@SABR - NEGRO LEAGUES COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

October 1998

Editor: Dick Clark, 1080 Hull St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198-6472

Telephone Number: (734) 487-5273; Fax (734) 487-0807

**Denotes items available for SASE-Please affix enough postage (usually 1 stamp/4 pages.)

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Harrisburg Research Conference was a terrific time and extremely rewarding; plan to attend the next one.

Kaz Sayama is recovering nicely from a blood clot which made him unable to fly to Harrisburg. Paul Debono has a new Email address pdebono@earthlink.net A new address for Scott Allen is 421 Abbott Rd. Apt #7 East Lansing, MI 48823-3345 (517) 332-1980 Email allensc2@pilot.msu.edu Dr John Haddock has a new campus address The University of Memphis, Intensive English for Internationals, Campus Box 526427, Memphis, TN 38152-6427. Welcome to three new members; Scott Flatow, 1701 West 3rd, Brooklyn, NY 11223, (718) 376-1007, Email deadball@aol.com Calobe Jackson Jr 2737 North Second St., Harrisburg, PA 17110-1205, (717) 238-1817, Email calobe.jackson@worldnet.att.net Brent Kelley 452 Clintonville Rd., Paris, KY 40361, (606) 987-3567.

This newsletter reflects the worthy contributions of the following: Scott Allen, Jim Ball, Todd Bolton, Tim Booker, Fred Brillhart, Adrian Burgos, Bob Davids, Paul Debono, Jeff Eastland, Bob Eisen, Scott Flatow, Cappy Gagnon, Larry Gerlach, John Haddock, Leslie Heaphy, Larry Hogan, Lou Hunsinger Jr., Calobe Jackson Jr., Brent Kelley, Ted Knorr, Mike Kolleth, David Lawrence, Larry Lester, Tod Maher, Jerry Malloy, Gary Maurer, William McNeil, John McReynolds, Sammy Miller, Bob Mitchell Sr., Scot Mondore, Ernie Nagy, Steve Nadel, Cliff Otto, Jim Overmyer, Claudia Perry, Bob Peterson, John Pierce Bill Plott, Bob Potts, Jim Riley, Kaz Sayama, Fred Schuld, David Skinner, Dean Sullivan, Gene Sunnen, Max Weder, and Lyle Wilson.

NEGRO LEAGUERS AND THE HALL OF FAME

**1pg listing of members of Veterans Committee.

JACKSON (MS) ADVOCATE 7/30-8/5, 1998 "Doby, Rogan"**2pp

SCD 8/28/98, "Baseball HOF induct five new members" & Doby interview. **4pp.

Complete listing of "Stars in Their Time Hall of Fame" from THE DIAMOND ANGLE, Summer, 1998 **1pg.

**1pg listing of Negro League Veterans in HOF.

Ernest Nagy reports that Alcorn State in Lorman, MS is beginning the process of gathering funds to erect a befitting headstone for Bill Foster's gravesite. Bullet Rogan's grave is at the Blue Ridge Lawn Memorial Gardens in KC. Let's get photos of all Negro Leaguers burial sites and send them to Larry Lester.

Ted Williams acceptance speech. **1pg.

THE NEGRO LEAGUES BOOK

Jeff Eastland provided more uniform numbers for 1946 Buckeyes and 1947 Cubans. Tod Maher found some semi-pro boxes of CAG for 33&34. Jerry Malloy additions to the 1893 Chicago Unions.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Larry and I have had many discussions with the folks at the Hall of Fame Library and are advocating a close relationship with them. The Library can add much to any research effort.

1. The Library is an archival facility interested in collecting and preserving all aspect of baseball history.

2. The Library would be greatly interested in donations of materials or their copies. Copy negatives can be made from photos and the originals returned. Another option is to photopy photos when the approximate to protein the copy of t

photos when the owner wants to retain the originals

3. Research papers/collection now available at the Library are Robert Peterson's papers, Wendell Smith's papers, the Newark Eagle papers, Effa Manley scrapbooks, Jules Tygiel's collection and the Ashland Collection.

The Library is asking for our cooperation to forge a lasting close relationship. In keeping with this Leslie Heaphy, on behalf of the NLC, has made available for on-site use THE NEGRO LEAGUES BOOK bibliography. I have sent all the audio interviews (the NLC has about 50 or so) for duplication and dissemination. It is my hope that all committee researchers will share materials with the Library in the spirit of cooperation and trust such that more of the public will be educated on baseball during the Negro League period.

SPECIAL EVENTS

I had a wonderful time at the 1st Annual Society for American Baseball Research Negro Leagues Committee Research Conference. 23 committee members were there along with dozens of other diehards. The conference unfolded just like a SABR National Convention with all emphasis on the Negro Leagues. There was great conversation, ball games, trivia, simulations, selling, presentations, and meetings. It was a fabulous time. Much appreciation to Mayor Reed, Calobe Jackson and undying gratitude to Ted Knorr for work beyond the call of duty. Absolutely successful! A complete recap follows the newsletter.

