



Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report
March/April 2002

Edward Mincher Found

This was a great find. Players who played as early as 1871 are nearly impossible to track down and Richard Malatzky did a marvelous job of putting this one together. It all started when he found a genealogical website that mentioned a man named Ed Mincher having a daughter who married Wright Van Dusen. They were living in Brooklyn. Richard found that Mincher had married a woman named Marie Theresa Eschbach. As he traced Mincher through the Brooklyn city directories, he found that Mincher changed his name to Henry McElwee. (He must have known we'd be looking for him.) McElwee died in 1918 and he was definitely the Ed Mincher who had married Marie Eschbach. But was he our ballplayer?

Richard went back to the Eschbach family and discovered that Marie Eschbach's sister Susan married William Lennon in 1872. William Lennon was Edward Mincher's teammate in 1868-70 with the Marylands of Baltimore. During the 1870s, both Mincher and Lennon were living with the Eschbach family. Lennon is still among the missing. This is a very deserving *Find of the Month*.

Lucky To Find Lackey

Actually, this wasn't luck; it was good research. On October 2, 1890, Philadelphia picked up two Columbus amateurs for their game against Columbus. Lackey was a pitcher and Macey was his catcher. Until recently, these players had been unidentified. Peter Morris found that William Lackey was pitching for the Northeast Stars of Columbus and his catcher was a man named Mullay.

Peter made a trip to Columbus and traced Lackey through the city directories. His last appearance in a directory was in 1940. Peter then went to the state records office and found Lackey's death certificate. The certificate gave us his birth date and place and his death date and place.

But what of Macey? Two different Columbus papers identified him as either Macey or Macy. Could this have been Mullay? There was also a local catcher named Lacy catching with the Columbus East Enders. Hopefully, we will eventually be able to identify him as well.

New Members

Please welcome Mike Attiyeh to the committee. Mike's address is 9595 Harbour Place, Elk Grove, California 95758 and his code number will be A2.

James Green

James Green, third baseman for the 1884 Washington Unions, has been found and this involved the fine efforts of committee members Richard Malatzky, Peter Morris, Reed Howard, and Joe Simenic. Here is a condensed summary of the research involved in tracking him down.

There was a note in *Sporting Life* that Green was with Portsmouth, Ohio before signing with Washington. The 1884 *Reach Guide* listed James F. Green of the Portsmouth club with a hometown of Cleveland. In 1885, a team called the Cincinnati Clippers had third baseman James Green "of last year's Portsmouth team." Another *Sporting Life* note shows that Jimmy Green of the Cincinnati Clippers signed to be an umpire in Columbus, Georgia. He was back as a player from 1887-1890 playing with several teams in the Ohio State League. In 1889, he was playing with Dayton, and a note mentioned that his mother had died. Research into Cleveland deaths showed this was Mary Green, widow of Michael Green. This allowed us to zero in on his family. Another

note mentioned that he married Annie Engert in 1889. More research into Cleveland deaths found a death certificate showing that James Green died December 12, 1912, the son of Michael and Mary Green and the husband of Anna Engert Green. Obviously, this is our man. Great work by all involved.

Ryder Rides Home

Tom Ryder, who played 8 games for St. Louis in the Union Association has been found by Richard Malatzky. Richard found notes showing that Ryder was from Dubuque, Iowa. He checked the 1880 and 1900 Iowa census and found Ryder listed with his family. He then traced the family through the city directories until 1937 when Ryder's wife was shown as a widow. The Dubuque library had an obituary index and Richard was able to obtain the obituary. The obituary confirmed that Ryder was a former major league baseball player, who had played with St. Louis. A nice and tidy find.

Francis Abercrombie

For years, David Abercrombie was listed as playing shortstop for Troy in a game October 21, 1871. Richard Malatzky did some research on David and found that in 1871, he was president of the Baltimore News Company and was living in Baltimore. There is no evidence that he ever played baseball.

Richard did some research in Troy and found that the Troy Haymakers played a couple of games against a "Field 9" in 1872. Playing for the Field 9 was a player named Abercrombie who, according to the New York Clipper, was playing for Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Richard contacted RPI and found that this was Francis Patterson Abercrombie and that he played shortstop for RPI from 1870-1872. Richard was able to find his death in the New York Times Obituary Index. Obviously, this is our player. We don't have an exact birthdate on him; however, since he was born in Oklahoma in 1851, that would make him the first major league player born in the state of Oklahoma, which at that time was known as Indian Territory. Nice job by Richard to get this straightened out.

May I Have This Waltz?

