

Gyp Jordan, "The delicate cogs of his pro-jelling apparatus"

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"Ray Jordan is a good pitcher - we cheerfully admit that - but he also is about the slowest proposition in the league and when Manager Mullen has to walk over and confer with him after every ball pitched, if there is a runner on a base, it is a wonder that nine innings are finished before dark. The umpires have their instructions to hurry the game. We would like to have President O'Neill attend one of these long drawn out games in the Western League, but it is asking too much of him." -- Wichita Beacon, June 29, 1914

On the afternoon of June 25, 1912, Jimmy Callahan's Chicago White Sox, despite being in second place with a 36-25 mark, are in trouble having dropped 16 of their last 25. The Pale Hose are in need of another pitcher, as star pitcher Ed Walsh, is making his third appearance in four days and is 3-4 in his last seven decisions. So, in an unusual move, a desperate Callahan turns to Ray Jordan, the team's batting practice pitcher from the backwoods of Maine.

Major League Debut

June 25, 1912

St. Louis Browns at Chicago White Sox
White Sox Park, Chicago, Illinois

CHICAGO												
	AB	R	H	TR	B	SH	SO	PO	A	E		
Rath, 2b.....	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	0
Lord, 3b.....	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0
Callahan, 1f.....	4	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Collins, 1f.....	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Bodie, cf.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Zedler, 1b.....	3	2	2	4	1	0	1	11	0	0	0	0
Weaver, ss.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0
Kuhn, c.....	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	5	2	0	0	0
Walsh, p.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0
Jordan, p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*Fournier.....	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	32	2	8	11	2	1	1	27	11	3	0	0

*Batted for Walsh in the eighth.

ST. LOUIS												
	AB	R	H	TR	B	SH	SO	PO	A	E		
Shotten, cf.....	4	1	1	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Compton, rf.....	4	0	1	2	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0
Stovall, 1b.....	4	2	2	2	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Fraht, 2b.....	3	0	1	3	0	1	0	1	5	0	0	0
Hogan, 1f.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Austin, 3b.....	4	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	0
Wallace, ss.....	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0
Stephens, c.....	4	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
B. Brown, p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mitchell, p.....	4	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals.....	36	7	13	19	0	2	0	27	12	2	0	0

St. Louis.....0 0 2 0 4 0 0 1 0 2
Chicago.....0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 2
Two base hits—Lord, Stephens (2), Compton, Mitchell. Three base hits—Fraht, Zedler. Struck out—By Walsh, Shotten, Compton, Hogan, Austin; by E. Brown, Collins by Mitchell, Walsh, Weaver. Bases on balls—Off Mitchell 2. Double play—Lord, Zedler. Hits—off E. Brown, 3 in 1 2-3 innings; off Mitchell, 5 in 1 2-3 innings; off Walsh, 12 in 8 innings; off Jordan, 1 in 1 inning. Wild pitch—Walsh. Time—1:50. Umpires—Connolly and Hart.

Jordan makes his major league debut, relieving starter Ed Walsh at the start of the ninth inning in a 7-2 loss to the St. Louis Browns. In one inning of work, he allows no runs on one hit with no walks or strikeouts.

In that afternoon's game with the last-place St. Louis Browns, the lanky Jordan, without spending a day in the minors, makes his major league debut when Callahan brings him to relieve Walsh in the ninth inning of a 7-2 blowout loss. Catcher Jim "Little Nemo" Stephens greets the 22-year-old right-hander by slamming a double to right center. Relief pitcher Roy Mitchell, who had entered the game in the second inning after starter Elmer Brown was knocked unconscious on a throw by his own third baseman Jimmy Austin, bunts foul and is the first out. Leadoff hitter Burt Shotten flies out to Callahan in left and Pete Compton ends the inning by grounding to second baseman Morrie Rath.



His shutout inning is the first of four relief appearances with the White Sox where he allows 13 hits, including home runs to Ed Willett and Joe Birmingham, walks three, hits a batter and strikes out one en route to a 5.11 ERA.

After spending the entirety of 1911 pitching semipro baseball with the New London Whalers, a close friend of Chicago White Sox owner Charles Comiskey tells the owner that the lanky Jordan is worthy of a spring trial with his White Sox. Signing with the team on April 10, he is assigned duties as the team's batting practice pitcher. He travels with the team on their training spring training trip to California and hits so well that Callahan uses him frequently in the outfield when not on the mound. However, during the last days of the trip, Jordan breaks an ankle during a game in Des Moines, Iowa, and is sidelined for nearly three months and only resumes his batting practice duties a couple of days before his major league debut.

Following four relief appearances with the Pale Hose, Jordan is sent down to the Wichita Jobbers of the Western (A) League. The Wichita Beacon opines that he is kept on the team much longer than deserved because the Jobbers knew "he had the goods." Jordan is 1-4 in six starts and after developing arm problems near the end of the season he is released. Returning to Connecticut, he nurses both his ankle and sore arm back into shape.

Born on September 28, 1889, in South Portland, Maine, Raymond Willis Jordan acquires the nickname "Gyp" midway through his nomadic career. It may have been short for "Gypsy," as he was already on his six team in five years.

Before the 1913 season starts, Wichita manager George Hughes receives a letter from Jordan, who is wintering in Brooklyn, New York, where the youthful right-hander tells the Jobber manager that he is "itching for a chance to show Wichita folks that he is a pitcher of Western league class." The Wichita Eagle opines that is "hardly probable" that his request will be granted.

