (1969 to 1971), Denis Boucher (1993 to 1994) and Derek Aucoin (1996).
(3) Montreal Gazette, Tuesday, September 7, 1993, Page F3, unattributed article.

- Belore the game. Expos manager Felipe Alou was advised that the ball used for Denis Boucher's hirst pitch would be immediately taken from the game. The ball was to be autographed by the Canadian battery of Boucher and Joe Siddall and sent to Canada's baseball Hall of Fame.
"What happens," Alou asked, "if the ball is hit out of the park?" Then Alou, in jest, oftered a suggestion "Maybe I should call for a pitchout
(4) 1994 Topps Stadium Club Baseball Card \#545-found on Google Images, https://www.google.ca/search?q=denis+boucher+1994+topps+stadium+club\&source=Inms\&tbm=isch\& sa=X\&ved=OahUKEwj-
r6rT3LLIAhUjSN8KHTA4D74Q AUIEygC\&biw=1229\&bih=578\#imgrc=uyP3R4 i8UszzM: Accessed
October 23, 2019
(5) 1994 Pacific Crown Collection \#390 - found on Google Images
https://www.google.ca/search?biw=1229\&bih=578\&tbm=isch\&sa=1\&ei=WHWwXaf0K5e90PEPyJG6oAQ
\&q=joe+siddall+pacific+crown\&oq=joe+siddall+pacific+crown\&gs I=img.3...53204.62353..62911...1.0..0.
186.4007.0j26......0....1..gws-wiz-
img.......0i67j0j0i131j0i30j0i5i30j0i24.3oRRLvSORe0\&ved=OahUKEwingMTU3LLIAhWXHjQIHcilDkQQ4dU
DCAc\&uact=5\#imgrc=kMareVPsd9UehM: Accessed October 23, 2019
(6) Gazette, Tuesday, September 7, 1993, Page F3, unattributed article.
- WHAT'S IN A NAME - Prior to the artival of Joe Siddall
from Windsor, there have been five Canadian catchers in the big leagues in this century The roster Nig Clarke. Amherstburg. Ont (nine years between 1905 and 1920). George (Moon) Gibson, London. (1905-18). Frank (Yip) Owens, Toronto. 1905. 1909), Joe (Stubby) Erautt, Vibank, Sask. (1950-51), Eric MacKenzie, Glendon. Alta (1955) Nig. Moon. Yip. Stubby Perhaps the Expos rookie should be called Joe "L" Siddall. "Amherstburg is about 20 minutes itom Windsor." Siddall said. You heard it here first: Windsor, Cradie of Canadian Catchers

This article fails to include five other Canadian-born catchers from the $20^{\text {th }}$ century: Larry McLean, Art McGovern, Tom Daly, Ed Wingo and Jim Lawrence.
(7) Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder, Find Totals for Combined Seasons or Careers, Years = 1871 to 2019 / Place of Birth = Canada / Sort By = Year (or first season) / Use ascending Order,
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=1\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=187
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1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g ID=|gAny\&IgAL team=tmAny\&IgNL team=tmAny\&|gFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&IgUA team=tmAny\&IgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos
4=1\&pos 5=1\&pos 6=1\&pos 7=1\&pos 8=1\&pos 9=1\&pos 10=1\&pos 11=1\&games min max=min\& qualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasValC=3 $000 \&$ mingamesValC=1000\&c1gtlt=gt\&c2gt|t=gt\&c3gt|t=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gt|t=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location=po b\&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=year id\&number matched=1\&order by asc=1

## Accessed October 23, 2019.

(8) ibid, with Defensive Position set at "P"
(9) ibid, with Defensive Position set at " $C$ "
(10) The Baseball Reference Overview page for each Canadian-born Major League pitcher and catcher was reviewed and the following information for each of their seasons was compiled on an Excel spreadsheet: First and last name, position, year, team and league. This information was sorted by year with a filter for team to identify all teams that had at least one Canadian-born pitcher and at least one Canadian-born catcher in the same season. Box scores from various sources were then reviewed to find games with a Canadian battery. Some teams had both a Canadian pitcher and a Canadian catcher but didn't have a Canadian battery because the players in question never appeared in the same game. Some teams had multiple Canadian batteries in the same season because they had multiple Canadian-born players at one of the positions. Russell Martin has caught fellow Canadians Eric Gagne, Chris Leroux, John Axford, Jeff Francis and Andrew Albers, plus Ryan Dempster in the 2008 All Star game.
(11) Baseball Reference Play Index, Pitching Season \& Career Finder, Find Single Season Totals, Years = 1871 to 2019 / Place of Birth = Canada / Sort By = Year (or first season) / Use ascending Order,
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=0\&as=result pitcher\&offset=0\&type=p\&min year season=18 71\&max year season=2019\&min season=1\&max season=-
$1 \& \min$ age $=0 \& \max$ age=99\&|g $\mid \mathrm{D}=\lg A n y \& \lg A L$ team=tmAny\&IgNL team=tmAny\&IgFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&IgUA team=tmAny\&IgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&throws=any\&role=anyrole\&games started=60\&games relieved=80\&qualifiers Season=nomin\&minlpValS=162\&minDecValS=14\&mingamesValS=40\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minlpVal C=1000\&minDecValC=100\&mingamesValC=200\&c1gtlt=gt\&c2gt|t=gt\&c3gt|t=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gt|t=gt\&c5 val=1.0\&location=pob\&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=year id\&number matched=1\&order by asc=1 Accessed October 23, 2019.
(12) Baseball Reference The Only Nolan Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/n/nolanth01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(13) Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder, Find Single Season Totals, Years = 1871 to 2019 / Played any one of selected positions = C / Place of Birth = Canada / Sort By = Year (or first season) / Use ascending Order, https://www.baseball-reference.com/playindex/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=0\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=187 1\&max year season=2019\&min season=1\&max season=$1 \& \min$ age $=0 \& \max$ age=99\&|g ID=|gAny\&IgAL team=tmAny\&IgNL team=tmAny\&IgFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&lgUA team=tmAny\&lgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anymarked\&pos 2=1\&games min max=m in\&qualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasVal C=3000\&mingamesValC=1000\&c1gt|t=gt\&c2gt|t=gt\&c3gt|t=gt\&c4gt|t=gt\&c5gt|t=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location =pob\&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=year id\&number matched=1\&order by asc=1
Accessed October 23, 2019
(14) Baseball Reference Bill Phillips Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/p/phillbi01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(15) ibid
(16) Spreadsheet noted in (10)
(17) Baseball Reference Tip O'Neill Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/o/o'neiti01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(18) Baseball Reference John Humphries Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/h/humphjo01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(19) Baseball Reference Tip O'Neill Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/o/o'neiti01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(20) Baseball Reference John Humphries Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/h/humphjo01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(21) Baseball Reference notes that Humphries' debut was July 7, 1883. Box scores for all of New York's games starting with this one were reviewed to find the first game in which O'Neill pitched and Humphries caught. They both played on July 7 but O'Neill was New York's right fielder that day and Mickey Welch pitched. There was no game on Sunday, July 8 then $O^{\prime}$ Neill pitched on the $9^{\text {th }}$ but Buck Ewing was the catcher and Humphries didn't play. O'Neill played right field and Humphries sat out the game played on the $10^{\text {th }}$ and neither played on the $11^{\text {th }}$. Humphries caught the game of the $12^{\text {th }}$ with Welch and John Montgomery Ward splitting the pitching duties then O'Neill finally pitched to Humphries on Friday, July 13. Box scores for all of these games were found in The Sporting Life, July 15, 1883, Volume 1, Number 14, Page 4.
(22) Baseball Reference Play Index was reviewed to find all non-USA-born players from 1871 through 1883. Batting Season \& Career Finder, Find Totals for Combined Seasons or Careers, Years = 1871 to 1883/ Place of Birth is not United States
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=1\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=187 $1 \& m a x$ year season $=1883 \& \mathrm{~min}$ season=1\&max season=-
1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g ID=|gAny\&|gAL team=tmAny\&|gNL team=tmAny\&|gFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&lgUA team=tmAny\&lgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos
4=1\&pos 5=1\&pos 6=1\&pos 7=1\&pos 8=1\&pos 9=1\&pos 10=1\&pos 11=1\&games min max=min\& qualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasValC=3 $000 \& m i n g a m e s V a|C=1000 \& c 1 g t| t=g t \& c 2 \mathrm{gtlt=gt} \mathrm{\& c}=\mathrm{gt\mid t=gt} \mathrm{\& c4g\mid t=gt} \mathrm{\& c5gt\mid t=gt} \mathrm{\& c5val=1.0} \mathrm{\& location=po}$ b\&locationMatch=isnot\&pob=United States\&orderby=G\&number matched=1 Accessed October 25, 2019
Sixty-three players born in Canada, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Germany, Cuba, Czech Republic, France and the Netherlands were found to have appeared in the Major Leagues between 1871 and 1883. In addition to Canada, Ireland and the UK also had both pitchers and catchers in that period. The methodology described in Note (10) was repeated for these players and The New York Clipper box scores were reviewed because The Sporting Life didn't start publishing until 1883. Foley played in all 83 Buffalo games in 1881 with 10 pitching appearances and Sullivan played in 35 games with 31 catching appearances. Box scores for all of Buffalo's games have not yet been found but that of the second game of July 4 showed them forming a battery. That box score was found in The New York Clipper, July 9, 1881, Page 247. They may have formed a battery in an earlier game but, regardless, they preceded the O'Neill and Humphries tandem by two years.
(23) The Sporting Life, July 15, 1883, Volume 1, Number 14, Page 4.
(24) Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder, Find Single Season Totals, Years = 1883 to 1883 / Hall of Fame = Yes / Additional Criteria, G >=1 / Sort By G, https://www.baseball-reference.com/playindex/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=0\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=188 $3 \& m a x$ year season $=1883 \& m i n$ season=1\&max season=-
1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g ID=|gAny\&|gAL team=tmAny\&|gNL team=tmAny\&|gFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&|gPL team=tmAny\&lgUA team=tmAny\&lgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =Y\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos 4=1 \&pos $5=1 \&$ pos $6=1 \& p o s 7=1 \& p o s 8=1 \& p o s ~ 9=1 \& p o s 10=1 \& p o s 11=1 \& g a m e s ~ m i n ~ m a x=m i n \& q u a l i$ fiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasValC=3000
\&mingamesValC=1000\&c1criteria=G\&c1gt|t=gt\&c1val=1\&c2gtlt=gt\&c3gtlt=gt\&c4gt|t=gt\&c5gt|t=gt\&c5v al=1.0\&location=pob\&locationMatch=is\&orderby=G\&number matched=1 Accessed October 23, 2019.

