

BASEBALL HISTORY

by
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Rare Accomplishment: Multiple No-Hit Games

Earlier this season, when Hideo Nomo tossed the second no-hitter of his career, he became only the 22nd pitcher since 1901 to record multiple no-hit games.

He is also the first foreign-born player to join this group and, as of this writing, the only active player on the list. When you consider that since 1901 there have been approximately 152,500 major league games played and only 203 complete no-hitters of 9 innings or more, you can get an idea of the enormity of the accomplishment.

The following select group of hurlers is responsible for 52 (including four perfect games) of the 203 official no-hitters. A ★ in front of a pitcher's name indicates that he is a Hall of Famer.

| | | |
|---|--------------------|---|
| ★ | Nolan Ryan | 7 |
| ★ | Sandy Koufax | 4 |
| ★ | Bob Feller | 3 |
| ★ | Cy Young | 2 |
| ★ | Christy Mathewson | 2 |
| | Frank Smith | 3 |
| ★ | Addie Joss | 2 |
| ★ | Ed Walsh | 2 |
| | Dutch Leonard | 2 |
| | Johnny Vander Meer | 2 |
| | Allie Reynolds | 2 |
| | Virgil Trucks | 2 |
| | Carl Erskine | 2 |
| ★ | Warren Spahn | 2 |
| ★ | Jim Bunning | 2 |
| | Jim Maloney | 2 |
| | Don Wilson | 2 |
| | Ken Holtzman | 2 |
| | Bill Stoneman | 2 |
| | Steve Busby | 2 |
| | Bob Forsch | 2 |
| | Hideo Nomo | 2 |

pitched another no-hitter prior to 1901

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Obviously, the pitching gods don't smile only on Hall of Famers. Consider the case of the above mentioned Bill Stoneman. Stoneman toiled for three teams – the Chicago Cubs, the Montreal Expos, and the California Angels – from 1967 through 1974. He fashioned both his gems while pitching for Montreal, one in 1969 and the other in 1972. However, in his 8-year major league career he managed only one winning season and finished with an overall record of 54 victories and 85 defeats.

What a strange and wonderful game baseball is! Bill Stoneman scaled the heights not once, but twice, while the likes of Rube Wadell, Jack Chesbro, Don Drysdale, Dizzy Dean, Whitey Ford, Eddie Plank, Walter Johnson, Grover Alexander, Early Wynn, and Steve Carlton – all Hall of Famers – combined for a grand total of one no-hitter in their illustrious careers.

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