

Hammond Berries player/manager Paul Bruno alternates between first base and pitcher three times and picks up a win in a 4-3 10-inning triumph over the Alexandria Aces.

With the victory, the Berries (20-11) regain first place in the Evangeline League by a 1/2 game over the visiting Aces (20-12).



Paul Bruno
1938 Greenville Bucks

In 15 minor league seasons the multi-talented Bruno will hit .321 with 229 doubles and 107 home runs ... in addition the portsider goes 108-56 on the mound with two seasons of 20 or more wins.

Bruno begins his multi-positional odyssey relieving starter Benny Plaia with one out and two on in the top of the sixth inning and inducing outfielder Allen Cross to hit into a double play on his first pitch.

Returning to first base for the next two innings, Bruno makes his second mound appearance in the ninth inning striking out an Alexandria batsman for the third out ... Bruno makes his third appearance with one out in the top of the tenth and gets a pair of outs with groundballs to shortstop.

The 33-year-old New Orleans, Louisiana native finishes the 1947 season with a .332 average, 30 doubles, 18 home runs and 93 RBIs and earns a berth on the league's all-star team as a first baseman.

Despite leading the league in wins (25), strikeouts (260) and ERA (1.96), Bruno is denied a mound spot on the all-league team

by Thibodaux's duo of Joseph Bouchaux (20-9, 3.12) and Warren Kanagy (21-3, 2.15) and Alexandria's Fred Baczewski (16-10, 2.10).

In 1948, Bruno sets an Evangeline (D) League single season record with 260 strikeouts in 248 innings and records his second straight 20-win season, finishing 22-5 with a 2.87 ERA.

Bruno Stars As Hammond Defeats Aces

Hammond, May 18 (AP)—The Hammond Berries came from behind here tonight to defeat the Alexandria Aces 4-3 in a 10-inning game and regain the lead of the Evangeline league.

The Aces took a two-run lead in the first frame and held the Berries scoreless until the fifth when the Hammond nine came through with a three-run rally. In the sixth the Aces tallied once to tie the count at 3-3.

Neither team scored during the next three innings nor did the Aces score in their half of the tenth.

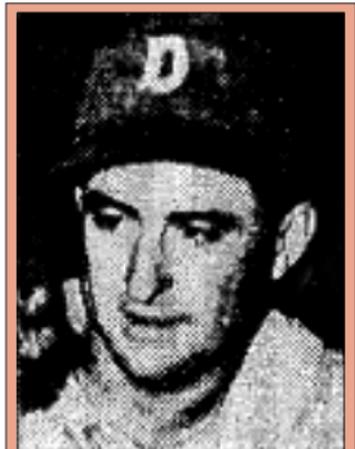
For the Berries O'Conner walked. Munna forced him at second and pinch hitter Cureau struck out. But Roy Dunn came through with a double to left center that sent Munna home with the winning run.

Paul Bruno was the man of the night. He relieved pitcher Benny Plaia with one out and two on in the sixth. Bruno's first pitch was a double-play ball to end the inning. The next two innings Bruno returned to first but in the ninth he went back to the mound to strike out a batter and retire the side again. In the tenth he started at first but with one out, Skinner doubled and Bruno went back to the mound to get the next two men on grounders to the shortstop.

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Hammond....	000	080	000	1—4	6	3

Baczewski and R. Smith; Plaia, Bruno and O'Conner.

One of the more colorful characters in minor league baseball, Bruno, while pitching for the Hammond Berries, has himself wheeled to the mound in a wheel chair for "a bit of relief pitching ... after retiring the side, Bruno is wheeled back to the dugout.



Paul Bruno
1941 Durham Bulls