I encourage anyone to write to the Harrisburg Negro League Committee Chairn an Calobe Jackson Jr at 2737 North Second St., Harrisburg, PA 17106 and/or Mayor Stephen R. Reed, City of Harrisburg, Martin Luther King Jr, City Government Center, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1678, to

comment on the proceedings.

THE PATROIT NEWS (Harrisburg) 8/8/98 **1pg "Reading still has Senators' number"

**1pg copy of written Negro Leagues trivia quiz.

**3pp printout of final game of APBA Game Contest between 1910 Leland Giants and 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords.

Conference program **12pp.

Two of the presentations have been made available.

"A closer look at Wendell Smith" by Michael Marsh, **11pp. and Ralph Christian's "A

breakthrough season: Bud Fowler's and the 1885 Keokuks" **7pp.

Here are all the articles from THE HARRISBURG TIMES of 2/26/98 to 8/21 issues as follows: Negro League History; Hall of Fame vis-a-vis The Negro Leagues; Doby, Rogan, Lacy selected for the Hall; The greatest Negro League pitchers; The greatest Negro League Catchers; Black baseball in Harrisburg before 1900; What was the greatest Negro League team of all-time?; Harrisburg Giants: early years; My favorite Negro League Player; The owners; Art Association to display Negro League busts; The greatest second basemen of the Negro Leagues; Black baseball's greatest thirdbasemen; Black baseball's greatest shortstops; Green Cathedrals; The greatest outfield ever; 2nd annual Negro League Night; Women in baseball; Writer's; The greatest Negro League players of all-time; Harrisburg Times Negro League Tournament; Baseball fans celebrate! SABR Negro League Conference a rousing success.

Future Special Events

The 6th Annual John Henry "Pop" Lloyd Lecture & Awards Program will take place Sunday afternoon, October 11th, at 3:00 PM at the Asbury United Methodist Church on Artic Avenue in Atlantic City, NJ. Dr Clement Price will lecture. Among honorees will be Mayor of Atlantic City, James Whelan. Further info, call Mike Everett (609) 343-7300 Ex 138 or (609) 927-8914.

ONLINE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paul Debono home page http://home.earthlink.net/~pdebono www.majorleaguebaseball.com has Larry Lester pieces on Hall of Fame Induction Day **3pp; Silk City Slugger (Doby) **2pp; Speaking Out (Lacy) **2pp; & Dual Threat (Rogan) **2pp. Check out a story on Josh Gibson at http://ESPN.SportsZone.com/mlb/features/00837407.html Artist Jennifer Ettinger website http://www.intergate.bc.ca/ettinger WASHINGTON POST 9/26/98 **2pp, "With their baseball tradition Hairstons enjoy a historic run first three-generation African-American family in Majors," www.boston.com/dailyglobe/globehtml/255/Notables.shtml for an article on 9/12/98 on Jerry Hairston Jr debut with Orioles and family ties.

NEGRO LEAGUES RELATED ARTICLES

"Colored club in night game here," **1pg 7/13/30 CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER.

North Jersey HERALD & NEWS 7/24/98, "Doby's Patterson ties remain unbreakable," **3pp; 7/25/98, "An Eagle soars to the pinnacle of baseball," **2pp; 7/26/98, "Fame will no longer overlook Larry Doby," **2pp; 7/26/98, "Heroics of '48 left lasting impression," **3pp; 7/27/98, "Doby enters Hall with pride," **2pp.

Newark, NJ THE STAR-LEDGER, 8/3/98, "Negro league baseball as community history,"

**2pp (Manning).

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER, 8/5/98, column "Negro Leagues left stars, stories, sorrow," **1pg & 10/1/46 drawing of Paige and Feller.

7/26/98 THE NEWS DEMOCRAT (Georgetown, Ohio) "Georgetown man plays, coaches sports

over 70 year span," (Tom Turner) **2pp.

THE SPORTING NEWS 8/7/57, "25th Negro All-Star Contest" and "Negro Ball fight for life against big odds," **1pg.
TSN 8/14/57, "Colored Stars of past were born too soon," **1pg.

"Black Barons recall that near championship season," **2pp 8/5/98 THE BIRMINGHAM

GREAT MOMENTS IN SPORTS-BASEBALL, May, 1988, "Looking back on Satchel Paige," **5pp.

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS, 9/13/98, "Shut Out" (NL get together) **1pg & 6/25/98

**2pp "Jerry Craft: Jackie Robinson in reverse."

MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER 8/21/98, "Montgomery's Gray Sox remembered as a success,"

SENIOR LIFE, June, 1998, "Negro League ballplayer enjoys sharing memories," (Ira

McKnight) **2pp.

THE WASHINGTON POST, 9/24/98 **1pg "Josh Gibson-Home Run King."

USA TODAY BASEBALL WEEKLY 9/16-23, 1998 "O'Neil: Oh what a race" **1pg.

9/11/98 book review section of SCD covers Jim Overmyer's QUEEN OF THE NEGRO

LEAGUES." **1pg & SCD Negro Leagues Honored (Judy Johnson Night) **1pg.

