

# Nineteenth Century Notes



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Anniversary issue, 2003:1  
Editor, Paul Wendt

150 YEARS AGO

## 1853

by John Thorn

Although baseball had been played in New York City for more than thirty years by this point, the Knickerbocker rules were only eight years old and precious few match games had been played under them. Cricket was more popular than baseball, and the great sporting event of the season was, as the *New York Times* headline proclaimed, "THE CRICKET-MATCH BETWEEN ALL THE UNITED STATES AND ALL CANADA." The two-day match concluded at the Red House Grounds in Harlem on August 23. Sam Wright, Sr. of the St. George club, father of Harry and George and Sam, played for the victors.

From a baseball perspective, the cricket match held two weeks earlier, on August 8, held more interest, as the New York Cricket Club defeated the St. George and thus claimed seven spots among the American eleven. This *Times* comment of August 10, looking toward the arrival of the Canadians, foreshadows the Fashion Race Course Games of 1858: "The ground has yet to be selected, and we should hope that a more extensive field will be found than either the Red House or Hoboken. Why not choose a spot on Long Island,--say twenty or thirty miles from Brooklyn?"

The 1853 campaign in baseball yielded a few important events. At year's end, the two other organized clubs beside the Knicks requested a conference to rationalize the varying rules under which the three clubs played. Both the Eagle and the Gotham predated the Knickerbocker as ballplaying organizations, and some of their old rules had not yet yielded to the 1845 Knickerbocker codification. As Doc Adams would say of this era four decades later, "The playing rules remained very crude up to this time, but in 1853 the three clubs united in a revision of the rules and regulations."

Also in 1853, on May 1, William Cauldwell of the *Evening Mercury* wrote the first post-Knickerbocker news story on baseball. On July 1, the Knicks played a game against the Gothams that was halted on account of rain before two innings were completed. Play resumed on July 5, and another five innings were played. It was this game, ending in a victory for the Knickerbockers, 21-12, that produced the first Knick-era printed box score, in the July 9 issue of *Spirit of the Times*.

This game was played at the Red House Grounds, just as the aforementioned cricket match was to be. While the Elysian Fields remain famous to this day as the site of the Knickerbocker playing grounds, the Red House has faded into obscurity.

The Red House was near the point where 105th Street is now cut through to the Harlem River, and was approached by a road from Third Avenue. One of its earliest proprietors was Lewis Rogers. Rogers was, according to Abram Dayton in *Last Days of Knickerbocker Life* (1880), "a walking encyclopaedia of horse racing, cock fighting, rat baiting, prize fighting...." A subsequent celebrated Red House hotelier was Ned Luff. After he departed for another position, in about 1871, the Red House was untenanted.

Trotters would stage races between Hazard House in Yorkville (at the current 82nd Street) and the Red House, a distance of about a mile. The celebrated bay mare Flora Temple made her racing debut on that stretch. Another famous trotting hostelry was Cato's, at 65th Street.

**New York City in 1853.** According to *The Stranger's Handbook for The City of New York*, issued by C.S. Francis & Co. in this year, there were 272 churches, 8 markets, 13 parks and squares, 115 fire companies with 3137 members, 25 hotels on Broadway, and others scattered throughout the city, 5 theaters, 2 minstrel halls, and other places of entertainment such as Barnum's Museum and Castle Garden, 29 omnibus lines, and 5 street car lines.

**May 2.** Franconi's Hippodrome is opened, at the northwest corner of Broadway and 23d Street.

**June 30.** The Latting Observatory is opened, built on the south side of 43d Street, east of Sixth Avenue, in connection with the World's Fair.

**July 14.** The first American World's Fair is opened, in the Crystal Palace, on the site now covered by Bryant Park, behind the New York Public Library.

**July 18.** Aiken's version of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is performed at the National Theatre in Chatham Street. The book had been published the previous year. [Source: I.N. Phelps-Stokes. *New York Past and Present*. Plantin Press. New York. 1939.]

EDITOR'S NOTE. The biweekly *Clipper* was established in 1853, published by Harrison Fulton Trent. The first number was April 30: 4pp, 14.25" x 19.25", 2 cents. (Thanks to J.P. Caillault.) See more on the 1853 *Clipper* in the next article.

**1854?** Contact me if you would like to write an article on 1854. Coverage of a single event is welcome. So is broader scope such as John Thorn's.

The most important baseball event in 1854 was probably the conference of Knickerbocker, Gotham and Eagle Club representatives, and the subsequent adoption of its fruit, a revised version of the Knickerbocker rules. The 1854 rules are reprinted in Dean Sullivan, *Early Innings: A Documentary History of Baseball, 1825-1908* (U Nebraska Press, 1995).

## THE FIRST KNICK-ERA BOX SCORE?

by Paul Wendt

When was a baseball box score first published? Two appeared in New York newspapers, October 1845, covering games played on the 21st and 24th between the New York Base Ball Club and players from Brooklyn. For years, the next published box score known to many of us, and the first known box score of a game certainly played by Knickerbocker rules, has been the *Clipper* 1853 Jul 16 account of a Gotham-Knickerbocker match played on two days, July 1 and 5. J.P. Caillault recently informed me that the match was reported in *Spirit of the Times* 1853 Jul 9, one week earlier. *Clipper's* article is nearly a copy of *Spirit's* and the box scores are identical. Did the *Spirit* move the *Clipper* to cover baseball?

Caillault, John Thorn, and I cooperated to produce this edition of both July 1853 articles at once. Layout mimics the *Spirit*. **Bold** marks what appeared in *Spirit* but not in *Clipper*: the header, footer, and two words. [Brackets] mark editorial insertions; in particular, Thorn has provided correct surnames for three Gotham players. Punctuation marks and plurals have been checked.

### BASE BALL AT HOBOKEN.

New York, July 6, 1853.

**Friend P.** -- The first friendly game of the season, between the Gotham and Knickerbocker Base Ball Clubs was played on the grounds of the latter on the 5th inst. The game was commenced on **Friday** the 1st, but owing to the storm had to be postponed, the Knickerbockers making nine aces to two of [*Clipper*: for] the Gotham, the following is the score for both days: --

GOTHAM			KNICKERBOCKER		
	No. of Outs	Runs		No. of Outs	Runs
Vail	1	3	Brotherson	0	4
W. H. Fancott [ Van Cott ]	2	2	Dick	1	4
Thos. Fancott [ Van Cott ]	2	2	Adams	2	3
J.C. Pinkney [ Pinckney ]	0	3	Niebuhr	3	2
R.H. Cudlip	2	1	Dupignac	4	1
Winslow, Jr.	4	0	Tryon	3	2
Winslow, Sr.	2	0	Parisen	1	2
Jno. Lalor	2	1	Tucker	3	1
Wadsworth	3	0	Waller	1	2
	--	--		--	--
Total	18	12	Total	18	21

**Twenty-one runs constituting the game.**

**Yours truly, F.W.T.**

The box score published by *Spirit of the Times* July 9 is now the third earliest known, and the first that certainly reports a "Knick-era" match, or one played by the Knickerbocker rules. Is there an earlier Knick-era game story without a box score?

It is difficult or impossible to prove a negative, but there may be a positive answer or other interesting material in the *Mercury*, *Spirit* or *Clipper* between May 1, when the *Mercury* published a baseball news story (see "1853"), and July 9.

According to Caillault, the *Spirit* did not mention baseball between Feb 19 and July 9. According to the present Gotham Base Ball Club, "The first box score of a baseball game in the New York press comes in 1853 when stories in the *Spirit* and the *New York Mercury* [my emphasis] report a game played at the St. George Cricket grounds. The excitement around these games played between the Gothams and Knickerbockers spurred many other teams to form in the New York area." <http://zyworld.com/gothambaseball/Page16.htm>

The *Spirit* box score was identified as the first baseball box score years ago, but baseball researchers generally missed it. Richard Boyd Hauck and Dean Margaret Hauck, "Panning for Gold: Researching Humor in the *Spirit of the Times*," *Studies in American Humor* 3.3 (Jan 1977); reprinted at [http://www.compedit.com/pan\\_for\\_gold.htm](http://www.compedit.com/pan_for_gold.htm) (with two ' '). "The first baseball box score ever published anywhere appeared in the issue of 9 July 1853" (p150).

