

Royals sign MLB veteran to minor-league deal. He’s 45 — and has pitched for 13 teams

BY JAYLON THOMPSON
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HOUSTON — The Kansas City Royals are always in search of quality pitching. On Tuesday, the Royals landed an experienced veteran in left-hander Rich Hill. Hill, 45, signed a minor-league deal with the Royals. He will report to the Royals spring training complex in Surprise, Arizona before eventually joining Triple-A Omaha. “We were looking for some starter depth,” Royals assistant general manager Scott Sharp said. “Dave Wallace, who is an advisor with us, knows Rich well. He mentioned that (Hill) was throwing and in a good spot. He got

up to 100 pitches in some lives and bullpens. And we have a lot of people in the organization that know Rich. He was willing to go to Triple-A and it was a good fit.” The Royals have followed Hill throughout his MLB career. Hill has pitched for the Chicago Cubs, Baltimore Orioles, Boston Red Sox, Cleveland Guardians, Los Angeles Angels, New York Yankees, Oakland Athletics, Los Angeles Dodgers, Minnesota Twins, Tampa Bay Rays, New York Mets, Pittsburgh Pirates and San Diego Padres. Last season, Hill pitched 3 ⅔ innings with the Red Sox. It was his fourth stint with the organization after a delayed start. Hill explored retirement as he

coached his son’s youth team. Hill appeared in a relief role with the Red Sox. He posted a 4.91 ERA in four games before being designated for assignment. A few Royals have experience with Hill. Royals manager Matt Quatraro was the Rays bench coach during Hill’s tenure in Tampa. “I love Rich,” Quatraro said. “I was with him for a year in Tampa. It’s remarkable that he is still pitching and that he still has the drive to want to do it and go to Triple-A to continue to compete. That’s one thing about him. He is the ultimate competitor and no one wants to win more than that guy.”



RICK OSENTOSKI USA TODAY Sports

Boston Red Sox pitcher Rich Hill (44) pitches in the fifth inning against the Detroit Tigers at Comerica Park on Sept. 1, 2024 in Detroit, Michigan.

Hill posted a 3.87 ERA in 19 starts with the Rays in 2021. He also pitched alongside Royals starters Seth Lugo and Michael Wacha. They were all a part of the Padres organization during the 2023 season. The Royals have a talented starting rotation. The group includes Lugo, Wacha, Cole Ragans, Kris Bubic and Michael Lorenzen. Additionally, KC has Alec Marsh, Kyle Wright and Noah Cameron as available depth. Both Marsh and Wright are working back from

offseason injuries. Hill could be considered additional depth. He has a wealth of experience and has shown the ability to be a starter or reliever in his career. “He’s somebody with that experience level and knows how to navigate games,” Sharp said. For now, Hill is granted an opportunity to join the Royals organization. He will likely stretch out in Surprise and then be integrated within the Omaha Storm Chasers pitching staff. In his career, Hill owns

a 90-74 record with a 4.01 ERA in 386 appearances. He was a fourth round selection in the 2002 MLB Draft by the Chicago Cubs. The Royals are his 14th organization as he enters his 21st season. “There aren’t too many people that do that,” Quatraro said. “For him to continue to want to play, that’s his love for the game and his love for the competition aspect.”

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Sam Greene / USA TODAY NETWORK via Imagn Images

Pete Rose holds a star bearing his name before the MLB National League game between the Cincinnati Reds and the San Diego Padres at Great American Ball Park in downtown Cincinnati on Friday, June 24, 2016.

COMMENTARY

Rose, Jackson are reinstated. Put both in the Hall of Fame.

BY PAUL ZEISE, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE
The Tribune Content Agency

PITTSBURGH, PA. — Rob Manfred removed Pete Rose and “Shoeless” Joe Jackson from the permanent ban list, which means both men are now eligible for the Hall of Fame. In total, Manfred removed 16 players, all deceased (including Rose and Jackson) and one deceased owner from the lifetime ineligible list. It marks maybe the first time I have written or thought this next sentence in maybe forever: Good job, Manfred. You got it right. It took way too long. It is ridiculous it took this long actually, but it is now done, and both are now going to be eligible for the game’s highest honor. And both should have been first-ballot Hall of Famers when they were eligible but weren’t because they were banned from baseball. Rose was accused of betting on baseball when he was the manager of the Cincinnati Reds, and Jackson was part of the group of the Chicago White Sox who were accused of fixing the 1919 World Series. The infractions were so grave both received lifetime bans, and as a result, neither has been eligible for the Hall of Fame. “Obviously, a person no

