

# 1902 Texas League "Corsicana Rout"

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Following a two-year hiatus that features several failed attempts at reorganization, threatened lawsuits, angry owners and scheduling snafus, a reconstituted Texas League takes to the field in the spring of 1902, as a six-team circuit based exclusively in North Texas.

Optimism runs high as the regular season gets underway in late April.

However, over the next four months:

The league twice revises its schedule during the season causing so much confusion that managers are repeatedly calling the league office to find out where their teams are to play the next day.

Two teams - Texarkana and Waco - disband on July 7, shrinking the league to four teams. Texarkana is first granted a franchise at the beginning of a league meeting in January, only to be dropped at the end of the meeting, in favor of Corsicana. In addition, Texarkana is nicknamed "Casketmakers" in honor of the town's largest industry. Not a good omen.

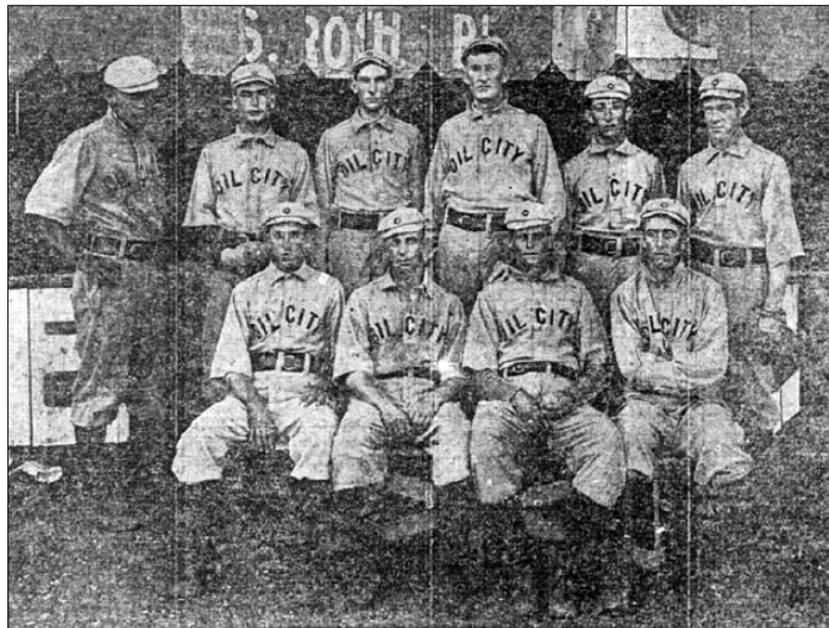
A record-setting 51-3 game between Corsicana and Texarkana takes place in a town not even in the league and is highlighted by an eight-home run performance by a "Nig" Clarke, a 5-foot-8 left-handed hitting catcher from Canada, on a field with a very short right field fence. The box score is disputed by some, necessitating sworn affidavits from fellow players and other witnesses.

## 1902 Texas League - Final Standings

Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Corsicana Oil Citys	86	22	.796	--	Mike O'Connor
Dallas Griffins	60	53	.531	28.5	Lee Dawkins/Wilson Matthews
Fort Worth Panthers	48	60	.444	38	Ted Sullivan
Paris Homeseekers	44	61	.419	40.5	Wade Moore/Wilson Matthews/Rogers
Waco Tigers	22	35	.386	--	Emmett Rogers
Texarkana Casketmakers	19	46	.270	--	Cy Mulkey/Dred Cavender/Frank Ball

\*Sherman-Denison moved to Texarkana on May 6

\*Texarkana, Waco disband on July 7



### 1902 Corsicana Oil Citys

Corsicana wins both halves of the 1902 Texas League race, finishing with an overall record of 86-22 (.796). Michael O'Connor's pitching staff features three 20-game winners, including William "Lucky" Wright who leads the league with a 35-8 mark, followed by Monte Method (28-6) and Bobby White (20-6). Oil City pitchers complete all 108 of the team's games played. Three members of the Oil Citys go on to play in the Major Leagues - Hunter Hill, a late-season pick-up, plays for the St. Louis Browns and the Washington Senators from 1903 to 1905, catcher Nig Clarke plays nine seasons, mostly with the Cleveland Indians, hitting .254 with six home runs and shortstop Walter Morris who hits .178 for the St. Louis Browns in 1908 and later becomes President of the Texas League. Founded in 1848 and named after the island of Corsica, Corsicana is where oil is first discovered west of the Mississippi and has a population of 9,313 in 1900.

A 27-game win streak by Corsicana, a record that will stand for over 80 years, keys the Oil Citys to a 87-23 mark and in first place a full 28 1/2 games ahead of second-place Dallas.

The Paris franchise attempts to "secretly" relocate to Houston in the middle of the season, but when other owners don't sanction the move, the team elects to play most of its remaining schedule on the road and during a subsequent 27-game road trip earns the nickname "Homeseekers".

However, despite all of the setbacks, and there were many, the Texas League is back in business.

## 1902 TEXAS LEAGUE CHRONOLOGY

January 12, 1901 - Genesis

Efforts to reinvent the Texas League, following a one-year hiatus, begins to take shape at a "successful" meeting in Dallas ... Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston and Corsicana are voted in as members with Paris and Sherman to be "investigated further" ... James J. Driscoll is elected president and A.P. Bailey secretary.

## 1902 Texas League [2 of 10]:

March 16, 1901 - Success

The Texas League is officially established following a meeting in Waco ... franchises are awarded to San Antonio, Houston, Waco and Dallas with Corsicana, Denison-Sherman "reserving" the right to enter later ... league officials agree that the visiting club will be paid \$50 for all games and share 50 percent of all gate receipts for Sunday and holiday games ... the team salary limit is set at \$600.

April 4, 1901 - Failure

The Texas League is a "no go" as San Antonio and Houston are unable to meet league guidelines and forfeit their franchise rights.

### RIGHT ON THE WAY

Texas League Will be Organized for Next Year.

### THE MEETING IN DALLAS

Ted Sullivan Will Make a Tour of the State to Further Organization.

November 3, 1901 - Second Attempt

Another effort to reestablish the Texas League begins with a "preliminary" meeting held at the Windsor Hotel in Dallas ... 10 towns - Corsicana, Dallas, Denison, El Paso, Fort Worth, Galveston, Houston, Paris, Texarkana and Waco - are represented by delegates or "reassuring" letters ... Ted Sullivan, who had organized the Southern League earlier, takes charge in trying to put together the new league.

November 15, 1901 - "Where's Ted?"

Nobody seems to know where Ted Sullivan is ... due to appear in Houston a week earlier, Sullivan is a no show ... the general opinion is that Sullivan has "given up his task in disgust" after realizing that putting a league together may take more money than is expected.

