



## PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL HAD AN EARLY START IN SMALL TOWNS

*By Mark Presswood*

Sports teams have for many years cast a magical spell over Texas cities and towns, giving citizens a pride in the community while providing a social gathering for otherwise distant neighbors. High school football currently provides this excitement, and stadiums are full during Friday night home games under the lights.

Not so long ago, it was professional minor league baseball that entertained fans throughout Texas. Over

100 communities in Texas have hosted a professional baseball team. The Texas League, established in 1888, has been the most well-known and continuous circuit for the larger cities of San Antonio, Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas, Beaumont, El Paso, Waco, Wichita Falls, and Midland. Round Rock, Corpus Christi, and Frisco are new additions to the Texas League family of franchises, but 50 years ago, fans sat in dimly lit ballparks rooting



*The Texas League of Professional Baseball Clubs was first organized in 1888, the year this photo was taken of an amateur baseball team in Odessa. The Presswood Collection.*



*This photo of the 1895 Fort Worth Panthers was taken the year they won the Texas League Championship. In those early years, the Texas League was struggling to stay organized and turn a profit. The Presswood Collection.*



*Branch Rickey is credited with starting the affiliation of major league teams with minor league programs when, as general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, he purchased the Houston Buffalos and other teams. The concept quickly caught on and by the 1940s, all major league teams began building their minor league systems. File photo.*

for the Paris Red Peppers, the Plainview Ponies, and the Vernon Dusters.

In its early years, the Texas League, like any new business, was struggling to stay organized and turn a profit. The Spanish-American War stopped operations in 1898, as would other wars in later years. From 1899 through 1902, only the southern teams survived under another league designation, and the northern cities, except for a one-year run by Dallas, struggled to find organization. Travel was a major concern as new railroad tracks were still to be laid and a wagon trip between cities was an all-day or two-day excursion. The Texas League was a split league from 1902 through the 1906 season, with the northern cities keeping the Texas League name and the southern cities using the South Texas League moniker. During those years, Sherman-Denison, Corsicana, and Paris all experienced their brief Texas League histories.

During this early era, all minor league baseball teams were independent clubs with talent being bought and sold throughout the country. There was little governance or rules about players leaving teams and finding higher pay. In 1901, the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues was formed to give the minor league a structure and rules between leagues. This led to the classification system of leagues but affiliation with major league teams was still 30 to 40 years away.

Branch Rickey is credited with starting the affiliation of major league teams with minor league programs when, as general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, he purchased the Houston Buffalos and other teams. The idea was to control costs of purchasing players from independent teams and to teach the same techniques at all levels as the players progressed. The concept quickly



*Hall of Fame second baseman Rogers Hornsby, third from left, and some of his players participate in a War Bond promotion during World War II. Hornsby grew up in Fort Worth and after retiring from the major leagues returned to manage the Fort Worth Cats in 1942. The Presswood Collection.*

caught on, and by the 1940s, all the major league teams began building their minor league systems.

The Texas League eventually earned a high ranking of Class AA baseball but many of the smaller leagues carried a Class B, C, or D classification. This was by no means an indication of the talent; most circuits had an alumnus who found his way onto a major league roster.

There have been minor leagues in Texas every decade of the last century. Professional baseball has been played from the mountains of El Paso to the Louisiana border in Texarkana and from the plains of Amarillo to the tip of Texas in Brownsville. Economic prosperity, competitive spirit, and a love of the game has allowed baseball to entertain fans for almost 125 years. *See list of teams and towns in the table on pages 189–191.*

The Panhandle region of Texas witnessed professional baseball starting in the early 1920s. The West Texas League, West Texas/New Mexico League, Longhorn League, and Sophomore League all provided organization to baseball in the wide-open West Texas plains. These leagues also included many towns in southeastern New Mexico and introduced professional baseball to Roswell, Artesia, Hobbs, Carlsbad, and Clovis.

