

# Jimmy Wiggs, "The Jumping Norwegian"

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The fascinating saga of Jimmy Wiggs proves that great genetics sometimes is not enough to guarantee a great baseball player. Consider the case of Jimmy Wiggs.

One of the more physically gifted pitchers of his era, the 6-foot-4 right-hander is unfortunately known more for his contract jumping than for his mound accomplishments, which on occasion, are considerable:

*Four 20-win seasons (1902, 1903, 1904, 1911)*

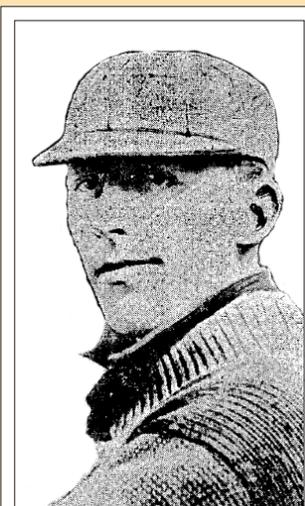
*Three minor league no-hitters (1904, 1909, 1910)*

*546 strikeouts over a two-year span (1902-1903), including a career-best 302 in 1902*

*Seven straight no-hitters (unconfirmed) in 1912 while pitching in California independent leagues*

In an era where minor league contract jumping is as prevalent as legitimate trades, Wiggs will play for 27 different teams (that we can account for) in 15 seasons (1899-1913). Some of the teams that Wiggs calls home on any given day fall within the auspices of professional baseball, some others, unfortunately don't.

Wiggs takes contract jumping to new level in 1903, where it is reported that the erstwhile portsider jumps a signed contract six times, between four teams, in one day.



Jimmy Wiggs  
1909 Oakland Oaks



Primarily a starter in his two seasons (1909, 1911) with the Oakland Oaks of the Pacific Coast League, Wiggs is 22-29, including a 19-win season and a 2.15 ERA in 50 appearances in 1909. His 1909 T212 Obak card is valued at \$156 in good to very good condition.

By the end of his third year in organized baseball, Wiggs has already jumped a contract three times, including twice over a two-month span in 1901.

On July 6, 1900, Wiggs is 0-3 with the London Tecumsehs of the International League when he "jumps" to play for an independent team in Washburn, Wisconsin.

A year later the "elongated one" has just completed a four-hit complete game victory for Des Moines of the Western (A) League when he "jumps" the Hawkeyes for an independent team

## SEVEN HITLESS GAMES FOR WIGGS IS RECORD

Jim Wiggs claims the record of having pitched the most no-hit games of any twirler in America. As there is no record on this score who can dispute his contention. Wiggs pitched recently his seventh hitless game. Pitching for Newark he defeated Irvington, 8 to 1. There were seven boots behind him, which accounted for the one run. The only man he walked scored on two wild and weird pegs executed by his teammates. In addition Jim fanned seventeen Irvington batters. Even when he was playing professionally Wiggs invariably had a large strikeout record. But seven hitless games by one pitcher is a record that won't be beaten right away. Wiggs has a world of speed, and when going right is hard to fathom.

in Milton, Montana (population 348 in 1900; 58 in 2010). He fashions a nifty 10-2-2 mark that includes a North Dakota League-best five shutouts before leaving the team on August 14, with two weeks remaining in the season. Wiggs signs with the Minneapolis Millers where his first start on August 16 comes against the same Des Moines team that he walked away from in late May.

## CRACK BALL PITCHER IS MISSING

**Jimmy Wiggs of Toledo Team, Reported to Have Jumped to Lancaster, Pa.**

(Scripps-McRae Press.)

Milwaukee, July 19.—The whereabouts of Jimmy Wiggs, the Toledo pitcher, is bothering the fans and ball magnates. The Toledo club arrived here today from Minneapolis and reported that Wiggs has disappeared from the sleeper just as the train was leaving the flour city. The unconfirmed report is that Wiggs has jumped to Lancaster, Pa.

In 1902, Wiggs is 26-16 with 41 complete games in 42 starts for the Helena Senators of the Pacific Northwest League. Wiggs leads the Class B circuit in complete games, innings pitched (382), strikeouts (302) and shutouts (6), and is regarded as the league's top player in an informal poll of the league's sportswriters.

Wiggs parlays his breakout season with Helena into an invitation from the National League's Cincinnati Reds to attend the team's spring training the following spring.

Jimmy Wiggs 1 of 8:

## Jimmy Wiggs [2 of 8]:

Jack Hendricks who played against Wiggs the previous season as an outfielder with the Spokane Indians, says the big lefty is going to surprise the people:

**"There's one fellow they will never turn back to the little leagues. This Wiggs is a lovely looking animal. Guess Joe Kelley doesn't know yet what he is getting. That Wiggs is 6 feet 4, weighs 215 pounds in condition, doesn't drink a drop, does not use tobacco, and does not even stay up late nights. He has more speed than any man in the world today, in my opinion. Come over the plate from him the size of peas, or a little less. I was batting against him once and he hit me in the pantalets and I thought the end of the world had come. I tell you this Wiggs is Rusie come again, bigger and better and soberer than Amos ever was, and if he gets half a chance he will be the wonder of the year."**

Earning a spot on the Reds' 1903 opening day roster, Wiggs makes his major league debut on April 23, against the Chicago Cubs, allowing five runs on six hits, two walks and one hit batsman in 2 2/3 innings.