Results Sorting only sorts the values in the table shown Share \& more $\mathbf{v}$ Glossary

| Rk | Player | G | Year | Age | $\underset{\Delta}{\operatorname{Tm}}$ | Lg | PA | AB | R | H | 2B | 3B | HR | RBI | BB | IBB | SO | HBP | SH | SF | GDP | SB | CS | BA | OBP | SLG | OPS | Pos |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Pud Galvin | 80 | 1883 | 26 | BUF | NL | 325 | 322 | 41 | 71 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 3 |  | 79 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 220 | . 228 | . 276 | . 504 | *1/789 |
| 2 | Deacon White | 94 | 1883 | 35 | BUF | NL | 414 | 391 | 62 | 114 | 14 | 5 | 0 | 47 | 23 |  | 18 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 292 | . 331 | . 353 | . 684 | * 52 |
| 3 | Jim O'Rourke | 94 | 1883 | 32 | BUF | NL | 451 | 436 | 102 | 143 | 29 | 8 | 1 | 38 | 15 |  | 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 328 | . 350 | . 438 | . 788 | *72/5618 |
| 4 | Dan Brouthers | 98 | 1883 | 25 | BUF | NL | 441 | 425 | 85 | 159 | 41 | 17 | 3 | 97 | 16 |  | 17 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 374 | . 397 | . 572 | . 969 | *3/15 |
| 5 | King_Kelly | 98 | 1883 | 25 | CHC | NL | 444 | 428 | 92 | 109 | 28 | 10 | 3 | 61 | 16 |  | 35 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 255 | . 282 | . 388 | . 669 | *92/451 |
| 6 | Cap Anson | 98 | 1883 | 31 | CHC | NL | 431 | 413 | 70 | 127 | 36 | 5 | 0 | 68 | 18 |  | 9 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 308 | . 336 | . 419 | . 755 | *3/192 |
| 7 | Bid McPhee | 96 | 1883 | 23 | CIN | AA | 385 | 367 | 61 | 90 | 10 | 10 | 2 | 42 | 18 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 245 | . 281 | . 343 | . 624 | * 4 |
| 8 | Mickey Welch | 84 | 1883 | 23 | NYG | NL | 330 | 320 | 42 | 75 | 13 | 5 | 2 | 30 | 10 |  | 38 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 234 | . 258 | . 325 | . 583 | *189/7 |
| 9 | John Ward | 88 | 1883 | 23 | NYG | NL | 388 | 380 | 76 | 97 | 18 | 7 | 7 | 54 | 8 |  | 25 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 255 | . 271 | . 395 | . 665 | *819/564 |
| 10 | Buck Ewing | 88 | 1883 | 23 | NYG | NL | 396 | 376 | 90 | 114 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 41 | 20 |  | 14 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 303 | . 338 | . 481 | . 820 | *248/695 |
| 11 | Roger Connor | 98 | 1883 | 25 | NYG | NL | 434 | 409 | 80 | 146 | 28 | 15 | 1 | 50 | 25 |  | 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 357 | . 394 | . 506 | . 900 | *3 |
| 12 | Tim Keefe | 70 | 1883 | 26 | NYP | AA | 273 | 259 | 39 | 57 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 14 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 220 | . 260 | . 313 | . 573 | * 1/84 |
| 13 | Old Hoss Radbourn | 89 | 1883 | 28 | PRO | NL | 395 | 381 | 59 | 108 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 48 | 14 |  | 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  | . 283 | . 309 | . 352 | . 661 | *17/983 |

(25) All issues of The Sporting Life from May 6, 1883 (Volume 1, Number 4) through October 8, 1883 (Volume 1, Number 26) were reviewed for box scores of New York's games. Humphries played in 29 games, catching 21 times including 20 starts: July $7,12,13,14,18$ (started in right field), 19, 28, August $11,13,15,22,24,25,28,31$, September 1, 4, $7,8,28$ and 29 . O'Neill played in 23 games, 19 as a pitcher, all starts: May $5,7,16,18$, June 16, 19, 21, 23, 26, 30 , July $3,4,5,9,13,18,28$, September 8 and 18 . Only 6 of O'Neill's pitching appearances were after Humphries debut on July 7 and the two of them formed a battery 4 times: July 13, 18, 28 and September 8.
(26) The Sporting Life, July 22, 1883, Volume 1, Number 15, Page 4.
(27) The Sporting Life, August 6, 1883, Volume 1, Number 17, Page 4.
(28) For example, September 5, 1883 vs. Staten Island in a game played in New Brighton, NY with Humphries catching. The Sporting Life, September 10, 1883, Volume 1, Number 22, Page 5:

(29) The Sporting Life, September 10, 1883, Volume 1, Number 22, Page 6
(30) The Sporting Life, September 24, 1883, Volume 1, Number 24, Page 4

(31) Baseball Reference John Humphries Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/h/humphjo01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(32) McDonald, David Jack Humphries biography found on the SABR Baseball Biography Project page https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/1e3a9543 Accessed October 24, 2019
(33) Baseball Reference Tip O'Neill Overview Page, https://www.baseballreference.com/players/o/o'neiti01.shtml Accessed October 23, 2019
(34) Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame Website, http://baseballhalloffame.ca/museum/awards/ Accessed October 24, 2019.
(35) Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder, Find Totals for Combined Seasons or Careers, Years = 1871 to 2019 / Place of Birth = various countries / Sort By = Year (or first season) / Use ascending Order,
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=1\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=187 1\&max year season=2019\&min season=1\&max season=-
1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g ID=|gAny\&IgAL team=tmAny\&IgNL team=tmAny\&IgFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&IgUA team=tmAny\&IgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos 4=1\&pos $5=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 6=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 7=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 8=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 9=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 10=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 11=1 \& g a m e s$ min max=min\& qualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasValC=3 $000 \& m i n g a m e s V a|C=1000 \& c 1 g t| t=g t \& c 2 g t|t=g t \& c 3 g t| t=g t \& c 4 g t|t=g t \& c 5 g t| t=g t \& c 5 v a l=1.0 \& l o c a t i o n=p o$ b\&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=year id\&number matched=1\&order by asc=1

Accessed between December 2018 and April 2019.

## Appendix I - Box Scores from The New York vs. Cleveland game played July 18, 1883

The first game summary notes that one of Cleveland's runs in the eighth inning scored as a result of a Phillips single. That account also notes that Ewing was injured in the seventh inning. If that's true, then Phillips batted with Humphries behind the plate. All other accounts however, note an eighth inning injury so it is unclear who was catching during Phillips' last at bat.





## What Happened to Jerry Dorsey?

At the end of the 2017 season Baseball Reference listed 129 Canadians who pitched in at least one big league game since 1871. Two pitchers debuted in 2018: Mike Soroka from Calgary, AB and Rowan Wick from North Vancouver, BC. Three more Canadians pitched their first games in 2019: Jordan Romano from Markham, ON and Cal Quantrill from Port Hope, ON plus veteran catcher Russell Martin from East York, ON who had his first pitching appearances in his fourteenth major league season. $129+2+3=134$. But the new total is only $132^{(1)}$. What happened?

Comparing the 2017 and 2019 lists shows that Jerry Dorsey (born in Canada but in an unknown city) ${ }^{(2)}$ and Rube Vickers (born in St. Marys, ON) were deleted. Baseball Reference now shows Vickers' birthplace as Hillsdale, MI and no longer the home of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame ${ }^{(3)}$. The March/April 2018 newsletter of the SABR Biographical Research Committee notes the sources of the change as a World War II draft registration (Vickers was sixty when the war started) and an 1880 census (he was born in 1879) ${ }^{(4)}$. Vickers' situation will be the subject of a future research project and this paper will concentrate on the other player removed from the Canadian roll.

Jerry Dorsey had been credited with playing in a single Major League game: July 9, 1884 with the Baltimore Monumentals of the short-lived Union Association. The game summary in The Sporting Life stated "...the home club tried a new pitcher, Dorsey, but he was knocked out and Robinson had to relieve him." He gave up 8 runs in 4 innings and finished the game in right field ${ }^{(5)}$.
BALTIMORE Vg, 8T. LOUIS.
At Baltimore July 9 the home club tried a
new pitcher, Dorsey, but he was knocked
out and Robinson had to relieve him. Boyle,
formerly of the Active Club, pitched for the
Lucas team ayd was quite effective, bestdes
making a home run and a three-bese bit.

Credit for that game is now being given to an unrelated played with a similar name, Joseph Dorsey ${ }^{(6)}$. Since Jerry Dorsey isn't credited with any other big league games this change removes him from the register of major leaguers. This finding was announced in the January/February 2018 newsletter of the SABR Biographical Research Committee ${ }^{(7)}$. Is it justified?

The 1956 edition of the Official Encyclopedia of Baseball had assigned that game to Jerry Dorsey ${ }^{(8)}$ and various other publications like The Baseball Encyclopedia ${ }^{(9)}$, Total Baseball ${ }^{(10)}$, and The Great Encyclopedia of $19^{\text {th }}$ Century Major League Baseball ${ }^{(11)}$ continued the trend. Prior to Total Baseball's first edition in 1989 Dorsey's place of birth had been listed as Auburn, NY so it has only been since 1989 that Jerry Dorsey had been recognized as a Canadian Major Leaguer. Unlike Rube Vickers however, Jerry Dorsey's nationality is not in question at this time. The issue is whether or not he actually took part in a big league game.

Jerry Dorsey began the 1884 season with Terre Haute, IN, of the Northwestern League ${ }^{(12)}$. He appeared in twenty games as their second baseman ${ }^{(13)}$ but by midJune he was playing for Portsmouth of the Ohio State League ${ }^{(14)}$. This was a fairly high-level league and about a third of the players from 1884 saw time in the Major Leagues at some point in their careers ${ }^{(15)}$. Dorsey was still playing for Portsmouth in late September before ending the season with league rival Dayton ${ }^{(16)}$, where he also played in $1885{ }^{(17)}$.

The Sporting Life was the one of the leading national sports papers in that era and in addition to covering the Major Leagues they provided box scores for the Northwestern League, including Dorsey's first team of 1884, Terre Haute. The Sporting Life didn't follow the Ohio State League, but newspapers from Dayton, OH and Cincinnati, OH reported on the games, and digital copies of those are available online. A lot of information for the season can be found but box scores are missing for some of Portsmouth's games, so the record is incomplete at this time. Here is what is known:

- The earliest box score showing Dorsey playing for Portsmouth is for a game played on June $18,1884^{(18)}$ although it is possible that he appeared in earlier games.
- Dorsey is also included in box scores for Portsmouth games played on June $19^{(19)}, 21^{(20)}, 27^{(21)}$, July $1^{(22)}, 2^{(23)}$ and $31^{(24)}$.
- Line scores were found for Portsmouth games of July $11{ }^{(25)}$ and $13{ }^{(26)}$ but without full box scores so it's unknown if Dorsey played in either of those games.
- Every box score in which he appears shows Dorsey playing second base.

Is it possible that Jerry Dorsey travelled to Baltimore to pitch for the Monumentals on July 9 ? Based on what has been found so far, yes. He is known to have played for Portsmouth on July 2 and July 31. He may have played in between but that cannot be confirmed at this point. It's about seven hundred kilometers from Portsmouth, OH to Baltimore, $\mathrm{MD}{ }^{(27)}$, roughly the distance from London to Montreal ${ }^{(28)}$. Trains in the 1880 s traveled at an average of about 60 kilometers per hour ${ }^{(29)}$ so Dorsey could have made the train trip on July 7 or 8 , pitched on the $9^{\text {th }}$ and returned to Portsmouth a day or two later ${ }^{(30)}$.

But does this make sense? In 1884 Jerry Dorsey was twenty-eight years old and split the season with teams in the Northwestern and the Ohio State Leagues. All box scores that have been found show him to be a second baseman, and there are no pitching statistics listed in Baseball Reference for any part of his professional career, which lasted from 1879 to $1888{ }^{(31)}$. Why would a team in Baltimore give a pitching tryout to a well-seasoned second baseman playing in a league several states away?

Joseph Dorsey on the other hand was twenty years old in 1884 and, other than his single game for Baltimore, he pitched in a couple of games for Trenton in the Eastern League on June $17{ }^{(32)}$ and $20^{(33)}$. And significantly, he was from Baltimore ${ }^{(34)}$. Is there more proof that he pitched the game in question? Yes there is. Although the Sporting Life summary for Baltimore's game of July 9 fails to give any information about Mr. Dorsey ${ }^{(35)}$, accounts in Baltimore and St. Louis papers did:
"Dorsey, late of the Trenton Club..."