The Chicago White Sox had optioned Jordan to Wichita the year before and despite arriving with excellent recommendations from White Sox manager Jimmy Callahan, Jordan was only 1-4. At times, the "big fellow" shows talent, but Callahan feels his problem is a lack of knowledge of how to use what



Ray Jordan
1912 Chicago White Sox

Gyp Jordan [2 of 9]:

Gyp Jordan Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	Finish	W-L	GP	INN	HIT	BB	SO	ERA
1911	New London Whalers	Connecticut	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1912	Chicago White Sox	AMERICAN	ML	78-76	4 of 8	0-0	4	12.1	13	3	1	5.11
1912#	Wichita Witches	Western	A	75-89	7 of 8	1-4	6	27.0	38	8	17	--
1913	Lincoln Antelopes	Western	A	87-80	4 of 8	15-9	35	210.0	218	50	-	2.87
1914	Lincoln Antelopes/Tigers	Western	A	81-87	5 of 8	10-14	33	230.1	242	57	105	3.13
1915#	Denver Bears	Western	A	82-55	2 of 8	0-1	2	5.0	9	2	2	--
1915	Portland Duffs	New England	B	77-42	1 of 8	11-6	24	-	-	-	-	--
1916	Elmira Colonels	New York State	B	59-75	7 of 8	12-20	33	-	214	46	117	--
1917	Elmira Colonels	New York State	B	62-54	4 of 8	7-8	15	-	114	32	37	--
1918	Harlan & Hollingsworth	Bethlehem Steel	SPro	10-9	3 of 6	*3-2	-	-	-	-	-	--
1919	Buffalo Bisons	International	AA	81-67	3 of 8	15-10	28	-	170	46	99	--
1919	Washington Senators	AMERICAN	ML	56-84	7 of 8	0-0	1	4.0	6	2	2	11.25
1920	San Francisco Seals	Pacific Coast	AA	103-96	4 of 8	5-13	26	125.2	133	43	56	5.08
1920	Tacoma Tigers	Pacific International	B	66-53	4 of 6	3-3	6	48.1	42	14	35	--
1921#	San Antonio Bears	Texas League	A	95-53	1 of 6	0-2	8	31.0	47	9	21	4.94
1921#	Columbia Comers	South Atlantic	B	95-53	1 of 6	21-2	25	202.0	190	40	56	2.14
1924	Allentown Dukes	Lehigh Valley	SPro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
Major League Totals				2 Seasons		0-0	5	16.1	19	5	3	6.61
Minor League Totals				8 Seasons		96-84	202	597.0	1138	28	-	

*Pitching records for the Bethlehem Steel League vary considerably. Jordan's 3-2 record is taken from a preview story on the Buffalo Bisons the following year.
#Denotes team affiliation and statistics not recognized by Baseball Reference

ML Debut: June 25, 1912 at White Sox Park (2,100), Chicago: Pitching for the Chicago White Sox - relieved starter Ed Walsh at the start of the ninth inning in a 7-2 loss to the St. Louis Browns; allowed no runs on one hit, no walks and no strikeouts.

ML Finale: September 27, 1919 at Griffith Stadium, Washington: Pitching for the Washington Senators - started and pitched four innings in a 7-5 win over the Boston Red Sox; allowed five earned runs on six hits, two walks and two strikeouts; allowed a two-run home run to leftfielder Babe Ruth.

he has. Jordan also corresponds with the Lincoln Antelopes, telling the management that his arm is fine and predicts that he could make good if given another chance in the Western League. Confident of his abilities, he pays his own railroad fare from New England to Lincoln. Signed to a contract by Lincoln, Jordan is 15-9 with a 2.87 ERA. His speed is scarcely worth mentioning, but its in that Nebraska town that he unveils his trademark pitch - the spitter.



Ray Jordan
1912 Chicago White Sox

Coming off an solid campaign in 1913, and now regarded as the best spitball pitcher in the Western League, Jordan becomes a national story when it is reported that during the winter he "hides" in the wild forests of his native Maine and keeps himself in physical trim by trapping mink, otter and muskrat.

Returning to Lincoln for a second-straight year, he loses back-to-back games in May without allowing an earned run and will eventually lead the Western League with six losses by one run. Despite being in the minor leagues, Jordan is one of four Lincoln players to join the Players' (Union) Fraternity. On a team that changes its nickname from Antelopes to Tigers, he finishes 1914 with an up-and-down 10-14 mark but with a solid 3.13 ERA.

In the off-season, Jordan lets it be known that he would like to get out of his contract with Lincoln, so prior to that year's Western League meetings in Chicago, Lincoln owner Hugh Jones trades Jordan to the Denver Bears for veteran pitcher Barney Schreiber.

Jordan's time with the Bears is brief (two appearances) before he returns to his native Maine as a member of the Portland Duffs. In 24 appearances,

1913 Lincoln Antelopes



(L-R): Lloyd, Baker, Jordan, Barbour, Collins, Tuckey, Stratton, Cole, Dowling, Mullen,; McCormick, Cobb, Ehman.

**NEW PITCHER
IS SIGNED UP
ELMIRA TEAM**

President Sullivan of Colonels Grabs Ray Jordan, Last Season Leading Moundsman in New England—Well Recommended

Gyp Jordan [3 of 9]:

Jordan, now the "Connecticut spitball purveyor," is 11-6 (some sources say 14-5) and plays a key role as the Duffs capture the 1915 New England League pennant by 13 1/2 games over the Lawrence Barristers. After the season ends, Jordan is an early signee with the New York State League's Elmira Colonels.

After signing with Elmira in 1916, Jordan is one of four New York State League pitchers to lose 20-games-or-more games that season. The noted "saliva specialist" is a disappointing 12-20, but finishes fifth in the league with a career-high 117 strikeouts for the next-to-last-place Colonels (59-75). Five of his 20 losses are by one run.

