

Bunny Brief, "The Polish Puncher"

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Anthony John Grzeszkowski, aka Bunny Brief, plays parts of four seasons in the major leagues, but the Remus, Michigan, native is best remembered for his hitting exploits achieved over 19 minor league seasons.

Brief fashions a .331 career batting average in the minor leagues, with 2,963 hits, including 594 doubles, 154 triples and 342 home runs. The right-handed power hitter remains the all-time home run leader in American Association history with 256 in 14 seasons. Beginning with a 10-home run season with Traverse City in 1910, Brief will lead his league in home runs eight times - tying Ken Guettler (1945-1959) for the most league titles ever. Twice he will lead all minor leagues in round-trippers.

However, his minor league accomplishments never translate into success at the major league level. In 184 games with the St. Louis Browns (1912-1913), Chicago White Sox (1915) and the Pittsburgh Pirates (1917), Brief will hit only .223 with five home runs and, 59 RBIs.

The 6-foot, 190-pound outfielder/first baseman begins his professional baseball career in 1910 as a 17-year-old with the Traverse City Resorters of the Michigan State (D) League. In 1911, he hits .351 (good for third in the league) and wins his first home run crown with 10 home runs.

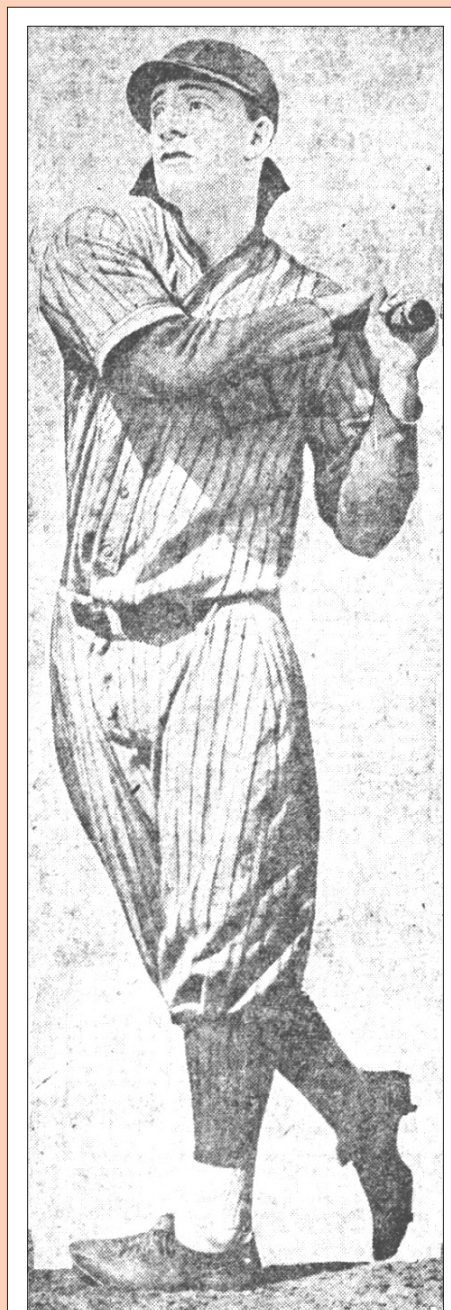
In early August, Brief is leading the league in hitting with a .377 average when the St. Louis Cardinals purchase the rights to Traverse City's slugging outfielder. However, four weeks later its the Cardinals' cross-town rival Browns that pay the Resorters \$300 for the rights to Brief after they draft him in that year's annual minor league draft.

Ordered to report to the team for its 1912 spring training, the 18-year-old actually boards a train for St. Louis, but fails to show up, ending his trip in Chicago. The reasons for his about-face (as he tries to rejoin the Resorters) are never fully determined. He does wire

Browns' manager Bobby Wallace saying that St. Louis is too far away and that he will not be reporting. The Browns want their \$300 returned once it is determined that he is refusing to leave Michigan. They eventually allow him to play with the Resorters that year, but elect to retain his rights.

After leading the Michigan State League in hitting (.353), runs scored (74), hits (152), triples (11) and home runs (13), a more mature Brief eventually makes his major league debut on September 22, 1912, against Hall of Famer Eddie Plank (326 career wins) in the first game of a doubleheader against the Philadelphia Athletics. Pinch hitting for relief pitcher Buddy Napier in the eighth inning, Brief grounds out sharply to shortstop Jack Barry in an 8-2 loss.

Brief makes his first major league start in the second game and goes 1-for-4 against right-hander Broadwalk Brown. In 15 late-season games for the seventh-place Browns, Brief is impressive, collecting at least one hit in 10 of his 12 starts and finishing with a .310 average with three doubles, five RBIs and two steals.



Bunny Brief
1916 Salt Lake City Bees

Bunny Brief Major League Debut

Philadelphia Athletics at St. Louis Browns
Sportsman Park, St. Louis, Missouri
September 22, 1912

PHILADELPHIA.					ST. LOUIS.								
A.B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	A.	E.	A.B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	A.	E.
E. Murphy, rf	6	1	1	1	0	0	Shotton, cf	4	0	0	2	0	0
Maggert, cf	5	0	1	2	0	0	Williams, rf	3	0	6	1	0	0
Collins, 2b	5	3	4	1	1	1	Hogan, lf	4	0	1	1	0	0
Barry, ss	3	0	0	4	6	1	Pratt, 2b	4	0	2	1	2	0
McInnis, lb	3	1	1	10	1	0	Miller, lb	4	1	0	10	0	1
Walsh, lf	4	2	1	3	0	0	Austin, 3b	4	0	1	1	1	0
Mathes, 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	Shanley, ss	1	0	0	3	0	1
Lapp, c	4	1	3	6	2	0	Wallace, ss	2	0	0	0	3	0
Plank, p	3	0	1	0	1	0	Stephens, c	1	0	0	3	0	0
Totals	37	8	13	27	11	3	Alexander, c	3	1	2	5	2	2
							Allison, p	1	0	0	0	3	0
							Napier, p	0	0	0	0	1	0
							Mitchell, p	0	0	0	0	1	0
							*Stovall	0	0	0	0	0	0
							†Brief	1	0	0	0	0	0
							‡Compton	1	0	0	0	0	0
							Totals	32	2	6	27	13	4

*Batted for Allison in the fifth.
†Batted for Napier in the eighth.
‡Batted for Alexander in the sixth.
Philadelphia..... 0 1 1 0 1 0 3 1 1-3
St. Louis..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0-2
Two-base hits—Walsh, Plank, McInnis, E. Murphy. Sacrifice hits—Barry, Plank (2). Passed ball—Lapp. Stolen bases—Collins, McInnis. Hit by pitcher—By Allison (Barry); by Napier (Mathes). Bases on balls—Off Allison, 1; off Napier, 4; off Plank, 3. Struck out—By Plank, 6; by Napier, 2; by Allison, 3; by Mitchell, 1. Hits—Off Allison, 7 in 5 innings; off Napier, 5 in 3 innings; off Mitchell, 1 in 1 inning. Left on bases—St. Louis, 6; Philadelphia, 12. Time—2.00. Umpires—Dineen and O'Brien.

