On This Date   January 14, 1922

Born on **January 14, 1922**, Hank Biasatti is the only Canadian to play two sports at the major league level having played with the Toronto Huskies of the BAA in 1947 and the Philadelphia Athletics two years later.

Inducted into the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame in 2001, Biasatti, a graduate of Assumption College, plays six games with the Toronto Huskies of the Basketball Association of America (now the NBA). He is regarded to be the first international player in NBA history.

On November 1, 1946, the Huskies played the New York Knickerbockers in the first game in NBA history. The Knickerbockers post a 68-66 win before 7,090 fans at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto. Biasatti is held scoreless in the game and will tally only six points in his six games for the Huskies before being released on December 4.

Following his release by the Huskies, Biasatti is pursued by the Boston Celtics, but decides to turn his attention to baseball. One of seven Italian-born major league players, a 27-year-old Biasatti makes his major league debut with the Philadelphia Athletics on April 23, 1949. In eight games, including four starts as a backup to first baseman Ferris Fain, Biasatti hits a disappointing .083 with two hits and two RBIs in 24 at bats for Connie Mack's fifth-place Athletics.

In 1948, the Athletics attempt to send Biasatti to A-level Savannah for a second-straight year, but he tells Connie Mack that he could do better than Class A ball and refuses to report to Savannah. Mack relents and assigns him to Toronto of the International (AAA) League where Biasatti is proven correct, as he hits .266 with 21 home runs and 89 RBIs.

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