United States Patent Office 3,210,866 Patented Oct. 12, 1965

3,210,866

INFORMATION RETRIEVAL DEVICE

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Filed Sept. 9, 1963, Ser. No. 307,627
4 Claims. (Cl. 35—74)

This invention has relation to a device for retrieving already recorded information and more particularly to a circular slide device that includes disks having the statistical information of each player on the roster of a particular baseball team printed thereon and adapted to fit within a housing and be rotated so that the individual statistics on each player can be determined.

Baseball fans across the country are vitally concerned with the statistics of each player on the ball clubs. The fans find that having these statistics readily available for reference when they are watching a particular club play will increase their enjoyment and understanding of the game. However, with ten team leagues and a large number of players on each team it is impossible to memorize the statistics and it is difficult to know these various statistics on each player even for your favorite team.

In addition to statistics on fielders and hitters, the various statistics on pitchers are also of interest. While it is possible to take along a book to the game which contains all of the necessary information, the books are hard to refer to when individual players come to one's attention and the fan usually wants the information promptly.

The device of the present invention presents a slide type device comprising an outer circular housing having a plurality of windows therein and having provision for inserting disks that will rotate with respect to the housing. Each of the disks contains pictures, names, and the necessary or desired statistics on the indivdual players on the ball club. By rotating the device until the desired player's picture appears at a provided window the player's statistics will appear at other provided windows on the housing. The housing is provided with openings on both sides thereof so that the disk may be inserted into the housing back to back, and the vital statistics on the players on the two teams which are playing can be obtained quickly. The statistics are easily visible and readable.

Further, the housing contains a suitable mechanism so that the information cards or disks can be readily interchanged.

It is an object of the present invention to present a device from which complete statistical information relative to individual baseball players can be obtained in a short while.

It is a further object of the present invention to present a device which will store statistical information on the ball players of two teams at one time.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of a baseball statistical information storing device made according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a sectional view taken as on line 2—2 of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 3 is an exploded view of the device in FIG. 2.

Referring to the drawings and the numerals of reference thereon, a statistic retrieving device illustrated generally at **10** includes a circular outer housing **11**. The outer housing is comprised of two disk-shaped walls **12** and **13**, respectively which are joined together through an arcuate spacer **14**. The spacer **14** is a thin arcuate portion and extends substantially 180° around the housing.

First and second information bearing cards or disks **15** and **16**, respectively, which are of smaller diameter than the housing walls, are rotatably mounted between the first and second housing walls **12** and **13**. The information disks **15** and **16** are of size so that they clear the inner edge of the spacer **14**.

A driving hub **17** has a center support shaft **20** extending therefrom and a pair of drive pins **21**, **21** fastened thereto. The drive shaft **20** and the drive pins **21**, **21** extend through a large opening **22** in first housing wall **12**. The opening **22** is of size so that the drive pins can rotate without difficulty. The shaft **20** is inserted through provided openings **23**, **23** in the information disks **15** and **16**. The openings **23** snugly fit the shaft **20** and the disks are carried by the shaft. The drive pins **21**, **21** are inserted through provided openings **24** in the disks **15** and **16**. The openings **24** also snugly receive the drive pins **21**.

A boss **25** is fixedly attached to outside surface of the second housing wall **13** and has a center opening **26** in which the shaft **20** is rotatably mounted. The boss **25** thus supports the shaft **20** and the information disks **15** and **16**. the shaft **20** has an annular groove **27** provided adjacent the outer end thereof. A locking slide **28** that has a longitudinal slot **29** provided therein is slidably mounted in a transverse slot **30** of the boss **25**. The portions of the locking slide **28** defining the slot **29** pass within the groove **27** and the slide retains the shaft from being pulled out. The locking slide **28** can be removed as shown in FIG. 3 and the shaft **20** is easily removed from the housing to change information disks.

The boss **25** has an annular groove **33** provided therein on the end against the housing wall for permitting the end portions of the locking pins **21**, **21** to move freely there around. It will be noted that the second housing wall **13** also has an opening **34** which is of the same size as opening **22** in the first wall **12**. The boss **25** has a shallow cone surface **35** surrounding the opening **26** for the shaft **20** at the end of the boss against wall **13**. The surface **35** provides a tapered guide for the end of shaft **20** so that it can be inserted into opening **26** easily when the information cards or disks **15** and **16** are being changed.

As can be seen in FIG. 1 the housing walls **12** and **13** are provided with a plurality of windows or openings illustrated generally at **36** defined therethrough. The positions of corresponding windows of housing walls **12** and **13** are reversed from each other so that the same information disks can be used behind either of the walls. The housing walls are provided with an enlarged or key opening **37** at the top thereof through which the picture **38** or name **41** of a baseball player will appear. The statistics on the player will then appear at the small or subsidiary openings or windows **36** in the housing wall. The windows are labeled and the proper statistic for the player whose picture appears at the desired window **37** will show. In addition, the window of the housing walls can be arranged so that at the center section of each wall the windows will have two labels, one set **42** for fielders and another set **43** for pitchers. As the desired information for fielders and pitchers are different, the windows serve double purpose.

By rotating the information disks until the proper picture appears in window **37** the necessary statistics on that player can be obtained. The disks are easily replaced and by utilizing one disk for each major league team, a fan who goes to a game can have the information on all of the players on the two teams at his finger tips and readily available. The changing of disks is very easy. The locking slide is readily removed from the boss and the tapered surface surrounding the opening in the boss for shaft **20** makes the re-insertion of the shaft very easy.

What is claimed is:

1. An information retrieval device comprising:

(a) a housing having a pair of walls substantially parallel and spaced from each other,

(b) an arcuate spacer interposedly situated between said walls, said spacer extending along the inner peripheral edge portions of said walls and for a portion of the perimeter thereof,

(c) said walls each having a key opening therethrough and a plurality of subsidiary openings therethrough,

(d) a pair of informtaion bearing disks mounted back to back in said housing and each facing one of said walls,

(e) a stationary boss mounted on the outside surface of a first of said walls, said boss forming a means for holding said device in its operative position,

(f) means cooperating with said boss for mounting and also rotatably driving said information bearing disks within said housing, said means including a hub position outside a second of said walls, an elongated shaft fixedly mounted on said hub and extending through the space between said walls, said shaft being rotatably mounted in said boss, said cooperating means being adapted to be readily dismantled from said boss to enable said information bearing disks to be removed and replaced by additional information bearing disks.

2. The combination as specified in claim 1 wherein said cooperating means includes releasable latch means for holding said shaft in said boss.

3. The combination as specified in claim 2 wherein said releasable latch means for said shaft is comprised as an annular recess adjacent the end of said shaft, and a slide member having a groove defined therein, said slide member being mounted on said boss for movement transverse to the longitudinal axis of said shaft, the portions of said slide member defining said groove being adapted to fit within the annular recess in said shaft and hold said shaft from axial movement.

4. The combination as specified in claim 3 wherein the means to drive said disks is comprised as a pair of pins fastened to said hub and extending substantially parallel to said shaft, said pins being insertable into provided openings in said information bearing disks.

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