

Fair Crews, "Whitsett Wonder"

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On July 27, 1929, during a warm 85 degree Saturday afternoon in High Point, North Carolina, Greensboro Patriots' star pitcher Fair "Rube" Crews accomplishes what very few pitchers ever have.

In a performance that barely garners attention outside of the two attending newspapers, Crews pitches back-to-back complete game shutouts in a Piedmont League doubleheader against the nearby rival High Point Pointers.

Allowing only 11 hits and two walks in 16 innings of work, Crews strikes out seven as the first place Patriots increase their lead over the Durham Bulls to 1 1/2 games with the 7-0 and 6-0 wins.

Crews' performance marks the second time in a little over three weeks that he pitches, and wins both games of a doubleheader. On July 5, Crews pitches a pair of complete game wins in a twinbill sweep of the Durham Bulls.

Born DeAughbyne Faire Crews on October 12, 1894, in the small town of Guthrie, just outside of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, this 5-foot-8 right-hander could have easily been mistaken for someone in a witness protection program with as many different names he was titled to during his 13-year minor league career.

CREWS BLANKS THE POINTERS TWICE

Greensboro	Ab.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Young, 2b	3	0	1	2	2	0
Kilpatrick, ss	5	0	1	2	4	0
Brandon, c	4	1	1	5	0	0
Parrish, rf	5	2	2	0	0	0
Cox, lb	4	1	1	11	0	0
Brummitt, lf	4	1	1	0	0	0
Baker, 3b	4	0	0	1	1	0
Harrell, cf	4	0	1	5	0	0
Crews, p	2	1	1	0	1	0
Totals	36	6	9	27	8	0
High Point	Ab.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Williams, lf	4	0	1	4	0	0
Millsaps, 2b	4	0	2	2	2	1
J. Jones, cf	4	0	0	1	0	0
Bbone, rf	4	0	1	3	0	0
Ranval, c	4	0	0	1	0	0
Sanford, lb	3	0	0	10	0	0
Crowley, 3b	3	0	0	3	2	1
Conklin, p	2	0	0	0	2	0
xTankersley, c	1	0	1	0	0	0
Miller, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	32	0	7	27	8	2

xBatted for Conklin in eighth.
 Score by innings: R.
 Greensboro 010 101 021—6
 High Point 000 000 000—0
 Summary: Home runs: Parrish, (2.) Brummitt. Sacrifices: Young, 2; Brandon. Double plays: Kilpatrick to Young to Cox; Young to Kilpatrick to Cox. Left on bases: High Point, 5; Greensboro, 6. Base on balls: Off Conklin, 1. Struck out: By Crews, 5; Conklin, 1. Hits: Off Conklin, 8 in 8 innings; Miller, 1 in 1. Losing pitcher: Conklin. Umpires: Taylor and McCarthy. Time: 2:05.

Greensboro	Ab.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Young, 2b	4	0	0	3	2	1
Kilpatrick, ss	3	2	1	1	1	0
Brandon, c	3	0	0	5	0	0
Parrish, rf	4	2	1	0	0	0
Cox, lb	4	0	1	3	1	0
Brummitt, lf	2	1	1	2	0	0
Baker, 3b	2	2	1	1	2	0
Harrell, cf	2	0	2	0	0	0
Crews, p	2	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	29	7	7	21	6	1
High Point	Ab.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Williams, lf	3	0	0	1	0	1
Millsaps, 2b	3	0	0	5	6	1
Ronne, rf	3	0	1	0	0	0
Jones, cf	3	0	0	1	0	0
Ford, ss	3	0	2	2	2	0
Sanford, lb	3	0	0	10	1	0
Crowley, 3b	2	0	0	0	3	0
Ranval, c	0	0	0	0	1	0
Walters, p	2	0	0	0	0	0
xTankersley, c	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	4	19	13	0

xBatted for Crowley in seventh.
 Score by innings: R.
 Greensboro 010 004 2—7
 High Point 000 000 0—0
 Summary—Runs batted in: Harrell, (3.) Parrish, Cox (2.) Two base hits: Harrell, 2; Parrish, Walters, Cox, Ford. Stolen bases: Kilpatrick. Sacrifices: Brandon. Left on bases: Greensboro, 4; High Point, 2. Base on balls: Off Crews, 1; Walters, 2. Struck out: By Crews, 2; Walters, 2. Umpires: Taylor and McCarthy. Time: 1:10.



Fair Crews
1914 Whitsett Institute

With the first name of DeAughbyne, you should be entitled to any first name of your choice and over his career in the Piedmont League, his primary moniker was "Rube". However, during his career he is referred to as: D.F. Crews, Fair Crews, Faire Crews, Sam Fair Crews, Sam Crews, Samuel Crews, Ruben Crews and of course, "The Guthrie Cyclone."