Bunny Brief [2 of 11]:

Bunny Brief Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Lev	W-L	Finish	AB	R	HT	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	SLUG	OPS	AVG	
1910	Traverse City Resorters	#Michigan State	D	50-45	2 of 4	354	51	100	19	*10	2	-	12	.410	.692	.282	
1911	Traverse City Resorters	Michigan State	D	62-56	4 of 6	482	*97	*169	26	8	*10	-	32	.500	.851	.351	
1912	Traverse City Resorters	Michigan State	D	79-40	2 of 6	431	*74	*152	31	*11	*13	-	40	.566	.919	.353	
1912	St. Louis Browns	AMERICAN	MLB	53-101	7 of 8	42	9	13	3	0	0	5	2	.381	.789	.310	
1913	St. Louis Browns	AMERICAN	MLB	57-96	8 of 8	258	24	56	11	6	1	26	3	.318	.602	.217	
1913	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	69-98	7 of 8	120	7	29	3	2	0	-	5	.300	.542	.242	
1914	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	84-84	6 of 8	645	117	205	51	16	12	123	38	.502	.820	.318	
1915	Chicago White Sox	AMERICAN	MLB	93-61	3 of 8	154	13	33	6	2	2	17	8	.318	.623	.214	
1915	Salt Lake City Bees	Pacific Coast	AA	108-89	2 of 6	328	63	119	23	3	8	-	16	.524	.887	.363	
1916	Salt Lake City Bees	Pacific Coast	AA	99-96	3 of 6	723	*149	227	38	5	*33	133	23	.517	.831	.314	
1917	Pittsburgh Pirates	NATIONAL	MLB	51-103	8 of 8	115	15	25	5	1	2	11	4	.330	.649	.217	
1917	Louisville Colonels	American Assoc.	AA	88-66	t2 of 9	156	23	45	8	2	1	19	1	.385	.673	.288	
1918	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	43-30	+1 of 8	260	32	68	6	2	4	36	3	.346	.608	.262	
1918	Allegheny Steel	Pittsburgh City	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1918	Riverside Shipyard Cubs	Twin Ports Mesabi	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1918	Duluth Ironmasters	Lakes Industrial	SPro	-	1 of 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1919	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	86-65	2 of 8	564	89	183	30	11	13	101	13	.486	.810	.324	
1920	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	69-106	8 of 8	615	99	196	41	9	*23	*120	15	.527	.846	.319	
1921	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	84-80	3 of 8	615	*166	222	*51	11	*42	*191	12	.685	1.046	.361	
1922	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	92-76	3 of 8	519	133	176	40	7	*40	*151	7	.674	1.013	.339	
1923	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	112-54	+1 of 8	640	*161	230	47	15	29	*164	9	.616	.975	.359	
1924	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	68-96	8 of 8	601	106	203	58	12	17	104	5	.559	.897	.338	
1925	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	80-87	5 of 8	618	134	221	45	13	*37	*175	2	.652	1.010	.358	
1926	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	87-78	3 of 8	583	130	205	38	10	*26	122	9	.585	.937	.352	
1927	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	99-69	3 of 8	432	89	133	27	4	14	86	3	.486	.794	.308	
1928	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	90-78	3 of 8	259	56	80	12	3	18	59	2	.587	1.009	.309	
Major League Totals						4 Seasons	569	61	127	25	9	5	59	17	.325	.631	.223
Minor League Totals						19 Seasons	8945	1776	2963	594	154	342	1584	247	.547	.882	.331

*Denotes league leader; +Denotes league champion; #In 1910, the Michigan State League was often referred to as the Western Michigan League.

ML Debut: September 22, 1912, at Sportsman Park, St. Louis, Missouri: pinch hit for relief pitcher Buddy Napier in the bottom of the eighth inning and grounds out to shortstop out in his only at bat against Hall of Famer Eddie Plank in an 8-2 loss to the Philadelphia Athletics.

ML Finale: June 24, 1917, at Weeghman Park, Chicago, Illinois: started at first base and batted fifth, went 0-for-1 with a walk, a sacrifice and a strikeout against Hippo Vaughn in a 2-1 loss to the Chicago Cubs.

The dreaded "sophomore jinx" rears its ugly head a year later when Brief sees his batting average drop nearly 100 points to .217. He does however, collect his first major league home run against Boston's Ray Collins on May 16. On August 20, Browns' manager George Stovall says that Brief will replace him as the team's starting first baseman for the remainder of the season, but four days later, the Browns trade Brief, pitcher Mack Allison and outfielder Pete Compton to the Kansas City Blues of the American (AA) Association for former major league outfielder Clarence (Tillie) Walker.

Early Trouble

On October 10, 1897, 21-year-old Otis Clymer is arrested in connection with a mail fraud case against Jacob A. Hyle. Clymer and another suspect are charged with writing letters for Hyle, ordering items such books and not paying for them. Receiving only a couple of dollars for his participation, the future major leaguer testifies for the prosecution and is acquitted while Hyle is found guilty of fraud.



In 1914 Brief hits .318 with 12 home runs, 123 RBIs and steals 35 bases with the Kansas City Blues of the American (AA) Association. He establishes a American Association record hitting safely in 30 consecutive games, breaking the existing record of 28 successive game set by **Otis Clymer** of Minneapolis in 1911. During the streak, Brief hits .377 with 46 hits in 122 at bats.

In 1915, Brief earns a return trip to the majors with the Chicago White Sox. He is hitting only .214 with two home runs and 17 RBIs in 48 games when he is sold/released to the Salt Lake City Bees of the Pacific Coast (AA) League on July 22. At first Brief refuses to report to Utah's capital city and returns to Traverse City, where he gets married on July 26.

BUNDY BRIEF GETS HOMESICK AND RETURNS HOME.

(Special to The Evening Press.)

Traverse City, Mich., March 25.—Last Friday morning Outfielder Bundy Brief of the Traverse City Michigan State league club left St. Louis to join the American league team of that city, which secured right to his services by draft last fall. He got as far as Chicago, it being the first time he was over out of the state, and he became so homesick that he took the first train back home. Saturday night he was back home much to the disappointment of his friends, who figured that he had the nerve and would surely make good with the Browns.

While in Chicago Brief wrote Manager Wallace of the St. Louis team saying he was homesick and had decided to go back home. It is said that the wedding bells may ring in Traverse soon and Brief again start for St. Louis accompanied by one who last week made his departure difficult. Brief played great ball in the Michigan State league last season and is without question a player of exceptional promise.

Bunny Brief [3 of 11]:

To make room for Brief, Salt Lake manager Cliff Blankenship releases 32-year-old starting first baseman Tom Tennant, who is batting .251, but with nary a home run in 479 at bats. In 82 games with the Bees, Brief hits .363 with 23 doubles and eight home runs.

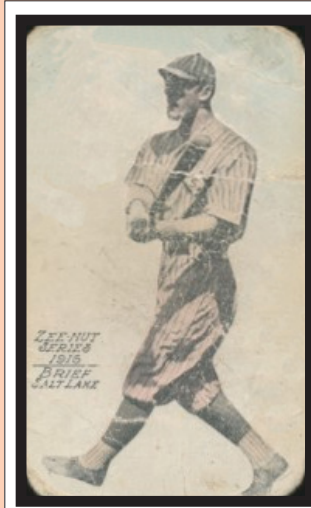
Bunny Brief, Whose 30th Home-run Equals Record



October 26, 1916

Brief becomes the home run king of the Pacific Coast League when he hits a sixth-inning home run against the Oakland Oaks. His left field blast is his 31st of the season and eclipses the existing league mark of 30 set by San Francisco's Ping Bodie in 1910. Brief finishes the season with a league-high 33.

