Transcribed Pages from the Charles Dickson Papers

Box 3

Folder 5: Mobile Baseball 1951-1962

356. Mobile Register April 4 – 1951

Boston Braves vs. Brooklyn Dodgers

In the only major league exhibition game carded at Mobile this season, the two National League clubs waged a three-hour-and-five-minute marathon that saw 18 hits, 18 runs, three errors, and 20 free tickets to first by a battery of nine pitchers.
The final result of the game was a score of 10 to 8 in favor of “Lippy” Leo Durocher’s Brooklyn Dodgers against Billy Southworth’s Boston Braves.
The Mobile fans had the pleasure of seeing Eddie Stanky in action on second base for the Brooklyn Dodgers.
(TRANSCRIBER’S NOTE: SEVERAL INDEPENDENT SOURCES CONFIRMED THAT DUROCHER WAS NOT THE MANAGER OF THE DODGERS IN 1951; THE DODGERS WERE MANAGED BY CHUCK DRESSEN. DUROCHER WAS THEN MANAGER OF THE NEW YORK GIANTS)

Clyde King

King’s contract purchased from Montreal could help the Brooklyn Dodgers considerably. Clyde King is not exactly a newcomer to the Dodgers. He appeared on the team as a left-handed pitcher in 1944, 1945, and 1949, but lacked the required speed. He’s smart, though, and has control. King formerly played with the Mobile Bears.

April 5 – 1951

John Hall

Hall will be back with the Mobile Bears during the 1951 season after three seasons. Few fans realize that in the fall of 1947, Branch Rickey could have sold Hall for exactly $100,000. That was the offering price of the young rookie who came out of nowhere to set the Southern Assn. on its ears, when he hurled the Mobile to a pennant during that season.

357. Aug. 20 – 1951

New Orleans vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears opened a twelve-game home stand last night defeating the New Orleans Pelicans 5 to 4. Griffith, Cox, and Lakos was on the mound for Mobile. It finally took Tom Lakos to hold the Pelicans down and win the game.

Les Barns, Mobile shortstop, was the standout among the batters for Mobile, as well as in the field. He turned in eight perfect plays at the shortstop and made three hits in as many times up: two singles and a two bager.

Sep 10 – 1951

Mobile vs. New Orleans

New Orleans – The Mobile Bears brought the regular 1951 season of the Southern Association to a close yesterday [Sunday] night by dividing a double-header with the New Orleans Pelicans and cinched the third for themselves. The even break left Mobile in third, three games behind the second place Birmingham Barons.

The game that put the Bears home third was a six-hit 5 to 1 win pitched by Gil Mills. After that win, it mattered none what happened in the second game, which was won by the Pelicans 10 to 2.

Final Standing of the Southern Assn

Little Rock, 93 – 60 – 608; Birmingham, 83 – 71 – 539; Mobile, 80 – 74 – 519; Memphis, 79 – 75 – 513; Nashville, 78 – 76 – 506; Atlanta, 76 – 78 – 494; New Orleans, 64 – 90 – 416; Chattanooga, 62 – 91 – 405

358. Mobile Register Sep 15 – 1951

Birmingham vs. Mobile

Mobile's silent bats have the Bears hanging by the slenderest of thread.

Another shutout by the Birmingham Barons, 8 to 0, was staged last night at Hartwell Field.

Sep 16 – 1951

Birmingham vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears wound up their 1951 season last night at Hartwell Field after having lost four straight games to the Birmingham Barons. The fourth loss was another shutout, 4 to 0. The 1951 season saw Jim Piersall and Walter DiPippo in the lineup with the Birmingham Barons, both of whom were destined to become famous batsmen in the major league. (TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE: A SEARCH OF A BASEBALL DATABASE LISTS DIPIPPO'S FIRST NAME AS LARRY)

Sep 26 – 1951

Little Rock vs. Birmingham

Birmingham Barons, conquerors of Little Rock in four straight games in the Southern Association playoff finals, entertain the Houston tonight in the Dixie Series.
The Brooklyn Dodgers called up Steve Lembo, who caught for the Mobile Bears this season. Lembo's batting percentage was 260 during the 1951 season with the Mobile Bears, and during the playoff series his average reached 385 mark.

359. Mobile Register Sep 10 – 1951

Walt Moran led the Mobile Bears in runs batted-in with 148 during the 1951 season.

INCLUDES NEWSPAPER PHOTO OF FOUR MEMBERS OF THE 1951 BEARS: WALT MORYN, CARVEL ROWELL, DON NICHOLAS, MILT JOFFE.

360. NEWSPAPER PHOTO OF SIX MEMBERS OF THE 1951 MOBILE BEARS: GLEN COX, GIL MILLS, BOB LUDWICK, FRANK LOGUE, MARION FRISCANO, TOM LAKOS

361. NEWSPAPER PHOTO OF FIVE MEMBERS OF THE 1951 MOBILE BEARS: SPOOK JACOBS, WAYNE BELARDI, RUSS ROSE, FRED POSTOLESE, LES BARNES

362. NEWSPAPER PHOTOS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1951 MOBILE BEARS:
PHOTO 1 – PETE WOJEY AND LEO GRIFFITH
PHOTO 2 – RAY DABEK AND STEVE LEMBO

363. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1951 MOBILE BEARS: MANAGER PAUL CHERVINKO, LAGA, WALT ROGERS, JOHNNIE KLIPPSTEIN, WALT MORYN, PETE WOJEY, DEE FUNDY, SPOOK JACOBS; ONE UNIDENTIFIED

364. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1951 MOBILE BEARS: LES BARNES, TOMMY LAKOS, JIMMY WILLIAMS, WAYNE BELARDI, GLEN COX, STEVE LEMBO, CLIFF ABBERSON, ROSS ROSE, FRED POSTOLESE

365. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1951 MOBILE BEARS: BERNEE ZINDER, GIL MILLS, DON NICHOLAS, LEO GRIFFETH, MILT JOFFE, STEVE LEMBO, CARVEL ROWELL, JOHN HALL

366. Mobile Register April 2 – 1952

Pete Wojey

Wojey, veteran Mobile pitcher, is with the Fort Worth team after being waved out of the Southern Association.

April 4 – 1952

Brooklyn Dodgers vs. Boston Braves

Mobilians were treated to their lone major league diamond exhibition game here yesterday afternoon at Hartwell Field and in turn, treated the visiting Brooklyn team and Boston team to a record “gate” for a turnout here.
Well over ten thousand Mobile fans paid to see the Boston Braves upend the Brooklyn Dodgers by a score of 5 to 4, but not until thirteen innings were played was the contest decided.
George [Shotgun] Shuba and Cal Abrams, both former Mobile Bear fielders, were in the lineup with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Roy Campanella supplied the game’s only homer when he blasted a 390-foot blow over the left field wall to knot the count at 4 – 4 in the top half of

the seventh inning. Ebba St. Claire chased home another ex-Dixie loop hero, Ed Mathews, with the winning marker for the Braves in the 13th inning.

April 6 – 1952

Mizell, Stanky, and St. Louis Cardinals

Wilmer [Vinegar Bend] Mizell will be the starting pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals when they open the National League season against Pittsburg April 15. Manager Eddie Stanky gave the 21-year-old southpaw the nod yesterday.

367. Mobile Register April 2 – 1952

"Spook" Jacobs and Ross Rose

Jacobs and Rose, with the Mobile Bears last season, will open this season with St. Paul. The second base and shortstop combination has one factor in their favor: they played for Clay Bryant, present St. Paul manager, back at Asheville in 1947 when they established the league double-header record and were just naturally fine players.
Bryant is sold on their ability and believes they can do as well in AAA action, so the pair will get a first class look from Bryant before he decides on them.