A 179-game winner in the minor leagues, Crews' mound accomplishments are as varied as they are numerous. He leads the Southern Association in shutouts (5) in 1920. In 1922, he leads the Piedmont League in strikeouts (128) and a year later will pace that circuit in wins with 22.

A seven-time opening day starter, Crews will pitch 200 or more innings nine times, including a six-year stretch (1921-1926) while toiling for the Greenville Spinners and Greensboro.

On May 2, 1919, while with the Birmingham Barons, Crews hurls a no-hitter against the Mobile Bears. In 1928, in an effort to bring baseball back to his adopted home town of Greensboro, Crews

Ahead Of His Time

President Bramham further requests that the managers, when a catcher (the species is slow of foot) becomes a base runner he shall be allowed a substitute runner upon the request of the manager, the opposing pilot or captain to select the pinch runner. This is also for the purpose of shortening the games.

April 29, 1916

Only four days into the season, North Carolina State League President W.G. Bramham makes several "requests" to speed up the game. In addition to allowing a pinch runner for the catcher, as selected by the opposing manager, Bramham also requests that the on deck batter be stationed no farther than 25 feet from home plate. Another rule instituted by Bramham is not allowing for warm up pitches between innings has not been enforced by league umpires.

Fair Crews [2 of 7]:

becomes a one-third owner of the team for one season. Despite his stature, Crews is noted for his fastball, a pitch that gets him noticed by the Philadelphia Athletics during his rookie season of 1916, and by the Detroit Tigers ten years later.

Crews attempts to start his professional career in the spring of 1915, trying out with the local Winston-Salem Twins of the North Carolina State (D) League, manager Charles Clancy feels that the 21-year-old Forsyth County product needs "more maturity" and he fails to make the team's opening day roster.

A year later, on April 15, 1916, while playing for Whitsett Institute, Greensboro Patriots' manager James Kelly inks him to his first pro contract. Crews makes his pro debut with the Patriots on April 27, while still finishing his scholastic career at Whitsett.

Crews is 14-19 in his rookie season with Greensboro and is second in league leaders to Winston-Salem's Herman Schwartje (183) in strikeouts with 174, and fourth in innings pitched (284). He completes 26 games in 34 starts, with two shutouts.

In late June, Crews is impressive enough to attract the attention of the Philadelphia Athletics and his contract with the Patriots is put under a \$250 option by Philadelphia.

Following a injury-plagued 1-4 mark in 1917 with the Buffalo Bisons and Greensboro, and year in the military, Crews reemerges with Birmingham of the Southern Association where is 12-15, but has a league-leading five shutouts with the next-to-last place Barons. After the season, he is sold to the Chattanooga Lookouts, but refuses to report.

After two seasons (1920-1921) with the Greenville Spinners, Crews returns to Greensboro for eight seasons. He begins the 1931 season with the Henderson Gamecocks, but is released nine days before the end of the season.

Following his playing days, he enters the cement business in Greensboro before joining the city's police department in 1933. Crews passes away on October 30, 1956, from a brain tumor at Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro.

Fair Crews Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	GP	INN	H	BB	SO	ERA
1914	RJ Reynolds Tobacconists	-	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1915	Salem Twins	-	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1916	Whitsett Institute	-	HS	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1916	Greensboro Patriots	North Carolina State	D	14-19	41	284.0	240	108	174	2.60
1917	2 Teams	2 Leagues	D/AA	1-4	9	35.2	37	25	14	--
	Buffalo Bisons	International	AA	0-3	6	16.2	12	17	8	--
	Greensboro Patriots	North Carolina State	D	1-1	3	19.0	25	8	6	--
1917	Draper	Tar Heel	Ind.	0-1	1	9.0	13	-	-	--
1918	Military Service									
1919	Birmingham Barons	Southern	A	12-15	36	232.0	214	97	88	2.87
1920	Greenville Spinners	South Atlantic	C	7-9	17	111.0	117	56	65	2.92
1921	Greenville Spinners	South Atlantic	B	14-13	35	222.0	246	96	119	4.50
1922	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	18-13	33	258.1	222	82	128	-
1923	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	22-10	36	261.0	281	80	119	-
1924	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	16-10	35	227.0	206	60	105	3.29
1925	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	10-16	37	209.0	233	62	96	4.78
1926	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	19-5	39	231.0	193	52	119	2.65
1927	Gate City Police	Greensboro City	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1927	Fieldale (Va.)	Ind.	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1928	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	11-6	30	161.0	191	55	-	6.32
1929	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	18-12	37	234.0	263	78	-	4.77
1930	2 Teams	Piedmont	C	3-13	22	135.0	161	36	59	--
	Greensboro Patriots	Piedmont	C	1-3	5	35.0	43	7	16	--
	High Point Pointers	Piedmont	C	2-10	17	100.0	118	29	43	--
1931	Henderson Gamecocks	Piedmont	C	11-14	27	199.0	230	90	-	--
1932	Mayodan	Central Carolina	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1933	Graham	Central Carolina	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
Minor League Totals			13 Seasons	179-156	434	2800.2	2834	977	1086	--

1920 - Led Southern Association in shutouts (5).