With the Bees again the following season, Brief ends the season with a .314 average, 133 RBIs and sets a Pacific Coast (AA) League single-season record with 33 home runs - eclipsing the league's former standard of 30 set in 1910 by San Francisco's **Ping Bodie**. His 227 hits also set a PCL single-season standard until it is broken six years later by another Salt Lake first baseman - 28-year-old Paul Strand.

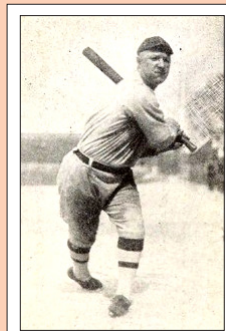


Bunny Brief's 1916 Zeenut card in very good to excellent condition can be purchased for \$120.



Bunny Brief's 1917 Zeenut card in very good to excellent condition can be purchased for \$80.

In the off-season Brief informs the Bees that unless he receives a better contract offer than \$2,500 for the upcoming season, he will quit baseball and enter into business with his father-in-law. Salt Lake City suspends the disgruntled one and on March 12 he agrees to the club's original \$2,500 offer.



Ping Bodie

On May 5, Brief is preparing to return to Salt Lake City when he learns that the National League's Pittsburgh Pirates have purchased his contract on a 30-day trial basis for \$4,000.

PIRATES TAKE BUNNY BRIEF; BEES HAPPY

Brief is hitting .217 with two home runs and 11 RBIs in 36 games when on June 7, Pirate great Honus Wagner comes out of retirement

and returns to the team - as a first baseman. Optioned to Salt Lake City, Brief again refuses to report and his contract is sold to the American Association Louisville Colonels.

Brief will play the remainder of his career in the American Association and it is in the Association that the "prima donna of disposition," will find his home and secure his legacy.

Pirate Power Outage

In 1917 the Pittsburgh Pirates hit a league-low nine home runs for the entire season. Twenty-six year-old catcher Bill Fischer (right) led the Corsairs with three dingers, followed by Bunny Brief and Bill Hinchman with two apiece. Max Carey and Lee King had one each as the Pirates went through three managers en route to a 51-103 record and a last-place finish



Seven Years in Tibet

Okay, maybe not Tibet. But over a seven-year span (1920-1926), Bunny Brief simply dominates the American Association. His per game averages, slugging percentage and batting average, over that span, are listed below.

Seven Year Averages

Hits	207
Doubles	45
Triples	11
Home Runs	31
Runs Scored	132
RBIs	146
Slugging Percentage .....	.613
Batting Average.....	.346

Over 11 seasons in the American Association with the Kansas City Blues, Louisville Colonels and the Milwaukee Brewers, Brief will lead the league in home runs and RBIs five times, including an American Association record 191 runs batted in 1921.

He also leads the Association twice in runs scored, once in doubles and set league career marks in home runs (276), doubles (458), runs scored (1,342), hits (2,196) and RBIs (1,451). And that RBI mark includes the 1913 season with Kansas City when league statistics did not include RBIs.

In 1921, he enjoys a career year with the third-place Blues, hitting .361 and setting league single-season records in home runs (42) and RBIs (191). On July 13, the Michigan native hits three home runs in a 9-8 win over the Columbus Senators. His 42 home runs led all of the minor leagues.

A year later, despite missing five weeks and 29 games due to illness in May and June, Brief hits .339 and again leads the Association in home runs (40) and RBIs (151). His 40 home runs are 14 more than teammate Beals Becker's 26.

Bunny Brief [4 of 11]:

On December 13, 1924, after seven productive seasons in Kansas City, where he leads the Blues to two pennants and a Little World Series championship in 1923, Brief is the key component of a blockbuster seven-player trade with the rival Milwaukee Brewers.

Brief responds to his new surroundings hitting .358 in 1925, with a league-high 175 RBIs and copping his seventh home run title with 37 round-trippers, including six in the final week. In 1928, a 35-year-old Brief hits .309 with 18 home runs and 59 RBIs, his lowest total in 11 years. When the season ends, Milwaukee General Manager Henry Killilea says, "Bunny can stay with us as long as he wants."

However, on January 16, 1929, Killilea unexpectedly sells 36-year-old Bunny Brief, 26-year-old outfielder Vance Graber, 30-year-old infielder Spencer "Cowboy" Adams and 34-year-old pitcher Roy Sanders to the Nashville Vols of the Southern Association for \$8,000. It is a straight-cash transaction with no strings attached to any of the players. The *Nashville Banner* reports that the cash exchanged in the transaction was for Graber, Adams and Sanders - no money was exchanged for Brief, the "old warrior."

Disgruntled at being sold, Brief turns down the Vols' contract offer of \$5,000 (\$75,600 in today's currency) and elects not to report to his new team, believing that he had earned the right to be given an outright release, which would allow him to "dicker" with teams and probably get a bonus for signing.



Bundy Brief
1912 Traverse City Resorters

Unable to obtain his release from Nashville, Brief returns home and is the player/manager for an independent team in Traverse City. He terms the action of the Brewers "unsportsmanlike." That December he is offered a managerial position with the Springfield Senators of the Three-I League, but he is not able to obtain his release from Nashville.

Brief is a player/manages a semipro team in Traverse City from 1931 to 1934, before he moves to Milwaukee in the mid 1930's, where he works as a recreation director until July of 1962. Anthony John Grzeszkowski passes away on February 10, 1963 at the age of 70.

May 28, 1910
Brief makes his pro debut with the Traverse City Resorters of the newly-minted Michigan State (D) League ... the Resorters, behind Robert Robinson's four-hitter, open with a 4-3 win over the homestanding Cadillac Chiefs before 200 rain-drenched fans ... Brief is 1-for-3, or 1-for-4, with a single.

February 21, 1911
Grand Rapids Furniture Makers of the Central (B) League inquire as to availability of Brief, but fail to get a "definitive answer."

The Lost Batting Title of 1915

On October 24, the final day of the 1915 season, Brief is 2-for-4 with two RBIs in a 12-5 win over Vernon and finishes the campaign with a .366 average. Over the next two days, every newspaper that covers the Pacific Coast League proclaims Brief as the

Player	G	H-AB	AVG
Brief, SLC.....	84	122-333	.366
Heilmann, SF.....	97	135-370	.365
Wolter, LA.....	145	187-518	.361

later officially changed to:

Player	G	H-AB	AVG
Heilmann, SF.....	98	135-371	.364
Brief, SLC.....	84	119-328	.363
Wolter, LA.....	150	186-518	.359

league's batting champion (despite having only 333 at bats), with San Francisco's Harry Heilmann (370 at bats) second at .365 and Los Angeles' Harry Wolter (518 at bats) third at .361.

However, when the official league batting statistics are released a month later, Heilmann's adjusted .364 average and Brief's .363 mark are discarded and Wolter, with a .359 average, is recognized as the PCL batting champion. In addition, neither Brief or Heilmann are named to the league's All-Star team. Oakland's Jack Ness, who hits .339 with 16 home runs, edges out Brief as the first baseman on the honors team. Wolter will go on to coach Stanford University's baseball for 26 seasons.

BUNNY BRIEF THE LEADER

Official Figures Put Him at
the Top of the List



Bunny Brief
1915 Chicago White Sox



Bunny Brief
1915 Salt Lake City Bees

BRIEF CHRONOLOGY

B. BRIEF WOULD NOT REPORT TO BROWNS WITHOUT HIS BROTHER

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 2.—There are many queer angles to baseball, a lot of which never get before the public.