[^0]> The Baltimore afd St, Louis clubs of the Unlon Associntion went on the fleld at Union Park yesterday with two new pitchers, viz.. Dorsey, formerly of the Trenton team, and Boyle, who has been pitching for the Actives, of Reading. Pa. Boyle takes the place on the

There is no absolute proof that Jerry Dorsey did not pitch for Baltimore on July 9, 1884, but there is some pretty compelling information, namely two different stories noting that the player had previously been with Trenton while Jerry Dorsey is not recorded as ever having played there ${ }^{(38)}$.

Who is the more likely candidate, Jerry or Joseph? In 1884 Jerry Dorsey was a twenty-eight-year-old second baseman from Canada playing in the Ohio State League, seven hundred kilometers from Baltimore; Joseph Dorsey was a twenty-year-old pitcher from Baltimore.

The facts, circumstantial evidence and assumptions all point to Joseph Dorsey, not Jerry Dorsey, as being the starting pitcher for Baltimore of the Union Association on July 9,1884 . Since Jerry Dorsey is not credited with any other big league games, there is a pretty persuasive argument to remove him from the list of Canadian-born Major Leaguers. Sorry.

## Footnotes

(1) Baseball Reference Play Index / Season and Career Finders / Player Pitching: Find Totals for Combined Seasons or Careers, Years 1871 to 2017, 2018 and 2019, Place of Birth = Canada, Sort by Year. https://www.baseball-reference.com/ Accessed after the 2017, 2018 and 2019 seasons ended.
(2) Baseball Reference, Jerry Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/register/player.fcgi?id=dorsey004jer Accessed October 7, 2019
(3) Baseball Reference, Rube Vickers Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/v/vickeru01.shtml Accessed October 7, 2019
(4) SABR Biographical Research Committee Newsletter, March/April 2018, Page 5.
(5) The Sporting Life, July 16, 1884, Volume 3, Number 14, Page 5, Column 4
(6) Baseball reference, Joseph Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseball-
reference.com/players/d/dorseje01.shtml Accessed October 7, 2019
(7) SABR Biographical Research Committee Newsletter, January/February 2018, Pages 1 and 5.
(8) Turkin, Hy and S.C. Thompson, Official Encyclopedia of Baseball, Revised Edition, A.S. Barnes and Company, 1956, Page 131. He is listed as Jeremiah M. Dorsey, born in Auburn, N.Y., no date of birth shown. He is credited with 2 games played with positions of " $P$ " and " $O$ " but this error in the number of games can be explained by the fact that both positions were played in the same game.
(9) Reichler, Joseph L. Editor, The Baseball Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition / Revised, Updated and Expanded, MacMillan Publishing Company, 1985, Page 1690. Dorsey's birth place is still listed as Auburn, N.Y. and a year of birth and date of death have been added. He is listed in the Pitcher Register with a single game and he is not listed in the Player Register.
(10) Thorn, John and Pete Palmer, Total Baseball, Warner Books, 1989, Page 1672. Dorsey’s name has been changed to Michael Jeremiah Dorsey and his place of birth has been changed to "Canada". He is listed in the Pitcher Register with one game played and he is not listed in the Player Register.
(11) Nemec, David, The Great Encyclopedia of $19^{\text {th }}$ Century Major League Baseball, Donald I. Fine Books, 1997, Page 774. All entries match those in Total Baseball.
(12) Baseball Reference, Jerry Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseball-
reference.com/register/player.fcgi?id=dorsey004jer Accessed October 7, 2019
(13) The Sporting Life, May 14, 1884, Volume 3, Number 5, Page 4 (games of May 1, 2, 3); May 21, 1884, Volume 3, Number 6, Page 2 (games of May 7, 8, 10, 12, 13), May 28, 1884, Volume 3, Number 7, Page 2 (games of May 15, 16, 17), June 4, 1884, Volume 3, Number 8, Page 2 (games of May 20, 21, 22, $24,26,27$ ), June 11, 1884, Volume 3, Number 9, Page 2 (games of May 29, 30, 31, June 2, 3). Dorsey played second base for Terre Haute in each game from May 1 to May 31 ( 20 games) but not in the games of June 2 and later.
(14) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Thursday, June 19, 1884, Page 2. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(15) Baseball Reference, 1884 Ohio State League page, review of the rosters of each of the 6 teams. Players with Major League service are highlighted. https://www.baseballreference.com/register/league.cgi?id=dc8de977 Accessed October 7, 2019
(16) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Friday, September 26, 1884, Page 3 shows Dorsey playing with Portsmouth and The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Thursday, October 2, 1884, Page 4 shows Dorsey playing for Dayton. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(17) Baseball Reference, Jerry Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/register/player.fcgi?id=dorsey004jer Accessed October 7, 2019
(18) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Thursday, June 19, 1884, Page 2. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(19) The Cincinnati Enquirer, Friday, June 20, 1884, Page 2. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(20) The Cincinnati Enquirer, Sunday, June 22, 1884, Page 10. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(21) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Saturday, June 28, 1884, Page 3. Accessed on

Newspapers.com.
(22) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Wednesday, July 2, 1884, Page 3. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(23) The Cincinnati Enquirer, Thursday, July 3, 1884, Page 2. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(24) The Cincinnati Enquirer, Friday, August 1, 1884, Page 1. Accessed on Newspapers.com.
(25) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Saturday, July 12, 1884, Page 3. Accessed on Newspapers.com. There is no box score and Dorsey is not mentioned in the game notes. An interesting comment in the summary states that Clarke of Portsmouth struck out 23 Dayton batters, four of whom reached first base due to 3 passed balls and a wild pitch.
(26) The Dayton Daily Evening Herald, Monday, July 14, 1884, Page 3. Accessed on Newspapers.com. There is no box score and Dorsey is not mentioned in the game notes.
(27) Google Maps, directions from Portsmouth, OH to Baltimore, MD. Accessed on October 7, 2019. Distance shown as 442 miles. Converted to Kilometers at 1.602, equals 676 KM. https://www.google.ca/maps/dir/Portsmouth,+Ohio,+USA/Baltimore,+MD,+USA/@39.0153902,$82.0687544,7 z /$ data $=!3 \mathrm{~m} 1!4 \mathrm{~b} 1!4 \mathrm{~m} 14!4 \mathrm{~m} 13!1 \mathrm{~m} 5!1 \mathrm{~m} 1!1 \mathrm{~s} 0 \times 88468 \mathrm{ae} 642216773: 0 \times 796 \mathrm{fe} 2 \mathrm{a} 0918 \mathrm{c} 478 \mathrm{a}!2$ m2!1d-82.9976742!2d38.7317431!1m5!1m1!1s0x89c803aed6f483b7:0x44896a84223e758!2m2!1d76.6121893!2d39.2903848!3e0 Accessed October 7, 2019
(28) Google Maps, directions from London, ON to Montreal, QC. Accessed on October 7, 2019. Distance shown as 720 kilometers.
https://www.google.ca/maps/dir/London,+ON/Montr\�\�al,+QC/@44.2280303,-
79.6544678,7z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0x882ef20ea88d9b0b:0x28c7d7699a056b95!2 m2!1d-81.2452768!2d42.9849233!1m5!1m1!1s0x4cc91a541c64b70d:0x654e3138211fefef!2m2!1d-
73.567256!2d45.5016889!3e0 Accessed October 7, 2019
(29) Trains of the era could travel as quickly as 80 miles per hour but only on straight, wellmaintained lines. In 1888 the train from London to Edinburgh averaged 40 miles per hour and this was used as an estimate for this article. Forty miles per hour equals 64 kilometers per hour.
https://www.quora.com/How-fast-would-trains-ordinarily-travel-in-Victorian-Britain-say-1860-s-and-how-fast-could-they-travel-if-they-absolutely-had-to Accessed October 7, 2019
(30) Train schedules from 1884 were not reviewed for this paper.
(31) Baseball Reference, Jerry Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/register/player.fcgi?id=dorsey004jer Accessed October 7, 2019
(32) The Sporting Life, June 25, 1884, Volume 3, Number 11, Page 4
(33) The Sporting Life, July 2, 1884, Volume 3, Number 12, Page 4
(34) Baseball reference, Joseph Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/d/dorseje01.shtml Accessed October 7, 2019
(35) The Sporting Life, July 16, 1884, Volume 3, Number 14, Page 5, Column 4
(36) St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Thursday, July 10, 1884, Page 8
(37) The Baltimore Sun, Thursday, July 10, 1884, Page 4
(38) Baseball Reference, Jerry Dorsey Overview Page. https://www.baseball-
reference.com/register/player.fcgi?id=dorsey004jer Accessed October 7, 2019

## Dick Fowler and Ripley’s Believe It Or Not!

On May 8, 2018 the Seattle Mariners' James "Big Maple" Paxton (born in Ladner, BC ) threw a no-hitter against the Toronto Blue Jays, becoming the first Canadianborn player to pitch a Major League no-no on Canadian soil ${ }^{(1)}$. He was also just the second Canuck to join the roster of pitchers with a no-hitter so as a result of Paxton's heroics the first to do so also had his name in the news: Dick Fowler ${ }^{(2)}$.


Richard John Fowler was born in Toronto in 1921. He began his professional career in 1939 and two years later he joined the Philadelphia Athletics to start a ten-year major league career. Fowler got into 221 games, including 170 as a starter, and he compiled a record of $66-79$ with an ERA of 4.41 and a WHIP of 1.493. He had seventy-five complete games, (three times as many as Clayton Kershaw has thrown in his career ${ }^{(4)}$ ) with eleven shutouts including a no hitter ${ }^{(5)}$.

That no-hitter was the second game of a double header on Sunday, September 9, 1945 at home in Philadelphia against St. Louis. Fowler left the field after pitching the top of the ninth inning locked in a scoreless duel with the Browns' Ox Miller before the Athletics' right fielder Hal Peck lead off the bottom of the ninth with a triple. Peck was driven home on a walk-off single by second baseman Irv Hall to confirm the no-hitter. Fowler walked four and struck out six in a game that lasted an unbelievable one hour and fifteen minutes ${ }^{(6)}$.

In 1960 Ripley Enterprises published a volume of Ripley's Believe It Or Not! cartoons related to sports:


One of them featured Dick Fowler's no hitter:


The book doesn't note when this cartoon originally appeared but it had to be some time between the no-hitter in 1945 and the book's publication fifteen years later.

Fans who follow the Blue Jays probably remember Roy Halladay getting to within one out of a no-hitter in his second big league start ${ }^{(9)}$ and Red Sox supporters may remember Billy Rohr having a similar result in his first game ${ }^{(10)}$ in 1967. But to complete a no hitter in one's first big league game? How come nobody mentioned
that about Fowler's game in the hoopla after Paxton's gem? There is one good reason: it wasn't Fowler's first game.

Dick Fowler made his major league debut in 1941, not 1945. He appeared in four games in 1941, then got into thirty-one more in $1942{ }^{(11)}$ before he was called into the Canadian Army with the $48^{\text {th }}$ Light Highlanders. There are reports that he wasn't sent overseas because his young son was ill ${ }^{(12)}$ or because he was injured in military training ${ }^{(13)}$ but, regardless of the circumstances, Fowler served out the war in Canada before his release from the military.

A Canadian Press story about Paxton's no-hitter noted that Fowler's game was his "first game in three years after serving in the Canadian Army..." (14). Maybe Ripley's was partially right. It may not have been his first game ever, but his first game after three years in the army is still pretty good.