1922 - Led Piedmont League in strikeouts (128).

1923 - Led Piedmont League in wins (22).



Fair Crews
1916 Greensboro Patriots

CREWS CHRONOLOGY

April 10, 1915

The Salem Twins beat the Horner School 4-0 before a crowd limited in size by hundreds who drive to Greensboro to see the annual Carolina-Virginia game.

April 15, 1916

Greensboro Patriots player/manager James Kelly signs the Whitsett Institute star to a pro contract.

Fair Crews [3 of 7]:

FEATURE OF THE GAME YESTERDAY WAS THE EASE WITH WHICH THE PLAYERS MISJUDGED FLIES; ASHEVILLE WINNER

April 27, 1916 ▶

Crews has a less than memorable pro debut as a right fielder for the Greensboro Patriots in a 9-6 loss to Asheville ... subbing for 34-year-old player/manager Jim Kelly in the ninth inning, Crews misplays a fly ball by Ernie Burke as the Tourists tally five ninth-inning runs for a come from behind win.

April 29, 1916

Crews makes his pitching debut in a 7-1 loss to the Raleigh Capitals ... replacing starter James Martin in the fourth inning, the "slim youngster" pitches five hitless innings, striking out two and walking three ... Martin is one of three Patriots released the next day.

May 2, 1916

**Charlotte Hornets at Greensboro Patriots
Cone Park, Greensboro, N.C.**

Crews Was on the Mound and Will Continue to Receive His Mail in This City

Greensboro.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Burns, cf	5	0	3	2	0	0
Doyle, 2b	5	1	1	4	1	0
McBane, lf	4	1	2	3	0	0
Davis, lb	4	2	1	4	0	0
Kelly, rf	2	0	2	1	0	0
Schwartz, ss	3	0	0	1	2	0
Doak, 3b	3	1	0	2	1	0
Ulrich, c	3	0	0	10	3	2
Crews, p	4	0	1	0	0	0
Totals,	33	5	10	27	7	2

Charlotte	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Singleton, cf	4	0	1	2	0	0
Nicholson, rf	4	0	1	2	0	0
Anderson, ss	4	0	1	4	2	0
Myers, lb	4	0	1	8	2	0
Paschal, lf	4	0	0	2	0	0
Senoff, 3b	2	1	0	1	2	1
Nance, 2b	3	1	1	2	3	1
Dudley, c	1	0	0	2	0	0
Manchester, c	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ery, p	3	0	0	1	4	0
*Smith	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals,	30	2	5	24	13	2

*Batted for Dudley in the eighth.

Score by innings:

Greensboro	100	012	10x-5
Charlotte	020	000	000-2

Summary: Two-base hits, Burns, Davis, Kelly, Myers. Sacrifice hits, Schwartz. Sacrifice fly, Ulrich. Base on balls: Off Crews, 2; off Ery, 6; Struck out by Crews, 9; Ery, 1. Hit by pitched ball, Kelly, Schwartz. Stolen bases, Davis, 2; Doak, Burns, Anderson, Nicholson. Passed balls, Ulrich. Left on bases, Greensboro, 13; Charlotte, 3. First base on errors, Greensboro, 2. Time of game, 1:40. Umpire, Miller. Attendance, 850.

Crews picks up his first career win, allowing only five hits and striking out nine in a 5-2 win over Charlotte, snapping the Patriots' season-opening five-game losing streak.

◀ May 2, 1916

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May 16, 1916

Crews strikes out five and allows only two singles en route to his first career shutout with a 2-0 win over the Raleigh Capitals in game shortened to five innings because of rain ... controversy ensues when umpire Colgate waits an extra 30 minutes to call the game, thus causing most of the announced crowd of 550 to miss the last street car back into the city.

June 17, 1916

Crews snaps a personal five-game losing streak with a eight-hit 7-3 win over Raleigh ... the complete game improves the Patriots' record to 13-31.

April 27, 1916
Asheville Tourist at Greensboro Patriots
Cone Park, Greensboro, N.C.