longer with us cannot represent a threat to the integrity of the game,” Manfred wrote in a letter to attorney Jeffrey M. Lenkov, who petitioned for Rose’s removal from the list Jan. 8. “Moreover, it is hard to conceive of a penalty that has more deterrent effect than one that lasts a lifetime with no reprieve. “Therefore, I have concluded that permanent ineligibility ends upon the passing of the disciplined individual, and Mr. Rose will be removed from the permanently ineligible list.” Exactly. The ban was idiotic in its length and also far too punitive in so many ways it is amazing somewhere along the line these bans weren’t thrown out by a court. Rose and Jackson should be in the Hall of Fame, and while we are at it, so should Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and Alex Rodriguez, as the “integrity” clause is garbage. As I have said many times - the Hall of Fame is full of bad guys who were great at playing baseball or great at managing baseball. If the character clause were invoked retroactively, the place would be half-empty. Baseball is a game with “glory years” that all took place when people who had the color of my skin weren’t allowed to play,

and the whitewashing of that history is always accomplished by throwing around Jackie Robinson Day and retiring No. 42 leaguewide. But it doesn’t change the fact the game was built and established in - and some of the greatest players and most historical figures were crowned during - a very racist and unfair past. That’s why the next step - getting Rose and Jackson into the Hall of Fame - is going to be so sickening. I have already seen columnists from these self-righteous baseball writers and Hall of Fame voters about how Rose and Jackson should never see the Hall because they cheated the “integrity of the game.” Get over yourselves already please, and that’s to every Hall of Fame voter who is going to shriek over the next few years about Rose and Jackson in the Hall of Fame. There is zero evidence Rose ever fixed a game, and if you were privileged enough to watch him play, you would be hard pressed to believe he ever didn’t give everything he had to try to win every time he laced them up. Rose and Jackson are both Hall of Famers by numbers. They are both players “you can’t tell the story of Major League Baseball without” and they are both now eligible, so there is no reason to delay. The good news is looking at Hall of Fame rules means Rose and Jackson likely won’t be subject to voting of the BBWAA Hall of Fame committee but instead will be subject to the veteran’s committee, now called the Historical Overview Committee. That committee will next vote in December 2027 - but given the circumstances should have a special election this year to make sure Rose and Jackson are inducted as soon as possible. Yeah, I know. Rose is a bad guy. But the Hall of Fame shouldn’t have the same criteria as the Catholic Church does for hiring a Pope. Rose is one of the greatest players of all time, the game’s all-time leading hitter, and Jackson has the fourth-highest career batting average of anyone who has ever played. They both are Hall of Famers. They both need to be inducted ASAP, as do Clemens, Bonds and Rodriguez. The Hall of Fame is

meaningless until those five men are inducted, quite frankly, and the fact these guys aren’t in it is a crime. It really is. How can you have a Hall of

Fame with the all-time leader in hits and home runs sitting on the outside looking in? Manfred did the right thing by reinstating these

two, and now it is up to whatever committee has the juice to do so to push them both into the Hall of Fame.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

You are hereby notified that on February 20, 2025 a Small Estate Affidavit Pursuant to K.S.A. 59-1507b was executed for Ned Shields Stafford, who died on November 23, 2024, resident of Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas. Pursuant to Kansas law, no probate proceedings will be initiated. Any person or entity having claims against the decedent must present them, with supporting documentation, to the undersigned affiant within 4 months from the date of first published notice and, if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred. First published in The Wichita Eagle, Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas, on Thursday May 9, 2025. Nathaniel Stafford, Affiant, 71 Brookley Rd, #1, Boston, MA 02130. IPL0232033 May 9,16,23 2025

City of Wichita

NOTICE OF LEGAL PUBLICATION

NNE2025-01294 Published Wichita.gov website on 5/14/2025.