November 16, 1901

Sullivan emerges from a tour of prospective towns and informs the media that Texas is too large to be represented by only one league ... Sullivan elects to pass on teams from the Southern part of the state and concentrates on forming a six-team league in North Texas ... after visiting 10 prospective towns, Sullivan says that railroad fare to the South will "eat up all of the profits."

December 7, 1901

Acting league president Ted Sullivan issues a warning that any city not ready to "talk business" at the next official league meeting on December 15, will be dropped from the league.

December 15, 1901

The Texas League is again "official" with Fort Worth's John L. Ward elected president ... Dallas, Fort Worth, Texarkana, Waco and Paris are represented by delegates while Corsicana, Denison-Sherman and Shreveport present applications.

December 18, 1901 - Unhappy in Fort Worth

Fort Worth's Northern Texas Traction Company (read railroad) general manager E.B. Haines is "up in arms" and unhappy with the way the Texas League was formed without franchises in Houston and San Antonio.

December 31, 1901

El Paso lets it be known that it desires to be a member of the Texas League.

January 18, 1902 - Hot Air

Ted Sullivan says that of the seven cities that have expressed interest in being a member of the Texas League, only six will be accepted. "At the next meeting which is not far off, the city that is dealing only in hot air will have to stand aside."



Considered a pioneer of early Texas baseball, Ted Sullivan is born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1851. Credited with founding the Northwestern, Southern, Atlantic Association and Texas Leagues, Sullivan manages the Fort Worth Panthers to a 48-60 record.

### ALL MUST BE-READY.

Cities Not Prepared to Talk Business Dec. 15 Will Be Dropped from the Texas League.

In Fort Worth on Dec. 15 a meeting of the representatives of the cities interested in forming a professional baseball circuit in this end of the State for 1902 will be held. Such places as are not ready for business on that date will be left out of the league, for the meeting has been deferred two weeks in order to give all of them plenty of time.

"The State was never in better shape for baseball than now," said Ted Sullivan yesterday. "It is going to get baseball and the very best kind of baseball at that. The contests for the championship of the league will be bona fide and exciting. There is no fake about the organization. All of us realize that in order to make money in this State we have got to play good baseball, and as we are not on the circuit for our health, it doesn't require much of a prophet to foretell the kind of games we will have."

## 1902 Texas League [3 of 10]:

January 26 - Texarkana Out

A six-team Texas League begins to take shape at a league meeting in Dallas ... franchises are awarded to Dallas, Fort Worth, Denison-Sherman, Paris, Waco and Corsicana ... at the beginning of the meeting, Texarkana is originally awarded a franchise but later is voted out with Corsicana taking its place ... a schedule committee is named and each town deposits \$250 in earnest money.

January 29 - Texarkana Unhappy

Texarkana manager James Drake, a local opera house manager and former manager of the Waco team, threatens legal action if the city is not admitted back into the league, "We can get an injunction and stop the game in any city, for we have a bona fide agreement, and the minutes of the Fort Worth meeting will show that a franchise was granted our city unconditionally, and we are going to exhaust every available means within our reach to protect our interests and our rights."



**William Wright, Corsicana**

Corsicana lefthanded pitcher William "Lucky" Wright leads all Texas League pitchers with a 35-8 mark and 43 complete games. Wright is 1-4 with the Oil Citys the following year before being sold to San Antonio in late May. Wright compiles an 18-12 mark splitting time with San Antonio, Beaumont and then San Antonio a second time. Following the 1903 season, Wright's career looks like a road map - San Antonio (1904), Galveston (1904), New Orleans (1905), San Antonio (1906), Denton (semipro) Athletics (1906), Fort Worth (1908), Hot Springs (1909), Memphis (1909) and Laredo (1911). In addition to working as an umpire in the Lone Star State, Wright is unable to play in 1907 after suffering an accident at the I&GNR Railroad yard in Palestine, Texas.

March 1 - Uniforms

All of the Texas League clubs, except Denison-Sherman, will wear uniforms of light colors ... Dallas will have steel gray with maroon trim, Paris and Corsicana will both have a lighter gray uniforms with maroon trim, Waco will wear gray with black trim while Fort Worth will have white uniforms with maroon trimming ... Denison-Sherman will be decked out in navy blue and scarlet.

April 23, 1902 - Change of Plans

League president John Ward calls an unscheduled meeting to revise the league schedule and distribute Sunday dates on a more equitable basis with Waco receiving more games on the Sabbath than originally scheduled.

April 26, 1902 - Opening Day

Following a two-year hiatus, a reconstituted Texas League opens with a three-game slate.

Dallas pounds out 12 hits and rallies past Fort Worth 12-9 in front of 1,000 Panther fans who are attending their first professional baseball game since 1898 ... Corsicana scores three runs in the first inning and overwhelms visiting Waco 9-3 before an estimated crowd of 3,000 ... Paris, playing in front of a large crowd, "including many ladies" downs Denison-Sherman 9-3.

May 6, 1902

Dallas, mired in fifth place with a 4-6 record, acquires San Antonio native Walter Schaezler after the veteran shortstop wires "Terms accepted. Send ticket at once." ... Schaezler assumes a starting role for the Griffins, but hits a lowly .223 with 11 doubles, one triple and one home run in 101 games.

May 7, 1902 - Students on the Move

Ten days into the season, the Sherman-Denison Students, playing at a ball field located four miles outside from either city, and citing "lack of sufficient financial support" play their last home game, committing 11 errors in a 12-8 loss to Waco ... following the game, the 1-9 Students relocate to Texarkana where they become known as the "Casketmakers"

### MAY APPEAL TO THE COURTS.

#### Texarkana Objects to Being Dropped from Baseball League.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.

Texarkana, Tex., Jan. 28.—The action of the Texas ball league at its last Sunday's meeting in Dallas, of dropping Texarkana from the proposed circuit, is a source of great disappointment here, and the criticisms of that action against this city are both numerous and caustic. Manager Drake, who attended the Dallas meeting as Texarkana's representative, in an interview last night said: "In dropping Texarkana they did an unjust act, and in the deliberations of the body I could get no satisfaction from any source or learn the objections of any city or individual to Texarkana."

"Texarkana has a legal franchise, granted unconditionally, and has paid for same, and all assessments up to last Sunday's meeting, and nobody can take it from her. I notified the meeting before retiring that Texarkana would play ball if any other city did in the Texas league, and that I would fight such treatment as they meted out to us in the courts if necessary. We can get out an injunction and stop the game in any city entering that agreement, for we have a bona fide agreement with them, and the minutes of the Fort Worth meeting will show that a franchise was granted our city unconditionally, and we are going to exhaust every available means within our reach to protect our interests and our rights."

