

Ed Fallenstein "Carl Hubbell's Nemesis"

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Far from being a household name, Boston Braves pitcher Ed Fallenstein garners national attention on April 30, 1933, when making his first career start he shutouts the visiting New York Giants in front of 35,000 at Braves Field in Boston, out-dueling Hall of Famer Carl Hubbell in the process.

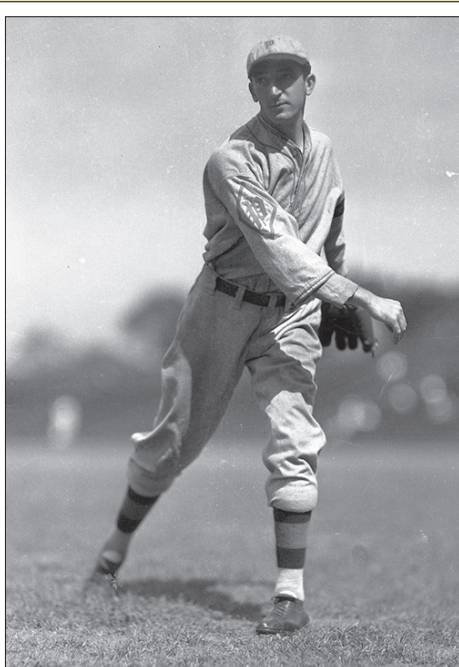
Fallenstein's unexpected mound gem comes five days after pitching three scoreless innings in relief against the Philadelphia Phillies. The 24-year-old Newark, New Jersey, native limits Bill Terry's Giants to three hits - two by first baseman Sam Leslie - while striking out two and walking one.

However, over his next seven games, including three starts, the 6-foot-3, 180-pound right-hander reverts back to form going 1-1 with a 5.48 ERA while allowing 37 hits and 11 walks in 23 innings before being sent to the Buffalo Bisons of the International (AA) League on August 4.

After losing his only start with the Bisons and dropping his *career minor league* record to 9-22, Fallenstein is sent to the New York-Penn (A) League's Harrisburg Senators where he takes the hill twice in the season's final weeks.

That December, the Senators invite the less than successful hurler to the team's 1934 spring training. However, on April 4, 1934, less than four weeks prior to the season opener, Harrisburg president Bob Fuchs announces that Fallenstein has decided to retire and enter into business and play only semipro baseball with the Belmar (N.J.) Braves during the upcoming summer.

Fallenstein, also known as Fallensten, finishes his two-year, 33-game major league career with a 2-1 mark, a 1.80 WHIP and a 5.52 ERA.



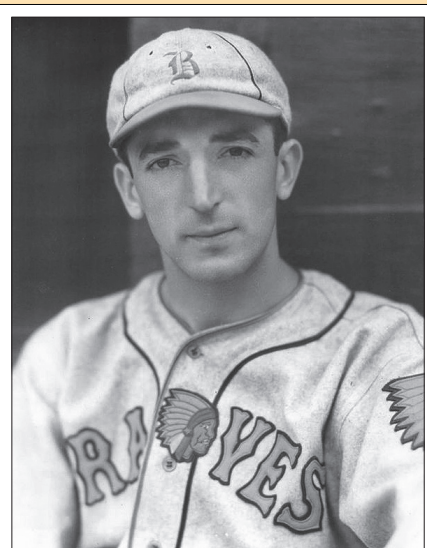
Ed Fallenstein
1931 Philadelphia Phillies

April 30, 1933
Braves Field, Boston, Mass.