Last autumn, when B. Brief was bought by the Browns, he didn't want to leave home, 'traid he'd get lonesome. He couldn't see the percentage of being removed too far from the folks.

Colonel Hedges hit upon a scheme. He would provide Bunny with congenial company, so he hired Brief's brother at \$1 per day and expenses to accompany the recruit to St. Louis, and stay till the season ended. The scheme worked fine. Brief isn't lonesome any more.

In telling the yarn to a crowd of sport writers, the colonel said: "Now, you fellows don't bother Brief by printing this—wait until he makes good as a big leaguer." Hence, it's printed.

Bunny Brief [5 of 11]:

August 4, 1911

Brief is leading the Michigan State League in hitting with a .377 average when *The Grand Rapids Press* reports that the 18-year-old outfielder will play with the National League's St. Louis Cardinals at the end of the season ... team President J.J. Corcoran and current Cardinals' manager Roger Bresnahan are old friends and teammates and it Corcoran's recommendation that makes the deal.

September 17, 1911

The Traverse City Resorters are informed that Brief has been drafted by the American League's St. Louis Browns ... the Browns pay the Resorters \$300 for the rights to Brief.

March 1912

Ordered to report to the Browns for spring training, the 18-year-old boards a train for St. Louis, but fails to show up, ending his trip in Chicago ... he wires Browns' manager Bobby Wallace saying that St. Louis is too far away and that he will not be reporting.



Bunny Brief
1915 Salt Lake City Bees

April 26, 1912

Traverse City outbids Omaha of the Western League and retains the services of "Bundy" Brief for the upcoming season ... the Resorters also announce that Jake Geisel, an infielder who hit .252 a year ago and was suspended for assaulting an umpire, has been given his unconditional release for failing to stay in shape.

September 9, 1912

St. Louis manager George Stovall decides to call up two "juveniles" recently purchased by the team - Brief and 23-year-old shortstop Doc Shanley from the Central (D) Association's Burlington Pathfinders where he is hitting .375 with 27 doubles, 11 triples and 15 home runs ... despite the impressive minor league statistics, Shanley will go hitless in eight at bats for the Browns in his only major league experience.

May 2^d, 1913

Playing for the St. Louis Browns, Brief is 1-for-3 in a 7-0 win over the New York Yankees extending his hitting streak to a major league career-best 16 consecutive games ... during the streak he is 20-for-57 (.351) and raises his season average to .294.



Bunny Brief
1915 Chicago White Sox

August 24, 1913

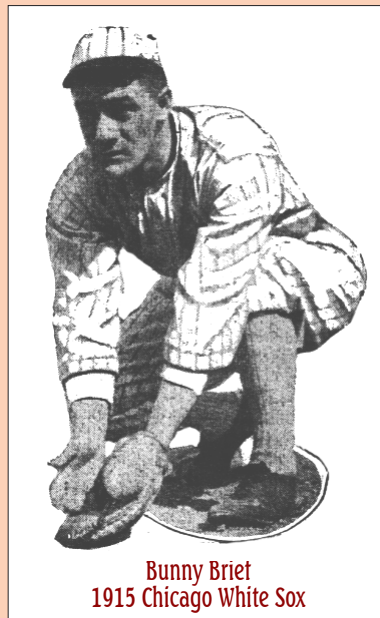
The Browns trade Brief, pitcher Mack Allison, outfielder Pete Compton and \$15,000 to the Kansas City Blues of the American (AA) Association for Washington Senator discard Clarence (Tillie) Walker ... over his last 61 games with the Browns, Brief hit .189 with 26 hits in 190 at bats with 17 RBIs and one stolen base.

September 17, 1914

The Chicago White Sox draft Brief from the Kansas City Blues in the minor league draft.

February 26, 1915

In Chicago's first intra-squad game of the spring, Brief hits a three-run home run off of Hiram Jasper.

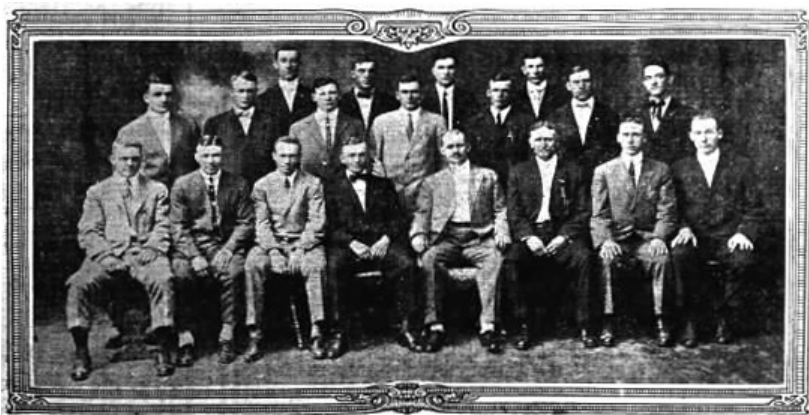


Bunny Brief
1915 Chicago White Sox

COMPTON AND BRIEF TRADED

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 25.—Clarence "Tillie" Walker, an outfielder for the Kansas City American association club, was last night traded to the St. Louis American league team for Mack Allison, a pitcher; Pete Compton, an outfielder and Bunny Brief, utility man. Walker will join the St. Louis club today. Compton formerly played with Battle Creek and Brief went to the majors from the Michigan State league.

1914 Kansas City Blues



Bunny Brief [6 of 11]:



August 15, 1915 - Salt Lake City first baseman Bunny Brief crosses the plate after hitting the 38th of 342 career minor league home runs in an 8-3 win over the Los Angeles Angels. Angels' catcher Clarence Brooks looks on.

April 14, 1915

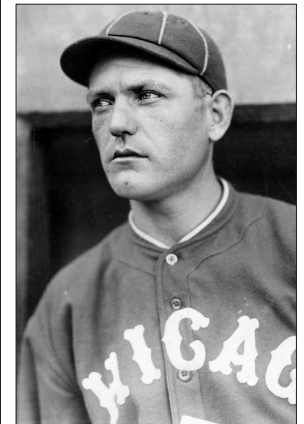
Brief is 2-for-6 with a home run against his former teammates in Chicago's 7-6 season-opening win over the St. Louis Browns ... homering in the 11th inning, he also has a key single in the 13th and accepts 26 chances at first base without an error.

May 24, 1915

Brief hits his first home run since opening day in a 5-4 win over the visiting New York Yankees ... the seventh inning "blast" off of Yankee starter Cy Pieh ends up in the left-field seats of expansive Comiskey Park and according to *The Chicago Tribune* it was "a feat only accomplished three or four times." ... it is also reported that when White Sox owner Charles Comiskey built the park, "he did not think anyone would ever hit the ball over the left field fence."

July 22, 1915

Brief is hitting .214 with two home runs and 17 RBIs, when he is sold to Pacific Coast League's Salt Lake City Bees.



A veteran of eight minor league seasons, Finners Quinlan begins the 1915 season with the Chicago White Sox. He is hitting .193 with the Pale Hose before being sent to Salt Lake City, where he has 18 doubles and a .306 batting average. Three years later, Quinlan is serving with the 79th Division in France when two days prior to the armistice, he loses his left eye and his left arm during combat.

July 23, 1915

Brief is a no-show in Salt Lake City, when he does show up on the forenoon train.