Goats Lose Ragged Contest

Greensboro.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Davis, lb	4	1	2	10	0	1
Doyle, 2b	3	1	0	5	1	0
Schwartz, ss	4	2	2	0	5	1
McBane, cf	3	1	1	2	0	0
Schuyler, 3b	5	1	0	3	1	0
Litchfield, lf	4	0	1	2	1	0
Kelly, rf	3	0	2	1	0	0
Crews, rf	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haggerty, rf	1	0	0	0	0	0
Malcolmson, c	5	0	2	5	1	0
Howard, p	3	0	0	0	2	0
McWhorter *	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	36	6	11	27	11	2

Asheville.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Bradshaw, 2b	5	2	4	3	2	0
Dunning, lf	4	1	0	2	0	0
Hickman, cf	4	2	2	5	1	0
Bitting, 3b	4	1	3	4	1	0
Mack, rf	4	1	0	0	0	1
Corbett, ss	4	1	3	2	4	2
Burke, lb	5	1	1	6	0	0
Ellison, c	5	0	1	4	2	0
Harper, p	5	0	2	1	1	1
Totals	40	9	16	27	11	4

*Batted for Howard in 9th.

Score by innings:

Greensboro	001	030	020-8
Asheville	400	000	005-9

Summary: Two base hits, Litchfield, McBane, Kelly, Schwartz, Hickman, 2; Bradshaw, Corbett, Ellison, Harper. Three base hits, Corbett, Burke. Sacrifice hits, Litchfield, Bradshaw, Mack, Bitting. Sacrifice fly, Kelly.

Pro debut for recently-signed Faire Crew. Asheville rallies for five runs in the ninth inning to pull out a 9-6 win in the second game of a three game series. Crews misplays a ninth inning fly ball aiding Tourist rally.

September 5, 1914
Southern Railroad at RJ Reynolds
Standpipe Grounds, Winston-Salem, N.C.

Finish Season by Defeating Southern R. R. by a Score of 1-0

R. J. R.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Walker, lf	2	0	1	1	0	0
Gladstone, ss	2	0	1	1	1	1
Oden, 2b	2	0	0	0	1	0
Westmoreland, cf	2	0	1	0	0	0
Ellis, 3b	2	0	0	1	1	0
Kimball, lb	2	0	1	3	0	1
F. Crews, p	2	1	1	1	0	0
Masten, c	2	0	0	11	0	0
Busen, rf	2	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	18	1	6	18	3	2

Sou. R. R.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Crichton, ss	2	0	0	1	4	2
Charles, 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0
McGhee, 2b	2	0	0	2	2	0
Bowman, lb	2	0	0	5	0	0
Ferguson, rf	2	0	0	0	0	0
Blair, cf	2	0	0	2	0	0
N. Crews, lf	2	0	1	0	0	0
Smith, c	2	0	0	5	1	0
Wackins, p	2	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	19	0	1	15	0	2

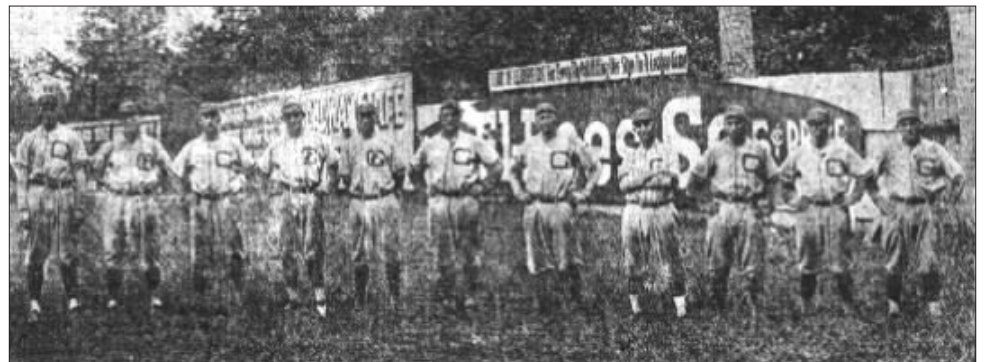
Score by Innings:

Sou. R. R.	000	000-0	1-2
R. J. R.	001	00x-1	6-2

Summary: Two base hit, Kimball; Home run, F. Crews; Base on balls, off Crews 1, Watkins 3; Struck out by Crews 11, by Watkins 5; Stolen bases, Crichton, N. Crews; Left on bases, R. J. R. 0, Sou. R. R. 5; First base on errors, R. J. R. 2, Sou. R. R. 2; Hits off Crews 1, in 5 1-2 innings; off Watkins 6, in 5 innings; Umpire, Smith.