| NEW YORK | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|---|---|----|----|---|
| | AB | R | H | O | A | E |
| Davis, cf. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Critz, 2b. | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| Ott, rf. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Leslie, 1b. | 3 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 0 |
| J. Moore lf. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Vergez, 3b. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mancuso, c. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Ryan, ss. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| xPeel | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hubbell, p. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| xxLeiber | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 27 | 0 | 3 | 24 | 12 | 0 |

| BOSTON | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|---|---|----|----|---|
| | AB | R | H | O | A | E |
| Urbanski, ss. | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Jordan, 1b. | 4 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1 | 0 |
| Worthington, rf. | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Berger, cf. | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hogan, c. | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Gyselmann 3b. | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Holland, lf. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Maranville, 2b. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Fallenstein, p. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Totals | 28 | 3 | 6 | 27 | 16 | 1 |

xBatted for Ryan in ninth.
xxBatted for Hubbell in ninth.
New York 000 000 000—0
Boston 002 000 10x—3
Runs batted in: Maranville, 2; Jordan.
Two-base hits: Leslie, Urbanski, Holland, Maranville. Sacrifices: Urbanski. Double plays: Critz to Ryan to Leslie; Maranville to Jordan; Maranville to Urbanski to Jordan.
Left on bases: New York, 1; Boston, 4. Base on balls: off Hubbell, 2; Fallenstein, 1. Struck out: by Hubbell, 5; Fallenstein, 2. Umpires: Pflrman, Quigley, Barr. Time of game: 1:28.



Ed Fallenstein
1933 Boston Braves

On April 4, 1928, Fallenstein, an outstanding pitcher for the St. Benedict Prep school in Newark, is declared ineligible for the upcoming season by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association after it is disclosed that he had pitched in eight games in 1927 for the International League's Reading Keystones under the alias Ed Fallen.

Fallen (Fallenstein), reported to be a college pitcher, had been pitching batting practice for the Keystones when he is signed. He makes his professional debut on August 4, pitching a scoreless ninth inning against the Newark Bears.

Signed by the Phillies while playing in the Lackawanna League in western New York state in 1928, Fallenstein "officially" begins his minor league career in 1929, finishing with a 2-6

YOUNG READING TWIRLER IS BARRED BY HIS SCHOOL

NEWARK, N. J., April 4—Eddie Fallenstein, star right-handed pitcher of St. Benedict's Prep school here, was declared ineligible to participate in scholastic sports today by the Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic association. Fallenstein pitched in eight games for the Reading Internationals last season under the name of Fallen and thereby lost his amateur status. Fallenstein will join the Reading team in June after school closes.

Ed Fallenstein [2 of 3]:

mark and 6.53 ERA while splitting time between the Newark Bears of the International (AA) League and the New York-Penn (A) League's Wilkes-Barre Barons.

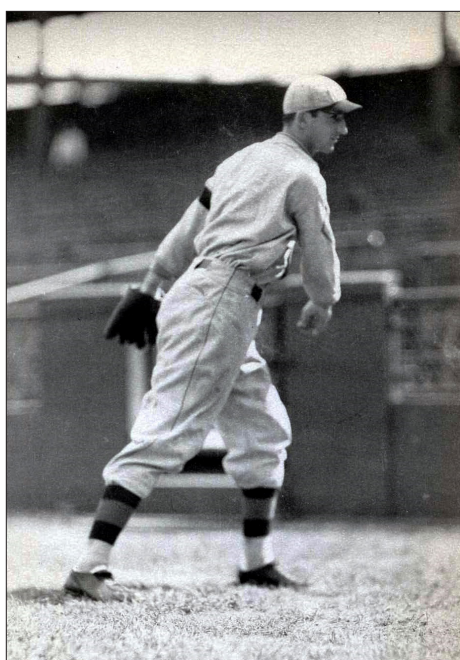
A year later, he is 4-7 with a 5.25 ERA while playing for Newark and the Providence Grays of the Eastern (A) League.

Despite his relative lack of success, Fallenstein and his much-heralded fast-ball are much in demand as evidenced by the Philadelphia Phillies' efforts to obtain his contract from Newark in the off-season.

Newark manager Al Mamaux turns down an offer from the Phillies to trade Fallenstein straight-up for 32-year-old pitcher Chet Nichols who is coming off an 1-2 season with a 6.79 ERA. Eventually Mamaux gives in and sells his youthful hurler to the Phillies prior to spring training.