John Waltz was the interim manager of the Baltimore Orioles between George Van Haltren and Ned Hanlon. Richard Malatzky traced Waltz

through the city directories and found several leads on his family. Peter Morris then waltzed into Annapolis, Maryland and tracked down the death certificate showing that he died in Baltimore on April 27, 1931.

Phil Coridan

Sporting Life and Sporting News provided most of the clues of tracing Phil Coridan. The first note said the Fort Waynes had signed Phil Coridan of Indianapolis. Later, a note said that Coridan of the Fort Waynes had signed with the Chicago Unions. The key note came in Sporting News in 1893 when an ad was placed by Coridan looking for a job. His address was given as 27 Buchanan Street in Indianapolis. Peter Morris used this to locate his family and this led to Peter finding his death notice in Indianapolis in 1915.

Francis Murphy

Richard Malatzky managed to track down Francis (Tony) Murphy, one game catcher for New York in 1884, in New York City. Two clues from Sporting Life were the keys to the search. An 1886 note mentioned that he had just gotten married in Hartford. A check of the Hartford marriages showed that he married Mary Spatcher. An 1889 note said that he was working as a butcher in New York City. Richard checked the city directories and the 1900 census and found Francis J. Murphy, butcher, who had married Mary Spatcher. Obviously, this was our player and Richard was able to find his 1915 death certificate.

A Quinn Readjustment

You may remember the Quinns, who were a *Mystery of the Month* a few years back. Peter Morris did some research on them and feels we need to readjust their record. So without going into a long explanation of how Peter arrived at these changes, (My head starts to hurt every time I look at these guys.) here are the changes we are making:

Joseph C. Quinn is really Patrick J. (Paddy) Quinn, and he played with Fort Wayne in 1871, Keokuk, Hartford, and Chicago in 1875, and Chicago in 1877. He died January 2, 1909 in Chicago.

The man we listed as Paddy Quinn wasn't Paddy as you can see from our previous Quinn. This

guy just played with Brooklyn in 1875 and his first name is unknown.

Patrick Quinn, who we had listed with the 1875 Keokuk, Hartford, and Chicago entries, is actually Joseph Quinn and he played with Boston and Worcester in 1881. He probably died in Boston March 4, 1904, but we have no proof of that.

Juuuust A Bit Outside

We listed Thomas John Carey, who debuted in 1871 as dying in 1899 in Los Angeles. Peter Morris found a death certificate for this man and he was 26 years old. Since he was born in 1873, I think we can assume that we have been listing the wrong guy.

Convention News

It's hard to believe that the SABR convention is less than 2 months away, but I plan on being in Boston to attend my 24th straight convention. We didn't draw a very good time for our committee meeting. It is Sunday at 9:30. Hopefully, all of you won't have left by that time. Let me know if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Birthday List

With the death of Karl Swanson, our oldest living player becomes Ralph Erickson, who will be celebrating his 100th birthday in June. On the day Erickson became the oldest player, he was 99 years, 9 months, 9 days old. Here is the list of 90 year olds celebrating birthdays in May and June:

May 1	Connie Marrero	91
May 17	Michael Balas	92
	Clarence "Ace" Parker	90
May 23	Willis Hudlin	96
May 31	William Fehring	90
June 19	Don Gutteridge	90
June 20	Bill Werber	94
June 25	Ralph Erickson	100
June 28	Joe Cascarella	95

Zay What?

Our *Mystery of the Month* is the mysterious Mr. Zay, who played one game with Baltimore in 1886. He was supposedly from Pittsburgh and Richard Malatzky found a William Zay, who was a paperhanger in Pittsburgh in 1890. The 1880 census showed William Zay (23) with Mena (20), Eddie (4), and Harry (6/12). It is unknown if this is the ballplayer.

The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	15666	59	99.625
Total Complete Births	15029	696	95.574
Total Complete Deaths	7819	397	49.723
Total Assumed Alive	7509		47.752
Total Bats	14412	1204	92.290
Total Throws	14653	963	93.833
Total Heights	14726	890	94.301
Total Weights	14678	938	93.993
Total Debut Dates	15725	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9983	5742	63.485
Total Completion			92.2822

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

None

New Information Received:

