



**John 'Memphis Bill' Pedone is 1st Free Agent to Sign**

In what local scribes are hailing as a huge move for the team's future, the Padres inked a \$460,000 deal with third baseman John Pedone.

Team officials expect Pedone to fill an immediate void on the roster and felt the deal would solidify them as a playoff contender.

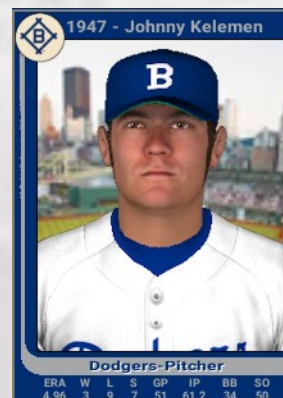
Looking at his career numbers, Pedone has played in 1352 games with a .284 batting average. Among his 1313 hits are 242 doubles, 93 triples and 79 home runs. He has also scored 708 runs and driven in 538 runs.



The next two Free Agents to sign are Tom Miller with the Baltimore Club, and Johnny Kelemen with the Dodgers out of Brooklyn.

First Baseman Miller hit .347 with a 170 hits and 66 RBIs for the Kansas City Athletics in 1947. Tom's contract is for 4 years at \$115,000 a year which will bring him into his age 35 season.

Kelemen was a relief pitcher for Milwaukee in 1946 and posted a 4.96 ERA in 62 and 2/3 innings. Johnny's contract is 3 years for a total of \$82,000. Needing left handed pitching makes Kelemen and good find for the Brooklyn ball team.



**STAT OF THE MONTH:**



Andy 'Vampire' Edwards the FRBA all-time home run hitter with 639 has declared; "When I get elected to the FRBA Hall of Fame, I am going in as a Brewer." Edwards retired at the end of the 1945 so he will have a few years before appearing on the HOF ballot.

**COMMISSIONERS CORNER:**



Rule 5 Draft is occurring in-game as of the date of this newsletter. After tenuous Winter Meetings' GM's are scrambling to make the necessary changes on draft day.

**Hall of Fame Voting** is open in StatsPlus. Please find an extra 5 minutes in your day to vote.