So armed with a two-year minor league mark of 6-13 and a 5.83 ERA, 22-year-old Edward Joseph Fallenstein makes the National League's Philadelphia Phillies' opening day roster in 1931. He will pitch in 24 games for Burt Shotten's sixth-place Phillies, finishing with no decisions and 7.13 ERA. On August 6, both Nichols (0-1, 9.53) and Fallenstein are released to the Eastern League's Allentown Buffaloes where he is 0-2 in five appearances.

Invited to the Boston Braves 1932 spring training, Fallenstein opens the season in the minors where he is a combined 3-6 while toiling for the Jersey City Skeeters and the Scranton Miners.



Ed Fallenstein
1931 Philadelphia Phillies

Ed Fallenstein Year by Year:

| Year | Team | League | Level | W-L | GP | INN | H | BB | SO | ERA |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1927 | Maplewood (N.J.) Field Club | --- | SPro | - | - | - | - | - | - | --- |
| | Reading Keystones | International | AA | - | 8 | - | - | - | - | --- |
| 1928 | Madison (N.Y.) | Lackawanna | SPro | - | - | - | - | - | - | --- |
| 1929 | 2 Teams | 2 Leagues | B-AA | 2-6 | 24 | 85 | 106 | 53 | - | 6.53 |
| | Newark Bears | International | AA | 1-2 | 12 | 34 | 42 | 19 | - | 6.35 |
| | Wilkes-Barre Barons | New York-Penn | B | 1-4 | 12 | 51 | 64 | 34 | - | 6.71 |
| 1930 | 2 Teams | 2 Leagues | A-AA | 4-7 | 26 | 108 | 116 | 56 | - | 5.25 |
| | Providence Grays | Eastern | A | 4-6 | 15 | 80 | 78 | 38 | - | 3.82 |
| | Newark Bears | International | AA | 0-1 | 11 | 28 | 38 | 18 | 5 | 9.32 |
| 1931 | Philadelphia Phillies | NATIONAL | MLB | 0-0 | 24 | 41.2 | 56 | 26 | 15 | 7.13 |
| | Allentown Buffaloes | Eastern | A | 0-2 | 5 | - | - | - | - | --- |
| 1932 | 2 Teams | 2 Leagues | B-AA | 3-6 | 16 | 70 | 83 | 46 | 2 | --- |
| | Jersey City Skeeters | International | AA | 0-2 | 8 | 25 | 33 | 18 | 2 | --- |
| | Scranton Miners | New York-Penn | B | 3-4 | 8 | 45 | 50 | 28 | - | 5.20 |
| 1933 | Boston Braves | NATIONAL | MLB | 2-1 | 9 | 35 | 43 | 13 | 5 | 3.60 |
| | 2 Teams | 2 Leagues | A-AA | 0-1 | 3 | - | - | - | - | --- |
| | Buffalo Bisons | International | AA | 0-1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | --- |
| | Harrisburg Senators | New York-Penn | A | 0-0 | 2 | - | - | - | - | --- |
| 1934 | Belmar (N.J.) Braves | --- | SPro | - | - | - | - | - | - | --- |
| Major League Totals | | | | 2-1 | 33 | 76.2 | 99 | 39 | 20 | 5.52 |
| Minor League Totals | | | | 9-22 | 80 | 263.0 | 305 | 155 | -- | --- |

ML Debut: April 16, 1931 at Baker Bowl, Philadelphia: relieved Ben Shields in the top of the 8th inning in a 14-4 loss to the New York Giants, pitched two innings allowing 2 runs (1 earned) on 3 hits and 1 strikeout.

ML Finale: July 23, 1933, at Sportsman Park, St. Louis: relieved starter Ben Cantwell in the top of the 5th inning in a 12-0 loss to the St. Louis Cardinals, pitched 1/3 inning allowing 2 run (1 earned) on 2 hits.

On April 4, 1934, Harrisburg Senators president Bob Fuchs announces that Fallenstein has decided to retire from professional baseball at the age of 25 and will enter into private business and play only semipro baseball this summer.

Fallenstein passes away on November 24, 1971, in Orange, New Jersey at the age of 62.

FALLENSTEIN CHRONOLOGY

1927

Plays with the Reading Keystones of the International League under the alias of Ed Fallen.

