



Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report
March 1996

King Bailey Found

Our March 1990 *Mystery of the Month*, the man who had been previously identified as Leonard (King) Bailey, pitcher for the 1895 Cincinnati Reds, has been found by Tom Hufford. This earns Tom the March *Find of the Month* award.

I had found Bailey in the 1900 census living in Selma, Alabama. He was listed as a ballplayer with his wife and two children. Subsequent to that, I had found a note indicating he was living in Macon, Georgia. He was not listed in the 1910 or 1920 Georgia census. Tom found Bailey listed in the Macon city directories from 1911-1918. He then was able to check obituaries in the Macon newspaper and located Bailey's obituary. The obituary stated that Bailey's real first name was Linwood and that he had been a star pitcher in the Southern League and an umpire in the South Atlantic League. He was later a college baseball coach at Mercer University prior to his death in Macon on November 19, 1917. Good job of research! Bailey was also on our Top 20 Most Wanted List, so replacing him will be Mike Kelly, 1926 Phillies pitcher and our April 1995 *Mystery of the Month*.

New Members

Please welcome Jim Troisi to the biographical committee. Jim's address is 136 Walton Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083 and his code number will be T6.

Another Spy

At least two full-length books have been written about Moe Berg and his dual life as a baseball player and spy. Jack Dougherty sent me an article written by John Steadman of the

Baltimore Sun about Pete Sivess, pitcher for the Phillies from 1936-38. Sivess worked in naval intelligence during World War II and supervised the port of Constanta in Romania. After the war he joined the CIA. He spoke fluent Russian and debriefed major Soviet defectors. Now 82, Sivess lives in St. Michaels, Maryland.

A First Name Basis

This month I was strapped for articles for the newsletter, so I'm sure you know what that means. I had to generate another of my "interesting, but totally irrelevant" lists. This month I decided to do a study on first names of ballplayers. Did you know that there are 1445 different first names among 14,416 players? (For purposes of this study, I eliminated all players known just by initials.) Of these 1445, 910 of them are unique, meaning that only one player has that first name.

Several interesting things can be gleaned from looking at the list. There were 931 players named John, 112 named Paul, 399 named George, but none named Ringo. We had a Colonel, a Major, an Ensign, and a Sergeant.

There were 21 names which were monikers to over 100 players each. In order of popularity, these are:

John	931	
William	811	(nice to see!)
James	636	
Robert	475	
Charles	449	
George	399	
Joseph	359	
Thomas	336	
Edward	311	
Michael	311	
Richard	248	
Frank	244	
David	219	
Harry	178	
Henry	161	
Frederick	143	

Albert	132
Donald	131
Arthur	114
Daniel	112
Paul	112

Several of the names were quite unusual, making a person wonder how their parents came up with these unique names. I thought I would give you a list of my favorite first names for each letter of the alphabet.

Astyanax (Douglass)
 Bird (Blue) - should have played for the Blue Jays
 Cadwallader (Coles)
 Drungo (Hazewood) - how about John, Paul, George, and Drungo?
 Eros (Barger)
 Favel (Wordsworth)
 Gowell (Claset)
 Heber (Newsome)
 Ivoria (Layne)
 Jeared (Pounds)
 Kemp (Wicker)
 Libeus (Washburn)
 Mody (Cunningham)
 Norwood (Gibson)
 Odbert (Hamric)
 Plateau (Cox)
 Quilvio (Veras)
 Rivington (Bisland)
 Skelton (Napier)
 Trench (Davis)
 Urbane (Pickering)
 Virgin (Cannell)
 Welcome (Gaston)
 Xavier (Rescigno) - Heck, it's the only one.
 Yale (Sloan) - Middle name is Yeastman.
 Zeria (Hagerman) - Middle name is Zequiel.

Those of you who find this list silly and would like something more Urbane, are Welcome to send me articles for the next newsletter. It doesn't matter if you are a Virgin writer as I'm sure your article will raise the newsletter to a new Plateau.

Birthday List

There is only one nonagenarian celebrating a birthday in April. Ray Bengé turns 94 on April 22. Be sure to send him a card.