The dry, arid, and windy conditions of West Texas gave enormous flight to home runs, and many big hitters took advantage of those prevailing winds. Pitchers hated seeing fly balls rocket out of parks, but it became a big favorite of fans to root for their big sluggers. Joe Baumann of the Roswell Rockets broke longstanding

home run records when he belted 72 round-trippers in 1954. In 1947, a small shortstop named Bill Serena led all of baseball with 57 homers and led the league in RBIs (190) and runs (183) playing for the Lubbock Hubbers.

The first western Texas circuit, the West Texas League (1920–1922 and 1928–1929) was a short-lived affair in the oil towns of Cisco, Eastland, Gorman, Coleman, Winters, Abilene, Sweetwater, and San Angelo. The nicknames for several teams reflected the oil industry impact, such as the Nitros in Ranger and the Gassers in Amarillo. The area's western heritage was also represented by the Midland Colts; the Big Spring Cowboys; the Coleman Bobcats; and the Colts, Bronchos, and Sheep Herders of San Angelo. The Resorters of Mineral Wells gave recognition to the mineral water baths of the Crazy Water area, and the Hubbers in Lubbock recognized the “Hub City” nickname. The oil prosperity also gave rise to other opportunities, such as Conrad Hilton's purchase of his first hotel in the home of the Cisco Scouts.

The West Texas/New Mexico League was by far the most stable of the West Texas organizations and reigned from 1937 through the 1955 season, with the exception, as with many leagues, of the war years (1943–1945). Abilene, Pampa, Amarillo, Lubbock, Borger, and Lamesa were stable throughout the league's tenure, but El Paso and Plainview replace Borger and Lamesa, respectively, near the league's end. El Paso spent many years in the Arizona/Texas League as the lone representative from Texas.

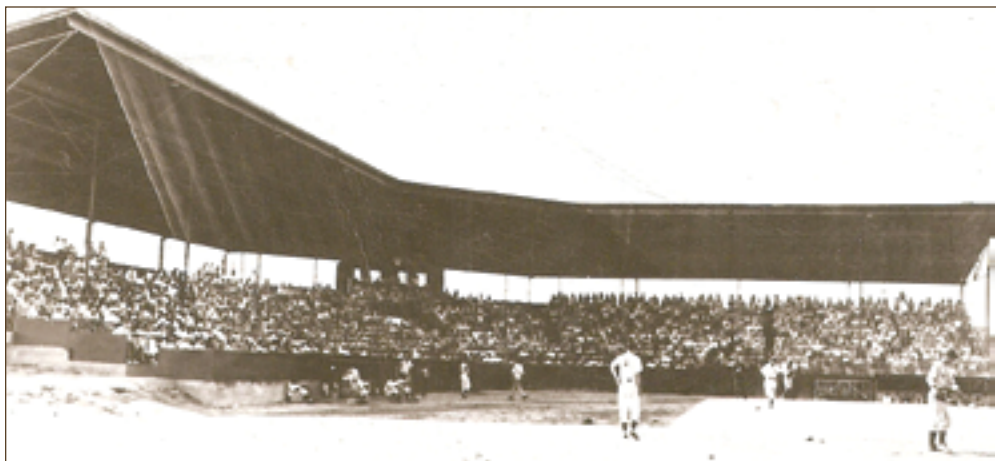




*When Joe Baumann played for the Roswell Rockets of the Longhorn League in 1954, he broke long-standing home run records when he belted 72 round-trippers in one season, which stood as professional baseball's single-season record until Barry Bonds hit 73 homers in 2001. File photo.*

After helping to establish the Abilene franchise in the WT/NM League, Abilene sports reporter Howard Green became the youngest president of a minor league. He accomplished this in 1947 when he began a nine-year run as president of the Longhorn League.

The Longhorn League provided a framework for teams in the southern part of the Panhandle and offered fans in Midland, Odessa, Big Spring, Sweetwater, Vernon, San Angelo, and Ballinger a chance to root for their hometown team. The Midland Indians, Odessa Oilers, and



*Driller Park in Kilgore is shown in this 1947 photo. Kilgore hosted teams in both the East Texas and Lone Star leagues from 1931–1948. The Presswood Collection.*



The 1958 Alpine Cowboys played in the Sophomore League. Team owner Herbert L. Kokernot Jr. (wearing a tie), built Kokernot Stadium for the Cowboys. Today it is home to the Sul Ross State University baseball team. Much of the rock used in the stadium was quarried off Kokernot's O6 Ranch. Photo courtesy of the Archives of the Big Bend, Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library, Sul Ross State University.