To: Cindy S Tucker, or HIS/HERS/ THEIRS heirs, devisees, legatees, successors, and assigns or parties in possession:

You are hereby notified that the following conditions:

Remove all scattered trash, debris & tree waste from the property, specifically: Loose trash and debris need to be removed from the entire property and properly maintained; Remove all bulky waste items from the property, specifically: Trash bags, cardboard boxes, trash containers no lids with debris inside them. TV, paint can, clothes, and other miscellaneous items and debris; Cut tall grass and weeds in excess of 12 inches, exists at 940 S Hiram, Wichita, Kansas, and legally described as:

S 1/2 LOT 16 - ALL LOT 18 HIRAM AVE GARFIELD ADD., Wichita Township, Sedgwick County, Kansas, (Tax Key # D 03302).

have been determined by the Director of the Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department to be a nuisance within the definition of Section 8.01.010 Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, which nuisance, in the interest of public health, must be suppressed and abated.

This is your notice that failure to abate this nuisance and the conditions aforesated will result in the abatement of said nuisance by the said Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department, the costs of which will be levied against the aforescribed real property in accordance with the laws of the State of Kansas and the ordinances of the City of Wichita.

Signed: Christopher W. Labrum
Director
Metropolitan Area Building & Construction Dept.

IPL0233030 May 16 2025

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City of Wichita

NOTICE OF LEGAL PUBLICATION

NNE2024-04381 Published Wichita.gov website on 5/14/2025.

To: Sherri O'Neil, or HIS/HERS/ THEIRS heirs, devisees, legatees, successors, and assigns or parties in possession:

You are hereby notified that the following conditions:

Remove all scattered trash, debris & tree waste from the property, specifically: All loose and scattered trash from the front, side and back yard including porches; Remove all bulky waste items from the property, specifically: Lumber, wood, pallets, containers, plastic totes, furniture, misc. junk and bulky waste from the front, sides, backyard, and porches., exists at 1701 S Santa Fe, Wichita, Kansas, and legally described as:

E 100 FT LOTS 1-3 BLOCK 5 ALLEN & SMITH ADD, Wichita Township, Sedgwick County, Kansas, (Tax Key # B 05733).

have been determined by the Director of the Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department to be a nuisance within the definition of Section 8.01.010 Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, which nuisance, in the interest of public health, must be suppressed and abated.

This is your notice that failure to abate this nuisance and the conditions aforesated will result in the abatement of said nuisance by the said Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department, the costs of which will be levied against the aforescribed real property in accordance with the laws of the State of Kansas and the ordinances of the City of Wichita.

Signed: Christopher W. Labrum
Director
Metropolitan Area Building & Construction Dept.

IPL0233303 May 16 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that Ritchie Exploration, Inc. has filed an application to commence the commingling of production from the Oread B, Toronto, and Lansing/Kansas City sources of supply for the #1 Bow Creek Unit well located approx. NE SE NW of Section 7-6S21W, Graham County, Kansas. Any persons who object to or protest this application shall be required to file their objections or protests with the Conservation Division of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas within fifteen (15) days from the date of the publication. These protests shall be filed pursuant to Commission regulations and must state specific reasons why the grant of the application may cause waste, violate correlative rights or pollute the natural resources of the state of Kansas. If no protests are received, this application may be granted through a summary proceeding. If valid protests are received, this matter will be set for hearing. All persons interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and shall govern themselves accordingly. RITCHIE EXPLORATION, INC. PO. Box 783188 Wichita, KS 67278-3188 (316) 691-9500 IPL0233508 May 16 2025

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS
NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION

RE: Elevate Energy Ltd. – Application for exception to the 10-year limitation for TA status of the Schmidt RP 7-29 located in Trego County, Kansas.

TO: All Oil and Gas Producers, Unleased Mineral Interest Owners, Landowners, and all persons whomsoever concerned.

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that Elevate Energy Ltd. has filed an application to receive exception to the 10-year limitation of TA status for the Schmidt RP 7-29 located in the SE NW of Sec. 29, T14S-R21W, Trego County, Kansas. The docket is #25-CONS-3310-CEXC. The well in question is part of a field that has plans to be waterflooded and the well has been shut-in since November 1st, 2011. The well passed a KCC witnessed mechanical integrity test on March 3rd, 2025.

Any persons who object to or protest this application shall be required to file their objections or protests with the Conservation Division of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas within thirty (30) days from the date of this publication. These protests shall be filed pursuant to Commission regulations and must state specific reasons why the grant of the application would be detrimental to natural resources of the state of Kansas.

All persons interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and shall govern themselves accordingly.

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