## 1902 Texas League [4 of 10]:

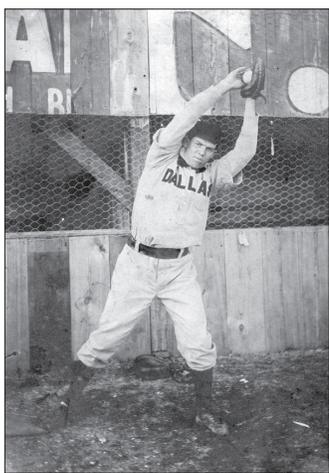
### MATHEWS JOINS PARIS

#### Will Play With That Club Two Weeks to Help It Out.

President John L. Ward of the Texas League last night received a telegram from Wilson Mathews, one of the league umpires, asking permission to join the Paris club as a player for two weeks in order to help out that club, which is about to lose two of its men who signed under provisional contracts. President Ward wired back the desired permission and appointed Harry Lemon of Fort Worth temporarily to fill Mathews' place on the staff of umpires.

Fort Worth's Ted Sullivan expresses anger over the revised league schedule when he discovers that the Panthers have four Sunday games scheduled at Corsicana despite the city not allowing baseball to be played on the Sabbath ... Dallas' Lee Dawkins, who voted for the revised schedule, now says he "must have been mistaken" and wants to have another meeting to change it.

Umpire Wilson Matthews sends league president John Ward a telegram requesting permission to join the Paris club as a player for the next two weeks to assist the team which is about to lose two players who were signed to early season provisional contracts ... Ward wires back his permission and appoints Harry Lemon to fill Matthews' spot.



#### Lon Ury, Dallas

Dallas first baseman Lon "Old Sleep" Ury makes his professional baseball debut on April 26, 1902, collecting three hits in six at bats against Fort Worth's William Jarvis in a 12-9 win. Ury hits .271 in 1902 with three home runs for the Griffins. Ury is hitting .267 with 14 doubles and two home runs when his contract is sold to the National League's St. Louis Cardinals on August 28, 1903. Ury makes his major league debut on September 9, with an 0-for-3 effort. The Fort Scott, Kansas, native is 1-for-7 (.143) when the Cardinals release him on September 13.

May 9, 1902

Corsicana beats visiting Texarkana 7-1 ... in the fourth inning Casketmaker manager Cy Malkey is thrown out of the game ... one inning later, Texarkana players "quit, but the differences were fixed and the game was continued."

May 12, 1902 - Hard Headed & Revised Schedule II

Fort Worth third baseman Pat Flaherty is hit on the head by a pitch thrown by Corsicana's William "Lucky" Wright with such force that the ball bounces over the grandstand and out of the stadium ... the former major leaguer stays in the game, collecting a single in three at bats in a 5-2 loss.

### TEXARKANA BASEBALL MAD

#### Her First Time on the Map—President Ward Returns.

John L. Ward, president of the Texas league returned to Fort Worth yesterday elate over the bright outlook for baseball at Texarkana. President Ward sent the first ball of the season hustling over the dish at Texarkana Saturday when the season was opened there.

This is the first time that Texarkana has been on the baseball map, and President Ward says that she is wild about it. He said that the difference in the behavior of crowds in cities that have had league clubs before and Texarkana crowds is marked. In Texarkana Saturday, he said, the people could not sit still and watch the game, but jumped up and yelled almost every time a ball was pitched, and when a close play was pulled off they went all to pieces. It never occurred to them to blame their team for anything. It was either the umpire or the opposing team's good luck.

The two Texarkanas are rivals on everything, but their rivalry in the matter of baseball is in the right direction as they seem to be trying to outdo each other in loyalty to the home club. They could not agree on either mayor pitching the first ball and so it fell to the lot of the president of the league to perform that feat.

May 18 - Rankest

Texarkana beats Fort Worth 12-0 behind a seven-hit shutout by Win French ... the Panthers commit eight errors behind starting pitcher Reeve McKay, but according to the *Fort Worth Morning Register*, "the errors were well distributed, the third baseman (Pat Flaherty) being the rankest as his were costly."

May 19 - Riot in Dallas

In a game that takes only one hour and nine minutes to play, Corsicana moves to 16-4 on the year, beating Dallas 1-0 on a two-hit shutout by William Wright ... Griffin left-hander Bill Sparger strikes out four and allows only six hits in defeat ... the previous record for the quickest game in Texas League history was one hour and 17 minutes played between Galveston and Dallas in 1890 ...

the contest ends in a near riot when Lee, the game's umpire, is surrounded by irate Dallas fans ... Lee is rescued by players from both teams and escorted to his car before "any hoodlumistic work," could ensue ... during the game, Dallas captain Billy Matthews bombards Lee with language "both fluent and florid."

Because of conflicting schedules caused by the recently revised league schedule, both Dallas' Lee Dawkins and Corsicana's Mike O'Connor "burned the wire" with League President John Ward trying to find out where they play next ... in addition to the scheduling problem, *The Fort Worth Morning Register* comments that it would be helpful if the league office would issue an official statement as to the standings of the clubs.

## UMPIRE LEE BLAMED

ASSERTED THAT BETWEEN HIM AND  
CORSICANA DALLAS STOOD NO  
SHOW IN A FAST GAME.

## 1902 Texas League [5 of 10]:

May 21

The *Dallas Morning News* reports that Griffin players are "more than satisfied with acquisition of Wilson Matthews as right fielder and field commander." ... Lee Dawkins says that Matthews will have full control of the team starting when they put on their uniforms and will be responsible for putting together the batting order ... mired in last place with a 7-13 record, Dawkins says, "I'm only a private in the ranks and he can fine me just like any other player for disobedience of order."

May 26 - Revised Schedule III

The dreaded schedule problem rears its ugly head again at a league meeting in Fort Worth ... after Texarkana and Paris issue strong complaints about the current schedule, and a revised schedule is "offered and adopted" ... each team is also asked to put up a \$200 forfeit free to play the season though its September 13th finish.

**"The schedule has caused more trouble than any other one thing in the Texas League this season. It has been revised and remodeled several times and each effort has resulted in clamorous demands for other changes."**

**-Dallas Morning News**

June 1

Corsicana is scheduled to play a doubleheader at Dallas starting at 3:00 p.m. ... both teams are due in the city at noon and the game will be preceded with a concert by the Marie Fountain Orchestra, which will also play at intervals during the afternoon to enliven the contests with suitable melodies ... Dallas (between suitable melodies) wins the first game 7-6 on the strength of Lon Ury's first inning grand slam ... Corsicana captures the second game 1-0 on Monte Method's three-hitter.

Last place Texarkana sweeps a doubleheader from Waco 10-9 and 5-3 ... Casketmaker infielder John Welter wins the first game with a home run in the bottom of the 17th inning and collects \$50 (\$1,464 dollars today) from happy Texarkana fans ... five years later, Welter, playing for the Springfield Midgets of the Western Association, is panned by *The Springfield Leader*, which opines that the light-hitting shortstop didn't belong "in a 10-year-old kid corner lot league."

