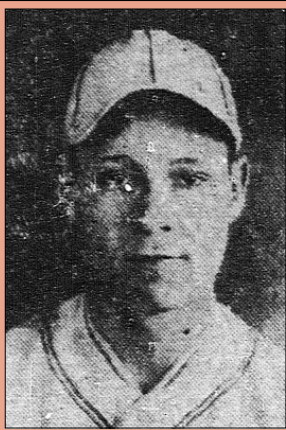


*E. Texas Squirrel Chunker,
Who Says Randy Moore Isn't
In It With Him, Joins Steers*

Squirrel Chunker

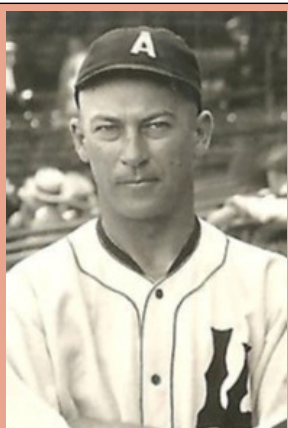
Gilmer, Texas native Ray Petty signs his first professional baseball contract with the Dallas Steers of the Texas (A) League and promptly predicts that he will lead the circuit in batting in the upcoming season.

The 20-year-old second baseman tells the *Dallas Morning News* that he keeps in shape by throwing rocks at squirrels and kicking jack rabbits out of his way when he "takes a notion to run."



Ray Petty
1930 Dallas Steers

Unfortunately for the "Squirrel Chunker" his boast of leading the Texas League in hitting comes to an end on March 8, when he is one of four rookies released by Steers' manager Jackie Atz.



Gus Sandberg
1926 Los Angeles Angels

What Was He Thinking?

Coming off a 1929 campaign where he hits .289 with a career-high seven home runs for the Los Angeles Angels of the Pacific Coast (AA) League, former major league catcher Gus Sandberg is killed on February 3, in Los Angeles, after being severely burned in a gasoline explosion ... after removing gasoline from his car to help a friend who had run out, the 34-year-old Sandberg lights a match to see if his tank was empty, causing the explosion.

Sandberg plays two seasons (1923-1924) in the majors with the Cincinnati Reds, hitting .174 with one double and four RBIs in 31 games.

Fireman to the Rescue

Faced with the loss of their Middle (C) Atlantic League franchise, the Charleroi (Pa.) Volunteer Fire Department assumes responsibility for the team for the upcoming 1930 season ... coming off a pennant-winning season in 1929, the Governors, under first-year manager Dave Lamb, will slip to a fifth-place finish with a 58-57 record.

Boots on the Move Again

Looking to improve on their 56-106 record and a last-place finish in the always competitive Texas League, the San Antonio Indians acquire 33-year-old righthanded pitcher Leon (Boots) Alter from the Augusta Tygers of the South Atlantic (B) League in exchange for 23-year-old second baseman Art Schacht.

Alter is leading the Tygers in wins (18) and innings pitched (281) when he is sold to the Philadelphia Phillies in early August ... Alter refuses to report to the National League team after Augusta refuses to give the Persia, Iowa native \$500 of the purchase price.

The trade proves to be a bust for the Indians as Alter, bothered by a sore arm (possibly from pitching 530 innings the previous two seasons) is one of the last players cut by manager George Burns.