Eleven days later (May 4) the Reds re-lease Wiggs and pitcher Rube Allemang. Returning to the West Coast, Wiggs is a combined 23-18 while pitching for three Pacific National (A) League teams.

A third straight 20-win season follows in 1904, when he is 22-9 splitting time with the Salt Lake City Elders (8-4) of the Pacific National (B) League and Southern (A) League's New Orleans Pelicans (14-5).

### WIGGS AN EXPENSIVE PITCHER.

The most expensive experiment on record in baseball is said to have been Pitcher Jim Wiggs, who was tried out by Cincinnati last spring. He was paid \$1,150 in advance money, salary or credit and pitched exactly three innings, at the end of which he was released. This is an average of \$383 per inning, or about \$75 a minute, allowing five minutes to an inning. Wiggs is now on the Salt Lake City team and is considered the leading pitcher of the Pacific National league.

Salt Lake City or New Orleans are allowed to pay by the rules of the minor leagues. The Superbas say that Wiggs agrees to sign but wants the team to pay for his railroad fare, which is refused. Brooklyn also contends that they sent Wiggs \$350 for his first month's salary, which "he pockets" and disappears, later showing up in Vermont.

## Jimmy Wiggs Year by Year:

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	GP	INN	H	BB	SO	ERA
1899	Superior (Wisc.)	--	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1900	London Tecumsehs	International	-	0-3	5	24	22	33	26	--
	Washburn	Chequamegon Bay	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1901	St. Joseph Saints	Western	A	1-2	3	20	19	-	10	--
	Des Moines Hawkeyes	Western	A	1-0	1	9	4	7	3	--
	Milton	North Dakota	Ind.	10-2-2	14	128	58	-	120	--
	Minneapolis Millers	Western	A	1-2-1	4	-	-	-	-	--
1902	Helena Senators	Pacific Northwest	B	26-16	43	382	276	169	302	--
1903	Cincinnati Reds	NATIONAL	ML	0-1	2	5	12	2	2	5.40
	<b>3 Teams</b>	<b>1 League</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>23-18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>--</b>
	San Francisco Pirates	Pacific National	A	23-18	37	-	370	151	242	--
	Portland/Sal Lake City Elders	Pacific National	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Helena Senators	Pacific National	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1904	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>2 Leagues</b>	<b>A/B</b>	<b>22-9</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>--</b>
	Salt Lake City Elders	Pacific National	B	8-4	14	-	107	68	65	--
	New Orleans Pelicans	Southern	A	14-5	19	-	-	-	-	--
1905	Burlington	Northern Independent	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Lancaster	Tri-State	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Detroit Tigers	AMERICAN	ML	3-3	7	41.1	30	29	37	3.27
1906	Detroit Tigers	American	ML	0-0	4	10.1	11	7	7	5.23
	Toledo Mud Hens	American Association	A	3-3	7	55.2	52	42	26	--
	Rutland	Northern Independent	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Altoona Mountaineers	Tri-State	A	3-2	-	-	-	-	-	--
1907	Altoona Mountaineers	Tri-State	B	15-13	32	-	-	-	-	--
1908	Logan Squares	Chicago City	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1909	Fresno Raisin Growers	California State	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Oakland Oaks	Pacific Coast	A	19-24	50	398	263	129	138	2.15
1910	Montreal Royals	Eastern	A	8-16	35	225	163	105	95	--
1911	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>2 Leagues</b>	<b>A/B</b>	<b>22-12</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>3.72</b>
	Oakland Oaks	Pacific Coast	A	3-5	11	75	71	37	31	3.72
	Seattle Giants	Northwestern	B	19-7	26	-	-	-	-	--
1912	Galt	State League	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Hammonton	State League	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
1913	Watsonville Giants	County League	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Colusa	Trolley	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Newark	Township	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	Santa Rosa	-	Ind.	-	-	-	-	-	-	--
	<b>Major League Totals</b>	<b>3 Seasons</b>		<b>3-4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>56.2</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3.81</b>
	<b>Minor League Totals</b>	<b>10 Seasons</b>		<b>144-120</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>

ML Debut: April 23, 1903 at West Side Grounds, Chicago: Started; relieved by Jack Sudhoff with one out in the third inning in a 5-3 loss to the Chicago Cubs; allowed five runs on six hits, two walks and one hit batsman (Lost 0-1)  
ML Finale: May 25, 1906 at Hilltop Park, New York: Relieved Red Donahue at the start of the 3rd inning in a 15-5 loss to the New York Highlanders; allowed 3 runs on 1 hits, 3 walks and 1 hit batsman in 1 innings (no decision).

