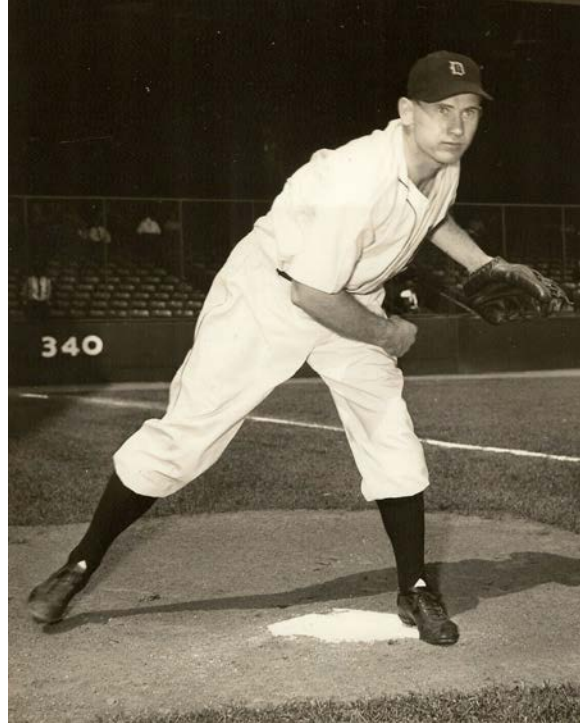# 1944

Tommy Holmes, Indianapolis Aces

Dizzy Trout, Louisville Colonels

Introduction

The wars in Europe and the Pacific raged on in 1944, claiming more ballplayers who gave up one uniform for another. With the 1943 season in the rear-view, the project moved to 1944. The cards were swapped and new players joined the league and we were off and running. Neither Omaha nor Fort Smith fared well with key players in the service, and new rookies emerged to lead other teams to the top of the two divisions.

Providence got off to a great start and claimed the Northern Division pennant in plenty of time to rest up for the Series, but it was a different story in the South; going into the final round of games, four teams still had a chance for post-season glory. Columbus held a decent lead, but couldn't manage more than one win against defending champion Omaha; Martinsburg and Indianapolis split their final four, eliminating both. But Louisville dominated Providence, resulting in a tie with the Cougars; then they won the one-game playoff; then, after a Game 1 loss, they won four straight from the team with the league's best record, including two complete-game victories by Dizzy Trout. The winning run scored in the bottom of the ninth in Game 5 on a two-base error by Irv Hall.

What's in store this year? In order to accommodate the many part-timers and players in the military, rosters have been adjusted for the upcoming 1945 campaign. Teams will be able to retain three military reserves as well as two additional uncarded players after the protection draft. Some of the regular players in the upcoming season won't be seen again when the regulars come marching home.

It'll be an adventure.

Walter
October 2022

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Teams and Leaders

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
PROVIDENCE GRAYS	62	2107	**283**	**569**	**268**	112	24	32	**206**	264	0	9	7	**29**	27	8	49	41	0	**.270**	**.392**	**.337**
COLUMBUS COUGARS	63	2152	247	560	233	111	27	12	164	297	**4**	20	**13**	23	22	4	27	31	0	.260	.354	.314
INDIANAPOLIS ACES	62	2166	257	556	247	113	**29**	21	164	278	2	19	6	17	24	5	35	35	2	.257	.365	.310
LOUISVILLE COLONELS	63	2109	254	536	242	101	28	**37**	197	324	1	7	9	12	17	11	47	**49**	1	.254	.381	.321
MARTINSBURG MTRS.	62	2135	252	538	242	112	23	16	190	307	1	18	11	17	25	8	36	42	1	.252	.348	.315
BUFFALO CHARGERS	62	2079	253	522	234	97	21	32	**206**	303	0	8	5	**29**	29	5	44	31	0	.251	.364	.320
FT. SMITH RANGERS	62	2067	247	480	229	**116**	17	31	174	303	2	**23**	7	20	12	7	44	27	2	.232	.350	.294
OMAHA COMETS	62	2080	226	488	213	93	22	19	183	**341**	1	18	8	22	25	**23**	**50**	22	1	.235	.328	.304
ST. PAUL SAINTS	62	2041	212	477	191	90	27	29	175	317	0	15	5	15	19	5	43	33	0	.234	.347	.296
FARGO PHANTOMS	62	2068	215	464	191	96	19	26	175	305	0	6	5	23	17	3	48	31	2	.224	.327	.286
TOTALS	622	21004	2446	5190	2290	1041	237	255	1834	3039	11	143	76	207	217	79	423	342	9	**.247**	**.356**	**.310**

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
COLUMBUS COUGARS	**63**	**63**	16	6	35	28	20	**564.3**	470	202	184	19	195	333	1	2	0	12	**2.93**
LOUISVILLE COLONELS	**63**	**63**	28	5	36	27	11	555.3	492	230	204	12	184	322	0	3	1	9	3.31
INDIANAPOLIS ACES	62	62	14	**9**	32	30	13	564.3	555	245	222	24	**205**	363	1	4	1	12	3.54
FARGO PHANTOMS	62	62	13	4	25	**37**	13	555.3	507	242	226	27	188	**385**	1	2	**2**	14	3.66
OMAHA COMETS	62	62	19	4	30	32	13	561.0	541	243	231	24	191	218	**4**	2	0	3	3.71
PROVIDENCE GRAYS	62	62	14	4	**37**	25	**21**	553.3	**547**	258	228	33	169	319	1	2	0	3	3.71
ST. PAUL SAINTS	62	62	7	3	26	36	17	544.0	515	259	236	27	185	238	0	2	1	6	3.90
MARTINSBURG MTRS.	62	62	13	6	33	29	19	559.7	516	261	236	**38**	174	291	1	**5**	0	6	3.80
FT. SMITH RANGERS	62	62	18	6	27	35	12	548.0	543	**272**	**249**	29	160	296	0	4	0	6	4.09
TOTALS	622	622	158	51	311	311	155	5564.0	5190	2446	2234	255	1834	3039	11	29	5	79	**3.61**

Batting Average	Holmes, IND .3402; Boudreau, COL .3399; Hodgin, MAR .335; Musial, PRO .333; D. Walker, MAR .324
Slugging Average	Spence, PRO .554; Musial, PRO .543; Ott, LOU .527; Holmes, IND .515; Nicholson, LOU .502
On Base Percentage	Nicholson, LOU .425; Musial, PRO .413; Boudreau, COL .391; Etten, FSM .390; D. Walker, MAR .390
Sacrifices	M. Cooper, FAR 8; Case, PRO 7
Sacrifice Flies	Kurowski, BUF 8; DiMaggio, OMA 6; McCormick, IND 6; Lindell, MAR 6
Doubles	Musial, PRO 24; Kerr, STP 21; Boudreau, COL 20; Lindell, MAR 20
Triples	J. Barrett, COL 10; Lupien, LOU 8; Elliott, IND 7; Lindell, MAR 7
Home Runs	Spence, PRO 11; Ott, LOU 10; Nicholson, LOU 10; Litwhiler, OMA 7; Doerr, BUF 7
Walks	Nicholson, LOU 43; Galan, BUF 35; Sanders, OMA 34; Musial, PRO 33
Strikeouts	DiMaggio, OMA 49; Stirnweiss, IND 46; J. Barrett, COL 43; Lupien, LOU 40; Seerey, FAR 39
Runs	Stirnweiss, IND 47; Myatt, OMA 43; Elliott, IND 42; Musial, PRO 39; Spence, PRO 38
Hit By Pitch	Litwhiler, OMA 14; Myatt, OMA 3; Nicholson, LOU 3; Case, PRO 3; B. Johnson, FSM 3
RBI	Spence, PRO 46; Holmes, IND 45; McCormick, IND 44; Litwhiler, OMA 40; Lindell, MAR 40
Stolen Bases	Myatt, OMA 13; D. Walker, MAR 7; Moses, FSM 7
Double Plays	Keltner, FAR 10; W. Cooper, LOU 10; Litwhiler, OMA 9; Kurowski, BUF 8
Winning Percentage	Newhouser, COL 11-1, .817; Trout, LOU 12-4, .750; Butcher, COL 7-5, .583; Kramer, IND .545
ERA	De la Cruz, PRO 1.52; Brecheen, IND 1.95; Butcher, COL 2.26; Trout, LOU 2.30; Newhouser, COL 2.41
Innings Pitched	Trout, LOU 145.0; Newhouser, COL 127.0; Tobin, OMA 117.3; Voiselle, MAR 109.7; Butcher, COL 103.3
Walks Allowed	Voiselle, MAR 52; Newhouser, COL 48; Walters, OMA 41; Reynolds, STP 41; Javery, LOU 40
Strikeouts	**Newhouser, COL 133; Voiselle, MAR 118; Raffensberger, FSM 93; Javery, LOU 83; Trout, LOU 79**
Complete Games	Trout, LOU 14; Newhouser, COL 8; Brecheen, IND 7; Tobin, OMA 7
Shutouts	Brecheen, IND 4; Dubiel, IND 3
Saves	Munger, BUF 11; Karl, MAR 11; Heving, OMA 10

Final Standings

NORTHERN DIVISION

	W-L	Pct	GB	1H	2H
Providence	37-25	.597	—	18-13	19-12
Buffalo	30-32	.484	7	17-14	13-18
Omaha	30-32	.484	7	13-18	17-14
St. Paul	26-36	.419	10	17-14	9-22
Fargo	25-37	.403	13	13-18	12-19

SOUTHERN DIVISION

	W-L	Pct	GB	1H	2H
Louisville	36-27	.571	—	15-16	21-11
Columbus	35-28	.556	1	18-13	17-15
Martinsburg	33-29	.532	2.5	15-16	18-13
Indianapolis	32-30	.525	3.5	18-13	14-17
Fort Smith	27-35	.435	8.5	11-20	16-15

WORLD SERIES

Louisville defeated Providence 4 games to 1

AWARDS

MVP:	Tommy Holmes, Indianapolis
Cy Young:	Dizzy Trout, Louisville
Fireman:	Joe Berry, St. Paul

Buffalo Chargers

There was certainly some talent over in Buffalo, but not enough either on the mound or at bat. Bobby Doerr was once again a team leader, with 7 homers and 14 doubles, hitting .268/.479/.340. Whitey Kurowski delivered 15 doubles, and Augie Galan led the team with 17. They led the league in walks, but were in the middle offensively, which helped lead to their lackluster 30-32 finish.