In a game played "scientifically" from start to finish, 19-year-old Fair Crews allows only one hit, strikes out 11 and drives in the game's only run with a third inning home run to right field as the RJ Reynolds Tobacconists beat Southern Railroad 1-0.

1916 Greensboro Patriots



Left to Right: Harry Hagen, Ed McBane, Guy McWhorter, Eddie Dillon, Billy Laval, John Pope, Fair Crews, Harold Chancey, Charales Leonard, Lloyd Christenbury, Phil Wells

Fair Crews [4 of 7]:

Connie Mack Says No

The Crews Case Explained.

That part of the above story referring to Crews is nothing more nor less than a matter of formality. About a month ago the Philadelphia club of the American league offered to purchase Crews for \$1,500, but wanted to give him the once-over for 10 days. That cost the big league club just \$250, that being the price the local club asked for a 10-day option. Crews then had three bad games in a row and the big league club decided it did not desire the youngster. The sale had been reported and to keep the matter straight the Athletics reported to the national commission that Crews had been sold back to Greensboro. And the bulletin of the national commission is the basis for the story appearing above.

August 10, 1916

Crews is 9-15 with 19 complete games when Philadelphia Athletics' owner/manager Connie Mack elects to sell Crews' option back to Greensboro. It should be noted that Connie Mack's 26-year-old son Earle, is Asheville's starting catcher.

June 27, 1916

Crews is 3-10 with 11 complete games when the Philadelphia Athletics give the Patriots \$200 for the rights to have to the first option on Crews ... if the option goes through, the price for his services will be \$1,500.

August 9, 1916

Crews is sold to the Buffalo Bisons of the International League

May 16, 1917

Crews is 0-3 in six appearances with the Bisons when he is released.

May 17, 1917

Greensboro announces that Crews and pitcher Jimmy Teague have been added to the team roster.

January 1918

Crews is classified as "A1" for the military selective service draft.

June 12, 1919 ▶

Birmingham's "Samuel" Crews pitches the season's first no-hitter in a 14-0 win over Mobile.

November 13, 1919

Little Rock's *The Daily Arkansas Gazette* takes issue

with *The Sporting News'* John Gruber after the TSN columnist opines that Crews would have stood an excellent chance of being with a major league club had the minor league draft remained in existence ... Gruber says that Crews' work was "uniformly excellent" and that he would "have been grabbed up by one or the other of the big league clubs."

The *Gazette* retorts that "Crews came nearer being uniformly poor," and "he pitched a lot of bad ball," and that Birmingham manager Carlton Molesworth would have released the North Carolinian if he could have "located" a suitable replacement. The *Gazette's* opinion of Crew's accomplishment seems to be a bit harsh, given his 12-15 record for a team that totaled only 59 for the season and his five shutouts tie for the league lead.

July 4, 1920

Crews makes his Greenville Spinner debut limiting the Spartanburg Pioneers to four hits in a 14-2 win.

May 5, 1921

Crews allows nine hits in a 9-1 win over Spartanburg.

May 10, 1921

Crews allows one run on five hits in six and 1/3 innings in a 1-0 loss to Augusta.

May 21, 1921

Crews shuts out the Columbia Comers 7-0 on three hits, striking out three.

May 27, 1921

Crews shutouts out Charlotte 1-0 on four hits.

June 1, 1921

Crews limits the Charlotte Hornets to a pair of singles and extends scoreless streak to 28 1/3 innings in an 8-0 shutout ... over his last five games, Crews is 4-1 with a 0.42 ERA, allowing two earned runs on 23 hits in 42 1/3 innings.

**May 2, 1919
Mobile Bears at Birmingham Barons
Rickwood Field, Birmingham, Alabama
Crews Is Credited With First
No-Hit Game of Season
In Southern**

Birmingham	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
McDonald, 2b.	3	1	0	5	4	0
Stevenson, ss.	4	2	2	3	8	0
Duncan, cf.	4	1	3	1	0	0
Ellis, lf.	5	0	0	1	0	0
Bernsen, 1b.	4	3	2	10	1	0
Webb, 3b.	4	3	2	0	1	0
Hairston, rf.	5	1	2	4	0	0
Peters, c.	5	2	2	3	0	0
Crews, p.	5	1	2	0	1	0
Totals	39	14	15	27	15	0

Mobile	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Summa, cf.	4	0	0	1	0	0
Myers 2b.	4	0	0	1	1	0
Schnepner, ss.	3	0	0	2	3	0
Ducote, lf.	4	0	0	0	0	0
Miller, rf.	4	0	0	0	0	0
Untz 3b.	3	0	0	3	1	0
Coleman, c. and 1b. .	2	0	0	8	0	0
Brown, 1b. and p. .	1	0	0	4	1	1
Ellis, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0
Day, p.	0	0	0	0	1	0
Benedict, c.	1	0	0	5	1	0
Totals	26	0	0	24	8	1