Earning another shot at the major leagues in 1905, Wiggs is set to sign with the Brooklyn Superbas, but the contract tendered him by team management is (by Wiggs' testimony) for less money than he made the prior year playing for Salt Lake City and New Orleans in the minor leagues. Wiggs refuses to sign the contract and leaves the team to play for Burlington, an "outlaw" team in the Northern Independent League. Wiggs later jumps Burlington to play for another "outlaw" team, Lancaster of the Tri-State League.

Brooklyn counters that they offered Wiggs a contract for \$1,350, which is more than either

## BROOKLYN CHIDED

FOR UNFAIR TREATMENT OF A BALL PLAYER.

The National Commission Considers That Pitcher Wiggs Was Given Ample Provocation For His Desertion and Reinstates Him.

## Jimmy Wiggs [3 of 8]:

On September 26, 1905, ten days after turning in a five-hit complete win over the Cleveland Indians, the National Baseball Commission sides with Wiggs, formally reinstating the pitcher as a "legal National Agreement Player" and his temporary contract with the Detroit Tigers is made permanent. The Commission also rebukes Brooklyn for attempting to pay a young player less than what they were paid in the minor leagues.



No price is listed for Wiggs' 1911 Obak Cabinets card, but Willard Meikle's card (a 10-game winner for the San Francisco Seals) is for sale at \$4,950 on Ebay ... the large-format Obak Premium cards (5x7 inches) were available only by mail in exchange for coupons, which were distributed one per pack with Obak Cigarettes.

One of three major leaguers born in Norway, Wiggs, pitching for the Detroit Tigers, makes his final major league appearance on May 25, 1906, allowing three runs in one inning of work against the New York Highlanders.

On July 18, 1906, Wiggs (3-3 in seven starts) returns to his old habits, jumping the Toledo Mud Hens. The Mud Hens are en route to Milwaukee when he disappears from the team's sleeper car. Wiggs is later discovered pitching in Rutland, Vermont, under an assumed name.

The happy-footed hurler will bounce around the next four years compiling a 42-53 mark with stops in Altoona (1907), Oakland (1909) and Montreal (1910).

Denied reinstatement by baseball's National Commission for his repeated contract jumping, Wiggs elects to play for Chicago's vaunted independent Logan Squares in 1908. He later leaves Chicago and signs with the Fresno Raisin Growers of the outlaw California State League.

Following his fourth 20-win season with the Oakland Oaks (3) and the Seattle Giants (19), Wiggs informs Seattle manager Dan Dugdale that he would like to be traded to a more southern team as he feels the warm weather will make his arm feel better. With Seattle unable to make a trade, Wiggs informs Dugdale that he will retire and enter the insurance business.

Wiggs spends his final two years of organized baseball playing for an assortment of independent teams in California, reportedly pitching seven consecutive no-hitters in the Golden State.

Wiggs will finish 3-4 with a 3.81 ERA in parts of three major league seasons with the Reds (1903) and the Detroit Tigers (1905-06). In nine minor league campaigns, Wiggs is 144-120 with four 20-win seasons.

## WIGGS CHRONOLOGY

March 9, 1899

Wiggs and 37-year-old Perry "Moose" Werden ink their contracts with the Minneapolis Millers of the Western (A) League ... Werden, already a minor league legend, will hit 43 home runs playing for the Millers in 1894, and 45 the following year, a record that would stand until Babe Ruth tops it in 1920.

July 4, 1899

Pitching for an independent team in Superior, Wisconsin, Wiggs allows only five hits and strikes out 11, including the side in the eighth inning on 12 pitches, in a 8-4 win over the visiting Saint Paul Athletes before a crowd of 2,500.

## Baseball Denies Wiggs Reinstatement

Toledo Blade; January 18, 1907

A week after the National Commission refuses to reinstate Wiggs because of past contract jumping, *The Toledo Blade* runs this editorial.

"Pathos and humor are both plentiful in the career of this remarkable pitcher. He will undoubtedly go down to history as the most sensational contract hurdler of baseball. Records of Jim's experience as the obligation flea have not been compiled, but he has gone over the barriers so many times as to leave a few occasions fresh in the mind of any sporting devotee.

He jumped Cincinnati for New Orleans; he jumped Toledo for the International outlaws; he jumped the International outlaws for the Tri-State outlaws; out west he jumped from the Pacific Coast League to the Pacific Northwest (League) six times in one day and back again. He has been playing ball quite awhile and has been jumping anywhere down to a minimum of twice a year.

The coast exploits deserves more extended mention. It so happened that four clubs were quartered in Seattle and Tacoma one day and they belonged to both the rival coast leagues. Wiggs was then with the Sacramento club. The Salt Lake manager got a talk with him and Jim jumped, the deed comprising merely a trip across the street with his suit case in his hand.

The Sacramento manager heard of it and got to Jim, and Jim jumped back again. He was retrieved by the Salt Lake manager and returned. The Tacoma and Butte managers heard of what was going on and Jim served a few minutes at the hotel of each of these.

