

= Andy Hansen =

Andrew Viggo Hansen , Jr . ( November 12 , 1924 ? February 2 , 2002 ) , nicknamed " Swede " , was a right @-@ handed pitcher in Major League Baseball . In a nine @-@ season career , he played for the New York Giants and the Philadelphia Phillies . Hansen was officially listed as standing 6 feet 3 inches ( 191 cm ) and weighing 185 pounds ( 84 kg ) . He was nicknamed Swede despite being of Danish ancestry , according to The Sporting News ' Baseball Register .

A two @-@ sport star in high school , Hansen rose quickly through the Giants ' minor league system and made his major league debut at age 19 . He played for the Giants until 1946 , when he voluntarily retired due to a family illness and then served in the United States Army . He returned to baseball in 1947 and earned a career @-@ best five wins in 1948 . After a contract holdout in 1949 , Hansen 's bullpen workload increased in 1950 , leading to an elbow injury and the Giants sending him to the Phillies in the Rule 5 draft .

As a Phillie , Hansen assumed the closer 's role at times from 1950 National League Most Valuable Player Jim Konstanty , and worked nearly exclusively from the bullpen after being an occasional starting pitcher with New York . After tying his career high with five victories in 1952 , Hansen went winless in 1953 and had a short tenure with the minor @-@ league Hollywood Stars before retiring and beginning a 31 @-@ year career with the United States Postal Service .

= = Early life = =

Hansen was born November 12 , 1924 , in Lake Worth , Florida . As a young player , he was a second baseman and third baseman before moving to pitcher . He attended Lake Worth High School , where he played offensive end on the football team and pitched for the baseball team . In 1942 , Hansen was a member of Lake Worth 's " Trojans " football team that went undefeated , and the school 's baseball team went to the state tournament in the 1943 season with Hansen as a member of the pitching staff . After graduating that year , Hansen spurned football scholarship offers from " a number of schools , including Georgia Tech " to sign an amateur free agent contract worth \$ 75 ( \$ 1 @ , @ 030 today ) per month with the National League 's New York Giants .

= = Early career = =

= = = Minor leagues = = =

The Giants assigned Hansen to their Appalachian League affiliate , the Bristol Twins , where , at age 18 , he posted a " sensational [ win ? loss ] record " of 12 ? 3 in 16 games started . He allowed 39 runs in 115 innings pitched while walking 15 batters . Hansen began the 1944 season pitching for the Jersey City Giants , New York 's top @-@ level farm team . Managed by Hall of Fame catcher Gabby Hartnett , Hansen posted an 8 ? 4 record , compiling a 1 @ . @ 89 earned run average ( ERA ) in 11 starts and 4 relief appearances . He allowed 90 hits and 28 walks in 100 innings pitched ( 1 @ . @ 18 WHIP ) .

= = = 1944 : Major league debut = = =

Hansen was called up to the major league club to make his debut on June 30 , 1944 , in place of Cliff Melton . He started the second game of a doubleheader against the Pittsburgh Pirates , pitching 2 1 ? 3 innings , striking out two and allowing six earned runs . However , the Giants scored five runs in the sixth inning against Pirates starter Fritz Ostermueller , so Hansen did not receive a decision ; the Giants lost the contest , 9 ? 8 . His first career loss came the next week on July 5 , a 4 ? 1 defeat against the St. Louis Cardinals . Hansen pitched six innings and allowed four runs , but Cardinals starter Red Munger , 10 ? 2 on the season to that point , pitched a complete game and allowed only one run . He lost again on July 9 , this time to the Chicago Cubs in the first game of a

doubleheader . Hansen pitched only 2 2 ? 3 innings , allowing five runs , before being relieved by Rube Fischer .

Hansen earned his first win a week later , an 8 ? 3 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on July 16 . The victory came in relief of Frank Seward , who started the game but pitched only one inning . He pitched four innings , allowing only one run ; Ace Adams followed with four scoreless innings and earned the save . His fourth decision , a second career victory , did not come until July 31 , when he defeated future teammate Jim Konstanty in a 9 ? 7 victory over the Cincinnati Reds . Hansen appeared again in a relief role , but pitched eight innings of one @-@ run ball after starter Bill Voiselle allowed six runs in the game 's first inning . At the plate , Hansen got his first major @-@ league hit and scored his second career run while striking out once .