June 4

Texarkana pitcher Win French and right-fielder Roland Wolfe are arrested in their uniforms just after the close of that afternoon's game with Dallas and are charged with obtaining \$80 in advance money under false pretenses from Frank Quigg, manager of a Oklahoma City independent baseball team ... however, a local judge rules that French and Wolfe are being held with due process, and have committed no crimes and orders them released.

June 6

Benched because of a "breach of regulations," Dallas outfielder Dred Cavander is traded to Texarkana for outfielder Don Curtis ... in his first game as a Casketmaker, the 26-year-old Cavander is 1-for-4 with a home run against his old team ... on the season, Cavander will hit .353 in the Texas League with five home runs and 11 stolen bases playing for three teams - Dallas, Texarkana and Fort Worth.

June 15 - 51-3

On June 15, 1902, the Corsicana Oil Citys defeat the Texarkana Casketmakers 51-3 in a game highlighted by a record setting eight home run performance by Corsicana catcher "Nig" Clarke ... Corsicana pounds out 53 hits in the contest, 29 for extra bases, including 21 home runs ... Clarke, left fielder Isaac Pendleton and second baseman Alec Alexander each have eight hits to lead the Oil Citys' attack.

## ENNIS GAME UNIQUE

**BROKE THE TEXAS RECORD FOR  
NUMBER OF RUNS MADE AND  
WORLD'S BATTING RECORD.**

*SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.*

Corsicana, Tex., June 15.—Yesterday's game of baseball at Ennis, in which the Oil City team defeated Texarkana by a score of 51 to 3, was, in some respects, the most remarkable game ever played. It broke a record for the Texas League in point of runs, and Clark of Corsicana broke the world's record in batting, making eight runs, three of them home-runs, and eighteen bases out of eight times at the bat. Previous to this time Napoleon Lafefe held this record, having made six runs and seventeen bases out of six times at the bat. It is also believed to have been a record-breaker in home-runs, as sixteen were made.

The official score below will be interesting:

Corsicana—	A	B	R	H	P	O	A	E
Maloney, c. f.	5	5	3	5	0	0	0	0
Alexander, 2 b.	3	5	3	4	5	0	0	0
Ripley, r. f.	3	6	5	0	0	0	0	0
Pendleton, l. f.	3	6	3	1	2	0	0	0
Markley, 3 b.	7	7	6	3	4	0	0	0
O'Connor, 1 b.	3	7	7	8	0	0	0	0
Clark, c.	3	8	3	3	1	0	0	0
Morris, ss.	3	6	6	3	4	0	0	0
Wright, p.	4	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
Totals	55	51	53	27	18	0	0	0
Texarkana—	A	B	R	H	P	O	A	E
Deskin, c. f.	5	1	2	5	1	0	0	0
Mulkey, 2 b.	4	0	1	0	2	1	0	0
Welter, 3 b.	4	0	1	2	2	0	0	0
Wolfe, c.	4	1	1	2	2	0	0	0
Murphy, l. f.	4	0	1	3	1	0	0	0
DeWitt, p.	3	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Tackaberry, 1 b.	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	0
Gillon, r. f.	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Burns, ss.	4	0	0	4	3	2	0	0
Totals	36	3	9	27	13	5	0	0

By Innings:

Corsicana	6	2	9	2	7	5	4	8	3	—51
Texarkana	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	—3

Summary—Earned runs, Corsicana 26, Texarkana 1; stolen bases, Maloney, Alexander, Morris, Clark, Ripley; two-base hits, Morris, Alexander, Maloney, Pendleton, Deskin, Tackaberry, Welter; three-base hits, Markley, O'Connor; home-runs, Maloney, Alexander 3, Ripley 2, Pendleton 2, Markley, O'Connor 3, Clark 3, Morris; double plays, Morris to Alexander to O'Connor; Alexander to Morris to O'Connor, Markley to Alexander to O'Connor, Morris to Alexander, Burns to Tackaberry; bases on balls, off Wright 1, off DeWitt 3; hit by pitched ball, by DeWitt 3; struck out, by Wright 2, by DeWitt 1; left on bases, Corsicana 5, Texarkana 15; time of game, 2 hours and 10 minutes; umpires, Method and Cavender.

1902 Texas League [6 of 10]:

June 19 - Shreveport Rumors  
 Cy Mulkey sells the Sherman-Denison franchise to Fred Ball and C.B. Dewitt ... mired in last place with a 14-34 record, the new owners install Cavender as the team's new manager.

"The poor showing of the Shreveport team has had a disastrous effect on patronage. The attendance here has fallen from small crowds to comparatively nothing, except on Sundays, when a thousand or fifteen hundred spectators congregate. Manager Bennett has been deposed by a dissatisfied lot of fans and George Heed, who was recently let out, is now let in and assumed full charge of the team last Friday. There is some talk of the local team resigning from the Southern League after July 4, and joining the Texas League. The Texas organization commences a new race for the pennant on July 9 and the team here has been invited to join the new circuit."  
 -The Sporting Life

THE "BASEBALL EVANGELIST"

On July 4, 1902, Dallas left-hander Argus Hamilton hurls a no-hitter in a 3-0 win over Fort Worth. A year earlier Hamilton is a school teacher in Vesta, Arizona. The Poteau, Oklahoma, native wins 15 games in 1902 splitting time between Dallas and Shreveport. After failing tryouts with the Kansas City Blues in 1900 and the Little Rock Travelers in 1901, Hamilton plays in the semipro Inter-Mountain league with the Railways and Park City 56 team before signing with the Shreveport Giants. After allowing 12 runs and 22 hits on June 7, in a lopsided loss to the Birmingham Barons, Hamilton is sold to the Dallas Griffins where he wins his first three decisions. Hamilton later manages the Guthrie Senators of the Western Association in 1905, is the president of the semipro Kansas City Southern League in 1910 and the owner of the Fort Smith Scouts in 1911. Hamilton later becomes a Methodist minister and is known as the "Baseball Evangelist."

Dallas	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Coyle, 3 b.....	4	0	1	3	1	1
Curtis, l. f.....	3	1	2	2	0	0
Nickell, c. f.....	4	1	2	1	0	0
Mulkey, r. f.....	4	1	1	1	0	0
Dawkins, l. b.....	4	1	2	12	2	1
Jay, 2 b.....	3	0	0	3	0	0
Schaezler, s. b.....	1	0	0	2	0	0
Berry, c.....	2	0	0	2	2	0
Hamilton, p.....	3	0	0	1	2	1
Totals.....	27	3	8	27	15	3
Fort Worth	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Hamlin, 2 b.....	4	0	0	3	4	0
Flaherty, 3 b.....	4	0	0	4	3	0
O'Donnell, c.....	4	0	0	2	2	0
Walsh, c. f.....	3	0	0	2	0	0
Doyle, p.....	3	0	0	1	2	0
Plummer, s. s.....	3	0	0	4	3	1
White, l. b.....	3	0	6	7	1	0
Moore, l. f.....	2	0	0	1	0	0
McKay, r. f.....	3	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	29	0	6	24	15	1

WORLD'S RECORD TIED.