Walt Moryn

Moryn is now with the Montreal club and will get a thorough chance to show his ability.

Wayne Berlardi and Steve Lembo

The Mobile Bears first baseman and catcher of last season already been moved beyond the reach of the Bears by their removal to Fort Worth.

DRAWINGS OF ROSE, JACOBS, LEMBO, AND BELARDI INCLUDED

368. Mobile Register July 30 – 1952

Chattanooga vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears were back in a winning mood last night at Hartwell Field with a score of 8 to 4 in their favor.
The victory protected Mobile's hold on fourth place.
The Bears with Don Zimmer, Chuck Coles, and Tom Lakos, in the hero spotlight, staged an uphill battle to overcome the Lookouts. Pete Nicolas was the starting pitcher for the Bears, but after two innings was relieved by Tom Lakos, who was credited with the win in his second game since rejoining the Mobile Bears. Coles made a two-base hit and Don Zimmer, a two-run homer during the game.

July 31 – 1952

Chattanooga vs. Mobile

The Lookouts were stopped cold by Wade Browning last night at Hartwell Field with a 3 to 0 shutout. Browning walked only two men and fanned seven and just two men reached as far as third base. Chuck Coles, the hero at the plate, rapped out a two-run homerun during the game.

Standing of the Southern Assn

New Orleans, 62 – 47 – 569; Atlanta, 61 – 48 – 560; Chattanooga, 58 – 50 – 537; Mobile, 55 – 55 – 500; Memphis, 53 – 58 – 477; Birmingham, 51 – 58 – 468; Nashville, 51 – 59 – 464; Little Rock, 46 – 62 – 426

369. Sep 5 – 1952

Romano, Belardi, and Lembo

Brooklyn – (AP) The Brooklyn Dodgers announced today the recall of ten players from their farm system for the 1953 season. The list includes pitcher Jim Romano, of the pennant winning Montreal club, infielder Wayne Belardi and catcher Steve Lembo, Fort Worth, outfielder Bill Antonello and catcher Dick Teed, Mobile.

Antonello and Teed are with the Mobile Bears this season and Romano, Belardi, and Lembo are former members of the Mobile Bears.

Sep 8 – 1952

New Orleans vs. Mobile

Manager Ed Head's Mobile Bears climaxed a brilliant stretch drive with a 3 to 1 victory over the New Orleans Pelicans last night at Hartwell Field, and streaked across the finish line in third place, half a game ahead of New Orleans, as the Southern Association wound up its 1952 season.

Vercrouse started for Mobile, but was relieved on the mound by Lakos in the eighth inning but was credited with the victory, which he deserved for his brilliant pitching for seven and two-thirds innings before he began to weaken.

Mobile will oppose the second place Atlanta Crackers in the Shaughnessy playoff Wednesday Sep 10th in Atlanta in the first two games of the best of seven-games series.

Final Standing of the Southern League

Chattanooga, 86 – 66 – 566; Atlanta, 82 – 72 – 532; Mobile, 80 – 73 – 523; New Orleans, 80 – 74 – 519; Memphis, 80 – 74 – 519; Nashville, 73 – 79 – 480; Little Rock, 68 – 85 – 444; Birmingham, 64 – 90 – 416

(TRANSCRIBER'S NOTE: BASEBALL REFERENCE WEBSITE LISTS MEMPHIS AND THEN MOBILE AS THIRD AND FOURTH PLACE TEAMS, NOT MOBILE AND NEW ORLEANS)

Sep 24 – 1952

George [Shotgun] Shuba

New York [INS] The Brooklyn Dodgers didn't 'black into' the National League pennant.

"Black and Shuba made the difference," Dressen declared. "We'd have never won without them. If they had been with us last year we would have beaten the Giants."

Shuba formerly played with the Mobile Bears.

370. Sep 17 – 1952

Shaughnessy Playoff

Atlanta vs. Mobile

Ace Atlanta right-hander Art Fowler slowed the Mobile playoff express to a slo walk at Hartwell Field, allowing the Bears three hits and defeating them on a 4 to 1 decision to even the semifinals battle for the Dixie Series birth.

Sep 18 – 1952

Atlanta vs. Mobile

Mel Himes, whose broad shoulders have carried much of the pitching load of the Bears down the home stretch of the series, struck the Crackers with a five-hit 8 to 2 victory at Hartwell field last night.

The win gives the Mobile Bears a 3 to 2 lead in the seven-game series.

Sep 19 – 1952

Mobile vs. Atlanta

The Mobile Bears Nose Out Atlanta to Win First Playoff

Atlanta Special – The Mobile Bears rolled into the finals of the Southern Association's Shaughnessy Playoff series last night when they edged Dixie Walker's Atlanta Crackers 3 to 2 to take the series, four games to two.

Jay Vercruse was on the mound for Mobile with a fine pitching exhibition to win the game, although he was relieved in the eighth inning by Tommy Lakos.

Chuck Coles was the gent who delivered the wallop that pushed Mobile into the playoff finals. Coles came to the plate with runners on second and third, none out, in the eighth inning, and lashed a single that drove in the tying and winning runs. That vital rally was started by Ray Dabek, pinch hitter for Vercruse, who waited out a walk then "Spook" Jacobs lined a double down right field line.

371. Sep 22 – 1952

Shaughnessy Playoff

Memphis vs. Mobile

Manager Ed Head's Mobile Bears and the Memphis Chicks battled to a 2 to 2 draw yesterday afternoon at Hartwell Field in their Southern Association playoff finals which was halted by darkness after the regulation nine innings.

Memphis has things their own way until the seventh when the Bears scored two runs to tie up the game.

Bill Antonello started the rally with a walk, George Freese then pasted a two bagger in left-center to score Antonello. Powell and Lindsey followed but never reached first base.

Freese was on third base with two down when manager Ed Head sent Jim Williams to the plate to bat for Mel Hines and Williams sent a single between first and second base scoring Freeze and the tying run.

Sep 23 – 1952

Memphis vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears fought their way in their final Shaughnessy playoff series last night at Hartwell Field when they shored home a run in the tenth inning to win by a score of 4 to 3. For two hours and forty minutes a battle seldom seen on a ball field was waged for ten innings between the Chicks and Bears. It was as savage as if the looser *(sic)* would be a dead-deader

The Chickasaws were in the lead up until the seventh inning when Mobile scored two runs to put them in the lead 3 to 2. In the ninth inning, however, Memphis scored a run to tie up the game.

In the tenth inning Teed, who was first up, struck out; next Lakos started the winning rally by lasting out a single; then "Spook" Jacobs follows with a hit that sent Lakos to third. It was then that Norm Larker broke up the game when he punched a hit that got by the Memphis third baseman and as a result Lakos scored the winning run.

372. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1952 BEARS: BOB GUDWICK, CHUCK COLES, BILL ANTONELLO, WADE BROWNING, MIKE LEMISH, DON ZIMMER, RAY DABEK, DON NICOLAS, LEON GRIFFETH

373. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1952 BEARS: JAY VERCRUSE, FRED WATERS, PETE NICOLIS, JIMMY WILLIAMS, DICK TEED, WADE BROWNING, MEL HINES, MANAGER ED HEAD, DICK TEED

374. NEWSPAPER PHOTOS OF MEMBERS OF 1952 BEARS
PHOTO 1 IS OF BEARS INFIELDERS: GEORGE FREESE, DON ZIMMER, NORM LARKER, LES BARNES, AND JACK LILLIS

PHOTO 2 IS OF BEARS OUTFIELDERS: BILL ANTONELLO, CHUCK COLES, JIM WILLIAMS, CARVEL ROWELL

375. Mobile Register April 1 – 1953

"Spook" Jacobs and Ross Rose

Vero Beach – The Mobile Bears suffered a terrific wallop in the belt when Forrest ["Spook"] Jacobs, for four years the Mobile Bears second sacker, was sent to Fort Worth.
Ross Rose, the Bears former shortstop, was also sent to Fort Worth by the Brooklyn organization.
Mobile, under the Brooklyn wing, has virtually always been a "first division" contender in the Southern Association baseball loop. One pennant came the Bears' way, back in 1947, and the nos. 2, 3 and 4 spots have tenderly been possessed in most other seasons by performers in the Bears livery.

DRAWINGS OF ROSE AND JACOBS

376. April 2 – 1953

Milwaukee vs. Brooklyn

George Shuba and Don Zimmer, both former Mobile Bear ballplayers, were in the lineup with the Brooklyn Dodgers and combined their talents at hartwell Field last night to lead Brooklyn to a 3 to 2 victory over the Milwaukee Braves.

The game was a ten-inning contest and it was Shuba in the ninth inning of the game when two were down who connected for a two-base hit to chase home Don Zimmer with the score which tied up the game and sent it into ten innings.

Bill Antonello, also a former Mobile ballplayer, is with the Brooklyn Dodgers, but was not in the lineup with the team last night.

Wayne Belardi, a former Mobile Bear, is scheduled to be moved up to the Brooklyn club this season from Fort Worth. Belardi belted 20 homeruns, drove in 90 runs hitting 302 for Fort Worth last season.

Mobile Register April 8 – 1953

New York Giants vs. the Cleveland Indians

The Cleveland Indians defeated the New York Giants yesterday afternoon at Hartwell Field 1 to 0. The Giants were hoping to win the game yesterday to honor the memory of the late John J. McGraw. It was McGraw's birth date, and before the game, newsmen traveling with the Giants held a short memorial service for the late Giants fabled pilot.

Bob Feller mentioned before the game that during his two years of sea duty during the last Worlds war, he was a gun crew captain on the naval battleship Alabama.

377. 1953

Baseball in Mobile

April 9 – 1953

DeFoudy and Preston Ward, a pair of long-ball hitting first basemen who once belonged to Brooklyn and played with the Mobile Bears have spiked(?) the Chicago Cubs.

April 16 – 1953

From left to right, veteran Jim Williams, fielder, was assigned to Elmira of the Eastern League. Utility infielder Jack Lindsey was sold to St. Paul of the American Association, and Al Schroeder, shortstop, was sent to Pueblo of the Western League. Williams and Lindsey was(sic) with Mobile last year.

Stan Rojjek, lower left, shortstop, went to the Montreal Royals.

DRAWINGS OF SCHROEDER, LINDSEY, WILLIAMS, AND ROJEK.

378. July 28 – 1953

Chicago Cubs vs. Pittsburg Pirates

Pittsburg – AP – First baseman Dee Foudy belted his 13th homer of the year in the ninth inning and banged out three singles in five trips to the plate last night to give the Chicago Cubs a 5 to 4 victory over the Pittsburg Pirates. Dee Foudy was a former Mobile Bear first baseman.

Aug. 3 – 1953

Don Zimmer

Columbus, Ohio – U.P. – Don Zimmer, St. Paul infielder, who was hit on the head by a pitched ball during the game here against the Columbus Red Birds, was to be released from the White Cross Hospital about noon Monday.

Zimmer, a flashy fielder ho was hitting 300 and leading the American Association in homeruns at the time of the accident, is the man the Brooklyn Dodgers organization are(sic) grooming to replace Pee Wee Reese some day as a Dodger shortstop. He is not expected to play baseball again until next spring when he reports to the Dodger training camp. Zimmer was a former Mobile Bear shortstop.

Aug. 30 – 1953

Louisville, Ky – Don Zimmer, a little man slated to fill some big shoes, is the American Association's "rookie of the year" according to League baseball writers.

July 19 – 1953

Wayne Belardi

Brooklyn – AP – Brooklyn used Wayne Belardi's grand slam homer to overpower the Cardinals last night 14 to 6 for a sweep of four games with Campanella, Carl Furillo, and Billy Cox in base, in the nine-run fourth inning. Wayne Belardi was a former Mobile ball player.

379. Mobile Register Sep 7 – 1953

Marion Friscano

Friscano, a former Mobile Bear now with the Philadelphia Athletics, has a 7-9 won-loss mark. He's been 34 games and 169 innings.

Dee Foudy

Dee Foudy, a former Mobile Bear, first baseman now with the Chicago Cubs, has a batting average of 307 with the Cubs this season.

Cal Abrams

Abrams, a former Mobile Bear fielder now with the Pittsburg Pirates, has a batting average of 282.

George Shuba

Shuba, a former Mobile Bear fielder now with the Brooklyn Dodgers, has a batting average of 268.

Preston Ward

Preston Ward, a former Mobile Bear first baseman now with the C.P.(UNKNOWN WHAT THIS IS) has a batting average of 211.

Jamie Klippstein

Klippstein, a former Mobile Bear pitcher now with the Chicago Cubs, has a pitching record this season of 8-11.

Paul Minner

Minner, a former Mobile Bear pitcher now with the Chicago Cubs, has a pitching record of 9-14.

380. Sep 8 – 1953

Birmingham vs. Mobile

The Southern Association baseball season of 1953 ended for Mobile at Hartwell Field with a Labor Day double-header between the Birmingham Barons and the Mobile Bears, with Birmingham winning the first game 1 to 0 and Mobile winning the second game 5 to 0. Billy Glane was on the mound for Mobile that brought the season to an end and he authored a sparkling three-hit shutout over the nine-inning route.

Final Standing of the Southern Assn

Memphis, 87 – 67 – 565; Nashville, 85 – 69 – 553; Atlanta, 84 – 70 – 545; Birmingham, 78 – 76 – 506; New Orleans, 76 – 78 – 494; Chattanooga, 73 – 81 – 474; Mobile, 66 – 87 – 431; Little Rock, 66 – 87 – 431

Batting Average – Mobile Bears

Kerr, 320; Shearer, 306; Olsen, 304; Hamric, 300; Fiala, 284; Larker, 281; Teed, 275; Crain, 259; Hackel, 245; Turner, 240; Sharman, 211; Himes, 208; Thomas, 176; Melton, 172; Glane, 143; Fustin, 143; Vercrouse, 136; Harris, 132; Bennett, 129; Oser, 053

Pitching Record – Mobile Bears

Oser, 6 – 5 – 545; Harris, 11 – 10 – 524; Melton, 10 – 10 – 500; Glane, 1 – 1 – 500; Bennett, 6 – 7 – 462; Fustin, 3 – 5 – 375; Thomas, 3 – 5 – 375; Himes, 7 – 12 – 368; Vercrouse, 2 – 4 – 333; Others, 18 – 27 – 400

381. NEWSPAPER PHOTOS FROM 1953:
PHOTO 1 – BEAR MANAGER ED HEAD AND PLAYER RUDY RUFER
PHOTO 2 – MEMPHIS CHICKS MANAGER LUKE APPLING

382. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF 1953 BEARS: BILLY HARRIS, VERCROUSE, BOBBY CRAIN, BEN SMITH, GEORGE THOMAS, BILL SHARMAN
NEWSPAPER PHOTO OF DEE FOUDY AND PRESTON WARD

383. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF 1953 BEARS: NORM LARKER, WALLY FIALA, BILLY KERR, RAY SHEARER, WALLY HOOD, “HAM” HAMRIC, DICK TEED, KEN FUSTIN, GEORGE THOMAS

384. April 2 – 1954

Milwaukee vs. Brooklyn

Mobile fans were eagerly awaiting major league exhibition baseball for when it arrived yesterday afternoon, no less than 9,287 spectators formed an overflow crowd at Hartwell Field to see the Brooklyn team edge Milwaukee 8 to 7.
Hank Aaron played left field for the Braves and the fleet colored flychaser rapped out a double and single and handled two chances afield without a miscue.
Former Mobile Bear players Erv Palica, George Shuba, and Wayne Belardi were in the lineup with the Brooklyn Dodgers.
The Dodgers announced that Pete Wojey, a former Mobile Bear flinger, has been left in Mobile until further notice. Wojey will be assigned to some Brooklyn farm club.

