

Kittanning Indians "We Hardly Knew You"

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For a brief 10-day period in August 1907, Kittanning, a small (4,000 est.) town 44 miles northeast of Pittsburgh is home to a team in the Western-Pennsylvania League. It will be the town's lone venture into the realm of professional baseball.

Seven games in 10 days, and then Kittanning's "One Shinning Moment" is over. Its' brief and unanticipated sojourn into the world of minor league baseball finished, etched in history with a of two wins and five losses.

For Kittanning, what Somerset giveth, Beaver Falls taketh.

Let us digress.

Kittanning becomes a member of the somewhat unstable West-Penn League on July 26, when Somerset, successor to the Latrobe, Cumberland and Piedmont franchise trilogy, disbands on July 21, leaving the struggling class D league with only seven teams.

Previously a member of a semipro independent league with Franklin, Dubois and Verona, Kittanning makes its West-Penn League debut on August 1, with a 5-2 loss to visiting Beaver Falls before an overflow crowd of 1,500 at Wicksboro Park.

Six games and nine days later its over for Kittanning when Beaver Falls decides to "retire" from league to play independent ball where it is believed that the crowds will be larger and the pay better.

Kittanning in W. P. League.

Kittanning has been finally admitted into the Western Pennsylvania league to fill the vacancy it it. Efforts were made to have Parkersburg enter but the distance was so great that it was considered inadvisable at the last moment. W. S. Malarkey will have charge of the new team at Kittanning and promises to give the fans there a high grade of base ball. Though the team will be handicapped for a few days because of a lack of team work it is expected to shortly make an excellent showing.

eighth member fail because the travel distance to the West Virginia town is considered too great.

Bill Marlarkey, who had managed Connellsville and Somerset earlier in the season, spends the better part of a week "canvassing" the situation in Kittanning and is convinced that the "little city" will support a team ... Marlarkey is named team manager.

Kittanning Indians 1 of 3:

1907 Western Penn League - Final Standings

May 2-September 2

Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Fairmont Champion	68	36	.654	--	Joe "Reddy" Mack
Butler White Sox	58	44	.569	9.0	Lawson/Jacobsen/Linneborn/Harkins
Scottdale Giants	48	49	.495	16.5	Billy Earle/Duff Buttermore
Clarksburg Bees	50	54	.481	18.0	Tom Hulings/Tom Essler/Bull Smith
Connellsville Cokers	44	59	.427	27.5	Bill Malarkey/Denny O'Hara/Jack Dolan
*Beaver Falls Beavers	41	36	.532	--	Charles Jewell/Harry Pfeiffer
*Greensburg Red Sox	42	50	.457	--	Anderson/Bill Powell/Lefty Wallace
*Latrobe/Cumberland					Steve Whaley/William Morrow/Tom Dillon
Piedmont/Somerset	18	46	.281	--	Don Curtis/Bill Marlarkey
*Kittanning Indians	2	6	.250	--	Bill Marlarkey

May 28 Latrobe (7-10) forfeited to the League, moved to Cumberland

June 27 Cumberland (5-20) moves to Piedmont

July 11 Piedmont (4-6) moves to Somerset

July 21 Somerset (0-5) disbands

August 1 Kittanning awarded franchise

August 11 Beaver Falls and Kittanning disband

August 25 Greensburg disbands

Again faced with an odd numbered seven-team circuit, league members look to Parkersburg, West Virginia, as a possible replacement. However Parkersburg, like Beaver Falls, prefers to remain independent, thus sealing the Indians' demise. At a meeting of league officials held on August 11, it is decided that league can't exist with seven teams and that Kittanning will be dropped bringing the league membership down to six teams.

KITTANNING CHRONOLOGY

July 26
Kittanning is admitted as a member of the West-Penn League after Somerset disbanded five days earlier. Efforts to have Parkersburg admitted as the league's

TWO TEAMS OUT

Beaver Falls and Kittanning Withdraw From West Penn. League.

The West Penn league will finish the season with six teams. Beaver Falls dropped out of the league last week claiming that it could not stand the expenses of the games away from home.

At a meeting of the league officials held at Pittsburg yesterday it was then decided to drop Kittanning and finish the league with but six clubs. The latter city will be asked to go in the league next season, however.