July 29, 1915

Brief and infielder **Finners Quinlan** report to Salt Lake City manager Cliff Blankenship ... the Bees are 51-63 and mired in last-place in the Pacific Coast League ... for the remainder of the season, Blankenship's team will go 57-26, finishing second, five games behind first place San Francisco.

No Putouts, No Assists in Nine Innings at 1B

Vernon Tigers at Salt Lake City Bees
Bonneville Park, Salt Lake City, Utah
September 8, 1915

VERNON					SALT LAKE				
	AB	R	H	O A		AB	R	H	O A
Rader, 3b.	5	0	1	0 0	Quinlan, cf	3	0	0	2 0
Risberg, lf.	5	1	1	2 0	Shinn, rf.	3	0	1	3 1
Kane, cf...	5	1	4	5 0	Brief, lb..	4	0	1	0 0
Willhoit, rf	4	0	2	2 0	Ryan, lf..	4	0	2	2 0
Purtell, 2b	4	0	0	2 4	Gedeon, 2b	3	1	1	2 0
Gilman, lb	4	0	0	7 0	Orr, ss...	4	0	1	1 1
Berger, ss.	4	1	2	1 2	Hallnan, 3b	3	1	2	0 1
Mitze, c..	4	0	2	6 0	Hannah, c	3	1	1	15 0
Piercy, p..	3	0	0	0 0	Williams, p	4	0	1	2 0
Fromme, p	1	0	0	0 1	Fittery...	0	1	0	0 0

Totals..39 3 12*25 7 Totals..31 4 10 27 3
*One out when winning run was scored.
Fittery ran for Hannah in ninth.

SCORE BY INNINGS

Vernon	.....	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0-3
Basehits	.....	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	2-12
Salt Lake	.....	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1-4
Basehits	.....	2	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	2-10

SUMMARY

Errors—Hannah, Hallinan, Rader. Two-base hits—Kane, Mitze, Risberg, Hannah. Three-base hit—Willhoit. Home runs—Berger, Kane. Sacrifice hit—Gedeon. Sacrifice flies—Shinn, Quinlan. Stolen bases—Quinlan, Hallinan. First base on balls—Off Piercy 3. Struck out—By Piercy 4, by Fromme 1, by Williams 13. Three runs, 8 hits and 27 at out off Piercy, taken out in eighth with man on first and none out; 1 run, 2 hits and 4 at bat off Fromme. Runs responsible for—Piercy 2, Fromme 1, Williams 3. Charge defeat to Fromme. Balk—Piercy.

◀◀ September 8, 1915

In Salt Lake City's nine inning, 4-3 win over visiting Vernon, Brief records no putouts and no assists while playing at first base.

September 14, 1915

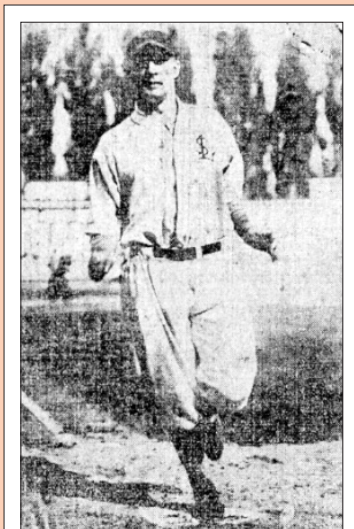
Salt Lake City manager Ted Blankenship tells the United Press that Brief and Quinlan will not be leaving the team at the end of the season as expected because Chicago did not renew the options on both players and they are now property of the Salt Lake City baseball club.

October 1915

Following a fishing trip to the Utaida fishing and hunting grounds with Blankenship and several players, Brief returns home to Traverse City and work in the "Irishman-Jew" clothing store.

February 23, 1916

Brief signs his contract with Salt Lake City.



Bunny Brief
1915 Salt Lake City Bees

Bunny Brief [7 of 11]:



Bunny Brief
1916 Salt Lake City Bees

October 26, 1916

Brief becomes the home run king of the Pacific Coast League when he hits a sixth-inning home run against the Oakland Oaks ... his left field blast is his 31st of the season and eclipses the existing league mark of 30 set by San Francisco's Ping Bodie in 1910.

October 30, 1916

Brief hits two home runs in a season-ending 7-4 win over Oakland and finishes the season with a Pacific Coast League-record 33 home runs ... his 33 home runs is the only league record set by a PCL player in 1916.

March 6, 1917

The Salt Lake City Bees suspend Brief after he turns down a contract offer that would make him the richest player in the Pacific Coast League.

March 19, 1917

A little less than two years after being married, Mrs. Rhea (Martin) Brief is in critical condition following surgery in Traverse City ... Mrs. Brief recovers from the surgery and lives another 67 years, passing away in Milwaukee in 1974, at the age of 85.

May 5, 1917

The National League's Pittsburgh Pirates purchase Brief's contract on a 30-day trial basis ... since Pittsburgh owner Barney Dreyfuss traded away Kitty Bransfield in 1905, Pirate managers have started 20 different players at first base - Brief is the be 21st.

June 27, 1917

Hitless in his last 14 at bats, Brief is hitting only .217 with two home runs and 11 RBIs in 36 games, when the Pirates decide not to meet Salt Lake City's asking price of \$5,000 and sends him back to the Bees ... when Brief refuses to return to Salt Lake City, his contract is sold to the American Association Louisville Colonels.



August 6, 1917

Brief is hitting .291, but after missing time than expected (some of it unexplained) with a sprained ankle, yields Louisville's starting first base job to 29-year-old ex-major leaguer Jay Kirke ... Kirke will .318 with 37 doubles for manager Bill Clymer.

September 2, 1917

Maintaining a .291 batting average while riding the bench, *The Louisville Courier-Journal's* Tom Cooke opines, "Why isn't Brief playing more?"

January 2, 1918

Brief is sold back to the Kansas City Blues ... on March 21, the Blues send Joe Wagner to the Colonels completing the deal ... Wagner is later sold to the International League's Toronto Maple Leafs.

July 21, 1918

Because of World War I, the American Association suspends operations ... Brief is fourth among league home run leaders with four.

July 22, 1918

Following four-straight losses to the Aluminum club in a inter-city series, the Allegheny Steel baseball team sends scouts out across the country in an effort to secure better players ... Brief is one of three pro players to sign with Allegheny Steel.



Bunny Brief
1916 Salt Lake City Bees

Mrs. Bunny Brief Is in Critical State After Operation

MRS. BUNNY BRIEF.



TRAVERSE CITY, Mich., March 19.—Mrs. Rhea Brief, wife of Bunny Brief, first baseman of the Salt Lake club in the Coast league, is in a serious condition, following an operation. Surgeons who came from outside the city to perform the operation say the chances for recovery are about even.

**Allegheny Steel Lining
Up All-Star Team; Doak
And Bunny Brief Coming**

Bunny Brief [8 of 11]:

July 23, 1918

Not happy in Pittsburgh, Brief jumps his contract with the Allegheny Steel team and signs with the Hibbing Copper team of the Great Lakes League.

DULUTH, Minn., Aug. 8.—With baseball players of national prominence reporting daily, the Twin Ports—Mesaba league of four clubs is now assuming class A proportions and fans living at the head of the lakes are contemplating historic contests during August and September.

Managers of the clubs have pointed out two facts, in order to correct an erroneous impression which seems to exist. The clubs are not backed by millionaires and the players who sign contracts had previously been informed that their services were not desired, unless they proved capable workers when not wearing their uniforms.

The league is made up of these clubs:

The Riverides of Duluth. The players must be employes of the McDougall-Duluth Ship Building company.

