

@SABR - NEGRO LEAGUES COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER
October 1996

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CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The opinions expressed in the NLC Newsletter do not reflect those of SABR or the NLC but are the editor's exclusively. I wish to apologize to SABR for putting them into a delicate situation with recent editorial opinions. That said, I would like to add that I do not plan anymore editorials and hope to keep the newsletter aimed towards it's goal; spreading news and information to all.

We welcome David Marasco, 2153 Ashland, Evanston, IL 60201, (847) 332-1296, email igor@clark.phys.nwu.edu , to the Negro Leagues Committee. David has been a tireless worker in researching and then disseminating information to the public from his web site (see online section.)

We have a new phone for Bob Browning; (610) 399-5213.

This newsletter reflects the worthy contributions of the following: Paul Bauer, Steve Bennett, Dr. Gai Berlage, Todd Bolton, Tim Booker, Adrian Burgos, Frank Ceresi, Ed Cesarone, Jimmy Dean, Paul Debono, Phil Dixon, Robert Eisen, James Floto, Dr. John Haddock, Dr. Leslie Heaphy, Dr. Bob Hieronimus, Dr. Larry Hogan, Dr. J., Darryl Houston, David Lawrence, Larry Lester, Norman Macht, Jerry Malloy, Max Manning, David Marasco, Jim Marshall, Gary Maurer, Sammy Miller, Bob Mitchell Sr., Scot Mondore, John Murray, Cliff Otto, David Pietrusza, Claudia Perry, Bob Peterson, Bill Plott, Jim Riley, Jay Sanford, Ronda Smalley, Prior Smith, Charlie Tiano, Gregg Truitt, Bill Williamson, and Lyle Wilson.

NEGRO LEAGUERS AND THE HALL OF FAME

I attended SABR's 25th Anniversary Celebration in Cooperstown August 10-11, 1996, the week after Induction Weekend. It was a wonderful time. Anyone going would have enjoyed the great comraderie and hospitality of the Hall of Fame Library and it's staff. Librarian Jim Gates and Associate Researcher Scot Mondore have made the transition from Tom Heitz and Bob Browning smooth for the NLC. Jim talked about an upcoming 1997 exhibit that will feature the Negro Leagues and I offered all of the NLC's assistance if needed. He also spoke of the future of the HOF and Library on the Internet and World Wide Web. The sky's the limit. I strongly suggest saving your money to get a computer and get online. It just keeps getting better and better.

I was able to have a terrific conversation with Scot (actually several) during the weekend. He has his hand in most Negro Leagues research at the Library. He invites all forms of literature, articles, books, research projects, etc. to be sent along and it will be available for everyone's perusal. Scot has the files of Robert Peterson, Effa Manley's scrapbooks and the Ashland Collection material all catalogued and ready to look at. New Spanish interviews with such veterans as Emilio Navarro, Bienvenido Rodriguez, Felix Guilbe, Roberto Vargas, and own Luis Alvelo and many more are available for on site listening.

Scot has offered all NLC members his personal assistance in any research needed. Contact him C/O Hall of Fame Library PO Box 590 Cooperstown, NY 13326. Phone (607) 547-0331 or Fax (607) 547-4094. Remember to keep requests short, long ones will have charges.

We have the following items available from the HOF Weekend and the induction of Bill Foster. His son accepted for him.

DAILY STAR, Oneonta, NY 8/2/96 "Two Fosters in the Hall," **3pp.

COOPERSTOWN INDEPENDENT, 8/9/96, "HOF enshrines four members," **2pp.

THE INFIELDER, 8/9/96, "Four more in the Hall," **6pp

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM YEARBOOK \$8.95 **2pp Veterans Committee Rules for Election. Negro Leagues section **8pp.

**1pg Bill Foster page from Annual Program of HOF

JET 8/26/96, "Bill Foster" **1pg.

SCD 9/6/96, "Cooperstown '96: Crowd sparse at HOF ceremonies," **2pp & "Four inducted into Baseball Hall." **2pp.

NEW YORK TIMES, 8/5/96, "Bunning stands on the bully pulpit," **1pg

Hackensack, NJ, THE RECORD, 8/5/96, "Earl not proud of all his stats," **1pg.

Press release 10/3/77, regarding new Veterans Committee and news on members.