In 1917, Jordan returns to Elmira for a second-straight year but suffers a sore arm early in the season. "Lanky" is on a personal two-game win streak and is 7-8 overall, when on July 23 he informs Colonel management that he is giving up baseball for the remainder of the season and returning to his Connecticut home to take a draft-deferred position in a war materials plant. An expert machinist, he has already been drafted by the Army and says he has a son who is ill. Jordan doesn't quite make it to Connecticut, choosing instead to accept a war-related position in Wilmington, Delaware.



Pitching for the Harlan & Hollingsworth Steel Plant in 1918, Jordan's pitching in the controversial Bethlehem Steel League is noticed by teammate "Shoeless Joe" Jackson of the Chicago White Sox. The shoeless one opines that Jordan is "the owner of as sweet a looking spitball as he has ever seen," as it has two distinct twists. Despite the compliment from a South Carolinian with a .356 career batting average, Jordan suffers again from a sore arm and after games his shoulder has a decided "toothache." When the heat of May arrives there's "a reasonable guarantee that the sun will take care of the delicate cogs of his pro-jelling apparatus."

With the end of World War I, Jordan re-enters organized baseball in 1919 with the International (AA) League's Buffalo Bisons. It's with the Bisons that his nickname of "Gyp" first begins to appear with regularity.

Under the veteran guidance of manager Hooks Wiltse, a 139-game winner over 12 major league seasons, Jordan enjoys a career year, finishing 15-10 in 28 appearances, allowing only 1.42 runs per game.

Included among the 15 wins is a no-hitter of the Jersey City Skeeters on May 14. But as the season enters its final month, his old habits return. On September 4, he refuses to warm up during a 3-2 loss to the Rochester Colts. The following day Jordan is not at the ballpark and everyone is told that he is sick. Later it is revealed that he was "well enough" to pitch for the Westfield-Jamestown team in a semipro game at Westfield, New York. Jordan is said to have masqueraded as "Williams", a Notre Dame College pitcher, but is recognized by several fans who have seen him in action.

On September 6, "Gyp" Jordan becomes the third Buffalo player in less than two weeks to jump his contract with the International League club when he leaves to pitch for a semipro team in Brocton, a small village (1,300 population) in western New York. Previously pitcher Ray Gordonier (7-3) leaves the team over a "small" disagreement over salary. In addition, "heavy hitting" outfielder Lee Strait (.353), Buffalo's best player, also finds outlaw ball more profitable.

Lee Strait

Born in 1890, Lee Strait is a 20-year veteran of minor league baseball. In 1918 he is one of three Buffalo Bison players (including Gyp Jordan) to jump their contracts to play for independent teams. On July 12, 1934, Strait is killed when he loses control of the car he is driving. Thrown out the door, he is lying in the middle of the street when the now-driverless car hits the curb and careens back into the street and runs over Strait, killing him instantly. He was 44 years old.



Pitcher Jordan Quits the Elmira Team And Returns To His Connecticut Home

Pitcher Ray Jordan, Elmira moist ball twirler, is reported to have decided to give up baseball for the remainder of the present season and go to Connecticut, where he has secured a position in a government plant. Ray has pitched some good baseball this season and quits the team just at the time when he had struck his stride after having been laid up earlier in the year with a sore arm. Jordan has been drafted, his son is ill and his wife worried, which complications caused him to reach the decision to quit. Jordan is an expert machinist and will work at his trade. He leaves today. The best wishes of the Elmira fans go with the boy with the strong arm and deep voice.



Now We Know Where Jordan Spent the Day

Westfield, Sept. 5.—In a hard-fought game here this afternoon the Brocton-Portland club defeated the Jamestown-Westfield team, 5 to 4. It was a battle between Miller of Buffalo, pitching for the visiting team, and a pitcher announced as Williams of Notre Dame university, but said to be Jordan of the Buffalo International league club, had two on and out in the ninth. Miller was relieved by Matteson. The latter hit Jacobson, sliding the bases, and then whiffed the next two batters. The game was replete with sensational fielding.

Despite his continued nomadic behavior, Jordan's pitching doesn't go unnoticed. On September 19, his contract is purchased by Clark Griffith's Washington Senators. On September 27, on the final day of the regular season, "Gyp" makes his last major league appearance against the Boston Red Sox and in a footnote to dead ball history, he yields Babe Ruth's major league record-setting 29th home run. Regardless of jumping their contracts at the end of the 1919 season, both Jordan "the demon spitballer from the rock coast of Maine" and Ray Gordonier are expected back on the Bisons' roster for 1920. However, on January 27, Washington sells Jordan and catcher Sam Agnew to the Pacific Coast League's San Francisco Seals in a straight-cash deal.

Gyp Jordan [4 of 9]:

Thirteen days later, Jordan, now known for his spitball, receives some unwelcome news when on February 10, both major leagues decree that the saliva pitch will be abolished after the upcoming season. Both leagues identify 17 pitchers who will be allowed to continue throwing the spitball for the remainder of their careers.

The minor leagues also put together a list of spitball pitchers who will be "grand fathered" to throw the pitch. But that only applies to the minor leagues and those "grand fathered" pitchers will not be afforded any protection if they were to move up to the major leagues. In reality, Jordan, now rostered with the Seals for less than two weeks, is essentially trapped in the minor leagues if he continues using his saliva pitch.



Ray Jordan
1920 San Francisco Seals

Jordan is 1-3 with the Seals when in mid-May he is forced to the sidelines suffering first from "teeth (molar) problems" and later a swollen right arm. But with June's warmer weather, Jordan's teeth and arm improve and he wins three games over a six-day period (June 31-July 5). However, in late July, Jordan is once again up to his old antics and he is first suspended by the Seals and then sent down to the Tacoma Tigers of the Pacific International (B) League. He is 3-3 in six games with the Tigers and when their season ends on September 2, he is brought back to the Seals, where between his two stints in the City by the Bay he is 5-13 in 26 appearances with a 5.08 ERA.