On the mound, Rip Sewell (8-0, 3.01, 5 CG) was the best in the rotation overall, but Johnny Niggeling (6-3, 3.04, 5 CG) was a solid contributor. George Munger was relegated to the closer role, and he notched 11 saves and a 2.01 ERA – but didn't get into enough key situations to really make a difference. They've added arms and power in the draft, and should be more competitive in 1945.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Bergamo, Augie	9	20	3	5	1	0	0	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.250	.250	.400
Bragan, Bobby	13	30	2	8	2	0	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	.267	.333	.353
Colman, Frank	12	24	3	6	1	2	0	0	5	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250	.333	.379
Doerr, Bobby	50	194	28	52	31	14	3	7	21	35	0	3	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	.268	.479	.340
Galan, Augie	59	206	26	47	17	17	2	2	35	27	0	1	2	0	1	1	3	3	0	.228	.359	.343
Gardella, Dan	14	43	2	8	5	0	0	1	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	.186	.256	.239
Hemsley, Rollie	32	119	15	38	19	7	3	1	3	8	0	1	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	.319	.454	.336
Kurowski, Whitey	62	252	29	57	33	15	2	6	16	26	0	0	0	0	8	2	8	2	0	.226	.373	.278
Medwick, Joe	50	202	28	59	22	8	1	3	15	23	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	2	0	.292	.386	.341
Miller, Eddie	61	215	17	38	21	7	0	1	21	36	0	0	0	1	4	0	5	7	0	.177	.223	.250
Ross, Chet	8	17	6	5	0	1	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	.294	.353	.429
Rucker, Johnny	19	64	7	18	9	3	1	1	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.281	.406	.281
Siebert, Dick	40	131	19	49	20	8	4	2	17	11	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	.374	.542	.446
Stanky, Eddie	22	58	5	11	7	2	1	0	7	10	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	6	0	.190	.259	.277
Tresh, Mike	22	75	8	15	3	1	0	0	8	9	0	0	0	2	2	0	4	0	0	.200	.213	.277
Trosky, Hal	27	39	4	11	5	1	0	1	5	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	.282	.385	.364
Tucker, Thurman	45	155	24	47	18	5	3	1	22	19	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	.303	.394	.390
York, Rudy	34	101	12	27	14	4	0	4	9	17	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	2	0	.267	.426	.333
Andrews, Nate	14	30	4	5	0	0	0	0	3	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	.167	.167	.242
Beck, Boom-Boom	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000
Christopher, Russ	9	19	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	.053	.105	.053
Donnelly, Blix	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Fischer, Rube	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Gorsica, Johnny	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Kennedy, Vern	6	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	.200	.200	.333
Muncrief, Bob	12	21	2	4	1	0	0	0	1	9	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	2	0	.190	.190	.227
Munger, George	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Niggeling, Johnny	10	27	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	11	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	.074	.074	.138
Roser, Steve	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000
Sewell, Rip	13	32	5	8	5	1	0	2	0	12	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	.250	.469	.250

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Andrews, Nate	14	14	1	1	4	8	0	97.7	80	44	42	3	23	22	0	0	0	2	3.87
Beck, Boom-Boom	14	0	0	0	1	1	1	20.7	28	15	14	3	5	11	0	0	0	0	6.10
Christopher, Russ	9	9	3	1	4	3	0	63.0	73	29	26	3	19	30	0	0	0	0	3.71
Donnelly, Blix	17	0	0	0	1	3	1	27.7	24	10	10	1	10	16	0	0	0	0	3.25
Fischer, Rube	13	0	0	0	1	3	2	11.3	8	4	3	0	6	4	2	0	0	0	2.38
Gorsica, Johnny	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.7	9	2	2	0	5	6	0	0	0	0	1.42
Kennedy, Vern	6	5	0	0	1	4	0	25.3	31	18	18	1	16	18	0	0	0	1	6.39
Muncrief, Bob	12	11	2	0	4	6	0	80.0	75	35	29	4	15	35	0	1	0	2	3.26
Munger, George	19	0	0	0	0	0	11	20.3	10	5	5	0	11	15	0	0	0	0	2.21
Niggeling, Johnny	10	10	5	1	6	3	0	83.0	65	31	28	1	33	62	0	1	0	2	3.04
Roser, Steve	10	0	0	0	0	1	1	15.3	12	7	7	1	4	6	0	0	0	0	4.11
Sewell, Rip	13	13	5	1	8	0	0	101.7	89	34	34	5	36	49	0	1	0	1	3.01

Columbus Cougars

Young player-manager Lou Boudreau did everything he could to get his club to the World Series. He hit 20 doubles and slashed .340/.451/.391, losing the batting title by 3/100 of a point. George McQuinn had 18 doubles and walked 30 times, leading to a .397/.447/.382 slash line. Doc Cramer hit .314, Oris Hockett .312. But that was largely it; Johnny Barrett had 10 triples and 6 steals, but hit an anemic .197. George Kell hit .217 with little power.

On the mound, the absence of Spud Chandler was sorely felt, but Hal Newhouser was overpowering – 11-1, 2.41, with a league-leading 133 strikeouts. Max Butcher went 7-5, 2.26, striking out almost no one. The bullpen was irregular: Freddy Schmidt recorded an 0.90 ERA, and Jake Wade was at 2.04, but Bill Fleming was at 4.57 despite his 9 saves. Ultimately, though, the last-game loss to charging Louisville was the most significant aspect of the 1944 season.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Adams, Buster	35	109	14	23	12	4	2	2	7	17	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	0	.211	.339	.265
Barrett, Johnny	54	213	32	42	12	8	10	2	27	43	0	6	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	.197	.357	.288
Bolling, Jack	15	15	2	5	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.333	.600	.333
Boudreau, Lou	63	253	37	86	29	20	1	2	20	24	0	2	1	0	3	1	3	1	0	.340	.451	.391
Butcher, Max	14	33	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	2	0	.091	.091	.091
Clay, Dain	13	18	3	6	5	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.333	.556	.368
Cramer, Doc	60	239	25	75	33	13	3	0	8	29	1	1	3	0	5	0	4	4	0	.314	.393	.336
Curtright, Guy	8	15	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200	.200	.250
Hockett, Oris	47	170	26	53	20	13	1	1	13	20	0	1	2	0	2	0	5	2	0	.312	.418	.361
Kell, George	55	207	21	45	22	4	1	0	8	17	1	5	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	.217	.246	.247
Mack, Ray	35	125	9	27	16	8	2	0	10	22	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	.216	.312	.274
Marshall, Max	7	11	3	3	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.273	.364	.333
McQuinn, George	60	219	33	65	36	18	3	3	30	30	0	2	2	0	4	0	1	1	0	.297	.447	.382
Mueller, Ray	45	157	14	39	14	5	0	0	15	25	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	.248	.280	.318
Reyes, Nap	28	71	10	20	6	4	0	0	4	10	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	.282	.338	.329
Rosar, Buddy	20	69	0	15	6	2	0	0	5	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	.217	.246	.270
Torres, Gil	38	121	8	33	11	5	4	0	5	17	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	3	0	.273	.380	.302
Adams, Ace	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Bevens, Bill	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Butcher, Max	14	33	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	2	0	.091	.091	.091
Cardoni, Ben	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Chandler, Spud	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Dietrich, Bill	7	8	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	.125	.125	.417
Fleming, Bill	20	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.500	.500	.500
Jurisich, Al	5	12	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.083	.083	.154
Lanier, Max	11	22	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	2	1	0	.136	.136	.174
Leonard, Dutch	12	24	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	.042	.042	.115
Mungo, Van Lingle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Newhouser, Hal	23	38	4	10	5	4	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	.263	.368	.282
Schmidt, Freddy	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Wade, Jake	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Adams, Ace	8	0	0	0	0	2	1	10.0	17	8	7	2	4	5	0	0	0	0	6.30
Bevens, Bill	9	0	0	0	0	1	0	14.0	10	3	3	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	1.93
Butcher, Max	14	14	3	2	7	5	0	103.3	90	28	26	2	24	27	0	0	0	2	2.26
Cardoni, Ben	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.0	10	4	4	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	4.50
Chandler, Spud	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Dietrich, Bill	7	7	1	0	3	3	0	41.7	43	22	20	1	14	11	0	0	0	2	4.32
Fleming, Bill	20	0	0	0	2	4	9	21.7	14	11	11	1	13	2	1	0	0	0	4.57
Jurisich, Al	5	5	0	0	2	0	0	32.0	26	20	13	3	23	25	0	0	0	0	3.66
Lanier, Max	11	11	2	2	4	6	0	78.0	64	32	30	3	25	68	0	2	0	3	3.46
Leonard, Dutch	12	12	2	0	4	6	0	90.0	80	32	30	2	21	21	0	0	0	3	3.00
Mungo, Van Lingle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Newhouser, Hal	23	14	8	2	11	1	3	127.0	91	34	34	4	48	133	0	0	0	1	2.41
Schmidt, Freddy	16	0	0	0	2	0	4	20.0	11	2	2	0	9	11	0	0	0	0	0.90
Wade, Jake	15	0	0	0	0	0	2	17.7	14	6	4	0	8	20	0	0	0	1	2.04

1944

Fargo Phantoms

A second hard campaign up north was made worse by the absence of power threat Charlie Keller. There were no real strong hitters, and the team delivered a .224 average, last in the league. Phil Weintraub (.248/.448/.351) turned in an adequate rookie season; Ken Keltner had some power (18 doubles, 6 triples) but no one hit more than 5 homers.