### THOSE 1845 GAMES

Ten years ago, this newsletter #93:4 reprinted the two 1845 game stories and box scores, from *New York Morning News* Oct 22 and *New York Herald* Oct 25. They are also reprinted in Dean Sullivan's *Early Innings*.

Introducing the reprints here, Fred Ivor-Campbell wrote that the two games "may be the first baseball games ever reported in the press" and argued that they were probably played by the Knickerbocker rules codified September 23.

Thorn thinks the argument for Knick rules is weak; a likely alternative is the New York Club's own rules. He maintains the established view, which counts the Knicks own first match as the first played by their rules. That match with the New Yorks was next June 19, 1846.

(Until June, the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club played only intramurals. Their 1845 code explicitly governs games among members. See rules 1-3 and 5-7. But "Knickerbocker rules" traditionally means the baseball rules, number 4 and 8-20.)

**Very early newspaper coverage.** What do you know about it? 1854 coverage may be a good subject for one "1854" article.

Some publishers or editors of the newspapers mentioned in this newsletter were (*Sunday?*) *Mercury*, William Cauldwell, publisher; *Spirit of the Times*, William T. Porter, editor to 1856 (date?) when he established *Porter's Spirit of the Times*; *Clipper*, Harrison Fulton Trent, publisher 1853-1855, and Frank Queen, editor from 1853 and publisher from 1855 (date?).

19c COMMITTEE'S 20th ANNIVERSARY

# 1983

by Paul Wendt

The Nineteenth Century Committee was established by SABR early in 1983 "to encourage research into baseball of that century." It was the Society's seventh research committee, following the Ballparks Cmte in 1982 and five formed by 1975: Biographical Research, Minor Leagues, Negro Leagues, Statistical Analysis, and Baseball Records.

Several months earlier, in September 1982, John Thorn and Mark Rucker had written a letter "to whom it may concern" in which they proposed "a new S.A.B.R. committee dedicated to the Nineteenth Century game." Both interest in the period and opportunity for its research were expanding. They specified one general task for the committee: compilation of "photographic and factual records of individuals and clubs from the New York Knickerbockers to the end of the century," with a focus on "the late 1850s, the 1860s, and 1870s, where it is most needed." Recipients should pass the word to others, "not only present S.A.B.R. members."

Sometime in 1983, co-Chairs Thorn and Rucker greeted members of the new research committee, listed eight "areas of research and goals" or possible subcommittees, and requested information about useful archival sources such as historical societies. A survey was enclosed. If there was a printed membership list, it has been lost.

Here are the eight suggested "areas":

Photographic identification of all major teams and players, 1850s to 1900.

Compilation of pre-National Association team rosters yearly, and records for those teams.

Statistics and records for individuals, amateur and professional.

Hall of Fame candidate profiles. (Start, Van Haltren, Ryan, &c)

Black baseball. (Seminal research.)

Ballparks. (To connect with Ballparks Committee.)

Clearing house activities: to bring those of similar interests together; to prevent re-research and research overlap.

Bibliographic and archival services.

The survey apparently asked members to specify their interests under five general "headings" and to list "other areas of interest." The subsequent report gives the name of each member surveyed (28 men), shows which of the five headings he marked or specified, and lists his "other interests" free form. Here are the five headings with the number who marked or specified each. The headings were probably understood as abbreviations for five of the slightly longer "areas" (above).

## INTERESTS OF 28 MEMBERS, 1983

Photographic	15
Hall of Fame	14
Pre-N.A. Rosters & Records	13
Black BB	7
Ballparks	5
Other - specified	many

Most people listed some other interests, especially particular leagues, cities, clubs, teams (eg, Providence 1883), and classes (minor, independent, pre-professional). Three indicated bibliography, archives or newspapers; two or three, the statistical record; two, particular players; and one, some

historical themes (Fred Ivor-Campbell: "development of bb terms, rules, equipment, playing techniques").

With hindsight, the "Photographic" interest suggests the Pictorial History Cmte, established 1994 and later chaired by Rucker. Its principal project has been development of the Player Image Index, which incorporates photo identification of all major league players. Maybe the interest in "Hall of Fame" or "Hall of Fame candidate profiles" was the germ of our first official project, which produced *Nineteenth Century Stars* (SABR, 1989). That book collects 136 short biographies of people not then in the Hall, including all 28 players who garnered at least two votes in a 1983 poll (see "Hall of Fame").

The interest in "Pre-N.A. Rosters & Records" is one that we should tap now. Ironically, that heading implies some satisfaction with rosters and records for the "N.A." (the professional National Association, 1871-1875), but their recompilation turned out to be our second project and we have completed no such "Pre-N.A." work.

A few people have worked on 19c black baseball, but the Cmte has not undertaken any project (nor has the Negro Leagues Cmte). There was a 19c Ballparks project, led by the Ballparks Cmte in the mid 1990s, but it did not then bear fruit. Did the 19c Cmte once gather clippings and references, or direct the same to the Ballparks or the Negro Leagues Cmte?

## EARLY MEMBERS

The earliest list of members that I can reconstruct is the 28 people who completed the 1983 survey of interests, reported in October. In January 1984, the co-Chairs observed that the 19c Cmte was SABR's largest but they did not provide a count. The oldest explicit membership list in the Committee archive is January 1987 (58 members).

Among the 28 who replied to the early survey, 15 are 19c Cmte members today, 6 others are SABR members, at least 3 are deceased, and 2 left SABR by death or by choice in 2003. The two others were last on the rolls in 1987 and 1994. I think it is appropriate to list the 28.

19c Cmte members in 2003 (15): Bill Akin, Lefty Blasco, Jonathan Frankel, Dan Hotaling, John Husman, Fred Ivor-Campbell, Lewis Lipset, Jack Little, John J. O'Malley, John Pardon, Frank Phelps, Bob Richardson, Mark Rucker, Eric Simonsen, John Thorn

other 2003 SABR members (6): Harold Dellinger, Bruce Ericson, Dennis Goldstein, William Loughman, Dick Schrader, James D. Smith

deceased (3): Bob Davids, Jerry Malloy, Joe Overfield

other (4): Joseph Costa, Paul Doherty, Walter Handelman, Philip Von Borries

**19c Cmte newsletters.** The two founding letters from Thorn and Rucker, the September 1982 call and 1983 welcome, are reprinted on the "19th Century Resources" website. They may fairly be called newsletters zero and one and they are the first two items in the complete run of newsletters that is now available in print. The whole is more than 200 pages.

The master set is unmarked but not original; some has been copied twice. Something will be lost in copying again. Much of the set will probably be scanned (photographed digitally) and made available by internet in pdf format. Something will be lost in scanning, too.

To order the print edition, send a \$15 check payable to me, Paul Wendt (64 Riverside St #3, Watertown MA 02472-2652).

## THE HALL OF FAME – a 1983 perspective and what happened to it

By Paul Wendt

When the 19c Cmte was established in 1983, Co-Chairs John Thorn and Mark Rucker listed "Hall of Fame candidate profiles" among eight suggested "areas of research and goals" and they included "Hall of Fame" among five headings on the survey of member interests. Of 28 people who replied, 14 showed interest in the HOF and two of them listed no other interest in 19c baseball. The survey also asked members to list "the ten best 19th C. players not in the Hall of Fame" and the results show that at least 19 people participated. Rucker and Thorn closed their report, "We hope this list may be of use to the Hall of Fame committee at some future time."