Philadelphia provided Hansen with his third career win as well ; it came on August 4 when he pitched against Ken Raffensberger . Hansen entered in the eighth inning and pitched three scoreless frames in relief of Voiselle as the game went to extra innings . The Giants won , 4 ? 3 , on a 10th @-@ inning run with no one out . Sporting a 3 ? 2 record , Hansen earned his first career save against the Phillies on August 6 , pitching two scoreless innings in relief of Harry Feldman and striking out two . It was his only save of the season . He lost his third decision of the year on August 19 , allowing five runs and walking six batters in the Giants ' 12th consecutive loss out of a season @-@ long 13 @-@ game streak . For his rookie season , Hansen finished with a 3 ? 3 record and a 6 @.@ 49 ERA in 52 2 ? 3 innings pitched ; he appeared in 23 games ( 4 starts ) and struck out 15 batters while walking 32 at age 19 .

= = = 1945 ? 1946 : New York , Jersey City , and the Army = = =

In the 1945 season , Hansen spent most of his playing time with the major league Giants , appearing in 23 games for them that year . Described by Baseball @-@ Reference.com as New York 's fifth starter , he was the Giants ' youngest pitcher , and second @-@ youngest player ( Whitey Lockman ) , in 1945 .

Hansen started New York 's third game of the season , pitching against the Boston Braves ; he struck out three and allowed one run through seven innings , earning the victory . He defeated Raffensberger and the Phillies again on April 24 , pitching his first career complete game in a 5 ? 2 Giants win . After that game , manager Mel Ott said that he was encouraged by the performance because pitching was a concern of the Giants entering the season . Hansen 's first loss of the season came against the Brooklyn Dodgers , a 4 ? 3 defeat . After dueling to a stalemate in a tie game with Boston ? he and Braves starter Al Javery each allowed one run through seven innings in the second half of a rain @-@ shortened doubleheader ? Hansen earned his third victory on May 13 against the Cardinals ; it was the last game of New York 's season @-@ long eight @-@ game winning streak . Hansen earned a no decision in a May 17 start against the Cubs , but a 5 ? 2 loss to the Pirates on May 21 dropped his record to 3 ? 2 ; he allowed four earned runs in four innings . His first save of the season came on May 24 , when he pitched two innings following Adams , the regular closer , who earned the win ; his final decision in May was a victory over Cincinnati , a 5 ? 1 win which was the last in a four @-@ game win streak . He started the first game of a doubleheader on May 30 , pitching 2 1 ? 3 innings and allowing six runs ; the Giants managed an 8 ? 6 win , however , as Slim Emmerich relieved him and pitched 6 2 ? 3 scoreless innings .

In early June , Hansen pitched in both games of a doubleheader against the Cardinals ; he started the first game ( allowing two runs in 1 ? 3 of an inning ) and relieved Feldman in the second ( pitching 5 1 ? 3 innings and giving up three runs ) . He earned his second save of the season pitching 1 2 ? 3 perfect innings against Brooklyn in relief of Van Mungo on June 7 , but followed that with his third loss against Boston , where he allowed three runs in six innings . The third loss was Hansen 's final major league decision of the season . He pitched in four more games in June , starting on June 15 and allowing four earned runs in five innings , and pitching in relief on June 17 , 22 , and 24 . He picked up a save in his final June game , pitching the final third of an inning in relief of Voiselle and Feldman in a 7 ? 6 victory over Philadelphia . On June 26 , Hansen reported to Camp Blanding in his home state of Florida for a pre @-@ induction examination for the United

States Army ; his service commitment had previously been deferred due to a breathing handicap from an earlier broken nose .

In July , Hansen appeared for the first time on Independence Day , pitching 1 2/3 of an inning in relief of Emmerich and allowing three runs . His final start of 1945 came against the Reds on July 7 ; he allowed four runs through 1 1/3 innings as the Giants won , 11 7 . Hansen allowed two runs in four innings facing the Cubs on July 15 , and gave up three runs in 1 1/3 against the Pirates on July 20 . His final outing of the season was also his shortest ; he allowed a run to Boston without putting out a single batter in the second game of a doubleheader .

At the beginning of August , Hansen injured his shoulder and was optioned to Jersey City in favor of Sal Maglie , where he appeared in five games ( 1 2/3 , 7 @. @ 31 ERA ) . After serving seven months in the military , Hansen asked the team to voluntarily retire him in early 1946 due to his father 's severe illness . He did not appear in a game at any level during the 1946 season , but stated that he did not plan to give up baseball as a career .