Foiled By Doyle

Our March *Mystery of the Month* is Cornelius J. (Connie) Doyle outfielder for Philadelphia in 1883 and Pittsburgh in 1884. Bob Richardson has discovered that the person whom we had listed as the ballplayer and who died in 1938 was actually a different guy. Bob found a very long obituary on that Connie Doyle extolling his life as a horse car driver. Also, this Connie Doyle was born in Holyoke, Massachusetts and was the son of Jeremiah and Margaret Doyle. Our ballplayer was the brother of John J. (Black Jack) Doyle, whose parents were Patrick and Nora Doyle.

Bob found a great niece of Connie Doyle who is also seeking information on her great uncle. She told Bob that Connie and his sister Ellen went to California to join their brother Michael. Connie appears in the 1910 and 1920 California census as a railroad foreman living in Nicolau, but there is no record of his death in California.

Apparently from there, Connie moved to El Paso, Texas. No record of his death exists in El Paso although all of Texas has not been checked. Since I have the Texas death index at my local library, I will try to do this. Another brother of Connie died in 1947 and Connie was not mentioned in his obituary, so it is quite possible that Connie died between 1920 and 1947.

The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	14449	72	99.504
Total Complete Births	13770	751	94.828
Total Complete Deaths	7178	472	49.432
Total Assumed Alive	6871		47.318
Total Bats	13166	1250	91.329
Total Throws	13410	1006	93.022
Total Heights	13406	1010	92.994
Total Weights	13345	1071	92.571
Total Debut Dates	14521	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9977	4544	68.707
Total Completion			92.1885

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

None

New Information Received:

1885 Andrus, William Wiman	Height: <u>5-06.5</u> Weight: <u>155</u>	(R1)
1895 Bailey, Leonard C.	Name: <u>Linwood C. Bailey</u>	(H4)
	D: <u>Nov 19 1917</u>	
	<u>Macon, Georgia</u>	
1884 Black, Robert Benjamin	Height: <u>5-05.5</u> Weight: <u>155</u>	(R1)
1952 Bradshaw, George Thomas	D: <u>Nov 4 1994</u>	(S3)
	<u>Hendersonville, North Carolina</u>	
1909 Curry, James E.	Name: <u>James L. Curry</u>	(D5)
	D: <u>Grenloch, New Jersey</u>	
1883 Doyle, Cornelius J.	Eliminate burth and death data. Wrong man.	(R1)
1911 Duggan, James Elmer	B: <u>Oct 3 1885</u>	(C2)
1941 Gornicki, Henry Frank	D: <u>Feb 16 1996</u>	(O1)
	<u>Riviera Beach, Florida</u>	
1910 Hohnhorst, Edward Hicks	B: <u>Covington, Kentucky</u>	(B6)
1936 Nicholson, William Beck	D: <u>Mar 8 1996</u>	(B6)
	<u>Chestertown, Maryland</u>	
1953 Pendleton, James Edward	D: <u>Mar 20 1996</u>	(C1)
	<u>Houston, Texas</u>	
1943 Scheetz, Owen Franklin	D: <u>Sep 28 1994</u>	(C1)
	<u>Kirkersville, Ohio</u>	
1890 Sullivan, William T.	Name: <u>William E. Sullivan</u>	(R1)
	B: <u>1866</u>	
	<u>Providence, Rhode Island</u>	
	<u>BRTR</u>	
1890 Swett, William E.	Height: <u>6-00</u> Weight: <u>175</u>	(R1)
1938 West, Richard Thomas	D: <u>Mar 13 1996</u>	(C1)
	<u>Fort Wayne, Indiana</u>	
1952 Whisenant, Thomas Peter	D: <u>Mar 22 1996</u>	(C1)
	<u>Port Charlotte, Florida</u>	
1945 Wright, Henderson Edward	D: <u>Nov 19 1995</u>	(S3)
	<u>Dyersburg, Tennessee</u>	
1945 Zimmerman, Roy Franklin	D: <u>Nov 22 1991</u>	(S3)
	<u>Pine Grove, Pennsylvania</u>	