April 4, 1928

An outstanding pitcher for the St. Benedict Prep school in Newark, Fallenstein is declared ineligible for the upcoming season by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association after it is disclosed that he had pitched in eight games in 1927 for the Reading Keystones under the alias Ed Fallen.

May 29, 1929

Saddled with a seven-game losing streak following a 10-5 loss to Syracuse, Wilkes-Barre manager Mike Konnick makes some roster changes when the Barons acquire Fallenstein and 32-year Art Johnson from the Newark Bears ... Fallenstein is 1-2 with a 6.35 ERA in 12 games with the Bears while Johnson has no decisions in four games.

Ed Fallenstein [3 of 3]:

Newark Spurns Phil's Offer for Fallenstein

Newark of the International League has refused a chance to trade Ed Fallenstein to the Philadelphia Nationals for Pitcher Chester Nichols. Standing 6 feet 3 inches, Fallenstein is credited with having the fastest ball in the league, lacking only control to make him a highly successful pitcher. The deal was suggested by Gerald Nugent, business manager of the Phillies, but turned down by Manager Al Mamaux of the Newark club, who figures Fallenstein will develop into a star with the Bruins this year.

October 12, 1930

(This story was used in Fallenstein's preseason bio for the Jersey City Skeeters in 1932, but I have not been able to confirm its accuracy) Pitching for the International League barnstormers, Fallenstein hurls a perfect game against the Pittsburgh Homestead Grays at Bears Stadium in Newark.

February 23, 1931

Newark manager Al Mamaux turns down an offer from the Phillies to trade Fallenstein straight-up for 32-year-old pitcher Chet Nichols who is coming off an 1-2 season with a 6.79 ERA ... eventually Mamaux sells his youthful hurler to the Phillies prior to spring training.

July 23, 1931

To make room for the recently acquired Sheriff Blake, the Philadelphia Phillies release Fallenstein on option to the Allentown Buffaloes of the Eastern League.

August 12, 1931

Allentown manager Bullet Joe Bush sends Fallenstein back to the Philadelphia Phillies because the right-hander failed to "hit his stride" in five appearances with the Buffaloes.

March 5, 1932

Boston Braves manager Burt Shotton says "Fallenstein may need a little polishing. I like his poise and courage and he has a great fast ball. If he can find a curve to mix with it, he will be ready."

March 29, 1932

The Phillies release Fallenstein, Frank Watt and Bill Hargrove on option to Jersey City of the International League.

May 27, 1932

Scranton business manager Mike Kelly signs Fallenstein and outfielder Roy Carlyle.

June 1932

Fallenstein is 3-4 with a 5.20 ERA with the Scranton Miners when he suffers a broken wrist forcing him to miss the remainder of the season.

March 25, 1933

Signed by the Boston Braves as a free agent in the off season but not listed on the team roster, Fallenstein holds the New York Yankees hitless over eight innings in a spring training game in St. Petersburg, Florida ... misses a no-hit bid when Bill Werber doubles with one out in the ninth as the Braves post a 4-2 win.

April 31, 1933

Fallenstein out-duels Carl Hubbell, pitching a three-hit shutout of the New York Giants in the first game of a doubleheader ... the Braves get six hits off of Hubbell en route to a 3-0 victory before 35,000 in Braves Field.

December 27, 1933

Harrisburg Senators invite Fallenstein to spring training.

January 18, 1934

Fallenstein is among five players reinstated by Baseball Commissioner Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis.

April 4, 1934

Harrisburg president Bob Fuchs announces that recently-acquired Ed Fallenstein has decided to retire and enter into business and play only semipro baseball this upcoming summer.

November 24, 1971

Fallenstein passes away in Orange, New Jersey at the age of 62.

ED FALLENSTEIN QUITS PRO BALL

The retirement of Ed Fallenstein, pitcher, who was recently optioned by the Boston Braves to the Senators, from organized baseball was announced last night by Bob Fuchs, president of the local team. Fallenstein plans to go into business and will play only semi-pro baseball this year.

The decision means that the former Wilkes-Barre Barons' hurler and member of the Braves' pitching staff last year will not report to the local club this season.