

October 26, 1919

Jack Cassini

Born on October 26, 1919, Jack Dempsey Cassini appears as a pinch runner in eight games for the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1949 without recording an official at bat.

The Dearborn, Michigan, native makes his major league debut on April 19, in the Corsairs' 1949 season opener against the Chicago Cubs, scoring the game's lone run in the ninth inning of a 1-0 win before 29,392 at Wrigley Field. In his only trial in the major leagues, Cas-



Jack Cassini
Cienfuegos, 1951

Bucs Return Cassini To Indianapolis Farm

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 7 (AP). —Infielder Jack Cassini of the Pittsburgh Pirates was returned to the Indianapolis farm club Saturday just so he'd get a workout once in a while.

His option allows recall on 24-hours notice.

Despite a siege of team injuries, Cassini would be better off with regular work on the American Association team where he was a hard-playing regular last year.

A club spokesman said he thought Cassini would be better off with regular work on the American Association team where he was a hard-playing regular last year.

sini scores three runs before being optioned to the Indianapolis Indians of the American (AAA) Association on May 7.

Beginning his professional baseball career as a 20-year-old second baseman with the Tiffin Mud Hens of the Ohio State (D) League in 1940, Cassini will play 14 seasons in the minor leagues. A six-time stolen base champion, Cassini finishes his career with a .304 batting average and 378 steals.

"I could hit, and I could run like hell. There was only one guy who ever beat me in a foot race," Cassini said. "And that was Jesse Owens." [Arizona Republic, March 30, 2008]

Assigned by the Cincinnati Reds to the Ogden Reds in 1941, Cassini leads the Pioneer (C) League in steals with 43 before entering the military in December and serving four years (1942-1945) during World War II.

On August 2, 1955, Cassini, the player-manager of the Memphis Chicks, is batting .305 when he is hit in the face by a pitch by Nashville Vols righthander Tom Acker ... Cassini is hospitalized and misses the remainder of his last full season in professional baseball with a fractured cheekbone.

On September 20, 2010, Cassini dies in Mesa, Arizona, at the age of 90.