Big Spring Broncs were all former members of the WT/NM League before moving to the Longhorn League, as were several of the southern New Mexico teams.

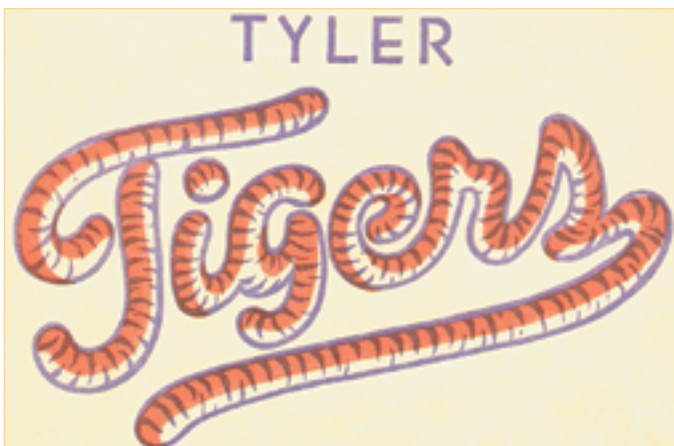
The Blue Sox of Abilene played in Blue Sox Stadium on the northeast corner of Barrow and South 14th streets, currently home to an H-E-B grocery store. Plainview showcased the Ponies at Jaycee Park, and Kokernot Field in Alpine still serves as home to the Sul Ross State University baseball team after having hosted the Alpine Cowboys for several years.

The Lubbock Hubbers played at Rosenthal Field near the railroad tracks and Vernon Avenue, and Midland built Christensen Stadium in 1952 before moving to the new First American Bank Ballpark in 2002.

Oil also had an impact on the eastern part of the state and made boom towns of Kilgore, Marshall, and Henderson. Oil brought in millions of dollars to local coffers and, more importantly for professional baseball, it brought in oilfield workers who needed the escape an evening of minor league baseball could offer.

The East Texas League name was used six times to organize the cities of East Texas. Twice the league changed its name to the Lone Star League, and in one stretch during the Great Depression, it became the Dixie and West Dixie leagues.

The prosperity of oil gave fans the Cannibals of Longview; the Oilers of Henderson; the Rangers, Boomers, and Drillers of Kilgore; the Jax of Jacksonville; the Indians, Tigers, and Browns of Marshall; and the Trojans, Tigers, and



Clyde Liedtke played briefly for Tyler in the East Texas League in 1950. Liedtke also played for minor league teams in the Alabama-Florida League and the Georgia League. The Presswood Collection.

# The Big State League



A 1956 program for the Abilene Blue Sox, a 1954 program for the Waco Pirates, and a 1950 program for the Wichita Falls Spudders, all of which were in the Big State League. The Presswood Collection.



East Texans of Tyler.

Other teams that were brief members of the East Texas leagues at different stages include the Gladewater Bears; the Paris Bearcats, Panthers, and Red Peppers; the Palestine Pals; the Sulphur Springs Lions, Saints, and Spartans; the Lufkin Foresters; and the Texarkana Liners and Bears.

Driller Park in Kilgore is still a jewel supporting local high school and community college baseball teams. Built in 1947 from oilfield materials, the park hosted a 2006 exhibition game between the Fort Worth Cats and Shreveport Sports where nearly 2,000 fans witnessed professional baseball for the first time in many years.

The remains of Henderson Park in Henderson can still be seen behind the old middle school at Fair Park and South High streets. The Jacksonville Jax played at the current rodeo arena on the corner of Mulberry and Bridge streets, with home plate in the northwest corner of the lot.