Kittanning Indians [2 of 3]:

August 1, 1907
Beaver Falls 5, Kittanning 2

KITTANNING, Aug. 1.—The local West Penn league season opened at the Wickbora park this afternoon with a spirited game between Beaver Falls and Kittanning teams. Fully 1,500 people were in attendance. The score:

B. F.	R.B.P.A.E.	KITT.	R.B.P.A.E.
Kelley, m.	0 2 0 0	Weaver, m.	0 3 0 0
Elliott, 2.	0 2 2 0	Harmuth, 3.	1 1 2 1
Brown, 1.	2 0 0 0	Strong, 1.	0 0 14 0 1
Carter, r.	2 3 0 0	Sheridan, c.	0 1 3 2 0
Watch'n,	3 0 1 1	French, 1.	0 0 0 0 0
Deevers, s.	1 1 4 0	Goddard, 1.	0 1 0 0
Heinz, 1.	0 12 2 2	Gobert, s.	0 0 2 4 0
Curtis, c.	0 7 0 0	May, r.	1 1 0 0
Rimby, p.	0 2 0 3	Stillw'gn,	2 0 2 5 1
		Varner, p.	0 0 4 0
Totals	5 8 27 12 3	Totals	2 3 27 17 3

Beaver Falls..... 0 0 0 4 1 0 0 0-5
Kittanning..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0-2
Two-base hits—Rimby, Carter. Double plays—Deevers, Elliott and Heine. Struck out—By Varner 2, by Rimby 6. Base on balls—Off Varner 2, off Rimby 6. Stolen bases—Heinz, May. Sacrifice hits—Curtis, Varner. Umpire—Johnston.

August 3, 1907
Connellsville 4, Kittanning 2

Coketown Team Wins.

CONNELLSVILLE, Aug. 3.—The Kittanning club met its second defeat at the hands of the Connellsville team here to-day. The two scores the visitors did get were forced in by Eyerman in giving bases on balls. The close of the present week finds the Connellsville club in sore financial straits. The ghost did not walk last month, but the players have decided to stick together and try their luck next week. Score:

CONN.	R.B.P.A.E.	KITT.	R.B.P.A.E.
O'Hara, 1.	1 1 0 0	Hart, 1.	0 0 2 0 0
Amsbry, 2.	1 1 4 0	Tims, m.	0 0 1 0 0
Ellam, s.	1 1 4 0	Strong, 1.	0 0 9 2 0
Birmingham, 3.	0 3 1 2	Mc'Ken, r.	1 1 1 0 0
Tiffany, 1.	0 0 13 0 0	Burkett, 2.	1 1 7 1 0
Laird, m.	0 2 0 0 0	Hadmb'h,	3 0 1 0 1 2
Welsh, r.	0 0 1 0 0	Moran, c.	0 0 4 2 0
Griffin, c.	1 6 1 0	Stillw'gn,	3 0 0 0 3 1
Eyerman, p.	0 2 1 4 0	Weaver, p.	0 0 0 4 0
Totals	4 9 27 14 2	Totals	2 3 24 13 3

Connellsville..... 3 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 4-4
Kittanning..... 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0-2
Two-base hits—O'Hara, Griffin. Sacrifice hits—Amsbry, Birmingham. First base on

Will Leave West Penn League.
[Special Dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.]
Cumberland, Md., Aug. 8.—On Saturday Beaver Falls quits the West Penn League. The principal reason given is that the transportation costs too much to each town, and further, the patronage has not been such that it will warrant continuing. The team, however, will be kept intact and will play independent ball hereafter. Beaver Falls and Connellsville going out leaves six teams in the league.

August 1 Beaver Falls 5, Kittanning 2

Six days after being admitted to the West-Penn League, Kittanning makes its debut on August 1, losing to visiting Beaver Falls 5-2 before 1,500 fans at Wickbora Park ... Varner allows only eight hits and takes the loss while Rimby limits the Indians to only three safeties.

August 2 Connellsville 9, Kittanning 2

In its first road game, Kittanning travels to Connellsville and drops a 9-2 decision to the Cokers ... Connellsville's Zinn allows only five hits and strikes out two in picking up the win ... Laing goes the route for the Indians and is tagged with the loss.

Connellsville plays its first game under Jack Dolan ... Elmer Essler quits as Clarksburg's manager and is succeeded by "Bull" Smith.

August 2, 1907
Connellsville 9, Kittanning 2

Kittanning Drops Another.