But that wasn't the case. Fowler made his 1945 debut on September 1 and he had a few bullpen appearances before his first start. He was rusty, allowing twenty hits and five walks in eleven and two-thirds innings in three relief outings before putting it together in his fourth game.

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| Rk | Gcar | Gtm | Date | Tm |  | Opp | Rsit | Inngs | Dec | DR | IP | H | R | ER | BB | So | HR | HBP | ERA | BF | GB |
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| 2 | 37 | 127 | Sep 3(1) | PHA |  | NYY | L, 1-4 | 8-GF |  | 1 | 1.2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5.79 | 7 | 1 |
| 3 | 38 | 129 | Sep 5 (1) | PHA |  | CHW | L,6-15 | 3-GF |  | 1 | 7.0 | 13 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 8.49 | 36 | 12 |
| 4 | 39 | 137 | Sep 9 (2) | PHA |  | SLB | W,1-0 | SHO | W(1-0) | 3 | 9.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 4.79 | 29 | 11 |
| 5 | 40 | 143 | Sep 14 | PHA |  | DET | L, 0-1 | CG(5) | $\mathrm{L}(1-1)$ | 4 | 5.0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3.86 | 20 | 3 |
| 6 | 41 | 147 | Sep 19(1) | PHA | @ | BOS | L, 10-11 | 4-8 | $\mathrm{L}(1-2)$ | 4 | 4.2 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 5.04 | 24 | 5 |
| 7 | 42 | 152 | Sep 23(2) | PHA |  | WSH | L, 3-4 | GS-7 |  | 3 | 7.0 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4.82 | 34 | 11 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1-6 |  | W-L:1-2 | 2.7 | 37.1 | 41 | 21 | 20 | 18 | 21 | 1 | 0 | 4.82 | 167 | 1.12 |

(15)

The no-hitter was Fowler's lone win in 1945 and he remains the only pitcher throwing from sixty feet, six inches to have his only win in a season be a no-hitter ${ }^{(16)}$. Despite Mr. Ripley's claim, the no-hitter was not Fowler's first major league game; it was his thirty-ninth. And it was not his first game after missing three years because of his service in World War II; it was his fourth. But it was his first start in

## three years and it was the only Canadian no-hitter in the first 147 years of the major leagues. All in all, not too shabby.

## But Mr. Ripley, the answer to your question is: NOT!

## Footnotes

(1) https://www.mlb.com/news/james-paxton-throws-no-hitter-in-canada/c-275847096 Accessed October 9, 2019
(2) https://nationalpost.com/pmn/sports-pmn/baseball-sports-pmn/a-look-at-the-other-canadian-no-hitter-dick-fowlers-1945-gem-for-the-athletics Accessed October 9, 2019
(3) Dick Fowler 1950 Bowman card, https://www.tradingcarddb.com/GalleryP.cfm/pid/1899/DickFowler?ColType=0\&sYear=0\&sTeam=Philadelphia\ Athletics\&sCardNum=\&sNote=\&sSetName=

Accessed October 9, 2019
(4) Baseball Reference, Clayton Kershaw Overview Page. https://www.baseball-
reference.com/players/k/kershcl01.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(5) Baseball Reference, Dick Fowler Overview Page. https://www.baseball-
reference.com/players/f/fowledi01.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(6) Baseball Reference, MLB Scores \& Boxes, St. Louis Browns at Philadelphia Athletics Box Score, September 9, 1945. https://www.baseball-reference.com/boxes/PHA/PHA194509092.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(7) Originally published by Ripley Enterprises Inc. in 1960, republished by Scholastic Magazines Inc. $6{ }^{\text {th }}$ Printing, 1974
(8) Scholastic Book Services, 1974, page 23
(9) Roy Halladay pitched $82 / 3$ no hit innings in his second Major League game, in 1998:
https://www.freep.com/story/sports/mlb/tigers/2017/11/07/roy-halladay-death/842304001/
Accessed October 9, 2019
(10) Billy Rohr had 2 outs and a 1-2 count before giving up his first hit in his debut game in 1967.

SABR bio: https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/c3a6fa08 Accessed October 9, 2019
(11) Baseball Reference, Dick Fowler Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/f/fowledi01.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(12) https://cooperstownersincanada.com/2012/11/10/remembering-dick-fowler-the-canadian-army-vet-who-threw-a-no-hitter/ Accessed October 9, 2019
(13) http://www.baseballinwartime.com/player biographies/fowler dick.htm Accessed

October 9, 2019
(14) https://lethbridgenewsnow.com/article/602727/five-things-know-canadian-pitcher-james-paxtons-no-hitter Accessed October 9, 2019
(15) Baseball Reference, Dick Fowler 1945 Pitching Game Log $\quad$ https://www.baseballreference.com/players/gl.fcgi?id=fowledi01\&t=p\&year=1945 Accessed October 9, 2019
(16) Baseball Reference, Dick Fowler biography page. https://www.baseball-
reference.com/bullpen/Dick Fowler Accessed October 9, 2019. Bumpus Jones of the Cincinnati Reds pitched a no-hitter on the last day of the 1892 season in his major league debut. The mound was moved from 55 feet to its current distance to start the 1893 season.

## Who was Alison Gordon's "Favourite" Player?

Alison Gordon was a pioneer, becoming the first female beat writer for a major league team when she covered the Blue Jays for the Toronto Star from 1979 to $1984{ }^{(1)}$. Her contributions to baseball in Canada were recognized with the 2017 Jack Graney award ${ }^{(2)}$ but she unfortunately wasn't around to accept it because she passed away in 2015.

Gordon published her memoirs of her years in the press box with a book called Foul Balls: Five Years in the American League, released late in 1984. It was also published in the US as Foul Ball!.


The book contained a lot of funny and entertaining stories about the early years of the Blue Jays as they went from loveable losers to contenders. But there were also a lot of disturbing passages concerning the abuse Gordon had to withstand as one of the first of her gender in major league locker rooms. One in particular piqued my interest since Gordon kept the offender's name secret:
"I also met less savoury types that spring, one in particular whom I never will forget. His name is irrelevant, since only his mother remembers him, but he confirmed my most lurid fears about the new life I had chosen. He was a washed-up pitcher who had never amounted to much, but he yearned for a comeback. After playing for a while in Japan, he had come to the Jay camp for one last tryout. He was my age, an elderly thirty-six at the time, and when I met him I kidded him that the eyes of the old folks were on him, that he had to do well for all of us." ${ }^{(3)}$

That sounds like they had something in common and may have struck up a friendship. But they didn't. Gordon continued:
"I thought nothing more of it until a couple of nights later, when I ran into him in the hotel restaurant. He'd had a few. He signaled me over to the table and told me, with the earnestness that comes from the bottle, that he had an offer for me too splendid to pass up. It seems, as he told it, and I was never able (or perhaps, willing) to confirm the story, that the guys had taken to calling him grandpa and had taken up a collection for him. All he had to do to get $\$ 500$ was to take me to bed in front of witnesses.

He offered me $\$ 200$. Without discussing the insult of the implication that he deserved the bigger share, I politely declined. He couldn't believe it, and in a stage whisper clearly audible for several tables, he asked, with disbelief, for clarification." ${ }^{(4)}$

The passage continues in somewhat graphic detail, but you get the picture.
So, who was this "gentleman"?

- He was a pitcher.
- He had "never amounted to much".
- He was thirty-six at the time, which was Spring Training of 1979.
- And further along in the chapter Gordon noted that he was cut a week later, so he never played for the Jays.

The Blue Jays' 1980 Media Guide ${ }^{(5)}$ lists the spring training statistics from 1979, and it was a simple matter of reviewing each pitcher's career statistics to see which one was the best fit for these data points.

Eighteen pitchers appeared for the Blue Jays during their 1979 spring training schedule. Fourteen of them were in their twenties, including seven who weren't even twenty-five during training camp. Thirteen of the eighteen played for the Blue Jays during the 1979 regular season and two others were with Blue Jays' minor league affiliates, so only three of them were cut as Gordon described. Only one of the eighteen ever played in Japan. Putting all of that together one player's record fits rather nicely:

