

On This Date

June 28, 1944

In the longest game in the Buffalo's Cornell Cup series history, [Bennett High School](#) defeats [Kensington High School](#) 3-2 in 17 innings. [Karl "Swede" Krafft](#) (right) goes the distance for Kensington, allowing only six hits and two walks while striking out 23 in a game that last four hours and 26 minutes. Two of the runs off of Krafft came in the first inning and are unearned.

Smilin' Jimmy Higgins, colorful centerfielder, is the Bennett hero, driving in all three runs.

"I'm sure there never has been a game that went that many innings in the history of organized high school baseball in this city," says Eugene Hofmeister, supervisor of physical education. "I wouldn't be surprised if it set some kind of a national record."

Krafft is a top athlete at Kensington, starring in both track and baseball. Signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers following graduation, Krafft is sent to the Montreal Royals of the International (AA) League where the 6-foot-3, 200-pound right-hander appears in one game before being sent down to the Interstate (B) League's Trenton Packers.

In three games with the Packers, Krafft is 0-2 with 8.40 ERA, allowing 13 hits and 15 walks in 15 innings. Krafft later serves as a Seaman 2nd Class for two years in the Navy aboard the aircraft carrier USS Boxer.