Corsicana Has Now Won Twenty-Six Consecutive Games.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Corsicana, Tex., July 4.—A large crowd saw Corsicana defeat Waco today, score 5 to 1, in an excellent game of baseball, full of exceptional plays and never lacking ginger. White's pitching and a running one-handed catch by Rundell were the features of the game.

In winning this game O'Connor's men tied the world's record of twenty-six successive victories. Score:

Corsicana—	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Maloney, c. f.....	5	1	2	1	0	0
Alexander, 2 b.....	4	0	0	2	2	0
Ripley, r. f.....	4	1	0	0	0	0
Pendleton, l. f.....	4	1	2	2	0	0
Markley, 3 b.....	4	1	1	1	2	2
O'Connor, l. b.....	4	1	0	10	0	0
Clark, c.....	5	0	0	10	2	0
Morris, s. s.....	4	0	2	1	3	0
White, p.....	4	0	2	0	2	0
Totals.....	38	5	9	27	11	2

Waco—	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Pleiss, c. f.....	2	0	0	3	0	0
Dugan, s. s.....	4	0	2	7	1	2
Polindexter, l. f.....	4	0	1	1	0	0
Ahorn, 1 b.....	4	0	0	5	2	1
Rogers, 2 b.....	4	0	0	1	1	1
Erwin, 3 b.....	3	0	0	2	1	2
Stubblefield, c.....	3	0	0	3	1	0
Rundell, r. f.....	3	0	0	4	0	1
Yeager, p.....	3	1	0	0	2	0
Totals.....	30	1	3	25	8	7

\*Ripley out on third bunted strike.  
 By innings—

Corsicana..... 1 0 1 0 3 0 0 0 0-5  
 Waco..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0-1  
 Summary—Earned runs, Corsicana 1; stolen bases, Maloney, Markley; two-base hit, Maloney 2; sacrifice hits, Ripley, Markley; double play, Clark to O'Connor; bases on balls, off Yeager 4, off White 3; struck out, by White 10; passed ball, Clark 1; left on bases, Corsicana 12, Waco 5. Time of game, 1 hour and 30 minutes. Umpire—Mills.

CORSICANA BREAKS RECORD.

Waco Is the Twenty-Seventh Consecutive Victim of Oil City Team.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Corsicana, Tex., July 5.—By a score of 3 to 0 Corsicana defeated Waco in a fast game, played on sound principles, full of snap, high class pitching, but no features. Few hits were gotten off Method, but so many minutes elapsed between these occurrences that O'Connor's men were never in danger.

In this victory Corsicana broke the world's record for successive victories, it being the twenty-seventh.

Corsicana—	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Maloney, c. f.....	4	1	1	1	0	0
Alexander, 2 b.....	2	1	1	2	5	0
Ripley, r. f.....	4	0	0	0	0	0
Pendleton, l. f.....	3	0	0	2	0	0
Markley, 3 b.....	3	1	1	1	2	0
O'Connor, l. b.....	4	0	2	15	0	0
Clark, c.....	4	0	2	3	3	0
Morris, s. s.....	3	0	0	2	1	1
Method, p.....	4	0	0	1	2	1
Totals.....	31	3	6	27	13	2

Waco—	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Pleiss, c. f.....	4	0	1	3	0	0
Dugan, s. s.....	4	0	1	2	0	0
Polindexter, l. f.....	4	0	1	2	0	0
Rogers, 2 b.....	4	0	0	1	5	1
Ahorn, 1 b.....	4	0	1	12	0	0
Erwin, 3 b.....	3	0	0	1	1	0
Stubblefield, c.....	3	0	0	3	1	0
Rundell, p.....	2	0	0	0	3	0
Yeager, r. f.....	2	0	0	2	0	0
Totals.....	32	0	4	27	10	1

By innings—

Corsicana..... 0 1 5 0 0 0 0 0-3  
 Waco..... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0

Summary—Earned runs, Corsicana 1; two-base hits, Markley, O'Connor, Polindexter; sacrifice hits, Markley, Morris; double play, Alexander to Morris to O'Connor; bases on balls, off Rundell 3; struck out, by Method 4, by Rundell 2; wild pitches, Rundell 1; left on bases, Corsicana 4, Waco 5; time of game, 1 hour and 15 minutes. Umpire—Mills.

WACO DEFEATS CHAMPIONS.

Game Was Won by Capt. Rogers with a Three-Bagger to Center.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Waco, Tex., July 6.—The third game of a series at Corsicana between the Oil Citys and Waco was played here today because of the Sunday law at Corsicana. The game was a fast and perfectly played one, resulting in a defeat for the visitors by a score of 3 to 1. Wright and Ahorn both had good control and several of the hits made were scratches.

Corsicana made its only run in the first when Alexander scored while Rogers and Dugan were endeavoring to catch Ripley between first and second. The home team tied the score in the third with singles by Stubblefield, Latham and Pleiss, the former crossing the plate. With two men out and two on bases in the fifth, Capt. Rogers won the game for Waco with a three-bagger to deep center, one of the longest hits made here this season.

Today's game is the first Corsicana has lost out of twenty-eight.

Waco—	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Latham, 2 b.....	4	0	1	0	4	0
Pleiss, c. f.....	3	1	2	4	0	0
Rogers, l. b.....	4	0	1	14	0	0
Dugan, s. s.....	3	0	1	3	3	0
Polindexter, l. f.....	4	0	0	0	0	0
Erwin, 3 b.....	3	0	1	0	1	0
Ahorn, p.....	3	0	1	0	3	0
Brokawkaw, r. f.....	3	0	0	1	0	0
Stubblefield, c.....	3	2	2	5	2	0
Totals.....	30	3	9	27	13	0

Corsicana—	AB	R	BH	PO	A	E
Maloney, c. f.....	4	0	1	1	0	0
Alexander, 2 b.....	4	1	2	4	4	0
Ripley, r. f.....	3	0	1	4	1	0
Pendleton, l. f.....	4	0	0	1	0	0
Markley, 3 b.....	4	0	1	1	3	0
O'Connor, l. b.....	4	0	0	11	1	0
Clark, c.....	4	0	0	1	1	0
Morris, s. s.....	3	0	0	1	2	0
Wright, p.....	3	0	1	0	2	0
Totals.....	33	1	6	24	14	0

By innings—

Waco..... 0 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 \*-3  
 Corsicana..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-1

Summary—Earned runs, Waco 3, Corsicana 1; stolen bases, Alexander 2, Ripley; three-base hit, Rogers; struck out, by Ahorn 3; base on balls, off Ahorn 1; hit by pitched balls, Pleiss, Dugan; double play, Alexander to Morris to O'Connor; left on bases, Waco 4, Corsicana 6. Time of game, 1 hour and 25 minutes. Umpire, Method. Attendance 300.