The Salt Lake manager was persistent, however, and finally got Jim back and out of town under the cover of darkness, which had fallen. Jim had been signing contracts right and left and had a neat wad of advance money, including bunches from all the teams. Also, his hotel bill had been paid four times. He had been bustled about considerable, however, and ended the day ravenously hungry, having surrounded nothing since morning but one bowl of soup. The Salt Lake manager had paid for that.

Had it not been for his inveterate disinclination to labor, Jim Wiggs would have been able to send his name thundering down through the ages with those of Radbourne, Rusie, Young and Clarkson. The Lord built Jim Wiggs in the mold of an ideal pitcher, but abuse of the gift has kept Jim from attaining any real success.

## Jimmy Wiggs [4 of 8]:

July 19, 1899

With his teammates upset at him for allegedly betting against them in an earlier game, Wiggs is on the mound as an indifferent Superior nine loses to Chicago's Mandel Brothers 11-2 ... Wiggs' teammates accuse him for betting against his team two days earlier and even though he lost the bet (by the team winning the game) they are still upset with him ... the Mandel team is made up of clerks from one of the largest retail dry goods houses in the Windy City where Wiggs had worked in the bookkeeping department prior to trying his hand at baseball.

### Pitcher Wiggs is a Mystery

Salt Lake Herald; July 25, 1909

Jim Wiggs is the pitching mystery of baseball. Wiggs is like the mythical little girlie. When Jim is good he is very very good. But when he is bad well he is rotten, that's all.

He has everything a pitcher is supposed to have and then some. If Wiggs were a consistent pitcher he'd be occupying a place in baseball alongside of the Browns and Mathewsons, but Jimmy is an in and outer. One day he is so good that the opposition cannot touch him with a forty-foot rod. Next day Jim is so bad that he is easy for the poorest of them.

If someone could develop what is really in Wiggs, Oakland would have the best pitcher in the Coast league. Right and proper Wiggs is the best twirler in the league. He has everything but there is a strong suspicion that Jim lacks heart and cannot come on from behind.

Yesterday Wiggs had a bonnie day. During the pasting at Freeman's Park Jim allowed the hard-hitting Seals just one lone single. Also he allowed them but three free passes and fanned seven batsmen. There never was a time when Oakland looked to be in danger. Wiggs had the clamps on the Seals good and hard and he never weakened or looked as though he was going to weaken.

If Wiggs had consistency he'd be up with the big flingers and an ornament to the big league, but Wiggs lacks something, and in lacking that something he just misses being one of the best pitchers in the game.

Wiggs was there with the willow yesterday. Jim slapped the horsehide in the features for three hits.

August 7, 1901

Wiggs is 10-2-2 in 14 starts for Milton when he leaves the team.

August 14, 1901

Grand Forks manager Fretz wires Wiggs to ask the tall lefthander if he will sign with his team and if he could report to the team the following morning ... Fretz feels that if Wiggs is able to catch the No. 9 train out of Minneapolis he should be able to reach Grand Forks in time for that afternoon's game with first place Devils Lake.

## GREAT WIGGS IS COMING

HE WILL ENDEAVOR TO PUZZLE THE LOCALS TODAY.

August 29, 1901

Wiggs declines Fretz's offer and instead signs with the Minneapolis Millers where is 1-2-1 in four starts before being given "his railroad ticket" by manager Johnny Beall.

July 6, 1900

Hit soundly in his last two starts and saddled with an 0-3 record, Wiggs "jumps" the London Tecumseh for an independent team in Washburn, Wisconsin ... the *Grand Rapids Herald* opines: "Other people have been laboring under the impression that there was no team to jump."

September 1, 1900

Pitching for a semipro team in Washburn, Wiggs allows visiting Duluth only four hits and strikes out 11 in a 4-2 win.

May 26, 1901

In his debut with the Western League's Des Moines Hawkeyes (his second team of the season), Wiggs strikes out seven and allows only four hits in a 13-1 win over visiting Colorado Springs. The following morning Wiggs is gone, reportedly returning to Chicago.

June 10, 1901

Wiggs signs with Milton of the independent North Dakota League.

July 18, 1901

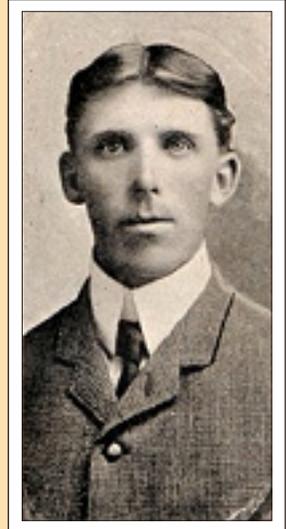
Wiggs strikes out a season-high 15 and limits Cavalier to two singles as the two teams battle to a 0-0 tie in 10 innings.

July 23, 1901

Wiggs strikes out 11 and allows only five hits in Milton's 8-1 win over Fargo.

July 25, 1901

Pitching on one day's rest, Wiggs pitches a one-hit 3-0 shutout of Grand Forks.