THE NEGRO LEAGUES BOOK

The book jacket of the hardcover edition is now decorating a wall spot at The Lion's Head bar in Greenwich Village.

Gary Maurer passed along a 1946 Cincinnati Crescents roster with a favorite of mine, Luke Easter.

Adrian Burgos provided some excellent NEW YORK AGE material and a copy of his work.

Juan Armenteros was found. Information from the son of Lonnie Davis was passed along from the Hall of Fame.

Larry uncovered Billy Bruton with the 1949 Philadelphia Stars, albeit briefly, but a significant find.

David Marasco has uncovered some startling news that Satchel Paige's 1948 Cleveland Indians record is wrong. An August 8, 1948 game against New York credited Satch with the same amount of walks and strikeouts as Joe Page. Therefore, Satch's true walk total is 22 and strikeouts are 43, for 1948. All of this is verified by Lyle Spatz and the SABR Records Committee. This is truly wonderful research on a Major Leaguer, no less. Terrific job David.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Steve Bennett drove 11 hours to attend the Negro Leagues Tribute held in Denver July 20th. The players panel had Ernie Banks, Byron Johnson, Connie Johnson, Minnie Minoso, Bobby Robinson, and Bill White. Butch McCord and Bill Cash were also in town. Jay Sanford, the big cog in this event, gave a slide talk on Black baseball and early Denver baseball. There was an exhibit at Coors Field of Negro League photos, info, and artifacts. Steve said he also got to spend time with Minnie Minoso (his favorite player). A truly fabulous weekend! Lots available.

HISTORIC DENVER NEWS, "Historic Denver & Rockies team up to sponsor Negro League Exhibit," **1pg.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, 7/7/96, "Negro League Exhibit is set for Coors Field," **1pg.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, 7/24/96, "Negro Leagues historical items to be on display," **1pg.

THE DENVER POST, 7/22/96: "Sharing memories of the Negro Leagues," **3pp; "O'Neil disdains old bitterness" **1pg; "Deshields appreciates his baseball roots," **1pg; "Baylor: Today's players know legacy, but can't appreciate it," **1pg. All together it is **6pp.

An historical marker was placed in Pittsburgh's Hill District in a ceremony on September 23rd. USA TODAY 9/24/96 "Gibson Honored", **1pg.

The City of Wilmington sponsored this special Judy Johnson Night___A Tribute to Negro League Baseball on August 31, 1996. Among the giveaways: a limited edition baseball card of Johnson, commemorative postal cancellation, autograph session with players and more. Johnson's daughter Mrs Loretta Bruton and Geraldine Day were guests of honor. **1pg press release/promo. More later.

The NLC was very pleased to receive a copy of the video BLACK DIAMONDS BLUES CITY: Stories of the Memphis Red Sox, from Dr John Haddock. This is another wonderful addition to anyone's video collection. I will immediately advise you when it becomes readily available. We havea **2pp copy of a comprehensive brochure and **4pp copy of program for the premiere.

Tim Booker has organized a card and autogrpah show for Ft. Riley, KS for October 5th & 6TH, with guests Slick Surratt, Henry Mason, and Jesse Rogers.

That same weekend I'll be in Atlantic City, NJ to attend the annual Pop Lloyd event and will have a full

report in December's newsletter. It's not too late to give a tax deductible contribution to Committee To Restore "Pop" Lloyd Stadium, C/O Schultz & Middlesworth. One South New York Avenue Suite 614, Atlantic City, NJ 08041.

Paul Debono has been keeping interested parties up to date on the Oscar Charleston Monument news via Email. Sculptor Dan Edwards is opening an exhibit at the Bank One Building in Indianapolis, Sept. 27th to Oct. 18th, entitled Images of Greatness: A Tribute to Oscar Charleston and Negro League Baseball. Charleston's 100th birthday would have been on October 14th. **1pg petition to get signed and sent to City of Indianapolis. There has been a lot of feedback through the SABR-L listing.

Future Special Events

The California African-American Museum, a State of California institution is seeking any archival film footage, photographs, etc. for their July, 1997 exhibition; LOU DIALS: THE LAST AMERICAN GIANT. Contact me for more details

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

We regret to inform you of several deaths among our veteran players.