Superior, Wis., city team. Most of the players are from the Globe Ship Building company.

Hibbing, Minn., city team. The players are employed in the mines and other industries.

Duluth City team. The Minnesota Steel company.

At present these teams have the following players on their rosters:

Superior—Humphries, pitcher. Minneapolis A. A.: Newitt, utility. Cashion, first base; Carl Sawyer, second base; Rondeau, outfield, and Burgwall, third base, all from the Minneapolis club; Harry Holland, Northern league, shortstop.

Hibbing—Palmer, New York Nationals; Dave Altizer and Owens, Minneapolis.

Riverides—Wagner, Pittsburgh Nationals; Hagerman and DeFate, St. Paul; Brokaw, Toledo; Newt Randall, Milwaukee; Bunny Brief, Kansas City.

Duluth—Falkenberg, Indianapolis; Leroy, Minneapolis; Delbourne, Des Moines.

Dolan of the St. Louis Nationals and Purdue of the Boston Nationals accepted terms, it is claimed, but have not reported.

◀◀July 25, 1918

Brief takes a job as a shipbuilder and joins the Riverside Shipyard Cubs of the Mesabi League ... built in 1917, the Riverside Shipyard builds ocean-going cargo ships for the War, completing 37 such ships between 1918 and 1920.

July 30, 1918

Pitching for Riverside Shipyard, Brief hurls a nine-hit complete game, but loses a 7-6 decision to the Zenith Furnace nine in a Twin Ports-Mesabi League game.

February 12, 1919

Brief, who two years earlier refused to report to Salt Lake City, now says that he would like to return to the Bees and is even willing to play third base or outfield.

May 1, 1919 ▶▶

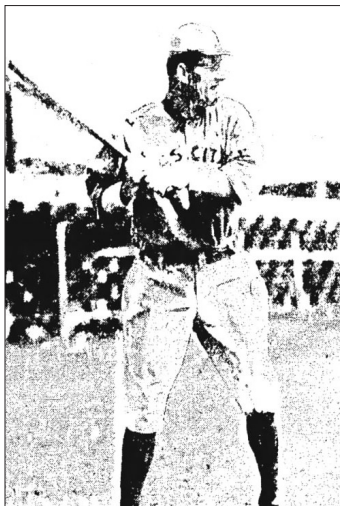
In an old-time slugfest, Louisville beats Kansas City 11-7 and Brief becomes the first player to hit a home run over the left-center field fence at Louisville's Eclipse Park ... Brief's fourth-inning blast comes off of the Colonels' 23-game winner Tom Long ... Kansas City starter Herb Hall hits four Louisville batters in four innings and if he were allowed to pitch any longer, "the entire roster Colonels roster would be in the sick ward."

December 1919

Brief finishes the season with 13 home runs, 101 RBIs and a .324 average and is the only player in the American Association to play in all 152 games.

June 8, 1920

Brief leads the American Association with seven home runs when it is reported that he will leave the Kansas City Blues and join the Kenosha Bed Makers, an industrial semipro team of some repute ... the team's sponsor, the Simmons Bedding Company, has promised their famous first baseman a "good job" which is a primary reason for his coming to Kenosha.



Bunny Brief
1919 Kansas City Blues

November 1920

A proposed trade involving Kansas City's Brief and Alex McCarty for Milwaukee's Joe Hauser and Art Butler is reportedly held up because of the protest by Brewer fans ... the 21-year-old Hauser is coming off a season where he hits .284 with 22 doubles, 16 triples and 15 home runs ... Hauser will hit another 457 home runs in his illustrious career.

First to Clear Left-Center Fence at Louisville

Kansas City Blues at Louisville Colonels
Eclipse Park. Louisville Kentucky
May 1, 1919

	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Kansas City.						
A. Brock, 3b.	3	0	1	0	3	0
J. Brock, 3b.	2	0	0	1	3	0
Miller, rf.	4	2	2	0	0	0
Good, cf.	4	3	2	2	0	0
Becker, lf.	4	0	2	3	0	0
Brief, 1b.	5	1	1	9	1	0
A. McCarthy, 2b.	4	1	1	3	5	0
McAuley, ss.	4	1	2	4	1	1
LaLonde, c.	4	0	2	1	1	1
Hall, p.	1	0	0	1	0	1
Johnson, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0
*Devore.	0	1	0	0	0	0
Totals.	30	7	13	24	14	3
Louisville.						
Bescher, lf.	4	3	1	1	0	0
J. McCarthy, 2b.	3	1	2	7	4	0
Acosta, rf.	1	2	0	1	0	0
Hendryx, 3b.	2	0	1	0	2	0
Kirke, 1b.	5	0	2	12	0	0
Meyer, c.	4	1	1	5	3	1
Stewart, cf.	4	1	1	1	0	0
Cirest, ss.	3	1	0	0	3	2
Long, p.	3	1	0	0	2	0
xKocher.	1	1	1	0	0	0
Davis, p.	1	0	1	0	1	0
Totals.	31	11	10	27	15	3

xBatted for Long in the seventh.
*Batted for Johnson in the ninth.

Innings 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9—T.
Kansas City ... 0 0 0 3 1 0 1 0 2—7
Louisville 1 0 3 0 2 0 5 0 *—11

Two-base Hits—Kirke, J. McCarthy 2, Meyer, J. Brock, McAuley, Miller. Home Run—Brief. Stolen Bases—Bescher, Good 2, Becker. Sacrifice Hits—J. McCarthy, Stewart, Cirest. Sacrifice Flies—Becker, Hall, Acosta, Hendryx. Double Plays—J. McCarthy and Kirke; Hendryx, J. McCarthy and Kirke. Left on Bases—Kansas City 8, Louisville 11. First Base on Errors—Kansas City 2, Louisville 2. Base on Balls—Off Long 3, Davis 1, Hall 4, Johnson 2. Hits—Off Hall 3 in 4 innings; off Johnson 7 in 4 innings; off Long 10 in 7 innings; off Davis, 3 in 2 innings.

Bunny Brief [9 of 11]:

BUNNY HITS 3 HOMERS

Blue First Baseman Wins 9 to 8 Game From Senators.

Kansas City, Mo., July 13.—“Bunny” Brief, first baseman for the Kansas City American association team, lined out three home runs in today’s game winning from Columbus, 9 to 8, and making his total for the season so far, twenty. The first circuit drive came in the first inning with one man on base, the second in the third, also with one man on, and the third round trip was made in the seventh inning, with no one on base.

Burris and High, the first two Columbus men at bat in the ninth inning both made home runs. High already had put one out of the park in the fourth.

Score by innings—

	R	H	E			
Columbus	100	140	002	8	10	1
Kansas City	202	110	12x	9	12	2

Batteries—Odenwald, Danforth and Wilson; Bono and Skiff.

◀◀ July 13, 1921

Brief hits three home runs and drives in five runs in Kansas City’s 9-8 win over visiting Columbus.

August 13, 1921

Brief’s American Association’s record-setting 31-game hitting streak is snapped in the second game of a double-header between Kansas City and Minneapolis.

December 1921

New York Giants manager John McGraw makes an offer to the Kansas City Blues for the services of Bunny Brief ... several are said to be after Brief, but Kansas City owner John Muehlbach says his talented first baseman is not for sale.

March 1922

With the Giants continuing their quest of acquiring Brief, the celebrated slugger stages a pre-season holdout with Kansas City ... the Blues refuse to accept a straight-cash payment without a player involved and the deal falls through.