### Milton 3, Grand Forks 0 July 25, 1901 Milton, North Dakota

Milton—	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Flanagan, cf	4	0	0	1	1	0
O'Day, 1b	4	1	0	11	0	2
Page, 3b	4	1	2	1	2	0
Cameron, ss	3	1	1	1	4	0
Baxter, 2b	4	0	2	4	1	0
Skulason, rf	4	0	1	0	0	0
Rydeen, c	4	0	0	6	0	0
Wiggs, p	4	0	1	0	4	0
Farnham, lf	4	0	0	3	0	0

Totals	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Totals	35	3	7	27	11	2
Grand Forks—	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Delaney, 2b	4	0	1	2	2	0
Chandler, c	3	0	0	3	1	0
W. Hanrahan, 3b	4	0	0	3	2	2
Turner, 1b	4	0	0	8	0	0
Maloney, rf	3	0	0	0	0	1
Forde, lf	3	0	0	3	0	0
Lyons, cf	3	0	0	1	0	0
H. Hanrahan, ss	3	0	0	3	1	1
Whiting, p	4	0	0	1	2	0

Totals... 31 0 1 24 8 4  
Milton... 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 \*—3  
Grand Forks... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
Bases on balls, off Whiting 2, off Wiggs 4; struck out, by Whiting 3, Wiggs 4; home run, Cameron; hit by pitched ball, Lyons; passed balls, Chandler 1. Time, 1:35. Umpire, Pickley.

## Jimmy Wiggs [5 of 8]:

September 4, 1901

Wiggs agrees to terms with the Duluth Dukes, but instead he casts his lot for a tryout with the Chicago White Sox.

February 24, 1902

Wiggs is one of 10 players signed by Helena Senators' manager Jack Flannery ... given his salary limitations, Flannery reports that he is "satisfied" with the roster he has put together.

Flannery notes that Wiggs was offered \$250 a month by an unnamed manager of an American League team ... Flannery offers to release Wiggs because he did not want "any man on the team who was dissatisfied" ... Wiggs tells Flannery he will report on April 7 ready to play ball.

April 20, 1902

Helena opens preseason play with a 3-1 win over the Athena (Oregon) ... Senators' manager Flannery has some good news and some bad news for team vice-president Jacob Fischer; first the team did not commit an error and cleared \$113.65 after expenses of \$13.15, however it was learned that pitcher George Hodson, has "jumped the team" leaving Helena one "first class" pitcher shy ... the 34-year-old Hodson returns to his native Oakland where he finds employment with the California League's Oakland Clamdiggers where he goes 23-16.

April 29, 1902

Wiggs is on the mound as the Helena Senators open their season against the Seattle Clamdiggers in Seattle's Athletic Park ... Wiggs allows only three hits and strikes out six in a 6-3 victory ... it is reported that the Helena players "are big fellows and have a disagreeable habit of driving the ball over the heads of the outfielders."

May 11, 1902

Last place Helena wins its second game in 10 tries scoring a run in the top of the ninth inning to squeeze out a 5-4 win over Tacoma ... Wiggs walks 10 Tacoma batters but allows only four hits as the Senators close out a 10-game road trip to open the season.

May 25, 1902

Back on the road in Spokane, Wiggs is wild (eight walks) and loses the game (7-1) while first baseman Hugh McGilligan is mad and loses his temper ... in the eighth inning, with two men on base, Helena shortstop Claude Schmeer overthrows first base ... while Charlie Schaffer waits for someone in the stands to throw the ball back into play, all three Spokane runners round the bases scoring three runs ... when the home plate umpire finally throws another ball to be put into play, McGilligan grabs the ball and "in a fit of anger" throws the ball into the stands striking a fan on the top

of his hat ... the crowd starts for the diamond, but a plain clothes policeman bars the way until another policeman takes McGilligan into custody and safety ... McGilligan is fined \$10 and ordered out of the game.

July 20, 1902

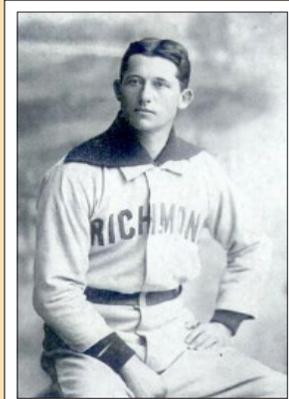
Pitching for the Helena Senators, Wiggs extends his scoreless inning streak to a professional baseball record 48 straight innings before the Seattle Clamdiggers push across two runs on Gus Klopff's two-out triple in the sixth inning in a 3-2 Helena win in 10 innings ... Wiggs allows only two hits and strikes out five in running his record to 15-8 with his eighth-straight win.

August 3, 1902

Wiggs out duels Portland's George Engel allowing only seven hits while striking out 10 Webfotts in a 12-inning 1-0 shutout.



The third of four baseball cards issued featuring Jimmy Wiggs, his 1911 Obak (Red Back) card No. 168 in good condition currently lists for \$180.00.



Beginning his career as an 18-year-old pitcher with the Minneapolis Millers in 1887, Gus Klopff will play 18 minor league seasons, including an Atlantic (B) League pennant winning campaign with the Richmond Bluebirds in 1898.

## M'GILLIGAN GETS HOT

THROWS BALL INTO CROWD AND HITS SPECTATOR.