Score by innings.
Birmingham.....720 400 10x—14
Mobile.....000 000 000—0

Summary—Two hits, Burnsen, Crews. Three base hits. Duncan 2; Stevenson, Crews. Home run Webb 2. Stolen bases McDonald 2; Schnepner. Base on balls, Crews 4, Ellis 3; Brown 3. Struck out Crews 2; Brown 2. Hit by pitched ball Coleman, by Crews. Wild pitch Brown. Double plays Stevenson to McDonald, to Bernsen; Schnepner to Coleman. Umpires Blackburne and Schafer. Time 2 hours.

Pitching for the Birmingham Barons, Crews pitches his first career no-hitter in a 14-0 win over visiting Mobile. Crews strikes out two and walks four and goes 2-for-5 at the plate with a double and triple.

SAM CREWS IS DISAPPOINTED
Pitcher Who Hurlled No-Hit Game Likely to Remain in Southern League Next Year.

Sam Crews, who pitched a no-hit game for Birmingham against Bob Coleman's Mobile team on May 2 last, will very likely remain in the Southern league for another season. His work was uniformly excellent this season, but not good enough to induce his purchase by a major league club. Had the draft system still been in vogue, it is certain he would have been grabbed by one or the other of the big league clubs. In his case, the abolishment of the system caused a disappointment to an ambitious young pitcher.

Fair Crews [5 of 7]:

June 7, 1921

Pitching in relief of Harry Holbrow, Crews' scoreless streak comes to an end at 28 2/3 innings when he allows a run in the fourth inning of a 13-9 over Charleston in the first game of a South Atlantic League doubleheader.

September 5, 1921

In what would eventually be his last appearance with Greenville, Crews allows seven hits in a 15-5 victory over Augusta.

September 9, 1921

Crews, the "big-hearted right-hander" is 14-13 with a 4.50 ERA when he is given an out-right release at his own request ... Crews tells the *Greenville News* that he intends to retire from the game and devote his time and energy to his tobacco farm ... in addition, the Spinners release catcher Emerson Cashion.

**RUBE CREWS MAY WEAR
A GREENSBORO UNIFORM**

Jerry Jackson



Jerry Jackson, "Shoeless" Joe Jackson's younger brother, spends one season with the Greensboro Patriots in 1923. The 25-year-old righthander is 10-17 in 33 appearances. For several years, the Patriots had attempted to sign the younger Jackson, but every letter they wrote to him would be opened and then destroyed by the Duncan Mill Company in Greenville, S.C., which didn't want Jackson to leave their baseball team. Eventually the Patriots had a Mrs. John Reese address the envelope and with a woman's handriting, the mill company allowed the letter to "go by" and a week later Jackson is in a Patriots uniform.

March 14, 1922

Crews signs with the Greensboro Patriots, a team he last played for in 1917 ... Crews is signed by manager Charlie Carroll, who also happens to be his brother-in-law.

May 19, 1923

Crews shuts out Winston-Salem 8-0 on four hits.

◀ September 14, 1923

Jerry Jackson, a member of the Greensboro pitching staff, is sold to the Charlotte Hornets of the South Atlantic League ... Jackson, the brother of "Shoeless" Joe Jackson, finishes the season 10-17, allowing 215 hits and 114 walks in 224 innings, but according to the *Greensboro News & Record*, he had been handicapped by the "worst sort of luck."

June 4, 1924

Crews pitches and wins both ends of a doubleheader with the Winston-Salem Twins, 6-1 and 4-1 ... Crews allows two runs on 10 hits in 15 innings pitched as the Patriots improve to 15-18.

August 22, 1925

Crews shuts out Winston-Salem 2-0 on three hits for his third-straight win.

DETROIT TIGERS SEEK RUBE CREWS

August 5, 1926

Following a strong outing against Raleigh where he strikes out six in seven innings, Greensboro Patriot manager Lee Gooch announces that the Detroit Tigers have made an offer to obtain Rube Crews, rated as one of the best pitchers in the Piedmont League ... following a two-day visit, Tiger scout Frank Shaughnessy says that there is a shortage of fastball pitchers in the minor league and that, "Crew is by far the speediest pitcher in this league and he has good control." The Tigers later fail to follow up on their offer and Crews remains in the Gate City.

September 13, 1926

In the first game of the league's post-season playoffs, Crews suffers a broken wrist.