Why was there so much interest in the Hall of Fame? Probably because it seemed practically important to provide the Veterans Committee with good information about 19th century players. Twenty-seven 19c players were then in the Hall, of whom six had been elected during the 1970s, most recently Roger Connor in 1976 and Amos Rusie in 1977. Five years had passed, but five years had passed after the election of Pud Galvin in 1965. Recent history suggested that 19c players were generally under consideration. In the event, twenty years would pass before the 1998 election of George Davis, on a special ballot for 19c candidates only.

The Cmte members who participated in our 1983 poll cast 184 votes for 48 players. If there were 19 or 20 nearly-full ballots, then six players garnered 50% support and eight more garnered 25%: in order, Jimmy Ryan, Harry Stovey, George Van Haltren, Pete Browning, Joe Start and Deacon White, 13 to 10 votes; Jack Glasscock, Tony Mullane, Bid McPhee, Jim McCormick, Cal McVey, Ross Barnes, Bob Caruthers and Paul Hines, 8 to 5 votes.

The group got it wrong at the top, in giving its strongest support to three outfielders and one outfielder-1B (Stovey) from the 1880s-90s, each with a high batting average or lots of hits. Such players were already heavily represented among 19c Hall of Fame "Players": 14 or 15 of the 27 played mainly outfield and first base (only two significantly before the 1880s); 8 or 9 were pitchers. Only 3 to 5 of the 27 represented the four fielding positions catcher, second, third and short: Buck Ewing, Jimmy Collins, Hugh Jennings, pitcher-shortstop John Ward, and catcher-utility Mike Kelly.

Opinion has changed both here and elsewhere. No doubt, it has been profoundly shaped by sabermetrics. In 1989, the first *Total Baseball* brought some new measures to a wide audience. Six 19c players not then in the Hall were among the Top 100 in its Total Baseball Ranking: George Davis (#27), Bill Dahlen, McPhee, Mullane, Jack Stivetts and Glasscock (four middle infielders and two pitchers). 2B Cupid Childs also ranked above Browning (#134), the highest ranked among the leaders in our 1983 poll. A decade after our poll, the Hall of Fame appointed five 19c Cmte members as a Blue Ribbon advisory committee. Eventually they voted and recommended election of the five players who scored highest: in order, McPhee, Davis, Dahlen, Stovey and Glasscock (one second baseman, three shortstops, and one OF-1B). In 1999, 113 Cmte members cast unranked ballots for the 40 best 19c players in one of SABR's Century Surveys (reported here in #99.2). Five players not in the Hall of Fame, 1983, garnered 50% support and six more finished in the Top 40: in order, Davis, Browning, McPhee, Stovey and White; Mullane, Glasscock, Caruthers, Dahlen, Tip O'Neill and Barnes. Ryan and Van Haltren, who tied for first with Stovey in 1983, finished just outside the Top 40 in 1999, behind the eleven players just

named, or 12th and 13th in the comparable group. 1B Start also dropped from the leaders in 19c Cmte estimation. Now beginning in 2003, a group of about 50 that includes several SABRen is gradually filling its "Hall of Merit" in a series of biweekly elections, with gratifying attention to the 19th century (<http://baseballthinkfactory.org/files/primer/hom>). Beside Hall of Fame members, they have elected several of the 14 players who received strong support in our 1983 poll, but none of outfielders Ryan, Van Haltren and Browning.

Since 1983, the Hall of Fame has elected shortstop George Davis and second baseman Bid McPhee. Official "Pioneers" George Wright and Candy Cummings are certainly honored for "pioneering" as players, so they might be counted at their fielding positions, shortstop and pitcher. Counting them, the present distribution of 19c Hall of Fame players by fielding position is 14-15 outfield and first base, 9-10 pitcher, and 6-8 catcher, second, third and short; 31 total. There are 8 at the latter four positions if Ward is a shortstop and Kelly a catcher.

Davis and McPhee were elected by the 1953-2001 Committee on Veterans (the "old Veterans Committee") from a special 19c ballot that was in effect beginning 1995. Today 19c candidates again compete with those from the 20th century in one pool and the election has been redesigned to give living Hall of Fame members a majority of the votes.

In the first, 2002-2003 cycle of the new system, fifteen 19th century players were among the 200 first-stage nominees (<http://world.std.com/~pgw/HOF/hof.nom2003.html>), not including White (#3), O'Neill, Barnes, Jim Creighton, McVey, Hines and Dickey Pearce among the 15 leading non-members in our 1999 poll. None of the 19c nominees survived the second stage to reach the 26-man ballot, where Ken Williams and Bob Meusel were eldest; had one advanced, he would have garnered few votes in the third and final stage. We may confidently expect no change in 2004-2005 and future cycles.

The time for Hall of Fame induction of 19c players has clearly passed, given the system. If we selected the best players not in the Hall today, now it would be strictly for fun.

### NOTES.

**"19th century"** This article is limited to players who were major league regulars by 1896. That matches the temporal scope of our collected biographies, *19c Stars* and *First Stars*. The "youngest" (latest arriving) players included are Jimmy Collins and Fred Clarke; the "eldest" players excluded are Bobby Wallace and Nap Lajoie. Don't look too closely.

**"Players"** Except for one count that includes pioneer players George Wright and Candy Cummings, this article is limited to Hall of Fame members officially classified as "Players" and to others who would be official "Players" if elected.

Several 19c players are HOF "Pioneers & Executives" or "Managers": the Wrights, Clark Griffith, John McGraw, et al. Most were elected before classification was introduced; Griffith was not *elected* as an executive, McGraw as a manager, or Jennings as a Player. Yet, I follow the classification here.

The Blue Ribbon committee considered all contributions and it recommended the election of executive William Hulbert beside the five players. Beginning in 1995, Hulbert and two Blue Ribbon runners up, managers Ned Hanlon and Frank Selee, were elected beside players Davis and McPhee.

**19c Hall of Famers** (<http://world.std.com/~pgw/19c/hof.html>). See all the Hall of Fame members from 19c baseball listed by category and fielding position, at three points in time. The three snapshots were taken in 1939 when the HOF opened, in 1949 after the bulk of old-time inductions, and at present.

## CAREER HOME RUN LEADERS, 1903-1913

After Jimmy Ryan hit his last home run, 13 Aug 1903, the Top Ten list of career home run leaders—which was utterly unknown-- did not change for more than ten full seasons, until Honus Wagner attained 10th place in 1914.

NAME	HOME RUNS
Roger Connor	138
Sam Thompson	127
Harry Stovey	122
Jimmy Ryan	118
Dan Brouthers	106
Mike Tiernan	106
Hugh Duffy	106
Ed Delahanty	101
Cap Anson	97
Fred Pfeffer	94

All of the fixed leaders were 19th century stars, of course. Ryan, Hugh Duffy and Ed Delahanty hit some of their home runs in the 20th century. During the ten seasons 1904-1913, Phillies manager Duffy (101 plate appearances) and Detroit replacement Sam Thompson (31 PA) played a little but did not hit a home run.

## BORN in 1853

1853 was a bad year for baseball birthdays. The most famous 150-year old is probably Jack Manning, the change pitcher for Al Spalding on the 1875 Boston Red Stockings, after Harry Wright retired from play. He batted well enough to keep a major league job, at first base or in the outfield, most of the time through 1885 and he leads the class of 1853 in both games played (835) and games pitched (96). Lon Knight also had a 10-year career in the majors including a short early time as a pitcher. Bill Barnie managed the Baltimore Orioles 1883-1891 and three NL teams for about half of 1892-1898.

In contrast, Cap Anson, Paul Hines, player-sportswriter Tim Murnane and others were born in 1852. Frank Richter, Al Spink, Charley Radbourn and others were born in 1854.

Sources: Baseball-Reference; *19th Century Stars* and *Baseball's First Stars* (SABR, 1989 and 1996). Some of the birth data may be out of date.

