



Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report
September 1995

George Bryant Found

George Bryant played one game at second base for Detroit in 1885. We had listed this man as having a March 14, 1898 death in Martinsville, Indiana. Joe Simenic found the obituary on this man and he turned out to be Gus Bryant, who was not a major league player.

Further research by Joe uncovered a note that the Detroit second baseman had come from the Chickering piano club of Boston. Joe sent this data to Dick Thompson who searched the files of the late Tom Shea. Tom had apparently suspected that the Chickering piano club player was the major leaguer but hadn't been able to connect the two. Tom had already located the birth and death of this player. Joe's discovery of the note now linked the major leaguer to the player Tom had found years ago. Great work by all involved in this, our September *Find of the Month*.

Member Movement

Ted DiTullio has moved. Ted's new address is 198 Harding Road, Apt. #5, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076. Also welcome Dennis Lisbon to the committee. Dennis can be reached at 905 Lamberton Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902 and his code number will be L3.

Not The Only Nolan

For years we have listed Andre Dawson with the middle name of Fernando. This was as a result of Dawson filling out his Hall of Fame questionnaire with that name in 1977. I wrote the Hall asking for information about that and they sent me a copy of one of Bill Haber's notes from 1977 indicating that Dawson's middle name is Nolan but that he was thinking of changing his

name to Fernando. Anyway his real name is Andre Nolan Dawson.

City Names

Once again, if you would like to check through your state and ensure that I have the city names correctly spelled in my database, let me know and I will send you a list of players born or died in your state. Thanks this month to Al Quimby for checking Tennessee and Joe Glynn for checking Illinois.

Is It Soup Yet?

Pete Palmer sent me a note indicating that the Campbell who played in 1873 was Mathew, not Michael. I know that one of you was researching the Campbells but I don't remember who. I want to make sure we have this accurate. Is this guy Mathew or Michael?

The Cleveland Indians

With Cleveland finishing first this year, Joe Simenic has now seen Cleveland win it in 1995, Cleveland win it in 1954, Cleveland win it in 1948, and Cleveland take the oath of office. The above bad joke was courtesy of Richard Topp.

Coming Attractions

You won't want to miss next month's newsletter for the data on all the 1995 rookies. This year was tougher than most in keeping track of them and next month's report will be a big one.

Birthday List

There are four nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in October. Be sure to send a card.

October 3	John Riddle	90
October 10	Homer Peel	93

October 22	Isaac Kahdot	94
October 28	Henry Boney	92

R U R E Hildebrand?

Our *Mystery of the Month* for September is one of the most mysterious players of the 20th century. We list him as R E Hildebrand and he is every bit as baffling as famous airline hijacker D B Cooper. Let's begin by looking at excerpts from some of the game stories from that August 29, 1902 game in Pittsburgh against the visiting Cubs.

"Some interest attached to the new man who was playing right field for Chicago. On the scorecard he appeared as 'Hillbrand'. That he was being tried out was only too apparent. He evidently had stage fright, and although making no serious blunders, he did little to help the Chicago players roll up their nine runs. Hillbrand is said to be a find who wants to break into the National League from this city."

"A tall local amateur who broke in under the name of Hillbrand played right for Chicago, completing the farcical makeup. Just who Hillbrand is is not known, nor did anyone miss supper last night inquiring about him."

"...he sailed under the name of Hillebrand but wears a different title at home."

So where did the R E Hildebrand come from? Somewhere along the way "Hillebrand" apparently got confused with a minor leaguer, Ralph Eugene Hildebrand. Ralph died in Kansas City in 1957 at the age of 71, making him 17 years old in 1902. He was born in Nebraska and as far as I can tell, had no connection to Pittsburgh. It seems certain that Ralph can be eliminated from consideration.

Note that the stories all spell the name Hillbrand or Hillebrand. At that time, there was a family of 3 brothers named Hillebrand who all played baseball, Homer, Arthur, and Clarence. Homer and Arthur were playing in Flandreau, South Dakota at the time of the game so it could not have been them. Bill Haber thought that the player could have been Clarence. He had ties to Pittsburgh as his brother, Arthur, was a close friend of the District Attorney of Allegheny County, Harry Goehring. Arthur, upon his graduation from Princeton in 1900, had apparently signed with Washington but requested a transfer to Pittsburgh. Clarence graduated from

high school in 1902 in LeMars, Iowa and enrolled at Princeton in the fall.

However, I found a newspaper article in of all issues, the 08/29/1902 Lemars newspaper that mentioned a man presently visiting Clarence on the family farm. This would presumably eliminate Clarence.