On the mound, they were in the middle of the pack; rookie Preacher Roe (4-3, 7 saves, 2.66) spent time as the closer, but also made 8 starts. Mort Cooper (4-5, 2.91) and Bobo Newsom (6-6, 3.03) were workhorses, but the other starters were just awful.

The prospects for 1945 are modest. Joe Medwick has arrived to shore up the lineup, and Charlie Keller is back – but the team faces many of the same challenges. Will there be a new venue for '46?

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Crabtree, Estel	19	49	3	13	2	0	1	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.265	.306	.333
Dallessandro, Nick	47	163	18	39	12	7	0	2	20	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	.239	.319	.322
Ferrell, Rick	30	103	7	21	6	0	0	0	8	14	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	1	2	.204	.204	.261
Goodman, Ival	24	61	7	16	4	2	0	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	.262	.344	.328
Gutteridge, Don	36	137	17	33	5	9	3	2	16	20	0	3	0	3	0	0	2	4	0	.241	.394	.320
Hausmann, George	11	13	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	.000	.000	.071
Johnson, Pep	40	126	13	23	10	4	1	1	6	19	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	.183	.254	.220
Keltner, Ken	60	237	29	59	32	18	6	2	18	17	0	1	1	0	0	0	10	0	0	.249	.401	.302
Kreevich, Mike	43	168	19	52	17	10	2	0	5	19	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	2	0	.310	.393	.333
Kuhel, Joe	30	96	8	26	8	3	0	1	12	10	0	1	1	0	2	0	3	0	0	.271	.333	.352
Mancuso, Gus	6	11	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.091	.091	.286
Marion, Marty	62	226	18	46	17	12	1	1	14	19	0	0	0	1	0	0	8	1	0	.204	.279	.250
Phillips, Dee	17	19	2	4	3	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.211	.211	.250
Richards, Paul	31	97	7	17	8	6	0	0	11	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	2	0	.175	.237	.259
Secory, Pete	10	24	5	10	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	.417	.542	.462
Seerey, Pat	39	137	16	32	21	12	0	4	8	39	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	.234	.409	.276
Weintraub, Phil	42	145	22	36	21	8	3	5	23	32	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	.248	.448	.351
Workman, Chuck	27	54	9	11	9	2	0	3	3	11	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	.204	.407	.259
Wright, Ab	24	77	11	18	8	3	0	3	5	17	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	.234	.390	.280
Barrett, Red	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Beggs, Joe	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Caster, George	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Cooper, Mort	12	22	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	.045	.045	.160
Haefner, Mickey	11	24	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	.042	.042	.042
Hughson, Tex	10	18	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	.056	.056	.190
Maltzberger, Gordon	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000
Newsom, Bobo	14	29	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.033
Roe, Preacher	18	18	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	.056	.056	.056
Schanz, Charley	17	14	0	3	2	0	2	0	2	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	.214	.500	.313
Turner, Johnny	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Barrett, Red	11	0	0	0	1	0	0	18.7	16	8	8	1	14	6	0	1	0	1	3.86
Beggs, Joe	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	5.3	5	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1.69
Caster, George	19	0	0	0	4	2	1	29.0	22	7	7	4	5	23	0	0	0	0	2.17
Cooper, Mort	12	12	3	0	4	5	0	96.0	71	32	31	4	32	47	0	0	1	1	2.91
Haefner, Mickey	11	11	2	0	3	6	0	72.3	81	41	39	3	19	39	0	0	0	1	4.85
Hughson, Tex	10	9	3	1	2	6	0	69.3	66	32	27	4	14	63	0	0	1	1	3.50
Maltzberger, Gordon	15	0	0	0	1	1	3	24.3	21	13	11	1	8	26	1	0	0	1	4.07
Newsom, Bobo	14	13	4	2	6	6	0	98.0	83	36	33	4	37	76	0	1	0	3	3.03
Roe, Preacher	18	8	1	0	4	3	7	67.7	64	20	20	3	11	63	0	0	0	4	2.66
Schanz, Charley	17	9	0	1	0	7	1	58.3	64	45	42	2	37	32	0	0	0	2	6.48
Turner, Johnny	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	16.3	14	7	7	1	10	8	0	0	0	0	3.86

Fort Smith Rangers

"Wait till next year" was the cry after the team dropped the Series to Omaha, but by midseason it was the cry again. The second half was adequate, but scarcely enough to get the team back into contention. Ken Raffensberger (3.06 ERA, 93 strikeouts in 97 innings) was capable, and Jesse Flores (6-3, 3.36) was strong, but most of the pitchers were inadequate or overmatched. Dale Matthewson was extremely limited in innings but only gave up one run, recording an 0.66 ERA and 7 saves.

The prospects are somewhat better for 1945, with a solid draft and improved pitching. The question is whether they'll have enough to contend again.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Busch, Ed	6	11	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.182	.273	.182
Davis, Spud	17	57	7	10	4	2	0	0	5	13	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	.175	.211	.242
Edwards, Hank	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Etten, Nick	52	191	31	55	32	15	2	5	32	27	1	6	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	.288	.466	.390
Fox, Pete	42	147	17	38	16	8	0	2	12	23	0	2	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	.259	.354	.319
Garrison, Ford	21	40	2	7	6	1	1	0	3	10	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	.175	.250	.250
Herman, Babe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Hughes, Roy	30	87	6	16	2	4	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	.184	.230	.211
Johnson, Bob	58	204	32	60	36	15	2	6	25	28	0	0	0	0	1	3	6	2	0	.294	.475	.379
Metkovich, George	20	41	1	8	5	3	2	1	2	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.195	.439	.233
Milosevich, Mike	3	8	1	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.375	.375	.444
Moses, Wally	50	199	33	53	24	12	5	1	11	20	0	7	4	0	2	0	1	0	0	.266	.392	.305
Northey, Ron	49	149	13	36	17	11	3	3	14	22	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	3	0	.242	.416	.307
Owen, Mickey	46	161	14	32	13	3	0	1	15	15	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	2	2	.199	.236	.267
Rocco, Mike	20	41	5	6	4	0	1	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.146	.268	.205
Stephens, Vern	60	234	34	53	29	18	0	6	22	31	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	.226	.380	.293
Tabor, Jim	44	153	20	45	20	13	1	5	9	16	0	4	0	0	0	0	6	5	0	.294	.490	.333
Williams, Woody	61	212	20	40	16	7	0	0	14	29	0	0	1	1	2	1	5	2	0	.189	.222	.242
Bagby, Jim	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Feldman, Harry	16	22	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	.227	.227	.227
Flores, Jesse	11	27	4	5	1	1	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	.185	.222	.214
Galehouse, Denny	8	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000
Gerheauser, Al	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Gumbert, Harry	17	20	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.100	.150	.100
Hutchinson, Ira	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Matthewson, Dale	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Potter, Nelson	12	25	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	.080	.120	.115
Prim, Ray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Raffensberger, Ken	12	25	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	15	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.080	.080	.148
Ross, Buck	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Bagby, Jim	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.7	9	3	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	5.79
Feldman, Harry	16	11	3	1	5	4	0	87.3	68	42	38	7	38	46	0	0	0	1	3.92
Flores, Jesse	11	11	4	2	6	3	0	80.3	64	34	30	5	24	49	0	0	0	2	3.36
Galehouse, Denny	8	6	1	0	3	4	1	43.7	57	29	28	2	5	24	0	0	0	0	5.77
Gerheauser, Al	14	0	0	0	2	0	0	21.0	26	12	11	0	7	8	0	1	0	0	4.71
Gumbert, Harry	17	10	2	1	4	8	0	73.3	79	43	40	6	26	18	0	1	0	0	4.91
Hutchinson, Ira	21	0	0	0	3	3	3	27.3	33	18	18	1	11	8	0	0	0	2	5.93
Matthewson, Dale	13	0	0	0	1	1	7	13.7	8	1	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0.66
Potter, Nelson	12	12	2	1	3	6	0	84.3	87	44	38	2	27	46	0	0	0	0	4.06
Prim, Ray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Raffensberger, Ken	12	12	6	1	3	6	0	97.0	96	37	33	4	10	93	0	1	0	1	3.06
Ross, Buck	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	15.3	16	9	9	2	7	2	0	1	0	0	5.28