December 18, 1926

Colonel John T. Rees, president of the Greensboro Patriots, informs Piedmont League W.G. Bramham that the Patriots, league champions this past season, will be not be represented in baseball in the upcoming season ... after a December 15 deadline for a \$1,500 deposit is missed, league directors give Greensboro a three-day extension, but nary a dollar is raised.

**Greensboro Will Not
Be Represented Next
Season In Baseball**

September 7, 1923
Greensboro Patriots at High Point Pointers
High Point, N.C.

**PATRIOTS WIN
FROM POINTERS**

Greensboro—	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Shay, cf . . .	5	2	2	1	0	0
Carroll, 1b . . .	4	2	2	2	2	0
O'Hara, lf . . .	4	2	2	5	0	0
Cox, 1b . . .	4	2	2	8	1	0
Teague, 2b . . .	4	2	2	0	0	1
Conley, rf . . .	4	0	2	3	0	0
Magrann, ss . . .	4	0	0	3	1	0
Hayworth, c . . .	3	0	0	4	1	0
Crews, p . . .	2	1	0	1	1	0
Ferris, p . . .	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	12	12	27	6	1
High Point—	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Irby, cf . . .	6	3	3	2	0	0
Hernon, 1b . . .	5	1	1	9	0	0
Kane, 3b . . .	4	2	3	1	1	0
L. Thrasher, cf . . .	5	1	2	1	0	0
G. Thrasher, rf . . .	5	0	3	1	0	1
Schmidt, ss . . .	4	1	1	5	3	1
Overton, 2b . . .	5	1	2	5	3	0
Thompson, c . . .	4	0	0	2	1	0
Padgett, p . . .	4	0	0	0	1	0
*Tolbert . . .	1	1	1	0	0	0
Totals	43	10	16	27	9	2

*Bated for Padgett in ninth.
Score by innings: R H E
Greensboro 203 500 101—12 12 1
High Point 300 202 003—10 16 2
Summary: Stolen bases, Teague 2, Magrann; sacrifice hits, O'Hara, Cox; two base hits, Irby 2, G. Thrasher, Overton; home runs, Cox, Teague, Tolbert; hits, off Crews 11 in 6 innings; struck out, by Crews 1, by Ferris 2; bases on balls, off Padgett 5, off Crews 3; double plays, Kane to Overton to Hernon, Carroll to Cox; winning pitcher, Crews; time, 1:52;

It's not his best outing of the season and he needs late inning relief from 34-year-old Doc Ferris, but Crews, backed by home runs from Molly Cox and Jimmy Teague, picks up his career-best 22nd win of the season with a 12-10 win over the High Point Pointers.

Fair Crews [6 of 7]:

March 25, 1927

Crews announces that he will not report to the Rocky Mount club, which acquired Crews when it took over the Greensboro franchise ... Crews claims that he has an agreement to become a free agent at the end of the 1926 season.

Sam Crews, Former Spinner, To Become Baseball Club Mogul

GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 5—(AP)—Plans for Greensboro men to take over the Piedmont League franchise, recently relinquished here, are almost complete, Charlie Carroll, former manager of the Greensboro baseball club, and Sam Crews, former pitcher, announced today. Several leading local business men have promised financial aid in retaining the franchise, the announcement said.

Carroll And Crews To Make Bid For Bringing Baseball Back To City

and are given until November 19, to raise the required \$2,100 for league membership ... Crews and Carroll also begin raising the \$10,000 needed to operate the team for the upcoming season. Provided the money is raised, the team will begin the season playing in Cone Park before moving into new War Memorial Stadium when it is ready.

July 5, 1929

Crews pitches a pair of complete game wins over the

Durham Bulls 10-0- and 5-1.

July 27, 1929

Crews allows only 11 hits, two walks and strikes out seven as he shuts out the High Point Pointers in both games of a Piedmont League doubleheader, 7-0 and 6-0. Crews' performance marked the second time in a little over three weeks that the star right-hander pitched, a won, both games of a doubleheader.

March 19, 1930

Coming off an 18-win season, a 35-year-old Crews signs his 10th and final contract with the Greensboro Patriots.

May 23, 1930

Crews' 10-year association with the Greensboro Patriots comes to an end when the veteran right-hander is given his outright release to make room on the roster for St. Louis Cardinals' prospect Vincent Lawrence O'Brien ... O'Brien will go 15-12 in 33 appearances for the Patriots.

May 30, 1930

Making his first start in 13 years for a team other than the Greensboro Patriots, Crews, now with the High Point Pointers, loses a 1-0 decision to Charles Briggs and the Raleigh Capitals ... Crews allows only three hits and doesn't walk a batter in taking a hard-luck loss.