April 5 – 1954

Baltimore vs. Chicago Cubs

Yesterday [Sunday] at Hartwell Field, the Chicago Cubs smashed the Baltimore Orioles, 10 to 2.
Sundays verdict for the Cubs was featured by the seven-inning uprising that saw former Mobile Bear catcher Bruce Edwards hit a two-run pinch-hit homerun.
The Cubs outhit the Orioles 12 to 7. Ex-Bear Dee Foudy rapped out two base hits in five trips to the plate to share balling honors with Edwards, Randy Jackson, and Gene Baker.

385. April 6 – 1954

Pittsburg Pirates vs. Philadelphia Atheltics

A meager turnout of fans at hartwell Field yesterday afternoon to witness the splendid pitching duel between the Philadelphia Athletics' Bobby Shantz and the Pittsburg Pirates' Bob Purkey , with the Pirates winning out 1 to 0.
Preston ward, a former Mobile Bear first baseman, was in the lineup with the Pittsburg team in yesterday's game. George Freese is also with the Pittsburg Pirates this season, but he was not in the lineup in the game yesterday.
"Spook" Jacobs, former Mobile Bear second baseman, was in the lineup with the Philadelphia Athletics in yesterday's game, playing second base.

NEWSPAPER PHOTO OF FREESE AND WARD

DRAWING OF JACOBS

386. July 10 – 1954

Cal Abrams

Detroit – AP – “I don’t think he’s a very good ballplayer. All he can do is run, and hit and throw” It was jovial Jimmy Dykes, manager of the Baltimore Orioles, joking and his topic was a 30-year-old outfielder who couldn’t hold a job with three National League clubs – Cal Abrams. [Abrams is a former Mobile Bear]

“When I saw him play in Brooklyn, I knew he was a good player,” Dykes said, as he puffed on his cigar. “He’s been great with us. When the other teams hold him to two hits a game, they think they’re doing good.”

The nomadic Abrams is hitting a sizzling 327 for the Orioles, who are in desperate need of any kind of hitting. Since joining Baltimore, he has collected 54 hits in 165 to lead the team. Abrams hammered out three straight doubles yesterday as the Orioles ended a five-game losing streak with a 7 to 5 victory over the Detroit Tigers.

Abrams failed to stick with the Brooklyn, Cincinnati, and Pittsburg in the National League. When the Pirates gave up on him, it seemed the end of the line for the dark-haired Philadelphian.

“When you write your story,” Dykes said, “use a lot of superlatives, then mail a copy to the Pirates” [speaking to Abrams]. Dykes chuckled, as though he had just swallowed a canary.

June 9 – 1954

New York – AP – Forrest [Spook] Jacobs of the Philadelphia Athletics, called by Jimmy Dykes “one of the best rookies around” in the leading American League second basemen with a 922 fielding percentage. Mobilian Frank Bolling of Detroit has a fielding record of 980 on four errors in 205 chances. Jacobs was a former Mobile Bear.

387. Sep 7 – 1954

Mobile vs. Atlanta

Atlanta – The Mobile Bears wound up a miserable 1954 season on a flamboyant note here last night, upsetting the Atlanta Crackers twice, 3 to 1 and 11 to 8.
Jim Ollis slammed his first homerun since joining the Mobile club early in the summer to win the nightcap for the Bears. Ollis' blow came in the 10th with two on base.

Final Standing of Southern Assn

Atlanta, 94 – 60 – 610; New Orleans, 92 – 62 – 597; Birmingham, 81 – 70 – 536; Memphis, 80 – 74 – 519; Chattanooga, 75 – 76 – 497; Little Rock, 64 – 90 – 416; Nashville, 64 – 90 – 416; Mobile, 63 – 91 – 409

Batting Record – Mobile Bears

Larker, 1B, 326; Bragan, 2B, 306; Shearer, CF, 294; Williams, CF, 291; Hoffman, P, 292; Antonello, CF; 283; Kerr, CF, 273; Olsen, 3B-SS, 276; Teed, C, 272; Dabek, C, 240; McCoy, P, 227; Ollis, SS, 206; Mossor, P, 172; Ludwick, P, 136; Moxley, P, 104; Ludtke, P, 091; Bigham, P, 077

Pitching Record – Mobile Bears

Ludtke, 5 – 1 – 833; Hoffman, 7 – 7 – 500; McCoy, 5 – 5 – 500; Mossor, 8 – 9 – 471; Moxley, 9 – 12 – 421; Ludwick, 2 – 6 – 250; Bigham, 2 – 7 – 220

388. Mobile Register Sep 12 – 1954

Open Letter to Mobile Bear Directors, in part
By Vincent Johnson

For Mobilians, the game has been over almost a week now officially. Unofficially, it has been over for several months as the 1954 team at no time gave the Mobile fans any indication it was making serious efforts to improve its lot in the Southern Association.

We believe that most fans and maybe you yourselves will agree the Hartwell Field had little to draw the fans through the turnstiles. The fact that Mobile attracted over 9,000 more customers than last season is a stirring tribute to this community's love of baseball.

If action was ever necessary at any time since you purchased the franchise, it is now. Mobile fans are deeply appreciative of what you did for them in the winter of 1951. There was little doubt that the Mobile franchise would have gone to Knoxville had not your group intervened and made it more worthwhile for the Allen brothers to sell to you. Your group kept Southern Association baseball in Mobile, kept it alive.

Why must you sit idly by now and watch it die? It is dying just as surely as the sun will rise in the east tomorrow morning. The slight increase shown this season was, if you remember, the result of early season play when Stan Wasiak was an attraction and the deficiencies of the club were not too obvious.

We don't profess to have the answer to all your ills, but we believe that you realize something must be done. And first of all, end your agreement with the Brooklyn Dodgers just as soon as you can. The Dodgers for the past two years have kept the Bears on the hungry side as far as talent is concerned.

389. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1954 BEARS: BILLY KERR, BILLY CAIN, RAY SHEARER, ROY CUCCHARINO, NORM LARKER, DICK TEED, JIM WILLIAMS, JIM GENTILE, BILLY HARRIS

390. Mobile Register March 25 – 1955

Mobile Bears vs. St. Paul, at Vero Beach

By the Associated Press

Rookies that bloom in spring were inconspicuous Wednesday in Southern Association exhibition baseball activity.

With few exceptions, leading performers around the Grapefruit Belt were names familiar to Southern fans.

Veterans Ken Worley, catcher, and infielder Freddie Folkes wielded heavy bats as Mobile walloped St. Paul 12 to 0 at Vero Beach.

