

Grover Brant, "No-Hitter Texas Style"

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On May 27, 1914, 23-year-old Beaumont Oilers lefthander Grover Brant pitches his third Texas (B) League career no-hitter, beating the visiting Galveston Pirates 7-0 in the second game of a double header.

Three years earlier, pitching for the Galveston Sand Crabs, Brant notches his first Texas League no-hitter on September 1, 1911, in a six-inning 3-0 win over the Houston Buffaloes.

Joining the Beaumont Oilers the following season, Brant defeats the Fort Worth Panthers, 2-1, over 12 hitless frames on May 31, 1912 ... 12 days later, the Panthers are no-hit for a second time when Houston's Roscoe "Cy" Watson tosses a 5-0 no-hit win.

Born on Nov. 5, 1890 in Nebo., Illinois, Brant plays collegiately at St. Mary's University in Oakland, Calif. ... in 1907, Brant sets a Pacific Coast amateur record with 21 strikeouts in a game ... a year later he breaks his own strikeout record, totaling a career-high 24 strikeouts.

Brant makes his professional baseball debut in 1910, pitching 18 games with the Columbus Gamecocks in the South Atlantic (C) League ... in the spring of 1911, he reports to the St. Paul Saints, but is sent to Galveston before the regular season starts ... saddled with a 10-20 mark, the Sand Crabs sell his contract to the Brooklyn Dodgers on the same day he hurls no-hitter No. 1 against Houston ... Brooklyn sends him to the Nashville Volunteers before his contract is assigned to Beaumont in time for the 1912 season.

Brant gets a spring training shot with the Boston Red Sox in 1913, but fails to make the team and is sent to the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International (A) League.

Starting 39 games for George Leidy's third-place Beaumont Oilers in 1914, the well-travelled Brant responds with a career-high 23 wins, striking out 191 in 280 innings.

Beaumont Pitcher Twirls No-Hit Game

BEAUMONT, Tex., May 28.—Grover Brant, Beaumont pitcher, and last season with the Boston Braves and Toronto club, pitched the first no hit game of the season in the Texas league yesterday against Galveston. While Brant held his opponents scoreless his team mates piled up seven runs on Clark and Allen, opposing twirlers.

Second game.

	AB.	R.	BF.	PO.	A.	E.
Galveston—						
Madden, 2b.....	3	0	0	2	0	1
Almeyer, lf.....	3	0	0	2	0	0
Tarleton, lb.....	3	0	0	7	0	0
Haerwald, rf.....	4	0	0	4	0	1
Watson, 2b.....	3	0	0	0	3	3
Wilson, c.....	3	0	0	2	3	0
Mummers, ss.....	3	0	0	0	2	1
Johnson, cf.....	3	0	0	3	0	0
Clark, p.....	3	0	0	0	1	1
Allen, p.....	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	20	0	0	24	9	6
Beaumont—						
Betts, c.....	2	1	1	7	2	0
Love, 2b.....	4	0	0	2	2	0
Dodd, 3b.....	4	1	1	0	0	0
Edmondson, rf.....	4	1	3	2	0	0
Cooke, lb.....	4	1	1	10	1	0
Nixon, cf.....	3	1	0	3	0	0
Durkin, ss.....	3	0	0	0	4	0
Kibler, 3b.....	3	1	0	2	0	0
Brant, p.....	4	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	32	7	3	37	10	1
By innings—						
Galveston	000	000	000	—	0	
Beaumont	100	015	00*	—	7	

SUMMARY.

Innings pitched: By Clark 6, runs 7, hits 3; by Allen 2, no runs, 1 hit. Three-base hit: Edmondson. Wild pitch: By Clark. Double play: Betts to Love. Sacrifices: Allee, Durkin, Betts. Left on bases: Galveston 4, Beaumont 3. Struck out: By Allen 2, by Brant 4. Bases on balls: Off Clark 1, off Brant 4. Batter's hit: Nixon (by Clark), Tarleton (by Brant). Stolen bases: Edmondson. Time of game: One hour and twenty-five minutes. Umpires: Moran and Matthews.

Brant Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	SO	ERA
1907	St. Mary's University		College			
1908	St. Mary's University		College			
1910	Columbus Gamecocks	South Atlantic	C	1-1		
1910	Fresno	California Winter League	Ind.			
1911	Galveston Sand Crabs	Texas	B	10-20	215	
1912	Beaumont Oilers	Texas	B	7-9	125	
1913	Toronto Maple Leafs	International	AA	3-7		
1913	St. Paul Saints	American Assoc.	AA	8-10		
1914	Beaumont Oilers	Texas	B	23-12	191	
1915	Beaumont Oilers	Texas	B	15-17	169	
1915	Los Angeles Angels	Pacific Coast	AA	3-4		3.33
1916	Los Angeles Angels	Pacific Coast	AA	0-2		9.53
1916	San Antonio Bronchos	Texas	B	11-10	105	
1919	Salt Lake City Bees	Pacific Coast	AA	0-0		
1920	Edmonton Eskimos	Western Canada	B	7-12	102	2.00

Following a combined 11-12 mark with the Los Angeles Angels and San Antonio Bronchos in 1916, Brant enters the military for World War I and is assigned to a submarine base in San Pedro, Calif.