One of the more successful and longest running leagues borrowed a reference for the state of Texas and called itself the Big State League. This effort began in 1947 and continued through the 1957 season. Wichita Falls, Waco, Greenville, Gainesville, Temple, Austin,

Texarkana, and Sherman-Dennison were the heart of the league. In later years when financial circumstances caused a movement among teams, Bryan, Paris, Galveston, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Tyler, and Corpus Christi were members when needed. Rated a Class B league for much of its history, the circuit also featured some of the most famous executives in Texas baseball lore. J. Walter Morris served as president from 1947–1950, Howard Green replaced Morris through the 1955 season, and Howard Sayles led the league until its demise in 1957.

The Pioneers in Austin played at Disch Field, which



*The 1947 Paris Red Peppers played in the Big State League. Paris has a long history of minor league baseball, beginning in 1896 and running through 1953. At various times, the town had teams in 10 different leagues. The Presswood Collection.*



*The 1947 Waco Dons played in the Big State League. Waco fielded minor league teams beginning in 1889. The Presswood Collection.*



*These trading cards of the 1953 Galveston White Caps were compliments of Coca-Cola Bottling Co. The players are (top row, from left) Mike Conovan, Bob Miller and Tom Moore; (bottom row, from left) Bob Pughatch, Bob Ramsey and Hank Robinson. The Presswood Collection.*

is currently an empty pasture behind the Convention Center south of downtown, and the Gainesville Owls played at Locke Field on Interstate 35 in Gainesville. All that remains of Majors Field in Greenville are the bricked archways marking the entrance to the stadium on Lee Street. Travis Field in Bryan is still playable, and the Brazos Valley Bombers began calling the park home for the 2007 season of the Texas Collegiate League.

Katy Park, formerly at the corner of Eighth and Webster streets in Waco, was the first ballpark to host a night game in 1933 when the Texas League Waco Cubs hosted the Fort Worth Cats. Train tracks ran to the park's west side, and then—General Manager Buster Chatham constantly complained about the trains being parked so close to the front entrance of the ballpark. In May 1953, a tornado ripped through Waco destroying much of Katy Park, but Chatham found refuge in a large engine car and never again complained about the trains.

The precursor to the Big State League was the Cen-

tral Texas and Texas Association leagues of the late 1910s and early 1920s. The Texas Association featured the Marlin Bathers, the Mexia Gushers, the Terrell Terrors, and the Palestine Pals. It also included teams from Austin, Corsicana, Sherman, Temple, and Waco.

The Gulf Coast region of Texas has been home to several leagues whose founders believed the good weather, close proximity of cities, and a love of baseball would signal good fortunes in the ticket office. The first organized leagues fielded teams in 1910, 1911, and 1931 but a more successful post-WWII Rio Grande Valley League had a two-year run before being morphed into the Gulf Coast League. The Galveston White Caps, Texas City Texans, Brownsville Charros, Port Arthur Sea Hawks, Laredo Apaches, Harlingen Capitols, McAllen Giants and Palms, and the Corpus Christi Aces and Seahawks all competed for Gulf Coast supremacy.

In 1976 and 1977, a brief attempt at independent baseball was organized to bring baseball to a new





*Activities at a Fort Worth Cats game at LaGrave Field in 2006 show that minor league baseball is having a resurgence as the national pastime. Photo courtesy of the Fort Worth Cats.*

generation of fans. Mr. Baseball, Bobby Bragan, with help from several others including Bill Wood, Dick King, and Howard Green, found support for new franchises in Beeville, Seguin, Baton Rouge, Victoria, Corpus Christi, and Harlingen (Rio Grande Valley). The Gulf States League changed names the following year to the Lone Star League and was unceremoniously blown away at the end of 1977 when a hurricane pelted Cabiness Field in Corpus Christi resulting in a cancelled championship series and an abrupt end to the attempt.

Robinson Park served as home to the Texas City Stars, Fairgrounds Park hosted the Seguin Toros, and Joe Hunter Field on the campus of Bee County Junior College was home to the Beeville Bees and Blazers.

Many cities experienced only brief flirtations with professional baseball, either as members of a single-

season forgotten league or a mid-season replacement for troubled franchises. Brenham, Bay City, Corsicana, Crockett, Donna-Weslaco, Del Rio, Ennis, Hamlin, Kaufman, Hillsboro, Mission, Nacogdoches, Rusk, Waxahachie, and Winters are but a few of the cities and towns that entertained fans with the “National Pastime,” though for a fleeting moment.