April 1, 1922

In a pre-season exhibition game against his former team, the Pittsburgh Pirates, Brief is 1-for-3 with a game-winning three-run home run in the eighth-inning off a Chief Yellow Horse fast ball, giving Kansas City a 4-3 win before 2,500 fans in the Blues’ Association Park.

GIANTS MAKE OFFER FOR BUNNY BRIEF OF KANSAS CITY BLUES

John McGraw is not through buying players. The Giant boss is said to have made a big offer to the Kansas City American Association club for the services of Bunny Brief, the “Babe Ruth” of the association.

Just why McGraw is after Brief, no one has been able to ascertain. Not so long ago, the leader of the 1921 baseball champions announced that Kelly would be on first base for the club next season and many seasons following if he continued to pummel the pill as he did in 1921. Several other clubs are said to be after Brief, but President Muehlbach of the Kansas City club declares Brief is not for sale.

Tough Crowd

Bunny Brief writes to the sports editor that he expects to have the best year in his history as a Blue swatter next season. The sports editor is commissioned to slip it to Bunny that if he will hit a homer just once in the last half of the ninth when the visitors are one in the lead, a Blue is at third and Bunny up, it will be considered better than any year he ever has had so far and we’ll all be glad to forget his habit of disappointing us in such a situation at Association park.

December 28, 1922

Despite hitting .350 with 82 home runs and 342 RBIs the last two years, the Kansas City Kansan sports editor isn’t satisfied with Brief’s performance. Tough crowd. The Kansan is first published on January 31, 1921, becoming the first daily paper in Kansas City, Kansas. Neighboring Kansas City, Missouri, had three dailies at the time - the Kansas City Journal-Post, Kansas City Times and Kansas City Star.

April 23, 1923

Despite being the most prolific hitter in American Association history, *The Minneapolis Star* warns a 30-year-old Brief that if he doesn’t produce during the upcoming campaign look for a young 25-year-old Dud Branom to replace him ... eventually Branom will take over the first base job and the ever versatile Brief splits time between third base and left field.

April 30, 1923

During an off-day in St. Paul, Minnesota, Brief visits the Macalester College baseball team during practice and gives the players some “hitting advice”.

July 23, 1923

Kansas City first baseman Bunny Brief and Indianapolis catcher Ernie Krueger have been engaged to coach baseball and basketball, respectively, at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota ... Brief later changes his mind and returns home to Traverse City.

October 24, 1923

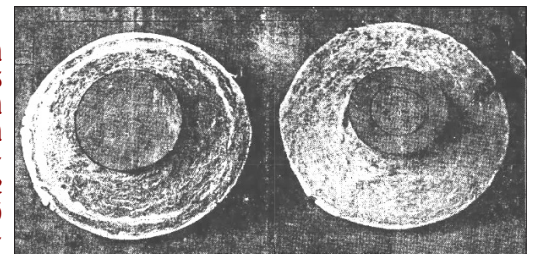
In the deciding game nine of the Junior World Series between Kansas City and the Baltimore Orioles, Brief hits a two-run home run in the ninth inning as the Blues beat the International League’s Orioles, five games to four ... Brief hits .286 (8-for-28) and homers twice in the series.

November 1, 1924

Rumors persist that Brief will either be sold or traded this upcoming winter ... team president George Muehlbach says that Brief’s contract has a year to run and he expects him to be a key player on the team.

Juiced

The middle of the American Association baseball (left) is solid rubber, 1 3/8 inches in diameter and is wrapped in small rubber bands. The center of the International League baseball (right) is only 11/16 of an inch and whose total diameter with the rubber outer ring is only 1 1/4 inches. During the Junior World Series, the home team used their respective league’s baseball. *The Baltimore Sun* opines that when the American Association ball is hit, “the pellet travels like a frightened rabbit.”



Bunny Brief [10 of 11]:

December 13, 1924

After seven productive seasons in Kansas City - leading the Blues to two pennants and a Little World Series championship - a 31-year-old Brief is the key component of a blockbuster seven-player trade with the rival Milwaukee Brewers.

January 29, 1925

Brief tells the Milwaukee Journal that he "just had a dentist overhaul my teeth," and that he plans to be the first member of the Milwaukee Brewers to report for spring training.

Brief Hits Three Home Runs

Minneapolis Millers at Milwaukee Brewers
Athletic Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
September 22, 1925

Minn.	AB	H	O	A	Mil.	AB	H	O	A
Jourdan, 1	5	4	6	2	Luce, rf...	4	3	3	0
Fowler, 3	5	2	2	2	Armstng, 2	4	1	1	2
Smith, cf..	5	1	3	0	Griffin, 1...	5	1	11	1
Duncan, lf.	5	2	3	0	Brief, lf...	5	3	2	0
Fisher, rf.	4	1	0	0	Orwall, cf..	5	2	3	0
Black, 2..	5	2	4	3	Strohm, 3...	5	0	2	3
Swenson, s	4	2	2	2	Miller, s...	5	2	2	2
Ainsmith, c	4	3	6	0	McMurry, c	5	1	3	1
Harris, p..	4	0	1	1	Burke, p...	2	1	0	2
					McCrkn, p.	2	1	0	1

Totals	41	17	27	10	Totals	42	15	27	12
Minneapolis..	0	1	0	2	0	5	0	3	1—12
Milwaukee...	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	4	—9

Errors—Fisher, Harris, Luce, Brief, McCracken. Runs—Jourdan (2), Fowler (2), Smith, Duncan, Fisher, Black, Swenson (3), Ainsmith, Luce (2), Armstrong (2), Griffin, Brief (3), Orwall. Two-base hits—Luce, Duncan, Jourdan (2), Armstrong, Miller. Three-base hits—Fowler, Ainsmith. Home runs—Brief (3), Duncan, Griffin, Orwall. Stolen bases—Swenson, Fisher, Black. Sacrifices—Harris, Smith. Left on bases—Milwaukee, 8; Minneapolis, 9. Bases on balls—Off Burke, 4; off McCracken, 1; off Harris, 2. Struck out—By McCracken, 2; by Harris, 5. Hits—Off Burke, 11 in 5½ innings; off McCracken, 6 in 3¼ innings. Wild pitches—Burke. Losing pitcher—Burke.

BREWERS, KAWS CLOSE BIG DEAL

Bunny Brief, Skiff and Armstrong of Kansas City Go to Milwaukee Club.



Bunny Brief
1922 Kansas City Blues

◀◀September 22, 1925

For the second time in his career, Brief hits three home runs in a single game, in a 12-9 loss to the Minneapolis Millers ... the three home runs off of right-hander Bill Harris gives Brief 36 for the year.

May 22, 1926

Brief's 26-game hitting streak, that started back on April 19, is stopped by Minneapolis right-hander Bill Hubbell in a 4-2 Millers' win.

July 1, 1926

Brief is second to Fred Schulte (.408) in the American Association batting race with a .389 average.

March 7, 1928

Following a dispute over his salary, Brief signs his contract with the Milwaukee Brewers.

March 10, 1928

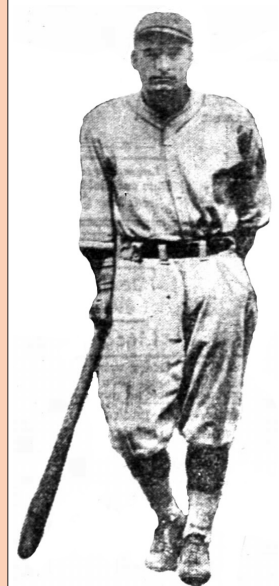
Entering the 1928 season, Brief (in American Association play only) has walked 879 times while striking out on 802 occasions ... his 117 walks in 1921 is a league record.