1944

Indianapolis Aces

It was close at least. With Johnny Vander Meer and Grandma Murphy away, the team was forced to be scrappy and rely on other players. Snuffy Stirnweiss was great in the leadoff spot, slashing .272/.389/.358; Bob Elliott had 18 doubles and 7 triples and hit .313, while Tommy Holmes won the batting title by millimeters. Frank McCormick hit .264, and with Holmes tied for the team lead in homers with 6. The pitching was very good: Harry Brecheen went 7-0, 1.95; Walt Dubiel 5-3, 2.95; and rookie Jack Kramer 6-5, 2.57 – he started the All-Star Game, but had some trouble in the second half. The 1945 team should have a better shot at contention.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Camelli, Hank	10	22	2	7	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	.318	.409	.375
Culberson, Leon	24	91	7	19	4	2	1	0	5	7	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	.209	.253	.250
Elliott, Bob	58	240	42	75	33	18	7	3	25	25	0	6	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	.313	.483	.377
Garbark, Mike	21	65	3	11	3	1	0	0	5	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	.169	.185	.239
Gordon, Sid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Holmes, Tommy	58	241	29	82	45	18	3	6	16	12	1	0	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	.340	.515	.381
Livingston, Mickey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Lopez, Al	39	140	10	24	8	6	0	0	7	17	0	0	0	1	1	0	5	1	0	.171	.214	.211
McCormick, Frank	58	227	29	60	44	13	0	6	18	12	0	3	1	0	6	1	6	2	0	.264	.401	.321
Metheny, Bud	18	28	2	3	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.107	.107	.167
Michaels, Cass	6	19	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.105	.105	.105
Newsome, Skeeter	53	194	16	42	22	14	2	0	12	23	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	5	0	.216	.309	.262
Pafko, Andy	46	172	13	43	16	7	0	0	7	14	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	5	0	.250	.291	.283
Schultz, Howie	19	20	2	4	2	2	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	.200	.300	.304
Stirnweiss, Snuffy	58	239	47	65	15	12	5	2	32	46	1	4	2	3	1	0	2	3	0	.272	.389	.358
Walker, Harry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Wasdell, Jim	28	84	10	31	12	7	3	0	4	10	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	.369	.524	.398
Zarilla, Al	32	110	15	34	16	6	3	2	7	17	0	1	0	0	2	2	2	3	0	.309	.473	.361
Allen, Johnny	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Brecheen, Harry	11	25	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.080	.080	.148
Carter, Andy	20	6	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.167	.667	.286
Chipman, Bob	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Dubiel, Walt	10	28	5	6	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	.214	.250	.214
Erickson, Paul	9	8	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.125	.125	.125
Gentry, Rufe	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Humphries, Johnny	12	16	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.125	.125	.176
Hutchings, Johnny	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Kramer, Jack	12	29	5	3	1	1	0	1	5	15	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	.103	.241	.235
O'Neill, Emmett	9	17	1	5	2	1	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	.294	.353	.333

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Allen, Johnny	11	5	0	0	1	5	0	42.0	49	19	17	2	10	27	0	0	0	3	3.64
Brecheen, Harry	11	8	7	4	7	0	0	73.7	47	16	16	2	14	54	0	1	0	0	1.95
Carter, Andy	20	1	0	0	2	3	9	32.0	32	17	17	0	12	11	0	1	0	1	4.78
Chipman, Bob	14	0	0	0	0	0	1	21.0	22	6	6	2	4	10	0	1	0	0	2.57
Dubiel, Walt	10	10	3	3	5	3	0	74.7	62	26	22	5	30	42	1	0	0	1	2.65
Erickson, Paul	9	5	0	1	2	1	1	37.3	46	23	17	1	19	38	0	0	0	0	4.10
Gentry, Rufe	14	0	0	0	2	1	1	25.3	30	14	14	2	14	8	0	0	0	1	4.97
Humphries, Johnny	12	8	0	0	2	5	0	51.0	58	31	28	6	16	23	0	1	0	0	4.94
Hutchings, Johnny	16	0	0	0	0	1	0	17.3	18	6	5	0	11	17	0	0	0	2	2.60
Kramer, Jack	12	12	4	1	6	5	0	101.7	93	34	29	0	28	72	0	0	1	3	2.57
O'Neill, Emmett	9	9	0	0	3	4	0	52.3	61	39	37	4	32	37	0	0	0	1	6.36

Louisville Colonels

They finished strong, as described in subsequent pages. At the end they were fourth in hitting, second in pitching, and got contributions throughout the lineup. In an era with little power, they had two players with 10 homers. Emil Verban was offensively weak at the top of the order, but was a steady hand at second base; and Tony Lupien (.311/.452/.369, 8 triples) and Pinky Higgins (.284/.389/.362, 6 triples) were key contributors. On the mound they really shined. Dizzy Trout (12-4, 14 CG, 2.30) won the key playoff game and two in the Series; Fritz Ostermueller (6-2, 2.51) and rookie Steve Gromek (6-2, 2.62) were also excellent. They beat Columbus, then they beat Providence, and now the championship is theirs to defend.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Cooper, Walker	46	182	25	49	29	11	4	6	12	11	0	0	0	0	3	0	10	0	0	.269	.473	.314
Coscarart, Pete	44	150	15	33	18	11	2	1	11	27	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	8	0	.220	.340	.273
Dickshot, Johnny	9	16	4	6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.375	.438	.375
Estalella, Bobby	36	115	10	27	9	4	2	0	14	26	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	4	0	.235	.304	.318
Finney, Lou	13	27	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	.148	.148	.148
Gustine, Frank	17	35	3	8	5	3	0	1	0	11	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	.229	.400	.229
Higgins, Pinky	63	229	28	65	18	12	6	0	27	27	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	9	0	.284	.389	.362
Hoover, Joe	17	51	6	12	4	7	0	0	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.235	.373	.316
Klein, Lou	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Lupien, Tony	61	241	34	75	27	12	8	2	20	40	0	4	4	1	1	2	2	4	0	.311	.452	.369
Moore, Gene	19	45	6	7	4	2	1	1	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	.156	.311	.240
Nicholson, Bill	60	201	30	59	32	10	1	10	43	25	0	0	0	0	3	3	8	6	0	.294	.502	.425
O'Dea, Lefty	9	20	2	5	0	1	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.250	.300	.375
Ott, Mel	49	167	27	44	38	10	2	10	30	25	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	5	0	.263	.527	.376
Partee, Roy	16	52	6	9	2	2	0	0	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	.173	.212	.283
Peacock, Johnny	2	6	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.167	.333	.375
Rosen, Goody	18	35	3	6	1	1	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.171	.200	.237
Verban, Emil	63	269	24	66	15	7	2	0	6	33	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	5	0	.245	.286	.264
Walker, Gee	33	96	13	16	13	3	0	2	4	16	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	0	.167	.260	.216
Chapman, Ben	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000
Gromek, Steve	8	29	4	7	6	1	0	1	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.241	.379	.241
Head, Ed	9	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.000	1.000	1.000
Herring, Art	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Javery, Al	13	27	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	5	1	0	1	3	0	.074	.074	.107
Judd, Oscar	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Konstanty, Jim	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Melton, Rube	10	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.083	.083	.083
Ostermueller, Fritz	11	31	3	11	7	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	.355	.355	.375
Trout, Dizzy	17	55	7	19	10	2	0	3	1	9	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	.345	.545	.357
Woods, Pinky	13	17	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.176	.176	.176

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Chapman, Ben	10	0	0	0	1	0	2	16.3	12	5	4	0	5	15	0	0	0	1	2.20
Gromek, Steve	8	8	6	1	6	2	0	68.7	47	20	20	0	19	54	0	0	0	0	2.62
Head, Ed	9	0	0	0	2	0	6	16.0	6	3	3	0	4	5	0	0	0	1	1.69
Herring, Art	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	13.3	12	4	4	2	3	5	0	0	0	1	2.70
Javery, Al	13	13	3	1	5	7	0	91.3	96	53	46	4	40	83	0	0	0	2	4.53
Judd, Oscar	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	6.3	10	7	7	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	9.95
Konstanty, Jim	10	0	0	0	1	0	0	15.3	18	12	12	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	7.04
Melton, Rube	10	7	0	0	0	6	1	45.0	60	36	31	0	29	28	0	1	1	0	6.20
Ostermueller, Fritz	11	11	4	0	6	2	0	82.3	67	28	23	1	27	34	0	1	0	1	2.51
Trout, Dizzy	17	17	14	2	12	4	0	145.0	116	43	37	2	28	79	0	1	0	2	2.30
Woods, Pinky	13	7	1	1	2	6	2	55.7	48	19	17	1	25	13	0	0	0	1	2.75

Martinsburg Mountaineers

They were never really out of it all season, even to the final series. The difference between going to the World Series and going home for the winter was a matter of three or four games, and you never know when you're in the thick of it whether any win or loss has deep meaning.

Martinsburg was scrappy, taking after their manager Leo the Lip. Ralph Hodgin (.335/.470/.363) seemed to be on base all the time, driven in frequently by Dixie Walker (.324/.471/.390), Phil Cavaretta (.293) and Johnny Lindell (.290, 20 doubles, 7 triples). Rookie Bill Voiselle won 6 games and struck out 118, but surrendered 13 homers. Andy Karl had a 2.08 ERA and 11 saves. Hy Vandenberg (4-0, 2 CG, 2 ShO, 1.52 ERA) was effective in limited use.