July 3

A safe belonging to the Dallas Griffins is broken into and the sum of \$405 stolen.

## 1902 Texas League [7 of 10]:

### July 4 - Record Tied

Bob White allows only three hits and strikes out 10 as Corsicana beats Waco 5-1, tying the "world record" for most wins in a row at 26, set earlier in the season by the Charlotte Hornets of the North Carolina (C) League ... Dallas left-hander Argus Hamilton hurls a no-hitter in a 3-0 win over Fort Worth.

### July 5 - Record Broken

Corsicana, behind the four-hit pitching of Monte Method, beats visiting Waco 3-0 to win its 27th-straight game, eclipsing the previous win streak set earlier in the season by the North Carolina League's Charlotte Hornets.

Former Dallas pitcher Charles Harrington, playing for a Midlothian (Texas) club team, dies after being hit by a baseball ... struck in the stomach by a batted ball, the 20-year-old Dallas native picks the ball up and throws the runner out at first and then "drops dead" on the field ... Harrington was 2-6 for the Griffins before being released.

### July 6 - Record Ends

In a game moved to Waco because of existing Sunday laws at Corsicana, the Tigers, behind the six-hit pitching of Dad Acorn, snap the Oil City's 27-game win streak with a 3-1 win.

### July 7, 1902 - Too Little, Too Late

Following an 18-0 loss to the Paris Homeseekers to the close out the first half of the season, the Casketmakers announce that they are signing five new players and are sending train tickets to three others and "will soon be strengthened."

## CORSICANA WINS PENNANT

### End of First Half of Texas League Season—To Continue.

Yesterday afternoon the last games in the initial season of the Texas State League were played and the six-club association came to an end with Corsicana far in the lead with a record of victories that has seldom been equaled. The club was far and away superior to any of its competitors and lost but nine contests out of 66. Texarkana, on the other hand, won but 21 out of a total of 65.

But one change was made in the organization of the league during the season just closed. The team representing Sherman and Denison, after a most disastrous record, was transferred to Texarkana, after which some improvement was noted. The other four clubs in the league were fairly matched, but of late Waco has taken a tremendous slump. The league will be kept intact with four clubs—Corsicana, Dallas, Fort Worth and Waco, Texarkana and Paris falling out because of poor patronage.

The final round-up is as follows:

Clubs—	Played.	Won.	Lost.	P.C.
Corsicana .....	66	57	9	863
Dallas .....	67	36	31	537
Fort Worth .....	67	31	36	462
Paris .....	63	27	36	428
Waco .....	62	26	36	419
Texarkana .....	65	21	44	323

## LEAGUE REDUCED IN SIZE.

### Waco and Texarkana Teams Have Dropped Out.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.

Fort Worth, Tex., July 7.—At a meeting of the Texas Baseball League here today the league was reduced to four clubs, Waco and Texarkana dropping out. President John L. Ward presided, at the meeting. The second series will be commenced next Wednesday and will close on Sept. 7.

The championship for the first series was awarded to the Corsicana team, and Manager Upton Blair was congratulated by the league.

Several of the players of the two retiring teams were signed by the four surviving clubs. Paris gets Rogers, Dugan, Pletss, Latham, Rundell and Ahorn. Fort Worth will have Welden, Murphy and Wolfe, and Dallas has signed Deskin.

The following arbitration committee was appointed by President Ward: Upton Blair of Corsicana, Lee Dawkins of Dallas and Ted Sullivan of Fort Worth.

Matthews and Betts are to be the new umpires. It was decided that the umpires would be paid only when they umpired games, and were not to receive the \$5 when it rained and there was no game.

The meeting was held at the Hotel Worth. Ted Sullivan lunched the visiting managers and President Ward at the conclusion of the session this afternoon. Some nice things were said of Manager Blair on his victory in the first series. Manager Sullivan said the Corsicana man had broken the world's record in winning twenty-eight straight games, and had beaten his (Sullivan's) record with the Steers at Dallas in getting twenty-four straight games.

The managers of the four teams are very much encouraged at the outlook, and think that the second series will prove very satisfactory, both to the patrons of the game and the managers as well.

### July 7 - And then There Were Four

Citing excessive mileage expenses, the Texas League contracts to a four-team circuit, when fifth-place Waco (26-36) and last-place Texarkana (21-44) disband ... ten players from Waco and Texarkana are signed by the four remaining teams ... league owners also decide to pay the umpires their \$5 fee only if the game is played.

### July 9

The *Houston Chronicle* reports that one of the reasons why Waco lost its franchise in the Texas League is a strong opposition in religious circles to playing games on Sunday.

### July 10

Dallas acquires Charlie Moran from Little Rock where it is reported that he is leading the Southern League in hitting at .392, as well as having compiled a 6-1 mark as a pitcher in seven games ... Moran is actually hitting .233 with seven hits in 30 at bats and has a 4-2 mark while splitting time between Little Rock and Chattanooga.

## FOUR STRAIGHT FOR PARIS.

### Umpire Quits the Game in the Sixth Inning at Texarkana.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.

Texarkana, Tex., July 6.—Paris made it four straight today by a score of 10 to 4. In the sixth inning Umpire Ghio put DeWitt out of the game and such a bitter protest was made that Ghio quit and left the grounds. Ghio called DeWitt out on second while stealing and DeWitt did not like it and this is what caused the trouble. Ghio is an official umpire, but he says he refuses to act from now on because Texarkana has no system. Following is the score:

Texarkana—	A	B	R	BH	P	O	A	E	
Deskin, c .....	4	0	0	1	2	1			
Ballinger, ss .....	2	0	0	1	0	0			
Welter, 3b .....	4	1	1	3	3	0			
Cavender, 1b .....	2	2	1	12	0	0			
Burns, cf and ss .....	4	0	2	2	1	1			
DeWitt, 2b .....	3	0	2	0	3	1			
Gilreath, rf and p .....	4	0	0	2	0	0			
Finlay, lf .....	4	0	0	1	1	2			
Erazill, p, rf and cf .....	4	0	1	2	0	0			
Storey, if .....	3	1	1	0	0	0			
Totals ..	34	4	3	24	10	5			
Paris—	A	B	R	BH	P	O	A	E	
Adams, rf .....	5	1	0	1	0	0			
France, lf .....	3	1	2	1	1	0			
Aiken, 3b .....	4	0	1	2	2	1			
Moore, c .....	4	0	0	7	2	0			
Adrian, 1b .....	4	1	1	7	0	0			
Thebo, cf .....	4	1	1	3	0	0			
Switzer, ss .....	3	2	1	2	5	1			
Desmond, p .....	2	3	1	0	3	1			
Blackburn, 2b .....	4	1	3	4	1	0			
Totals ..	33	10	10	27	14	3			
Score by innings—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Texarkana ..	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
Paris ..	0	3	0	0	3	2	0	2	10

## 1902 Texas League [8 of 10]:



### Reeve McKay, Fort Worth

Signed by Ted Sullivan while pitching for an amateur team in Oak Cliff, Texas, McKay debuts with a 17-22 mark for the Fort Worth Panthers in 1902. A Spanish-American war veteran, McKay will pitch nine seasons in the minor leagues, including six in the Texas League. Following an 18-win season in 1903, McKay spends the 1904 spring training with the Chicago White Sox before being shipped out to Milwaukee of the American Association where he wins 19 games. In 1911, McKay is suspended for 30 days and draws a heavy fine after assaulting an umpire during the first week of the season. McKay signs with Houston but goes "on strike" just before the end of the season and is suspended from baseball by the National Commission. He becomes a travelling salesman for a prepared meats business in Dallas. McKay is playing semipro baseball, when he is signed by the St. Louis Browns and pitches one inning against the Chicago White Sox on October 2, 1915.