| Standard Pitching |  |  |  |  | Show Minors |  |  | Share \& more $V$ |  |  |  | Glossary |  |  | H | R | ER | HR | BB | 18B | so | HBP | BK | wo | Bf | ERA+ | FID | WHIP | H9 | HRo | B89 | Sos | so/w | Awards |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Age | Im | 19 | w | 1 | W-L\% | ERA | G | GS G | GF C | CG | SHO | sv | $1{ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1965 | 24 | ANA-min | A | ? | 2 | . 778 | 1.99 | 10 | 10 |  | 6 | 3. |  | 77.0 | 51 | 20 | 17 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 88 | 3 | 0 | 4 |  |  |  | 0.922 | 6.0 | 0.1 | 2.3 | 10.3 | 4.40 | QDS MIDW |
| 1966 | 25 | ANA-min | AA | 9 | 0 | 1.000 | 3.41 | 17 | 8 |  | 4 | 2 |  | 87.0 | 70 | 37 | 33 | 3 | 30 | 1 | 77 | 2 | 0 | 2 |  |  |  | 1.149 | 7.2 | 0.3 | 3.1 | 8.0 | 2.57 | ELP IL |
| 1966 | 25 | CAL | AL | 4 | 7 | . 364 | 3.74 | 20 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 91.1 | 92 | 39 | 38 | 11 | 25 | 4 | 37 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 380 | 89 | 4.16 | 1.281 | 9.1 | 1.1 | 2.5 | 3.6 | 1.48 |  |
| 1967 | 26 | ANA-min | AAA | 8 | 4 | . 667 | 3.07 | 13 | 13 |  | 5 | 0 |  | 88.0 | 79 | 39 | 30 | 3 | 35 | 1 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 2 |  |  |  | 1.295 | 8.1 | 0.3 | 3.6 | 7.4 | 2.06 | SLEPCL |
| 1967 | 26 | cal | A | 5 | 5 | . 500 | 3.26 | 20 | 11 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 77.1 | 76 | 33 | 28 | 5 | 24 | 2 | 35 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 323 | 96 | 3.44 | 1.293 | 8.8 | 0.6 | 2.8 | 4.1 | 1.46 |  |
| 1968 | 27 | cal | A | 10 | 6 | . 625 | 3.94 | 41 | 13 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 125.2 | 123 | 58 | 55 | 13 | 44 | 6 | 71 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 534 | 74 | 3.70 | 1.329 | 6.8 | 0.9 | 3.2 | 5.1 | 1.61 |  |
| 1969 | 28 | cal | A | 1 | 8 | 111 | 4.10 | 37 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 63.2 | 66 | 33 | 29 | 4 | 30 | 5 | 31 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 272 | 85 | 3.81 | 1.508 | 9.3 | 0.6 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 1.03 |  |
| 1970. | 29 | Cal | A 4 | 22 | 12 | ,647 | 2.83 | 39 | 39 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 260,2 | 226 | 97 | 82 | 24 | 88 | 4 | 110 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 1086 | 128 | 4.09 | 1.205 | 7.8 | 0.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 1.25 | AS.CYA-6.MVP-21 |
| 1971 | 30 | cal | (2) | 16 | 17 | . 485 | 2.99 | 37 | 37 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 276.2 | 225 | 105 | 92 | 17 | 82 | 10 | 135 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 1107 | 108 | 3.20 | 1.110 | 7.3 | 0.6 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 1.65 |  |
| 1972 | 31 | Cal | AL | 18 | 11 | . 621 | 2.98 | 35 | 35 | 0 | 15 | 2 | 0 | 251.0 | 229 | 101 | 83 | 14 | 80 | 6 | 87 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 1029 | 98 | 3.43 | 1.231 | 8.2 | 0.5 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 1.09 |  |
| 1973 | 32 | Cal | AL | 11 | 19 | . 367 | 3.68 | 37 | 36 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 257.0 | 273 | 120 | 105 | 26 | 76 | 0 | 65 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1102 | 96 | 4.30 | 1.358 | 9.6 | 0.9 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 0.86 |  |
| 1974 | 33 | MIL | AL | 9 | 20 | . 310 | 4.42 | 38 | 32 | 2 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 232.0 | 264 | 122 | 114 | 22 | 54 | 4 | 64 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 996 | 81 | 3.96 | 1.371 | 10.2 | 0.9 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 1.19 |  |
| 1975 | 34 | IEX | $\cdots$ | 4 | 6 | . 400 | 4.44 | 25 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 93.1 | 105 | 55 | 45 | 7 | 47 | 3 | 32 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 423 | 85 | 4.42 | 1.629 | 10.1 | 0.7 | 4.5 | 3.1 | 0.68 |  |
| 1976 | 35 | YOM | Fgn | 8 | 7 | . 533 | 3.32 | 21 | 21 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 130.0 | 123 | 54 | 48 | 6 | 44 | 3 | 51 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 541 |  |  | 1.285 | 8.5 | 0.4 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 1.16 | YOM JPCL |
| 1977 | 36 | Yom | Fgn | 11 | 9 | . 550 | 4.24 | 31 | 25 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 172.0 | 190 | 87 | 81 | 25 | 62 | 5 | 82 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 754 |  |  | 1.465 | 9.9 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 1.32 | Yom $\operatorname{PPCL}$ |
| 1978 | 37 | YOM | Fgn | 3 | 2 | ,600 | 4.97 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 38.0 | 29 | 21 | 21 | 6 | 20 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 160 |  |  | 1.289 | 6.9 | 1.4 | 4.7 | 2.1 | 0.45 | YOM IPCL |
| 10 Yrs |  |  |  | 100 | 111 | . 474 | 3.50 | 329 | 235 | 346 | 67 | 9 | 31 | 1728.2 | 1679 | 764 | 672 | 143 | 550 | 44 | 667 | 23 | 1 | 45 | 7252 | 96 | 3.82 | 1.289 | 8.7 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 3.5 | 1.21 |  |
| 162 Game Avg. |  |  |  | 12 | 13 | . 474 | 3.50 | 40 | 28 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 208 | 202 | 92 | 81 | 17 | 66 | 5 | so | 3 | 0 | 5 | 874 | 96 | 3.82 | 1.289 | 8.7 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 3.5 | 1.21 |  |
| CAL (8 yrs) |  |  |  | 87 | 85 | . 506 | 3.28 | 266 | 189 | 27 | 51 | 9 | 31 | 1403.1 | 1310 | 586 | 512 | 114 | 449 | 37 | 571 | 22 | 0 | 36 | 5833 | 100 | 3.76 | 1.253 | 8.4 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 3.7 | 1.27 |  |
| TEX (1 yr) |  |  |  | 4 | 6 | . 400 | 4.44 | 25 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 93.1 | 105 | 56 | 46 | 7 | 47 | 3 | 32 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 423 | 85 | 4.42 | 1.029 | 10.1 | 0.7 | 4.5 | 3.1 | 0.08 |  |
| MIL (1 yr) |  |  |  | 9 | 20 | . 310 | 4.42 | 38 | 32 | 21 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 232.0 | 264 | 122 | 114 | 22 | 54 | 4 | 64 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 996 | 81 | 3.96 | 1.371 | 10.2 | 0.9 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 1.19 |  |

The age is off: this player was thirty-seven in 1978 so thirty-eight in 1979, not thirtysix as Gordon recorded, but close enough. He pitched in the majors from 1966 through 1975 with a record of one hundred wins and one hundred and twelve losses. That included years of twenty-two, sixteen and eighteen wins from 1970 through 1972 with an All-Star Game appearance and a no-hitter ${ }^{(7)}$ in 1970. But that was followed by years of nineteen and twenty losses in 1973 and 1974. Perhaps "never amounted to much" is a bit harsh, but with a losing record and an above average ERA for his era we can slap him with the journeyman label.

The final confirmation is his three seasons with the Yomiuri Giants immediately preceding his spring appearance in Dunedin.

The incident described by Alison Gordon occurred over forty years ago and you would like to think that times have changed. But recent episodes with Gregg Zaun, Roberto Osuna, Jose Reyes, Steven Wright, Aroldis Chapman, Addison Russell and their ilk show that things have unfortunately not changed too much. But we can now "out" that player from 1979.

So who is our mystery man? Clyde Wright:


## Clyde Wright

Position: Pitcher
Bats: Right • Throws: Left
$6-1,180 \mathrm{lb}(185 \mathrm{~cm}, 81 \mathrm{~kg})$
Born: February 20, 1941 (Age: 77-188d) in Jefferson City, TN
Draft: Drafted by the California Angels in the 6th round of the 1965 MLB June Amateur Draft.
School: Carson-Newman College (Jefferson City, TN)
Debut: June 15, 1966 (Age 25-115d, 10,087th in MLB history)
vs MIN 9.0 IP, $4 \mathrm{H}, 4 \mathrm{SO}, 2 \mathrm{BB}, 1 \mathrm{ER}, \mathrm{W}$
Last Game: September 26, 1975 (Age 34-218d)
vs. KCR $0.0 \mathrm{IP}, 0 \mathrm{H}, 0 \mathrm{SO}, 1 \mathrm{BB}, 0 \mathrm{ER}$
Rookle Status: Exceeded rookie limits during 1966 season
Full Name: Clyde Wright
Nicknames: Skeeter
View Player Bio from the SABR BioProject
Relatives: Father of Jaret Wright

| SUMMARY | WAR | W | L | ERA | G | GS | SV | IP | SO | WHIP |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Career | 13.2 | 100 | 111 | 3.50 | 329 | 235 | 3 | 1728.2 | 667 | 1.289 |


(10)

(12)

## Footnotes

(1) https://www.thestar.com/sports/baseball/2015/02/12/pioneering-toronto-star-baseball-writer-alison-gordon-dead-at-72.html Accessed October 9, 2019
(2) http://baseballhalloffame.ca/museum/awards/ Accessed October 9, 2019
(3) Gordon, Alison: Foul Balls: Five Years in the American League, McClelland and Stewart Limited, 1984, pages 121-122.
(4) Gordon, Alison: Foul Balls: Five Years in the American League, McClelland and Stewart Limited, 1984, page 122.
(5) Toronto Blue Jays 1980 Media Guide, Page 110. The 1979 Media Guide shows that season's spring roster on pages 56 and 57 . Wright was not on the roster. The same media guide lists non-roster players invited to spring training on page 48 and Wright is not there either. So Wright was not on the off-season roster and he must have received a late invitation to training camp after the Media Guide had been published. The 1980 Media Guide's statistics of the 1979 spring exhibition season lists 18 pitchers. Their names and years of birth are: Tom Buskey (1947), Jeff Byrd (1956), Jim Clancy (1955), Mike Darr (1956), Butch Edge (1956), Dave Freisleben (1951), Jerry Garvin (1955), Phil Huffman (1958), Jesse Jefferson (1950), Don Kirkwood (1949), Dave Lemanczyk (1950), Mark Lemongello (1955), Balor Moore (1951), Tom Murphy (1945), Tom Underwood (1953), Mark Wiley (1948), Mike Willis (1950) and Clyde Wright (1941). All but Huffman and Wright were on the 1979 spring roster and Huffman was the only pitcher among the non-roster invitees listed in the 1979 Media Guide. Tom Buskey (32), Tom Murphy (33), Mark Wiley (31) and Clyde Wright (38) were the only four of these pitchers who were at least thirty years old on March 10,1979 when the Blue Jays played their first spring training game in 1979 ; Wright was the oldest by $41 / 2$ years. All but five of the 18 pitchers appeared during the 1979 regular season for the Blue Jays; those who did not were Jeff Byrd (released April 4, 1979 then pitched 26 games for Seattle's California League team in San Jose), Mike Darr (optioned to Triple-A Syracuse on March 25, 1979, pitched 25 games for the Blue Jays' Carolina League team in Kinston), Don Kirkwood (released April 4, 1979, did not pitch in organized baseball in 1979), Mark Wiley (pitched 27 games for the Blue Jays' International League team in Syracuse) and Clyde Wright (did not pitch in organized baseball in 1979). Clyde Wright is the only one of the 18
pitchers to have played in Japan. All of this information was found on each player's Baseball Reference Overview Page.
(6) Baseball Reference, Clyde Wright Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/w/wrighcl01.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(7) Baseball Reference, MLB Scores \& Boxes, Oakland Athletics at California Angels Box Score, July 3, 1970. https://www.baseball-reference.com/boxes/CAL/CAL197007030.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(8) Baseball Reference, Clyde Wright Overview Page. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/w/wrighcl01.shtml Accessed October 9, 2019
(9) http://www.vintagecardprices.com/card-profile/148945/1969-Topps-Clyde-Wright-583-

Baseball-Card-Value-Prices.htm Accessed October 9, 2019
(10) https://www.psacard.com/cardfacts/baseball-cards/1975-topps/clyde-wright-408/35697

Accessed October 9, 2019
(11) https://marketplace.beckett.com/custom/1350/1976-topps-559-clyde-wright-nmmt-
a21926 94121657 Accessed October 9, 2019
(12) http://baseballcardsinjapan.blogspot.com/2014/06/some-gets-clyde-davis-and-some-ebay.html Accessed October 9, 2019

## Shortest Complete Games

Complete games are going extinct. Since the current rule for Saves was enacted in the late 1960s the annual total has been declining:

| 1970 | 852 total complete games | 24 teams (35.5 average) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1980 | 856 total complete games | 26 teams (32.9 average) |
| 1990 | 429 total complete games | 26 teams (16.5 average) |
| 2000 | 234 total complete games | 30 teams (7.8 average) |
| 2010 | 165 total complete games | 30 teams (5.5 average) |

In 2019 the total for all thirty Major League teams was forty-five ${ }^{(1)}$, or an average of one and a half per team, and the leaders were Shane Bieber and Lucas Giolito with three apiece. Three pitchers tied for the National League lead with two each and only thirty-four pitchers had even a single complete game ${ }^{(2)}$. Fergie Jenkins on the other hand completed 267 of his 594 starts including a total of fifty-four games between 1970 and 1971, or nine more than all major pitchers completed between them in $2019{ }^{(3)}$.

Pop quiz: Who led the Blue Jays in Complete Games pitched in 2019? The team had one after having none in $2018{ }^{(4)}$.