Bonnie Serrell passed August 1st in East Palo Alto, CA at 76
Bill Wright died August 3rd in Aquascalientes, Mexico at 82.
**1pg SCD & 8/30/96 SCD interview **2pp.

Willard Brown passed on August 8, 1996 in Houston at 83, we have **3pp funeral program.

Wiley Lee Griggs passed in Birmingham, AL on August 23rd he was 71 and had been in declining health.

Bill Beverly had a fatal heart attack on September 11, 1996 in Houston he was 66.

Larry Lester's obits on Brown, Wright and Serrell **5pp

THE MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL RESEARCH JOURNAL is a wonderful book. Congratulations to Carlos Bauer and Bob Hoie for a great editing job. Ted Zuckerman's "Ballparks of Los Angeles" has info on White Sox Park I & II.

I hope everyone saw Claudia Perry on JEOPARDY September 11th. Because of buzzer irregularities she will be back in October.

Leon Day is part of a new Bob Hieronimus mural at the Safe And Smart Center in Baltimore, **4pp black & white photo and description.

Thanks to Bill Plott the NLC files have a copy of David Harmon's paper presented at the NASSH Conference in May: THAT OTHER BASEBALL TEAM: The Atlanta Black Crackers and The World of Southern African-American Baseball.

Double Duty, Lester Lockett, and Casey Jones will be in Mundelein, IL (Home of the famous author JERRY MALLOY) October 25-27, 1996 for a big card show.

On August 3rd, former players Willie Bradshaw, J. Wesley Lee, John MacNeil, Artis Plummer, Charlie Rousch, and

Thomas Womble, all players in the Eastern Colored Leagues of the 40's and 50's, were guests at the SABR Carolina regional meeting.

The NLC's sincere appreciation to Adrian Burgos for the copy of his article of 22 pages published by the academic journal CENTRO: JOURNAL OF PUERTO RICAN STUDIES.

ONLINE COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Email for Hieronimus & Co. compuserve
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Ed Cesarone Seabop@aol.com

Paul Bauer ARCHERS@worldnet.att.net

Sammy Miller poplloyd@juno.com

You must check out David Marasco's web site at
<http://pubweb.acns.nwu.edu/~dmarasco/david.html> This has a lot of excellent material on a range of NL topics. **2pp on the Jacob Ruppert Memorial Cup in 1939. David also has a site for the NLC newsletters at
<http://pubweb.acns.nwu.edu/~dmarasco/sabrnews>

John Murray has set a web site on Negro League Umpires at <http://home.earthlink.net/~johnmur/> A lot of listings.

"Web World of Sports" THE DETROIT FREE PRESS 9/24/96
**4pp.

NEGRO LEAGUES RELATED ARTICLES

BIRMINGHAM NEWS 7/28/96, "Wilson didn't let loss of a thumb keep him from playing baseball." by Bill Plott **2pp.

ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION 6/8/96, "Off base: of 200 players at CWS only 6 are Black," **1pg

JACKSON (Ms) ADVOCATE, August 8-14, 1996, "Negro Leagues lefty makes Hall of Fame" **1pg & "The girls of summer," **1pg. August 15-21, 1996, "Coach says youth leagues vital to the development of African American children," **1pg. 8/22/96 "Negro Leagues were first family duo," **1pg

"Memories behind the plate," Henry Frazier Robinson **3pp from NEWS & RECORD (Greensboro, NC) 7/4/96.

JET, 7/22/96, "Ted Double Duty Radcliffe," **1pg.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES 7/8/96, "Oldest Living Negro Leaguer now too busy to be bitter," **1pg.

From the Portland Rockies 1996 game program **3pp on Artie Wilson.

THE HOWARD COUNTY TIMES, 8/22/96, "Negro League memories remain for county native," (Russell Awkard) **1pg.

THE TORONTO STAR 6/1/96, six different Jackie Robinson articles "Portrait in Courage" about his career and International League beginnings.

SCD 8/16/96 "Connie Johnson" **2pp.

SCD 9/20/96 "Sherwood Brewer" **2pp.

SCD 9/20/96 "George Altman" ***2pp.

THE DIAMOND ANGLE September, 1996 issue has **1pg on Double Duty Radcliffe and **2pp of reviews on ribowsky.

THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, 7/28/96 "Scout's Honor, "
(Sukeforth) **2pp.