**Nineteenth Century Notes** is the newsletter of the Nineteenth Century Committee, one of about twenty research committees in SABR—the Baseball Research Society. The two preceding numbers are Summer 2001, ed. Greg Rhodes (call it #2001) and #99.2, Spring 1999, edited by Frederick Ivor-Campbell. #2001 is available upon request, at no cost, to anyone who joined the 19c Cmte since 2001 and didn't receive it.

**Thank you**, John Thorn and our four reviewers. Please accept my personal apology for the delayed publication of your works. David Stevens, please accept my apology from the Committee for the belated review that was announced forthcoming 1999.

**What next?** The layout of this issue is primitive but consistent in one crucial respect. Every note about the newsletter itself appears in a box, as these four paragraphs are boxed.

I have enough material for a medium-size number that is about half business, with more business to write or to commission. "Help Wanted" is sorely missed and easy to submit quickly; let us bring that and "Help Offered" up to date asap. Please help by mimicking the format used here, with multiple contact info.

--Paul Wendt, Editor

## Resources

### TEAM FIELDING at BASEBALL-REFERENCE

Baseball-Reference (<http://baseball-reference.com>) is a major league baseball encyclopedia on the web. It provides convenient access to a wealth of data familiar to users of print encyclopedias, such as playing statistics for players, teams and leagues. One novel feature is the presentation of team fielding by position, which shows clearly how each MLB team used its men in the field. For example, consider the shortstops and outfielders of the 1871 Boston Red Stockings. (quote)

Shortstop	G	PO	A	E	DP	.781	5.18
RBarnes	15	44	64	21	3	.837	7.20
GWright	15	32	61	21	8	.816	6.20
SJackson	1	0	0	1	0	.000	0.00
HWright	1	0	3	2	0	.600	3.00
Team Total	31	76	128	45	11	.819	6.65

The first five columns of numbers give familiar counting statistics. Individual games sum to 32, one more than team games 31, so the team made one in-game substitution at shortstop. Regular SS George Wright played 15 games (no more because he broke a leg); regular 2B Ross Barnes also played 15. Sam Jackson made no plays in his game, so the one substitution probably involved his short appearance. If so, Harry Wright played the odd game.

The last two columns give fielding average and successful plays per game, (PO+A)/G, with league average at the head of each column. Barnes made 7.2 plays per game with fielding average .837, well above league average in both respects.

Outfield	G	LF	CF	RF
HWright	30	0	30	0
DBirdsall	27	0	0	27
FCone	18	18	0	1
FBarrows	17	13	0	4
ASpalding	9	0	9	0
CMcVey	5	0	0	5
CGould	1	0	0	1
SJackson	1	0	1	0
Team Total	31	31	31	31

I have deleted all of the outfield data but games played—in the outfield and at each of three outfield positions, which is the novelty. The individual games sum to LF 31, CF 40, RF 38, showing that the team made no in-game substitutions in left, 9 in center and 7 in right. Al Spalding and Harry Wright were the pitchers; the team changed pitchers (9 times, not shown) by switching the pitcher and centerfielder. Cal McVey and Dave Birdsall were the catchers; the team changed catchers (5 times, not shown) by switching the catcher and rightfielder.

Reading across each player's line shows that only Fred Cone moved from one outfield position to another during a game, once. That indicates a problem in the data, which also shows that Cone and Barrows split complete games in left. (According to the report of our NA Project, Cone played 19 games in the outfield. That record shows that no Red Stocking moved between outfield positions during a game.)

## Reviews

***Sunday Baseball: The Major Leagues' Struggle to Play Baseball on the Lord's Day, 1876-1934.*** By Charlie Bevis. McFarland (below). 2003. 318p, appendices, endnotes (p293-307), index; \$29.95 paper.

Reviewed by Frank Vaccaro

There was a time in this country when you needed ten men to play a game of baseball on a Sunday: nine for the fielding positions and one to look out for the cops. Now SABR member Charlie Bevis offers a book, *Sunday Baseball*, that chronicles the struggle of the major leagues to play ball on the Sabbath. And chronicle it does: from Puritan laws in the seventeenth century to ESPN's \$400 million Sunday Night Baseball contract in 1990.

Bevis, an expert on early twentieth century New England leagues, has obviously done his research. He offers an accurate and polished behind-the-scenes narrative for each major league city. Senior baseball historians will be impressed by the completeness with which Bevis has rooted out all those Sunday alternative sites such as Gloucester, New Jersey; Geauga Lake, Ohio; and Three Rivers, New York. In Three Rivers, the infield was in such poor condition that home plate was placed in deep center field and new base paths were marked off for a major league championship game.

*Sunday Baseball* is packed with so many of the glorious contrivances and so much of the buffoonery that characterized the desperate effort to charge admission on Sunday; even the casual fan will finish the book wanting more. Did you know that outfielders on a losing team once told an overflow crowd to come on the field so they would win by forfeit? That a sheriff once stopped a game in the third inning to ask the fans if they wanted the players arrested now or after the game? That a rookie pitcher once made his debut wearing a suit of clothes because he expected to be arrested? The arrest didn't come and he finished with a complete game.

*Sunday Baseball* is a concisely written tapestry of quotations and original passages that work the subject eastward from its humble beginnings in "pagan" St. Louis, 1868. The most complete chapters are those on Boston and Philadelphia, the last two major league cities to hold out against "the evil of Sunday ball." The Boston chapter climaxes with pious city Councilors reportedly extorting cash from the Boston owners. The Philadelphia story covers the fall of outdated 139-year-old "blue laws," but you still couldn't buy a beer at a Sunday sporting event in Philly until 1972.

There's terrific city-versus-city newspaper banter from the 1880s and Bevis impresses the reader when he outlines the see-saw political momentums that swept the issue in and out of the public consciousness. *Sunday Baseball* passes as scholarly and is virtually the only book on this subject. Baseball may have been the flashpoint for all Sunday commerce in this country, so *Sunday Baseball* deserves note as "more than just a baseball book."

One appendix lists the first Sunday games played, by city and team. Two others reprint four significant court decisions on the legality of Sunday baseball and the 1928 Massachusetts Sunday baseball referendum.

**Frank Vaccaro**, Long Island City NY, has logged the location, teams, final score, innings and starting pitchers for every game in hundreds of major league seasons and several minor ones. On that foundation, he is an expert on pennant races.

***The Baseball Necrology: The Post-Baseball Lives and Deaths of Over 7,600 Major League Players and Others.***

By Bill Lee. McFarland (below). 2003. 525p, appendix, bibliography; \$55 illustrated case.

Reviewed by Stew Thornley

Bill Lee's *Baseball Necrology* is a thoroughly researched book with entries for more than 7600 dead players and other baseball people, which include information on their post-baseball careers, deaths, and burial sites. It can be a handy reference for those with need for such information and a fun book for anyone to thumb through. Here are some typical entries:

**Steve Yerkes**—7 Years Infielder (b. 15 May 1888 Hatboro PA – d. 31 Jan 1971 North Penn Hospital, Lansdale PA) He owned and operated Glenside Bowling Lanes. Buried Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Philadelphia PA.

**Moose McCormick**—5 Years Outfielder (b. 28 Feb 1881 Philadelphia PA – d. 9 Jul 1962 Lewisburg PA) Served in the U.S. Army during both World Wars I and II. He coached baseball and basketball at Bucknell Univ from 1922 to 1926 and baseball at West Point from 1926 to 1936. He managed the veteran's housing at Bucknell from 1947 to 1958 when he retired. He had been in ill health for a year when he died. Buried Lewisburg Cemetery, Lewisburg PA.

**Chet Hoff**—4 Years Pitcher (b. 8 May 1891 Ossining NY – d. 18 Sep 1998 Halifax Medical Center, Daytona Beach FL) He worked for Rand McNally in Ossining before retiring to Florida in 1956. Died after falling and breaking a hip a week earlier. Buried Dale Cemetery, Ossining NY.

The appendix provides a useful cross-reference for finding burial sites by state. I also appreciate the introduction in which Lee explains his methods and criteria. His search for details took him across the country with visits to many libraries and county courthouses for records to supplement what he was able to find in newspaper obituaries. This was clearly a labor of love, which makes it all the more enjoyable to read.

