

Outstanding Individual Efforts

There have been many outstanding individual hitting and pitching efforts in the history of Putnam County baseball. All the endeavors took great skill and luck – no hitters for example.

The first recorded no hitter was thrown by Henry Sweigart of Leipsic in 1931. He gave up no runs, hits or walks with 16 strike outs in a 5-0 victory over Ottawa Public. Two weeks later, he threw another no hitter against Ottawa SPPS.

The first double no hitter was thrown by Don Noirot of Miller City and Richard Johnston of Continental in 1947. Continental won 1-0.

The first perfect game was thrown by Ralph Goedde of Vaughnsville in 1943. He gave up no runs, hits or walks with 12 strike outs in a five inning, 6-0 victory over Pandora. He threw a second perfect game against an unknown opponent in the District Tournament in 1944.

Austin Swift of Kalida topped this in 2016 when he threw a perfect five inning game against Pandora-Gilboa with 15 strike outs.

In 1939, the most strike outs in a game was achieved by Elmer ‘Snook’ Klausung of Leipsic when he struck out 22 Crawfis College boys in a 1-0

loss. Omer Pingle of Crawfis College struck out 19 Leipsic boys in the same game. This was an 11 inning game that Crawfis College won 1-0.

In 1957, Jack Callahan of Columbus Grove in a 2-0 victory over Miler City had 20 strike outs in a seven inning game.

Several boys have stolen 40 or more bases in a season, but Brett Hastings of Columbus Grove did it three times with 41, 43 and 43 stolen bases in the years 1989, 1990 and 1991 respectively. However, Isaac Stall of Pandora-Gilboa smashed the season record by stealing 53 bases in 2023.

Many boys have hit two homers in a game, a few in the same inning, but in 1988 John Maag of Leipsic hit two grand-slams in the same inning.

In 1979, Dan Hermiller of Miller City had ten RBI’s in a game, but the most incredible effort of all might be when he got on base 18 consecutive times over a five game span.