FINED AND PUT OUT OF GAME

Helena Senators 1, Portland Webfotts 0  
August 3, 1902  
Lucky Beavers Stadium, Portland, Oregon

PORTLAND.	AB.	R.	B.	P.	A.	E	HELENA.	AB.	R.	B.	P.	A.	E
Muller, lf...	4	0	1	0	0	0	Hannivan, lf	4	0	1	1	0	0
VanBu'n, cf	5	0	1	3	0	0	Peeples, 2b..	5	0	0	0	2	1
Weed, 1b....	5	0	1	15	0	0	Flannery, cf	5	0	1	4	1	0
Anders'n, 2b	5	0	2	0	5	0	Shaffer, 1b..	5	1	1	15	0	0
Zeigler, 3b..	4	0	1	2	1	0	Sullivan, c..	5	0	1	10	1	0
Harris, rf....	5	0	1	5	1	0	Holly, 3b....	5	0	1	1	0	0
Deisel, ss....	5	0	2	5	0	1	McGilli'n, rf	5	0	0	2	2	0
Vigneaux, c	3	0	0	8	2	0	Schmeer, ss	4	0	0	3	4	0
Engel, p.....	5	0	0	1	0	0	Wiggs, p.....	4	0	1	0	5	0

Total..... 41 0 7 36 14 0 | Total..... 42 1 6 36 15 1  
Helena..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1-1  
Portland..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0  
Earned run—Helena. Two base hit—Sullivan.  
Three-base hit—Hannivan. Double play—McGilligan, Shaffer. Stolen bases—Muller 2, VanBuren, Vigneaux, Engel, Hannivan, Flannery, Shaffer.  
Struck out—By Wiggs 10, Engel 5. First on balls—Off Wiggs 3, Engel 1. Hit by pitcher—Zeigler.  
Passed ball—Sullivan. Umpire—Fisher. Time—2h.

## Jimmy Wiggs [6 of 6]:

August 22, 1902

Helena informs the Sacramento Gilt Edges that Wiggs can be purchased for \$1,000 ... Sacramento's team in the California League is owned by Frank Ruhstaller, the owner of Ruhstaller's Brewery which manufactures "Gilt Edge Beer."



Jim Wiggs Major League Debut  
April 23, 1903  
West Side Grounds, Chicago Illinois

### CHICAGO BEATS CINCI.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 23, 1903. A gift, a batsman hit, a steal and six singles gave the locals today's game in one inning. Sudhoff relieved Wiggs in the third and allowed but four scattered singles during the remainder of the game. Score:

CHICAGO.					CINCINNATI.					
ab.	bb.	po.	a.	e.	ab.	bb.	po.	a.	e.	
Jones, r...	5	1	0	0	Kelley, lf...	4	1	0	0	
Slagle, lf...	1	0	2	2	Seymour, cf...	5	0	3	0	
Kling, c...	4	0	7	2	Donlin, r...	4	0	3	0	
Dobbs, cf...	4	2	0	6	Beckley, l...	3	0	0	6	
Tinker, s...	4	2	1	3	Morrissey, 2...	4	1	1	3	
Casey, 3...	4	3	0	1	Corcoran, 3...	3	1	2	3	
Lowe, 2...	4	1	2	3	Steinfeldt, 3...	4	1	3	2	
Hankon, l...	3	0	1	0	Bergen, c...	4	3	3	1	
Weimer, p...	3	1	0	5	Wiggs, p...	0	0	0	0	
					Sudhoff, p...	2	0	0	0	
					Macoon...	1	0	6	0	
					Peltz...	1	0	0	0	
Totals...	32	10	27	14	41	Totals...	35	7	24	9
Innings.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Chicago.....	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	
Cincinnati.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1-3	

Runs—Dobbs, Tinker, Casey, Lowe, Hankon, Corcoran 2, Steinfeldt. Left on bases—Chicago 7, Cincinnati 8. Two-base hits—Kelley, Steinfeldt. Stolen bases—Lowe, Tinker. Double plays—Slagle and Kling; Morrissey and Beckley. Struck out—By Weimer 5, by Sudhoff 1. Bases on balls—Off Weimer 3, off Wiggs 2, off Sudhoff 1. Hit by ball—By Wiggs 1.

April 23, 1903

Wiggs' major league debut with the Cincinnati Reds doesn't go as planned ... the Cubs score five runs in the third inning, on two walks and five bunt base hits ... Wiggs is forced to leave the game in the third inning when he spikes his throwing hand while trying to field a bunt down the third base line.

August 23, 1903

Pitching for the Salt Lake City Elders, Wiggs pitches a pair of complete game victories in a doubleheader sweep of Seattle, including a 13-inning win in the second game ... in 22 innings of work, Wiggs allows only 16 hits and strikes out 20.

### PITCHED 22 INNINGS.

At Salt Lake Jim Wiggs performed the remarkable feat of pitching 22 innings in a double-header, winning both games against the Seattles. He struck out 20 men and allowed only five runs, three of which were made possible only by errors. This performance should stand to Wiggs' credit in no uncertain way when it comes to signing up for a new season. In the second game, which went 13 innings, the general play was particularly excellent.