CONNELLSVILLE, Aug. 2.—Connellsville found the new Kittanning club very easy in the first game with it here to-day. Laing and Moran, an old Connellsville battery, did not prove effective against their former teammates. Score:

CON.	R.B.P.A.E.	KIT.	R.B.P.A.E.
O'Hara, 1.	1 4 1 0 0	Harmuth, 3.	1 2 1 0
Amsbry, 2.	1 0 5 1	Tims, m.	1 2 1 0 1
Ellam, s.	1 2 6 2 1	Moran, c.	0 0 3 0 0
Birmingham, 3.	2 0 2 0	Strong, 1.	0 0 8 0 0
Tiffany, 1.	1 2 12 1 0	May, r.	0 1 0 0 0
Laird, m.	0 0 0 0 0	Weaver, 2.	0 0 3 2 2
Welsh, r.	1 0 2 0 0	Stillw'gn, s.	0 1 2 5 1
Griffin, c.	1 2 6 3 1	Deutrow, 1.	0 0 5 1 0
Zinn, p.	1 0 0 4 0	Laing, p.	0 0 0 3 2
Totals	9 11 27 17 3	Totals	2 5 24 12 6

Connellsville..... 0 1 2 2 2 0 0 2 9-9
Kittanning..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2-2
Two-base hits—Amsbry, Tims. Three-base hits—Ellam, Tiffany, Harmuth. Sacrifice hits—Amsbry, Birmingham, Laird, Tiffany. Stolen bases—O'Hara, Ellam 2, Birmingham. Zinn. First base on balls—Off Zinn 1, off Laing 4. Struck out—By Laing 1, by Zinn 5. Double plays—Stillw'gn to Weaver; Weaver to Stillw'gn to Strong. Left on bases—Connellsville 5, Kittanning 3. Time—1:40. Umpire—Sims.

August 3 Connellsville 4, Kittanning 2

Kittanning drops its third straight game 4-2 to Connellsville, totaling only three hits of the Cokers' Eyerman in the process. Weaver hurls a complete game, striking out three in taking the loss.

Kittanning-Fairmont Game
Postponed on Account
of Wreck

August 6

A train wreck on the Conemaugh, Buffalo & Allegheny division of the Pennsylvania railroad forces the postponement of the Kittanning-Fairmont game ... five people are killed and 20 injured in a wreck that is caused by the train's excessive speed and it being sideswiped by a freight car that had broken away from a Northbound freight train.

SIX KILLED AND MANY INJURED
Titusville Express on the Pennsylvania Railroad Wrecked Near Kittanning.
TRAIN MAKING FAST TIME
ACCIDENT OCCURRED ON A SHARP CURVE.

"Kittanning will blow up in about a week. Stick a pin in this."
—The Connellsville Daily Courier

August 7 Fairmont 7, Kittanning 1 Kittanning 2, Fairmont 1

The Indians finally break into the win column, beating Fairmont 2-1 in the second game of a doubleheader ... Fairmont wins the opener 7-1 ... Kittanning should know the rules as it has three ex-umpires - Weaver, Marlarky and Hoffman - on its roster.

Kittanning Indians [3 of 3]:

August 8

Kittanning 6, Scottdale 5

Kittanning makes it two in a row with a 6-5 win over Scottdale before 275 at Wick-boro Park ... the game doesn't start until 5 o'clock due a fireman's parade in town.

At a director's meeting of the Beaver Falls baseball club, it's decided to play this week's schedule and then withdraw from the West-Penn League citing travel costs and "lack of patronage" on road trips ... in addition the Beavers, over their past 32 games have played only 10 at home ... Beaver Falls has not paid its league dues since the Fourth of July.

August 9, 1907
Scottdale 11, Kittanning 5

Kittanning Drops Another.

KITTANNING, Aug. 9.—Scottdale defeated Kittanning in easy fashion to-day. A meeting of the local business men is being held to-night regarding the taking over of the local team. Score:

SCOTT	R.	B.	P.	A.	E.	KITTING	R.	B.	P.	A.	E.
Ball, 3	2	2	1	5	0	Arm'brg, 2	1	3	2	0	
Welty, 1	2	2	10	0	0	Love, 3	0	1	2	0	
Washer, 1	1	3	2	1	0	Strong, 1	0	0	5	1	0
Ralston, m	0	3	2	0	0	Hofman, r	1	2	0	0	0
Farmer, s	1	1	0	2	2	Gobert, s	1	1	1	2	0
Miller, c	1	1	7	0	0	Harm'ch, 1	0	1	6	0	1
White, 2	2	2	1	2	3	McCrkn, m	0	1	2	1	0
Hu'pries, p	1	1	0	0	0	Moran, c	1	1	8	0	0
Cabbe, r	1	0	2	2	1	Ho'kn'by, p	0	1	0	3	1
Totals	11	14	27	13	3	Totals	5	8	27	11	2
Kittanning	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	5	
Scottdale	2	0	3	1	0	0	4	0	1	11	

Meanwhile in Scottdale, the visiting Clarksburg Bees, following a disputed call, leave the field at the end of the seventh inning of a 5-5 game ... the game is forfeited to the Giants.