THE TIMES Tampa, FL, 5/12/96 "The spring home of
segregation," **1pg.

STRIPE, April 14, 1995, "Negro Leaguer speaks at center
during BIG installation ceremony," (Jimmy Dean) **1pg.

ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION 6/9/96 perspective;
SHUTOUT:Cooperstown slights Black legends" **1pg.

NEW PITTSBURGH COURIER 9/4/96 "Josh gibson's son seeks
local recognition for dad," **2pp.

SCD 9/27/96 "Al Smith" **2pp.

NEWSDAY 6/7/92, "Negro Leagues should never be
forgotten," **3pp.

THE SPORTING NEWS 9/4/94, "It is a shame so few knew
the special Buck O'Neil," **3pp.

9/22/96, WASHINGTON POST, "New P.G. (Prince Georges)
park a tribute to the days of Black Baseball." **1pg.

LOS ANGELES TIMES, 9/17/96, "Inspiring Then, Inspiring
Still," (Jackie Robinson) **3pp.

SCD 10/11/96, "Boston-Peabody Classic XXV," **1pg.

THE TAMPA TRIBUNE, 8/8/96, "Memories give former player
good days," (Booker Robinson) **1pg.

FLORIDA SENTINEL-BULLETIN 7/9/96 **1pg Ad for show.

PRESS JOURNAL 7/14/96, Negro Leaguers throwing out
first pitch **1pg.

THE LEDGER, 2/5/95, "A League of Their Own....Negro
League," **3pp. 2/6/95, "Doby was a Baseball Pioneer," **2pp
and 9/2/96, "Lakeland Man Played in Negro Leagues," **1pg.

7/20/96 Memorial & Unveiling Ceremonies for James
Thomas "Cool Papa" Bell" **8pp total.

CURRENT AND FUTURE INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

John Murray is working on a biography of Negro League
Umpire Bert Gholston.

Frank J. Ceresi (703) 522-5450, 3600 N. Nelson St.,
Arlington, VA 22207 is seeking info on a 1929 Booker T.
Washington Club and a Comrade Club Baseball League.

Jeff Ballantine (423) 238-4461 is seeking any info on
the Chattanooga Black Lookouts.

Lyle Wilson will be self-publishing his book on Seattle
Afro-American teams 1911-51. Lyle has passed along "Willie
Foster and the Washington Browns" to the Leading Edge
Webzine, as well as, "The Last Negro Baseball League Game".
Lyle also has material going into the Jackson MS. ADVOCATE.
Lyle spent time this summer, in Piney Woods, MS and time at
Mississippi State Archives and put together an article on
the Jackson Cubs and Piney Woods College Team: JACKSON
ADVOCATE, September 12-18, 1996, "Of Cubs and Collegians" a
**2pp article.

Can anyone help out with info on Harry Northrup who may
have pitched with the Cuban Giants 1902-07?

The following are projects and/or interests of people
in attendance at the KC SABR convention meeting in no

particular order: Jerry Malloy-19th century Black Baseball in Chicago; David Marasco- reading microfilm and writing; Eduardo Valero-amateur baseball around the world; Bill Treese- Black baseball in Louisiana, Texas mainly Shreveport and Mineola; Charles Jordan-working on a presentation on SOUL OF THE GAME and to study the significance of the East-West All-Star Game; Terry Harrison-collecting NL stuff; Bill Williamson-Winter League Los Angeles White Sox, 1916-36 boxes; Paul Debono-doing a book on Indianapolis ABC's; Leslie Heaphy- finishing dissertation History of Negro Leagues with publisher Nebraska Press; Gai Berlage- Black Women in Baseball, mainly images; Dave Stevens-19th century Black Baseball; Ralph Christian-paper on Bud Fowler in Western League and J.L. Wilkinson from Des Moines, the All Nations team and Women's Black teams; Claudia Perry-turn of the century Galveston ,TX Black team;Efrain Bernier-why year round players lasted longer; Tim Booker-working on a Negro Leagues trivia book;John Holway-book on the Tuskagee Airmen; Jan Finkel-getting qualified Negro Leaguers into the HOF; Bill Dunstone-increasing his book collection, currently over 7,000; Sammy Miller-researching, writing, editing of BLACKBALL CALENDAR; Jim Riley-Chronological encyclopedia of Negro Leagues, Statistical Ency. of Negro Leagues, THE NEGRO LEAGUES for Chelsea House.

