



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Minors Set Attendance Record for 5th Consecutive Year; Top 43 Million Fans for First Time in History

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—Minor League Baseball has set a new attendance record for the fifth straight year, thanks to the 316,765 fans who visited Minor League ballparks yesterday on the last day of the regular season for most of the domestic full-season leagues. The Labor Day crowds allowed Minor League Baseball to surpass the 43-million fan mark in a regular season for the first time in its 107-year history.

The current total of 43,112,881 fans is more than 300,000 above last year's record and will increase further as the New York-Penn (September 6), Northwest (September 3) and Pioneer Leagues (September 5) have not yet ended regular season play.

“Despite the down turn in the economy and battling Mother Nature in the second half of the season, our clubs and fans continue to show support for professional baseball,” said Minor League Baseball President Pat O’Conner.

Minor League Baseball’s unprecedented run of attendance records began in 2004 when its 15 leagues and 176 clubs attracted 39,887,755 fans to eclipse the mark that had stood since 1949. The industry subsequently drew 41,333,279 fans in 2005; 41,710,357 in 2006; and 42,812,812 last year.

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