They'll be scrappy again in '45. On paper they're not the best, but they'll still be scrappy.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Bordagaray, Frenchy	44	142	19	35	10	6	2	1	11	16	0	1	2	0	1	0	4	1	0	.246	.338	.301
Cavaretta, Phil	58	222	26	65	37	13	3	2	21	36	0	0	0	0	4	2	2	3	0	.293	.405	.359
Crosetti, Frank	23	80	8	11	6	2	0	1	3	11	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	3	0	.138	.200	.188
Cuccinello, Tony	9	18	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.167	.167	.167
Guerra, Mike	23	84	8	20	5	3	0	0	4	10	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	.238	.274	.273
Hamner, Granny	9	33	3	9	0	1	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	.273	.303	.314
Hodgin, Ralph	44	185	35	62	24	14	4	1	6	8	0	3	0	0	3	2	3	3	0	.335	.470	.363
Letchas, Charlie	38	129	4	23	11	2	0	0	9	28	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	.178	.194	.237
Lindell, Johnny	58	224	31	65	40	20	7	4	30	30	0	2	2	0	6	1	2	1	0	.290	.496	.376
Novikoff, Lou	**28**	**36**	**5**	**8**	**6**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**.222**	**.250**	**.282**
O'Brien, Tommy	15	26	1	1	3	0	1	0	6	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	.038	.115	.219
O'Dea, Ken	28	102	6	19	13	9	1	1	12	22	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	.186	.324	.272
Outlaw, Jimmy	42	138	12	29	10	2	1	0	12	18	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	2	0	.210	.239	.273
Ryan, Connie	33	130	26	39	8	11	0	1	15	19	0	4	3	0	0	0	1	4	0	.300	.408	.372
Walker, Dixie	58	225	37	73	38	14	2	5	24	17	0	7	0	0	0	0	5	6	0	.324	.471	.390
Williams, Dee	19	43	2	8	4	3	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	.186	.256	.271
Zak, Frankie	22	57	7	13	1	2	1	0	5	9	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	0	.228	.298	.290
Bonham, Bill	11	17	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	.059	.059	.059
Davis, Curt	8	17	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	.118	.118	.167
Derringer, Paul	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Hausmann, Clem	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Haynes, Joe	20	8	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.125	.125	.125
Heusser, Ed	9	21	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.143	.190	.143
Karl, Andy	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000
Queen, Mel	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Ryba, Mike	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Smith, Al	8	17	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.176	.176	.263
Sundra, Steve	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Vandenberg, Hy	13	10	2	5	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	.500	.500	.583
Voiselle, Bill	15	38	2	3	2	1	0	0	1	13	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	.079	.105	.103

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Bonham, Bill	11	11	2	1	3	7	0	70.7	88	47	42	9	11	11	0	2	0	0	5.35
Davis, Curt	8	8	1	0	1	2	0	52.3	56	29	25	2	9	20	0	0	0	0	4.30
Derringer, Paul	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.0	5	1	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	1.50
Hausmann, Clem	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	21.0	18	10	10	3	8	4	0	0	0	1	4.29
Haynes, Joe	20	3	1	0	4	3	1	43.3	38	21	18	2	10	12	0	1	0	0	3.74
Heusser, Ed	9	9	1	1	5	1	0	57.7	50	25	22	3	12	20	0	0	0	1	3.43
Karl, Andy	13	0	0	0	1	1	11	13.0	8	3	3	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	2.08
Queen, Mel	13	0	0	0	1	1	0	21.3	24	13	12	1	9	14	1	0	0	1	5.06
Ryba, Mike	18	0	0	0	2	3	0	28.7	30	12	11	0	9	17	0	0	0	0	3.45
Smith, Al	8	8	2	1	4	2	0	54.3	46	24	23	4	22	16	0	0	0	0	3.81
Sundra, Steve	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	6.0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Vandenberg, Hy	13	4	2	2	4	0	2	41.3	28	8	7	1	15	31	0	0	0	0	1.52
Voiselle, Bill	15	15	3	0	6	7	0	109.7	89	53	49	13	52	118	0	2	0	1	4.02

Omaha Comets

What a difference a year makes. Luke Appling was in the service, leaving Rusty Peters (.178) and Gabby Stewart (.176) to replace him. Dan Litwhiler was a combination of opposites; 7 HR, 14 HBP, 40 RBI, but he only hit .208. Vince DiMaggio had 16 doubles but only hit .236. Ray Sanders hit .274; Hal Wagner hit .346 in hald a season. Roy Cullenbine and Mark Christman played a lot and contributed only modestly. On the mound Bucky Walters was good (6-3, 2.59) and Johnny Tobin was decent (6-6, 3.14); both pitched over 100 innings. Clyde Shoun was excellent (8-0, 2.46). Joe Heving had 10 saves.

In 1945 the pitching will be better, there'll be a little more offense, and there's something to be said for a winning tradition. Can they get back to the big spotlight? Time will tell.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Christman, Mark	62	231	20	56	18	6	1	2	18	36	0	1	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	.242	.303	.300
Cullenbine, Roy	55	191	19	49	23	11	2	2	23	27	0	1	0	0	1	1	7	0	0	.257	.382	.340
DiMaggio, Vince	44	178	21	42	27	16	2	2	10	49	0	2	0	0	6	1	5	1	0	.236	.382	.280
Jurges, Billy	16	17	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	.118	.118	.167
Kluttz, Clyde	25	87	4	14	5	2	0	0	7	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	.161	.184	.223
Laabs, Chet	21	47	5	11	2	4	1	0	8	14	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	.234	.362	.345
Litwhiler, Dan	61	231	27	48	40	13	4	7	11	31	0	0	0	0	5	14	9	2	0	.208	.390	.285
Martin, Hershel	21	41	5	13	7	2	0	1	3	8	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.317	.439	.364
Myatt, George	55	229	43	64	25	8	3	0	15	37	0	11	3	4	1	3	1	6	0	.279	.341	.332
Olmo, Luis	37	82	6	15	6	5	0	0	2	8	0	0	0	2	1	1	3	0	0	.183	.244	.212
Peters, Rusty	35	90	9	16	6	2	2	0	7	21	0	0	0	1	1	1	4	2	0	.178	.244	.245
Ross, Don	15	22	4	3	0	1	0	0	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.136	.182	.269
Sanders, Ray	62	223	26	61	24	11	3	1	34	33	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	.274	.363	.370
Sauer, Ed	3	11	1	5	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.455	.727	.455
Stewart, Gabby	36	102	10	18	2	2	2	0	17	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	.176	.235	.294
Turner, Tom	21	53	3	10	8	1	0	1	1	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	1	.189	.264	.204
Wagner, Hal	27	104	13	36	8	4	2	1	15	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	.346	.452	.433
Barrett, Dick	16	20	3	7	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	.350	.400	.435
Bowman, Joe	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Byerly, Bud	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Cuccurullo, Art	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Heving, Joe	22	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
King, Clyde	12	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.333	.333	.333
Lopat, Ed	10	19	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.105	.105	.105
Page, Joe	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Shoun, Clyde	14	24	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	0	.083	.083	.154
Tobin, Johnny	15	38	2	7	5	1	0	1	1	12	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	.184	.289	.205
Walters, Bucky	12	26	1	6	2	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	.231	.231	.259
Wheaton, Woody	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Zuber, George	8	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Barrett, Dick	16	12	1	1	4	6	0	74.0	94	43	42	1	32	53	0	0	0	2	5.11
Bowman, Joe	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.0	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3.00
Byerly, Bud	10	0	0	0	0	1	0	14.7	11	6	6	0	8	2	1	0	0	0	3.68
Cuccurullo, Art	9	0	0	0	0	1	0	10.7	14	6	6	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	5.06
Heving, Joe	22	0	0	0	2	3	10	28.7	27	12	12	2	7	10	0	0	0	0	3.77
King, Clyde	12	0	0	0	1	0	1	17.3	21	8	8	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	4.15
Lopat, Ed	10	10	2	1	2	7	0	71.3	83	38	35	3	19	41	0	0	0	0	4.42
Page, Joe	5	0	0	0	1	1	1	7.3	12	3	3	0	4	8	0	0	0	0	3.68
Shoun, Clyde	14	9	4	0	8	0	1	80.3	63	22	22	5	14	14	0	0	0	0	2.46
Tobin, Johnny	15	15	7	1	6	6	0	117.3	105	44	41	7	38	21	0	2	0	1	3.14
Walters, Bucky	12	12	5	1	6	3	0	100.7	63	34	29	5	41	25	0	0	0	0	2.59
Wheaton, Woody	11	0	0	0	0	2	0	12.3	8	2	2	0	7	7	1	0	0	0	1.46
Zuber, George	8	4	0	0	1	2	0	23.3	36	24	24	1	13	27	0	0	0	0	9.26

Providence Grays

1944 was a step above 1943. This year they were good in the first half, good in the second half. The middle of the batting order was superb: Stan Musial (.333/.543/.413, 24 doubles, 6 triples) fell short of a batting title, but drove in 36. Stan Spence (.303/.554/.361) led the league with 11 homers and had 17 doubles; Irv Hall hit .285 with 12 doubles in the number two spot in the batting order; Bob Swift hit a surprising .300 in part time duty.