December 8, 1903

Coming off a 23-win season in the Pacific National League, Wiggs draws attention from both the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago White Sox ... a free agent because he is the only player that the Salt Lake City Elders did not place on their reserve list, Chicago asks Wiggs for his terms with the stipulation, "Don't ask too much in advance."

## PITCHER WIGGS IS SUSPENDED

"Big Jim" Ordered to the Bench.

June 7, 1904

Despite an 8-4 record, Wiggs is suspended without pay by the Salt Lake City Elders until he gets himself into shape ... in his last outing against Butte, Wiggs has 11 walks, one wild pitch, hits two batters and allows 12 stolen bases.

June 20, 1904

New Orleans buy Wiggs from Salt Lake City for \$750 ... the Washington Senators also express an interest in obtaining the elongated left-hander, but the Pelicans "had the money ready." ... New Orleans also gives Wiggs

a nice bonus for agreeing to come.

August 19, 1904

Wiggs is leading last place Montgomery 2-1 in the eighth inning, when following a disputed call at first base, he slaps umpire Pfeinnger on top of the head and then shoves him ... Wiggs is ejected and relieved by former major league Ted Breitenstein who gets the game's final four outs to secure a 3-1 victory.

September 16, 1905

In Detroit's final home game of the season, Wiggs strikes out five and allows only five hits in a 6-2 complete game victory ... the Tigers will play their final 23 games on the road.

Jim Wiggs Complete Game  
September 16, 1905  
Bennett Par, Detroit, Michigan

## WIGGS A MYSTERY TO CLEVELAND

DETROIT.	A.	B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	B.
McIntyre, 1 f .....	4	0	1	2	0	0	0
Lindsay, 1 b .....	4	0	3	13	0	0	0
Schaefer, 2 b .....	4	1	2	2	4	0	0
Crawford, r f .....	4	0	1	1	0	0	0
Cobb, c f .....	3	1	0	1	1	0	0
Lowe, 8 b .....	3	1	0	0	1	0	0
O'Leary, ss .....	4	2	3	1	4	0	0
Warner, p .....	4	1	2	7	0	0	0
Wiggs, c .....	4	0	1	0	3	1	1
Totals .....	34	6	18	27	13	1	1
CLEVELAND.	A.	B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	B.
Bay, c f .....	4	1	1	2	0	0	0
Flick, r f .....	4	0	2	2	3	0	1
Stovall, 2 b .....	3	0	0	2	3	0	1
Bradley, 8 b .....	4	0	0	2	3	0	0
Turner, ss .....	3	0	0	3	2	0	0
Carr, 1 b .....	4	0	0	10	1	0	0
Hess, 1 f .....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clark, c .....	3	1	1	2	1	0	0
Bernhard, p .....	3	0	1	1	3	0	0
Totals .....	31	2	5	24	13	1	1
Detroit .....	0	1	5	0	0	0	0
Cleveland .....	0	0	1	1	0	0	0

Earned runs—Detroit 0, Cleveland 1. Two-base hits—Wiggs, McIntyre. Sacrifice hit—Cobb. Bases on balls—Off Wiggs 2, off Bernhard 1. Left on bases—Detroit 0, Cleveland 4. Struck out—By Wiggs 5, by Bernhard 1. Double plays—O'Leary, Schaefer, Lindsay; Turner and Carr; Turner, Stovall and Carr; Bradley and Carr. Passed ball—Warner. Time—1:30. Umpire—O'Loughlin. Attendance—3,500.

**Jimmy Wiggs [7 of 8]:**

**BALL PLAYER MISSING.**

Milwaukee, July 19—The whereabouts of pitcher Jimmy Wiggs of the Toledo club is worrying the base ball magnates. The Toledo club arrived here today but Wiggs had disappeared from a sleeper.

July 18, 1906

The Toledo Mud Hens arrive in Milwaukee, only to discover that Wiggs has disappeared from the team's "sleeper" car ... Wiggs is later discovered pitching in Rutland, Vermont under an assumed name.

May 1907

Pitching for the Altoona Mountaineers, Wiggs, the elongated boxman who spent the winter as a bookkeeper in Butte, was "fired" from a game with Harrisonburg

and "compelled to grace the bench for three days."

**"Concerning the recent disgraceful affair between Pitcher Wiggs and First Baseman Calhoun, at Altoona, the Harrisburg Patriot gays: Captain Calhoun has been suspended for three days and fined \$10 for coaching in such a manner as to rattle Jimmy Wiggs, the Altoona pitcher and forcing an attack. It was during the eighth inning of Monday's game that Wiggs walked over to first base where Calhoun was coaching and made an effort to strike the Harrisburg leader. According to reports, Calhoun walked away from Wiggs, and a light was averted. Both men were put out of the game and both were suspended for three days and fined \$10. The suspension will not affect Wiggs, as he will not work for three days or more."**

May 14, 1908

Eveleth (Minn.) business men give manager Butch Kennedy \$2,500 to "assemble a crew of players that will dust the range" with the other teams in the iron ore belt ... Wiggs is among players playing semipro ball in Chicago with the Logan Squares is mentioned for membership on the team.