July 11

The shake up continues in Dallas as the Griffins announce the acquisition of first baseman E.A. McDonald, who has been playing "a strong game" at Beaumont in the Gulf Coast, Rice, Oil and Lumber League ... McDonald will collect one single in seven at bats before being returned to Beaumont.

July 22

Dallas is limited to seven singles by "Dad" Ahorn and newly-acquired shortstop Wid Spencer commits three errors as the Griffins drop a 9-0 decision to Paris, enabling the Homeseekers to maintain first place mere percentage points ahead of Corsicana in the second half pennant race.

July 23

Pitcher Robert White (20-6) and third baseman George Markley (.291) leave Corsicana to play for an independent team in McKinney, Texas ... the arbitration committee of the Texas League decides that Dred Cavender must go to Birmingham of the Southern league, or Cy Mulkey must refund the \$200 he received for the sale, or both will be expelled from the league.

July 25

Dallas refuses to suspend Mulkey as ordered by the Texas League arbitration committee for the alleged receiving of \$200 sale money for Cavender to Birmingham of the Southern League ... Cavender now refuses to report to Birmingham and Mulkey now wants to keep the money ... the Griffins claim the committee's action is illegal as the investigation is one-sided with Mulkey not being given a hearing.

July 29

The Dallas Morning News reports that the Paris franchise intends to complete the season playing in Houston.

July 30

A "secret and determined" effort by Paris owner Charles Eisenfelder to move the team to Houston is met with opposition by the league's three other teams ... following several visits to Houston to meet with city officials and take out a lease on League Park, Eisenfelder underestimates opposition to the move which will increase travel distances to play in Houston, rather than in Paris.

July 31

The move of the Paris franchise to Houston is denied in a unanimous vote by the league's three other franchises ... representatives of Paris present a \$5,000 check to cover any potential losses for the remainder of the season and the players express a desire to finish the season in Paris ... however owner Charles Eisenfelder elects to play most of his team's remaining games on the road, preferring to take the \$50 guarantee rather than lose money in Paris. During a 27-game road trip, Eisenfelder's team acquires the nickname "Homeseekers."

### HOMING PIGEONS RELEASED.

They Are Expected to Fly from Beaumont to Jamestown, N. Y.

#### SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.

Beaumont, Tex., July 7.—Two homing pigeons which were sent to the agent of Wells-Fargo Express Company here, last Saturday from Jamestown, N. Y., were liberated today at 11 o'clock. The birds flew a short distance west, then swung in a short circle to the north, and started at a rapid gait in a north and easterly line. Both birds were magnificent specimens of their kind, and interest will be felt in their welfare until reported from their Northern home.

### PLAYERS JUMP CORSICANA.

Dallas, Tex., July 23.—Pitcher White and Third Baseman Markley have jumped Corsicana to accept positions in the independent team at McKinney



DOYLE, N. Y. NAT'L

### Slow Joe Doyle, Fort Worth

A 16-game winner for Fort Worth in 1902, Doyle is an unimpressive 22-21 in parts of five years with the New York Highlanders, so why is his 1909 White Borders card No. 147 the second-most expensive baseball card (\$329,000) in recent history? Doyle's card, released by the American Tobacco Company in 1910, lists him as pitching for "New York Nat'l" when he was in fact with the American League's New York Highlanders. The company quickly stopped production of the card and 105 years later, only seven of the error cards can be accounted for.

## 1902 Texas League [9 of 10]:

### August 1 - Suspensions

Five Texas League players are suspended ... Corsicana's Robert White, George Markley and Walter Morris are suspended for signing with an independent team in McKinney ... Fort Worth's Fred Schatzke and John Hamlin are also suspended, Schatzke for signing with a semi-pro outfit in Columbus, Ohio, and Hamlin for taking "leave for Indian Territory."

### August 4

Independent teams continue to sign Texas League players as Dallas' Al Nickell, Dick Clark and Bill Sparger leave the team ... Nickell is hitting .334 while Clark (20) and Sparger (12) have combined for 32 wins.

### August 15

Playing for his third Texas League team of the season (Denison-Sherman, Paris, Corsicana) third baseman Ben Shelton goes 4-for-5 with a home run and three singles as the first-place Oil Citys move to 19-11 with a 6-2 win over Dallas.

**"O'Connor's men are as uncontrollable to the other clubs of the Texas League as the average Beaumont gusher used to be when the oil field was first ripe."  
- Dallas Morning News**

Eddie Pleiss and Tom Dugan each collect three hits and Dick Latham homers as Paris tops Fort Worth 15-12, pounding Panthers' righthander William Jarvis for 15 hits.

In amateur baseball, a pitcher named "DeWitt" strikes out 16 as Alba defeats Emory 17-3.

### August 17

As the season nears its completion, Fort Worth manager and owner Ted Sullivan announces plans to organize an eight-team Texas League in 1903 and also takes time to blast the Corsicana team, "Corsicana has violated the spirit and letter of the Texas League. The purpose was to get nothing but young players to make the teams evenly matched. This Corsicana did not do. She went out and picked up players to beat the world, irrespective whether the league lasted or not."



### Belmont Method, Corsicana

Twenty-year-old right-hander Belmont Method becomes a mainstay on the Corsicana pitching staff with a record of 28-6 according to incomplete league stats, or 33-7 as written in a letter by Corsicana management releasing him to sign with Decatur of the 3-1 League in May of 1903. Method ends up pitching for the Peerless Nine and Illinois semi-pro team instead. Method again joins Corsicana in 1904 and with Jackson of the Cotton States League in 1905. Method is a combined 41-29 in two seasons (1907-1908) with the Kalamazoo White Sox of the Southern Michigan (D) League, including a 24-win season in 1908. The Decatur, Illinois native wraps up his pitching career going 7-8 with the Boyne City Boosters in 1913.

