

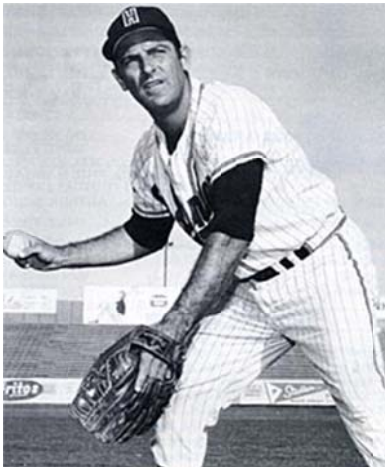
# A Schott From The Bleachers

## “One for the Book” Lists Gene Freese

by

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There's a note in The Sporting News' fine publication "One for the Book" which states: "Most home runs two consecutive appearances as pinch-hitter – 2"

Fifteen names (9 AL and 6 NL) grace this list of players who have hit two consecutive home runs while playing the role of pinch-hitter.

One of the players in this group is Gene Freese, who hit two such homers on April 18 and April 23, 1959, while playing with the Philadelphia Phillies. Ray Caldwell of the New York Yankees was the first major league player to hit two consecutive pinch hit homers, performing the feat on successive days, June 10 and 11, 1915.

Freese spent one year here as a Pelican in 1954 and enjoyed a successful season by leading the club at bat with a .332 average, including 30 doubles, 6 triples and 16 home runs. He missed the 100-RBI category by two, driving in 98 runs.

Gene was by far among the better players of the last 10 years of the New Orleans baseball club's existence. He played his first game as a Pelican in the 1954 season opener, April 9, and hit a triple and two singles in five times at bat. Gene hit his first home run for New Orleans on April 27, 1954 when he poled two at Little Rock.

After his fine season in the Southern, Freese advanced to the Pittsburgh club in 1955, where he participated in 134 games, posting a .253 batting average with 14 home runs. Gene appeared in the 1961 World Series with Cincinnati against the Yankees, and played in all five games. He ended his major league career in 1966 with Houston.

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