After missing the 1917 and 1918 seasons, Brant resumes his career in April of 1919, for one game (totaling eight pitches) with the Salt Lake City Bees of the Pacific Coast (AA) League.

Brant retires from baseball following a 7-12 mark with the Edmonton Eskimos of the Western Canada (B) League in 1920, ending a nine-year minor league career with 88 wins and 104 defeats.

Houston--		AB.	R.	BH.	PO.	A.	E.
Fillman, 2b	3	0	0	1	1	0	1
Davis, cf	2	0	0	2	2	0	0
Fesbits, rf	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Salm, lb	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
Britton, 3b	3	0	0	2	2	0	0
Whiteman, lf	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Kerr, ss	2	0	0	0	2	1	0
Allen, c	1	0	0	0	5	1	0
Foster, p	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	18	0	0	18	6	1	1
Galveston--		AB.	R.	BH.	PO.	A.	E.
Kruger, 3b	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Thebo, 2b	3	1	2	0	2	2	1
James, cf	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Williams, lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puttmann, lb	2	0	1	5	0	0	0
Firestone, ss	2	1	1	1	1	1	0
Sweet, rf	2	2	0	1	0	0	0
Brummell, c	2	0	1	11	1	1	0
Brandt, p	3	0	0	0	0	2	0
Totals	22	5	6	18	0	1	1
By innings--							
Houston		000	000	-- 0		
Galveston		000	120	-- 3		

SUMMARY.

Three-base hit: Puttmann.
 Double play: Britton to Kerr.
 Bases on balls: Off Foster 5, off Brandt 4.
 Hit by pitcher: Davis (by Brandt).
 Struck out: By Foster 6, by Brandt 10.
 Passed ball: Brummell.
 Left on bases: Houston 1, Galveston 6.
 Time: One hour and six minutes.
 Umpire: Jacobs.

◀◀ Sept. 1, 1911

Pitching for the last-place Galveston Sand Crabs of the Texas (B) League, Brant strikes out 10 and walks four en route to picking up his first career no-hitter, a 3-0, six-inning decision over the Houston Buffaloes ... during the game it becomes known that both Brant and 24-year-old centerfielder Bert James have been sold to the Brooklyn Dodgers and the small crowd has fun with the two opposing players, dubbing them the "Brooklyn Kids."

May 31, 1912

Brant, pitching for the Beaumont Oilers, hurls his second career no-hitter in a 2-1, 12-inning win over the Fort Worth Panthers, striking out 14.

April 14, 1914

Brant comes close to picking up his third career no-hitter when he and Galveston Pirates' Gene Moore hook up in a pitchers' dual in Galveston's Gulfview Park ... in the second game of the young season, Brant holds the Pirates hitless through the first nine innings ... Beaumont grabs the Texas (B) League win 2-0 in 12 innings ... Brant picks up the shutout win, allowing only two hits.

May 27, 1914

23-year-old Beaumont Oiler lefthander Grover Brant pitches his third no-hitter of his career shutting down visiting Galveston 7-0 in the second game of a double-header.

March 14, 1915

Following a brief hold-out, Brant signs his 1915 Beaumont contract ... the club's final offer is a remission of a \$200 fine imposed the previous season, a salary raise and a \$125 signing bonus.

April 14, 1915

Pitching for the Beaumont Oilers in a pre-season game against the National League's New York Giants, Brant strikes out 10, including Jim Thorpe swinging three times.

August 15, 1915

Brant is 15-17 for the Beaumont Oilers, when he is sold to the Los Angeles Angels of the Pacific Coast League for \$750.

April 11, 1919

Brant makes his return to the Pacific Coast League a brief one ... relieving Salt Lake starter Eugene Caldera with two outs in the top of the sixth inning, Brant walks the first two Vernon batters he faces, throwing eight straight balls in the process before he is replaced by Cliff Markle.

April 12, 1919 ▶▶

Following his eight-ball performance the previous afternoon, Brant is released by Bees' manager Eddie Herr and is returned to San Antonio of the Texas League ... the *Salt Lake Telegram* reports that Brant's stay with the Bees is "shorter than any twirler that ever played with the local club, it is said."

July 16, 1963

Brant dies in Fresno, Calif., on July 16, 1963, at the age of 72.

**Eight Balls Enough
For Salt Lake**

Salt Lake City, April 12.—Grover Brant pitched his first and only game for the Salt Lake Bees Friday and he pitched eight straight balls to the two batsmen that faced him in the sixth inning after he went into the box to relieve Caldera. Brant will be sent back to the San Antonio club of the Texas league. Brant's stay with the Bees was shorter than any twirler that ever played with the local club, it is said.