Here's a hint. This is a list of all of the games where the Blue Jays' starter completed seven or more innings:

Results Share \& more $\mathbf{v}$ Glossary

| Rk | Player | Date | Tm | Opp | Rslt | App,Dec | IP | H | R | ER | E |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-04-19 | TOR | OAK | W 5-1 | GS-9, W | 8.0 | 6 | 1 | 1 |  |
| 2 | Jacob Waguespack | 2019-08-22 | TOR | LAD | L 2-3 | GS-7 | 7.0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 3 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-07-24 | TOR | CLE | L 0-4 | GS-7, L | 7.0 | 5 | 1 | 1 |  |
| 4 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-07-19 | TOR | DET | W 12-1 | GS-7, W | 7.0 | 6 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 5 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-06-18 | TOR | LAA | L 1-3 | GS-8, L | 7.0 | 4 | 3 | 3 |  |
| 6 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-06-01 | TOR | COL | L 2-4 | GS-7, L | 7.0 | 7 | 4 | 3 |  |
| 7 | Aaron Sanchez | 2019-05-07 | TOR | MIN | L 0-3 | GS-7, L | 7.0 | 6 | 3 | 3 |  |
| 8 | Trent Thornton | 2019-05-03 | TOR | TEX | W 1-0 | GS-7 | 7.0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 9 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-04-26 | TOR | OAK | W 4-2 | GS-7 | 7.0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 10 | Matt Shoemaker | 2019-04-03 | TOR | BAL | W 5-3 | GS-7, W | 7.0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 11 | Matt Shoemaker | 2019-03-29 | TOR | DET | W 6-0 | GS-7, W | 7.0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 12 | Marcus Stroman | 2019-03-28 | TOR | DET | L 0-2 | GS-7 | 7.0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |  |

Blue Jays starting pitchers lasted seven or more innings twelve times in 2019: seven games by Marcus Stroman, two by Matt Shoemaker and one each by Jacob Waguespack, Aaron Sanchez, and Trent Thornton. In ten of those games the starter didn't pitch after the end of the seventh inning.

The longest start by a Blue Jay pitcher in 2019 was on April 19 by Marcus Stroman. He finished eight innings and started the ninth inning with a 5-1 lead over Oakland but was replaced after surrendering a leadoff double ${ }^{(6)}$.

If no pitcher finished nine innings, how did the Jays get a complete game? Here's another hint:

|  |  | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{H}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (2) | Toronto Blue Jays | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| Chicago White Sox | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | $x$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | (7)

This game was played in Chicago on May 18 and was stopped by rain after the Jays batted in the top of the fifth inning. Since Chicago was ahead at that time the game was considered complete and the two pitchers of record received a decision. If it had stopped at the same time but with the game tied or Toronto ahead it would have been a suspended game to be finished later ${ }^{(8)}$.

Toronto's starter that day was lefty knuckleballer Ryan Feierabend in his Blue Jays debut.

(9)

Feierabend pitched the first four innings and, since the game never got to the bottom of the fifth, it was considered a four-inning complete game ${ }^{(10)}$.

Was this the Blue Jays record? Yes it was. The
previous shortest complete game in Jays' history was five innings when Jim Clancy pitched a shortened shutout at home against Baltimore on September 15, 1977 ${ }^{(11)}$. Unlike the 2019 game, that one ended when the Orioles forfeited before the Jays batted in the bottom of the fifth inning because Baltimore manager Earl Weaver unsuccessfully argued to have a tarpaulin removed from the Toronto bullpen ${ }^{(12)}$. Not only was Clancy credited with a complete game shutout, but Orioles starter Ross Grimsley, like Feierabend, got credit for a four-inning complete game loss ${ }^{(13)}$.

How often has a pitcher completed a game with no more than four innings pitched? It's very rare, occurring only five times in the Expansion Era (i.e. since 1961):

| Rk | Player | Date | Tm | Opp | Rslt | App,Dec | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO | HR |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Ryan Feierabend | 2019-05-18 | TOR | CHW | L 1-4 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | Steve Trachsel | 2006-05-11 | NYM | PHI | L 0-2 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | Pete Smith | 1990-05-09 | ATL | CHC | L 0-4 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | Ross Grimsley | 1977-09-15 | BAL | TOR | L 0-4 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 5 | Dick Drago | 1971-07-30 | KCR | BAL | L 0-1 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |

How about if we go further back?

| Rk | Player | Date | Tm | Opp | Rsit | App,Dec | IP | H | R | ER | BB | So | HR |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Bugs Raymond | 1908-09-27 (2) | STL | CIN | L 1-6 | CG, L | 4.0 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 2 | Red Ames | 1909-10-04 (2) | NYG | PHI | W 1-1 | CG, W | 4.0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 3 | Lew Moren | 1909-10-04 (2) | PHI | NYG | L 1-1 | CG, L | 3.2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 4 | Buck O'Brien | 1912-09-17 (2) | BOS | CLE | L 2-3 | CG, L | 4.0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| 5 | Slim Sallee | 1913-07-06 (2) | STL | CHC | W 5-1 | CG, w | 3.0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 6 | Curly Brown | 1913-10-05 (2) | SLB | CLE | L 3-4 | CG, L | 4.0 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 7 | Red Faber | 1914-09-07 (2) | CHW | DET | L 0-3 | CG, L | 4.0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 8 | Chief Johnson | 1914-10-04 (2) | KCP | IND | L 0-4 | CG, L | 4.0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 0 |
| 9 | Fritz Coumbe | 1918-07-19 | CLE | PHA | L 0-2 | CG, L | 4.0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 10 | Al Mamaux | 1919-06-16 | BRO | STL | L 0-2 | CG, L | 4.0 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| 11 | Whitey Glazner | 1923-07-22 | PHI | NYG | L 4-5 | CG, L | 4.0 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 12 | Danny MacFayden | 1932-09-09 (2) | NYY | DET | L 1-4 | CG, L | 4.0 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 |
| 13 | Stew Bowers | 1935-09-29 (2) | BOS | NYY | L 0-4 | CG, L | 4.0 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 14 | Whit Wyatt | 1937-09-29 (2) | CLE | CHW | L 0-1 | CG, L | 4.0 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| 15 | Bill Cox | 1939-09-24 (2) | SLB | CHW | L 3-4 | CG, L | 4.0 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| 16 | Don Larsen | 1958-07-30 | NYY | KCA | L 0-2 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 17 | Dick Drago | 1971-07-30 | KCR | BAL | L 0-1 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| 18 | Ross Grimsley | 1977-09-15 | BAL | TOR | L 0-4 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 19 | Pete Smith | 1990-05-09 | ATL | CHC | L 0-4 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 20 | Steve Trachsel | 2006-05-11 | NYM | PHI | L 0-2 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 21 | Ryan Feierabend | 2019-05-18 | TOR | CHW | L 1-4 | CG(4), L | 4.0 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

There have been twenty-one such games in the Retrosheet era, going back to 1908. The second and third games in the list are the same game, which was the case of a forfeit due to ejected players refusing to leave the field in the bottom of the fourth inning of a 1-1 tie. The winner only pitched four innings and the loser lasted three and two thirds, but the game was still considered complete. The fifth game was also a forfeit as the losing team was stalling to avoid a pre-arranged curfew ${ }^{(16)}$. The Jim Clancy start was the fourth of these games ending in a forfeit and the other seventeen were rain-shortened games.

Ryan Feierabend appeared in two games for the Blue Jays in 2019 and only pitched five and two thirds innings ${ }^{(17)}$ but the first of his two games put him in the history books with the only complete game for the Jays in 2019, the shortest complete game in Blue Jays' history and tied for the shortest complete game in a non-forfeit situation since 1908.

## Footnotes

(1) Baseball Reference MLB Team Statistics for 2019, 2010, 2000, 1990, 1980, 1970 https://www.baseball-reference.com/leagues/MLB/2019.shtml Accessed October 21, 2019.
(2) Baseball Reference Play Index, Pitching Season and Career Finder, Find Single Season Totals / Years = 2019 to 2019 / CG >= 1 / Sort by Complete Games https://www.baseball-reference.com/playindex/season finder.cgi?type=p Accessed October 21, 2019.
Madison Bumgarner pitched the first 9 innings on July 18 in a game that the Giants won over the Mets in 16 innings so this was not a complete game and isn't included in the total of 45.37 of the 45 complete games lasted 9 innings. Justin Verlander lost 2-1 to Detroit on August 21 and the other 36 pitchers to complete 9 innings won their games. Verlander and Mike Fiers pitched no-hitters and their games were the only ones with 120 or more pitches. Ariel Jurado of Texas pitched an 8-inning complete game in a road loss to Chicago (AL) and 7 complete games were in rain-shortened games of 6 or fewer innings. Derek Holland and Jameson Taillon each went 5 innings on April 20 and Lucas Giolito pitched 5 innings in Feierabend's loss. Other than these two shortened games there wasn't an instance of two pitchers facing off for an opposing complete game.
(3) Baseball Reference Fergie Jenkins overview page https://www.baseballreference.com/players/i/ienkife01.shtml Accessed October 21, 2019
(4) Baseball Reference Toronto Blue Jays Team Yearly Pitching Stats https://www.baseballreference.com/teams/TOR/pitchteam.shtml Accessed October 18, 2019

(5) Baseball Reference Pitching Game Finder: Find all Matching Games / Years = 2019 to 2019 / Pitcher's Role = Starter / Player's League and Team = AL only and Blue Jays / Additional Criteria: IP >= 7 / Sort by IP
https://www.baseball-reference.com/playindex/game finder.cgi?request=1\&match=basic\&series=any\&series game=any\&min year game=2019 \&max year game=2019\&Role=GS\&DEC=any\&WL=any\&team $\mathrm{lg}=\mathrm{AL} \& t e a m$ id=TOR\&opp id=ANY\&gam e length=any\&throws=any\&HV=any\&is birthday=either\&temperature min=0\&temperature max=120 \& wind speed $\mathrm{min}=0 \&$ wind speed $\max =90 \& a s=r e s u l t$ pitcher\&class=player\&offset=0\&type=p\&c1crite ria=|Pouts\&c1gtlt=gt\&c1val=7\&c2gtlt=gt\&c3gtlt=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gtlt=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location=pob\&loca tionMatch=is\&orderby=IPouts\&number matched=1 , accessed October 18, 2019
(6) Baseball Reference Toronto Blue Jays at Oakland Athletics Box Score, April 19, 2019 https://www.baseball-reference.com/boxes/OAK/OAK201904190.shtml, accessed October 18, 2019
(7) Baseball Reference Toronto Blue Jays at Chicago White Sox Box Score, May 18, 2019 https://www.baseball-reference.com/boxes/CHA/CHA201905180.shtml, accessed October 18, 2019
(8) Rule 7.02 (4.12) Suspended, Postponed, and Tie Games, (a) (5) - (8). Baseball Rules Academy https://baseballrulesacademy.com/user/official-rules/mlb/7-02-4-12-suspended-postponed-tie-games/, accessed October 21, 2019.
(9) Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher Ryan Feierabend throws against the Chicago White Sox. (Nam Y. Huh/AP) https://ca.sports.yahoo.com/news/ryan-feierabends-unique-style-cant-save-him-in-blue-jays-debut-225628943.html, accessed October 22, 2019
(10) Jaffe, Jay, Ryan Feierabend Brought the Knuckleball Back to the Majors, Fan Graphics, May 20, 2019 https://blogs.fangraphs.com/ryan-feierabend-brought-the-knuckleball-back-to-the-majors/, accessed October 22, 2019
(11) Baseball Reference Pitching Game Finder: Find all Matching Games / Years = 1977 to 2019 / Pitcher's Role = CG / Player's League and Team = AL only and Blue Jays / Additional Criteria: IP <= 7 / Sort by Date of Game
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/game finder.cgi?request=1\&match=basic\&series=any\&series game=any\&min year game=1908 \&max year game=2019\&Role=CG\&DEC=any\&WL=any\&team $I g=A L \& t e a m ~ i d=T O R \& g a m e ~ l e n g t h=a n y ~$ \&throws=any\&HV=any\&is birthday=either\&temperature min=0\&temperature max=120\&wind speed min=0\&wind speed max=90\&as=result pitcher\&class=player\&offset=0\&type=p\&c1criteria=|Pouts\&c1 gtt=|t\&c1val=5\&c2gtlt=gt\&c3gtlt=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gtlt=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location=pob\&locationMatch=is\& orderby=date game\&number matched=1\&order by asc=1, accessed October 18, 2019
(12) Retrosheet List of Noteworthy Events, Forfeits https://www.retrosheet.org/forfeits.htm, accessed October 22, 2019 " 09/15/1977 - Baltimore at Toronto - AL - The Orioles were behind 4-0 in the bottom of the fifth inning when manager Earl Weaver asked umpire Marty Springstead to have a tarpaulin that was covering the Toronto bullpen area removed. The game was being played in a light rain and