August 11 - It's Over

Kittanning is forced to give up its franchise in the West-Penn League as a result of Beaver Falls dropping out of the league two days earlier ... at a meeting of league officials held in Pittsburgh, it is decided that league can't exist as a seven-team league and that Kittanning should disband bringing the league membership down to six teams.

August 9

Scottdale 11, Kittanning 5

Scottdale snaps Kittanning's modest two-game winning streak pounding out 14 hits in beating the homestanding Indians 11-5 ... a meeting of local Kittanning business men is to be held that night in regards to taking over management of team.

August 10

Butler 14, Kittanning 0

Kittanning's brief fling with minor league baseball comes to an end with a 14-0 loss at Butler ... future Pittsburgh Pirate Howie Camitz starts on the mound for the White Sox and picks up the win striking out seven while shortstop Nebbinger's home run highlights a 16-hit attack.

August 8, 1907
Kittanning 6, Scottdale 5

Love and Harmuth Play Well

KITTANNING, Aug. 8.—In a hotly contested game between Kittanning and Scottdale this afternoon the former won by a score of 6 to 5. Owing to the firemen's parade the game did not start until 5 o'clock. The attendance was 275. Score:

KITT.	R.	B.	P.	A.	E.	SCOTT.	R.	B.	P.	A.	E.
Amsb'g, 2	1	2	4	1	0	Ball, 3	1	1	1	5	2
Love, 3	1	1	2	2	0	Welty, 1	2	1	9	0	0
Strong, 1	1	1	6	1	0	Washer, 1	0	1	2	0	0
Hoffm'n, r	1	2	0	0	0	Ralston, m	0	3	1	0	0
Gobert, s	0	1	1	3	1	Farmer, s	0	1	0	1	2
Harm'h, c	0	2	6	0	1	Miller, c	1	1	6	0	0
McC'en, m	1	0	3	1	0	White, 2	0	1	2	3	0
Moran, c	1	1	6	0	0	Hump's, r	0	1	1	0	0
Weaver, p	0	3	0	5	1	Cabbe, p	1	0	2	2	1
Totals	6	13	27	13	3	Totals	5	10	24	11	5
Kittanning	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	6	
Scottdale	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	

Two-base hits—Miller, Ralston. Sacrifice hits—Welty 2, Cabbe. Struck out—By Cabbe 2. First base on balls—Off Weaver 2, off Cabbe 1. Umpire—Johnston.

August 10, 1907
Butler 14, Kittanning 0

Butler Blanks Kittanning.

BUTLER, Aug. 10.—Butler defeated Kittanning in a farcical game this afternoon. Nebbinger's home run was the feature. Score:

BUT.	R.	B.	P.	A.	E.	KIT.	R.	B.	P.	A.	E.
Linneb'n, 2	0	1	3	3	0	Love, 3	0	0	2	7	1
Clark, r-p	0	2	1	1	0	Moran, c-p	0	1	6	4	0
Nagle, 1	0	1	2	10	1	Harm'h, 2-p	0	1	7	3	0
Jacob'n, 1	3	2	0	0	0	Hoffm'n, r-1	0	2	1	1	2
Nebbin'r, s	4	2	1	3	0	Strong, 1	0	0	8	0	0
Fr'k'y, c-m	1	3	7	1	0	Weaver, 1-p	0	0	9	5	0
Foster, m-c	3	2	4	0	0	McC'ken, m	0	1	0	0	0
Wardm'n, 3	1	0	1	1	1	Stilwagon, s	0	1	0	1	1
Cam'tz, p-r	1	2	0	3	0	Laing, p-r	0	1	0	1	1
Totals	14	16	27	13	1	Totals	0	7	24	22	5
Butler	0	4	4	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	14
Kittanning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Home run—Nebbinger. Two-base hits—Clark, Hoffman. Sacrifice hits—Frankenberry 2. Stolen bases—McCracken, Linneborn, Nagle, Foster 3, Wardman. Struck out—By Camnitz 7, by Clark 1, by Moran 1. Bases on balls—Off Laing 2; off Moran 3; off Harmuth 1. Passed balls—Moran. Double plays—Laing to Harmuth to Moran. Time—1:50. Umpire—Nugent.