1871 Abercrombie, David	Name: <u>Francis Patterson Abercrombie</u> B: <u>1851</u> <u>Fort Towson, Oklahoma</u> D: <u>Nov 11 1939</u> <u>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</u>	(M3)
1871 Anson, Adrian Constantine	B: <u>Apr 17 1852</u>	(P1)
1997 Aybar, Manuel Antonio	B: <u>May 4 1972</u>	(D6)
1883 Bakeley, Edward Enoch	Height: <u>5-08</u>	(M4)
1871 Barnes, Roscoe Charles	B: <u>Mt. Morris, New York</u>	(M1)
1936 Bertrand, Roman Mathias	D: <u>Mar 17 2002</u> <u>The Dalles, Oregon</u>	(C1)
1897 Brown, Charles E.	B: <u>New Haven, Indiana</u>	(M4)
1935 Brown, Mace Stanley	D: <u>Mar 24 2002</u> <u>Greensboro, North Carolina</u>	(C1)
1888 Brynan, Charles Ruley	Height: <u>5-10</u>	(S9)
1871 Carey, Thomas John	Eliminate death data and real name of J.J. Norton. Wrong man.	(M4)
1911 Carlstrom, Albin Oscar	Debut: <u>Sep 12 1911</u>	(P1)
1884 Cleveland, Elmer Ellsworth	Height: <u>5-11</u> Weight: <u>190</u>	(M4)
1945 Comellas, Jorge (Pous)	D: <u>Sep 13 2001</u> <u>Miami, Florida</u>	(S3)
1884 Corridan, Philip	Name: <u>Philip E. Coridan</u> B: <u>Aug 19 1858</u> <u>Walpole, Indiana</u> D: <u>Jul 1 1915</u> <u>Indianapolis, Indiana</u>	(M4)
1974 Cowens, Alfred Edward	D: <u>Feb 11 2002</u> <u>Downey, California</u>	(C1)
1996 Delgado, Wilson (Duran)	B: <u>Jul 15 1973</u>	(C1)
1947 Dente, Samuel Joseph	D: <u>Apr 21 2002</u> <u>Montclair, New Jersey</u>	(T1)
1898 Dinneen, William Henry	Name: <u>William Henry Dineen</u>	(V1)
1916 Driscoll, Michael Columbus	B: <u>North Abington, Massachusetts</u> Height: <u>5-11</u>	(O4)
1891 Duke, Martin F.	Height: <u>5-08</u> Weight: <u>157</u>	(M4)
1883 Dundon, Edward Joseph	Height: <u>6-00</u> Weight: <u>170</u>	(M4)
1893 Gilman, James Joseph	TR	(M3)
1890 Gray, Charles A.	B: <u>Jun 1864</u>	(M4)
1884 Green, James R.	Name: <u>James E. Green</u> B: <u>May 22 1854</u> <u>Windham County, Connecticut</u> D: <u>Dec 12 1912</u> <u>Cleveland, Ohio</u>	(M3)

1920 Grimes, Austin Roy	Debut: Jul 5 1920	(V1)
1941 Gromek, Stephen Joseph	D: Mar 12 2002	(D6)
	<u>Clinton Twp, Macomb County, Michigan</u>	
1944 Hansen, Andrew Viggo	D: Feb 2 2002	(C1)
	<u>Lake Worth, Florida</u>	
1933 Haslin, Michael Joseph	Real Name: <u>Michael Joseph Haslinsky</u>	(C1)
	B: Oct 31 1909	
	D: Mar 7 2002	
	<u>Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania</u>	
1924 Henrich, Frank Wilde	Debut: Apr 19 1924	(V1)
1897 Hickman, Charles Taylor	Height: 5-09 Weight: 180	(H2)
1912 Johnson, Ellis Walter	D: Jan 14 1965	(V1)
1883 Jones, Ryerson L.	BR	(M4)
1886 Joyce, George W.	B: 1847	(M3)
	<u>Washington, D.C.</u>	
1891 Keenan, Harry Leon	Height: 5-02	(M4)
1879 Kemmler, Rudolph	Height: 5-11 Weight: 206	(M4)
1932 Knothe, George Bertram	D: <u>Toms River, New Jersey</u>	(B6)
1890 Lackey, William D.	B: Dec 8 1870	(M4)
	<u>St. Albans, West Virginia</u>	
	D: May 15 1941	
	<u>Columbus, Ohio</u>	
1943 Lindquist, Carl Emil	D: Sep 3 2001	(D6)
	<u>Blossburg, Pennsylvania</u>	
2000 Melo, Juan Esteban	B: Nov 11 1976	(C1)
1943 McDonnell, James William	D: <u>Detroit, Michigan</u>	(M4)
1875 McGinley, Timothy S.	B: 1854	(M3)
1922 Miller, Jacob George	Debut: Jul 15 1922	(V1)
1923 Miller, Leo Alphonso	Debut: Jul 13 1923	(V1)
1871 Mincher, Edward John	Name: <u>Edward M. Mincher</u>	(M3)
	B: Jun 17 1850	
	D: Dec 8 1918	
	<u>Brooklyn, New York</u>	
1884 Murphy, Francis J.	B: Jul 1859	(M3)
	<u>New York, New York</u>	
	D: Dec 15 1915	
	<u>New York, New York</u>	
1891 Murphy, Lawrence Patrick	Height: 5-08 Weight: 170	(T2)
1888 Nicholson, Thomas Clark	Height: 5-09 Weight: 148	(M4)
1896 Norton, Elisha Strong	Height: 5-10.5 Weight: 170	(M3)
1907 Osborn, Wilfred Pearl	Name: <u>Wilfred Pearl Osborn</u>	(M4)
1953 Peden, Leslie Earl	D: Feb 11 2002	(S3)
	<u>Jacksonville, Florida</u>	
1998 Perez, Odaliz Amadol	B: Jun 11 1978	(C1)
1890 Phelan, Daniel T.	BL Height: 5-10 Weight: 175	(H2)
1889 Pickett, John Thomas	Height: 5-10.5 Weight: 186	(T2)
1871 Quinn, Joseph C.	Name: <u>Patrick J. Quinn</u>	(M4)
	Add 1875 Keokuk, Hartford, and Chicago	
1875 Quinn, Paddy	Delete first name Paddy	(M4)
	Delete 1881 Boston, Worcester	
1875 Quinn, Patrick	Name: <u>Joseph Quinn</u>	(M4)
	Delete 1875 Keokuk, Hartford, and Chicago	
	Add 1881 Boston, Worcester	
	Debut: Sep 7 1881	
1974 Reinbach, Michael Wayne	D: May 20 1989	(C1)
	<u>Palm Desert, California</u>	