In the off-season San Francisco desperately wants to sell or trade Jordan, but since he is a spitball slabster, it has proven to be difficult trading him as only a few minor leagues now allow the "wetball." Seals' manager Charley Graham makes several attempts in the off-season to move Jordan and outfielder Joe Connolly. Finally, with only a weeks left to the start of spring training, Graham has not one, but two teams interested in Jordan. The petulant one is first sold to the New Haven Indians of the Eastern (A) League, but two days later

Graham is informed by the Texas (A) League's San Antonio Bears that they have prior rights to Jordan. Three weeks after the initial sale to New Haven, Jordan and Connolly are finally sold to the Bears in another straight-cash transaction.

Graham Makes a Godfish of Gyp

Old timers still recall the day when San Francisco manager Charley Graham barged into the hotel room in Seattle and found some of his players nursing the brown bowl. "So this is the way you fellows appreciate decent treatment," stormed Graham, following with a well directed punch at the jutting chin of "Gyp" Jordan that knocked that astonished pitcher right into the bath tub. Jordan, it later developed, was the only player in the room who was not drinking and when "Gyp" picked himself out of the tub he gave vent to the now classic expression, "So I'm the goldfish of the ball club?"

The San Francisco Examiner, March 16, 1934

With his spitball said to have "dried out" in the hot Texas air, Jordan is 0-2 with a 4.84 ERA when he is released to the Columbia (S.C.) Comers on May 24. And it's in the capital of the Palmetto State that the 31-year-old "saliva specialist" has a career year. Debuting with the Comers on May 31, Jordan closes out the regular season winning 11-straight games and finishes his last season in organized baseball with a 21-2 record and a 2.14 ERA leading to the Comers to their third-straight South Atlantic League championship by 11 1/2 games over the second-place Charleston Pals.

During the off-season, the South Atlantic League bans the use of the spitball, so two of the league's top "wet" pitchers - Jordan and Charleston's Larry Cheney - are sent to the Texas League and the San Antonio Bears. Jordan and Cheney were a combined 37-9 in the South Atlantic League in 1921. Cheney, a 116-game winner in the big leagues, will win 15 games that summer for the Bears in his last pro season while Jordan elects to remain with his parents in Brooklyn, who are ill. Later that June, Jordan returns to Elmira to pitch for the Arctics, a semipro team.

In 1946, a 56-year-old Jordan returns to pro baseball as manager of the Portland (Maine) Gulls of the New England (B) League. Probably a better pitcher than manager, the Gulls play one pre-season game before finishing eighth (in an eight-team league) with a miserable 20-99 record and a mere 60 1/2 games behind first-place Lynn (82-40). However, Jordan isn't around for the finish as he quits the "wingless gulls" on July 28 and is replaced by centerfielder Cliff Blake. Jordan is 12-65 (.156) in his lone managing foray while Blake is 8-34 (.190).

Jordan passes away in Meridan, Connecticut on June 5, 1960, at the age of 70. His death is preceded by a week the death of a son, William Jordan, the postmaster at Fryeburg, Maine.

SPITBALL STAYS FOR 1920, OTHER FREAKS BANNED

Baseball Leaders Abolish All
Phony Deliveries Save One at
the Chicago Meeting — Other
Changes of Importance Planned
at the Recent Meeting.



Ray Jordan
1919 Buffalo Bisons

George (Not Walter) Johnson

Otto Knabe, manager of the Federal League's Baltimore Terrapins, says he has wired Cincinnati Reds George Johnson (right) for his terms to play with the Terrapins. Johnson wires back: "Will sign for \$10,000 bonus and reasonable salary." Knabe reads the telegram and in a dazed way calls over a messenger boy and sends his reply: "Asked for your terms, not Walter Johnson's."



Gyp Jordan [5 of 9]:

JORDAN CHRONOLOGY

July 31, 1911

Pitching for the semipro New London Whalers, Jordan makes his organized baseball debut on July 31, pitching a seven-hit complete game, in a 6-0 exhibition game loss to the Waterbury Champs of the Connecticut State (B) League.

April 10, 1912

American League President Ban Johnson announces that Jordan has signed with the Chicago White Sox.

June 25, 1912 - Major League Debut

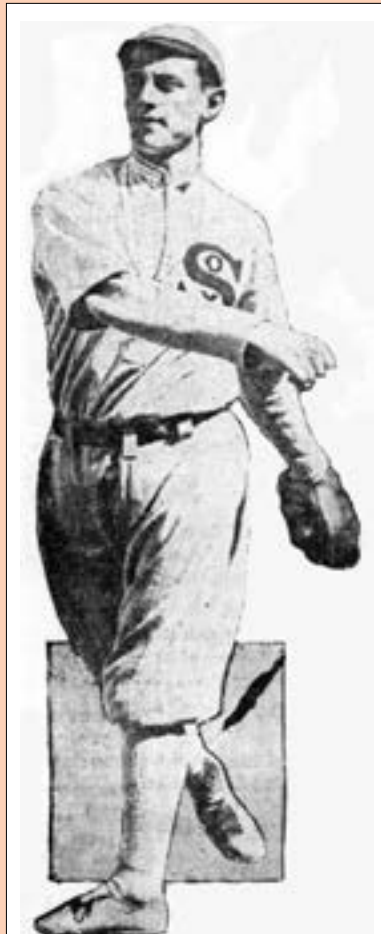
Jordan makes his major league debut pitching a scoreless ninth inning in a 7-2 loss to the visiting St. Louis Browns ... prior to taking the mound that Tuesday afternoon, his previous professional career experience has been confined to semipro games in Connecticut and pitching batting practice with the White Sox ... Jim Stephens opens by hitting a double to right center ... pitcher Roy Mitchell bunts a foul fly and is the first out, Shotten flies to Callahan in left ... and Compton ends the inning grounding to Rath 4-3.