Recently, independent baseball has again revived professional minor league teams for many smaller markets. The defunct Texas Louisiana/Central Baseball League had teams in Tyler, Lubbock, and Abilene. Former members Fort Worth and Coastal Bend (Robstown) are now part of the Independent American Association, and Amarillo, San Angelo, Laredo, Edinburg, and Rio Grande Valley (Harlingen) are now having a resurgence in the United League of Professional Baseball. ☆

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**See list of minor league teams and towns in the table on pages 189–191.**

#### **Sources**

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Town	League	Years
Abilene	West Texas	1920–21, 1928–29
	West Texas–New Mexico	1939, 1946–55
	Big State	1956–57
	Texas–Louisiana	1995–99
Alpine	Sophomore	1959–61
Amarillo	West Texas	1922
	Panhandle–Pecos Valley	1923
	Western	1927–28, 1956–58
	West Texas–New Mexico	1939–42, 1946–55
	Texas	1959–63, 1965–74, 1976–82
	Texas–Louisiana	1994–2000
	Central United	2001–2004 2006–
Austin	Texas	1888–90, 1895–99, 1905, 1907–08, 1911–14, 1956–67
	South Texas	
	Middle Texas	1905–06
	Texas Association	1915
	Big State	1923–26 1947–55
Ballinger	Texas–Oklahoma	1921
	West Texas	1921–29
	Longhorn	1947–50
	Southwestern	1956–57
(see also Winters)		
Bartlett	Middle Texas	1914–15
Bay City	Southwest Texas	1910–11
Beaumont	South Texas	1903–06
	Gulf Coast	1908
	Texas	1912–17, 1919–55
	Big State	1983–86
	Texas–Louisiana	1956–57 1994
Beeville	Southwest Texas	1910–11
	Gulf Coast	1926
	Gulf States	1976
	Lone Star	1977
Belton	Middle Texas	1914–15
Big Spring	West Texas	1928–29
	West Texas–New Mexico	1938–42
	Longhorn	1947–55
Bonham	Texas–Oklahoma	1911–14, 1921–22
Borger	West Texas–New Mexico	1939, 1942, 1946–54
Brenham	South Texas	1905
	Middle Texas	1914–15
Brownsville	Southwest Texas	1910–11
	Texas Valley	1938
	Rio Grande Valley	1949–50
	Gulf Coast	1951–53
Bryan	Lone Star	1947–48
	East Texas	1949–50
	Big State	1953–54
Cleburne	Texas	1906
	Texas–Oklahoma	1911, 1921–22
	South Central	1912
Cisco	West Texas	1920–21
Coleman	West Texas	1928–29

Town	League	Years
Corpus Christi	Southwest Texas	1910–11
	Gulf Coast	1926, 1951–53
	Texas Valley	1927, 1938
	Rio Grande Valley	1931, 1949–50
	Big State	1954–57
	Texas	1958–59, 2005–
	Gulf States	1976
	Lone Star	1977
	Texas–Louisiana	1994–95
Corsicana	Texas	1902–05
	North Texas State	1907
	Central Texas	1914–15, 1917
	Texas–Oklahoma	1922
	Texas Association	1923–26 1927–28
Crockett	East Texas	1916
Dallas	Texas	1888–90, 1892, 1895–98, 1902–58
	American Association	1959
	Pacific Coast	1964
Dallas/Fort Worth	American Association	1960–62
	Pacific Coast	1963
	Texas	1965–71
Del Rio	Longhorn	1948
	Rio Grande Valley	1949–50
	Big State	1954
Denison	Texas–Oklahoma	1912–14
	Western Association	1915–17
(see also Sherman)		
Donna	Rio Grande Valley	1949–50
(aka Donna–Weslaco)		
Eastland	West Texas	1920
Edinburg	Gulf Coast	1926
	Texas Valley	1927
	Texas–Louisiana	2001
	Central	2002–05
	United	2006–
El Paso	Rio Grande Valley Assn.	1915
	Arizona State	1930
	Arizona–Texas	1931–32, 1937–41, 1947–50,
		1952–54
	Mexican National	1946
	Southwest International	1946
	West Texas–New Mexico	1951
	Southwestern	1955
	Sophomore	1956–57
	Texas	1961
		1962–70, 1972–2004
	Central	2005
	American Association	2006–
Ennis	Central Texas	1914–17
Fort Worth	Texas	1888–90, 1892, 1895–98, 1902–58,
		1964
	American Association	1964
	All-American Association	1959
	Central	2001
	American Association	2002–05 2006–
Frisco	Texas	2003–
Gainesville	Texas–Oklahoma	1911
	Big State	1947–51
	Sooner State	1953–55