1996 Rodriguez, Nerio	B: Mar 22 1971	(C1)
1966 Rojas, Minervino Alejandro (Landin)	B: Nov 26 1933	(T1)
	D: Mar 24 2002	
	<u>Los Angeles, California</u>	
1950 Rozek, Richard Louis	D: Sep 27 2001	(S3)
	<u>La Quinta, California</u>	
1884 Ryder, Thomas	B: May 9 1863	(M3)
	<u>Dubuque, Iowa</u>	
	D: Jul 18 1935	
	<u>Dubuque, Iowa</u>	
1920 Schulz, Walter Frederick	Debut: Jul 8 1920	(V1)
1920 Scott, George William	Debut: Aug 17 1920	(V1)
1942 Sepkowski, Theodore Walter	D: Mar 8 2002	(C1)
	<u>Severna Park, Maryland</u>	
1884 Shafer, Zachary Taylor	Height: 5-07 Weight: 155	(T2)
1938 Smith, Clay Jamieson	D: Mar 5 2002	(D6)
	<u>Winfield, Kansas</u>	
1893 Smith, Grant Judson	B: Brighton, Wisconsin	(P1)
1887 Sowders, John	Weight: 150	(T2)
1937 Sunkel, Thomas Jacob	D: Apr 6 2002	(C1)
	<u>Paris, Illinois</u>	
1928 Swanson, Karl Edward	D: Apr 3 2002	(C1)
	<u>Rock Island, Illinois</u>	
1921 Thomas, Robert William	D: Mar 22 1962	(M4)
1888 Van Zant, Richard	Height: 6-00	(M4)
1884 Veach, William Walter	Height: 6-00 Weight: 175	(T2)
1892 Waltz, James J. (MGR)	Name: James William Waltz	(M4)
	B: Jan 12 1860	
	<u>Maryland</u>	
	D: Apr 27 1931	
	<u>Baltimore, Maryland</u>	
1939 Wietelmann, William Frederick	D: Mar 26 2002	(C1)
	<u>San Diego, California</u>	
1952 Wilhelm, James Hoyt	Debut: Apr 18 1952	(RC)
1884 Williams, James Andrews (MGR)	Name: James Andrew Williams	(M3)
	B: Jan 4 1847	
	<u>Catawba, Ohio</u>	
	D: Oct 23 1918	
	<u>Westbury, New York</u>	
1883 Winkelman, George Edward	Height: 5-09 Weight: 140	(T2)
1873 Wordsworth, Favel Perry	B: Nov 22 1850	(M3)
1909 Wright, William Simmons	D: Jul 7 1941	(M4)
1996 Yan, Esteban Luis	B: Jun 22 1975	(C1)