= = After the military = =

= = = 1947 : One win for New York = = =

Hansen returned to the Giants in April 1947 , pitching a scoreless ninth inning in his first appearance against the Phillies . In his second game back , he allowed four runs to the Braves , working three innings in relief of Monty Kennedy ; the Giants lost the game , 14 5 . Hansen did not appear for the Giants in May , but returned to action on June 1 for his first start of the season . After allowing four runs in 1 2/3 of an inning , Hansen was relieved by Junior Thompson , who earned the victory as the Giants defeated the Reds , 13 9 ; the outing raised Hansen 's ERA to a season @-@ high 16 @. @ 62 . He did not appear again for New York until June 21 , when he pitched 1 2/3 of an inning against the Cardinals , allowing no runs . As the summer months continued , Hansen was used more heavily ; he made six appearances in July , all in Giants losses . On July 2 , he pitched the final inning of an 11 3 loss to Brooklyn , allowing no hits . Hansen allowed runs in each of his next two outings , both against St. Louis : he pitched two innings on July 10 , and threw five innings on July 12 in the second game of a doubleheader . In a 10 5 loss to the Cardinals on July 22 , Hansen made his third consecutive appearance against the Redbirds , allowing no earned runs in 1 2/3 innings . On July 28 , he turned in a hitless , scoreless performance against Cincinnati , working one inning in a 5 0 shutout , and received his first decision ? a loss ? against the Reds on the final day of that month in an 8 7 contest .

In August , Hansen appeared in nine games , his most in a single month during the 1947 season ; he began on August 3 by allowing two runs to the Pirates in 1 2/3 of an inning . He made his second start of the season against the Braves on August 10 ; although he pitched 7 1 2/3 innings and allowed just three runs , he did not factor in the decision . Closer Ken Trinkle , who relieved Hansen , took the loss after a three @-@ run home run by Tommy Holmes in the ninth inning as the Giants lost , 7 5 . After a one @-@ inning appearance against the Phillies on August 13 , Hansen made his third start of the year on August 17 and notched his second loss of the season , this time to Boston . He allowed one run through seven innings , but the Braves defeated New York , 3 1 . The defeat was Hansen 's first of four consecutive appearances in the second games of doubleheaders , the third of which was another start and his third loss of the year . He allowed the game 's only runs in a 3 2 2/3 inning performance ; the Giants lost , 4 0 . After two more multi @-@ inning relief appearances against Chicago on August 24 and 25 , Hansen pitched seven innings in a start against Brooklyn in what would be his last appearance in the month . He allowed one run in seven innings , walking six batters . In the seventh inning , his middle finger was bruised by a line drive hit up the middle by Dixie Walker . Hansen walked Arky Vaughan , the first batter in the eighth inning , before leaving the game , and Cookie Lavagetto singled with the bases loaded to drive in the winning runs for the Dodgers ; the Giants fell , 3 1 .

Hansen returned to the mound on September 4 , starting his sixth game of the season . Although

he pitched eight innings and allowed two runs , Hansen earned his fourth loss of the season , as the Giants lost to Brooklyn , 2 ? 0 . His next outing , which came in relief against the Dodgers , was scoreless , but he allowed four runs in three innings to the Pirates the following day . After two more scoreless relief appearances , Hansen started against the Phillies on September 20 . He pitched a complete game , allowing three runs ( two earned ) on four hits ; the 5 ? 3 victory was his only win of the 1947 season , defeating Philadelphia starter Ken Heintzleman . Hansen appeared twice more in the 1947 season : he pitched 2 1 ? 3 innings in a start against the Dodgers on September 24 , allowing four runs ; and he lost his final start of the season against the Phillies four days later , pitching four innings and allowing three runs . For the season , Hansen posted a 1 ? 5 record , a 4 @.@ 37 ERA , and 18 strikeouts in 27 games as a 22 @-@ year @-@ old , the Giants ' second @-@ youngest pitcher ( Mario Picone ) .

= = = 1948 : One hundred innings , five victories = = =

Hansen opened his 1948 campaign with five consecutive scoreless appearances . His first game was on April 22 , when he pitched 1 ? 3 of an inning against the Dodgers , walking one batter and allowing a single hit . His second game was also against Brooklyn ; he allowed two hits and a walk in 2 ? 3 of an inning in his final April appearance . After a 21 @-@ day layoff , Hansen returned to play on May 21 , pitching a scoreless inning against the Chicago Cubs . Two more scoreless innings prompted Ott to start Hansen against the Dodgers in the second game of a May 31 doubleheader , and Hansen pitched a complete game to earn his first win of the season , allowing only one unearned run in the 10 ? 1 victory .