Weaver felt that the tarpaulin posed an injury risk to his left fielder. The umpire refused and Weaver pulled his team from the field. Springstead waited 15 minutes for the team to retake the field before declaring the forfeit. - New York Times; 09/16/1977, p 93 (Orioles)"
(13) Baseball Reference Baltimore Orioles at Toronto Blue Jays Box Score, September 15, 1977
https://www.baseball-reference.com/boxes/TOR/TOR197709150.shtml, accessed October 22, 2019
(14) Baseball Reference Pitching Game Finder: Find all Matching Games / Years = 1908 to 2019 /

Pitcher's Role = CG / Additional Criteria: IP <=4 / Sort by Date of Game
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/game finder.cgi?request=1\&match=basic\&series=any\&series game=any\&min year game=1908 \&max year game=2019\&Role=CG\&DEC=any\&WL=any\&team id=ANY\&opp id=ANY\&game length=any \&throws=any\&HV=any\&is birthday=either\&temperature min=0\&temperature max=120\&wind speed min=0\&wind speed max=90\&as=result pitcher\&class=player\&offset=0\&type=p\&c1criteria=|Pouts\&c1 gtlt=eq\&c1val=4\&c2gtlt=gt\&c3gtlt=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gtlt=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location=pob\&locationMatch=is \&orderby=date game\&number matched=1\&order by asc=1 , accessed October 18, 2019 (15) Ibid
(16) Retrosheet List of Noteworthy Events, Forfeits https://www.retrosheet.org/forfeits.htm, accessed October 22, 2019 "10/04/1909 - Philadelphia at New York - NL - In the 4th inning of the second game of a doubleheader and the last game of the season, Phillies pitcher Lew Moren complained about a pitch being called a ball. By the time the argument was over, umpire John Mullin had ejected Moren, Otto Knabe and Red Dooin. The latter two players refused to leave and the game was forfeited to New York. At the time of the forfeit, the score was tied at one run each. - Washington Post, 10/05/1909, p 8 (forfeit)" and "07/06/1913-St. Louis at Chicago - NL - The second game of a doubleheader was forfeited to St. Louis by umpire Mal Eason. Both managers had agreed before the start of the game that it would end at 5 PM to allow the visiting team to catch a train to the east. Chicago manager Johnny Evers started Orval Overall, who had not started a game in over a month while nursing a bad back. Overall allowed three runs in the first inning. When Chicago came to bat in the second, they started to stall. Overall came to the plate and took a strike. Evers then summoned a player in the clubhouse as a pinch hitter, who took his time coming to the plate. When the pitcher started his wind up, the batter stepped away to wipe his eyes. The umpire called a strike. The next inning the new pitcher, Ed Ruelbach, took his time warming up. In the fourth St. Louis' Ivey Wingo laid down a bunt. The pitcher threw the ball wild to first base and Wingo headed for second. The ball came in to second but no effort was made to put the runner out. Wingo headed for third and no play was made on him again. The umpire had enough and called the game. - New York Times; 07/07/1913, p 6 (St. Louis)"
(17) Baseball Reference Ryan Feierabend Overview Page https://www.baseballreference.com/players/f/feierry01.shtml, accessed October 22, 2019

## Homering in the Homeland - an Update

On May 11, 2005 the Blue Jays and the Royals played a 12:37 PM Camp Day game at the Rogers Centre. It was a slugfest won by the Jays 12-9 thanks to a five run outburst in the bottom of the eighth inning. Notable that game was that in the top of the seventh inning Matt Stairs of Fredericton, NB homered to give the Royals a 9-7 lead, and then in the bottom of the eighth inning Corey Koskie of Anola, MB went deep for the Jays in their comeback rally ${ }^{(1)}$.

Canadians had previously hit home runs in Canada; Koskie's was his fourth in Toronto in 2005 alone ${ }^{(2)}$. More than one Canadian had homered in the same game a few times before, including Koskie and his Twins teammate Justin Morneau of New Westminster, BC the year before ${ }^{(3)}$. But was this the first time that two Canadians had homered in the same game in Canada?

A paper summarizing this research was presented at a Toronto SABR chapter meeting in 2006. It turned out that May 11, 2005 was the first time two Canadians went deep in a game played in Canada. Since then over 100 more all-Canadian homers have been hit ${ }^{(4)}$ and this is a summary of some of the facts found since the original research was completed in 2005. But first, a few definitions:

## Games Played in Canada

The Expos played their home games in Montreal from 1969 through 2004 and the Blue Jays have played in Toronto since 1977; they account for over 6,000 Major League games having been played in Canada through 2019. Were any games played in Canada before then? Information for games played away for both teams' home stadiums can be found on Retrosheet.org's Alternate Site Games Special List ${ }^{(5)}$.

This list shows all of the games that have been played away for the usual home stadiums of both teams. A recent example is the games that the Yankees and Red Sox played in London, England in 2019. Other neutral site games have been played in Japan, Australia, Mexico and Puerto Rico and in US cities like Omaha, NB, Williamsport, PA and Fort Bragg, NC. Based on the Retrosheet list there has not been a neutral site, regular season game played in Canada since 1901. The list for $19^{\text {th }}$ century games is incomplete and ongoing research has yet to find one played in Canada. Since no known regular season major league games were played in

Canada before the Expos' debut this analysis can be limited to a review of the home games played by the Expos and Blue Jays to find instances of a Canadian hitting a home run in Canada.

The Expos lost some home games to labour strife in 1972 (three games), 1981 (twenty-five), 1994 (twenty-nine) and 1995 (nine) and they played forty-three home games in Puerto Rico between 2003 (twenty-two) and 2004 (twenty-one). Twelve home games were shifted to the road in 1991 because of structural damage at the Olympic Stadium, and over the years nine games were rained out and either played elsewhere (five) or cancelled altogether (four). Overall the Expos played 641 games at Jarry Park between 1969 and 1976 and 2,145 games in the Olympic Stadium from 1977 through 2004, for a total of 2,786 games in Montreal ${ }^{(6)}$. Five postseason games were played in the Olympic Stadium in 1981, as was the 1982 All-Star Game. These six games were included in the review but pre-season and other exhibition games were not.

Like the Expos, labour troubles cut the Blue Jays' seasons short in 1981 (twentyeight games lost), 1994 (twenty-two) and 1995 (nine). There were a couple of rainouts that weren't made up in the Exhibition Stadium days (one each in 1977 and 1985) and the 2010 G20 Toronto Summit caused three home games to be moved to Philadelphia. The Jays have otherwise played a full slate of home games: 968 in Exhibition Stadium from 1977 through early 1989 and 2,451 at the SkyDome/Rogers Centre from mid-1989 through 2019, for a total 3,419 games in Toronto ${ }^{(7)}$. Furthermore, the 1991 All-Star Game and thirty-three post season games have been played in Toronto (four in Exhibition Stadium and twenty-nine in SkyDome / Rogers Centre), and these were also reviewed.

Altogether there have been 6,205 regular season major league games, thirty-eight post-season games and two All-Star games played in Canada for a total of 6,245.

## Canadian Players

Only players with a Canadian place of birth have been included in this analysis. Players born elsewhere and raised in Canada or others with Canadian ties like parents born in Canada have been excluded. Those other players' nationalities are sometimes a question of nuance and opinion rather than fact so using place of birth to determine if a player is Canadian made the research a lot easier. But this
assumption raises a question: is Canadian-born, Dominican Republic-raised Vladimir Guerrero Jr. more Canadian than US-born, Canadian-raised Chris Reitsma? Foreign-born Canadians will be reviewed in future updates but for now only those born in Canada have been included.

Since no Canadian neutral site games have been found, the search for Canadian home runs in Canada can be limited to games played since 1969. In the fifty-one seasons since the Expos' first game there have been a total of one hundred and fifteen Canadian-born major leaguers, but only forty-two of them ever hit a home run ${ }^{(8)}$. The Baseball Reference Overview page for each of the forty-two players was reviewed to see who hit a home run in either Montreal or Toronto ${ }^{(9)}$.

Each player's Baseball Reference game log was examined to find the games when they hit home runs in Canada ${ }^{(10)}$. Through the 2019 season this has happened 197 times, 196 in the regular season and once in the playoffs.

## Firsts

- First Canadian-born player to hit a home run in Canada: Dave McKay, Blue Jays, May 4, 1977
- First in Montreal: Terry Puhl, Astros, July 25, 1980
- First Expo in Montreal: Larry Walker, Expos, June 22, 1990
- First Grand Slam: Terry Puhl, Astros, May 4, 1986
- First back-to-back games: Larry Walker, Expos, June 29-30, 1990
- First 2-homer game: Larry Walker, Expos, June 28, 1992
- First 3-homer game: Larry Walker, Rockies, April 5, 1997
- First lead-off homer: Brett Lawrie, Blue Jays, May 2, 2013
- First walk-off homer: Dave McKay, Blue Jays, August 26, 1978 ( $10^{\text {th }}$ inning)
- First post-season homer: Russell Martin, Blue Jays, ALDS vs. Texas, October 9, 2016
- First off a Canadian pitcher: Matt Stairs, As off Paul Spoljaric, Blue Jays, August 13, 1999
- First game with two different Canadians: Matt Stairs, Royals and Corey Koskie, Blue Jays, May 11, 2005


## Leaders

Most home runs hit in Canada by a Canadian Born Player - Career
Larry Walker 58

Russell Martin 36 ( 35 regular season, 1 post-season)
Brett Lawrie 23
Matt Stairs 22
Michael Saunders 15
Dave McKay 6
Corey Koskie 6
Justin Morneau 6
Terry Puhl 5
Jason Bay $\quad 5$ (plus 2 vs Montreal in Puerto Rico)
Vladimir Guerrero Jr. 5
Joey Votto 3
Rob Ducey 2
Dalton Pompey 2
Aaron Guiel 1
Adam Loewen 1
Abraham Toro 1
Most home runs hit in Canada by a Canadian Born Player - Season
Larry Walker (Expos) 13 (1992)
Larry Walker (Expos) 13 (1993)
Russell Martin (Blue Jays) 13 (2015)
Michael Saunders (Blue Jays) 10 (2016)
Larry Walker (Expos) 9 (1990)
Russell Martin (Blue Jays) 9 (2016) - 8 regular season, 1 post season
Russell Martin (Blue Jays) 8 (2017)
Larry Walker (Expos) 7 (1994)
Matt Stairs (Blue Jays) 7 (2007)
Brett Lawrie (Blue Jays) 7 (2012)
Brett Lawrie (Blue Jays) 7 (2014)
Matt Stairs (Blue Jays) 6 (2008)
Larry Walker (Expos) 5 (1991)
Corey Koskie (Blue Jays) 5 (2005)
Brett Lawrie (Blue Jays) 5 (2011)

| Vladimir Guerrero Jr. (Blue Jays) | $5(2019)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Dave McKay (Blue Jays) | $4(1978)$ |
| Larry Walker | $4(1997)$ |
| Brett Lawrie (Blue Jays) | $4(2013)$ |
| Russell Martin (Blue Jays) | $4(2018)$ |
| Matt Stairs | $3(1999)$ |
| Jason Bay | $3(2008)$ |
| Justin Morneau | $3(2010)$ |
| Dave McKay (Blue Jays) | $2(1977)$ |
| Matt Stairs | $2(2003)$ |
| Larry Walker | $2(2005)$ |
| Justin Morneau | $2(2007)$ |
| Michael Saunders | $2(2012)$ |
| Michael Saunders | $2(2013)$ |
| Joey Votto | $2(2017)$ |
| Terry Puhl | $1(1980)$ |
| Terry Puhl | $1(1983)$ |
| Terry Puhl | $1(1984)$ |
| Terry Puhl | $1(1986)$ |
| Terry Puhl | $1(1988)$ |
| Rob Ducey (Blue Jays) | $1(1987)$ |
| Larry Walker | $1(1995)$ |
| Matt Stairs | $1(1996)$ |
| Larry Walker | $1(1999)$ |
| Larry Walker | $1(2000)$ |
| Matt Stairs | $1(2000)$ |
| Rob Ducey (Expos) | $1(2001)$ |
| Jarry Walker | $1(2001)$ |
| Jorey Koskie | $1(2002)$ |
| Larry Walker Morneau | $1(2002)$ |
| Aaron Guiel | $1(2004)$ |
| Matt Stairs | $1(2004)$ |
| Matt Stairs | $1(2007)$ |
| Jassell Martin | $1(2009)$ |



