

Rare 'Switch-Pitcher' Spotted on Baseball Diamond



Reading Comprehension: Reading for Detail

Circle T next to each true statement. Circle F next to each statement that is false.

- T F 1. A pitcher who can pitch with both arms is a rare sight.
- T F 2. A switch-hitter is a player who can throw both right- and left-handed.
- T F 3. Pat Venditte learned to throw with both arms when he was in high school.
- T F 4. He can write and eat with both hands too.
- T F 5. Last year, Venditte struck out 87 batters.
- T F 6. Last year, Venditte pitched for two farm teams of the New York Mets.
- T F 7. Baseball umpires had to make a new rule because of Venditte's special skill.
- T F 8. The "Venditte rule" says pitchers and hitters can switch sides three times.
- T F 9. Venditte wears a special glove that has two pockets.
- T F 10. Venditte is the third pitcher who has ever thrown with both arms.

Language Practice: Building Vocabulary

In each sentence, color the circle before the word that means the same as the underlined word.

1. When he warms up, Venditte throws four pitches from the right side and four from the left.
O a. thumps O b. through O c. tosses O d. trashes
2. Batters and pitchers can only switch sides one time for each at-bat.
O a. swing O b. shift O c. strike O d. stand
3. Venditte's appearance in a spring training game created some excitement in the stands.
O a. dugout O b. bleachers O c. newspapers O d. locker room
4. "I can't predict where the next few years will take him," said Venditte's college coach.
O a. foresee O b. change O c. write O d. pretend
5. Even though he is a newcomer to pro baseball, Venditte has a lot of fans.
O a. equipment O b. gloves O c. enemies O d. followers

Reading Comprehension: What's the Main Idea?

Color the circle next to the statement that *best* sums up the main idea of this week's News for You article.

- O a. A pitcher like Pat Venditte doesn't come along very often.
- O b. Venditte had a special glove made that makes it easy for him to pitch with either hand.
- O c. Pat Venditte gave up two hits in a game this spring.
- O d. Venditte signs autographs with both hands.