Town	League	Years
Galveston	Texas	1888-90, 1892, 1895-99, 1907-17, 1919-24, 1931-37
	South Texas	1903-06
	Gulf Coast	1950-53
	Big State	1954-55
Georgetown	Middle Texas	1914
Gladewater	West Dixie	1935
	East Texas	1936, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1948
Gorman	West Texas	1920
Graham	Texas-Oklahoma	1921
Greenville	North Texas State	1907
	Texas-Oklahoma	1912, 1922
	East Texas	1923-26, 1946
	Big State	1947-50, 1953
	Sooner State	1957
Hamlin	West Texas	1928
Harlingen (aka Rio Grande Valley)	Rio Grande Valley	1931, 1950
	Texas Valley	1938
	Gulf Coast	1951-53
	Big State	1954-55
	Texas	1960-61
	Gulf States	1976
	Lone Star	1977
	Texas-Louisiana	1994-2001
	Central United	2002-03, 2006-
Henderson	East Texas	1931, 1936-40, 1946, 1949-50
	Dixie	1933
	West Dixie	1934-35
	Lone Star	1947-48
Hillsboro	Central Texas	1914
Houston	Texas	1888-90, 1892, 1895-98, 1907-58
	South Texas	1903-06
	American Association	1959-61
Italy	Central Texas	1914
Jacksonville	West Dixie	1934-35
	East Texas	1936-40, 1946
	Lone Star	1947
	Gulf Coast	1950
Kaufman	Central Texas	1915
Kilgore	East Texas	1931, 1936-40, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1947-48
La Feria	Rio Grande Valley	1931
Lamesa	West Texas-New Mexico	1939-42, 1946-52
	Longhorn	1953
	Southwest	1957
Lampasas	Middle Texas	1914
Laredo	Southwest Texas	1910-11
	Gulf Coast	1926, 1951-53
	Texas Valley	1927
	Rio Grande Valley	1949-50
	Texas-Louisiana	1995
	United	2006-

Town	League	Years
Longview	South Central	1912
	East Texas	1923-26, 1931, 1936-40, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1927, 1947-48
	Texas	1932
	Dixie	1933
	West Dixie	1934-35
	Big State	1952-53
Lubbock	West Texas	1922, 1928
	Panhandle-Pecos Valley	1923
	West Texas-New Mexico	1938-42, 1946-55
	Big State	1956
Lufkin	East Texas	1916, 1946
	West Dixie	1934
	Lone Star	1947-48
	Gulf Coast	1950
Marlin	Central Texas	1916-17
	Texas Association	1923-24
Marshall	South Central	1912
	East Texas	1923-26, 1936-40, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1927, 1947-48
	Cotton States	1941
McAllen	Gulf Coast	1926
	Texas Valley	1938
	Rio Grande Valley	1931, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1977
McKinney	Texas-Oklahoma	1912
Mexia	Central Texas	1915-17
	Texas-Oklahoma	1922
	Texas Association	1923-26
	Lone Star	1927-28
Midland	West Texas	1928-29
	West Texas-New Mexico	1937-40
	Longhorn	1947-55
	Southwestern	1956-57
	Sophomore	1958-59
	Texas	1972-
Mineral Wells	West Texas	1920
	Texas-Oklahoma	1921
Mission	Gulf Coast	1926
	Texas Valley	1927
Monahans	West Texas-New Mexico	1937
Mount Pleasant	East Texas	1923-25
Nacogdoches	East Texas	1916
Odessa	West Texas-New Mexico	1937, 1940
	Longhorn	1947-55
	Sophomore	1959-60
Orange	Gulf Coast	1907-08
Palestine	East Texas	1916, 1936-40
	Texas Association	1925-26
	Lone Star	1927-29
	West Dixie	1934-35
Pampa	West Texas-New Mexico	1939-42, 1946-55
	Southwestern	1956-57