From 2nd annual Negro League Commemorative Celebration in Harrisburg, PA, two articles; "Spottswood Poles" by Fredrico **7pp. & "Blackball in Harrisburg" by Ted Knorr and Calobe Jackson Jr. **7pp.

WILLIAMSPORT (PA) SUN-GAZETTE 8/16/98 "Williamsport and the Negro Leagues," **1pg

by Lou Hunsinger.

CURRENT AND FUTURE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

Bill Plott is getting assistance with Austin-Monroe Negro Dixie Series as well as ATLANTA WORLD and has found THE BIRMINGHAM REPORTER and THE ATLANTA JOURNAL.

David Skinner continues work on the 1922-25 Santa Clara Cuban League team. He is also researching the Long Branch, NJ Cubans of 1913-1916. David already helped with some more correct Cuban first names and spelling.

NEGRO LEAGUE COMMITTEE AWARDS

We handed out awards in three catagories in Harrisburg. The Tweed Webb Award & John Coates Award will be annual awards to those who have significantly contributed to Negro Leagues Research. The only difference in awards is that the Tweed Webb is for older researchers while John Coates Award is for younger folks. We gave out retroactive John Coates Awards to Todd Bolton, Leslie Heaphy, and Jim Overmyer. Tweed Webb Awards went to Larry Hogan, John Holway, Bill Plott, Jim Riley, and Kaz Sayama. One award each will be given in the future.

The Robert Peterson Award will be given annually to individuals whose work has increased both the knowledge of and the public's awareness of the Negro Leagues. Again many retroactive awards were presented this year both in Harrisburg and through the mail. Recipients were:David Skinner, Scott Allen, Claudia Perry, Larry Lester, Neil Lanctot, Sammy Miller, Luis Alvelo, Mike Bergantino, Dick Clark, James Floto, Bob Davids, John Haddock, Clement Hamilton, Robert Hoie, Hieronimus & Co., Merl Kleinknecht, Jerry Malloy, Eric Newland, Brad Sullivan, Rob Ruck, Dean Sullivan, Jim Reisler, Bill Treese, Monte Irvin, David Marasco, Rick Morris, Paul Debono, John McReynolds William McNeil, Lyle Wilson, Bill Cash, Adrian Burgos, Brent Kelley, Jeff Eastland, Lou Hunsinger, and Ted Knorr.

40 GREATEST

In the December Newsletter there will be a ballot with dozens and dozens of names. This is the Negro Leagues Ballot for the 40 greatest people in Negro Leagues History 1860-1960. Officials, owners, executives, 19th century players pre-1920 players and 1920-60 players will be selected. The next SABR BULLETIN will explain the process of SABR voting on greatest people. Separate votes will be held for Major League Players, Umpires, Executives, 19th Century players and Negro Leagues. All SABR members will vote on ML players and executives. Umpires, 19th Century and Negro Leagues will have their own elections open to all who care to vote although readers of the NLC Newsletter will form the main block of voting. Ballots will be available soon. Contact me or wait until December.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alton Clay passed 8/15/98 in Joplin. MO at 74 **2pg obit. Also obit on Charles "Teenie" Harris from 6/13/98 PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE **1pg. Joe Taylor died 3/18/93 at 72 in Pittsburgh, BASEBALL AMERICA **1PG.

SCD "New exhibit focus on homerun hitters and the Negro Leagues," **1pg National Sports Gallery. Buck O'Neil, Don Newcombe, Mamie Johnson, and Max Manning were in Ann Arbor, MI on September 19th (alas, I was on vacation out-of-state) THE ANN ARBOR NEWS 9/20/98, "Players tell about when baseball, bigotry mixed" **1pg.

A nice piece on Josh Gibson highlighted the ABC Nighty News With Peter Jennings on Friday 9/25/98. A good story althrough the first picture shown was of Buck Leonard.

The Discover Greatness Exhibit will be at St. Paul, MN Historical Museum, November 29, 1998 to March 14, 1999. It just left St. Petersburg, FL 9/6 (I just missed it).

Bobby Robinson and Sherwood Brewer appeared in Utah.

Clinton Jones has moved back to Memphis, where Verdell Mathis is now in a nursing home.

A Negro Leagues Legends Reception & Silent Auction was held on August 22, 1998 at the Western Reserve Historical Society. **4pp invitation.

**1pg cover of Greater Kansas City Phone Book with Buck O'Neil and friends.

Mundelein, Illinois show with Double Duty Radcliffe and Lester Lockett, October 2-4, 1998

**2pp brochure of National Baseball Library & Archives Photo Collection & Services.

**1pg nice photo of Mark McGwire in A St.Louis Star uniform.

Look for the Winter 1998 Volume 35/2 of AMERICAN BUSINESS LAW JOURNAL with an article by Alfred Mathewson, "Major League Baseball's Monopoly Power and the Negro Leagues."

Bill Plott was August lecturer for the Friends of the State Archives in Montgomery, AL. His topic was "The Montgomery Grey Sox and the Negro Southern League." He was also interviewed by two TV stations.