Which brings us to our good friend Archie Galbraith. Galbraith was a graduate of Harvard and had faced Art Hillebrand on the diamond many times. Galbraith had played for the Natrona team a couple of days before the game in Pittsburgh, Natrona being a suburb of Pittsburgh. When Cub manager Frank Selee made out his lineup for the August 29 game, he listed Hillebrand in right field and Galbraith at third base. But before play started, he made a change, replacing Galbraith with Jack Taylor. Is it possible Selee listed 2 names, one being fictitious and Hillebrand was actually Galbraith?

There is yet another possibility. The Lansing, Michigan team had an outfielder in 1902 by the name of Fred Hildebrand. The Lansing club disbanded a week prior to "R E's" game and he headed to his home in Washington Court House, Ohio looking for work. Perhaps he overshot his house and landed in Pittsburgh.

I don't know if we will ever have definitive proof as to the identity of "R E Hildebrand" but I hope that I have provided enough theories that one of you may be able to prove one true. Research for this mystery was done by Lefty Blasco, Dick Thompson, Pete Morris, Bill Carle, and the late Bill Haber.

The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	14199	74	99.482
Total Complete Births	13515	758	94.689
Total Complete Deaths	7134	477	49.983
Total Assumed Alive	6662		46.676
Total Bats	12917	1252	91.164
Total Throws	13162	1007	92.893
Total Heights	13150	1019	92.808
Total Weights	13084	1085	92.342
Total Debut Dates	14273	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9974	4299	69.880
Total Completion			92.2127

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

1921 Morgan, Cyril Arlon	No New Information	(T3)
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New Information Received:

1884 Baker, Charles A.	B: <u>Sterling, Massachusetts</u>	(P1)
1919 Bolden, William Horace	B: <u>Dandridge, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1929 Bradshaw, Joe Siah	B: <u>Ro Ellen, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1885 Bryant, George	Name: <u>George E. Bryant</u>	(T3)
	B: <u>Feb 10 1857</u>	
	<u>Bridgeport, Connecticut</u>	
	D: <u>Jun 12 1907</u>	
	<u>Boston, Massachusetts</u>	
1937 Chambers, Johnnie Monroe	B: <u>Copperhill, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1980 Charboneau, Joseph	B: <u>Belvidere, Illinois</u>	(G4)
1930 Cuccinello, Anthony Francis	D: <u>Sep 21 1995</u>	(C1)
	<u>Tampa, Florida</u>	
1879 Gunkle, Frederick W.	B: <u>Reading, Pennsylvania</u>	(S1)
1976 Dawson, Andre Fernando	Name: <u>Andre Nolan Dawson</u>	(HF)
1892 Gilbert, Wilmer M.	Name: <u>Alfred Gideon Gilbert</u>	(D2)
	B: <u>Mar 13 1868</u>	
1918 Hall, Herbert Silas	B: <u>Steeleville, Illinois</u>	(G4)
1911 Hendryx, Timothy Green	B: <u>Le Roy, Illinois</u>	(G4)
1928 Hinson, James Paul	B: <u>Vanleer, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1944 Hofferth, Stewart Edward	D: <u>Mar 7 1994</u>	(C1)
	<u>Kouts, Indiana</u>	
1888 Hoy, William Ellsworth	Height: <u>5-06</u> Weight: <u>160</u>	(S1)
1884 Hughes, William R.	B: <u>Bladinsville, Illinois</u>	(G4)
1946 Lambert, Clayton Patrick	B: <u>Summit, Illinois</u>	(G4)
1941 Layne, Ivoria Hillis	B: <u>Whitwell, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1902 McFarland, Charles A.	B: <u>White Hall, Illinois</u>	(D2)
1895 McFarland, LaMont A.	Name: <u>Lamont Amos McFarland</u>	(D2)
	B: <u>Nov 7 1872</u>	
	<u>White Hall, Illinois</u>	
1974 Miller, Roger Wesley	D: <u>Apr 26 1993</u>	(S3)
	<u>Mill Run, Pennsylvania</u>	
1884 Morris, Edward	Height: <u>5-07</u>	(T1)
1951 Mossor, Earl Dalton	B: <u>Forbus, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1875 O'Neill,	B: <u>Brooklyn, New York</u>	(T1)
1935 Onis, Manuel Dominguez	D: <u>Jan 4 1995</u>	(N1)
	<u>Tampa, Florida</u>	
1932 Starr, Raymond Francis	D: <u>Baylis, Illinois</u>	(G4)
1911 Walker, Clarence William	D: <u>Unicoi, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1928 Weaver, James Dement	B: <u>Obion County, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1894 West, Frank	B: <u>Jan 1874</u>	(D2)
1871 White, William Warren	Eliminate death date. Wrong man.	(S1)