Clay Bryant's charges rocked the American Association League club for 11 runs in the first two innings to sew up the game early.

March 31 – 1955

Milwaukee Braves vs. Brooklyn Dodgers

Pete Wojey, former Mobile Bear chunker, was a surprise starter for the Dodgers. The 32-year-old right-hander turned in a creditable effort, giving up only three hits and one run in his five inning stint.

Ironically, two of the three hits were collected by native Mobilian Hank Aaron.

After nine innings were played at Hartwell Field yesterday afternoon, the Brooklyn Dodgers scored a 3 to 2 victory over the Milwaukee Braves. Among other former Mobile Bear ballplayers in the lineup with the Dodgers in the game yesterday besides Wojey were Don Zimmer at short and Walt Moryn in right field – "Ham" Hamric, ex-Mobile Bear was also in the lineup with the Brooklyn team in cf. Colored fans who comprised as least half of the crowd at the game, were disappointed that they did'nt get to see Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella in the lineup in the game yesterday afternoon.

391. Mobile Register April 1 – 1955

Zimmer, Wojey, Hamric, and Moryn

It was enjoyable to be able to talk briefly with Zimmer, Wojey, hamric, and Moryn again, who are now with the Brooklyn Dodger team visiting Mobile. Wojey was here briefly last season, Zimmer was here three years ago, Hamric year before last, and it was three years ago when Moryn was with the Mobile Bears. Wojey's showing here was his fifth exhibition appearance of the year in the major league. He stated he'd done well in the other four outings with the exception of one appearance against the N.Y. Yankees. "Boy," said Wojey, "I never saw so many line drives shooting out in all directions as that day."

Zimmer mentioned that he'd started "at least every other day, some times more often than that." He confided that he expects to play quite a bit with the Dodgers this season. Hamric is hopeful of sticking with the parent club. Moryn is confident he'll stick with the Bums and play quite a bit. Most of the quartet seemed of the opinion that George Shuba was headed

for Montreal this year. Morm Larker, the Bear first base sacker last season, was left at Vero Beach. They were undecided among themselves as to where he might wind up.

392. Mobile Register April 3 – 1955

Jimmy Gentile

Before the start of the 1955 Southern Association season, Manager Paul Bryant, while in Vero Beach was worried about his infielders, and with wrinkled brows said “Jim Gentile is a question mark at first base.” In the years to follow, Gentile’s record at first base and at bat in the major league was not questionable.

April 6 – 1955

The Mobile Bears for 1955 Season

Jim Gentile, age 20, from Pueblo; Fred Folkes, 27, Elmira; Rudy Rufer, 27, St. Paul; Marty Devlin, 22, Army; Ken Pflasterer, 25, Pueblo; Ray Mitchell, 21, Shawnee; Chuck Coles, 26, U.S. Service; Ed Lindsey, 21, Bakersfield; Ted Barts, 26, St. Paul; Don Demeter, 19, Bakersfield; Herb Olson, 25, St. Paul; Clyde Girreus, 26, Newport News; Al Ronning, 28, Fort Worth

Pitchers

Joe Mathis, 21; Ralph Mauriello, 21, from Asheville; Hugh Moxley, Mobile last season; Bill Sherman, inactive last season; Bob Walz, 23, Waterloo; Roger Wright, 32, Lincoln; Marvin Roberson, 20, Shawnee; “Hamp” Coleman, 21, Montreal; Connie Grob, 22, U.S. Service; Ken Hemphill, in U.S. Service

393. April 5 – 1955

Clay Bryant, manager, Mobile Bears

[by Vincent Johnson, Mobile Register]

Vero Beach – The 23 players, including Mgr. Clay Bryant, leave this Florida training spot for New Orleans Tuesday afternoon [today] and will steam into New Orleans Wednesday night. The season opens Thursday night.

April 8 – 1955

Mobile vs. New Orleans

Pelican Stadium – The Mobile Bears dropped their Southern Association opened to New Orleans 7 to 2 here last night before 7,256 chilly fans.
Lanky Joe Malbis opened on the mound for Mobile, but the ex-Auburn athletic failed to survive the first inning in his initial professional assignment.
The Pels bumped the youngster for a single and three doubles for three runs before Bill Sherman came on to retire the side, then Connie Grob replaced Sherman at the start of the third inning.
Shortstop Marty Devlin was the lone Bear to collect more than one hit.
The lineup of the two teams was as following:

Mobile: Rufer, 2B; Bartz, pinch hitter; Folkes, 2B; Coles, RF; Gentile, 1B; Lindsey, LF; Demeter, CF; Pflasterer, 3B; Olson, C; Girrens, pinch hitter; Devlin, SS; Wright, P; Mathis, P; Sherman, P; Mitchell, pinch hitter; Grob, P; Storck, pinch hitter

New Orleans: Swartz, CF; Powers, RF; Honor, LF; Skinner, 1B; Kravitz, C; DeBenedetti, 3B; Allie, SS; Rice, 2B; Green, P; Raydon, P

394. Mobile Register April 20 – 1955

Don Zimmer

Zimmer, a former Mobile Bear playing now with the Brooklyn in yesterday's game between Philadelphia and Brooklyn filling in for Pee Wee Reese at shortstop, blasted a two-run homer which produced the winning margin.

April 30 – 1955

Pete Wojey and Bert Hamric

Brooklyn, N.Y. [UP] – The Brooklyn Dodgers cut their roster by three Saturday when they announced that pitcher Pete Wojey had been shipped to Montreal on the International League and outfielder Bert Hamric had been sent to St. Paul of the American Association. Hamric and Wojey are both former Mobile Bears.

July 20 – 1955

All Stars vs. Birmingham

The Southern Association 1955 All-Stars defeated Birmingham in Birmingham 10 to 5 last night. Herb Olson, Mobile catcher, and Ralph Mariello, Mobile pitcher, were in the lineup with the All-Stars.

Ralph Mariello, ace of the Mobile Bears pitching staff, pitched the fourth and fifth inning, giving up one run. Herb Olson collected a homerun during the game when pich hitting for a relief pitcher.

Clay Bryant, Mobile manager, was coach of the first base line.

395. Mobile Register Sep 1 – 1955

Mobile vs. Nashville

It took four months and 24 days to do it, but the Mobile Bears have finally crashed the first division.

Mobile gained its new - and still very precarious, hold in the Southern Association standings last night at Hartwell Field, as a result of their own 3 to 0 decision over the Nashville Vols - and New Orleans' convenient 7 to 6 loss to the Chattanooga Lookouts.

The Nashville Vols couldn't tally off Bob Hoffman, Mobile hurler, who went the nine innings in last night's game.

Left fielder Ralph Rowe came up with a pair of sparkling catches to lead Mobile's defensive cordon, and he also had three hits in four times up.

Sep 6 – 1955

Chattanooga Lookouts vs. Mobile Bears

The Bears, climaxing one of the greatest uphill struggles in the club's modern history, were members of the upper division yesterday at Hartwell Field [Labor Day] by reason of winning a double-header from the Chattanooga Lookouts, 5 to 4 and 4 to 3.

Final Standing of the Southern Assn.

Memphis, 90 – 63 – 588; Birmingham, 88 – 65 – 575; Chattanooga, 80 – 74 – 519; Mobile, 79 – 75 – 513; Nashville, 77 – 74 – 510; New Orleans, 76 – 75 – 503; Atlanta, 70 – 84 – 455; Little Rock, 52 – 102 – 338

396. Sep 11 – 1955

Shaughnessy Playoff Series

Memphis vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears jumped off to a four-run lead in the first inning in the fourth game of the play-off series with Memphis last night at Hartwell Field, due mainly on Jim Gentile's three-run homerun and won the game 6 to 5.
Mossor was on the mound for Mobile to be the winning pitcher, but was indebted to Bob Walz, who relieved him in the eighth inning when the Chickasaws were threatening.