July 25, 1912

The White Sox option Jordan to the Wichita Jobbers of the Western (A) League ... the Jobbers are in sixth place with a 47-49 record, but only six games behind first-place Omaha.

August 1, 1912

Jordan is hit hard in his first couple of games, but he has a deceiving delivery ... it looks like he is tossing up "floaters with nothing on them but they have a quick break that is not noticed from the grandstand or bleachers."



Ray Jordan
1912 Chicago White Sox

August 5, 1912

Jordan gets a start against second-place St. Joseph and is "in deep water most of the time" on account of the umpire missing his spitters that break over the plate ... Jordan gives up three runs in three-plus innings but Wichita scores twice in the bottom of the ninth inning for a 6-5 win.

August 11, 1913

In the eighth inning of a 4-3, 11-inning win over Des Moines, Jordan is "wiggling through a new Spanish dance for the benefit of the barbers present."

"It was a mighty lucky thing for the Antelopes that a Massachusetts kid by the name of Ray Jordan was willing to pay his way for a tryout with this Western League team. The slender youngster is one of the snappiest mound defenders on the payroll."

-- August 27, 1913, Lincoln Journal Star

October 3, 1913

Jordan out-duels Wichita's Scott "Rope" Perry in a 15-inning, 2-1 victory ... Jordan allows eight hits while striking out seven and walking four.

March 2, 1914

The Antelopes receive a signed contract from Jordan for the 1914 season.

April 30, 1914

Hugh Jones, owner of the Lincoln Antelopes, gives a set of old uniforms to the state penitentiary.

May 1, 1914

Jordan, "the Maine Trapper," pitches a two-hitter in a 2-1 complete-game victory over visiting Wichita.

May 23, 1914

Jordan snaps a personal two-game losing streak with an 8-1 complete-game win over second-place St. Joseph's.

WATERBURY WINS AT LAST

But It Is In New London—Corcoran
Pitches For Wings.

(Special to The Courant.)

New London, July 31.

Waterbury played an exhibition game with New London today and won 6 to 0, due to the fact that they played an errorless game together with Callahan's fine pitching. It was a pretty game and a pitcher's battle up to the eighth when Jordan, the New London pitcher, went up in the air. Three hits, a base on balls, and an error netted five runs. In the third, a two-bagger, a sacrifice, and a single netted one run. New London had two chances to score but failed to connect. The score:—

R.H.E.

Waterbury	...	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	—	6	7	0
New London	..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	5	1

Batteries: Callahan and Waters; Jordan and Foye.

Gyp Jordan [6 of 9]:

June 14, 1914

With the Antelopes on a losing streak, team owner Hugh Jones changes the team nickname from the "Goat Family" to the "Carnivorous Species" and renames the team to the Tigers.



Ray Jordan
1914 Lincoln Antelopes

February 8, 1915

In the off-season, Jordan, now the "Connecticut spitball purveyor," lets it be known that he would like to get out of Lincoln ... prior to the Western League meetings in Chicago, Lincoln owner Hugh Jones receives a letter from George Block, for the past three seasons a Denver catcher and one of the best in the Western loop ... Block tells Jones that he wants to "get away" from Denver and would like to play in Lincoln ... Jones tells the media that he will trade Jordan and catcher Rudolph "Blondie" Rehor to the Denver Bears for pitcher Barney Schreiber and Block ... Denver owner James C. McGill has been "angling" for Jordan several months and is willing to part with Schreiber, his team's best pitcher.

February 10, 1915

Jordan is traded from Lincoln to Denver straight-up for lefty Barney Schreiber.

April 26, 1915

"Gyp" Jordan makes his Denver Bears' debut, pitching a scoreless ninth inning in a 3-3 tie with his former teammates from Lincoln.

October 25, 1915

Elmira President M. L. Sullivan announces the acquisition of Ray "Gyp" Jordan, one of the top pitchers in the New England League this past season ... he comes to Elmira as a free agent and the word is he received a substantial bonus to sign with the Colonels.

May 5, 1916

Jordan makes his Elmira and "saliva pellet" debut, allowing five hits and striking out two over 13 innings in a 2-2 tie with Binghamton.

July 9, 1916

With his spitter "working to perfection," Jordan allows only six hits in a 4-1 win over Albany.

June 26, 1917

Jordan survives a two-run ninth and pitches a complete game 4-3 victory over visiting Scranton ... after the game, Elmira's "clever" first baseman Charlie Brooks (.185) asks for his release so he can pursue a business opportunity with the Oneida Silverware Company.

July 10, 1917

Elmira tops first-place Wilkes-Barre 1-0 behind Jordan's four-hit shutout ... the Colonels' back-up catcher Bob Peterson contracts a chronic case of "grouch" and leaves the team.

July 18, 1917

Used a pinch-hitter, Jordan singles home two runs in the top of the ninth inning giving Elmira a 5-4 win over Reading.

July 23, 1917

Jordan is 7-8 on the year when he informs Elmira management that he is giving up baseball for the remainder of the season and returning to his Connecticut home to take a position in a government plant ... having recovered from a sore arm earlier in the year, Jordan, an expert machinist, has already been drafted by the army and has a son who is ill.