September 11, 1928

Brief hits the 347th, and final home run of his pro career (including 342 in the minor leagues) off of 38-year-old ex-major leaguer Rube Benton in the fifth inning of a 4-3, 10-inning loss to the Minneapolis Millers.

September 23, 1928

On the final day of the American Association season, Bunny Brief comes off the bench to replace 28-year Guy Sturdy in left field and grounds out to shortstop in what turns out to be the final at bat of his illustrious career.



Bunny Brief
1922 Kansas City Blues



Bunny Brief
1924 Kansas City Blues

Bunny Brief, Milwaukee first baseman, has been playing major or minor league baseball for nineteen years. His twentieth will be his last on one condition—if he succeeds in stealing home. Not once in his nineteen campaigns has Brief negotiated the plate via the theft route, and he is anxious to do so before hanging up his glove. Being capable of running the 100 yards in something under a minute, Brief is doomed to disappointment unless he happens to get into competition with a team of blind men.

December 29, 1928

Atlanta Crackers manager Wilbur Good is "dickering" for the services of outfielder Bunny Brief ... Nashville is also said to be after Brief's services.

Bunny Brief [11 of 11]:

Brief Hits Final Home Run of Career

Milwaukee Brewers at Minneapolis Millers
Nicollet Park, Minneapolis, Minnesota
September 11, 1928

Mil'kee	ab.	h.	po.	a.	Minn'lis	ab.	h.	po.	a.		
Batch	2	3	0	1	2	Yoter	3	5	1	0	2
*Wingard	1	0	0	0	0	Gillis	2	1	1	1	3
Adams	2	1	0	3	2	Hayes	2	4	1	0	3
Pick	4	2	4	3	3	Harris	3	1	5	0	0
Leb'veau	5	0	1	0	0	C. Miller	1	4	0	1	0
Brief	5	2	2	0	0	Smith	2	0	2	1	0
Stroh	3	5	0	1	1	Cotter	1	4	1	1	1
Sturdy	1	1	0	2	0	McMullen	3	0	10	2	0
Griffin	1	3	0	6	0	Bohne	1	0	0	0	0
O. Miller	1	4	2	4	0	Mancuso	0	0	0	0	0
McMeny	3	3	5	3	3	Benton	1	0	0	0	0
Jonnard	4	1	0	2	3	East	2	0	0	1	0
Edman	0	0	0	0	0	Liska	2	0	0	1	0
Totals	39	10	29	13		Totals	31	5	30	13	

*Batted for Batch in seventh.

†Two out when winning run scored.

‡Batted for McMullen in ninth.

§Batted for Benton in fifth.

Innings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	T.
Milwaukee	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Minneapolis	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	4

Runs Batted In—Harris, C. Miller, Brief, McMenemy 2. Two-base Hits—Cotter, Yoter, Harris, McMenemy, Pick. Home Runs—Brief, McMenemy. Stolen Base—O. Miller. Sacrifice—Hayes. Double Plays—Batch, Pick and Sturdy; Pick, Adams and Griffin. Left On Bases—Minneapolis 7; Milwaukee 9. Bases On Balls—Off Liska 3; off Jonnard 7; off Eddleman 1. Struck Out—By Benton 3; by Liska 5; by Jonnard 4; by Eddleman 1. Hits—Off Benton 6 in 5 innings; off Liska 4 in 5 innings; off Jonnard 3 in 8 innings (pitched to 1 batter in ninth); off Eddleman 2 in 12-3 innings. Winning Pitcher—Liska. Losing Pitcher—Eddleman. Wild Pitches—Jonnard 2.

January 16, 1929

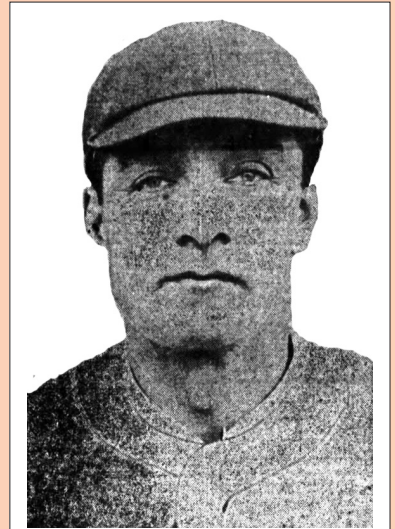
Milwaukee unexpectedly sells Brief, 26-year-old outfielder Vance Graber, 30-year-old infielder Spencer Adams and 34-year-old pitcher Roy Sanders to the Nashville Vols of the Southern Association for \$8,000 in a straight-cash transaction, with no strings attached to any of the players.

March 14, 1929

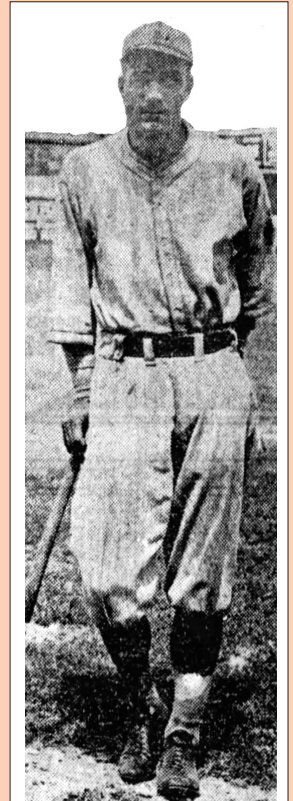
Disgruntled at being sold, Brief turns down the Vols' contract offer of \$5,000 (\$75,600 in today's currency) and elects not to report to his new team, believing that he had earned the right to be given an outright release, which would allow him to "dicker" with other teams and probably get a signing bonus.

May 18, 1929

Reportedly having inherited \$50,000, Brief is adamant that he will not leave his gas station in Traverse City to play in Nashville during the upcoming season ... with both Nashville and Atlanta after his services, Brief says, "Not this year. I do not intend to play for any club this season."



Bunny Brief
1928 Milwaukee Brewers



Bunny Brief
1927 Milwaukee Brewers

Minor League Slugger, Dies

Set Homer Marks In Two Circuits

MILWAUKEE (UPI)—Anthony Vincent (Bunny) Brief, 70, an infielder-outfielder with the St. Louis Browns, Chicago White Sox and Pittsburgh Pirates, who did all his baseball record setting in the minors, died Monday.

Brief, whose real name was Bordetzki when he was born in Big Rapids, Mich., died of cancer at his Milwaukee home. Since 1937 he had been a supervisor of the Milwaukee municipal recreation department's boys baseball program.

He is survived by his widow, Rhea.

March 6, 1930

Nashville Vols manager Pants Rowland says that if Brief returns to the team it would be as a utility player ... Rowland is confident that Jim Poole can handle the position ... Poole responds by hitting .364 with 50 home runs and 167 RBIs.

February 11, 1963

Brief passes away in Milwaukee at the age of 70.

Bunny Brief Given 1909 Football Letter

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich., Dec. 20.—Nineteen years late Bunny Brief, veteran slugger of the Milwaukee American Association team, has won his high school football letter.

He played for Traverse City high school and was end on the All Northern Michigan team in 1909 but was never awarded a letter until the school's 1928 football banquet last night.