Sep 12 – 1955

Memphis vs. Mobile

The Memphis Chicks defeated the Mobile Bears in the fifth game of the play-off series yesterday afternoon [Sunday] 4 to 3 at Hartwell Field.

Sep 13 – 1955

Mobile vs. Memphis

Memphis – Memphis evened the count in games at three all here last night, outlasting the Mobile Bears 11 to 8.

Sep 14 – 1955

Mobile vs. Memphis

Mobile had to go the route, but the Bears made it easy for Marriello in the deciding game bunching their hits to pile up a six-run lead. Dick Young collects a homerun during the game.

Sep 21 – 1955

Mobile vs. Birmingham

Rickwood Field, Birmingham – The Dixie Series was the next on the time-table for the Mobile Bears.

The Bears used an eleven hit attack on six Birmingham pitchers and a gritty eight-hit mound job by Earl Mosser to defeat the Barons 8 to 2 here last night and ride into the post-season battling with the Texas League champions. Mobile's long-range attack included three homeruns by Jim Baxes, Ray Shearer, and Dick Young.

397. Sep 28 – 1955

Dixie Series

Shreveport vs. Mobile

Mobile's Bears were crowned king of baseball in the Southland last night when they defeated the Shreveport club 9 to 2 for their fourth straight victory in the first four games of the Dixie Series between the champions of the two leagues.

Bob Hoffman, slim right-hander who hadn't been able to do anything right through the play-off, spun a four-hitter off his capable fingers to put the cap on the victory.

Herb Olsen brings in the first three runs for Mobile in the first inning with a long double to left, and in the third inning Jim Gentile collects a homerun to score Ray Shearer who was on base ahead of him.
The Bears scored four more runs in the sixth inning and in this inning Hoffman, Mobile's pitcher, not being satisfied with being only a pitcher, started this inning himself with a double to left field.
The last score of the game was made by Ray Shearer, who came home on a single made by Jim Gentile.

Sep 27 – 1955

Mobile moved to the threshold of their first Dixie Series championship in 33 years last night at Hartwell Field when they defeated the Shreveport Sports 11 to 6.
Ken Hemphill came in and relieved Earl Mosser in the second inning.
The fate of the Shreveport Sports was sealed in the eighth inning when Mobile scored four runs.
In this inning, Dick Young made his fourth hit of the game.

398. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF 1955 MOBILE BEARS: RALPH ROWE, TED BARTZ, KEN HEMPHILL, BILLY KERR, MANAGER PAUL BRYANT, KENT PFLASTERER

399. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF 1955 MOBILE BEARS: RALPH MAURIELLO (2), JIM GENTILE, HERB OLSEN, DICK YOUNG, CONNIE GRUB, RAY SHEARER, BOB HOFFMAN, RUDY RUFER

400. NEWS PHOTOS OF MEMBERS OF 1955 MOBILE BEARS: BOB WALZ, BAXES, RONNING, KITSOS, FORIZS; PHOTO OF WALZ, RALPH MAURIELLO AND FRED KIPP; DRAWING OF KEN HEMPHILL

401. Mobile Register April 3 – 1956

Pittsburg vs. Kansas City
at Hartwell Field yesterday

Fred Water's return to Mobile after a five-year absence ended on a sour note. The southpaw hurler now with the Pittsburg Pirates was the victim of an eleventh-hour comeback which netted the Kansas City A's a 4 to 3 win over Pittsburg in the first of three major league exhibition games for Mobile this week.

Waters strolled on the mound in the eleventh inning where he toiled for Mobile during the 1951 season with nine scoreless innings of spring hurling to his credit, and visions of adding to that skein before old friends. And for two frames, the ex-Bear continued the whitewash work of Nelson King, who has allowed the A's only one hit in six frames. In the ninth, however, the bottom fell out.

With two out and two on, the A's third sacker lined a shot over the left field wall to halt Water's shutout string. The drive hit the top of the concrete wall and bounced over as left fielder Frank Thomas [formerly a New Orleans Pelican] stood by helplessly. Waters unknowingly dug his own grave by walking the first two A's, Vic Power and Spook Jacobs, another ex-Mobile Bear, to open the ninth.

DRAWINGS OF FRED WATERS AND SPOOK JACOBS

402. April 5 – 1956

Exhibition Games, In Mobile

Milwaukee Braves vs. Brooklyn Dodgers

A mild rhubarb and the strange spectacle of Negro flychaser Hank Aaron of Mobile cracking out "two homeruns" and being credited with just one featured Milwaukee's 7 to 5 victory in 10 innings over the Brooklyn Dodgers here yesterday afternoon. Aaron in the fourth inning cracked one over the left field scoreboard with two mates on to spark the Braves four-run outburst. That put the Braves out in front 4 to 3. However, in the eighth, when Aaron smashed an inning-opening pitch high against the same scoreboard, the three National League umpires – all unfamiliar with Hartwell Field – ruled the blow a ground-rule double. Although Aaron was a victim of circumstance with his controversial second wallop, he scored eventually to give the Braves their fifth run.

A familiar face in the Brooklyn lineup was that of Don Zimmer, a former Mobile Bear shortstop.

NEWS PHOTO OF AARON AND DRAWING OF ZIMMER

403. April 7 – 1956

Exhibition Games in Mobile

New York Yankees vs. Philadelphia Phils

Yankee long-range power was missing, but the New Yorkers ability to win wasn't.
The game yesterday afternoon between the Yanks and the Phillies went ten innings, being tied 4 to 4 in the ninth.
Rookie Bobby Richardson, who stole the show away from the veteran Yank headliners, belted a two-run triple after the score was tied. Mickey Mantle, still benched because of a leg injury, came in to pinch-hit for catcher Johnson and lit the match to the Yankee's two-run blaze in the eighth by enticing a base-on-balls. Mantle swung from the port-side against the right-handed Phillie pitcher, he swung viciously at two pitches before drawing his free ticket to first. Phil Rizzuto came in to run for Mantle. Things began to popping then as Skowron singled through short, Rizzuto going to third. It was then that Richardson popped his single into center, making the final score 7 to 5 in favor of the Yanks.

404. Sep 10 – 1956

Memphis vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears, after leading the Memphis Chicks through seven innings, finally lost the game 7 to 3.
It was the last scheduled game of the Southern Association schedule, but as the final standing of the Bears and the Birmingham Barons was even-up for third place, the Bears and the barons are to play one game to decide which is to be third and fourth in the winding up of the season of 1956.

Sep 11 – 1956

Birmingham vs. Mobile

Mobile's Bears handed Birmingham's Barons an 8 to 2 defeat last night at Hartwell Field and cinched the third spot in the final standing of the Southern Association 1956 season.
Mobile will play the Memphis Chicks tomorrow and the next day at Hartwell Field in the first rounds of the Shaughnessy Playoff.

Standing of Southern Assn.