Dallas--	A	B	R	BH	P	O	A	E
Spencer, s. f.	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
France, r. f.	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Curtis, l. f.	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Nickell, c. f.	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Coyle, 3 b.	3	0	1	0	3	0	0	0
Berry, c.	3	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Day, 2 b.	2	1	1	2	3	0	0	0
Schaezler, 1 b.	2	0	1	12	1	1	1	1
Hamilton, p.	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>		
Fort Worth--	A	B	R	BH	P	O	A	E
Walsh, c. f.	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Flaherty, 2 b.	4	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Welter, 3 f.	4	0	0	1	5	0	0	0
O'Donnell, c.	3	0	0	5	1	0	0	0
Plummer, r. f.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cartwright, s. s.	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
McKay, l. f.	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Wolfe, l. f.	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Jarvis, l. b.	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
White, 1 b.	3	0	7	11	1	1	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>		

Dallas 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1  
Fort Worth 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
Summary--Earned runs, Dallas 3; two-base hits, Hamilton; three-base hits Spencer; sacrifice hits, Curtis, Coyle and Schaezler; double plays, Welter to White to O'Donnell, Flaherty to White; bases on balls, off Hamilton, off Jarvis 2; struck out, by Hamilton 5, by Jarvis 1; first base on errors, Dallas 1, Fort Worth 2; left on base, Dallas 4, Fort Worth 4. Time of game 1 hour and 35 minutes. Umpire--Miller.

### August 19 - Argus at it Again

Dallas' Argus Hamilton strikes out five en route to pitching a one-hit shutout in a 4-0 win over visiting Fort Worth ... Panther first baseman Harry White has the lone single ... Nickell "adjusted his differences" with the Griffin management and returns to the lineup with a 1-for-3 performance.

### August 30

On the second to last day of the regular season, a pair of rookie pitchers take center stage ... at Fort Worth, Quait Bateman hurls a four-hitter in the Panthers' 5-1 win over Dallas ... an amateur standout from McKinney, Bateman also goes 4-for-5 at the plate ... before a "large and appreciative crowd", Corsicana, behind an eight-hit complete game by Bert Hise, an amateur twirler from Blanket, Texas, closes out its record-setting season with a 12-3 over Paris.

### August 31 - Season Ends

The season draws to a close with Dallas sweeping a doubleheader from visiting Fort Worth, 12-7 and 6-3 in front of 2,000 fans.

## 1902 Texas League [10 of 10]:

September 29

At a league meeting in Dallas, officials announce that the four towns that completed the season will be retained for 1903 and that four new franchises may be added ... Ted Sullivan will visit Houston, Galveston, Beaumont, Waco, Austin and San Antonio to see if they, and see if the four could be "induced to enter" ... if having a franchise in Paris is a problem for the formation of an eight-team league, then Paris will "be dropped or frozen out."

October 10

At Beaumont, "men who have supported ball games in the past" tell Ted Sullivan that they are not interested in joining the Texas League and that they plan on building a modern stadium on the new street line and a "fast" independent team will be organized ... the Southern League has also written Beaumont officials saying that if the town continues to grow that the Southern League would "certainly like want Beaumont in to take the place of some of the dead ones east of here."

October 12

At a meeting of league owners, Houston and San Antonio are admitted to the Texas League for 1903 ... Ted Sullivan tells the media that the league will meet again on October 26 and probably issue invitations to both Galveston and Beaumont.

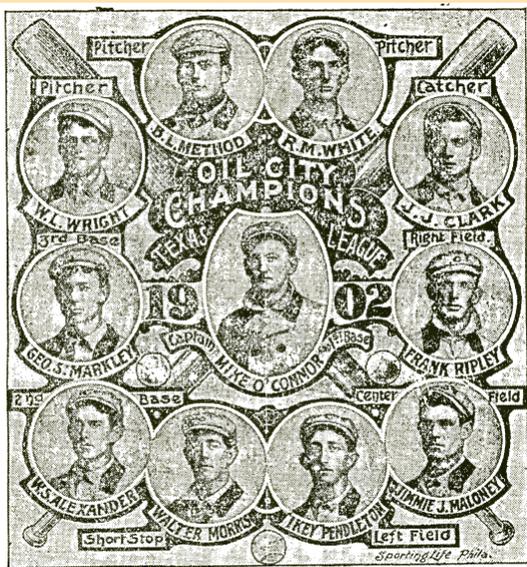
November 2, 1902

*The Sporting Life* notes that Dallas' Al Nickell led the Texas League in hitting at .397 ... two Oil City players who "jumped ship" during the season because of differences with their bonuses and ended up playing for Evansville of the 3-I League, are awarded back to Corsicana.

Third baseman George Markley, who hit .291 in 57 games with the Oil Citys and .333 in 29 games for the River Rats, is ordered to return to Corsicana and is nomadic pitcher Bob White, who was 20-6 for Corsicana before leaving for an independent team ... White also ends up in Evansville pitching under the assumed name of Bob Craig.

November 3, 1902

Nearly a month after they were "admitted" into the Texas League, Houston's membership is now in question because the league is unable to place other teams in the southern part of the state, specifically Beaumont and Galveston ... Ted Sullivan while visiting Houston recently expressed doubts that the Texas League would put a club in the city.

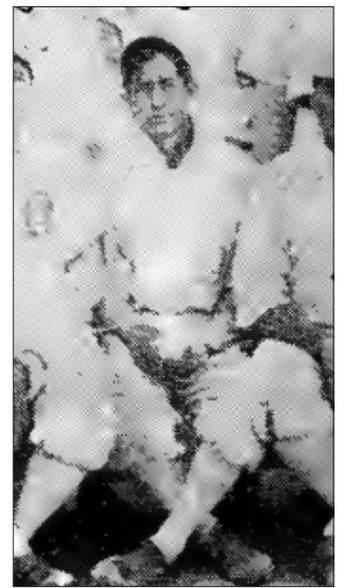


November 6, 1902

With the Texas League looking elsewhere for possible franchise locations (Oklahoma City), plans begin to take shape for the formation of a South Texas League with teams in Beaumont, Galveston, Houston and San Antonio.

December 13, 1902

The Texas League is again in the news as Oklahoma City, under the management of Ted Sullivan, and Shreveport, recently dropped from the Southern League, will be admitted as league members.



**Rick Adams, Paris**

Paris, Texas, native Rick Adams has a 13-year professional baseball career, including an 11-game stint with the Washington Senators in 1905. Finishing with a 2-5 mark and a 3.59 ERA, Adams hurls a seven-inning, six-hit 1-0 shutout of the Detroit Tigers on July 29. In 1901, Adams is playing for a semipro team in Palestine, Texas, when Mike O'Connor signs the talented left-hander to a contract with the Tacoma Tigers of the Pacific Northwest League. He finishes his pro debut 18-15 with 156 strikeouts splitting time between Tacoma and Spokane. In his first five minor league seasons (1901-1905) Adams wins 76 games. In 1906, Adams wins a career-high 25 games for a Texas League Cleburne Railroaders team that includes 18-year-old pitcher/outfielder Tris Speaker.