Hansen 's June appearances consisted of three starts and five relief outings . In two of his three starts , he lasted two innings or less , allowing three runs in two frames to Cincinnati on June 4 , and four runs in 2 ? 3 of an inning against St. Louis 14 days later . The latter game was his second loss of the season ? the first having been earned on July 11 in his other start of the month , wherein he pitched six innings , allowed three runs , and walked five batters . Hansen 's appearances from the bullpen were more successful ; in 13 1 ? 3 innings , he allowed three runs , all in a single outing on June 24 against the Cubs . His longest appearance of the month was a seven @-@ inning relief outing against the Cardinals on June 13 ; starter Dave Koslo took the loss in the game for allowing three runs in the game 's first inning , and Hansen completed the remainder of the game without allowing a run . In July , Hansen began with a start on July 2 , and ended with a win on July 31 . His only start in July came against Brooklyn , when he pitched 7 2 ? 3 innings and allowed four runs . He made two appearances in high @-@ scoring games during the month without recording any outs : he faced two batters against Brooklyn on July 4 , walking one and allowing a hit ; and repeated the outing on July 10 , this time allowing two hits and giving up two runs . Between those two outings , he appeared in both games of a July 5 doubleheader against the Braves , pitching two perfect innings in each game . His July victory came against the Cubs , when he struck out two batters and walked none in 2 ? 3 scoreless innings on the month 's final day .

In August , Hansen did not earn any decisions , but he did notch his only save of the season in his second August contest . He pitched 1 2 ? 3 scoreless innings against Boston to secure a 6 ? 5 win for Koslo . Three days later , he allowed two earned runs in a three @-@ inning appearance against Philadelphia ; they would be the only earned runs he allowed in the entire month of August , lowering his ERA from 3 @.@ 40 to 3 @.@ 10 . He finished the month with four consecutive scoreless appearances , striking out two batters and walking one between August 15 and August 31 . On September 3 , Hansen was pressed into service as a starter for the first time in two months of play , and he delivered a quality start for New York , allowing three runs in eight innings pitched ? his third victory and first complete game of the season . He was rewarded with another start on September 7 , and pitched his second consecutive complete game to earn a fourth win , this time scattering ten hits in nine innings against the Phillies , striking out three batters and allowing only a home run to Bert Haas . Starting again on September 11 , Hansen allowed two runs in 1 1 ? 3 innings before being relieved by Koslo ; neither pitcher earned the win in the shortened game , as Trinkle pitched the sixth and final inning of the doubleheader 's second game to notch the victory .

Hansen earned his fifth win out of the bullpen when the Giants came from behind to defeat Cincinnati , 12 ? 7 , on September 18 , and completed his season record with a loss in a start against Chicago on September 22 ; he allowed six runs ( five earned ) on nine hits while walking three hitters and striking out two . For the season , Hansen accumulated a 5 ? 3 record , a 2 @.@ 97 ERA ( his best career season to date ) , and 27 strikeouts , having faced a career @-@ high 419 batters in 100 innings pitched .

= = = 1949 : Four consecutive mid @-@ season losses = = =

After his career @-@ best five wins in the prior season , Hansen held out for a better contract in February 1949 , along with another Giants pitcher , Clint Hartung ; and Walker Cooper , the Giants ' captain . He signed on February 6 , and opened the 1949 season pitching in New York 's second contest , allowing 1 run while pitching 2 1 ? 3 innings of a 6 ? 2 loss to Brooklyn . Hansen took his first loss of the season in his next contest ; after the Phillies and Giants played to a tie in nine innings , New York scored two runs in the top of the 11th , but Hansen , who entered to relieve , allowed three to score while recording only two outs , handing the Giants a 12 ? 11 extra @-@ inning defeat . In the next game against the Dodgers , however , he recorded his first victory of the year behind a pinch @-@ hit inside @-@ the @-@ park grand slam from Pete Milne , pitching a scoreless seventh inning and striking out two . Hansen had one other appearance in April , allowing a single run in three innings against Brooklyn the following day in a 15 ? 2 loss . In the next month , he also made four appearances , the first of which came on May 24 ; he pitched two scoreless innings against the Cubs . After allowing his only run of the month to the Phillies on May 27 , Hansen pitched in both games of a doubleheader on May 30 , throwing 1 ? 3 of an inning in the first contest and earning his only save of the season in the second by striking out two batters in 2 2 ? 3 scoreless innings .

