



PELICAN BRIEFS

by

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New Orleans – Nashville

May 6, 1945

As Axis Sally was delivering what would be her last propaganda speech to the Allies during World War II, the New Orleans Pelicans faced off against the Larry Gilbert's Nashville Vols in a double-header on Sunday, May 6, 1945 at Pelican Stadium. Batboy Charlie Hurth celebrated his 9th birthday in a brief ceremony before the first game.

While still early in the season, the Pelicans were in second place just a single game behind the Atlanta Crackers when they took the field behind George Washburn. The veteran hurler held Nashville to a scant six hits and got all the run support he needed in the bottom of the first inning courtesy of a two-run home run over the left field fence by Pel Hughes. Although this would prove to be the only home run in Hughes' professional career, no one would remember because of what happened later.

The Pelicans were feeling very hitful and pelted six different Vol pitchers for a total of 28 hits and 32 runs, setting or equaling a number of Southern Association records.

Among the league records established that night were:

- **Largest shutout victory: 32 – 0**
The previous record was 29 – 0 by Memphis over Little Rock on July 5, 1921.
- **Most runs by one club in a single inning: 16 runs scored in the 4th inning**
This equaled the record set by Little Rock over Nashville on June 25, 1939 and again by Birmingham over New Orleans on April 23, 1943.
- **Most players to bat in a single inning: 20 (4th inning)**
This equaled the record set in 1943 by Birmingham over New Orleans.
- **Most players to go to bat in one game: 71**
This shattered the old record of 58 by Nashville on August 18, 1943.
- **Most runs batted in for a single game: 31**
- **Most hits by a player in one game: 6 (by George Washburn)**

Of the 71 Pelicans that came to bat that night, 28 resulted in a base hit – 20 singles, five doubles (three by Tom Astbury), two triples (one by George Washburn), and one home run – with 19 walks and only a single strike out.

The Pelicans' celebration was short-lived, however, as they dropped the second game 3 – 1 in seven innings.

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Box score from game one on Sunday, May 6, 1945 at Pelican Stadium.

NASHVILLE							
	AB	R	H	RBI	PO	A	E
Brewer, cf	4	0	0	0	2	0	0
Gibson, ss-p	4	0	1	0	0	3	1
Phillips, rf	3	0	0	0	2	0	2
McMillan, lf	4	0	2	0	1	0	0
Barth, c	4	0	1	0	2	2	0
Carlson, 2b	4	0	1	0	4	5	0
McManus, 3b-ss	3	0	0	0	1	2	0
R. Walker, 1b	2	0	0	0	11	0	0
Bustle, p	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fisher, p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seifert, p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McPherson, p	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gatlin, 3b	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
A. Walker, ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	0	6	0	24	13	3

NEW ORLEANS							
	AB	R	H	RBI	PO	A	E
Merineau, cf	5	4	1	1	3	0	0
Skelton, 2b	6	4	3	3	4	5	1
Hughes, 3b	7	3	3	6	0	1	0
Astbury, lf	7	5	5	4	2	0	0
Sanchez, rf	6	3	2	1	1	0	0
Mosel, 1b	4	4	2	4	7	1	0
Carrola, c	5	2	3	3	6	1	0
Rue, ss	5	3	3	4	3	2	0
Washburn, p	7	4	6	5	1	0	0
Totals	52	32	28	31	27	10	1

Score by innings:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Nashville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-- 0
New Orleans	3	2	0	16	5	0	5	1	x	-- 32

Summary: Two-base hits – Astbury 3, Skelton, McPherson, Merineau, Carlson. Three-base hits – Washburn, Sanchez. Home run – Hughes. Stolen bases – Merineau, Hughes. Sacrifice hits, Merineau. Left on base – Nashville 10, New Orleans, 11. Bases on balls, off Bustle 7, Washburn, 4, Fisher, 3, Seifert 2, McPherson 5, Gibson 2. Struck out, by Washburn 4, Bustle 1. Hits, off Bustle 10 in 3 plus innings with 7 runs; off Fisher, 1 in 0 innings with 4 runs; off Seifert, 3 in 1/3 inning with 5 runs; off McPherson, 6 in 1-1/3 innings with 10 runs. Wild pitches, Fisher, Gibson 2. Balk, Gibson. Losing pitcher, Bustle.

Umpires – Milazzo and Blackard. Time of game – 2 hours, 36 minutes