2012 10
2017
1990
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1974
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8877766

19750
19760
19790
19810
19820
19850
19890
1998 0
20060

Grand Slams

| Terry Puhl | 1 (May 4, 1986) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Matt Stairs | 1 (August 13, 1999) |
| Larry Walker | 1 (August 11, 2000) |
| Brett Lawrie (Blue Jays) | 1 (August 10, 2011) |
| Michael Saunders | 1 (April 27, 2012) |

Walk Offs

Larry Walker (Expos)
Brett Lawrie (Blue Jays)
Dave McKay (Blue Jays)

3 (September 13 and 29, 1992, May 29, 1994)
2 (September 5, 2011, May 1, 2012)
1 (August 26, 1978)

Seasons with the most Canadian-born players hitting a home run in Canada

2005
2007
2009
2012
2013
1999
2000
2001
2002
2004
2008
2010
2011
2014

3 (Walker, Stairs, Koskie)
3 (Stairs, Martin, Morneau)
3 (Bay, Votto, Morneau)
3 (Lawrie, Saunders, Martin)
3 (Lawrie, Saunders, Bay)
2 (Walker, Stairs)
2 (Walker, Stairs)
2 (Walker, Ducey)
2 (Walker, Koskie)
2 (Stairs, Guiel)
2 (Stairs, Bay)
2 (Morneau, Saunders)
2 (Lawrie, Loewen)
2 (Lawrie, Pompey)

2015
2016
2017
2019
1977
1978
1980
1983
1984
1986
1987
1988
1990
1991
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
1997
2003
2018
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
1974
1975
1976
1979
1981
1982
1985
1989
1998
2006

```
2 (Martin, Pompey)
2 (Martin, Saunders)
2 (Martin, Votto)
2 (Guerrero Jr., Toro)
1 (McKay)
1 (McKay)
1 (Puhl)
1 (Puhl)
1 (Puhl)
1 (Puhl)
1 (Puhl)
1 (Puhl)
1 (Walker)
1 (Walker)
1 (Walker)
1 (Walker)
1 (Walker)
1 (Walker)
1 (Stairs)
1 (Walker)
1 (Stairs)
1 (Martin)
0
0
0
0
0
0
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0
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0
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0
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Stadium Totals for home runs hit by Canadians
SkyDome/Rogers Centre, Toronto 128
Olympic Stadium, Montreal 62
Exhibition Stadium, Toronto 7
Jarry Park, Montreal

## Canadian Batter off Canadian Pitcher

August 13, 1999 Matt Stairs, Oakland off Paul Spoljaric, Toronto (grand slam)
May 2, 2013 Brett Lawrie, Toronto off Ryan Dempster, Boston (lead off)
June 22, 2016 Michael Saunders, Toronto off James Paxton, Seattle
Pitchers who surrendered Multiple all-Canadian home runs

| Roy Halladay | 4 | Stairs (May 5, 2004), Bay (September 20, 2008 and <br> August 19, 2009), Morneau (September 9, 2009) |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Shawn Camp | 3 | Votto (June 25, 2009), Bay (August 18, 2009), <br> Morneau (May 17, 2010) |
| James Shields | 3 | Stairs (July 28, 2008), Lawrie (August 26, 2011), <br> Martin (June 18, 2017) |
| Craig Breslow | 2 | Lawrie (August 10, 2011), Martin (July 2, 2015) <br> Stairs (May 6, 1999), Ducey (June 15, 2001) |
| Chris Carpenter | 2 | Lawrie (June 30, 2012), Martin (May 5, 2015) |
| David Carpenter | 2 | Saunders (May 4, 2013) - 2 homer game |
| R.A. Dickey | 2 | 2 | | Walker (June 15, 2005) - 2 homer game |
| :--- |
| Chad Gaudin |

## Montreal / Toronto Interleague Games

June 15, 2001 Rob Ducey, Expos off Chris Carpenter, Blue Jays, in Montreal

## Footnotes

(1) Baseball Reference Kansas City Royals at Toronto Blue Jays Box Score, May 11, 2005. https://www.baseball-reference.com/boxes/TOR/TOR200505110.shtml, accessed October 17, 2009.
(2) Baseball Reference Corey Koskie 2005 Batting Game Log. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/gl.fcgi?id=koskico01\&t=b\&year=2005, accessed October 17, 2009.
(3) Justin Morneau and Corey Koskie both played for the Minnesota Twins in 2004. Koskie hit 25 home runs and Morneau hit 19. They each hit a home run in the games played on August 3, 17 and 21. Baseball Reference Corey Koskie 2004 Batting Game Log. https://www.baseballreference.com/players/gl.fcgi?id=koskico01\&t=b\&year=2004 and Justin Morneau 2004 Batting Game Log. https://www.baseball-reference.com/players/gl.fcgi?id=morneju01\&t=b\&year=2004, accessed October 18, 2019.
(4) Baseball Reference was used to identify all home runs hit in Canada by Canadians. The research methodology is described in the paper. Accessed between October 10 and 17, 2019.
(5) Retrosheet Alternate Site Games Since 1901. https://retrosheet.org/neutral.htm, accessed October 17, 2009.
(6) Baseball Reference, Montreal Expos Schedule page for each year between 1969 and 2004. https://www.baseball-reference.com/teams/MON/1969-schedule-scores.shtml and others, accessed on October 17, 2019
(7) Baseball Reference, Toronto Blue Jays Schedule page for each year between 1977 and 2019. https://www.baseball-reference.com/teams/TOR/1977-schedule-scores.shtml and others, accessed October 17, 2019
(8) Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder / Find Totals for Combined Seasons or Careers / Years 1969 to 2019 / Place of Birth = Canada / Sort by HR. https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=1\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=196 9\&max year season=2019\&min season=1\&max season=-
1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g $|D=|g A n y \&| g A L$ team=tmAny\&IgNL team=tmAny\&|gFL team=tmAny\&| gAA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&IgUA team=tmAny\&IgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF =either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos 4=1\&pos $5=1 \& p o s 6=1 \& p o s ~ 7=1 \& p o s ~ 8=1 \& p o s ~ 9=1 \& p o s 10=1 \& p o s \quad 11=1 \& g a m e s ~ m i n ~ m a x=m i n \& ~$ qualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasVaIC=3 000\&mingamesValC=1000\&c1gt|t=gt\&c2gt|t=gt\&c3gt|t=gt\&c4gt|t=gt\&c5gt|t=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location=po b\&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=HR\&number matched=1, accessed October 10, 2019
(9) Baseball Reference, Player Overview, Splits / Batting / Career / Ballparks table for each of the 42 Canadian-born players who hit a home run between 1969 and 2019. Accessed October 15. For each home run hit in Canada the following information was compiled in an Excel spreadsheet: player name, city and province of birth, date of home run, city and stadium where the home run was hit, the player's team, the opposing pitcher and his team, the name of the winning team, the inning, number of outs and number of base runners when the home run was hit, if it was a multiple home run game, if it was an interleague game and other relevant items like: lead-off home run, walk-off home run, first home run in a player's career, etc.
(10) Baseball Reference, Player Game Logs for each of the 42 Canadian-born players who hit a home run between 1969 and 2019. Accessed October 15.
(11) Only 9 Canadian-born players appeared in National League games during the years that the Expos played at Jarry Park (1969 to 1976) and Fergie Jenkins was the only one to hit any home runs during that period. He hit 11 in total including a 2-home run game against the Expos on September 1, 1971 but that game was played in Chicago. None of his other home runs were hit in games played in Montreal in 26 plate appearances. Reggie Cleveland had 25 plate appearances in Jarry Park without a home run, Claude Raymond had 6 and Larry Landreth 2. Ron Taylor (8 games), Bill Atkinson (2) and Ken Crosby (1) all played in Jarry Park but didn't bat and Brian Ostrosser and Mike Kilkenny, the other two Canadians, never appeared in a game in Montreal. There were a total of 59 plate appearances in Jarry Park by Canadianborn players, all pitchers. They combined for 9 hits in 52 at bats: 4 singles and a double by Jenkins and 4 singles by Cleveland. Jenkins and Cleveland each walked 2 times, Jenkins had a sacrifice fly and Cleveland and Raymond each had a sacrifice bunt. Jenkins and Cleveland each scored a run and Jenkins drove in 3 runs. Their combined slash line was .173/.228/.192. Baseball Reference Play Index, Batting Season \& Career Finder / Find Totals for Combined Seasons or Careers / Years 1969 to 1976 / League = National League / Place of Birth = Canada / Sort by HR.
https://www.baseball-reference.com/play-
index/season finder.cgi?request=1\&sum=1\&as=result batter\&offset=0\&type=b\&min year season=196 9\&max year season=1976\&min season=1\&max season=-
1\&min age=0\&max age=99\&|g ID=IgNL\&|gAL team=tmAny\&|gNL team=tmAny\&lgFL team=tmAny\&lg AA team=tmAny\&IgPL team=tmAny\&lgUA team=tmAny\&IgNA team=tmAny\&isActive=either\&isHOF= either\&isAllstar=either\&bats=any\&throws=any\&exactness=anypos\&pos 1=1\&pos 2=1\&pos 3=1\&pos $4=1 \&$ pos $5=1 \& \operatorname{pos} 6=1 \& p o s \quad 7=1 \& p o s \quad 8=1 \& p o s \quad 9=1 \& p o s \quad 10=1 \& p o s \quad 11=1 \& g a m e s ~ m i n ~ m a x=m i n \& q$ ualifiersSeason=nomin\&minpasValS=502\&mingamesValS=100\&qualifiersCareer=nomin\&minpasValC=30 00\&mingamesValC=1000\&c1gtlt=gt\&c2gtlt=gt\&c3gtlt=gt\&c4gtlt=gt\&c5gtlt=gt\&c5val=1.0\&location=pob \&locationMatch=is\&pob=Canada\&orderby=HR\&number matched=1, accessed October 18, 2019.

## David Matchett

November 2019


[^0]:    "...Dorsey, formerly of the Trenton team..."