On June 1 , Hansen started his first game of the season , pitching 1 2 ? 3 innings and allowing four runs ; he was replaced by Red Webb , who pitched the remaining 7 1 ? 3 and won the game , 11 ? 5 . Hansen earned his second defeat of the season on June 12 , when he allowed a single game @-@ winning run to the Pirates in 5 2 ? 3 innings of work ; he walked three batters and struck out five in the contest . He appeared in back @-@ to @-@ back games on June 17 and 18 : a 6 ? 4 loss to Pittsburgh the first day , and a 5 ? 4 win for New York on the second . This game would be his last appearance in a Giants win until the season 's final month . His next two outings ? against the Cardinals on June 22 and the Cubs on June 24 ? were perfect ; he allowed no baserunners until June 25 , when he gave up a single hit to Chicago in a 4 ? 1 defeat . His final appearance of June came in the first game of a June 30 with the Boston Braves , in which he pitched two innings and allowed one hit . In July , Hansen struggled mightily , appearing in four games ; each contest was a loss for the Giants , and each decision was tallied against him . On July 2 , he allowed 5 runs in 4 2 ? 3 innings against Brooklyn , walking one batter and allowing two home runs . His five runs allowed accounted for the Dodgers ' margin of victory in the 13 ? 8 Giants defeat . He pitched four innings in relief of Sheldon Jones on July 10 , suffering the loss when he walked three batters and allowed three runs to score . Hansen 's one run allowed on July 16 proved once again to be his undoing as the Pirates defeated the Giants , 7 ? 6 , and dropped his record to 1 ? 5 ; nevertheless , he earned the start against Pittsburgh on July 26 and took his sixth loss , allowing 4 runs on 4 walks in 4 1 ? 3 innings to finish July at 1 ? 6 on the season .

In August , all of Hansen 's appearances came in Giants losses , the first of which was on August 7 ? he pitched the two final innings against the Cardinals , allowing one hit but no runs . After a scoreless inning on August 12 , Hansen appeared in back @-@ to @-@ back games against Boston on August 17 and 18 , walking one and striking out one in the former game and allowing two runs in 1 ? 3 of an inning in the latter . He allowed a run to Philadelphia on August 19 , then pitched in consecutive games on August 27 and 28 , the second and first games of doubleheaders , respectively . The Giants lost to St. Louis , 11 ? 2 , on August 27 ; Hansen allowed one unearned run in that game . The next day , he pitched two perfect innings against the Cincinnati Reds , striking out one , but New York was defeated , 10 ? 3 . In his first September game , Hansen earned his

final decision of the season when he defeated Pittsburgh , 9 ? 5 , pitching one scoreless inning in relief of Hank Behrman . He pitched the next game as well ? the following day against Brooklyn ? but the Giants were shut out , 8 ? 0 . He made a scoreless appearance against Philadelphia on September 6 , and allowed 4 runs in 1 1 ? 3 innings on September 8 , raising his ERA from 4 @.@ 18 to 4 @.@ 64 . Hansen made his final appearance on September 11 with a perfect 1 ? 3 of an inning , striking out the only batter he faced ; his final game of the season was logged on September 18 , but he faced no batters and did not physically appear in the game . His final record for the year was two wins against six losses ; he amassed 26 strikeouts and 28 bases on balls , allowing an average of 4 @.@ 61 runs per nine innings .

= = = 1950 : Midseason injury = = =

In April 1950 , Hansen appeared in two games . His first appearance of the season came against the rival Dodgers ; he pitched two scoreless innings , giving up three hits and walking two batters . A week later , he pitched the fourth inning of another contest against Brooklyn , this time allowing no baserunners . His first game the next month came against the Pirates on May 6 , where he earned his first save of the season in a 9 ? 8 victory . All of his other appearances in May , however , came in New York losses . On May 14 , Hansen started the second game of a doubleheader against Philadelphia , pitching 4 1 ? 3 innings and allowing five runs on eight hits and two walks . The following week , he appeared in both games of a twinbill against the Pirates , pitching a combination perfect inning between the two contests : 2 ? 3 in the first and 1 ? 3 in the second . Beginning on May 25 , Hansen pitched in four consecutive games to close out his month , allowing 1 run in 2 1 ? 3 innings in the first contest and throwing a scoreless frame in the second . On May 27 , he struck out one batter and allowed a single hit in 2 1 ? 3 innings , and earned his first loss of the year in an extra @-@ inning defeat by the Phillies the following day ; he entered the game in the seventh inning and allowed 3 runs over 4 1 ? 3 frames to total a 5 ? 2 final score .

In June , Hansen began a heavy workload from the Giants ' bullpen ; the converted starter , who had never appeared in more than nine games in a single month in his major league career , was pressed into service 11 times in the third month of the season . On the month 's first day , Hansen pitched in both games of a doubleheader against Cincinnati , throwing a perfect 1 ? 3 of an inning in the first half , and three scoreless in the second contest . The following day , he blew a save against the Reds in the sixth inning , allowing two hits and recording no outs . Against the Pirates on June 5 , he recorded his second save of the season in a 5 ? 4 , ten @-@ inning win , and followed it with another on June 8 in Chicago . On June 10 , Hansen allowed 2 runs in 1 1 ? 3 innings against the Cardinals , and the next week gave up four runs to the Cubs by facing 12 batters . Two scoreless outings on June 19 and 21 were followed by an appearance in Game 1 of a June 25 doubleheader ; he gave up one run on three hits and one walk . His final June appearance came against the Braves , a scoreless inning in which he walked two batters .

