

# Pinch Hits, "Blackbird Thomas & Dorff Dancer"

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## May 1, 1929 - Cuero, Texas

In a record that could be matched (even broken), but probably best avoided, Cuero Black Gobblers shortstop Blackbird Thomas makes three outs in one inning in a game with Guadalupe. With the Black Gobblers scoring 20 runs in the third inning and batting around three times, Thomas has the dubious honor of making all three of the team's outs.

### Great Gobbler Gallop



During Cuero's annual TurkeyFest in November, turkeys are gathered to have the "Great Gobbler Gallop." Started in 1908, farmers herd their turkeys down the road toward the dressing house so the birds could be prepared for Thanksgiving. As many as 20,000 turkeys have taken part of this event.

The county seat of DeWitt County, Cuero is unofficially known as the "Turkey capital of the world" (this is reflected in the Cuero High School mascot, the Gobblers).

## May 10, 1940 - Port Arthur, Texas

Houma Buccaneer left-hander Dorff Dancer scatters eight hits over 10 inning en route to picking up his first win at the professional level, a 2-1 complete game victory over the homestanding Port Arthur Tarpons in an Evangeline (D) League game.

Released by the East Texas League's Marshall Tigers one month earlier, Dancer strikes out three and walks three while improving his record to 1-2.

Under contract to the Shreveport Sports, Dancer is 3-8 with a 6.41 ERA in 14 games for Houma with 122 hits allowed in 87 innings, when on June 23 he is optioned to the Clovis Pioneers of the West Texas-New Mexico (D) League. Seven days later on June 30, Dancer makes his Clovis debut in a 16-8 loss to the Odessa Oilers. Relieving starter Wallace Fixico (also making his Clovis debut) in the seventh inning, Dancer pitches only 1/3 of an inning, hits two batters, throws two wild pitches and allows two hits for one run allowed.

## May 21, 1941 - St. Louis, Missouri

Pinch-hitting for pitcher Si Johnson in the sixth inning, Philadelphia utility infielder George Jumonville homers on an 0-2 pitch off of Clyde Shoun keying the last-place Phillies to a 6-4 come-from-behind win over the first-place St. Louis Cardinals.

For the 24-year-old Mobile, Alabama native, his left-field bleacher home run is the first of his brief two-year major league career and it comes in his last in his last major league at bat.

Six days later, on May 27, Jumonville, despite hitting .429 (3-for-7) is optioned to the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League.

## May 9, 1932 - Marshall, North Carolina

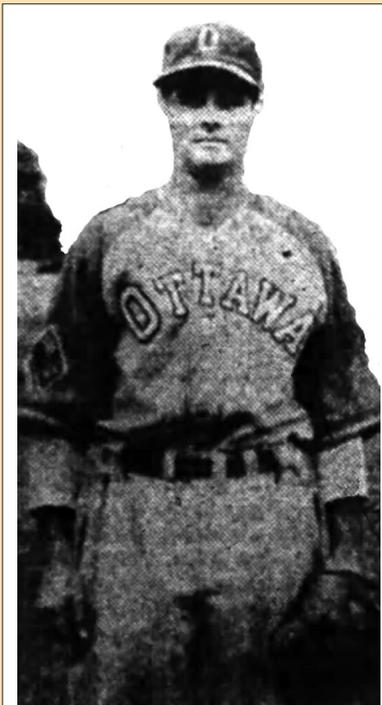
### Hot Springs Not To Enter County Baseball League

No Reason Given For Refusal; Mars Hill May Not Compete

Hot Springs manager Crit Stamey tells the Madison County League that his team will not enter the league this year. No reason is given for his refusal. Earlier in the week, Petersburg, Laurel Valley and Mars Hill had applied for admission into the league, but with Hot Springs' decision, only Petersburg and Laurel Valley will be invited. In addition, league president J.H. Hutchins is offering a \$10 catcher's mitt to the team exhibiting the most sportsmanship during the course of the season.

### Negro Shortstop Makes Three Outs In One Inning

CUERO, May 1.—(P)—A negro ball player on the Cuero Black Gobbler nine set an unique record in a game with Guadalupe when he made three outs in one frame. The record was made when the Black Gobblers staged one of their regular rallies scoring twenty runs and going all the way round in batting order three times. "Blackbird" Thomas, Cuero shortstop contributed the three outs and at the same time hung up a record that will be hard to beat.



George Jumonville  
1940 Ottawa Senators