Lee acknowledges errors and seeks reader support to correct them. Since I've spent a lot of time researching graves, I'm aware of the challenges, particularly with people who are cremated. Often a cemetery that performs a cremation gets listed as the interment site. Thus Lee lists Roy Campanella as buried at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills in Los Angeles, although Campanella was only cremated there with his remains returned to the family. On the other hand, Lee does list Bob Lemon as cremated, even though many sources incorrectly note his interment site as Forest Lawn Cemetery in Long Beach CA, where he was cremated.

Cremations get even trickier if the remains moved around a bit. (This can even happen with uncremated remains, although not as often.) For example, an urn containing the ashes of Don Drysdale was held for many years at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale CA, but was picked up by the family in early 2002. Such things are almost impossible to keep up with, and I can't fault Lee for listing Forest Lawn as the interment site.

A greater error is that Lee lists Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge MA for John Clarkson, who is buried in Cambridge Cemetery next door, and I don't understand his listing Druid Ridge Cemetery in Pikesville MD for Hack Wilson, whose grave I have visited at Rosedale Cemetery in Martinsburg WV.

The accuracy of a book with so many entries, covering more than 500 pages, is difficult to assess fully. I did a lot of random checks on verifiable information, such as birth and death dates as well as interment locations when I was sure of

them myself. While there were some errors, I found it to be remarkably accurate overall.

Lee includes a notation for those in the Hall of Fame; however, he uses it not only for actual inductees but also for recipients of the Ford Frick and J.G. Taylor Spink awards. Since those awards are presented by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, it has become common to refer to a recipient as a "Hall of Fame writer" or a member of the "broadcaster's wing of the Hall of Fame." Although this could be called a matter of interpretation, it is clearly misleading to refer to Frick recipient Byrum Saam and Spink recipient Gordon Cobbledick as members of the Hall of Fame in the same sense as Ernie Banks, Henry Chadwick, and Mickey Mantle.

Because of its scope, *The Baseball Necrology* is a massive book. It retails for \$55, a price that will require careful consideration by potential buyers.

**Stew Thornley**, Roseville MN, is the Vice President of SABR until July 2004. He has visited all gravesites of Hall of Fame members, photographed most, and recorded GPS locations of some. <http://stewthornley.net/halloffamegraves.html>

EDITOR'S NOTE. Readers have reported some problems placing cities in regions (Conway MA in the Berkshires) and distinguishing cities from their neighborhoods (Boston and Mattapan MA). Users of this or perhaps any geographical reference should be wary. Place names change, several may be correct at once, some are official and others customary.

**McFarland & Company, Inc.** Publishers, Box 611, Jefferson NC 28640. Orders 1-800-253-2187. <http://mcfarlandpub.com>

McFarland publishes many baseball books and several on each year's list are appropriate for review here. A review copy may be available. Contact me before you undertake a review.

***Baseball's Radical for All Seasons: A Biography of John Montgomery Ward.*** By David Stevens. Scarecrow Press, 4720 Boston Way, Lanham, MD 20706. 1998. xii+251p; \$39.50 cloth.

Reviewed by Frederick Ivor-Campbell

There are those who consider John Montgomery Ward the most important figure in 19c baseball, but until David Stevens wrote *Baseball's Radical*, no one had given Ward a full-length biography. In the end, it was a close race: Bryan DiSalvatore, who was also researching Ward's life published his biography less than a year after Stevens. Stevens' biography is too short (in my opinion) and some reviewers find DiSalvatore's too long, but I'm happy to have both of them.

Ward began his career as a pitcher. For four years he ranked among the best in the game: in 1879 he won a league-high 49 games to lead Providence to the National League pennant, and the next year hurled baseball's second perfect game. In 1881 he began spending much of his playing time as a shortstop and enjoyed another decade of play. He was a better pitcher than a shortstop, but his finest season over all may have been 1887, when he batted a career high .338, led the league with 111 stolen bases, and topped league shortstops in fielding average, finishing second only to Jack Glasscock with 30 fielding runs. It was as a player that Ward was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame. For his final five seasons he also served as his club's manager, leading New York to a second-place finish in 1894, his final season, and to a 4-0 sweep of Baltimore in the Temple Cup series.

Readers may be disappointed that Stevens doesn't examine Ward's playing career at length or in depth (he dismisses Ward's perfect game in two sentences), but Ward's chief importance to baseball history comes not as a player or manager, but as a labor organizer and defender of players against the abuses of management, and it is to Ward's career as a leader of men that Stevens devotes most of his attention.

Ward was an overachiever. During his playing years he studied law at Columbia, earning his degree in 1885. Along the way he developed an urge to right the balance between player and owner, a balance that had tipped strongly in the owners' favor when they instituted the "reserve rule" early in Ward's playing career, which bound players to their clubs, leaving them little leverage to oppose salary reductions, arbitrary fines, and other real and perceived mistreatment. Stevens does a nice job of describing Ward's increasing involvement in player/management issues, as a team manager, player organizer, and writer. "Ward endeavored to upgrade the players' image in his [1886] article, Notes of a Baseballist," Stevens observes, "which was strategically published the month the union went public." Ultimately, Ward's efforts came to little, but his 1887 article for *Lippincott's Magazine*, "Is the Ballplayer a Chattel?" with its devastating attack on the reserve rule, remains a classic of baseball literature.

Ward's crowning achievement was the formation and successful 1890 season of the Players' League, but its failure after that one season cast doubt on the effectiveness of his leadership. "The PL lacked the killer instinct that helped make the NL a success," Stevens observes in his perceptive discussion of the PL's demise.

Ward lived an interesting life outside baseball, too, and Stevens tells us about his rocky marriage to Broadway star Helen Dauvray, and his later happier marriage to Katherine Waas, who shared his late-life passion for golf. And he mentions Ward's affair with Jessie McDermott (who later became well known as the actress Maxime Elliott), although he seems uncertain whether the affair really happened. (DiSalvatore provides plenty of evidence that it did.)

*Baseball's Radical* is too short. Ward's life and career were too rich and full for the 250 pages that the publisher allotted the author, and I often wished for more context and fuller explanation than I was given. I sometimes found myself stopping to figure out how—or if—the sentences in a paragraph related to one another. They usually did, and the exercise (no doubt unintended by the author) forced me to ponder the story more deeply than I might otherwise. I also wish Stevens had documented his sources. But whatever difficulties I had with the book, my final response is gratitude to Stevens' good research that has done much to restore Ward's deserved prominence in baseball's historical memory.

**Fred Ivor-Campbell**, Bristol RI, needs no introduction. See "Ivor-Campbell Wins Top SABR Award" for a short one.

**Which books should we review?** Any new book (2003-2004) related to baseball before 1901 is a candidate for review in 500-1000 words, or more. Contact me before you undertake it.

We should try to review all new books about 19c baseball in some genres. All non-fiction for adults?

The review of *Baseball's Radical* was announced forthcoming a few years ago. We should still review some other books published 1998-2002 (call them "recent" rather than "new") because they are important. Please nominate important recent books that the 19c Cmte *should* review, in your opinion.

**Early Baseball and the Rise of the National League.** By Tom Melville. McFarland (above). 2001. 168p, bibliographic references (p141-63), index; \$24.95 paper.

**Winner of the 2002 Seymour Medal.**

Reviewed by David Ball

Tom Melville's *EARLY BASEBALL AND THE RISE OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE* (EBRNL) is an ambitious work, a flawed but stimulating attempt at what Melville calls an "analytical" rather than descriptive history of early baseball. Melville is more a sociologist with historical interests than a historian *per se*, and EBRNL is accordingly intended not as a broad narrative of the game's early days, but rather as an argument for a thesis about a fundamental principle of baseball's development.