The workload continued into July , when Hansen appeared in the first game of a July 2 doubleheader . He entered in the first inning in relief of starter Koslo , who allowed two runs without recording an out ; none of the Giants ' pitchers in the 11 ? 5 defeat escaped unscathed , as all allowed at least two runs , topped by Hansen 's five . His next two appearances came on July 4 , as he pitched both games of a doubleheader against the Dodgers ; he tossed two innings in each contest , striking out two in the first game and walking one in the nightcap . On July 5 , he gave up five runs in the seventh inning against Philadelphia , recording two outs and allowing five hits . In his next two outings against Boston and Pittsburgh , he allowed no runs , but the game against the Pirates would be his last scoreless outing with New York . Pitching against the Reds on July 16 , Hansen allowed 3 runs in 1 1 ? 3 innings ; this was followed by four runs given up against the Cardinals on July 19 . His final contest of the season came on July 25 , when he pitched four innings against Cincinnati , allowing two runs before injuring his pitching elbow . Speaking with manager Leo Durocher , he claimed to feel a painless pop in his elbow as he threw a pitch ; two hours later , the elbow had swollen " as big as a football " and visibly bruised , ending his season . Hansen ended the season with an 0 ? 1 record , a 5 @.@ 53 ERA , and 19 strikeouts ; thereafter , he was selected

by the Phillies in the Rule 5 draft .

= = Philadelphia = =

= = = 1951 : Return to the majors = = =

After acquiring Hansen , the Phillies assigned him to the Triple @-@ A Baltimore Orioles . He was called up to the major league club in July after posting a 1 ? 1 record with a 5 @.@ 45 ERA and 14 strikeouts , working exclusively from Baltimore 's bullpen . Hansen 's first appearance with Philadelphia came on July 6 ; he pitched two innings in relief of Russ Meyer , who allowed three runs without recording an out . Three straight appearances in doubleheader openers followed Hansen 's Phillies debut : he faced two Cardinals batters without a putout on July 15 ; pitched two scoreless innings against Cincinnati two days later ; and could have earned his first victory of the season on July 22 had Konstanty ? the closer and 1950 's National League Most Valuable Player ? not collected his fifth blown save of the year . Hansen pitched in three more games that month , recording his first decision of the season on July 's final day : he defeated the Reds , 7 ? 5 , pitching one inning and allowing two runs .

Hansen appeared in five games for the Phillies in August . All were multi @-@ inning appearances as a relief pitcher , and only one was not scoreless ? he allowed four runs to the Braves in 2 1 ? 3 innings on August 15 . He opened September with a victory , however ? a 5 ? 3 win over Boston ? to raise his record to 2 ? 0 ; it was his first of eleven appearances in the season 's final month . Including the September 2 victory , Hansen finished three of his first four games for Philadelphia in the month , allowing no runs in any of those four appearances . The Pirates notched Hansen 's first September runs allowed on the month 's 12th day ; although none of the runs were earned , Hansen still collected his only defeat of the 1951 season .

In his next appearance , Hansen struck out a season @-@ high four Cardinals in 1 2 ? 3 innings pitched on September 16 ; it was his only appearance in 1951 wherein he struck out multiple batters . Following a scoreless two @-@ inning appearance against the Cubs on September 18 , Hansen pitched the eighth inning against the Dodgers on September 23 , allowing his first earned runs in over a month . After relieving starter Ken Johnson in the first inning of September 26 's contest ? pitching two innings and allowing one run ? Hansen earned his final decision of the season on September 28 , pitching three scoreless frames against Brooklyn to earn his third win . His 1951 season ended with a single scoreless inning the following day , also against the Dodgers ; this lowered his season ERA to 2 @.@ 54 , the best mark among Phillies pitchers that year , and a career low for Hansen . On the season , he struck out 11 batters while walking 7 , allowing 34 hits in 39 innings of work .