Change of Name

June 5, 1914

Beatrice Sun. Hugh Jones, owner of the Lincoln ball club, is superstitious when it comes to cognomens for ball clubs. For many years the Lincoln team passed as the Antelopes, but a losing streak caused Mr. Jones to get away from the goat family into the carnivorous species, and he immediately issued an edict that in the future the team would be called the Tigers. So Tigers it now is. The team commenced to win, the newspaper writers took the tip, and everything is lovely—everything except the tiger painted on the entrance to the grand stand. It looks something like a tiger, but appears to be about as vicious as an antelope.

1915 Portland Duffs



Back Row (L-R): Ed Moyer, pitcher; Raymond Jordan, pitcher; John Voss, pitcher; Hugh Duffy, owner and manager; George Martin, pitcher; Albert Watkins, pitcher; Fleet Mayberry, pitcher. **Second Row:** Joseph Burns, center fielder; Peter Clemens, right fielder; Taylor Farrell, left fielder; Tim Bowden, catcher; Charles Hayden, catcher. **Front Row:** Jack Dowell, first baseman; Chester Sweatt, captain and second baseman; Walter Lonergan, shortstop; Hardin Herndon, third baseman.

Gyp Jordan [7 of 9]:

WILHELM'S PICTURE IN MONTANA TEXT BOOKS; WILL STOP THEIR USE

Helena, Mont., April 2.—A new elementary reader adopted by the state text book commission has appeared for use in the public schools in Fort Benton, Mont. With a full-tone photograph of William Hohenzollern, it was announced today. A copy of the book was sent to the state authorities, who have taken steps to prevent further distribution in Montana. The picture is entirely foreign to the subject matter of the book and did not appear in the samples, according to the text book commission.

September 29, 1917

In New York State League statistics released at the end of the year, it is determined that Wilkes-Barre's 28-year-old right-hander John Verbou not only led the league in wins with 26, but also in shutouts with 11 ... Kaiser Wilhelm, Elmira's 40-year-old pitching ace, is fourth with six white washings ... Jordan has one shutout among his seven wins ... Binghamton lefty Frank Caporal, pitching in both ends of a doubleheader against Syracuse, blanks the Stars twice, allowing four hits in the first game and three in the afternoon affair .. there was one no-hit game during the season and nine one-hit affairs ... Harrisonburg's Jim Brown twirled the league's lone no-hitter against Reading on July 4 ... Brown finishes the season with a 2-9 record, splitting time between Harrisonburg and Reading.

August 25, 1918

Jordan allows 10 hits in a 6-0 loss to Lebanon ... Lebanon's Jess Buckles hurls a seven-hit complete game shutout.

May 5, 1919

Jordan limits Newark to three hits in a 5-1 win in the Bears' Federal League Park.

May 14, 1919 - No-Hitter

"Gyp" Jordan, Buffalo's young slab artist, faces only 29 Jersey City batters en route to recording the first no-hitter of the International League season ... he strikes out a season-high eight batters, walks two and allows only two balls to leave the infield in a game that takes 1:35 to play.

May 16, 1919

Buffalo manager Hooks Wiltse says that Jordan's no-hitter "has not attracted considerable notice" among major league teams.

June 17, 1919

Jordan shuts out the Newark Bears 2-0 on six hits.

July 25, 1919

Jordan pitches his fourth shutout of the season, beating Rochester 7-0 on four hits.

September 4, 1919

Jordan refuses to warm up during a 3-2 loss to the Rochester Colts.

September 5, 1919

Jordan is not at the ballpark ... the newspapers covering the team are told that he is sick, but they later find out that he was "well enough" to pitch for the Westfield-Jamestown team in a semipro game at Westfield ... Jordan is said to have masqueraded as Williams, a Notre Dame College pitcher, but is recognized by several fans in the stands, who have seen him in action.

September 6, 1919

"Gyp" Jordan becomes the third Buffalo player in less than two weeks to jump his contract with the International League club when he leaves to pitch for a semipro team in Brocton, a small village (1,300 population) in western New York ... previously pitcher Ray Gordonier (7-3) leaves over a "small" disagreement over salary and "heavy hitting" outfielder Lee Strait (.342), the team's best player, finds outlaw ball more profitable.

September 14, 1919

Jordan is expected to pitch for the Franklin (Pa.) Township team, but is a "no show."

September 19, 1919

Despite his leaving the Bisons, the Washington Senators announce the signing of pitcher Ray Jordan.

September 27, 1919

In his fifth and final major league appearance, Jordan starts against the Boston Red Sox on the last day of the season and in four innings of work, yields five runs (all earned) on six hits, two walks and two strikeouts ... among the five runs is a two-run home run by Red Sox left fielder Babe Ruth, in what observers say is the longest home run ever hit at the Washington Grounds ... Ruth's third-inning home run is his major league record-setting 29th of the year and the final one as a Red Sox.

No-Hitter

Jersey City Skeeters at Buffalo Bisons
Buffalo Baseball Park, Buffalo, New York
May 14, 1919

BUFFALO.		A.	R.	H.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Donelson, l. f.	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Harris, 2b.	2	1	1	2	2	0	0	0
Barney, c. f.	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Straight, r. f.	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Casey, c.	4	0	0	5	2	0	0	0
McCarron, 3b.	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0
Kentling, s.	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Wiltse, 1b.	2	0	0	14	0	0	0	0
Jordan, p.	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Totals	24	3	6	27	11	0		
JERSEY CITY.		A.	R.	H.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Schweitzer, r. f.	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Bismiller, s.	3	0	0	2	2	2	0	0
Bauman, 2b.	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Wigglesworth, l. f.	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Deneville, 1b.	2	0	0	8	1	0	0	0
Sharkey, 2b.	3	0	0	6	3	0	0	0
Cobb, c. f.	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Berman, c.	3	0	0	3	2	0	0	0
Schacht, p.	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	0
Totals	27	0	0	24	15	2		
Buffalo	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Jersey City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Stolen bases, Barney, Strait; sacrifice hits, McCarron, Harris, Wiltse; sacrifice fly, Jordan; left on bases, Buffalo 4, Jersey City 2; bases on balls, off Jordan 2, off Schacht 4; struck out, by Jordan 8, by Schacht 3; umpires, Wagner and Philbin.