Town	League	Years
Paris	Texas	1896-97, 1902-04
	North Texas State	1907
	South Central	1912
	Texas-Oklahoma	1913-14, 1921-22
	Western Association	1915-17
	Central Texas	1917
	East Texas	1923-26, 1931, 1946, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1927-29
	West Dixie	1934
Big State	1947-48, 1952-53	
Plainview	West Texas-New Mexico	1953-55
	Southwest	1956-57
	Sophomore	1958-59
Port Arthur	Cotton States	1932
	Evangeline	1940-42, 1954
	Gulf Coast	1950-53
	Big State	1955-57
Ranger	West Texas	1920-22
Refugio	Texas Valley	1938
Rio Grande Valley (see Harlingen)		
Robstown	Rio Grande Valley	1949-50
	Central	2003-05
	American Association	2006-
(aka Coastal Bend)		
Round Rock	Texas	2000-2004
	Pacific Coast	2005-
Rusk	East Texas	1916
San Angelo	West Texas	1921-22, 1928-29
	Longhorn	1948-55
	Southwestern	1956-57
	Sophomore	1958-59
	Texas-Louisiana	2000-01
	Central	2002-05
	United	2006-
San Antonio	Texas	1888, 1892, 1895-99, 1907-42, 1946-64, 1967-1903-06
	South Texas	1903-06
San Benito	Rio Grande Valley	1931
Schulenburg	Middle Texas	1915
Seguin	Gulf States	1976
Sherman	Texas	1895-96
	Texas-Oklahoma	1912-14, 1921-22
	Western Association	1915-17
	Texas Association	1923
	Lone Star	1929
	East Texas	1946
	Sooner State	1952
Sherman-Denison	Texas	1902
	Big State	1947-51
	Sooner	1953
Stamford	West Texas	1922
Sulphur Springs	East Texas	1923-25
Sweetwater	West Texas	1920-22
	Longhorn	1947-52, 1954

Town	League	Years
Taft	Texas Valley	1938
Taylor	Middle Texas	1915
Temple	Texas	1905-07
	Middle Texas	1914-15
	Central Texas	1916-17
	Texas Association	1924-26
	Big State	1949-54, 1957
Terrell	North Texas State	1907
	Central Texas	1915-16
	Texas Association	1925-26
Texarkana	Texas	1902
	Arkansas-Texas	1906
	South Central	1912
	Texas-Oklahoma	1913-14
	East Texas	1924-26, 1937-40, 1946
	Lone Star	1927-29
	Cotton States	1941
	Big State	1947-53
Texas City	Gulf Coast	1951-53
	Evangeline	1954
	Big State	1955-56
	Lone Star	1977
Tyler	South Central	1912
	East Texas	1924-26, 1931, 1936-40, 1946, 1949-50
	Lone Star	1927-29, 1947-48
	Texas	1932
	Dixie	1933
	West Dixie	1934-35
	Big State	1951-55
	Texas-Louisiana	1994-97
	All-American Association	2001
Vernon	Longhorn	1947-52
Victoria	Southwest Texas	1910-11
	Gulf Coast	1926
	Big State	1956-57
	Texas	1958-61, 1974
	Gulf States	1976
	Lone Star	1977
Waco	Texas	1889-90, 1892, 1897, 1902-03, 1905-19, 1925-30
	Texas Association	1923-24
	Dixie	1933
	Big State	1947-56
Waxahachie	Central Texas	1914-16
Weslaco (see Donna)		
West	Central Texas	1914
Wichita Falls	Texas-Oklahoma	1911-13
	Texas	1920-32
	West Texas-New Mexico	1941-42
	Big State	1947-53, 1956-57
	Longhorn	1954
Wink	West Texas-New Mexico	1937-38
Winters-Ballinger	Longhorn	1953