THE MARKETPLACE

I hope you have gotten the excellent 1997 BLACK BALL CALENDAR, another wonderful job by Sammy Miller. He is already working on the 1998 version.

I purchased a copy of BUCK O'NEIL: A BASEBALL LEGEND by Sean Wheelock and Amereon House, 1994 for \$8.95. It is 124 pages including pictures, index and I'm glad it was cheap. Not very good, seems like one of those overnight books to capitalize on a current news event (Burns Film). The current autobiography on Buck is clearly superior. Book review by Ron Kaplan **1pg. DAILY LOCAL NEWS, (Chester County, PA) 6/6/96, "Late in the game, O'Neil a hit"**2pp

An excellent new book is out from Chelsea House Publisher's African-American Achievers Series, THE NEGRO LEAGUES by Jim Riley. A really beautiful cover should attract the young adult readers. But this is an outstanding addition to anyone's library, 102 pages, index, 34 pictures and done by an author extremely knowledgeable on the Negro Leagues. Highly recommended.

Hallmark has come out with a Satchel Paige Christmas ornament for \$12.95.

Three new catchets, available from Little Sun (818) 358-6255 for more details. They are: Satchel Paige 25th Anniversary and/or with Frazier Robinson signature; The Negro Leagues 75th Anniversary.

Negro League Lithos, Posters issued by BCD **1pg

I easily obtained a 15 page listing of products from Cotton's Sports Collectibles, 1 800 450-7298 pin# 3282.

BLACK ENTERPRISE, November, 1995 **1pg, "Carrying Negro Leagues gear is a marketing home run for House of Nubian."

**1pg showing 2 phone cards on Negro Leagues from Bob Ponce. Sportscosm, 102 Maryton Rd., White Plains, NY (914) 761-4328, icmediax.netcom.com

The Nebraska Press edition of Sol White's Guide is available in paperback now for \$12.

Sports Books, etc. of Springfield, VA (703) 321-8660 has the videos ONLY THE BALL WAS WHITE (\$19.98) and KINGS ON THE HILL (\$19.95) & HISTORY OF GREAT BLACK BASEBALL PLAYERS (\$9.95), along with books.

Another good source of discounted Negro Leagues books is Edward R. Hamilton, Bookseller, Falls Village, CT. 06031 ENCICLOPEDIA DEL BEISBOL MEXICANO 1996 EDITION (Mexican League Ency.) is available for \$20 postpaid. Send to Salon De La Fama, Del Beisbol Professional De Mexico, Apartado Postal 3124, 6400 Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. Or call me later to see how quickly I got mine.

ALL I THOUGHT ABOUT WAS BASEBALL: Writings on the Canadian Pastimes, 1996 has two stories in it, "Jim Crow Comes North" and "The Last Barnstormer."

NORTHERN SANDLOTS: A Social History of Maritime Baseball, 1996 by Colin Howell, has a long piece "The 'others': Race, Ethnicity, and Community Baseball" 25pp.

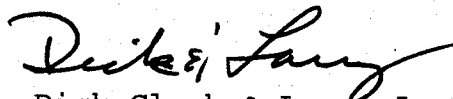
You can still get Charlie Tiano's excellent book MORE BALLS THAN STRIKES: 120 Years of Baseball in New York's Hudson Valley. \$12.95 postpaid. Send to 116 Ohayo Mt. Rd., Woodstock, NY 12498.

The 13th and 14th editions of the Negro League Bobbin Heads are out from Stokesberry & Son (available through Cotton's Sports). The latest are Rube Foster & Bill Foster. Previous pairs have been Paige-Day, Irvin-Wilson, Gibson-Mackey, Leonard-Taylor, Dandridge-Wells, Bell-Stearnes. All sold individually and they are outstanding.

**1pg each of new Triple Woven Afgans from Goodwin Weavers; Negro League Pennants & Broadsides; Hank Aaron Autographed Limited Edition; & Home Run.

FINAL REMARKS

The next newsletter will be December's. Please get all material to me before the last week of November. Happy Thanksgiving to all.



Dick Clark & Larry Lester
NLC Co-Chairpeople