



**Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report**  
**November/December 1998**

## New Ballplayer Discovered

Harold Dellinger discovered that the James Donnelly who played for Kansas City (UA) in 1884 is not James B. Donnelly, who had a lengthy major league career. It was James J. Donnelly, who played up in Minnesota and was from the Boston area. Further research by Joe Simenic and Dick Thompson confirmed Harold's findings. For this, Harold wins the final 1998 *Find of the Month* award.

### Member Movement

Please welcome Jim Sandoval, Gary Peeler, and Neil Nelson to the bio committee. Jim's address is 144 Smith Vassar Road, Harvest, Alabama 35749 and his code number will be X8. Gary's address is 1332 Greene 724 Road, Paragould, Arkansas 72450 and his code number will be P6. Neil's address is 9407 NW 80th Terrace, Weatherby Lake, Missouri 64152 and his code number will be N5. Also, Joey Berretta and Mike Welsh have moved. Joey's new address is 28114 SE 430th Street, Enumclaw, Washington 98022 and Mike's new address is 1339A Stonleigh Court, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048. Cliff Kachline didn't move but the street he lives on did. Cliff's new address is 2063 County Highway 33, Cooperstown, New York 13326.

### Renewal Time

It's time to tell me if you'd like to remain on the mailing list for 1999. If I don't hear from you, you will be dropped from the list. Either write me or send me an e-mail at

Bbxpert@aol.com.

### Can Anyone Top This?

I received an obituary on Elmo Plaskett from the St. Croix Avis newspaper. The obituary mentions that Plaskett was one of 17 children. Does anyone know of any ballplayers who had more siblings?

### John Thomas

Bob McConnell would like some help in tracking down a minor league player by the name of John M. Thomas. Thomas played for Omaha from 1902 through 1905, for Lincoln from 1906 through 1911, and for Des Moines in 1912. He led the Western League in home runs 4 times. One note stated that he was from St. Louis; another stated that he was running a millinery store in Redfield, South Dakota in 1907. If you can help Bob, drop him a line.

### Washington Research

Richard Topp wrote in reference to last month's mystery - the 1884 Washington (UA) club. Rich says that the Library of Congress is actually not the best library in Washington for finding old newspapers; the Martin Luther King library is. Anyone want to do a little research there?

### Selko Notes

Here are a few more tidbits from the files of Jamie Selko. Ivy Shriver was an All-American end and assistant football coach at the University of Georgia. Gordy Windhorn was state champ in 3 events in an Arizona high school and went to Arizona St. on a track scholarship. He played no baseball in either high school or college. Robert L. Hall won the Detroit decathlon championship. Whitey Wietelmann played pro basketball. Bots Nekola went 27-0 during his career at Holy

Cross.

## A History Lesson

Richard Malatzky is putting together a list of ballplayers named after famous people. I did an article once on ballplayers named after presidents. These guys were named after some lesser known personalities.

We have Thomas Edison Alston, Henry Clay Baldwin, Stonewall Jackson Beach, Ethan Allen Blackerby, and Charles Dickens Bold. You have probably heard of all of those guys. How about these?

Artemus Ward Allen - Artemus Ward was the pen name for Charles Farrar Browne, well known humorist who was a favorite of Abraham Lincoln.

Robert Sherwood Bailey - Robert Sherwood was a famous playwright who won many Pulitzer Prizes for drama.

Stephen Arnold Douglas Behel - Stephen Douglas ran against Lincoln for President in 1860.

David Solomon Birdsall - King David and his son King Solomon

Edwin Forrest Bligh - Edwin Forrest was a famous American actor of the 19th century.

Elmer Ellsworth Leonard - Elmer Ellsworth was the first Union hero of the Civil War. He was killed in the first battle.

## The KOM League

Normally our committee concentrates on major league players, but I thought I would mention the KOM League. It was a minor league which ran from 1946-1954. John Hall publishes an incredible monthly newsletter on the league and is attempting to track down all KOM League veterans. I have a large list of players he needs to find. If you would like to help out, please let me know.

## Birthday List

These former players will be celebrating birthdays in January and February of 1999. Be sure to send them a card.

January 2	Tedd Gullic	92
January 3	Gus Suhr	93
January 17	Ray Cunningham	94
January 29	Ray Hayworth	95
February 13	George Gill	90
	Ernest Rudolph	90

February 15	Robert Cremins	93
February 28	Roman Bertrand	90

## Oh Magee, You've Done It Again

I try not to duplicate the *Mystery of the Month*, but Dick Thompson sent me some new information since we first featured Billy Magee as the *Mystery of the Month* in November of 1989.

Billy Magee pitched for Louisville in 1897-99, Philadelphia and Washington in 1899, St. Louis and New York in the National League in 1901, and New York and Philadelphia in the National League in 1902. His minor league career extended from 1895-1906.

Magee was born July 6, 1875 in Canada. his place of birth was probably St. John, New Brunswick as both of his parents were born there. His father, Robert Magee, died March 19, 1894 in Boston and his mother, Mary Magee, died August 1, 1904 in Boston. In 1902, William Magee married Tersea Carberry. They had 3 children, William and Gertrude, who died early in life, and Grace, who later married Hilding Ohrstrom. In 1966, Tom Shea spoke with Hilding Ohrstrom, who had no knowledge of his father-in-law. But apparently Connie Mack had hinted that Magee was in "secret government service."