The thesis is that a tension exists between the American sporting public's demand to see competition between elite sports teams and its desire for meaningful participation by clubs representing their own localities, large-market or small (to use the modern-day terminology). These conflicting tendencies are what Melville calls the "achievement" and "expressive" orientations toward athletic competition. The former is characterized by unbridled professionalism, a focus on national competition and championship contests and the probability that competitive failure will result in a team's disbandment or relocation. In other words, the guiding principle is "win at any cost." In the expressive orientation, the competitive focus is more likely to be local. Player mobility is restricted by locality and professional players are absent or controlled by amateur leadership. Losing is likely to cause relegation to lower level of competition, rather than failure, and there is a general acknowledgment of extra-competitive considerations (see especially pages 3-8).

Melville believes that baseball, in contrast to sports such as English cricket or college basketball and football in this country, has developed as a radically achievement-oriented activity. That happened as a result of the particular circumstances surrounding baseball's development in the period before the Civil War as an activity emanating from a single city, New York. He suggests -- although he does rather little to develop the idea -- that if the game had developed a generation earlier and in various cities at the same time, it would have evolved in a broader-based form, "firmly rooted in an obligation to locality." Again, a generation later it might have developed as baseball and football did, attached to colleges and athletic clubs, "more organizationally stable and socially responsive, though less competitively focused upon 'the best against the best'" (139).

Whether or not Melville's theory is accepted, EBRNL is a carefully researched and insightful book, worthwhile reading for serious devotees of baseball history. The foundation of historiography is research and Melville is an extraordinarily diligent researcher. For example, in the notes to chapter seven alone I counted citations from 25 daily newspapers in seventeen cities, not counting the *Clipper* and *Harper's Weekly*. Besides rounding up the usual suspects from places like Chicago, Boston and St. Louis, he has delved into the likes of the *Troy Times* and *Troy Press*, the *Springfield Republican*, the *Albany Argus* and the *Rochester Union and Advertiser* -- a wide variety of papers, in short, that are invaluable for taking the temperature of opinion in non-League cities. All this material Melville seems to have gathered while using the Cedarburg, Wisconsin Public Library as a home base. Anyone who has tried to obtain newspaper microfilm on interlibrary loan will admire his patience. Many authors include in their acknowledgements a polite general reference to the staffs of the various libraries they have used; Melville mentions the Cedarburg library's head of ILL by name, and it is easy to see why.

Melville's thoroughness in this respect is praiseworthy, but newspaper reading is merely the meat and potatoes of any early

baseball researcher's work. What is more noteworthy is his intensive use of archival materials. Beside the well-known correspondence of Harry Wright these include the Chicago Public Library's collection of the letters of William Hulbert. Melville devotes fullest coverage to the period between 1869 and 1882, which occupies five of his seven chapters, and Hulbert is the dominant figure in his account of this period, a figure Melville sees as a driving force in the triumph of the achievement orientation and "the first figure in baseball history to exert a deep and lasting imprint upon the game solely from the force of his personality" (77).

One might suspect that the availability of Hulbert's letters has distorted Melville's treatment of the period, leading him to attribute to Hulbert more importance than he really deserves. I believe Melville is right about Hulbert's significance, and he is most certainly correct in describing these letters as the most important single source for a crucial period in the game's history (162). Had Melville done nothing other than to call attention to Hulbert's letters he would have provided a significant service. But Melville has accomplished much more. His diligent research has served as the basis for an account of much of early baseball history that is unparalleled in its density of detail and sophistication of interpretation. Particularly interesting, for instance, is his discussion (71-76) of how Chicago's psychology, rapid population growth and relative geographic isolation made it a city uniquely suited to play a pivotal role in the development of a single dominant baseball league, even setting aside the influence of Hulbert. Probably the most valuable section of the book, however, is his account in chapter five of the founding of the National League, the best history we have to date of this crucial event in the history of professional baseball.

Melville's diligence in research is not an unmixed blessing, however. A writer at once so industrious and determined to present a thesis risks falling into the trap of selectively citing items of evidence that support his theories while omitting others that are less congenial. In common with many other recent writers, Melville seems determined to see the actions of the National League in its early years, and in particular the actions of William Hulbert, in the most unflattering light. In Melville's case as in others, it seems to me, that sometimes requires special pleading to force the evidence. His liberal use of hostile newspaper comment on Hulbert's leadership of the League may mislead readers unused to the journalism of the period, which was, as Melville himself says (163), "highly partisan, if not outright biased." At any period, a man in a position such as Hulbert's will inevitably become a lightning rod for criticism -- just ask Bud Selig about that -- and the occasional newspaper attack is less meaningful as a comment on his leadership than is the fact that he was repeatedly reelected as League president without significant opposition.

Most readers will probably be interested primarily in what Melville has to tell us about specific events and personalities, and as it happens this is the strongest aspect of his work. But since the author himself is concerned first and foremost with his thesis and has clearly put much effort into elaborating it, it will be only fair to him (if not necessarily welcome) to make some criticisms of it.

First, the traits that characterize Melville's achievement orientation are the very ones that many nineteenth century observers -- many of whom knew nothing about baseball or wrote before it had developed as an organized pursuit -- identified as characteristic of American culture as a whole.

Again, the reserve clause, franchise territorial rights and other fundamental features of baseball organizations were developed in the 1870s and 1880s in order to manage and contain competition. This was a goal common to many businesses of that period. It can hardly be coincidence that the first and prototypical American sport displayed traits characteristic of American culture as a whole and practices associated with the famous Robber Barons. This suggests that we would be better served by an interpretation connecting

baseball's development more closely with broader trends in American culture, history and geography

It might be argued, for example, that the structure of the major leagues owes much to the demographics and geography of a continent that was sparsely populated by European standards and to the economy of a country where ordinary workers were relatively well paid. As a result, individual cities could not support large numbers of strong teams. Again, the close identification between cities and individual representative teams owes much to the spirit of civic boosterism that prevailed during the nineteenth century in midwestern cities, which then were very young, unsure of their identities and prone to insecure jostling with one another over status as well as industrial and commercial wealth.

Second, Melville's theory cannot account for baseball's development during the period from the early 1890s through the 1950s or 1960s. This may seem an unfair criticism since those years fall outside not only the period covered by EBRNL but (for the most part) the sphere of interest of this newsletter. However, while Melville's explicit focus is baseball's development through 1882, his thesis implies an interpretation of the entire course of baseball history. Early events in the history of organized baseball fixed its structure and culture permanently, as he sees it, leading inexorably to the game's present state, in which the ownership of a championship team such as the Florida Marlins can take apart their team, with no regard given to the interests of local fans. In fact, Melville identifies the Marlins' trauma as the stimulus to his writing EBRNL (1).

Is there in fact a line reaching back from Miami in 1998 to, say, Detroit in 1888 and Providence in 1885? Certainly not an unbroken one. During the 1870s and 1880s, small-market teams led the life cycle of fruit flies, and few years passed without at least one change in the major league circuits. After 1891, however, the leagues became extraordinarily conservative about changing their circuits. Even the most chronically unsuccessful franchises remained stable for long periods of time. From 1892 to 1898 St. Louis, Louisville and Washington never finished fewer than thirty games out of first place, and ran more than 45 games off the pace more often than not, but with the help of favorable conditions they survived for nearly ten years. A decade before, teams like this would have vanished in a year or two. The first half of the twentieth century produced the much longer and drearier history of the Browns, Red Sox, Braves, Phillies and Athletics. In the fullness of time some of these teams suffered the disbandment or relocation that Melville's describes as the typical fate of unsuccessful clubs in an achievement-oriented sport, but it took the 1890s teams many years and the twentieth century clubs decades for that to happen. In the meantime, they went on losing, season after season, without suffering even the "change of status, usually relegation to lower competitive level" that Melville expects for teams in an expression-oriented sport (6).