Gyp Jordan, the Bisons' young slab artist, faces only 29 Skeeters in picking up the first no-hitter of the International League season. He strikes out a season-high eight batters, walks two and allows only two balls to leave the infield in a game that takes 1:35 to play.



Gyp Jordan [8 of 9]:

January 27, 1920

The San Francisco Seals acquire Jordan and Sam Agnew in a straight cash with the Washington Senators ... the Bisons wanted to keep Jordan but Clark Griffith wanted to do the Seals a favor.

March 6, 1920

University of California loses to the Oakland Chamber of Commerce team ... the Bears, coached by former major leaguer Carl Zamloch, will finish the 1920 season 22-10-1.

**RAY JORDAN IS
SICK MAN. BUT
WILL IMPROVE**

New Seal Pitcher is a Victim
of Touch of Ptomaine
Poisoning

March 8, 1920

Delayed by a snow storm, Jordan reports to San Francisco's training camp at Stockton with a "touch" of Ptomaine Poisoning.

June 31, 1920

Jordan shuts out visiting Oakland 2-0 on five hits.

July 1, 1920

With his highly-touted spitter working, Jordan allows Salt Lake City only six hits in a 5-2 win.

July 5, 1920

Jordan wins his third-straight game, beating Salt Lake 3-2 in 11 innings.

July 24, 1920

Still with the Seals, Jordan allows six runs in one-and-a-third innings in a 7-5 loss to Oakland.

August 12, 1920

Jordan's failure to report to the Tacoma club in the Pacific International League incurs the ire of Seals' manager Charley Graham ... Graham figures that the team has spent \$5,000 on the erstwhile slabster and his refusal to report to Tacoma draws him an indefinite suspension.

"Has anybody here seen "Gyp" Jordan, former Seal pitcher? A week ago the Seals, after having some sort of a squabble over sending Jordan to the Tacoma Club in the Pacific International league, suspended him for refusing to report. Then "Gyp" came home to San Francisco and suddenly decided he would go to Tacoma. Transportation was given him, following which "Gyp" disappeared. Today there appears an advertisement in Marin County, where "Gyp" is slated to pitch for the Yolando team against Petaluma on Sunday, August 22. Graham is checking up with the railroad people to determine whether Jordan took up his transportation."

-- San Francisco Call, August 20, 1920

August 13, 1920

A repentant Jordan reconsiders all of the abuse he has "fostered" on the Seal management and decides finally to report to Tacoma.

August 18, 1920

In his first start with Tacoma, Jordan strikes out 10, walks five and allows nine hits in a 10-2 win over the Yakima Braves.

September 2, 1920

Jordan allows only two hits in Tacoma's 4-0 shutout of visiting Vancouver ... the win snaps the Tigers' six-game losing streak and ends Vancouver's eight-game win streak.

November 4, 1920

The San Francisco Examiner reports: It is a foregone conclusion that Manager Charley Graham of the Seals will endeavor to sell or trade Pitchers "Slim" Love and "Gyp" Jordan when he finishes his work at the convention.

**Commerce Tossers
Outplay Blue-Gold**

The Oakland Chamber of Commerce ball team yesterday defeated the University of California nine at Berkeley, 4 to 3. The feature of the game was a home run lifted into the left field bleachers by Starsinich. Score: R. H. E. Chamber of Commerce..... 4 3 2 U. of Cal..... 3 6 3 Batteries: Arlet, Dolan and Clement; Sheppard, Ellison and Dexter.

Goose Goslin

Columbia Comers at Greenville Spinners
McBee Field, Greenville, South Carolina
September 13, 1921

Columbia.		AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Nally, lf	..	4	1	0	3	0	0
Weissmeir, rf	..	3	2	2	0	0	0
Lacy, 2b	..	4	0	0	5	5	0
Goslin, p	..	4	2	3	0	0	0
Morris, cf	..	2	2	0	1	0	0
Steinbach, c	..	4	0	3	1	3	0
Kuhn, 1b	..	4	0	0	7	0	0
Tavener, ss	..	4	0	2	4	5	1
Hope, 3b	..	4	0	2	0	2	0
Totals	..	33	7	12	21	15	1
Greenville.		AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Buckley, lf	..	3	0	1	2	0	0
Crouch, 1b	..	3	0	0	5	0	0
Page, cf	..	2	0	1	5	0	1
Bankston, rf	..	3	0	0	2	0	0
Devinney, 2b	..	3	0	0	1	0	1
Wendell, c	..	3	0	0	2	1	0
Grubb, 3b	..	2	0	1	1	1	0
Koval, ss	..	1	0	0	1	1	1
Mott, p	..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Surratt, p	..	2	0	0	0	2	1
Totals	..	22	0	3	21	5	4

Score by innings:
Columbia .. 300 002 0-7
Greenville.. 000 000 0-0
Two base hit, Goslin. Three base hit, Steinbach. Home run, Goslin. Stolen bases, Tavener, Hope. Sacrifices, Lacy, Morris. Hits, off Mott, 2 in 1 inning; Surratt, 10 in 6 Bases on balls, Mott, 2; Surratt, Goslin, 2. Struck out, by Surratt, 2.