Billy's wife, Teresa (Carberry) Magee, died December 30, 1930, but by that time, Billy had deserted his wife and family. Nothing is known about Magee after 1907. The 1920 census lists a William Magee, age 43, born in Canada and living in Huron, Michigan. We have never pursued this man if anyone would like to take a crack at him. This is a very elusive player.

### The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	15040	67	99.557
Total Complete Births	14366	741	95.095
Total Complete Deaths	7475	454	49.480
Total Assumed Alive	7178		47.514
Total Bats	13753	1248	91.681
Total Throws	14011	990	93.400
Total Heights	14008	993	93.380
Total Weights	13946	1055	92.967
Total Debut Dates	15107	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9982	5125	66.075
Total Completion			92.1255

## New Monthly Data

### Questionnaires Received:

None

### New Information Received:

1955 Andre, John Edward	D: <u>Barnstable, Massachusetts</u>	(B4)
1998 Barrett, Michael P.	Name: Michael <u>Patrick</u> Barrett	(W1)
1998 Caruso, Michael J.	Name: Michael <u>John</u> Caruso	(W1)
	<u>BS</u>	(V1)
1926 Cronin, Joseph Edward	D: <u>Barnstable, Massachusetts</u>	(B4)
1998 Davis, Benjamin Matthew	Name: <u>Mark Christopher</u> Davis	(C1)
1884 Donnelly, James B.	Debut: <u>Aug 11 1884</u>	(S1)
	Eliminate KC (UA) record	(D3)
1884 Donnelly, James J.	New player with KC (UA)	(D3)
	Debut: <u>Jul 11 1884</u>	
1998 Drew, David J.	Name: David <u>Jonathan</u> Drew	(W1)
1998 Fontenot, Joseph D.	Name: Joseph <u>Daniel</u> Fontenot	(W1)
1924 Gaston, Nthaniel Milton	D: <u>Barnstable, Massachusetts</u>	(B4)
1998 Glauber, Keith H.	Name: Keith <u>Harris</u> Glauber	(W1)
1934 Grissom, Lee Theo	D: <u>Oct 4 1998</u>	(CL)
	<u>Corning, California</u>	
1941 Grodzicki, John	D: <u>May 2 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Daytona Beach, Florida</u>	
1989 Guthrie, Mark Andrew	<u>BRTL</u>	(P1)
1945 Harrist, Earl	D: <u>Sep 1 1998</u>	(F3)
	<u>Simsboro, Louisiana</u>	
1947 Haugstad, Philip Donald	D: <u>Oct 21 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Black River Falls, Wisconsin</u>	
1890 Honan, Martin Weldon	B: <u>May 29 1869</u>	(T1)
1956 Host, Eugene Earl	D: <u>Aug 20 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Nashville, Tennessee</u>	
1998 Kubenka, Jeffrey S.	Name: Jeffrey <u>Scot</u> Kubenka	(W1)
1998 Loewer, Carlton Ernest	<u>BR</u>	(V1)
1929 Liska, Adolph James	D: <u>Nov 30 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Portland, Oregon</u>	
1998 Maxwell, Jason Ramond	B: <u>Mar 26 1972</u>	(H8)
1941 Miller, Ronald Arthur	Name: <u>Roland</u> Arthur Miller	(C1)
	D: <u>Jan 6 1998</u>	
	<u>Ferguson, Missouri</u>	
1939 Newhouser, Harold	D: <u>Nov 10 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Detroit, Michigan</u>	
1884 O'Brien, William Smith	<u>TR</u>	(M1)
1998 Pickering, Calvin E.	Name: Calvin <u>Elroy</u> Pickering	(C1)
1962 Plaskett, Elmo Alexander	D: <u>Nov 2 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Christiansted, Virgin Islands</u>	
1930 Riddle, John Ludy	D: <u>Dec 15 1998</u>	(C2)
	<u>Indianapolis, Indiana</u>	

1952 Schmees, George Edward	D: <u>Oct 30 1998</u>	(N4)
	<u>San Jose, California</u>	
1941 Sessi, Walter Anthony	D: <u>Apr 18 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Mobile, Alabama</u>	
1947 Shofner, Frank Strickland	D: <u>Oct 10 1998</u>	(D6)
	<u>Crawford, Texas</u>	
1946 Sisler, Richard Allan	D: <u>Nov 20 1998</u>	(Q1)
	<u>Nashville, Tennessee</u>	
1938 Smith, David Merwin	D: <u>Apr 1 1998</u>	(C1)
	<u>Whiteville, North Carolina</u>	
1955 Thurman, Robert Burns	D: <u>Oct 31 1998</u>	(O2)
	<u>Wichita, Kansas</u>	
1937 Turner, James Riley	D: <u>Nov 29 1998</u>	(Q1)
	<u>Nashville, Tennessee</u>	
1911 Walker, Clarence William	Debut: <u>Jun 10 1911</u>	(M1)
1933 Wright, Albert Edgar	D: <u>Nov 13 1998</u>	(CL)
	<u>Oakland, California</u>	