It is the social changes after World War II and especially the onset of free agency that established the achievement-oriented baseball world that Melville sees. Anyone interested might consult G. Edward White's *Creating the National Pastime* for an instructive interpretation. White argues that during the first half of the twentieth century baseball emerged as a "national pastime" with a special place in American culture that was reflected in its peculiar structure and governance. Twentieth-century club owners were not shy about using their game's claim to being uniquely 'American' to their own interest, but this imposed on them a certain obligation to take into account just the kind of extra-competitive considerations that the expressive model features.

Melville's distinction between the competitive and expressive orientations is useful, but I do not believe it can stand the analytic weight he puts on it. In ignoring commercial and financial considerations he has opted for an interpretation that is excessively abstract and removed from the actual constraints that acted on the operation of teams and leagues in a day when both were experimental

enterprises and no one was certain whether such things could ever be made to pay. Melville believes that under the leadership of William Hulbert, the National League's second president and dominant figure, the League was more concerned with establishing an "indivisible achievement center" than in ensuring the stability or profitability of clubs (101). At a deep level this may well say something accurate and important about the motivation of the League's founders, but I doubt the distinction is a meaningful one. I think the League's founders probably expected excellence, stability and profitability all to go together. As for Hulbert, he was a seasoned businessman. He understood that in business, as in politics, money is the sinew of war, and if the League were to dominate the baseball world the first necessity was that its members must be stable, well-managed enterprises capable of repaying investors and generating capital. He could hardly have operated without understanding that, and I believe the evidence is that he did.

Melville portrays Hulbert as the man determined to "maintain an indivisible achievement center" by bolstering strong League franchises, especially his own, at the expense not only of outside organizations but even of weaker League teams. That is hard to square with the man I thought I encountered in my own rather hurried reading of his correspondence. I met a League president who advocated a gate-sharing plan to help out weaker clubs, writing that Chicago had paid out \$100 more per game than it had taken in but was glad to do it in order to support other cities; a president who supported a reserve rule that limited competition for players, even though his own club was better equipped to compete than any other; a man who told a correspondent that the League should not admit more than eight teams because the public wanted to see good play between teams of equal quality, and there were too many tail enders already. Hulbert would never have claimed to be an altruist, but I believe he understood that the National League would never thrive unless all its members, more or less, were in good condition.

*Early Baseball and the Rise of the National League* is not the book for a casual reader. There is no narrative, and Melville is an indifferent stylist at best. By scholarly standards, however, the book is not particularly difficult reading. For those of us with a serious interest in the period, with a serious interest in the period the density of detail, especially in the later chapters, will amply compensate for a lack of artistry, regardless of whether Melville's particular interpretations are rejected. Particularly interesting, for instance, is the discussion (71-76) of how Chicago's psychology, rapid population growth and relative geographic isolation made it a city uniquely suited to play a pivotal role in the development of a single dominant baseball league, even setting aside the influence of Hulbert. In short, this is not a book without faults -- how boring it would be if it were -- but one that will provide stimulating reading for anyone interested in the development of early baseball.

In short, this is a book with faults but one that will provide stimulating reading for anyone interested in the development of early baseball.

**David Ball**, Cincinnati OH, is the author of "Nineteenth Century Transactions Register" on player transactions between MLB clubs. He is a student of 19c ballclub business in general.

**What should we review?** This number includes four reviews of books about 19c baseball and others will follow.

The new print encyclopedias are fair game. We should also review some internet resources such as ProQuest historical newspapers and web encyclopedias at Baseball-Reference, Retrosheet or BaseballLibrary.

What else? Traditional archives and special collections? Some short articles? Statistical studies or new statistics?

## SABR Awards, 2001-2003

### SABR AWARDS for work on 19c BASEBALL

The SABR awards program recognizes outstanding contributions to our knowledge of baseball. It now comprises a few discretionary awards and eight annual ones: the Bob Davids Award and seven that honor as many as 11 specific works. Most of the awards are announced at the Annual Convention banquet in June or July, which ends the awards season. Some award names and all explanations are abbreviated here. For more information, visit the SABR website, read the Membership Directory (2001), or follow the annual cycle in the Bulletin.

Several works on 19c subjects have been honored recently. I believe this list is complete for the 21st century, 2001-2003. Congratulations, authors!

#### 2003

Frank Ardolino (Honolulu HI), McFarland-SABR Award for "Missionaries, Cartwright and Spalding". *Nine: a Journal of Baseball History and Culture* 10.2 (2002).

Peter Morris (Haslett MI), USA Today Baseball Weekly Award for "Origins of the Word 'Fan'". Presented at the 33d Annual Convention of SABR, Denver, 11 Jul 2003.

#### 2002

Thomas Melville (Cedarburg WI), Seymour Medal for *Early Baseball and the Rise of the National League*. McFarland, 2001.

Greg Rhodes & John Snyder (Cincinnati OH), Sporting News-SABR Award for *Redleg Journal*. Road West Publ, 2001.

Aaron Feldman (East Brunswick NJ), Jack Kavanagh Award for "Baseball's Transition to Professionalism". Published by SABR on the web(\*).

#### 2001

Jules Tygiel (San Francisco CA), Seymour Medal for *Past Time: Baseball as History*. Oxford U Press, 2001.

Thomas Altherr (Conifer CO), McFarland-SABR Award for "A Place Leavel Enough To Play Ball: Baseball and Baseball-type Games in the Colonial Era, Revolutionary War, and Early American Republic".

Robert Schaefer (Beverly Hills FL), McFarland-SABR Award for "The Lost Art of Fair-Foul Hitting". *The National Pastime* 20 (2000), p3-7.

Chris Devine (Westfield MA), Jack Kavanagh Award for "Harry Wright: Was He the Most Important Baseball Figure of the 19th Century?". Published by SABR on the web(\*).

(\* temporarily unavailable

The Seymour Medal honors the best book on baseball history or biography published during the preceding calendar year. McFarland-SABR Awards honor usually three papers on baseball history or biography completed during the preceding calendar year. Sporting News-SABR Awards honor usually three projects that do not fit the "history and biography" criteria for the Seymour and McFarland-SABR. The two Sports Weekly Awards honor the best "oral" or theater style and the best "poster" style research presentation at the Annual Convention. (Peter Morris delivered an oral presentation in 2003.) The Jack Kavanagh Award honors one work by an author under age 21. The Lee Allen Award, which is not represented by a recent 19c baseball winner, honors the best baseball entry in the National History Day competition for high school students.

### IVOR-CAMPBELL WINS TOP SABR AWARD

Frederick Ivor-Campbell received the Bob Davids Award in 2003. The annual Award recognizes a Society member "whose contributions to SABR and baseball reflect the ingenuity, integrity, and self-sacrifice of the founder and past president of SABR, L. Robert 'Bob' Davids." Ironically, Ivor-Campbell missed the convention banquet for the first time in a dozen years, so the Award Committee chairman shared with the assembly a few words from their telephone conversation.

Ivor-Campbell has served the 19th Century Committee of SABR as newsletter editor 1991-99, chair 1992-98, and vice chair 1998 to date. He was the principal editor of *Baseball's First Stars* (SABR, 1996). He is a member of 19cBB and a frequent contributor to its email exchange.

Ivor-Campbell has also served SABR as Director 1992-96 and Vice President 1998-2002. He assisted in establishing the unofficial policy and politics egroup 'brsp' in Winter 2000 and the official BioProject in Spring 2002.

## Help Wanted

Please send me "Help Wanted" items. This is probably the most valuable material to submit quickly. —Ed.

#### "LAST GAME" DATA, 1876-1880

The Biographical Research Cmte has nearly completed the compilation of "Last Game" for every MLB player, meaning the date of his last major league game played. A few dozen players from 1876-1880 are missing. Access to particular newspapers may be invaluable. Contact David Vincent ([grandslams@aol.com](mailto:grandslams@aol.com) 14744 Winterfield Ct, Centreville VA 20120; 703-266-3020).