Atlanta, 89 – 65 – 578; Memphis, 82 – 72 – 532; Mobile, 82 – 73 – 526; Birmingham, 81 – 74 – 526; New Orleans, 79 – 75 – 513; Chattanooga, 76 – 73 – 494; Nashville, 75 – 79 – 432; Little Rock/Montgomery, 53 – 101 – 344

405. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1956 MOBILE BEARS: BEN SMITH, JACK WATERS, GORDY COLEMAN, NORMAN CAMP, PETE MILINE, DICK BROWN

406. DRAWINGS OF ME MBERS OF THE 1956 MOBILE BEARS: BOB VAN EMAN, TED BARTZ, BOB YANEN, CHRIS KITSOS; DRAWING (PHOTO?) OF MANAGER JO JO WHITE

407. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1956 MOBILE BEARS: GLEN COX, NORMAN CAMP, BILLY JOE DAVIDSON, STEVE JANKOWSKI; NEWS PHOTO OF FORMER MOBILE BEAR AL LUPLOW (NOW CLEVELAND INDIAN) IN ACTION

408. Mobile Register March 1 – 1957

Erv Palica, pitcher, former Mobile Bear, is now with the Baltimore Orioles.

Norm Larker, former first baseman for the Mobile Bears, has been drafted by the Chicago White Sox from St. Paul.

Pres[ton] Ward, former first baseman for the Mobile Bears, is now a first sacker and outfielder for the Cleveland Indians, after having played for the Pittsburg Pirates last season.

Wayne Belardi, former first baseman with the Mobile Bears and was with the Kansas City Athletics last season, will be with the New York Yanks organization this season.

Glen Cox, a former Mobile Bear pitcher who was with Kansas City last season, is still in that organization.

Milt Bolling, of Mobile, is with the Boston Red Sox and Frank Bolling, his brother, is with the Detroit Tigers.

409. Mobile Register March 1 – 1957

Jim Pyburn and Virgil Trucks, once-upon-a-time residents of Mobile, are bonus signees of the Baltimore Orioles.

Bill Dailey, Gene Lary, Carl Thomas, former Mobile Bear pitchers, and Dick Brown, formerly a Mobile catcher, is signed up with the Cleveland Indian organization.

March 13 – 1957

Stan Wasiak, former Mobile Bear second baseman, departs tomorrow for Valdosta, where he is slated to manage Detroit's farm club of the Ga-Fla circuit.

March 15 – 1957

Don Zimmer, a 26-year-old native of Cincinnati, was purchased by the Brooklyn Dodgers from the Mobile Bears in 1952.
Last June 23, at Brooklyn, Zimmer was struck by a pitcher's ball and was out of the last part of the baseball season, but he is back in the game this season.

410. April 9 – 1957

New York Giants vs. Cleveland Indians

Hartwell Field – The New York Giants defeat the Cleveland Indians in a five-inning game 3 to 1. After five and a half innings had been played, rain left the field in a somewhat soggy condition, and the four umpires called the game.

Homeruns produced all the scores of the Giants victory, and they were produced by Dusty Rhodes and Foster Castleman. The Giants got its turn at bat in the sixth, but the rain and the eventual game calling followed and the contest reverted back to the last full inning.
Lemon on the mound for the Indians walked two and fanned three.
Barkley on the mound struck out two men and gave one pass.
Willie Mays was up twice at bat, but grounded out and was out on a pop fly.
Mobile's Eddie Stanky, in an American League uniform for the first time in his career, held down the third base coaching spot.
Bob Feller, Cleveland Indian immortal, was at Thomas James Park at 3:30 and at Vigor High at 4:15 for the benefit of free clinics for the local youngsters.

411. Sep 8 – 1957

New Orleans vs. Mobile

New Orleans went for the homerun last night at Hartwell Field before 849 fans and found enough power to win – Wayne Belardi, a former Bear being among the Pelicans to cash in on one of the circuit drives.

Standing of the Southern Assn.

Memphis, 86 – 66 – 566; Atlanta, 86 – 67 – 562; Chattanooga, 83 – 69 – 546; Nashville, 83 – 69 – 546; Mobile, 74 – 78 – 489; Birmingham, 74 – 79 – 484; Little Rock, 63 – 88 – 417; New Orleans, 60 – 93 – 392

Sep 9 – 1957

End of the Southern Association Season

Chattanooga, Tenn. Sep 8 – The Atlanta Crackers won their 16th Southern Association pennant today on the last day of the season, beating Chattanooga 10 to 2, while Little Rock shoved second place Memphis to one game behind first place.

Sep 9 – 1957

New Orleans vs. Mobile

Bill Daily fashioned a two-hitter, and the Bears bunched seven of their 11 hits for two big rallies yesterday afternoon to wind up the Southern Association season with a 6 to 0 victory over New Orleans.
Some 832 fans were on hand to see the final game of the season on the home grounds.
The lineup of the two teams was as follows:

New Orleans: Synder, CF; Melsner, 2B; Carter, 3B; Wehner, RF; Belardi, 1B; Troxell, C; Kraly, LF; Davis, SS; Kellner, P; Klinesworth, P

Mobile: Frazier, SS; Grace, RF; Walters, CF; Rowe, LF; Brown, C; Baumer, 3B; Hamilton, 1B; Pawloski, 2B; Daily, P

Both Wayne Belardi and Walt Kellner of the New Orleans Pelicans were former Mobile Bear ballplayers.

412. DRAWINGS OF MEMBERS OF THE 1957 MOBILE BEARS: JACK WATERS, DICK BROWN, BILL DAILY, HERB OLSEN, DICK YOUNG, DICK STIGMAN, GORDY COLEMAN; SIX OTHER PLAYERS LISTED BY NAME: VERNE GRACE, BUD HUDSON, ANDY FRAZIER, STAN PALOWSKI, [TOM] HAMILTON, [JACK] BAUMER

413. Sep 18 – 1958

Closing of Southern Association Season
Little Rock vs. Mobile

The Mobile Bears scored a 9 to 1 victory over the Little Rock Travelers at Hartwell Field in the closing game of the 1958 scheduled games with Manager Mel McGaha on the mound for Mobile.
The fans on hand were treated to some rare sights, such as left-handed third baseman, a visual hit or bunt signs, a real “duster” pitch (McGaha threw the duster bag at the plate once) umpires warming up pitchers, and many other [comedy stunts?]

However, the Bears got rid of their light-heartedness in the scrap and prepared for the serious business of tangling with Atlanta in the first round of the Shaughnessy playoff.
The lineup of the two teams was as following:

Little Rock: Otey, LF-C; Brown, 2B; Hadley, CF-3B; Secrest, 1B; Peden, P; Heyman, P; Grunwald, RF; Brunet, RF; Slider, SS: Scott, 3B; Nance, CF; Spicer, C; Black, LF

Mobile: Waters, CF; Sauer, 1B; Dillard, RF; Baumer, 3B; Olsen, C; Pedigree, SS; Pawloski, 2B; McGaha, P

Final Standing of the Southern Assn.

Birmingham, 91 – 61 – 595; Mobile, 84 – 63 – 553; Atlanta, 84 – 70 – 545; Chattanooga, 77 – 76 – 503; Nashville, 76 – 78 – 494; Little Rock, 74 – 80 – 481; Memphis, 69 – 84 – 451; New Orleans, 57 – 94 – 377

414. Sep 11 – 1958

Shaughnessy Playoff

The Mobile Bears defeated the Atlanta Crackers at Hartwell Field 7 to 1 last night in the first game of the Shaughnessy Playoff with Don Schaeffer on the mound for Mobile.
In beating Atlanta's southpaw Hartman, the Mobile Bears took a commanding position in the best of the seven game series in the first round of the Shaughnessy Playoff.

