



I Bet You Didn't Know! Sports Trivia

6-28-2009

During the entire 2008 season, only five players in the major leagues hit for the cycle – a single, double, triple and home run in the same game. Yet three players did it in the same week in mid-April of 2009 – Jason Kubel of the Twins, Orlando Hudson of the Dodgers, and Ian Kinsler of the Rangers. But get this: Kinsler went six-for-six when he did it (in a 19-6 pasting of the Orioles). According to the Elias Sports Bureau, which tracks major league statistics, a player hadn't hit for the cycle while collecting six hits in a nine-inning game since August of 1894 – almost 115 years before.

Early in the 2009 season, Derek Jeter became the sixth player ever to appear in 2,000 games as a New York Yankee. How many of the other five can you name? Here's a hint: the least obvious one played with Jeter during most of his career: The other five were Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle and Jeter's former teammate, Bernie Williams. Oddly, the four others also played together in pairs – Ruth with Gehrig, and Berra with Mantle.

Among all the greatest tennis players – male and female, past and present – who holds the record for best singles record in history? The answer is Chris Evert, with an astounding career mark of 1,309 victories against just 146 losses – a winning percentage better than .900. Along the way, Evert won 18 Grand Slam singles crowns along with three doubles titles.



Jay Ward
jayward@wardlumber.com