On the mound Hank Wyse (8-4, 3.26) led the starters, and Tommy de la Cruz (7-1, 1.52, 3 saves) was surprisingly solid. Hank Borowy had 5 wins and a 3.27 ERA, and Ted Wilks won 5 and saved 5 splitting time between starting and relieving.

This was a team that had everything go right . . . right up to the end, when it didn't go right in the World Series. Now they have to start at 0-0, without Stan Musial in '45. The pitching will be excellent, but will it be enough?

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Boland, Ed	11	15	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.267	.400	.267
Bucher, Jim	24	77	8	20	7	5	2	1	5	8	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	5	0	.260	.416	.313
Byrnes, Milt	24	51	8	14	7	2	0	0	5	10	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	.275	.314	.339
Case, George	47	192	30	43	15	8	0	1	10	28	0	5	1	7	2	3	3	3	0	.224	.281	.273
Dahlgren, Babe	62	241	30	64	36	14	0	5	16	25	0	0	0	0	5	1	6	1	0	.266	.386	.314
Grant, Jim	13	36	6	9	0	2	1	0	5	9	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	.250	.361	.357
Hack, Stan	43	150	19	39	21	7	0	3	22	15	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	4	0	.260	.367	.355
Hall, Irv	62	263	30	75	32	12	4	1	19	28	0	0	2	0	0	1	8	3	0	.285	.373	.336
Masi, Phil	34	122	14	25	8	2	3	2	14	17	0	1	2	1	3	0	3	4	0	.205	.320	.287
Musial, Stan	62	243	39	81	36	24	6	5	33	21	0	0	1	0	4	0	4	2	0	.333	.543	.413
Nieman, Roy	21	25	5	6	4	0	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.240	.240	.345
Spence, Stan	60	231	38	70	46	17	4	11	20	23	0	0	0	0	3	1	4	1	0	.303	.554	.361
Sullivan, John	55	182	22	55	24	6	1	0	23	28	0	0	0	1	4	0	4	8	0	.302	.346	.380
Swift, Bob	28	100	15	30	14	5	1	0	11	15	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	3	0	.300	.370	.369
Treadway, Red	13	14	2	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.214	.214	.267
Wakefield, Dick	18	29	9	9	7	2	0	3	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**.310**	**.690**	**.444**
Barrett, Francis	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	.000	.000	.000
Black, Don	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Borowy, Hank	12	25	2	3	2	0	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	.120	.280	.214
De la Cruz, Tommy	17	19	1	3	1	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	.158	.158	.304
Hanyzewski, Ed	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Jakucki, Sig	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Lee, Thornton	7	15	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	.133	.133	.133
Lynn, Red	11	4	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250	.500	.250
Pyle, Ewald	9	11	1	2	4	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	.182	.182	.250
Webber, Les	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Wilks, Ted	18	25	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.080	.120	.115
Wolff, Roger	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Wynn, Early	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.333	.333	.333
Wyse, Hank	14	32	2	8	0	2	0	0	2	8	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	0	.250	.313	.294

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Barrett, Francis	17	0	0	0	2	3	2	18.7	23	18	16	0	8	10	0	0	0	0	7.71
Black, Don	11	0	0	0	0	0	1	16.0	17	7	7	2	9	7	0	0	0	0	3.94
Borowy, Hank	12	12	4	2	5	6	0	88.0	76	36	32	5	37	58	0	0	0	0	3.27
De la Cruz, Tommy	17	8	2	2	7	1	3	77.0	50	16	13	2	11	39	0	0	0	1	1.52
Hanyzewski, Ed	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Jakucki, Sig	11	0	0	0	1	0	3	15.0	20	10	10	3	6	11	0	0	0	0	6.00
Lee, Thornton	7	6	1	0	3	2	0	41.7	52	23	20	2	6	28	0	0	0	0	4.32
Lynn, Red	11	3	0	0	0	2	1	25.0	25	17	15	3	11	18	0	0	0	0	5.40
Pyle, Ewald	9	8	0	0	3	2	0	44.0	58	34	27	2	24	43	0	0	0	0	5.52
Webber, Les	23	0	0	0	2	2	5	29.7	28	15	15	3	16	7	0	1	0	0	4.55
Wilks, Ted	18	8	4	0	5	2	5	76.7	68	26	23	5	21	36	0	0	0	1	2.70
Wolff, Roger	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Wynn, Early	6	3	0	0	1	1	0	21.3	32	16	14	1	4	5	1	0	0	0	5.91
Wyse, Hank	14	14	3	0	8	4	0	99.3	97	40	36	5	16	57	0	1	0	1	3.26

Saint Paul Saints

The team was lackluster all season, better in the first half, but the second half was a disaster (9-22). Jim Russell was the best offensive force (.314/.441/.387, 5 triples); Buddy Kerr hit 21 doubles and drove in 29. But they were 9th in hitting. They were also 7th in pitching; Orval Grove won 6; Joe Berry saved 9. Bill Lee went 4-6, 3.96, but had 4 CG.

The team has made some good picks in the new player draft, and they have a stronger offense and stronger pitching staff. The question is whether it'll be enough. Charlie Grimm has some real serious work to do.

	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	IBB	SB	CS	SAC	SF	HBP	DP	E	PB	BA	SA	OBP
Aderholt, Morrie	11	24	1	8	6	3	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	.333	.792	.333
Basinski, Ed	23	37	5	6	3	3	0	0	2	8	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	.162	.243	.225
Garms, Debs	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Grimes, Oscar	37	105	11	26	8	5	3	1	16	18	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	.248	.381	.347
Hayes, Frank	45	144	17	31	14	5	3	4	12	21	0	0	0	1	1	0	9	1	0	.215	.375	.276
Heath, Jeff	22	82	8	20	14	1	1	3	7	13	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	.244	.390	.303
Hoag, Myril	28	61	8	18	8	3	1	2	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	.295	.475	.328
Hopp, Johnny	54	216	29	60	29	10	3	4	23	33	0	0	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	.278	.407	.347
Kerr, Buddy	62	261	29	61	16	21	1	1	9	29	0	5	2	0	2	1	5	4	0	.234	.333	.262
Levy, Ed	19	42	1	5	3	1	1	0	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.119	.190	.159
Lombardi, Ernie	24	72	5	17	5	6	0	1	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	.236	.361	.313
Mayo, Eddie	58	196	15	52	17	6	3	1	13	31	0	0	0	1	3	1	5	3	0	.265	.342	.314
Mesner, Steve	44	155	13	24	9	5	2	2	12	20	0	0	0	0	2	0	7	5	0	.155	.252	.216
Russell, Jim	61	229	33	72	25	7	5	4	26	29	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	.314	.441	.387
Tipton, Joe	55	196	24	48	20	9	0	3	29	25	0	3	2	0	2	0	5	3	0	.245	.337	.342
Triplett, Coaker	25	90	6	12	10	2	0	2	7	13	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	.133	.222	.196
Berry, Joe	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Candini, Milo	11	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200	.200	.200
Carrasquel, Alex	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Donald, Atley	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Grove, Orval	13	25	2	4	3	0	0	1	2	10	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	0	0	.160	.280	.222
Klieman, Ed	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Lee, Bill	12	25	5	3	0	0	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	.120	.120	.214
Overmire, Stubby	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Passeau, Claude	11	24	0	5	1	1	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.208	.250	.208
Reynolds, Allie	9	14	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	.143	.214	.250
Shirley, Tex	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	.000
Strincevich, Nick	10	20	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	.100	.150	.100
Terry, Yank	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000	.000	.000

	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	S	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	K	IBB	WP	BK	HB	ERA
Berry, Joe	26	0	0	0	1	3	9	33.0	14	8	8	2	12	21	0	0	0	1	2.18
Candini, Milo	11	2	0	0	0	1	0	30.3	23	10	10	2	16	5	0	0	0	0	2.97
Carrasquel, Alex	14	0	0	0	1	1	0	25.3	29	12	11	3	7	6	0	0	0	0	3.91
Donald, Atley	11	0	0	0	3	0	1	13.7	11	6	6	3	4	2	0	1	0	0	3.95
Grove, Orval	13	13	2	2	6	7	0	78.0	95	47	42	4	27	52	0	0	1	0	4.85
Klieman, Ed	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	20.3	12	4	4	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	1.77
Lee, Bill	12	12	4	0	4	6	0	84.0	76	42	37	5	28	23	0	0	0	1	3.96
Overmire, Stubby	10	0	0	0	0	0	2	16.0	17	6	5	0	2	6	0	0	0	1	2.81
Passeau, Claude	11	11	0	0	3	5	0	71.7	71	37	34	3	15	34	0	0	0	1	4.27
Reynolds, Allie	9	8	0	0	1	7	0	53.0	55	38	35	1	41	40	0	0	0	0	5.94
Shirley, Tex	6	6	1	1	2	3	0	39.3	36	16	16	3	15	18	0	1	0	0	3.66
Strincevich, Nick	10	10	0	0	4	3	0	67.3	73	33	28	1	11	23	0	0	0	2	3.74
Terry, Yank	9	0	0	0	1	0	5	12.0	3	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0.00