February 12, 1909

Fresno Raisin Eaters president A.B. Evans announces the signing of Wiggs to a contract ... transportation has been wired and he is expected to arrive within seven to 10 days ... even though he admits to working out with the Raisin Eaters, Wiggs later denies ever signing a contract with the "outlaw" organization.

May 13, 1909

On the mound for the Oakland Oaks, Wiggs comes to within one hit batsman of pitching a perfect game when he no-hits visiting San Francisco 3-0 ... Wiggs hits Seals' second baseman Kid Mohler with one out in the first inning.

**HOW AN EARTHQUAKE ON THE PACIFIC COAST ONCE HELPED JIM WIGGS WIN A GAME OF BALL**

"Talk about your seismic disturbances," remarked Truthful James Wiggs of the Detroit club, as he rested on the bench during morning practice, says a writer in the Detroit Times, "I'll bet you never heard how an earthquake helped me win a game of ball out in Seattle once."

The well known reputation for truth and veracity possessed by big Jim caused everybody to prick up his ears.

"It was the last half of the ninth, the bases full and two out. We were one run ahead of them, and they were at bat. A heavy hitter was up, and I had two strikes and three balls on him. My control was in its usual state and I had premonitions.

"I took a long swing and threw the ball straight at the batsman, to curve it over the plate. Horror! It started for the plate and I saw it was bound to go wide. A run plainly coming in. Just then I felt the earth quiver beneath my feet. The stands seemed to move and I wondered if I was fainting. As that ball passed the batter the plate gave a mighty heave and jumped over right under where the ball was, cleaving its way through the air.

"Strike three, and out," yelled Slats Davis, who was umpiring, as he recovered his balance. It was a close decision, but it was right. The other gang kicked and their captain came out, flourishing a rule book, but failed to mention anything about earthquakes or movable home plates, and we won the game and the pennant afterward, by the smallest possible margin."

So saying, Mr. Wiggs stretched his lanky form to its entire height and yawned.

Jim Wiggs No-Hitter  
May 13, 1909  
San Francisco, California

**WIGGS GRAZES WORLD'S RECORD FOR OAKLAND**

[Special to The Herald.]

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—Big Jim Wiggs, the giant twirler of the Oaks, almost pitched himself into a world's record at Recreation park today. Also, which is just as much to the point, Wiggs shut out the Seals and stopped the winning streak of the leaders in the pennant race by a score of 3 to 0.

In fact, Wiggs came as close to the no-hit no-run record without a man reaching first base as has been attained on the Pacific Coast. Wiggs hit Kid Mohler in the first inning, but outside of that miss not a San Franciscan reached first base.

The commuters gathered three runs in the eighth. Hogan started with a two-bagger. Murphy's out advanced the runner, and Christian hit one to Tennant that took a nasty bound. Hogan scored and the runner was safe. Carl Lewis hit one to Mundorff at third. The ball bounded and Lewis was safe. Tennant tried to return and threw to catch Christian at third, but hit the bench and the second Oakland run was sent across the plate. A wild pitch took Lewis to third, and after Van Haltren had walked and the pair started the double steal, Tennant made his second bad throw and Lewis tallied the third run of the game. The score:

SAN FRANCISCO		AB	R	H	SB	PO	A	E
Mundorff, 3b	.....	3	0	0	0	3	2	0
Mohler, 2b	.....	2	0	0	0	1	3	0
Tennant, 1b	.....	3	0	0	0	13	0	2
Bedle, lf	.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Melchior, rf	.....	3	0	0	0	2	0	0
J. Lewis, cf	.....	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Berry, c	.....	3	0	0	0	2	1	0
McArdle, ss	.....	3	0	0	0	1	3	0
Corbett, p	.....	3	0	0	0	0	4	0
Totals	.....	28	0	0	0	24	13	2

OAKLAND		AB	R	H	SB	PO	A	E
Van Haltren, cf	.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
McCay, ss	.....	2	0	0	0	3	2	0
D. Lewis, lf	.....	4	0	3	1	0	0	0
Cameron, 1b	.....	3	0	0	0	19	2	0
Hogan, 3b	.....	4	1	1	0	3	2	0
Murphy, rf	.....	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Christian, lf	.....	3	1	2	0	1	1	0
C. Lewis, c	.....	4	1	2	1	3	1	0
Wiggs, p	.....	4	0	0	0	2	1	0
Totals	.....	31	3	8	2	27	9	0

SCORE BY INNINGS	
San Francisco	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0
Base hits	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0
Oakland	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 2-3
Base hits	0 1 1 1 1 0 1 2 2-8

**SUMMARY**  
Two-base hits—D. Lewis, Hogan. Bases on balls—Off Corbett, 6. Struck out—By Corbett, 2; by Wiggs, 8. Hit by pitched ball—Mohler. Wild pitch—Corbett. Time—1:40. Umpire—Tomnan.