In his final game with the Columbia Comers, future Hall of Famer Leon "Goose" Goslin is 3-for-4 with a double and home run and in addition, hurls a three-hit shutout of rival Greenville in the second game of a doubleheader. Immediately following the game, Goslin leaves on a train for Washington, D.C., where he will make his major league debut with the Senators three days later. In an 18-year major league career, the Salem, New Jersey, native will hit .316 with 248 home runs and 1,612 RBIs.



Gyp Jordan [9 of 9]:

February 8, 1921

The San Antonio Bears of the Texas League tell the Seals to place a price upon Jordan, his spitball pitcher ... Charley Graham wants to get rid of Jordan but wants a player in exchange ... the Texas League recently lifted its ban on those pitchers who "anoint the spheroid with saliva" which makes Jordan eligible to perform there.

February 27, 1921

Jordan is sold to the Eastern (A) League's New Haven Indians.

March 7, 1921

San Antonio informs the Seals that they claimed the rights to Jordan a few days before he was sold to New Haven.

March 23, 1921

The Seals announce the outright sale of Jordan and Connolly to the San Antonio Bears of the Texas League ... Connolly says he may not make his way to Texas as he has an offer to play semipro ball in Bakersfield, California ... Connolly later changes his mind and reports to the Bears where he hits .314 with 70 extra base hits, including 13 home runs and eventually makes his major league with the New York Giants on October 1st.

May 24, 1921

Jordan is 0-2 with a 4.94 ERA in eight appearances with San Antonio, when he is released to the Columbia Comers of the South Atlantic (B) League.

July 11, 1921

Jordan allows eight hits in a 3-2 win over Charlotte ... the victory is the eighth-straight for Jordan to open the season.

September 24, 1921

FOOTBALL TWIN BILL IS WON BY HARVARD

Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 24.—Harvard College won a football double-header here today when both Boston University and Middlebury College, of Vermont, were blanked.

Boston University spang a surprise in the opening contest, when they held the Crimson team with 10 points. One touchdown by Owen and a field goal by Buell was the extent of the Harvard scoring in the opening game.

In the second contest, Harvard outclassed Middlebury, winning 16 to nothing, although the boys from Vermont put up a scrappy game and twice had the ball within striking distance of the Crimson goal.

RAY JORDAN DIES

MERIDEN, June 6. — (UPI) Former major league spit-ball pitcher Raymond W. Jordan, 70, died Sunday at his home. Jordan spent a short time with the Chicago White Sox in 1912 and later was traded to Washington, then returned to the minor leagues where he spent most of his career.

September 3, 1921

Columbia, behind a seven-hitter by Gyp Jordan, defeats Greenville 9-1.

September 12, 1921 - Final Game

In his final game in the pro ranks, Jordan allows a season-high 13 hits and walks four Greenville Spinners but picks up his 21st win of the season in a 10-4 decision over Greenville. With the victory, Columbia clinches its third-straight South Atlantic League pennant.

June 1, 1922

Jordan returns to Elmira, New York, to pitch for the Arctics, a semipro team.

June 5, 1960

Jordan passes away in Meriden, Connecticut at the age of 70.

Career Finale

Columbia Comers at Greenville Spinners
McBee Field, Greenville, South Carolina
September 12, 1921

	Columbia.						Greenville.					
	AB	R	H	PO	A	E	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Nally, lf . . . . .	.5	0	0	3	0	0	.5	1	1	2	0	0
Weismoir, rf . . . . .	.4	0	2	3	0	0	.3	1	1	12	1	0
Lacy, 2b . . . . .	.5	2	1	4	2	1	.4	1	1	2	0	0
Goslin, cf . . . . .	.5	1	1	6	0	0	.5	0	2	1	4	1
Beck, 3b . . . . .	.4	4	4	1	2	0	.5	1	2	4	1	0
Tavener, ss . . . . .	.4	2	2	1	2	0	.4	0	3	4	3	1
Harbison, 1b . . . . .	.5	0	2	7	0	0	.3	0	1	1	1	0
Steinbach, . . . . .	.4	1	1	2	0	0	.2	0	0	0	3	0
Jordan, p . . . . .	.3	0	0	0	1	0	.2	0	0	0	3	0

Totals39 10 13 27 7 1

	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Buckley, lf . . . . .	.5	1	1	2	0	0
Crouch, 1b . . . . .	.3	1	1	12	1	0
Page, cf . . . . .	.4	1	1	2	0	0
Bankston, rf . . . . .	.5	0	2	1	0	1
Wagner, 2b . . . . .	.5	0	2	1	4	1
Wendell, c . . . . .	.5	1	2	4	1	0
Grubb, 3b . . . . .	.4	0	3	4	3	1
Koval, ss . . . . .	.3	0	1	1	1	0
Allen, p . . . . .	.2	0	0	0	3	0

Totals36 4 13 27 13 3

Score by innings:

Columbia020 330 002—10
Greenville002 001 001—4

Two base hits, Beck Steinbach, Harbison, Buckley, Bankston, Wagner. Sacrifices, Jordan, Crouch, Koval. First base on balls, off Jordan, 4; Allen 3. Struck out, by Jordan 1; Allen 2. Double plays, Tavener to Lacy to Harbison; Beck to Lacy; Grubb to Wagner to Crouch; Grubb to Crouch. Left on bases, Columbia, 6; Greenville, 11.

In his final game as a professional baseball player, Columbia's Gyp Jordan allows a season-high 13 hits and walks four Spinners but picks up his 21st win of the season in a 10-4 decision over Greenville. With the victory, Columbia clinches its third-straight South Atlantic League pennant.