Stars

Whitey Kurowski, BUF   George Munger, BUF   Hal Newhouser, COL   Lou Boudreau, COL   Ralph Hodgin, FAR
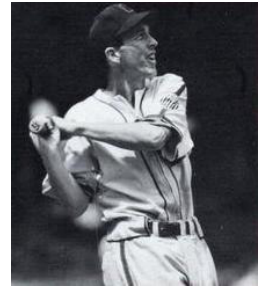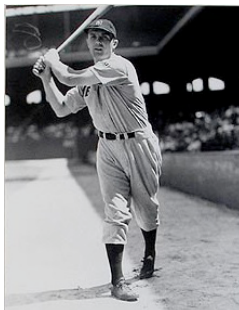
Ken Keltner, FAR   Nick Etten, FSM   Ken Raffensberger, FSM   Snuffy Stirnweiss, IND   Tommy Holmes, IND
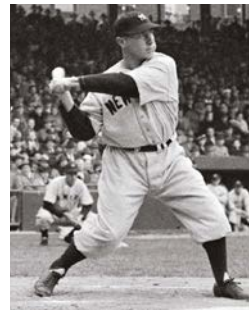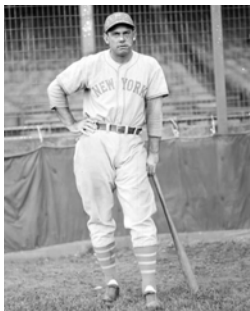
Mel Ott, LOU   Dizzy Trout, LOU   Johnny Lindell, MAR   Dixie Walker, MAR   Vince DiMaggio, OMA

Danny Litwhiler, OMA   Stan Musial, PRO   Tommy delaCruz, PRO   Buddy Kerr, STP   Allie Reynolds, STP
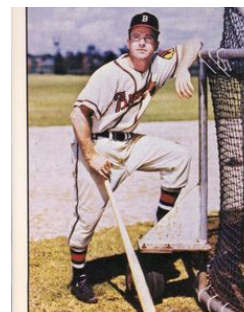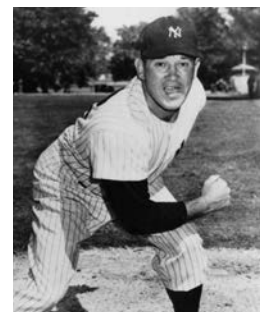
In Service

Howie Pollet, BUF
US Army Air Corps

George Munger, BUF
United States Army

Bobby Doerr, BUF
United States Army

Billy Johnson, COL
United States Army

Jake Wade, COL
United States Navy

Willard Marshall, COL
United Stsates Marines

Joe Beggs, FAR
United States Navy

Tex Hughson, FAR
US Army Air Corps

Ken Keltner, FAR
United States Navy
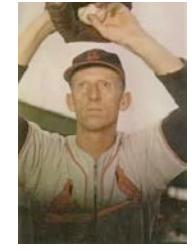
Al Brazle, FSM
United States Army

Harry Gumbert, FSM
United States Army

Clyde McCullough, FSM
United States Navy

Virgil Trucks, IND
United States Navy

John VanderMeer, IND
United States Navy

Harry Walker, IND
United States Army

Joe Dobson, LOU
United States Army

Walker Cooper, LOU
United States Navy

Mickey Vernon, LOU
United States Navy

Schoolboy Rowe, MAR
United States Navy
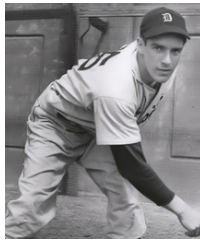
Hal White, MAR
United States Navy

Connie Ryan, MAR
United States Navy

Dan Litwhiler, OMA
United States Army
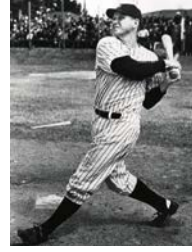
Jerry Priddy, OMA
US Atmy Air Corps
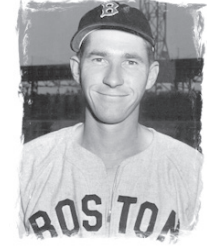
Hal Wagner, OMA
United States Army

Early Wynn, PRO
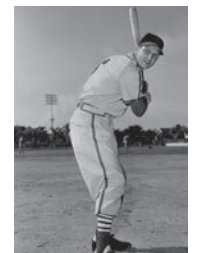
Stan Musial, PRO

Joe Gordon, PRO
US Army Air Corps

Murray Dickson, STP
United States Army

Elbie Fletcher, STP
United States Army
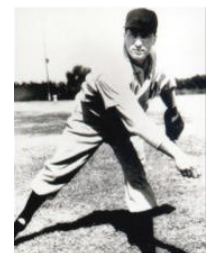
Milo Candini, STP
United States Army

All-Star Game
at Omaha

The All-Star contest was held at Omaha. The North jumped out to a quick lead, with a first-inning double by Whitey Kurowski driving in the first, and the second inning featuring a run on a double-play grounder. The North All-Stars responded with two runs in the fourth, including a run-scoring triple by Dixie Walker, but the South managed two more in the bottom of the inning. The clubs traded runs in the seventh, on a solo homer by Tony Lupien off Bucky Walters and a sac fly by Ken Keltner driving home Buddy Kerr (who had tripled earlier); but that was the end of the offense; Andy Karl and George Munger closed it out with two shutout innings, giving the North its first All-Star win. Buffalo's Whitey Kurowski was the MVP, driving in the first and fourth runs for his club.

```
Southern All-Stars     0  0  0  2  0  0  1  0  0  -  3  9  1
Northern All-Stars     1  1  0  2  0  0  1  0  x  -  5 11  0
```

SOUTHERN DIVISION ALL-STARS

	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	K
Stirnweiss, 2b	4	0	0	0	0	2
Elliott, ph#	1	0	0	0	0	0
Etten, 1b	3	0	1	0	0	1
Dubiel, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lanier, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
McQuinn, ph-1b¶	1	0	1	0	0	0
Boudreau, ss	4	0	0	0	0	1
Holmes, cf	3	1	1	0	1	0
D. Walker, rf	4	1	1	1	0	0
Hodgin, 3b	4	0	3	1	0	1
Hockett, lf	2	0	0	0	0	1
Cramer, ph-lf§	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mueller, c	3	0	1	0	0	0
Cooper, ph‡	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kramer, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ott, ph*	1	0	0	0	0	0
Vandenberg, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flores, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lupien, ph-1b†	2	1	1	1	0	0
Trout, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ostermueller, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nicholson, ph%	1	0	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	**36**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**1**	**7**

* Flew out for Kramer in the 3rd.
† Flew out for Flores in the 5t.
§ Grounded out for Hockett in the 6th.
¶ Singled for Lanier in the 7th.
‡ Popped up for Mueller in the 9th.
% Struck out for Ostermueller in the 9th.
# Flew out for Stirnweiss in the 9th.

2B - Holmes.
3B - D. Walker, Hodgin.
HR - Lupien (7th off Walters, 1 out, 0 on).

	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
Kramer	2.0	5	2	2	0	1	1
Vandenberg	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Flores (L)	1.0	2	2	2	0	2	0
Dubiel	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Lanier	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Trout	1.0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Ostermueller	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	8.0	11	5	5	0	5	3

NORTHERN DIVISION ALL-STARS

	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	K
Hopp, 1b	1	0	0	0	2	0
W. Lee, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Borowy, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hall, ph-2b¶	2	0	1	0	0	0
Karl, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Munger, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kurowski, 3b	3	1	1	2	0	1
Doerr, ph-2b%	1	0	0	0	0	0
Musial, lf	4	0	2	0	0	0
Kreevich, lf	1	0	0	0	0	0
Spence, rf	4	0	0	0	0	1
Hemsley, c	3	0	0	0	0	0
Kerr, pr-ss§	1	1	1	0	0	0
Tucker, cf	3	1	1	0	1	1
Mayo, 2b	3	1	2	0	0	0
Walters, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Keltner, ph-3b ‡	0	0	0	1	0	0
Sullivan, ss	1	1	0	0	1	0
Wagner, c	1	0	0	0	1	0
Niggeling, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Russell, ph*	1	0	1	0	0	0
Hughson, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Siebert, ph-1b†	3	0	2	1	0	0
TOTALS	**32**	**5**	**11**	**4**	**5**	**3**

* Singled for Niggeling in the 2nd.
† Singled for Hughson in the 4th.
§ Pinch-ran for Hemsley in the 5th.
¶ Singled for Borowy in the 6th.
‡ Hit sac fly for Walters in the 7th.
% Popped up for Karl in the 8th.

2B - Kurowski.
3B - Kerr.
SF - Kurowski, Keltner.
SB - Kerr (off Dubiel/Mueller).

	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
Niggeling	2.0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Hughson (W)	2.0	3	2	2	0	1	2
W. Lee	1.2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Borowy	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Walters	1.0	2	1	1	1	0	0
Karl	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Munger (S)	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	9.0	9	3	3	1	1	7

DP - Sullivan.

MVP - Kurowski.

Baseball in 1944

THE GAME

What was true in 1943 was even more true in 1944, and in general averages were down and doubles and triples were far in excess of home runs. Many teams had regulars with one or two power numbers, and most bullpens were stocked with starters not good enough to make the rotation. Given the relative pitching weakness overall, the starting pitcher often went four or five innings before departing for a pinch-hitter, or tried to "tough it out" with a two or three run lead late in the game (as the relief corps wasn't much better, if at all). Benches were also thin, as more players had only partial seasons, and the pinch-hitting choices didn't offer a lot of variety. With speed less common, there weren't a lot of pinch-running options either.