= = = 1952 : Four @-@ save July = = =

Hansen 's 1952 season did not open auspiciously ; he appeared in the Phillies ' second game of the season , entering in the ninth inning and allowing a sacrifice fly to the Giants ' Alvin Dark with the bases loaded . Although it was no blemish on Hansen 's ERA ? the runner having been allowed by starter Howie Fox ? he still earned a blown save in his first appearance of the year . His second appearance two days later was worse : Hansen entered the game in the eighth inning with a 7 ? 6 lead , but allowed two runs in the top of the ninth , and a third earned was added to his tally after closer Konstanty , who relieved Hansen , allowed a sacrifice fly immediately thereafter . The Braves , Philadelphia 's opponents in that contest , won the game , 9 ? 7 , and Hansen was saddled with his second blown save in as many appearances and his first loss of the season . His next three appearances were scoreless , but on May 16 , he entered in the eighth inning of a game against the Reds with the Phillies leading , 2 ? 1 , and runners on first and second bases . He allowed a single to Bobby Adams , scoring Roy McMillan and blowing his third save , but the Phillies would win , 3 ? 2 , after Heintzelman pitched 2 1 ? 3 scoreless innings and the Phillies used small ball tactics ( a

walk to Eddie Waitkus , Heintzelman reaching on a fielder 's choice , and a bunt single by Richie Ashburn ) to load the bases in the bottom of the tenth inning , winning on a single by Granny Hamner . After two scoreless appearances against St. Louis and New York , Hansen allowed one run in a three @-@ inning appearance against his former club on May 24 . Hansen pitched in both extra @-@ inning games of a doubleheader on May 27 , pitching the twelfth and final inning against Boston in a 4 ? 2 loss in the first contest , and earning his first victory in the tenth inning of the second after Del Ennis ' triple and Willie Jones ' sacrifice fly scored the winning run in the bottom half of the frame . Three more relief appearances closed out the month , two of them scoreless ; his only run allowed was against the Pirates on the final day of May .

Hansen 's June was also inauspicious , as all six of his appearances came in Phillies losses . He had two scoreless one @-@ inning stints against the Reds and the Cubs on June 5 and 10 , respectively , before a three @-@ inning appearance against the Pirates in the first game of a June 15 doubleheader . In the contest , he struck out one and walked one in a scoreless outing to lower his ERA to 2 @. @ 75 , and followed with a scoreless inning on June 19 to push it down to 2 @. @ 61 , his lowest to that point of the season . He allowed his only earned runs of the month on June 22 , when Hansen walked the bases loaded in the top of the ninth inning against Cincinnati ; Konstanty entered , allowing a double to former teammate Andy Seminick that scored two . In his final June game , he allowed three runs , but none were earned due to a throwing error by third baseman Willie " Puddin ' Head " Jones . At the end of June and beginning of July , closer Konstanty blew two saves , one of which resulted in a 4 ? 3 loss to Brooklyn , so Hansen assumed some of the closing duties for the season 's fourth month . He collected his first save of the season on the second of July , pitching two scoreless innings against the Dodgers in relief of Russ Meyer . After allowing two runs to the Cardinals on July 10 , Hansen bounced back with consecutive saves ? on July 13 against Chicago ; and again on July 16 versus the Pirates , in which Hansen relieved Roberts after the latter allowed a two @-@ run ninth @-@ inning home run . On July 22 , he earned his fourth save of the month in a two @-@ inning performance against Pittsburgh , and closed the month with two consecutive victories , defeating the Cubs on July 27 , and the Reds two days after .

In August , Hansen pitched 4 1 ? 3 innings in the team 's first contest , allowing two runs to the Cardinals on four hits and losing his third game of the season . He appeared in three consecutive doubleheaders ( August 9 , 11 , and 13 ) and followed by pitching 1 ? 3 of an inning in a 15 ? 0 loss at Brooklyn on August 16 . Hansen rested until August 22 , when he relieved Curt Simmons against the Cincinnati Reds ; he pitched 3 2 ? 3 innings , allowing two runs on three hits , walking two , and absorbing a fourth loss . Beginning on August 24 , he finished three games against the Cubs on consecutive game @-@ days : pitching a perfect inning on August 24 ; earning a win with two scoreless innings on August 25 ; and taking the loss on August 26 in the 13th inning of the series ' final contest . He bounced back to close the month with a fifth win , though , defeating Boston , 8 ? 6 , behind a 5 1 ? 3 @-@ inning relief performance . In his first September game , Hansen took the loss by allowing a single run to the Giants on the month 's third day ; he finished the month by pitching in two consecutive losses , with his final appearance coming on September 12 . For the season , he finished with a 5 ? 6 record , a 3 @. @ 26 ERA , and 18 strikeouts in a team @-@ leading 43 games pitched ? a year in which his performance was described as " excellent relieving "

