

SABR Pictorial History Committee Player Image Index Update

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By John McMurray, Project Coordinator,
August 1997

I would like to express my thanks to all those who have made submissions to the Player Image Index project in recent months. In particular I would like to acknowledge the many contributions of **Marc Okkonen**, who has gone well beyond the call of duty in locating literally hundreds of quality photos of major leaguers from the first half of the twentieth century. Also, Marc has provided the project with invaluable research into the pre-major league history of our "cup-of-coffee" players. For the majority of "cup-of-coffee" players, Marc has found minor league and college affiliations. This research is available to anyone who would like to help with the project. At the very least, Marc's work provides the PII project researcher with promising leads.

The ultimate goal of the PII project is to acquire a citation for and a copy of at least one photo of every major leaguer who has ever played. For now, however, our short-term objective is to locate photos of players who appeared in ten career games or fewer between 1901 and 1950 (our "cup-of-coffee" players). With this in mind, below is a list of 15 players whose photos we would most like to locate. In a few cases, the PII project currently has a copy of a photo of the player listed but we would like to locate another for the purposes of definitively verifying that player's identity.

Howard Armstrong—He pitched in one game for the 1911 World Series winners, pitching 3 innings and finishing his brief career with a 0.00 ERA.

George Armstrong—The right-handed hitting catcher appeared in 8 games for the 1946 Philadelphia Athletics.

Tom Asmussen—He played for the 1907 Boston Braves, a team that was managed by Cy Young for a total of seven games. Asmussen played in two games behind the plate for Boston, going hitless in five career at-bats.

Tex Aulds—Doyle Leycester Aulds, otherwise known as Tex, appeared in three games at catcher for the 1947 Boston Red Sox. He had one major league hit in four career at-bats.

Eddie Bacon—Bacon pitched in one game for the 1917 Philadelphia Athletics and pinch-hit in three others. He finished his career with three hits in six major league at-bats.

Art Bader—Bader never got a hit during the two games in which he appeared for the 1904 St. Louis Browns. A right-

handed thrower, he played in one game in the outfield.

Grover Baichley—Grover Cleveland Baichley appeared in four games as a relief pitcher for the 1914 St. Louis Browns. In four games, the right-hander pitched a total of seven innings, finishing his career with a 5.14 ERA.

Bill Bailey—Harry Lewis Bailey, the left-handed batting, right-handed throwing outfielder/third baseman appeared in five games for the 1911 National League Champion New York Giants.

Loren Bain—The right-hander appeared in three games in relief for Mel Ott's 1945 New York Giants.

Al Baker—Baker appeared in relief in three games for Joe Cronin's second place-finishing Red Sox in 1938.

Bock Baker—Charles "Bock" Baker was born on July 17, 1878, in Troy, New York. The pitcher started two games in the American League in 1901, one for Cleveland and the other for Philadelphia.

Ernie Baker—Among the players on

Cincinnati's 1905 roster was Ernie Baker, who pitched 4 innings during one relief stint for manager Joe Kelley's team.

Jesse Baker—While Hank Shanks was the regular at shortstop for the 1919 Washington Senators, Jesse Eugene Baker did play in one game at the position for the team. Baker never got a major league hit, but he did collect an RBI. This Jesse Baker should not be confused with Jesse Ormond Baker, who pitched in 22 games for the 1911

Chicago White Sox.

Neal Baker—Baker pitched in a total of 5 games for the 1927 Philadelphia Athletics, a team that counted Ty Cobb, Al Simmons, Eddie Collins, and Tris Speaker among its members. Baker started two games for the team, neither winning nor losing a major league game.

Tracy Baker—Tracy Lee Baker played in one game for the Boston Red Sox in 1911. The right-handed hitting, right-handed throwing first baseman never came to bat in the major leagues.

Ideally, the PII project would like to locate at least one portrait of each player as well as a shot of him at bat and in the field. If you locate photos of any of the players listed above, you may submit a citation of the photo and a copy to me at the address noted below. Citations for multiple photos of the same player are very much appreciated.

A couple of points that I would like to re-emphasize:

—When you submit photos, please be sure to include the all of the information that would be needed for researchers to locate the photos you submit. The publication in which the photo appears, the date of the photo, a description of where the picture was taken and the names of any other players in the background of the photo would be appropriate. The more detailed that contributors can be when providing photo citations, the more useful the Player Image Index will be in the long run. I would be able to provide committee members with a blank form to fill out in order to submit complete citations in the preferred format.

—I would be happy to accept citations for photos on computer disk submitted in Microsoft Word format. Citations, copies of photos, and disks may be submitted to me at the address below.

—Virtually all contributors submit Xeroxed copies of photos to the PII project. If the copies you submit are from a newspaper or magazine, please include the accompanying photo caption and the title of any accompanying article. It is, of course, helpful to receive a copy of the photo to accompany the citation so that the information contained in the citation can be verified.

—While the current scope of the project is to locate photos of all major leaguers who played in ten games or fewer from 1901-1950, the PII project certainly seeks quality images of all other major leaguers regardless of era. Because the intent of this project is to locate at least one quality image of every major leaguer who has ever played, please do not hesitate to submit citations for such pictures. At this point, the PII project places a high priority on citations for photos from the early part of the century, but all photos will be gladly accepted.

—If you have an interest in searching for photos of players from a specific team, please contact me, and I will provide you with the names of players from a given team whose photos we are most interested in locating.

I am glad that many PHC members remain devoted to the project, and I would like to thank all members of the PHC for their continued interest. As always, if you have any questions or comments regarding the Player Image Index project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
John McMurray

The address to submit citations and copies of photos is:

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