The absence of even more stars from major league rosters will allow a good number of players to be active whose careers will attend when the regulars come marching home.

MILITARY RESERVES

In order to preserve some sort of continuity, the teams will have the ability to retain three players who enter the military in 1945. These players will be held for the upcoming season:

Buffalo: Howie Pollet, p; George Munger, p; Bobby Doerr, 2b.
Columbus: Will Johnson, 3b; Willard Marshall, of; Ray Mueller, c.
Fargo: Joe Beggs, p; Tex Hughson, p; Ken Keltner, 3b.
Ft. Smith: Al Brazle, p; Al Brazle, p; Harry Gumbert, p.
Indianapolis: Johnny Vander Meer, p; Virgil Trucks, p; Harry Walker, of.
Louisville: Joe Dobson, p; Mickey Vernon, 1b; Walker Cooper, c.
Martinsburg: Schoolboy Rowe, p; Hal White, p; Connie Ryan, if.
Omaha: Jerry Priddy, 2b; Dan Litwhiler, of; Hal Wagner, c.
Providence: Early Wynn, p; Joe Gordon, 2b; Stan Musial, of.
St. Paul: Milo Candini, p; Murry Dickson, p; Elbie Fletcher, 1b.

In addition, each team will be permitted to carry two non-carded players above the 30-card limit. These are subject to the protection draft, and consist largely of players who didn't appear in 1945 but are carded in 1946 (most often due to military service). With the protection draft cut to 15, there should be a lot of roster movement, especially when we reach 1946 when it will be much deeper.

Sudden Death

At the All-Star Break, it looked like it was going to be quite a race in the Southern Division, conspicuously without last year's division winner Fort Smith, which was without several key players that had helped them succeed in 1943. It also looked like it wasn't going to be a year for the Louisville Colonels and their manager, "Kentucky Colonel" Earle Combs. They were just below .500, three games behind both Columbus and Indianapolis.

But it's a marathon, not a sprint, and while Indianapolis began to fall away, Louisville began to win. Dizzy Trout was phenomenal, finishing almost every game he started, while the middle of the order – Mel Ott and Bill Nicholson – got on base and hit homers, rare in wartime. By the two-thirds mark they were above .500, but Columbus was still winning as well, just not at quite the same rate. Heading into the final weeks of the season, Louisville had closed to just two games behind, and on the last weekend, four teams still had a chance. Martinsburg and Indianapolis were far enough out that one of the two had to sweep and then get extremely lucky. It was still Columbus' pennant to win or lose.

Louisville had the toughest road: they had three games against Providence, which had clinched its pennant days earlier. But magic came to Parkway Field: while Columbus dropped two of three to defending champ Omaha, far out of contention, Louisville made mincemeat of the best team in the league, scoring 23 runs in three games. With the other two teams splitting and out of contention, it all came down to one playoff game between two teams – Columbus, which had been in control for most of the second half, and Louisville, which had come out of nowhere.

Columbus got off to a quick start, scoring three times against Louisville ace Dizzy Trout. The Colonels answered with three of their own in the bottom of the second, including an RBI single by Trout himself. Columbus answered with a run in the third, further damage prevented by an ill-timed steal attempt by George Kell, erased by a strong throw by Walker Cooper. In the fifth, Bill Nicholson hit a blast over the left-field fence, and the Colonels added one more run in the eighth off Prince Hal Newhouser, working in relief. Dizzy Trout, meanwhile, gave up baserunners in the fifth, sixth and seventh, but did not surrender another run, retiring the last six including a final strikeout of Johnny Barrett to send Louisville to the Series.

Asked afterward why he didn't take Trout out of the game, manager Combs replied, "he didn't look tired to me."

Parks and Managers

NORTHERN DIVISION
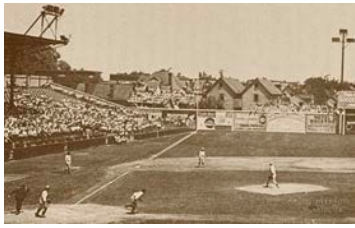
OFFERMANN STADIUM
Ossie Bluege, Manager, Buffalo

BARNETT FIELD
Steve O'Neill, Manager, Fargo

ROURKE PARK
Jimmie Dykes, Manager, Omaha
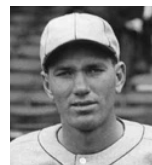
CRANSTON FIELD
Frankie Frisch, Manager, Providence

LEXINGTON PARK
Charlie Grimm, Manager, St. Paul
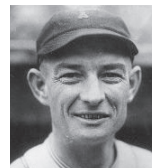
SOUTHERN DIVISION

COOPER STADIUM
Lou Boudreau, Player-Manager, Columbus

ANDREWS FIELD
Dizzy Dean, Manager, Fort Smith

VICTORY FIELD
Bill McKechnie, Manager, Indianapolis

PARKWAY FIELD
Earle Combs, Manager, Louisville

ROSEMONT PARK
Leo Durocher, Manager, Martinsburg

1944

The World Series

Providence recorded the most wins in the league with 37, erasing the disappointment from 1943, and punched its ticket to the Series well in advance of the climactic showdown between Louisville and Columbus (see above). Dizzy Trout's gritty performance made him unavailable for Game 1, and the fans at Cranston Field thought they were in the driver's seat. But baseball is a game of momentum, and Louisville had it in spades. After a Game 1 defeat when a rally fell just short, they took control of the Series and never looked back.

GAME 1 at PROVIDENCE

Providence got off to a quick start, scoring a run in the second inning and then four runs in the third, capped by a Phil Masi double. Rookie Steve Gromek hung in for two more innings, leaving for a pinch-hitter in the top of the sixth; Paul O'Dea's RBI single helped bring the game to 503. Hank Wyse gave way to a reliever, who shut the door, but Lefty Lee gave up another run in the eighth to bring the game to 5-4. Ted Wilks shut them down to bring home the victory

Providence 5, Louisville 4   *WP – Wyse*   *LP – Gromek*   *S – Wilks*

GAME 2 at PROVIDENCE

Dizzy Trout returned on regular rest and was in excellent form, giving up only two walks and no hits through the first fice innings. Louisville's sluggers, meanwhile, were making quick work of Hank Borowy. Pinky Higgins hit a solo homer in the second to make the score 2-0, and Mel Ott delivered a three-run bomb in the fifth. Walker Cooper homered in the 7th off Frank Barrett, and Trout himself took Barrett deep for a two-run homer in the 8th to ice it.

Louisville 8, Providence 1   *WP – Trout*   *LP – Borowy*

GAME 3 at LOUISVILLE

Returning home after a split, the Colonels faced the Mexican hard thrower Tommy De la Cruz, who had gone 7-1, 1.52 during the regular season. They only managed one run against him, Tony Lupien driving home Pete Coscarart who had tripled. In the seventh, Ott tried to score a second run, but was gunned down by Stan Musial. With a slim 1-0 deficit, Frisch pinch-hit for his ace; after Webber threw a shutout inning, Lee went to pieces in the 8th, giving up four runs. Ostermueller was masterful, putting Louisville ahead in the Series 2 games to 1 on his seven-hit shutout.

Louisville 5, Providence 0   *WP – Ostermueller   LP – De La Cruz*

GAME 4 at LOUISVILLE

Wyse and Gromek were rematched in the fourth game, and once again Louisville's powere was on display. Walker Cooper hit a solo homer and Nicholson a two-run shot in the first, making the score 3-1. A Musial double and Dahlgren single made the score 4-2. Wyse and the bullpen – Ewald Pyle and Ted Wilks – surrendered four more runs; meanwhile the wind was blowing out at Parkway Field, as Babe Dahlgren and pinch-hitter Dick Wakefield both homered – but it wasn't enough, and Louisville went up three games to one.

Louisville 8, Providence 5　　　　*WP – Gromek*　　　　*LP – Wyse*　　　　*S – Head*

GAME 5 at LOUISVILLE

With everything on the line, Borowy faced Trout again, and this time both pitchers were on their game. Providence scored a run in the fifth on a Bob Swift double. Borowy held the slim 1-0 lead until the eighth, when a Walker Cooper double tied it up. With Borowy pitching well, he remained in the game into the ninth. He walked Mel Ott to lead off the inning, and he was retired on a fielder's choice by Pinky Higgins. Off with the pitch, he reached second base on a grounder to Irv Hall. Frisch decided he'd rather pitch to Coscarart than Trout; Borowy promptly induced another ground ball to Hall – but this one went through his legs and dribbled into center field. The slow-footed Higgins never stopped running, and when he scored the winning run, pandemonium erupted at Parkway Field, making Louisville the 1944 champs.

Louisville 2, Providence 1　　　　*WP – Trout*　　　　*LP – Borowy*

He never stopped running

Series MVP – Dizzy Trout, Louisville

1944

Teams

NORTHERN DIVISION

Buffalo Chargers
Buffalo, NY

Fargo Phantoms
Fargo, ND

Omaha Comets
Omaha, NB

1943 CHAMPIONS

Providence Grays
Providence, RI

St. Paul Saints
St. Paul, MN

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Columbus Cougars
Columbus, GA

Fort Smith Rangers
Fort Smith, AR

Indianapolis Aces
Indianapolis, IN

Louisville Colonels
Louisville, KY

1944 CHAMPIONS

Martinsburg Mountaineers
Martinsburg, WV