Sep 11 – 1958

The Mobile Bears rally in the ninth inning to defeat the Atlanta Crackers at Hartwell Field last night 7 to 6.
The Crackers scored one run in the seventh inning which hardly matched Mobile's four scores, but in the eighth inning, the Crackers exploded and made five runs, which put them in the lead. In the ninth, however, the Bears came back by adding three more runs to their four scores to finish the game victorious in an exciting manner.

Sep 12 – 1958

Ponce de Leon Park, Atlanta – Mobile's Bears were just one game short from being orbited into the final round of the Southern Association playoff after continuing their run-away over the Atlanta Crackers 8 to 1 here last night.

Sep 13 – 1958

Ponce de Leon Park, Atlanta – Mobile eliminated Atlanta from the Southern Association playoff by a score of 3 to 1 here last night, as only 220 Crackers faithful die-hards fans witnessed the game.
Bill Daily ignored a brisk wind and a low temperature to pitch their fourth straight win in the first round of the Shaughnessy Playoff.

415. [Mobile Reg] Sep 14 – 1958
By Dennis Smitherman

"As well as evidenced from the four game sweep by the Bears, the Crackers motions weren't anything near good enough. In fact, the Crackers could muster only nine runs, one in each of the three games, and 26 base hits, in the entire series. Mobile's output, meanwhile, was 25 runs and 48 base hits, an even dozen of which were for extra bases.
Jack Waters went 7 for 16. Don Dillard 6 for 17, Bud Hudson 8 for 15, Vern Grace 5 for 11, Andy Frazier 5 for 16, Stan Pawloski 4 for 12, Jack Baumer 4 for 17, and Lloyd Jenney 1for 6.
And on the chunking side, Mobile had three complete game efforts by Daily, Schaef[fer] and Dick Stigman.
The Bears and McGaha naturally expect the Birmingham Barons to be their opponents in the final showdown series."

DRAWINGS OF MCGAHA AND WATERS; A DRAWING OF DILLARD IS MISSING

416. Aug 5 – 1959

Memphis vs. Mobile

Wynn Hawkins, tow-headed Mobile right-hander, stowed away his baseball career for two years last night and his final effort was one of his finest, a five hitter 9 to 12 victory over the Memphis Chicks, his twelfth of the season.

Wynn would have wound up with a shutout except for a momentary streak of wildness in the second inning.

The Bears rapped out 14 hits and the big stick man was Bob Jenkins, who brought in four runs on a double and a single. Mel McGaha, Mobile's manager, was tossed out of the game by umpire Daugherty when he protested the umpire's decision calling Jack Waters out at home plate.

A collection for Hawkins was taken up in the stands for Hawkins, who leaves to serve in the Army and $189 was given him as a farewell present. In addition, his teammates presented him with a portable radio.

Standing of the Southern Assn.

Mobile, 36 – 22 – 621; Birmingham, 34 – 23 – 590; Chattanooga, 28 – 28 – 500; Nashville, 24 – 25 – 490; Shreveport, 28 – 30 – 483; Memphis, 25 – 28 – 472; New Orleans, 23 – 26 – 469; Atlanta, 20 – 36 – 357

Aug 11 – 1959

Birmingham, Ala. – The Mobile Bears extended their Southern Association lead to a 3 and a half games over the second place Birmingham Barons in winning a 5 to 3 decision in last night's game. Gordy Coleman's two-run double featured a four-run outburst by the Bears in the fifth inning shoving them ahead after Birmingham scored twice in the third.

417. Mobile Register

Mobile Bears of 1959

Stan Pawloski, 2B; Andy Frazier, SS; Sam Meeks, 3B; Fred Frickie, 1B; Ken Kuhn, 2B; Jack Kubiszyn; Jack Waters, CF; Bob Jenkins; Neb Wilson; Clarence Bartnnek(BEST GUESS), fielder; Herb Olsen, C; Lavern Grace, C; Wally Seward, P; Chuck Kolakowski, P; Bob Allen, P; Billy Darden, P; Ed Drapcho, P; Gerald Lis, P; Wynn Hawkins, P; Carl Mathis, relief; Jim Coppock(BEST GUESS), P

418. Mobile Bears 1959

DRAWINGS OF CARL MATHIS AND MANAGER MEL MCGAHA; JACK WATERS; DON DILLARD

419. Mobile Register April 15 – 1960

Former Mobile Bears in Exhibition Here

Former Mobile Bear's Gary Bell and Dick Brown will be playing on opposing teams in Mobile tomorrow at Hartwell Field when the Cleveland Indians take on the American League champions, the White Sox. Bell is a field with the Cleveland Indians and Brown is a catcher on the Chicago White Sox team. Brown was traded to the White Sox during the winter by Cleveland.

Exhibition Games in Mobile
Chicago White Sox vs. Cleveland Indians

A trio of Cleveland right-handers – Wynn Hawkins, Bob Grim, and Johnny Klippstine – pitched the Cleveland Indians to a 4 to 1 victory over the White Sox yesterday afternoon at Hartwell Field.

Hawkins and Klippstine are former Mobile Bears. Hawkins was with the Mobile Bears [1959] last season and Klippstine was the star pitcher of the Mobile Bears ten years previous and is now well-established in major league company as a veteran among them.

Other former Mobile ballplayers seen yesterday in Cleveland uniforms were – Dick Stigman, Don Dillard, and Carl Thomas.

NO PAGE NUMBER

Mobile Register April 7 – 1960

Chicago White Sox vs. Cleveland Indians
Exhibition Game

REPEAT OF STORY FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Sep 1960

Final Standing of Southern League

Atlanta, 87 – 67 – 565; Shreveport, 86 – 67 – 562; Little Rock, 82 – 69 – 543; Birmingham, 83 – 70 – 542; Mobile, 79 – 72 – 523; Nashville, 71 – 82 – 464; Memphis, 59 – 87 – 404; Chattanooga, 60 – 93 – 392

420. Baseball in Mobile

Final Standing of Southern Assn., 1961

Shrevepor, La. – The Chattanooga Lookouts won their first Southern Assn. pennant since 1952 yesterday [Sunday], knocking off the Shreveport Sports 8 to 4 in ten innings, while Birmingham was bowing to Macon.

Standing of the Southern Assn. Clubs

Chattanooga, 90 – 61 – 596; Birmingham, 88 – 63 – 563; Little Rock, 79 – 73 – 520; Atlanta, 76 – 74 – 507; Macon, 75 – 78 – 490; Nashville, 60 – 82 – 457; Shreveport, 68 – 84 – 447; Mobile, 61 – 91 – 401

421. April 13 – 1962

Southern Association Bows Out of Baseball

Vincent Johnson [Mobile Register] states:
“In the ordinary course of events, the Southern Association, unless the directors has turned superstitious, would have opened its 1962 season tonight. But there will be no Southern opening tonight or any other night this season.
The Southern has made a disappearing act for at least a season and, from what we can gather, there aren’t too many tears shed about it over the league.
We were looking through the record book at last season and we can understand why there weren’t a great many regrets expressed in Mobile.
The Bears have finished last in the Southern Association before, in fact, quite often, but seldom have done as thorough a job as they did last season. There wasn’t a single hitter who was around any length of time who came close to hitting 300 while only two pitchers, Gene Lary and Tom Richards, pitched enough innings to be considered in the running for the top pitcher.”

[Note] The New Orleans Pelicans deserted the Southern Association in the season of 1960 and Memphis deserted the league in the year 1961.
Shreveport deserted the Texas League and joined the Southern Assn. in 1959, taking over the franchise of the Little Rock team. The Little Rock rejoined the Southern Assn. in the season of 1960. Macon came into the Southern Assn. in the year 1961, taking over the franchise of Memphis.