Night Ball Attracts 5,000 At High Point; Is Success

July 8, 1930

The largest crowd ever assembled for a baseball game in High Point, estimated at 5,000, sees the Piedmont League's first ever night game between High Point and Greensboro ... the Pointers' 22-game winner Robert Durham allows the visiting Patriots only three hits in a 6-0 win.

April 29, 1931

Crews is reunited with former teammate Jimmy Teague, now the manager of the Henderson Gamecocks of the Piedmont League ... named the opening day starter against Greensboro, Crews holds the Patriots hitless through the first four

November 9, 1927

Piedmont League directors unanimously vote approval to allow Greensboro to take over the franchise surrendered by Rocky Mount at the close of last season. Crews and Charles Carroll are representing the Gate City at the meeting



Fair Crews
1926 Greensboro Patriots

1929 Greensboro Patriots



Left to Right (standing): Hobe Brummitt, Edwin Leight, Kermit Smith, Jimmy Teague, Henry Jeffries, Molly Cox, Henry Parrish, Ulmont Baker, Rube Crews. (Kneeling): Jim Turner, Edward Cross, Toots Brandon, Charlie Carroll, Arthur Kilpatrick, Floyd "Pep" Young, John Mayo.

Fair Crews [7 of 7]:

innings, but is driven from the game in the fifth inning when the Gate City nine pushes five runs across ... Henderson scores twice in the bottom of the seventh inning for a 7-5 win.

September 2, 1931▶

In his 434th, and final, career appearance, Crews pitches a complete game, but is touched up for eight runs and 11 hits in an 8-3 loss to the Raleigh Capitals. Following the game, Henderson manager Mack Arnette informs Crews that he is being released outright.

RUBE CREWS TURNED LOOSE BY HENDERSON

Rube Crews, veteran pitcher of the Piedmont league, has been given his release by the Henderson club. It became known yesterday when Crews visited Greensboro.

The pitcher is one of the most popular players in the circuit, and has an enviable baseball record in North Carolina. He recently pitched a great game against the Greensboro Patriots, only to run into the no-hit performance of Ed Chapman.



LT. D. F. CREWS

September 3, 1931

Crews' pro career officially comes to an end when Henderson announces his removal from the team's roster.

October 30, 1956

Crews passes away from a brain tumor at Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro.

D. F. Crews Dead After Many Years With Police Force

Lt. D. F. (Rube) Crews, 62, member of the Greensboro Police Department for the past 24 years and a former minor league baseball pitcher, died today at 2:30 a.m. at Wesley Long Hospital following an illness of two months.

Funeral will be held tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. in Forbis and Murray Chapel with Rev. William M. Currie, associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, officiating. Burial will be in Guilford Memorial Park following Masonic graveside rites.

A well-known figure in minor league baseball circles in the 1920's, Lieutenant Crews pitched for Greenville, S. C., Buffalo, N. Y., Birmingham, Ala., and Greensboro teams.

He was in the cement business here briefly prior to joining the police department in 1933. After serving as foot patrolman and in the motor division of the police department he was promoted to desk lieutenant in the records and communications division of the department in July, 1946. He held this post at the time he became ill two months ago.

September 2, 1931
Henderson Gamecocks at Raleigh Capitals
Raleigh, N.C.

Southpaws Give Caps Two Wins Over Henderson

HENDERSN				RALEIGH					
ab	r	h	e	ab	r	h	e		
Clayton, ss	3	1	2	0	Money, rf	5	2	2	0
Arnette, 3b	4	2	1	0	H. Snyder, 2b	4	1	1	1
Covington, rf	4	0	1	0	Strain, cf	4	0	3	0
Lundeen, 1b	4	0	2	0	G. Snyder, lf	5	0	0	0
Payne, cf	3	0	2	0	Davis, 1b	4	0	0	0
Parrish, c	5	0	0	0	Lamotte, 3b	4	2	2	0
Hammond, lf	3	0	0	0	Clifton, ss	2	0	1	0
Benton, 3b	1	0	0	0	Johnson, c	3	2	2	0
Branch, 2b	4	0	0	0	Coleman, p	2	1	0	0
Crews, p	3	0	1	0					
Wilson, x	1	0	0	0					

Totals	35	3	9	0	Totals	33	8	11	1
x Batted for Covington in 9th									
Henderson					200	000	001	—3	
Raleigh					000	041	03x	—8	

Two-base hits, Strain, Money, Arnette. Bases on balls, off Crews 5, Coleman 5. Struck out by Coleman 10, Crews 1.

In his 421st, and last career appearance, Crews pitches a complete game, but is touched up for eight runs on 11 hits in an 8-3 loss to the Raleigh Capitals. Following the game, Henderson manager Mack Arnette informs Crews that he is being released outright.