= = = 1953 : Last major league year = = =

Hansen 's first game of the 1953 season resulted in his first loss ; in a 14 ? 12 contest against the Pirates , he allowed four runs ? one earned ? in the fifth frame , the only inning he pitched . His next appearance resulted in his first save of the year , coming against Pittsburgh on April 25 , and he pitched in his final April game three days later against St. Louis . Hansen 's first appearance in May came against the newly relocated Milwaukee Braves , late of Boston , when he allowed a walk and two hits , one a home run , in a single inning . He threw a scoreless frame against Brooklyn on May 10 , and a perfect 1 ? 3 on May 12 to earn his second save . He allowed two runs against Milwaukee on May 18 , but both were unearned , lowering his ERA to a season @-@ low 2 @. @ 25



; three runs in his next appearance , however , raised his average to its highest point since the year 's first game . His last game in May was against Pittsburgh : 2 ? 3 of an inning with one unearned run allowed .

Hansen opened June with a doubleheader , pitching in both games and allowing no runs ; he gave up a hit in the first game and walked a batter in the second , striking out one batter in each contest . He pitched the ninth inning in both games , earning his third save of the year in the nightcap . He gave up two runs to the Braves in his next appearance , allowing a home run and an RBI single in three innings . On June 9 , he again allowed two runs , this time to the Cubs ; the two home runs given up resulted in his first blown save of the season . After a perfect inning against Cincinnati on June 12 , he made his first scoreless appearance against Milwaukee in the season ; he allowed two hits in 1 ? 3 of an inning but neither runner scored . On June 17 , he faced the Braves again , this time pitching three scoreless innings and allowing two singles and a double . Waiting ten days until his next appearance , Hansen took the mound for two scoreless innings against St. Louis , and earned a hold on June 30 against Brooklyn after Konstanty blew a save . In his first July game , he pitched 3 1 ? 3 innings , allowing two runs on three hits and walking three batters . Two days later , he pitched five scoreless innings within both halves of a doubleheader against his former team , the Giants ; he walked one batter in each game and struck out three hitters in the second . After an 11 @-@ day hiatus , he returned to the hill in an 11 ? 0 loss to the Reds , allowing an unearned run on three hits in relief of Konstanty . One @-@ and @-@ two @-@ thirds scoreless innings against the Cubs on July 21 was his final scoreless outing of the month , followed by a single run allowed to the Braves on July 27 and two runs given up to the Reds three days later .

On August 3 , Hansen entered in the second inning of a contest against the Reds after Konstanty and Thornton Kipper allowed 7 runs in 1 2 ? 3 innings against the Reds ; he pitched 4 1 ? 3 frames and allowed 1 run . On August 17 , he made his first start in three years , absorbing the loss as the Phillies were shut out , 6 ? 0 . His final two August games came on back @-@ to @-@ back days : the second half of a doubleheader on August 30 ( 1 walk and 1 strikeout in 2 2 ? 3 scoreless innings ) ; and the first half of a twinbill on August 31 ( one run allowed on one walk and two hits in a single inning ) . He made one September appearance , allowing two runs without recording an out ; for the year , he finished with an 0 ? 2 record and three saves with a 4 @.@ 03 ERA . After the conclusion of the season , Hansen was traded with Jack Lohrke and \$ 70 @,@ 000 ( \$ 619 @,@ 000 today ) to Pittsburgh in exchange for Murry Dickson .

= = After the majors = =

In 1954 , Hansen was assigned to the Pirates @-@ affiliated Hollywood Stars , an Open @-@ classification minor league team based in Los Angeles . He appeared in three games , accumulating a 1 @.@ 35 ERA on the mound and one hit in three at @-@ bats at the plate . In one of those contests , he and Red Munger combined to hold the rival Los Angeles Angels to a 1 ? 0 shutout . After being voted outstanding player of the week for his short tenure , Hansen voluntarily retired himself a second time after Pittsburgh Pirates president Branch Rickey refused to pay him \$ 750 ( \$ 6 @,@ 610 today ) that he was owed . The Pirates sent him a contract to play for the Triple @-@ A New Orleans Pelicans , along with a paycheck , but he did not report , opting to remain retired .

Hansen was first married to Bertha Mae ( née Perkins ) , also a native of Lake Worth , Florida . They had two children , one a daughter named Gale Andra , before his wife contracted cancer and died . He had dated his second wife , Joy , when he was playing for the Giants in his early career , and they were described as " recently wedded " when interviewed by author Wes Singletary for his 2006 book . Hansen worked seasonally for the United States Postal Service during his baseball career , and became a permanent employee for 31 years until retiring . In 1988 , he was inducted into the Palm Beach County Sports Commission 's Hall of Fame . He died on February 2 , 2002 , in his hometown .