#### LIP PIKE & FAMILY, JEWISH BASEBALL PERSONS

Mark Sommer (1266 Teaneck Rd #10A, Teaneck NJ 07666; 201-837-0489) seeks information, stories &c on Jewish ballplayers, coaches, owners &c. He is especially interested in Lipman Pike, the earliest known Jewish ballplayer and a great one, whom he uses as the point of entry in a presentation that he repeats locally. Mark knows Pike's baseball achievements and Richard Malatzky's article on I.E. and J.E. Pike (SABR-L, 23 Jul 2003). He seeks more about Pike's family, including earlier and later generations.

#### GREEN CATHEDRALS REVISITED

Philip Lowry ([plowry1176@aol.com](mailto:plowry1176@aol.com) 4323 Woodhill Rd, Minnetonka MN 55345; 952-938-7678) is revising *Green Cathedrals* (1st ed., SABR 1986; 2nd, Addison-Wesley 1992). He calls for corrections of both errors and omissions —except the dates of MLB games played in listed ballparks, which he has reconciled with the Retrosheet game logs. Phil hopes to complete the revision before January 2005.

#### FOUR STRIKEOUTS IN ONE INNING

Jim Charlton ([binswanger@aol.com](mailto:binswanger@aol.com) 680 Washington St #2A, New York NY 10014; 212-691-4951) requests notice of four strikeouts in one major league inning before 1902. His earliest known instances are Ed "Cannonball" Crane (NY, NL 1888-10-04) and "Doc" White (Phi, NL 1902).

#### CHARLES BYRNE AND THE BROOKLYN DODGERS

Sig Menchel ([sigmenchel@msn.com](mailto:sigmenchel@msn.com) 6701 154th Place SE, Bellevue WA 98006; 425-401-2083) seeks biographical information on Charles Byrne, especially his relationship with the Brooklyn Dodgers (where he was President thru 1897).

PACIFIC NORTHWEST LEAGUE, 1890-1892

Rock Bauer ([irocko44@hotmail.com](mailto:irocko44@hotmail.com) 36751 S Hibbard Rd, Molalla OR 97038; 503-829-7236) seeks information about the Pacific NW League. His main interests are biographical info and team or player photos but he would like to correspond with anyone who researches the league.

1890-09-23, DETROIT

Boston 1, Cleveland 5, in Detroit, site unknown. "These clubs transferred a postponed game from Cleveland to Detroit Sept. 23, it being the concluding contest of the series." -*Clipper*. (The explanation is inadequate today but unimportant here.) Where in Detroit was the game played? Many out of town papers have been checked. The site may be identified in a Detroit newspaper, Sep 22-24. Contact Paul Wendt, Ed.

1873-07-11, BALTIMORE

Baltimore 20, Maryland 10, in Baltimore, site unknown. Game stories in out-of-town papers, *Baltimore Sun*, and *Baltimore American and Commercial Advertiser* all report only the city, where the Baltimore (Newington Ave Grounds) and Maryland (Madison Ave Grounds) Clubs used different home parks. Maryland played only six NA games before dropping out, including one known home game at Madison Ave and four known games elsewhere. Contact Paul Wendt, Ed.

BASE BALL REPORTERS ASSOC. OF AMERICA, 1887-??

The Base Ball Reporters Association of America was established in December 1887. President, George Munson, *The Sporting News*. VP, Henry Chadwick. What happened to it, when? Ryan Chamberlain ([rchamberlain@sabr.org](mailto:rchamberlain@sabr.org) Manager of Membership Services, SABR; 216-575-0500) is looking for sources or leads.

1877 NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE AND OTHERS

Paul Rivard ([schedulejunkie@sympatico.ca](mailto:schedulejunkie@sympatico.ca) or contact Paul Wendt, Ed.) has transcribed almost all MLB season schedules to digital format. Retrosheet will publish them on the web. Rivard is missing four: NL 1877-1879 and AA 1882. NL1878 has been located in the *Clipper*, 13 Apr 1878, p21. The others? None was published in *Spalding's Guide*. The William Hulbert or Harry Wright papers may be a source. (Clubs scheduled their own games until Hulbert and Wright scheduled NL1877.)

"RETURNS TO TEAM" WITHIN SEASON

There are ten 19c "returns to team" in Pete Palmer's major league database. That is, one player served two stints on one MLB team in one season, interrupted by at least one stint on another *major league* team.

Lastname	Firstname	Year	Stints in chron order
JONES	CHARLEY	1877	CINN CHIN CINN
MOUNTAIN	FRANK	1882	WORN PHIA WORN
ORR	DAVE	1883	NY A NY N NY A
GARDNER	GID	1888	WASN PHIN WASN
CRANE	SAM	1890	NY N PITN NY N
EASTON	JACK	1891	COLA STLA COLA
KUEHNE	BILL	1892	LOUN STLN CINN STLN
ANDERSON	JOHN	1898	BRON WASN BRON
JENNINGS	HUGHIE	1899	BRON BALN BRON
SCHRECKENGOST	OSSEE	1899	STLN CLEN STLN

(There is a more complete treatment on the website, including Pete's all-time list of 47 MLB returns to team.) Contemporary recordkeepers did not note returns to team; they have all been discovered by latterday research. If you find any others, please notify Pete Palmer ([petepalmr@aol.com](mailto:petepalmr@aol.com) 54 Sargent Rd, Hollis NH 03049; 603-465-5678).

144 EARLY BASEBALL DOCUMENTS

Dean Sullivan ([lateinnings@cox.net](mailto:lateinnings@cox.net); 3508 Queen Anne Dr, Fairfax VA 22030; 703-273-4285) years ago circulated a list of 144 early baseball documents. They were candidates for reprinting in *Early Innings . . . 1825-1908* (U Nebraska, 1995), which includes 120 of them. Dean does not have a copy, electronic or paper, and hopes to locate one.

THEATRICAL BALLPLAYERS

Fred Reed ([freed3@airmail.net](mailto:freed3@airmail.net) PO Box 118162, Carrollton TX 75011; 972-964-6655) is working on athletes and the theater. He requests notice of ballplayers who appeared on stage or in vaudeville. Information about their performances is welcome.

SPALDING'S LAST WIN

Well, Spalding enjoyed a few victories after his playing career, but Ed Hartig ([hartig4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hartig4@sbcglobal.net) 351 Twin Creeks Dr, Bolingbrook IL 60440; 630-985-5541) seeks his last win as a pitcher, the one in 1877. Early encyclopedias gave George W. Bradley one more win, Spalding none, and Ed has examined Spalding's four appearances without finding a likely victory. Who knows when or why the record was revised?

**Help Offered**

Please send me "Help Offered" items. Consider "Help" an abbreviation. Do you have any special services, data or materials that you would like to offer to other members? -Ed.

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fred Schuld ([fredschuld@hotmail.com](mailto:fredschuld@hotmail.com) 1572 Bradford Dr, Macedonia OH 44056; 330-467-5238) likes to help SABR members with research aid at the Cleveland Main Library.

MINOR LEAGUE PLAYERS

Lloyd Johnson ([lloydj@msn.com](mailto:lloydj@msn.com) 205 W 66th Terr, Kansas City MO 64113; 816-822-2521) has stats and rosters for 19c minor league players and will help researchers. Lloyd is editor of the *Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball*, 3d ed. forthcoming, and director of the Minor League Statistics project.

**Contacts**

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Chip Atkison, Director, Early Rules and Practices ([sabrchip@aol.com](mailto:sabrchip@aol.com)), 2867 S Wolff St, Denver CO 80236-2010 (303-975-1063)

**INTERNET RESOURCES** are listed in the index of SABR research committees (<http://sabr.org>; "Research"). Presently, Website "19th Century Resources" <http://world.std.com/~pgw/19c>

Egroup '19cBB' (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/19cBB>) To join this mutual distribution email list, send any email message to [19cBB-subscribe@yahooogroups.com](mailto:19cBB-subscribe@yahooogroups.com). There are Daily Digest and No Email (web only) options.