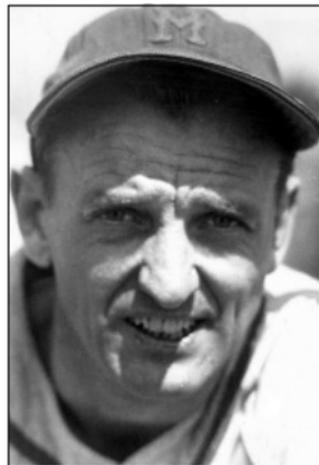


August 10, 1945

0-12, Say Goodbye...

In the 27th and final game of his rookie season, (and his career) Philadelphia Athletics' pitcher Steve Gerkin lasts only two innings in a 14-13 loss to the St. Louis Browns.

Fresh out of a one-year stint in the military, the 32-year-old Grafton, West Virginia, native finishes the 1945 season with a less-than-sterling 0-12 record ... Gerkin strikes out only 25 batters in 102 innings but fashions a respectable 3.62 ERA.



Steve Gerkin
1947 Minneapolis Millers

Sent down to the Lancaster Red Roses of the Interstate (B) League, Gerkin snaps his losing streak on August 18, with a 8-5 win over Trenton Spartans ... Gerkin wins four games in his first 11 days with the Red Roses.

Gerkin will hold the record for the most losses by a pitcher in a winless season, until Terry Felton goes 0-13 for the Minnesota Twins in 1982 ... he is still tied with Philadelphia Phillies' Paul Brown for the record of most *career* games started (12) without a win.

Gerkin pitches in the minor leagues off-and-on from 1936 to 1953, including stints with semi-pro teams in the United States, Mexico and Cuba ... pitching for Lancaster in 1943, he leads the Tri-State League in wins with 20 ... has a six-year minor league career mark of 71-43 and was an All-Star in 1943, 1946, 1947 and 1953 (at the age of 40) ... was 18-6 in the Mexican League in 1949 ... Gerkin earns MVP honors in the American Association in 1947 after finishing 10-2 and pitching in a single-season record 83 games.

Gerkin is highlighted in a July, 1948, article in *Baseball Digest* titled "He Pitched in 137 Games in One Year!" ... during the previous season (1947) Gerkin begins the year pitching in 10 exhibition games and 83 regular season games for the Minneapolis Millers of the American (AA) Association ... he also pitches in three games that were rained out and four playoff games for the Millers before proceeding south of the border and throwing in another 37 games in the Cuban Winter League.